

Hamble - Pictures from the Past

2nd September 2021 - Hamble Memorial Hall

This was the first Society meeting for 19 months, due to the Covid restrictions preventing public meetings, which meant it had missed two AGMs. Therefore, an AGM was held at the beginning of this meeting as well as a short presentation of the society's activities over the last 21 years because during this time it had also missed its 21st anniversary.

Society chairman, Ian Underdown, then gave an illustrated talk on 'Hamble - Pictures from the Past'. This was based on a booklet published last year of the same title and Ian gave more detailed information about each picture. The booklet contains a number of newly discovered pictures that had not been seen before by Hamble residents. One of these was an 1874 painting showing the foreshore off Riverside House, now the RAFYC clubhouse, with interesting views of the back of Copperhill Terrace.

Ian explained most of Hamble's old pictures came from paintings or drawings prior to 1900 and then postcards provided most of the pictures of the early 20th century. After the First World War ordinary people started to own cameras so they then had their own photographs.

The presentation started by showing early pictures of Hamble, including some recently found photographs of women taking a boat trip on the river and then going to the Victory Inn. This was followed by pictures of Hamble pubs, businesses, TS Mercury, regattas and the fire brigade. Pictures of Hamble's aviation were not missed out and there were interesting aerial views of the village.

Ian then took the audience around the streets of Hamble starting at Hamble Lane and finishing at the foreshore. As mentioned previously, more information was given about each picture such as the picture of Hamble Lane and Hampton Cottages that showed William Hampton with his bicycle. He was responsible for having the cottages built and he was the Parish Council's longest serving clerk (1900-1947). The presentation concluded with a variety of pictures showing different aspects Hamble's village life.

The talk was very well received and Ian was given many compliments afterwards. Everyone was happy to be back enjoying the society's meetings, evidenced by the very good attendance.

All the pictures shown in this talk are included in the booklet 'Hamble - Pictures from the Past' and for more details see the 'Publications' section.