

Society and its Executive since he (we have still not had a female Chairperson) also represented the Society at functions such as the installation of the Lord Warden, the annual Zeebrugge Raid ceremonies, the mayor making and the Remembrance Services. Something completely new was Society Christmas cards using images from Budge Adams' Collection.

The Society continued to make modest grants to local projects such as £250 toward publication of the Townwall Street dig report, £300 to the Painted House appeal and £200 toward the cost of the Bronze Age Boat Conference.

To cope with an expected doubling of traffic in the next 25 years, DHB produced an ambitious masterplan which would eventually provide four new ferry berths at the Western Docks and would require the filling-in of the Granville Dock and the Tidal Basin. Wellington Dock would be landlocked and surrounded by a hotel, restaurants, shops and apartments. To compensate for the loss of the yachting marina a new marina would be sited to the east of the Prince of Wales Pier. The Society wanted to retain the Customs Watchhouse and remnants of the historic North and South Piers and we were pleased that our submission for a water link between the Wellington Dock and any new marina in the harbour was accepted.

A spate of welcome news came before the end of 2006: Priory Station was to be upgraded at long last and the high speed rail link would be extended to Dover despite the cost of enabling trains to go through the Shakespeare tunnels; Wetherspoons would be moving into the derelict cinema site (we are still waiting), the Netto superstore opened and the Seasports Centre was to be built. However, the Society joined in the many protests

against Connaught Barracks becoming an open prison. The proposal was eventually dropped for a number of reasons, but the proximity of the Duke of York's Royal Military School being the most compelling. Instead, 500 carbon neutral houses were planned - not the hospital or university campus as some hoped. We did not object but repeated our concerns about the future of Fort Burgoyne.

2007



At the 2007 AGM a record membership of 450 was reported. Joan Liggett retired as Social Secretary and refused any presentation, but agreed to become a Vice President. Pat Hooper stepped into her shoes. Tribute was paid to member Joe Harman, Freeman of Dover, who had died, aged 92, in January.

The website, managed by Mike McFarnell, became much more popular when Lorraine Sencicle's articles on the many Dovers around the world, first published in the *Dover Mercury*, were included. A Dover history scrapbook was added soon afterwards making use of Kathleen and Bob Hollingsbee's extensive archive.