

loaded with explosives and was on fire. Glatton was a ship of the Monitor Class. She was sunk by torpedoes because if she had exploded, Dover would have been destroyed. When the order came from Admiral Sir Roger Keyes to sink, no warning was given to the 65 men on board and they were all lost. My uncle was a taciturn man and, on his return from work, was questioned by his wife, my Aunt Flora (my mother's sister) on what it was like down there; were there any bodies, etc.? His reply was, "You had your tea?

Well, I want mine".

His son Cyril (who died recently) was also 26 years in the Navy and a diver for Dover Harbour Board. He, like me, was an hereditary Freeman of Dover, through our mothers, whose maiden name was Williams.

I hardly recognise Dover now. It's all changed so much, and so many places have been built over, like Plum Pudding Hill, but I have a lot of very happy and exciting memories.

Visit to CALAIS ACCUEIL

As reported in Newsletter 10, the return visit of the Society to Calais Accueil will take place on October 5th. The day's programme in Calais will include a mayoral reception at the Town Hall and a visit to the museum to explore the history of lace-making in Calais. Members will then disperse to find their own lunch and go shopping before the return journey.

Members who originally expressed interest in this trip will have confirmed their bookings by the time this Newsletter is printed.

However, it is not too late to join the party! There are still a few places left. If you are interested in joining us, please get in touch with Lin Clackett, Social Secretary, The Warehouse, 29 Queens Gardens, Dover, telephone 242006.

As others see us

It is refreshing to read the comments of outsiders, writing about Dover. Children from an out-lying village and students on a language course (extracts in this issue) did not have any criticisms of the town.

Also, I note that the Dover Express has printed, in the last month or so several letters from visitors, ex-residents, friends of residents, which comment favourably on the cleanliness of the town and the increased number of places of interest to visit, mentioning, in particular, the Museum and the White Cliffs Experience, and also the old favourites of the Castle and Roman Painted House. Outsiders do not make any special mention of our empty shops, perhaps because they see such sites in all towns as symptomatic of the present recession.

Do you have any such comments or letters from your friends and visitors to the town? If so, could we include them in the next issue? What do others think and say about our town?

ED.