



garage until demolition in 1995.

Finally, close to the mouth of the Dour was Town Mill in Mill Lane. By the 12th century it was owned by Dover Priory. It was rebuilt in 1520, again in 1587 and was

demolished by Thomas Horne in 1803 being replaced by a new mill. As mentioned earlier, the old mill was apparently rebuilt at Kearsney Abbey. The new mill fell into John Minet Fector's hands in 1825, who leased it to the Pilchers and then the Mannerings who purchased it in 1856. Milling ceased in 1889 and it became a corn store until 1924 when it fell derelict. Demolition came in 1953.

So we reached the sea after an absorbing trip down the Dour, realising that we had only scratched the surface of Dover's industrial past. With much more information available, combined with Mark Frost's interest in industrial archaeology, there should be one or more fascinating sequels.

## ***THE GURKA FESTIVAL OF MUSIC***

◆ ◆ ◆ *by Merrill Lilley* ◆ ◆ ◆

In 2002, on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th April, the Gurka Festival of Music was held at a new venue, at Nye Hall, Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover.

This was the third year of the festival. The first year, 2000, the festival was held at Cruise Terminal 1, in the Western Docks, the second, in 2001 at Cruise Terminal 2. While both these festivals were successful I think that the cruise terminals were not the best venues for the event, as the accoustics and the seating arrangements were not ideal. In Nye Hall, a purpose built concert hall, the accoustics are excellent and it is easy to arrange numbered seating so we anticipated the best concert yet. We were not disappointed.

The band performed under the direction of Captain Neil Morgan with a selection of light music, cavalry marches and dances. In the first half these included a Shirley Bassey collection, *Lord of the Dance*, *Harlem Nocturne*, *Post Horn Gallop* and ended with *The Gael* from *Last of the Mohicans*. The second half, which started with *Strike up the Band*, included *The Two Imps*, *Misty*, Songs of World War 2 and performances of Puccini's operatic masterpieces by two young, guest artists, *O Mio Bambino Caro*, featuring Miss Catriona Clark and *Nessun Dorma*, featuring Mr. Nicholas Watts. The concert ended with *The Day Thou Gavest*, the National Anthem and the Brigade March.

In addition to the band pieces each half of the programme included a Gurka dance and in the second half Neil Morgan contributed a version of 'Goldilocks' with appropriate band accompaniments. In the interval there were drinks, ices and raffle tickets for sale.

The Gurka Festival programme is always so varied and interesting that the time passes all too quickly, leaving the audience asking for more. The Festival provides a very enjoyable evening and it is pleasing to know that it will from now on be an annual event, probably held at Nye Hall.