

VOLUME II

BRAMHAM : THE VILLAGE IN TIMES PAST.

In the early 1990's , John and Doreen Dickson joined Patricia and David Machin in a project to collect and record photographs, postcards and reminiscences of old Bramham from residents and friends of the village. Over two years of amassing evidence, and then writing, resulted in the book which was published in August 1994. By that time the editorial team had been augmented by Bob Murphy of ElectroVellum Ltd. and Ruth Watson; they took responsibility, respectively, for layout and publishing and for all financial matters. Chris Shaw re-photographed the original photos and cards.

At the request of the Village Council, one of the book's sponsors, an exhibition of original materials, plus further offerings from villagers, was mounted in the Village Hall on Saturday 22 October 1994, attended by around 100 interested supporters.

Subsequently, the editorial team placed three volumes of photographs and articles into the safekeeping of Bramham Village Council. It is hoped that these precious and hard - earned materials will be kept available for the future benefit and enjoyment of the people of Bramham. This will be the only full set of papers and photographs from this initiative, though a further set of photographs will be in existence.

Included here are photographs taken in Summer 1994 by David Machin, who holds the negatives, reproducing scenes depicted in earlier days. Thus, in years to come, these records will provide evidence of the appearance of Bramham in both the early, and late, days of the 20 th Century.

eped in history

A village brimming with the history of rural England. Over time its rich and varied past has been recorded in a book.

In Bramham - the village - the book takes the reader on a pictorial walk through the village, past the cottages, the winding streets, the farms, the windmill and the water tower.

Patricia and David Machin and John Dickson, who were involved in the village's history, are residents.

Much of the last century's history is shown in old photographs, postcards and cuttings. And the book tells the story of Bramham as it was in the village has kept its history alive.

Material used in the book was shown at an exhibition of Old Bramham in the village hall last Saturday.

boys in the 1840s and 50s. But after its staff and pupils were killed off in a cholera epidemic in 1869, it closed and was dismantled brick by brick.

A newspaper cutting of 1944 reports how fire destroyed the village hall. And aerial pictures catalogue the spread of houses as transport links were improved.

And scattered among the pictures are anecdotes of history, snippets of people's memories which bring them alive. For example, details such as why the tradition of tolling the bell to signify a death came to an end during the Second World War - or what happened when the prisoner of war camp opened at Bramham Park. These give an insight into what everyday life was once like.

This book is not an in depth historical study of the village, nor does it try to be. It is a thoughtful and interesting book which the reader can dip into time and time again and relive Bramham's past.

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PICTURED with a copy of Bramham - the Village in Times Past - are from the left: David Machin, Mrs Patricia Machin, Bob Murphy and Mrs Doreen Dickson. (W7198)

nd sound

HERE'S a happy story with a tail to wag at the end!

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EnACT





"Dramban - The Village in Times Past" (see over)
Exhibition October 1994, in the Village Hall Supper Room,
sponsored by the Village Council. Pat Stakin, Pat Watson,
Bob Murphy, Jennifer Jackson (above) and Joyce Dickson, Joan Watson
and first visitor (Teresa Ferris) (below).





Ruth Water (Treasurer)

The book was launched in August 1994, and sold out its first printing of 600 copies by early 1995. A second printing of a further 400 copies sold well. By mid - late 1996 the profits amounted to about £3000. A donation of £500 helped purchase rostra for staying in the Village Hall, with a further £2000 held to pay for materials in the re-laying of the Churchyard foot path.