

An Exhibition

showing the planned development of
the Western Docks:

MERRIL LILLEY

The Harbour Board Hall, 4th March, 1992

The Exhibition was open to the public and was the first opportunity for local residents to see the plans drawn up by the Harbour Board for the future development of the Western Docks. On display were a number of photographs, drawings and paintings, a model of the Wellington Dock in future years and, most relevant to the present, a large detailed plan of the preliminary phase of the development in and around the Wellington Dock.

The preliminary phase, planned to take place over the next four years, was of most interest. There was a steady stream of visitors all afternoon and these had to wait their turn to view the exhibits and the plan, or to talk to the Harbour Board officials in attendance, in particular to Bill Fawcus, the Property Business Manager.

The most exciting aspect for many was the fact that the first stages of the operation are to take place almost immediately: the opening of the transport museum, pedestrian walkway, car parking, workshop, café and store for the Marina are all scheduled to be open by May or June of this year. One Gateway resident was overjoyed to learn that the Marina General Store would be open to the public all the year! For her this meant access to basic shopping without crossing the new A20! In addition, in the first phase, residents of Dover can look forward to the opening of an indoor market and a new restaurant on the site. All this is just the beginning of the project, which is described in more detail elsewhere in this *Newsletter*

THE VICTORIANA COLLECTION

Exhibition at Dover Museum, 29th January – 15th March

The Victorian Collection belongs to Deal. It is the unique private collection of William Williamson, who collected mainly furniture and paintings, and of his wife, who collected dolls and china. From the 1960's they lived in Queen Anne House in Middle Street, Deal and were early members of the Deal Society. As their collection grew, they purchased Blackburn House, in Middle Street, to house all their items of Victorian memorabilia. The collection was donated by Williamson to Dover District Council shortly before his death in 1989.

The collection has been on show in Deal in the summer months each year and this is the first time it has visited Dover. An urn, containing the ashes of the founder accompanies the collection and was displayed in a glass case at the entrance to the gallery floor of the Museum.

The items selected for the exhibition were used to illustrate how the industrial revolution and the Victorian era developed, contrasting products of the 17th and 18th centuries with the newer products of the Age of Invention and Innovation. It also looked at the influence on Victorian taste and design. The displays were organised into ten main themes:

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| 1. Victoria and Albert | 2. Workshop of the World |
| 3. The development of china and pottery | |
| 4. The development of glass | 5. Domestic Ware |
| 6. Costume and Jewellery | 7. Travel and Seaside
Holiday Souvenirs |
| 8. Toys and Dolls | |
| 9. Art | 10. The Victorian House |

The Williamson collection of antiques and collectables includes china, ornaments, jewellery, costume, furniture, toys and dolls from 1700 to 1950. In addition there are over 100 paintings from the period 1650 to 1950, including works by 17th century Dutch masters and the schools of Hogarth and Gainsborough.

The complete collection is vast and probably only one-quarter to one-third is on display at any one time so it is always worth a visit. Members who missed the exhibition when it visited Dover can see it on its home ground by visiting the Victoriana Museum in Deal during the summer months.

MERRIL LILLEY

Deadline

for CONTRIBUTIONS

The Editor welcomes contributions suitable for the *Newsletter*. Illustrations and other appropriate visual materials would be particularly appreciated.

The deadline for issue No. 14, for publication on 1st September, is 18th July 1992 and the producer would be grateful if "copy" is typed if possible, **but in any case asks that it be double-spaced**. Single spacing is a frequent source of typesetting error.

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