

We have also enjoyed walking over the Western Heights and ascending the Grand Shaft. We have climbed Shakespeare Cliff and, in the other direction, walked along the Langdon Cliffs to St Margaret's-at-Cliffe. Socially we found a welcome in several societies - the History Society, the Dover Film Society, the Men of Kent and I was transferred to the Dover branch of Probus. My wife, a chorister all her life, soon discovered the Dover Choral. Our neighbours have been kind and extremely helpful.

The problems of Dover seem to reside in the town centre. Over the last year however, the authorities, urged on by the Dover Society, seem to be doing something, and doing it quite promisingly. No one as yet, however, seems to have considered a concert hall. Surely Dover, Folkestone, Canterbury and Deal can get together and build one in one of the towns. Is this another item to be added to the list in the Society's contribution to the Dover Local Plan?

*Ken Berry Member of Committee*

*More articles for this series requested. Ed.*

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## THE ERA OF THE PRIVATE SCHOOL IN DOVER

Among a number of small private schools in Dover before the last war one of the oldest was Minerva College in Folkestone Road (now WERU International: Doors & Windows) run by the two Miss Harts and Miss Whatplate which catered mainly for Jewish girls, and mostly boarders but, according to an old guide book of Dover, the school originally belonged to the Rev. M. Koettlitz. The College moved to Leicester in 1915 and closed in 1932. Almost opposite was the Junior Dover College, "Westmount", still an educational establishment. A number of our senior citizens in Dover would have started their education at Miss Burfield's school for small boys in Maison Dieu road near the Roman Catholic Church, opposite the red brick building of the Dover High School for Girls, later the County School; and a little further along the road was the "Oakleigh House" of which Miss Lindsey was Principal.

Miss Roberts had a small school at the bottom of Ladywell, and on the corner of Park Avenue Miss Hill and Miss Lazenbury catered for the "the daughters of Professional people"; no tradesmen's daughters here! In Godwyn Road "Glenmount" Principal Miss Annie Moore assisted by Miss Doris Honeyball survived until 1917. Miss Croockewitt and her sister catered for young boys and girls at a small school at the corner of Leyburne Road while up the hill was Godwynhurst College. St Ursula's Convent in Park Avenue has only recently closed. Girls from France, Spain and Italy joined local people for their education. Mother Bernardine was a much loved headmistress, and many girls will have memories of beautiful sewing and pillow-lace made by the nuns. I spent two terms there in 1917 and have memories of a scrambled "Lord's Prayer" recited before every session and at the monthly class ratings when all pupils had to wear white gloves!

The Misses Falloon ran a happy little school at Temple Ewell, just opposite the Parish Hall, called "Coolderry", and there may be others I have forgotten. The principals and staff of these small schools might not have had letters after their names, but they did endeavour to instil a sense of "Esprit de Corps" among their charges, words hardly known these days.

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