

MALDENS AND COOMBE HERITAGE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11th MAY 2016

AT NEW MALDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Mary, greeted all members (43)

There were apologies for absence from Shaan and Tim Everson, Alan Oakley, Cathy Reed, Patrick Browne, Peter Magee, Graeme Hodge, Kathleen Coyne, and Lynne Finnerty.

There were three potential new members: Marjorie Jenner, Valerie Jenner, and Yvonne Tracey.

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and signed, and will appear on the website at a later date.

Mary thanked the church for the use of their meeting place, and for their catering facilities.

Robin explained to the members that the society would like to borrow any maps of the area to copy. Maps could very clearly show the development of Malden and Coombe and would help with our understanding of the growth of the town. When certain roads were built and even why. They might also help determine what stood on the site of your property or garden. Unfortunately, with a lot of the maps that were shown Malden seemed to appear right in the corner, divided amongst two separate sheets or in the fold. John King also showed a modern ? Russian map of the area.

Our speaker Toby Ewin then gave us a talk about his local history research into his property in Wendover Drive and the surrounding area. He moved into the property with his parents in 1962. So, in 2012 had been there 50 years. His research had largely been carried out with the use of maps and books available from the New and Old Malden libraries. Initially most of the area had been farmland with farms called Nutears, Blagden, and Blue House. His house was built by Wates but unfortunately they did not keep archives. He did find a website which gave him details of when each individual house in Wendover was built and occupied as it seems that each house had to be approved at the council. Toby also showed us some of the bombing maps that had been produced showing enemy action in summer/autumn 1940 and damage caused by flying bombs in June/July 1944. There were also photos showing bomb damage.

Toby mentioned some of the famous people who had lived in the road such as Douglas Smith from the radio programme "Round The Horn" and Jane Campbell who became Dame Campbell of Surbiton and is a great campaigner for disabled rights. Also Baroness Finlay an author of medical books, Leslie Butler who wrote spy novels, and Chris Perry a footballer for many clubs including Wimbledon and Tottenham. Toby was thanked for his interesting talk about the records that were available for local history.

Members then produced their family artefacts. We heard about ancestors who were painters at Windsor Castle, others had won medals fighting in Egypt in the First World War. Another had an

invitation to a Commemoration Dinner dated July 5th 1902. There was a Territorial Army Bugle played by a soldier who won a Military Medal and Bar. More medals won by a soldier who served in Africa. All in all, a varied amount a reminder of family that our members were very proud of.

There then followed a quiz with prizes provided by Mary which proved very enjoyable for all members, and won by just two points. (questions attached).

In AOB Tony Gooding and Rochelle Lisbon were elected members of the committee by a show of hands.

The meeting closed with the next one planned for Wednesday 1st June 2016