

SAUNDERSFOOT AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The guest speaker at the February meeting of the Society was Susan Baldwin whose lecture was titled 'Tudor Tenby.' Susan enlivened the evening by appearing in Tudor costume, much to the enjoyment of the audience.

Against a backdrop of varied and informative illustrations the theme developed was of someone arriving by sea and walking up into the town. The images were largely etchings by Charles Norris and the Eric Bradforth representation of the town in 1586. Tenby at this time in its history was primarily a seafaring and trading port and its buildings reflected this focus: the harbour and markets, the pier, toll house and chapel, boat building and repair. There was a second harbour near the Salterns and before the embankment was built in the early nineteenth century the Ritec would have been tidal perhaps as far inland as St. Florence.

The centre of the old town has been much changed over time though at its centre was always the parish church of St. Mary's and with cottages built up against its walls. The pattern of streets has also changed during the town's long history, no Tudor Square for example in Tudor Tenby.

At the end of her lecture Susan invited the audience to view a selection of old photographs of the town and artefacts relating to the Tudor period.

The speaker was warmly thanked on behalf of a large and appreciative audience by Mrs Mary Cavell.

The next meeting of the Society will be held at the Regency Hall on 18 March at 7.30 when Martin Connop Price will lecture on the Railway West of Whitland. Non-members are welcome to attend.