## 6 Membership News S. R. COPE Membership Secretary

SPRING 1998 SUBSCRIPTONS ARE NOW DUE

If you do not already pay by standing order, and please ask me for a form if you would like to do so, I shall be grateful for your payment as soon as convenient. The amount remains at £10 joint for 2 members living at the same address or £6 single. It is particularly important for us to maintain our existing membership because there have been no new members since our last Newsletter. It is the first time that this has happened and does not bode well as we enter our 10th year. With a sound membership base the Society has credibility and, with a period of change ahead, the committee needs that strength to act with confidence. Please try to introduce "new blood" and, above all, continue your own membership.

At present the membership stands at 431.

During the year we have sadly recorded the deaths of Mrs J Naylor, Mrs J Ullmann, Mrs V Goodburn, Mr F Martin and Mr M Sartin.

## Letter to the Editor

I read with great interest the page by Budge Adams entitled "Farewell but not Goodbye" in Newsletter 30.

The Dover Society owes an enormous debt of gratitude to Budge for his enthusiasm and dedication to the concerns of the Society, his great experience in printing, his subtle feeling for design and typography, his unrivalled knowledge of Dover, his wide interests and his high standards. In addition, it should be said, Budge has saved the Society a sizeable slice of its funds, although, especially in the early days, it could not possibly have afforded such an impressive Newsletter.

The job of first Editor was thrust upon me at one of the earliest committee meetings. I undertook it with great trepidation as I had absolutely no experience of editing anything, little idea of how to go about it and only a hazy conception of deadlines. Budge has been much too kind about my amateur efforts.

The Newsletters at that time were run off on a copier and stapled by the printing department of Dover Harbour Board as a temporary measure.

Budge introduced himself to me at one of the Society's Christmas feasts and we had a fascinating chat about Dover. Some time later he offered to take over the printing and production of the Newsletter. This seemed an excellent idea to the Committee, as well as to me, and in September 1990 the Society had an enviable, professional-looking magazine with a new format.

Knowing how much time and energy is absorbed by publication, in 1991, after three issues with the new format, I realised that I had to give up the editorship, although I would miss the interest and pleasure of working with Budge.

Since September 1991, with an experienced editor, a journal has been produced of which any Society would be proud. Fortunately, the Newsletter remains in your capable hands, Merril, with Budge in the background as Printer (and much more) Emeritus.

Philomena Kennedy