

The tour will continue into a second cinema where a second shorter film will tell the story of Dunkirk. A visit to the Coastal Artillery and RAF casemates follows, and a rather chilling look into a room that has been 'brought up' from Dumpy level to tell the complex story of the cold war of the 50s and 60s. The tour will end at a purpose-built gift shop and cafe in what must be one of the the most individual locations ever. Exactly where they are can be guessed at but I have no desire to spoil your fun by telling you too much about it until you come and find out for yourselves.

All in all the opening of Casemate level is most welcome, as it opens to all of us a section of this country's history that has been closed for many years and it can only add to the castle's already long and famous history, making Dover Castle both above and underground one of England's finest monuments.

Hellfire Corner will be open to the public at an additional charge of £1.50 from May 14th. Tours will be every 15 minutes and limited to 20 people per tour.

Phil Wyborn-Brown  
Castle Custodian and Hellfire Corner Interpreter

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## HOW CLEAN WAS OUR VALLEY!

Nearly half a century ago, before the public interest in sanitary matters was not nearly so general as it is at the present day, Dover was among the foremost of the smaller English towns to avail itself of the beneficial provisions of the Public Health Act, passed in 1848. As early as 1854, in spite of a clamorous opposition, the Town Council decided to inaugurate a complete system of sewerage, the advantages of which, at the present time cannot be over-estimated. The foresight and public spirit of the municipality has thus long since effectually removed one main source of pollution and secured the self-purification of the ground on which the town is built. Our soil is uncontaminated. The cesspools and accumulations of filth still to be found in many towns in close proximity to dwelling-houses built on sewage-sodden foundations are here practically non-existent. Back-to-back cottages, moreover—those standing invitations to passive ill-health and active disease to be found in so many of our towns—have never been numerous in Dover, and are now almost totally eliminated from our midst. Other houses, too, built before the present stringent by-laws were in operation, have been entirely removed under the powers conferred by modern legislation and new structures erected in their places. At the present time, the Town Council have in hand, in conjunction with the local Railway Companies, a large scheme for dealing with what remains of the oldest, and, from a sanitary point of view, most objectionable part of the borough.

A further extract from the British Association Handbook to Dover 1899  
Selected by MARJORY WRIGHT