

upon Ivan Green's Newsletter articles which was launched in October. This was soon followed by a third book researched and written by members Julia and Peter Burville called *White Cliffs of Dover*, which told the story of the community that lived in cave dwellings in the famous cliffs, including some of Peter Burville's ancestors.

The Society did not take kindly to the hotel eventually built on the site of the imposing Marine Court, describing it as of industrial design, concrete blocks, factory-type roofing with a cylindrical attachment resembling an industrial water tower! Plans for the conversion of the closed White Cliffs Experience into the Discovery Centre housing the library and adult education centre with a cafe and theatre were welcomed.

2002

On the planning front plans to dual the A2 from Lydden Hill to Dover, already 25 years behind schedule, were resurrected, but it was not to happen before 2008 - and never has happened despite the desperate need to relieve Townwall Street of lorry congestion and pollution. Welcome news was DDC's Dover Town Centre Conservation Area Character Appraisal - analysing the wealth of listed buildings and the potential for enhancement. Plans for development on the Western Heights were opposed by the Society and rejected by DDC. John Peverley had previously saved the moats in the 1950s from the Borough Council's plan to infill with domestic rubbish! An invitation from DHB to join the Port Consultative Committee was accepted.

The Society joined the campaign 'to save our public loos' which were under threat of closure due to DDC cuts. We also objected to the 45% cut in the museum's budget

with curators reduced from three to one, fewer custodians and the loss of temporary exhibitions. Tourism staff were reduced from five to one. Even the Town Hall was under threat. A good piece of news was that the idea of a riverside walk, first mooted by the New Dover Group 40 years before, had been taken up by KCC and DTC. In despair about some of Dover's eyesores, the Society decided to shame them in a letter to the local newspapers, naming Burlington House, Woolworth, Premier Inn, B&Q, the Townwall St/Bench Street corner, some King Street shops, the derelict Crypt site and rubbish behind shops in Biggin Street. On the other hand De Bradelei Wharf was praised.

2003

A plan to convert Buckland Flour Mill into flats could open up its millpond as part of the riverside walk; however, the application was rejected and when revised and represented there was no public access. The planning brief for Buckland Paper Mill was also released with a mixture of housing and employment plus access to the river hidden for so many years underneath the mill buildings. We waited eagerly to see the site redeveloped, but had to wait until 2011 for a start!

With a new managing director DHB did an about turn on its idea for a Westport outside the present harbour. Instead it proposed a new 30 year masterplan to cope with a doubling of traffic - first maximising use of the Eastern Docks and then redeveloping the Western Docks when necessary.

River Dour Steering Group

The Society asked DTC to finance a survey of the river to identify opportunities for improvement and how best to achieve them. The report raised concerns not only about rubbish but also pollution from upstream.