

Working with Schools:

Reported by LINDA WADE

an IMPACT project

It always seems a good idea to encourage Dover's future citizens to be more observant, and in the process to think about how their town works, and the value of a flourishing town centre.

As one of several projects involving schools, IMPACT organised a schools project in the Spring, initially to encourage the children to take part in a competition where they had to identify architectural detail above shops in the main shopping street. This got them looking upwards. They then had to switch their attention to the shop fronts themselves, and with the aid of local architects visiting schools, organised by SE Region RIBA, the students' interest was stimulated into producing designs, scale drawings and 3D models of their "ideal shopfront".

Eight schools took part enthusiastically in the competition and their pupils themselves, some only six years old, presented their work to three judges: Julian Owen, Project

Manager, IMPACT; Watty Howard, Kent County Councillor and Vice-Chairman of the IMPACT Joint Committee and Steve Skinner, the Chairman of the Royal Institute of British Architects' Canterbury branch.

Certificates and cheques totalling £400 were presented to the three winning schools: the money to be used by the schools on similar future projects.

We were delighted that this competition gave the children the opportunity to really look at and think about the buildings they see every day. By encouraging creative and positive thinking about the built environment now we are laying the foundations of good building design in the future.

If you would like to try your skills and local knowledge by spotting the architectural details, the competition poster put together for the schools and reproduced overleaf is here for your use. See if you can identify the shops over which the detail appears.

The Newsletter is happy to take up the suggestion made by Linda Wade in the last paragraph of her report above and accordingly has set up

A MONSTER (!)

FUN COMPETITION FOR MEMBERS

See if **YOU** can identify the shops over which the details shown on the two following pages may be seen.

Send your answers on the card included with this copy and the first correct entry out of the hat will win

FREE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY FOR '96-97

