

86 There was high comedy acting in the scene with Yum-Yum and Nanki-Poo and again in the trio, Ko-Ko, Pooh-Bah and Pish-Tush. Nor did they miss the opportunities presented by the end of copyright to make sure that the topical political satire hit home, in Ko-Ko's little list, the Mikado's and Pooh-Ba's lines and elsewhere. There was high spectacle in the entries of Ko-Ko, the ladies chorus and the Mikado and, of course, both finales.

DODS have ingenious ways of making the maximum use of what is in fact a small concert stage and a few hoists: a back-cloth drop, numerous amusing and sometimes beautiful

screens, ingenious, interesting or decorative props, lighting, fans, parasols, and benches to vary the heights in grouping. DODS are a Dover success. Over a hundred people were actively engaged in this production and they deserve a modern theatre stage with an orchestra pit. If a theatre is too ambitious a dream for Dover, then a multi-purpose hall with a good stage is needed. The Nye Hall at the Dukies is excellent, but we need a hall not further from the Town centre than, say, the now derelict Russell Street area. A subject for Lottery funding?

E.L.W.

Heritage Open Day

As a small contribution to the Festival the Society offered a repeat of our guided tour of Dover's mediaeval heritage, including the historic areas of Dover College not normally open to the public, the Maison Dieu and St. Edmund's Chapel. Our members have already had two opportunities in the past to join this walk. It was therefore gratifying to welcome a dozen members and their guests, a pleasant number to address.

The Kent Archaeological Society was meeting at Dover College that morning and they were invited to join the guided walk in the

afternoon and some sixty of them did so. Happily our local-historian member, Joe Harman, and Vice-President, Philomena Kennedy, were able and willing to act as extra guides and the archaeologists were well pleased with their tour.

Only absent was the Dover public. For next year's Festival, when we propose to offer an organ recital by Terence Vardon, we must look to the publicity and booking arrangements, as a sample of his recital on a recent visit indicates that this will be an occasion not to be missed.

E.L.W.

Dover College Summer Concert

FRIDAY 26TH MAY 1995

I missed the Festival Concert at Dover College but attended the Summer Concert and there was some overlap between the two programmes. A good concert is more than good music well played. The programme must be well shaped and well presented and organised in an appropriate building. With its banked stage, the Menzies Hall, formerly the Wesleyan Chapel, with its clear acoustic quality and

uncluttered sight lines is appropriate indeed. The only thing wrong was the absence, in the programme notes, of the name of the organiser and conductor, Rod Spencer.

Part I was orchestral, with almost enough brass and wind for two symphony orchestras but insufficient strings for one, making the achievement of balance difficult. Intonation was not quite perfect but the gusto for The