

2006 at DOVER MUSEUM

This year's big exhibition at Dover Museum is 'Dover Harbour; Britain's Oldest Port', which opened on 3rd July and runs until June 2007. A History of Dover Harbour from the Bronze Age to the present day, the exhibition is part of the celebrations commemorating the 400th anniversary of the founding of Dover Harbour Board in 1606. The exhibition will include loans from the Harbour Board, the ferry companies and other institutions, and will be a rare chance to see the original James I Charter of 1606 and some of the early maps of Dover.

A new exhibition on 'Channel Swimming' opened in the Discovery Centre on 29th July and closes 1st October, split between the Museum's 'Stairwell Gallery' and Dover Library next door. The exhibition will showcase some of the world-class collection on Channel swimming built up by the museum over the last 3 or 4 years and will highlight Dover Town Council's new initiatives to welcome Channel Swimmers to Dover from all over the world.

Channel Swimming will be followed by a Discovery Centre exhibition on Dover's pubs and hotels, from mid-October into 2007.

The fabulous and rare Ringlemere Gold Cup, found near Woodnesborough in 2001, is on display in the Bronze Age Boat Gallery from October, on a 3 month loan from the British museum. It is only the second of its type known from Britain, and is about 3,600 years old.



Ringlemere cup

To mark the Cup's visit, the Dover Bronze Age Boat Trust is organising a two day academic conference on the Bronze Age in Europe on 21st and 22nd October. This will be held at the Dover Harbour Board Cruise Terminal, speakers include experts from all over Europe and North America.

A Bronze Age public day on Saturday 21st October at the Discovery Centre will include numerous outdoor activities such as metal smelting, axe making and flint-knapping.



Wellington Dock and the Gun Hotel



Outside Hotel Burlington



Early berths



Channel Swimming Association