

34 did not weather well. They looked like churches, only the asphalt surround of the playgrounds revealing their function. Survivors of this era are St. Bartholomew's Girls' school in Tower Street, St. Paul's and Christ Church Infants' School. Modern embellishments have added nothing, but the structures are sound.

Post-1870 school construction moved away from the Gothic. Architectural embellishments created interest, ornamental gates were attractive, construction solid, and schools were recognisable as buildings for children. Interesting survivors are St. Martin's, Astor Primary and the two grammar schools. A Gothic survivor, River School, has recently added another wing. The Gothic motive is continued and the new red brick harmonises with the original. Time will complete the joining of old and new and is a worthy example of taste combined with functionalism.

Local schools were originally built of local materials, brick and flint, and, even though unique in structure, schools like Dover Technical College, Dover Art School and the new parts of Dover College harmonised with the surrounding neighbourhood.

Post-1944 schools reflected a radical change in philosophy. It seemed that the focus had moved from the original purpose of schools, which was to promote learning, to a new function, of educating workers for the future. Many new schools were merely concrete blocks, interchangeable with factories, barracks or prisons, where the occupants were to stay until they had been trained for the job market and where they were governed by certificates, School Certificate, GCE and then GCSE. Do the new "concrete" schools betray their alien influence?

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REVIEWby Merril Lilley

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A DOVORIAN **The story of Lillian Kay**

Researched and compiled by Derek Leach

When Lillian Kay retired as Headmistress of Dover Grammar School for Girls in 1977, she gave a speech at the Old Girls' dinner about the history of "a very lucky person". Some of the members present asked Lillian to repeat her talk and so began her regular addresses to local societies about the memories of her childhood and career.

Now all these memories have been collected together in a book due to appear in November 1999. Derek Leach has recorded them and presented them in a chronological history of her life. It is all there, supported by many personal photographs and photographs of old Dover. Many of us have heard part of it if we have attended one of Lillian's talks but now the whole story is told; the vivid descriptions of her childhood in the Pier District of Dover, her extended and complicated family background, her early recollections of the First World War; her school days, college years and subsequent teaching career. Dovorians will read it for the nostalgic descriptions of old Dover. Old pupils of the Grammar School will want to relive their memories of schooldays. Anyone who knows Lillian, or has heard one of her talks will want to own this book.

Copies cost £10.00 and are available from some local bookshops, including W.H. Smiths, from Dover Museum and Dover Library or direct from Derek Leach, 24 Riverdale, River, Dover CT17 0QX (01304 823926). Postage and packing in the UK costs £1.50. Cheques should be made payable to D.A. Leach.

Derek is prepared to deliver to Society members within Dover free of charge or purchasers may collect from him by arrangement.