

Hooked!

An event also launched at the same time as New Horizons was the World Shore Angling Championships to be held in and around Dover between October 11 and October 19, 1997. Competitors are expected from twenty-two countries from as far away as Brazil and South Africa.

The championships are being hosted by the National Federation of Sea Angling and Dover Sea Angling Association.

At the launch the national federation revealed special steps are to be taken to help conserve stocks in the Channel.

Anglers fishing from the shore will haul in their catches and place them in buckets of sea water until the fish has been measured by judges and then returned to the sea alive.

The championships will bring hundreds of visitors to White Cliffs Country this autumn. Competitors will be accommodated at Kingsdown.

One Member Reports

SHEILA COPE GIVES HER VIEW OF FESTIVAL WEEK

This event now forms such an important part of Dover's year that we avoid arranging a holiday around the end of May. Why go away when so much is happening here? This time a different part of the world was celebrated each day under an overall theme- New Horizons.

Monday 19 May was Italian Renaissance and Dover Youth Theatre gave a Commedia Dell'Arte performance at London Road Methodist Hall. Dating from around 1550, and originating in Italian piazza, this dramatic form involves actors wearing Venetian-type masks stylised so that the character personified is immediately recognisable to the audience. Thus a long nose coloured gold symbolises lechery and avarice of very high status. Likewise each character has a mannered walk which looks stiff and awkward both to watch and to maintain. The play, improvised on a preselected theme of fortune-seeking and intrigue, was excellently performed and amused and fascinated its audience. Congratulations to the players for their courage in tackling an unfamiliar art form so well.

During the second half of the evening the Festival Trio, with pianist John Hurd, gave a concert which ranged from G & S (a nod to Italian theme in the Gondoliers) through opera (Mimi's aria from La Boheme sung in Italian) to Flanders and Swann and West Side Story. I doubt whether this particular concert attracted many outside visitors as most of the audience, including the Mayor and other civic dignitaries, were known to each other. It was an informal local occasion with Peter Booth, June Armond and Marie Kelly-Thomas apparently relaxed and enjoying themselves. The ability of the pianist overcame the shortcomings of the piano and the songs, popular for the best reasons, were performed equally well. A stage was superfluous and so were the microphones, yet one could hear every word. Thank you to all those who gave their skills to create such an enjoyable evening.

From midday to 2pm daily in the Market Square there was an open air concert featuring different parts of the world, together with appropriate food tasting -