

8 Mr. Parfitt suggested it was possible these were the hovels occupied by the army of workers who, about that time, were building the keep of Dover Castle on the hill above. There was also evidence that fisher folk lived in this waterfront area of Dover.

CAT was now busy researching 40,000 pieces of excavated pottery (including imported pottery) and 4,500 samples taken from the site. And Mr. Parfitt revealed

what may have been a dark Mediæval scandal – the finding of two skeletons of young babies (possibly premature) concealed beneath the chalk floors. This was particularly strange because there was a Christian burial ground only a hundred or so yards away.

The meeting ended just before ten o'clock with thanks to the chairman for the way he had conducted the meeting and to Mr. Parfitt for a most interesting talk.

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The audited Financial Statement is printed at pages 34 and 35

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# MARCH MEETING DISCUSSION GROUPS

After the interval members divided into four groups, The four main subjects for discussion were as follows.

1. The Future of Dover Castle
2. The Proposed " Art Trail"
3. Dover's Empty Shops
4. Suggestions for Future Meetings.

## **1. The Future of Dover Castle**

The discussion of Dover Castle followed Ken Scott's talk in the first half of the evening. Members thought there should be improved links between town and castle. Regular bus services between Priory Station, Pencester Road and Dover Castle should be provided. "Park and ride" facilities were suggested and also shuttle buses from car parks.

One group put forward the idea of an Information Centre about Dover within the castle. Another group thought there should be advertising in the Pas de Calais area. Another suggested improvements in the castle, such as the restoration of armour and furnishing of parts of the Keep, would be very popular with the public.

## **2. The Art Trail**

Members in three groups voiced their rejection of this idea, saying they liked the cliffs as they were and that any attempt to install statues would be unwelcome and subject to problems of vandalism. One group supported the idea, providing the trail harmonised with the surroundings and was made as resistant as possible to vandals.

### 3. Dover's Empty Shops

The following ideas were mooted :- tidy up first; encourage shopkeepers to take pride in their shop fronts; colourful murals; reduction of rents; reversion to housing; more factory shops in town centre; encourage "living over the shop"; provide more cheap parking; discourage further charity shops; use empty shops for other purposes, eg. information centre, teenager centre, art gallery.

### 4. Suggestions for meetings.

Talks on Scottish Power, AVO, WCCP and its French equivalent, Dover Parish Council, Churches of Dover, French Chamber of Commerce, Cruising from Dover, future plans for railway, port and town.

Editor

# PLAQUE TO UNKNOWN WARRIOR UNVEILED AT CRUISE LINER TERMINAL

TERY SUTTON

The Dover Society was praised for its initiative in providing the plaque that now marks the spot where, in 1920, the body of World War One's Unknown Warrior was landed in his homeland.

The praise came from the Chief of the Defence Staff, General Sir Charles Guthrie (the man in charge of the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force), when he unveiled the plaque in a pleasant ceremony at the old Marine Station in May.

Other senior Army officers joined with the Mayor, Councillor Lyn Young, representatives of Dover Harbour Board and of the Dover Society, to watch the unveiling ceremony in the reception centre of the new cruise liner terminal.

The plaque will be seen by thousands of people boarding the growing number of cruise liners calling at the port.

Our vice-chairman, John Gerrard, opening the proceedings, introduced Alistair Lawton of Deal, the deputy chairman of Dover Harbour Board. Mr. Lawton welcomed guests and pointed out that two members of the Society present that day were alive in Dover when the Unknown Warrior was landed at Dover in November 1920 - Miss Lilian Kay and "Budge Adams".

Our chairman, Jack Woolford, explained to the visitors that the Dover Society aimed to be a constructive organisation and, among other duties, commemorated historic events. Mr. Woolford said it was David Atwood, a Society member, who came forward with the idea of the plaque for the Unknown Warrior and the executive committee gladly took it up. Mr. Woolford thanked Dover Harbour Board for its assistance and generosity in carrying through the project to its fruition.

The plaque recorded a unique occasion in Dover's history, said Mr. Woolford.

Sir Charles Guthrie recalled that 908,000 servicemen from the British Empire were killed in World War One. Wars continued, he said, with 31 major conflicts in progress in the world at the present time. Memories of those who died in war should make men redouble their efforts to bring about world wide peace.