

WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRYSIDE PROJECT

A talk by KIRK ALEXANDER *Reported by Jack Woolford*

The expanding work of the White Cliffs Countryside Project was unfolded with screened slides. Mr Alexander explained that chalk strata, as found in the Cliffs of Dover and the Pas de Calais, was not common in the world. He described the heritage coast on both sides of the Channel and the importance of the chalk grassland on the cliffs and in the immediate hinterland. The hills around Dover and Folkestone represented two per cent of

the world's total chalk grasslands. If not grazed regularly, they would become woodland in fifty years.

He spoke of the success of Samphire Ho and of the thousands who yearly visited these new acres of England created from the spoil from the Channel Tunnel. He also reported how guided walks organised by the Project were assisting green tourism and bringing extra income into the local economy.

The February 2004 Meeting

WINE & WISDOM EVENING *Reported by Jeremy Cope*

The attraction of a wine and wisdom evening is that the clever clogs who win and those who score close to them look at the event as one whose primary purpose is the expression of cleverness and knowledge. Those of us who are in the also-ran category believe that the evening's main purpose is the enjoyment of the company of our fellows, enhanced by the effects of wine. In addition there is comfort for also-rans who know that although they failed to come top this is due to the inclusion of very odd subjects such as films, television, sport and pop music of which no reasonable person can be expected to have much, if any, knowledge. In this way we all end the evening in a happy, satisfied mood.

About 90 of us turned up to test our knowledge or the company and the

wine or most likely both. The Wine and Wisdom becomes ever more popular and I would guess that this evening was the most successful to date. As always the team of Clive Taylor and his wife Jill, helped by Andrew, provided the test of our wisdom. They always do so with such good humour. Clive's dingbats are to my mind one of the best rounds. I was impressed by the way peppermint became a three-piece suite, so if anyone is baffled come to next year's Wine and Wisdom and be enlightened.

Joan Liggett assisted by Muriel Goulding and other members organised the evening and food, and Mike Weston the wine. They deserve our thanks for all they do for us.

**And the clever clogs were:- first Sagittarius, second Five & Ray and third Banjos.*