

MEMBERSHIP NEWS **Sheila Cope**

Our number has fallen to 452, partly because several members have left the area recently and not all of them wish to retain their connection with Dover through our Newsletter.

During the summer two members died who have given much service to the community. Grace Jackson OBE became Director of the London Boroughs Training Committee for social work and continued much local community work after her retirement (Obituary in The Guardian 06.08.18). Clive Meredith was Lib Dem leader at DDC from 2003 to 2011 and was praised by former colleagues for his hard work and integrity. We have also lost Mike Igglesden who had emigrated to Australia after the war and whose family were associated with the bakery which was known as Igglesden & Graves and traded at Dickens Corner. We have also sadly just lost Keith Gawn.

New members will be asked to sign our revised application form which was included in the last Newsletter. They will thereby agree to being contacted within the framework of the new General Data Protection Regulation. It is desirable that all existing members should sign up to this but if, in the meantime, there are communications which you would prefer not to receive, please let us know.

One of the ways in which we hope to attract new members, including those who are younger, is through our website. We are most grateful to our youthful member, William Parker- Gorman, who has put a great deal of sustained effort into modernising the Society's website. It will always be a work in progress and requires

a dedicated member who has the time and enthusiasm to keep the website up to date and to sustain William's work.

These innovations are taking place through the efforts of the Marketing Group and we trust that further modernisation will continue. For example, the use of Facebook and Twitter requires further investigation. However, word of mouth remains one of the most effective means of recruitment. There is no substitute for bringing a friend along to one of our events. We have recently welcomed Mr G. Skinner, Mr C. Pennington, Mr P. & Mrs M. Simpson, Mr E. Elliot, Mr T. Goodnight and Miss T. Sancha.

We are always grateful to our members who take on the task of hand-delivering our Newsletters locally. Their efforts save the Society a great deal of postage expense. Jeremy Fox has distributed for many years in the Temple Ewell area and we thank him for all his hard work. Now, due to declining health, he has had to give up and we are pleased that Claire Bond has kindly offered to take on the role. Similarly, John Widgery has replaced Georgette Rapley and our thanks go to them both. Jim Francis, assisted by Mary, has delivered Newsletters in the central Dover area for a very long time and he would also like to give up. So we are looking for someone willing to take on an urban Dover walk three times a year to replace Jim. Any willing takers - please let me know.

Meanwhile, thank you Jeremy, Georgette and Jim for all the pavements you have pounded and steps you have climbed to assist the Society.