

New Freeman of Dover 2010

This year, for the first time since its inception, the Dover Town Council has awarded the Freemanship of Dover. The honour has gone to three people - a retired businessman, an active environmentalist and a former mayor.

John H Turnpenny

Terry Sutton

John Turnpenny, 87-year-old retired businessman and a long-serving member of The Dover Society, has played a major role in the life of the town over the last 60 years.

He is recognised as a most efficient and very helpful chairman of a number of Dover organisations on which he has served.

Mr Turnpenny, a bachelor living at The Gateway, was a director of the well-respected retail furnishers Turnpenny Bros until the firm closed down in 1984.

He was President of Dover Chamber of Commerce in 1954-55 and again in 1962-63 in the days when the President chaired the meetings. He served as a Dover magistrate from 1967-1993 and was chairman of the Bench from 1988-92.



He was chairman of the Governors of Dover College 1987-1994, and is a former chairman of The Gateway Residents Association.

He was also chairman of the board of visitors at Dover Borstal from 1976 to 1980 while he served on the board from 1959-1981. He was chairman of the St Alphege Trust from

1984-1987, is a trustee of the Dubris Trust that provides finance for deserving Dover students going on to university and was a trustee of the Herald Disaster Fund for two years from 1987. He is a general commissioner of Income Tax and over the years up to 1994 served the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club as honorary secretary, honorary treasurer and trustee. He is a worshipper at Dover's St Mary's Church where he has served on the church council.