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THE DOVER SOCIETY

IST AGM: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 1. Deaths of member Cllr Allan Dale and Committee Member Terry Khambatta
- 2. Elections of President and Vice-Presidents; all of whom have made distinguished contributions to Dover and one of whom has subsequently made a most handsome donation to the Society. Joint request to Lords Ennals and Rees, founder and successive Presidents of predecessor New Dover Group.
- 3. Cooption to Committee of Mrs Joan Liggett, Mrs Phyllis Dobbins, Mr Jim Truelove; Mr David Elms attended one meeting by request; Mr Adrian Galley and Mr Terry Khambatta were subsequently coopted. Terry's help with our funding was very valuable.
- 4. Thanks to Retiring Officers: Barry Smith, notably for registrations and affiliations and membership: money saving by postal services; hire of accommodation and organisation of refreshment for public meetings: supervision of town-cleaning by Youth Employment Service: excellent suggestion to combine Treasurer with membership Secretary which Ken Berry has accepted. We note with admiration Barry's return to full-time employment, wish him many more working years and trust he will return to the committee in due course.

; Norman Willis for keeping (not cooking) the books and for continuously warning us of the perilous state of our finances; nevertheless consented to purchase of two Crabble Mill planks and we successfully thwarted his desire to increase subscriptions.

Thanks to VP Peter Johnson: contacts and <u>influence</u> everywhere including DDC, Dover College, President and other VPs: appearances on Radio Kent; willingness to appear at Cttee as VP to make space for A.N. Other: no voting! Adrian Galley for exhibition on Historic Town Centres and Charleton Shopping Centre shop for display: Phyl Dobbins for organising our participation in Exhibition of Voluntary Societies in Town hall on Nov 7th and for assistance with correspondence.

- 5, Membership; there are now almost 200 members, of whom are for five years; includes Shaw MP,
- 6. Registrations and affiliations: Civic Trust, Charity Commission, KFAS, NB Spring Conference 1990 early May.
- 7, Representation on Eurotunnel Consultative Committee: representations on chalk transport, Aycliff nuisances, appearances on ET videos: and Dover District Amenity Societies Liaison Committee Alkham Valley, Deal, Sandwich, River Stour Societies; = further watch on DDC: representation via KFAS on KAG (Channel Tunnel) and KRAG (High Speed Rail Link).
- 8, Relations with Dover District Council; we are indebted for initial assistance with photocopying and postage, and for the good offices our Advisory member Mike McFarnell, Our Planning Committee has been briefed by David Sturt who gives us early information on planning applications; and our Executive Committee by John Clayton, Director of Planning and Technical

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Services who has also addressed our members on the Heritage Centre, Having also listened to the suggestions made by Mr Brian Philp we have decided that the Council's scheme is preferable although we express the strong hope that the Painted House and the Roman Bath-house may be included in Phase 2 of the project. We very much welcome inclusion of New Dover Museum, We have addressed to Doyer District Council advice on the new Plan for Doyer; copies available at £1.00; our Planning Committee which, meritoriously, meets separately monthly has tendered advice on the proposed industrial site at Honeywood Road, on car parking, housing in Temple Ewell & St Margt's Bay, Engineering Works Site, the Towncentre Precinct, Minnis Lane traffic. It has congratulated DDC on the progress of the Towncentre Precinct, the opening of the Town Gaol and notes with approbation the reprieves to River Recreation ground and Crabble Mill. WE wish to congratulate the new Parish Council and the River Conservation Society on their achievements: Planning Cttee has attempted to persuade B & Q and the CWS to incorporate a Riverside Walk on the DEW site and has expressed interest in the recording of an Oral History of Dover,

We have also valued our contacts with elected members of the District Council, notably Councillors Kit Smith and Tony Tatam. We were given a conducted tour of Brook House and had to agree that in its then condition preservation and refurbishment were out of the question. At the same time we expressed strong criticism of the timing of demolition and of the conduct of public relations. We are pleased to note evidence of improvement and the attendance at our meetings, including the present, of senior council officers; and members(?); We very much approve the undertaking that there will be "no more surprises".

- 9. We have established cordial relations with the Dover Chamber of Commerce which has expressed pleasure at our acceptance of the need to double the bypass and to accommodate industry to compensate for the loss of employment which will accompany the opening of the Channel Tunnel. We also share the view that further retail developments at Honeywood Road are not desirable.
- 10. Our relations with Dover Harbour Board are also excellent. We value the contributions to our deliberations of our Vice-chairman John Gerrard (who was receptive tp our suggestions about the new POW Pier Cafe and who organised our members visit to the Eastern Docks in Sept); and to the Chairman of our Planning Committee Ken Wraight. We also very much appreciate the use of the Harbour Board's premises for committee meetings in succession to the hospitality of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Cope and for duplicating and photocopying services.
- 1), We are glad to acknowledge the hospitality of the columns of the "Dover Express" to our proceedings and to collaboration in our "Quiz" competition Dover.
- 12. Thanks to the incomparable talents and industry of our Editor, Philomena Kennedy, author of "Walk Round Dover", published by DHB, we have made an excellent beginning to our publications with the first three numbers of our Newsletter which have received accolades from far beyond Dover. (Back numbers for sale at £1.00 each). We are also her debtor for the quality of the Award Certificates which were publicly presented to Buckland Paper Mill and to the architect of our new Court House last

October. Our current project of awards for shop fronts is also in her good hands; our new Membership Cards; and our contribution to the proposed DDC Heritage Trail.

13. Our social programme. organised by Lin Clackett, has also been very successful. We are most fortunate to have the goodwill of Dover College notably for hosting our first Xmas gathering, which was also fittingly entertained by the Boys Grammar School orchestra inspiringly conducted by Mr Adrian Boynton. Our members have also enjoyed visits to DDC Chamber and Dover Castle and have attended our presentation of awards and other public meetings ingood numbers. Our programme, impressoive! to the end of 1989 has been distributed to members.

We have got off to a good start alike in terms of membership, relationships with other organisations; we trust that our future influence and achievements will be commensurate with them,