

rabbits pre-1066) for the rich which was a useful training for war.

Crazy bread was made from poppies, hemp and darnel; hallucinogens were made from ergot on rye; agrimony was boiled in milk for virility; eggs, wine and fennel were used for chilblains; ashes of burned bees for baldness; leeches for bloodletting. Cauterising was performed with red hot pokers and trepanning was practised - drilling holes in the skull to release evil spirits.

For entertainment there was music and games including chess, backgammon and noughts and crosses.

With the triumph of Christianity there were fine church buildings and monasteries complete with dormitories, refectories, libraries, chapter houses, infirmaries and scriptorium. Leper hospitals existed. Domesday Book (1086) also records 5624 watermills.

In concluding his detailed research with fifty-two illustrations, Jack compared life now with life in 1000 and concluded that there were obvious differences, but these were mainly technological. Jack thought we should feel kinship with and praise these unfamous men and women - the fathers and mothers that begat us.

### *A Dover Miscellany* *A talk by Budge Adams*

The second speaker of the evening was Budge Adams who treated the audience to another selection from his 1800 photographs of Dover - mostly taken during the past century which Budge lived through except for the first ten years. He explained that, unlike Jack Woolford, he was not an historian, merely an antiquarian.

Billed as a Dover Miscellany, Budge took us first down the River Dour. Starting in River we

enjoyed views of the Dour by Crabble Corn Mill, the river flood meadows at Buckland before the Conqueror Paper Mill was built and several views of Buckland Bridge. He explained that the bridge is still in essence the original 1790 construction. The photographs included a deserted bridge except for ladies in their Edwardian Sunday best walking in complete safety from traffic, a horse bus and a crowded scene dominated by trams. The view downstream from the bridge had hardly changed. Looking toward the Cherry Tree bridge we recognised the former Co-op building, but the well-kept market gardens along the riverside have long since disappeared. Some recognised St Barnabas Church built in the last century but never completed and demolished after the war. Budge then took us to Charlton with a photograph showing the newly-built Charlton Church towering over the ancient Old Charlton Church, which was then demolished. We saw the Bridge Street bridge and what used to be on the Pioneer/B&Q site - not only the Dover Engineering Works which made the world-famous GATIC manhole covers, but the small terraced artisans' houses that made way for the works.

The river meadows of Maison Dieu Fields looked idyllic, but progress meant that Maison Dieu Road was built through them without apparently any local knowledge, since, as we saw, when Budge was young the road was subject to frequent



Lower Road, River

18 flooding by the swollen river. Pencester Bridge came next, followed by a drawing from the bridge of St Mary's Church with the Western Heights behind - complete with its rounded top before having it sliced off for the fortifications! St. James's new church, built around 1860, gave Budge the opportunity to tell us that he was christened there and was a choir boy until he was sacked - he did not tell us why! Although only receiving minor damage during the Second World War, it was demolished because there were virtually no dwellings or residents left in the parish following war damage.

A view of the river in what is now Pencester Gardens and the Dieu Stone Lane Bridge took us on to St. James' Lane, the present multi-storey car park site, to a photograph of boys playing in puddles. Budge explained that this could well be himself and a friend that he later pushed into the river over some difference of opinion. This became something of a habit since he also pushed a young relation into the river, who had to be rescued, hung upside down and squeezed to get the water out! This area was also subject to flooding when Leney's Brewery would sandbag their buildings. There were two more bridges - in Flying Horse Lane and Fishmonger's Lane - both still there and both containing stone from the medieval town walls. This river trip finally ended with several views of New Bridge, built in 1810. The original road was made of compressed chalk and water and the footscrapers outside every house were very necessary! We left the River Dour emptying into the Wellington Dock at 'The Bubbles'.



Buckland Bridge

Old and new Charlton Churches



Budge was by no means finished. He showed us some 'interesting things'. There were some 1840 pencil line drawings - from Archcliffe looking into the harbour, the seafront including the Esplanade buildings (damaged during the War and demolished) and the North and South piers of the Inner Harbour. He told the story of the Dover Harbour Board member who fell over on the decking of the North Pier when his walking stick went down a hole. Subsequently he gave money to the Harbour Board to provide income for the maintenance of the decking, which continued until quite recently. An early submarine in the harbour with an 8 man crew was unusual as was buying bread at Chittenden's in wartime. Bomb damage meant that the bread had to be baked in

the basement and sold through its window to customers on the pavement.

The Warren provided a very personal story. He and his wife often enjoyed weekend camping in the Warren. When his wife was expecting their first child she wanted to be in the Warren. So they lived there throughout the summer with Budge disappearing to work every day. When the baby was almost due, his, by now, enormous wife had to be pulled up with some difficulty by Budge and a friend - with all three laughing their heads off! The healthy baby was born 3 weeks later.

A different story accompanied the photograph of the pissoir which used to stand by Old St. James's Church. It was threatened with demolition since it was in the way of the sports centre development. There was a move to save it and erect it elsewhere. However, it is said that workmen were given instructions to demolish another urinal in the area, which was not in the way of anything, and 'mistakenly' demolished the pissoir by Old St. James's.

At this point, the time being 10.15 pm, the Chairman called a halt despite cries for more and another cassette of slides available. The Society members expressed their delight with the presentation. This, coupled with Budge's obvious love for his town and the enjoyment he derives from sharing his collection of photographs should mean another presentation soon. In the meantime, Budge offered to show his Dover slides to small groups at his home. This is an offer we cannot refuse!



## **THE FEBRUARY MEETING** ***Wine and Wisdom***

*by Merrill Lilley*

THE WINE AND WISDOM EVENING on St. Valentine's Day, 2000, attracted an unusually high number of members and friends. There were sixteen tables of teams of six and the hall was more crowded than we have ever seen it for this event.

As usual, Clive Taylor was our quiz master and there were nine rounds of questions, with an option of playing the joker on one of them to double the score.

The winners of the first prize, of the coveted engraved glasses, was the team NBGS, with a fantastic score of 84%. Two teams tied for second and third places, the Desperados and the Defendants, each with 79%. They amicably decided to share the prizes of wine and chocolates.

Our Chairman, Jeremy Cope, thanked Clive and his team, for their expert handling of the quiz, Joan Liggett for organising the event and providing the food and Mike Weston for ordering and serving the drinks. He said that the Society would be making a donation to the Crabble Corn Mill, as it did each year on this occasion.