

## *The Objectives of the Dover Society*

*founded in 1988.*

- to promote high standards of planning and architecture
- to interest and inform the public in the geography, history, archaeology, natural history and architecture of the area
- to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest
- and commitment to the belief that a good environment is a good investment.

The area we cover comprises the parishes or wards of Barton, Buckland, Castle, Lydden, Temple Ewell, Maxton, Pineham, Priory, River, St. Radigund's, Town & Pier and Tower Hamlets.

All members receive three Newsletters a year and in each year the Committee organises about ten interesting events - talks, tours, visits, Members' Meetings and usually a Christmas Feast.

The Society gives Awards for improvements to the area, monitors planning proposals and supports, joins in or initiates civic projects and arts events.

## Editorial

Our next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting, at 7.30pm on Monday 20th April at St. Mary's Parish Centre. I would like to remind members that all nominations for elected posts within the committee and any resolutions must be received by the secretary no later than 14 days before the meeting. The speaker will be Mike Webb talking about the post of Dover Town Clerk.

This will be the last of the society's winter meetings until October so I hope for the usual good attendance. Once more this year it is the committee's intention to keep the subscription rate at its present level. This remains exceptional value as the last increase was thirteen years ago, back in April 1996. This could be an added incentive for anyone contemplating joining the society. If you need an application form to sign up a new member contact the editor or Shelia Cope.

The summer outings have now been finalised with the first to take place on 20th May. This will be to the Museum of Kent Life at Cobtree and to the beautiful and peaceful Aylesford Priory. It helps Pat if you can register your interest or book as early as possible. Any ideas about venues for future outings then please contact Pat on 01304 228129.

July 25th this year is the centenary of the first powered flight across the English Channel by Louis Bleriot. It is also the date of the 50th anniversary of the first hovercraft flight across the Channel by the SR.N1. This was a small two man craft, on the day the pilot was

Mr J Chaplin with the inventor Mr C S Cockerell as the lone passenger. Dover District Council are at present busy clearing brambles and trees from the area around Bleriot's monument at the rear of the castle. There are also rumours that they have taken over the site from English Heritage and that they will be opening more of the area to the public. More details of this event, first proposed by our society, will appear in the local press nearer the time.

From the feedback that I have received it seems that the majority of people would like to see a bowling

alley in Dover. It was nice to hear that the pupils of St. Edmund's School discussed the subject and decided narrowly in favour of a bowling alley ahead of an ice skating rink. The three most popular sites are the old supermarket site by the entrance to the Charlton Centre, the B&Q site and the Woolworth site. Let us hope that something comes of this idea.

A special thanks to Muriel Goulding who after many years of helping at our meetings is stepping down and will now be able to relax and enjoy the talks.

*Editor*

## DEADLINE for contributions

The last date for the receipt of copy for issue 65 will be Wednesday 3rd June 2009.

The Editor welcomes contributions and interesting drawings or photographs. 'Paper copy' should be typed at double spacing. Handwritten copy should be clear with wide line spacing. Accurate fully proof-read copy on computer discs is acceptable; please ring 01304 213668 to discuss details.

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