

## *The Objectives of the Dover Society*

*founded in 1988.*

- to promote high standards of planning and architecture
- to interest and inform the public in the geography, history, archæology, natural history and architecture of the area
- to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest
- and commitment to the belief that a good environment is a good investment.

The area we cover comprises the parishes or wards of Barton, Buckland, Castle, Lydden, Temple Ewell, Maxton, Pineham, Priory, River, St. Radigund's, Town & Pier and Tower Hamlets.

All members receive three Newsletters a year and in each year the Committee organises about ten interesting events - talks, tours, visits, Members' Meetings and usually a Christmas Feast.

The Society gives Awards for improvements to the area, monitors planning proposals and supports, joins in or initiates civic projects and arts events.

## Editorial

Our next meeting, on 19th April, is the Eleventh Annual General Meeting of the Dover Society. The speaker will be Jonathan Sloggett, Managing Director of Dover Harbour Board. The agenda is enclosed with this Newsletter. As you will see there will be a few changes to the Committee. Sadly, we are losing John and Jennifer Gerrard. Jennifer held the post of Treasurer for several years. She retired from this post last year but remained a committee member. John has held the post of Vice-Chairman since the Society was formed in 1988. He has contributed a great deal to the Society in many ways, too numerous to list, and will be greatly missed. His place will be taken by existing committee members and we hope to welcome three new members, as listed on the agenda.

We hope for a good attendance at this meeting. Sheila Cope, our membership secretary, will be there to collect subscriptions and welcome new members. There will be the usual refreshments and raffle in the interval.

In May we embark upon our summer programme. As usual all the details of the outings are listed on the inside back cover of the Newsletter. Please note changes from the outings proposed in Newsletter 33. Some dates have been changed, some outings replaced by others and some new trips arranged. Application forms for the cruise on the Medway ( May 22) and the trip to Dungeness ( July 14) are enclosed with this Newsletter. For all the other trips in June and July members will need to telephone Joan Liggett.

For several years now, our Social Secretary, Joan Liggett, has organised some small group outings and established members will be familiar with the arrangements for these. Normally these outings are for 20 members so, if you are interested, it is necessary to book early. Once the places are all taken Joan keeps a waiting list and, if there is sufficient demand, she tries to organise a second visit to that location. Because of the small numbers there are no application forms for these visits and members are asked to telephone Joan to reserve a place.

The two such outings in June this Year are to Dover cemeteries and to the Citadel to look at the fortifications. Martyn Webster, a Dovorian

now living in Brighton, is to lead a guided cemetery tour on 5th June. Originally Martyn offered the tour to the DDC which felt unable to include it as part of the Dover Festival. We are very pleased to have it in our programme, agreeing with our Chairman that cemeteries are comments on local history, written on stone rather than paper. For this visit members are advised to wear walking shoes and the trip is not recommended for those who have any difficulty in walking, as there is some distance between sites and some steep slopes to negotiate.

Details of the August and September outings will appear in Newsletter 35, due out on 1st August.

Our winter programme has been very successful this year, with some excellent speakers and very good attendance by members. The November and January meetings, each with two speakers, are reported here, as is the Christmas Feast. The report of the March meeting will be too late for this issue. The February Wine and Wisdom, hosted, as usual by Clive Taylor, was as riveting as ever with twelve tables competing for the coveted Dover Society engraved glasses. This is always a very popular event.

We seem to be developing several regular

historical series. In this issue we have the third article by Jon Iveson of Dover Museum, this time on the Mote's Bulwark. There is another article by Ivan Green, *Dover After 1066*.

There is also another article from Peter Burville, who is researching the history of his family name and, incidentally, of East Cliff, where various members of his family lived. Peter's first article for the Newsletter appeared in 1992, *Embarking on a One-name Study*. His second, more-recent article, *Some Troglodytes of East Kent*, appeared in Newsletter 32, August 1998. Since then his research has included the history of the building of a tunnel at East Cliff in 1870 and this is the subject of his latest article.

Once again, we have a "Sneak Preview" of this year's Dover Festival from Lisa Webb, Arts Development Officer at Dover District Council. The full festival programme will be available from 19 April at all local outlets, including libraries and tourist information centres. As usual, please write to the Editor with reports of any festival events which you attend. They will be very welcome.

With thanks to all our contributors and to our advertisers for their continued support. If other members have ideas and wish to contribute to the work of the Society, all that is required is telephone call to the appropriate committee member.

## DEADLINE for contributions

The last date for the receipt of copy for issue 35 will be Monday 14th June 1999

The Editor welcomes contributions and interesting drawings or photographs. "Paper copy" should be typed at double spacing. Handwritten copy should be clear with wide line spacing. Accurate fully proof-read copy on computer discs is acceptable; please ring 01304 205254 to discuss details.

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