

THE BOOK OF HADDISCOE REMARKABLE PEOPLE AND MOMENTOUS EVENTS

Lin Bensley

The Book of Haddiscoe takes a discerning view of the village and particular inhabitants from the latter half of the eighteenth century to the middle of the 20th century. With the aid of memoirs, letters, journals, diaries, books and newspaper articles it has been possible to piece together the lives of a number of extraordinary and ordinary (though no less intriguing) individuals who resided in the village at one time or another during these years.

The book covers the period when Haddiscoe was still very much an occupational community; when the majority of men and women were able to find employment within the bounds of the parish and Haddiscoe remained somewhat insular until the post-war era. Over the past half century the community identity (as in most villages) has been eroded by the mechanization of farms, the demise of the cottage industries, and the migration of labour to urban areas.

While the intrusion of the outside world may have destroyed a more endearing way of life, economic and technological improvements did much to dispel the shadow of poverty that hung over the lives of many inhabitants. Progress was however not always for the benefit of all as this book endeavours to portray.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

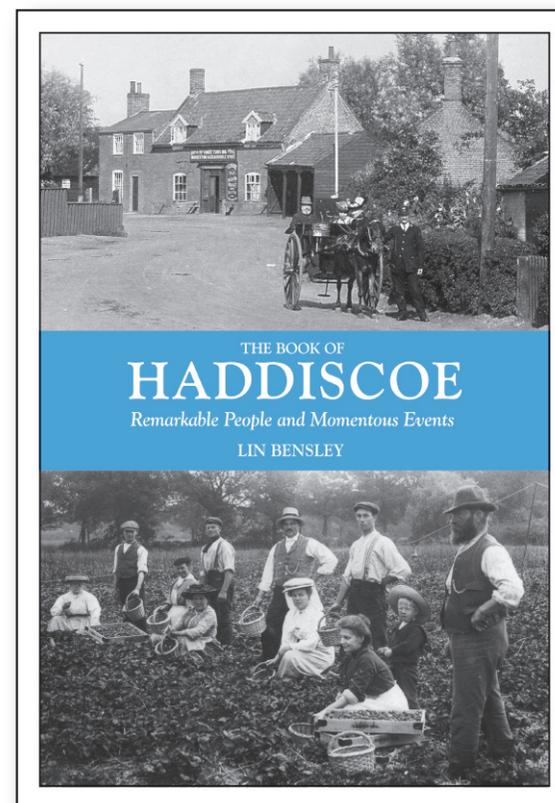
Lin Bensley has spent over fifteen years researching material for this book. It has been a journey of discovery, with many unexpected twists and turns, and he is indebted to many who have helped him along the way and pointed him in the right direction.

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Haddiscoe concert party: Members of the cast performing a song called "Goodnight."



Railway staff at Haddiscoe station in the 1930s.



Workmen at Haddiscoe hall with then owner Edgar Morse seated second left in front row next to his son, Francis (in the floppy hat) and his elder son, Frederick, behind him, circa 1915.

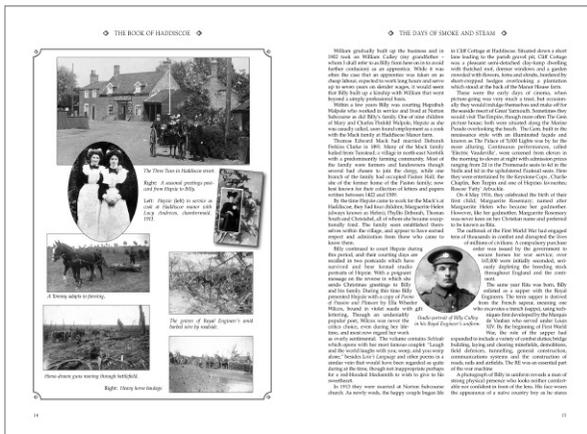


Right: Haddiscoe football team – winners of the Gillingham league, 1923.

Below: Langley Detached Mill, Haddiscoe marshes.



Example of a double-page spread.



A view of Haddiscoe Church from about 1900, taken from Church Lane (East).