

lottery grants should be sought to achieve the Millennium objectives as separate projects. The Society would apply to regenerate the Western Heights as a managed nature reserve with a Millennium Pharos beaming light across the Channel. Unfortunately, the proposal received no support from DDC despite support from English Heritage and English Nature and so the scheme was dropped.

Travelling by hovercraft, 45 members spent an enjoyable hour on the Goodwin Sands watching Morris dancers, looking round the souvenir stalls, drinking canned beer or participating in elaborate picnics complete with tables and chairs! This successful event was repeated the following year.

The fifth annual Society clean-up was in the shopping precinct where 38 cadets removed stickers from street furniture and then touched up the paintwork. This was followed during Environment Week by the Society organising a clean up of Shakespeare Beach assisted enthusiastically by 60 pupils from Aycliffe School who received the Society's grateful thanks in the form of a framed certificate.

A Society member, Mrs Gillian Janaway, was congratulated on winning the *Dover Express* competition to name the Shakespeare Cliff platform created from the chalk spoil of the Channel Tunnel - Samphire Hoe.

The October 1994 meeting considered Dover's economic past and future. Budge Adams reminded the audience of a busy, prosperous town with a garrison, industries, many shops, liners calling, etc. Attracting tourists and industry was the hope for the future.

Various planning matters kept the Society

on its toes: the planning brief for Old Park (the Society suggested a regional sports centre) and the water sports centre study, a DDC workshop on a sport and recreation strategy, the new Snargate Street clubhouse for the Sea Angling Association (Bluebirds), DHB's plans for its Cruise Liner Terminal and opposing DDC's wish to demolish the Kearsney Abbey tea room, a listed building (the billiards room of the demolished mansion). White Cliffs Business Park Phase 2 was welcomed provided it was for business and not for more retail outlets. Good news was planning permission for a transport/travellers' centre at Whitfield catering for freight, coach crews and passengers which would create 200 jobs (part of phase 1 of White Cliffs Business Park) - but it never happened. The Society pressed successfully for the repair of the historic gutter in Laureston Place on the former turnpike road to Deal. A proposal to convert Burlington House into flats was strongly opposed - demolition should be its future! Use of Archcliffe Fort by the Emmaus organisation for the homeless was supported. At long last a route for the dualling of the A2 from Lydden Hill to the Eastern Docks was announced, but the Society had to oppose the proposed route. It never happened anyway!

The enthusiastic Project Group spent a day helping the East Kent Railway volunteers clear brushwood and erecting new fencing.

1995

Another year and another clean up - Along the river from Cherry Tree to Stembrook. The winning cadet team received a dartboard! During Environment Week the Project Group with cadets cleaned up the welcoming signs to Dover on the key approaches to town.



Leo Wright was, as ever, keeping a close eye on seawater and beach quality as well as levels of water in the river and lakes. Described as a turning point was the inclusion of the Dour by the National Rivers Authority (later absorbed into the Environment Agency) in 'rivers in need of urgent medical attention'. Almost all of the Society's demands were being examined or were underway i.e. river flow affected by water extraction, water demand in danger of exceeding supply, closing down some boreholes upstream and opening others downstream, flow being monitored and no new extraction licences. The NRA was also examining all housing developments and commenting on water availability.



A contribution was made to the £40,000 appeal for the Dover History Project to catalogue all the old Borough records going back to the 13th century held at the KCC Centre for Kent Studies.

The Society was well represented at the DDC public consultation on long term plans for the St. James' area. The master

plan included two four storey blocks of flats, demolition of the MFI building on the Castle Street/Woolcomber Street corner for housing, demolition of the bus garage to provide a public square focal point with cafes and restaurants, enlargement of the existing multi-storey car park, a new pedestrianised area by the river, a boulevard effect in Townwall Street and a hotel on the south side. All this was welcomed by the Society but it urged inclusion of Burlington House demolition! In the meantime relief was expressed when the application to convert Burlington House into flats was refused.



The new *Duke of York* pub at the Guston roundabout was opposed as 'phoney nostalgia'. Evening and night closure of Langdon Cliffs was also opposed but unsuccessfully. Members were asked to complete a questionnaire on the future of Connaught Park - access, parking, sport and other recreational uses. A good response produced a long wish list! Disappointment came when DDC turned down a suggestion for a sports centre at Old Park.

During Tree Week 50 trees were planted at Broadlees Farm assisted by pupils from the Duke of York's School.

1996

There was no let up in projects. At Melbourne School a play area was redesigned and some trees were planted,