

COASTAL ENVIRONMENT



East Parade Improvement Programme

April 2018

East Parade Improvement Programme

Coastal Environments Project: Corporate Programme

East Parade Scoping Study 2015

Community Engagement Consultation 2015

HLF applications: Feb 2016 and Sep 2016

Review of scoping study

Four projects identified:

- Project A: Bexhill East Beach
- Project B: East Parade Heritage Project
- Project C: East Parade Landscape Uplift
- Project D: De La Warr Parade Lighting









First Motor Races.

Now all this cost the town nothing! But Lord De La Warr forgot that the conditions of the Post Office in Buckhurst-place were inadequate to deal with this Niagara of electrified words going all over the world, and so I had to put my thinking cap on—a brain wave produced a master stroke, for while I was in the middle of meditation the Sunday previous, I walked my very dear friend, the late Sir Henniker Heaton, accompanied by Signor Marconi, and unto him I unburdened my woes. I told him that I was prepared to set off the east side of the Kursaal for an operating department, and all I wanted was official sanction to make the necessary arrangements. He—dear good kind friend—was always ready to do me, and incidentally Bexhill, a good turn, and immediately said: "My dear Glover, write me a letter as to what you want. I will see Londonderry to-night, and let you know the result." Lord Londonderry was then the P.M.G.

The result was electric. Sir Henniker walked across the floor of the House of Lords on the Monday afternoon, explained matters to the P.M.G., got a letter from him to the local Postmaster, which he sent to me, about wayleaves, etc. On the Tuesday I went round and got the necessary wayleaves. I remember one of them was from Dr. Emmet in the Sea-road. Wednesday morning two or three men arrived from Tunbridge Wells, engineers who had just returned from the South African War, and who were well acquainted with this class of work, and by Wednesday night or Thursday morning the Kursaal was equipped with a telegraph postal service, sufficient to accommodate the entire universe. As a matter of fact, we had, I think, about twenty-eight Wheatstone machines going on the Morse code, and the noise in the evening when the motor ball took place was almost too much for the band.

NEWS TELEGRAMS AT THE KURSAAL.

ARRANGEMENTS are in progress for the publication, at regular intervals daily, of special telegrams relating to important events occurring during the day. The Bexhill Publishing and Printing Co. have been approached with a view to the issue of daily supplements to the "Chronicle," at intervals between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. By this arrangement all the latest sporting and other important news will be obtainable at the earliest possible moment at the Kursaal reading-room. The idea, which seems to be a good one, emanates from Mr. J. M. Glover, and we hope to give some definite information on the subject in our next issue.

S'GNOR MARCONI AT BEXHILL.

Signor Marconi, the great inventor of wireless telegraphy, visited Bexhill on Sunday last, staying with Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., at Overbury, Middlesex Road.

Signor Marconi attended the afternoon concert at the Kursaal, and inspected Galley Hill, having probably in contemplation the idea of fixing a wireless telegraph station at this point. On Monday he left by the 8.27 train, with Mr. Henniker Heaton, travelling to London by the corridor train from Hastings.



How Moving Pictures are Made.

A CINEMA STUDIO AT BEXHILL.

INTERESTING OPERATIONS.

With the advent of the moving picture as it was then called, a new industry, that of cinematography, sprang into being. How that industry has advanced step by step to its present well-nigh perfect state is well-known. The production of the film, however, is still a matter that is "wropt in mystery." True, the general public realises in a more or less hazy way that many actors and actresses have forsaken the legitimate stage to pose in this connection, but at this point their knowledge stops. To them the fact that the camera is daily recording the actions and expressions of seasoned Thespians the world over is a sealed book; yet this part of the work is no less interesting than the mere unfolding of the plot on the screen. Danger is not absent, and the amount of labour and even genius that is expended in arriving at the desired end is not easily believable.

To get an inkling of the fascination of the subject one must obtain a peep at the actual operations in progress, and, in this respect an "Observer" representative spent an interesting half-hour gathering information first-hand, and this, let it be said, without leaving Bexhill!

The partitioning off of the right wing of the Kursaal probably gave rise to no little curiosity, a curiosity that would be increased a thousandfold were it possible on the part of the general public to get a glimpse of the scenes that are daily being enacted there. For several weeks past the Franco-British Film Company have been in possession of these premises, and how well they have occupied their time the future will shortly disclose. The "brain" of the enterprise is Mons. G. Treville, and with all a Frenchman's courtesy and charm he told his inquisitor of some of the doings of himself and his assistants.



MONS. G. TREVILLE.

1912

The Death Ray Man

Bexhillians whose local memories go back thirty or forty years will be interested in a newly-published book, "The Death Ray Man." It is the biography of Grindell Matthews, who is said to have discovered the "death ray" and many devices for the wireless control of distant objects.

He was regarded as the world's unluckiest inventor. It was claimed that he was the first to discover radio telephony, that he generated beams that controlled boats and torpedoes, that he revealed the scientific secrets of "talkies," and that he produced a submarine detector and an aerial minefield. But Mr. Matthews never made a fortune.

Mr. E. H. G. Barwell, who relates the story of his life, mentions the early experiments in wireless telephony which Grindell Matthews conducted from the roof of the Bexhill Kursaal. This little hut was Britain's first radio station, although we did not know it at the time.

Wireless communication was established with a boat off the shore, and it was said that a boat three miles away was controlled by means of a radio beam.

For this invention Grindell Matthews received £25,000, but this was his only substantial reward.



On Top of the Kursaal

Brief reference in the "Observer" last week to the death of Mr. H. Grindell Matthews must have recalled to the minds of at least a few old townspeople the slim, curly-haired and good-looking young man who spent a good deal of his time here some 30 years ago, when he was conducting wireless experiments.

As they saw him go every morning to a little wooden hut perched on the roof of the Kursaal people wondered what this serious young man was up to, and the actual knowledge being difficult to obtain they invented stories for themselves.

"Death Ray" Experiments

Some said that Mr. Matthews had discovered a "death ray," which was going to revolutionise methods of war. Others that he had invented a wireless beam which could control and direct car engines on the ground, plane engines in the air, and torpedoes under the sea. Wireless telephony was also one of his scientific hobbies, and if the little wooden hut on the Kursaal could speak it could tell us that the future of civilised life was being determined in Bexhill.

Young Grindell Matthews left Bexhill without disclosing his secret. Subsequently he was heard of, and articles describing the results of his electrical researches occasionally appeared in the newspapers.

Government Recognition

It is known that he invented devices for controlling ships and firing guns by means of the beam of a searchlight but all the stories of a "death ray" must have been apocryphal. However, it is said that he convinced the Government of the value of his discoveries, and that he received £25,000 for his inventions.

Sky Pictures

After the last war Mr. Grindell Matthews took an interest in films and before the advent of "talkies" produced a sound film of Sir Ernest Shackleton.

At one time he was consulting expert in sound film production to Warner Brothers. Later he invented a "sky projector," by which it was claimed that pictures could be thrown on the sky. Perhaps it was fortunate for the peace of mankind and the beauty of the universe that this device was not developed for the use of big advertisers.

By another of his inventions, called the "luminophone," it was possible to play an organ by a beam of light.

Three years ago Mr. Grindell Matthews married Mrs. Ganna Walska, a concert singer.

He died in the Swansea Valley at the age of 61.

c.1907-1910



THE BANDSTAND, DE LA WARR PARADE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.

**Herr Stanislaus Wurm
and his famous
White Viennese Band.**

**The Band first
performed in Bexhill
in 1884.**



Gustav Holst former band member



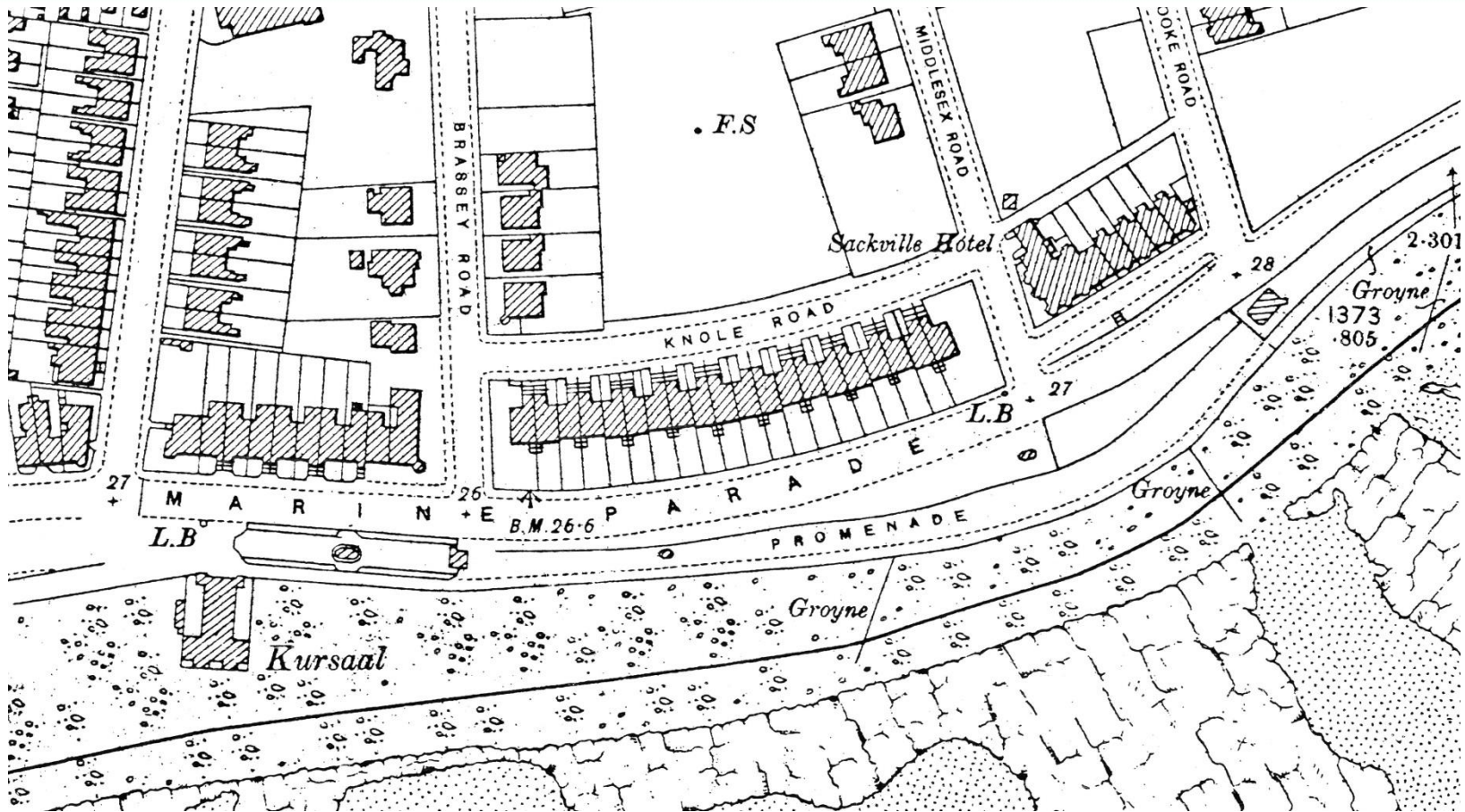


The Bandstand was converted into a seafront sun shelter, this probably occurred in 1896 when the Kursaal opened.

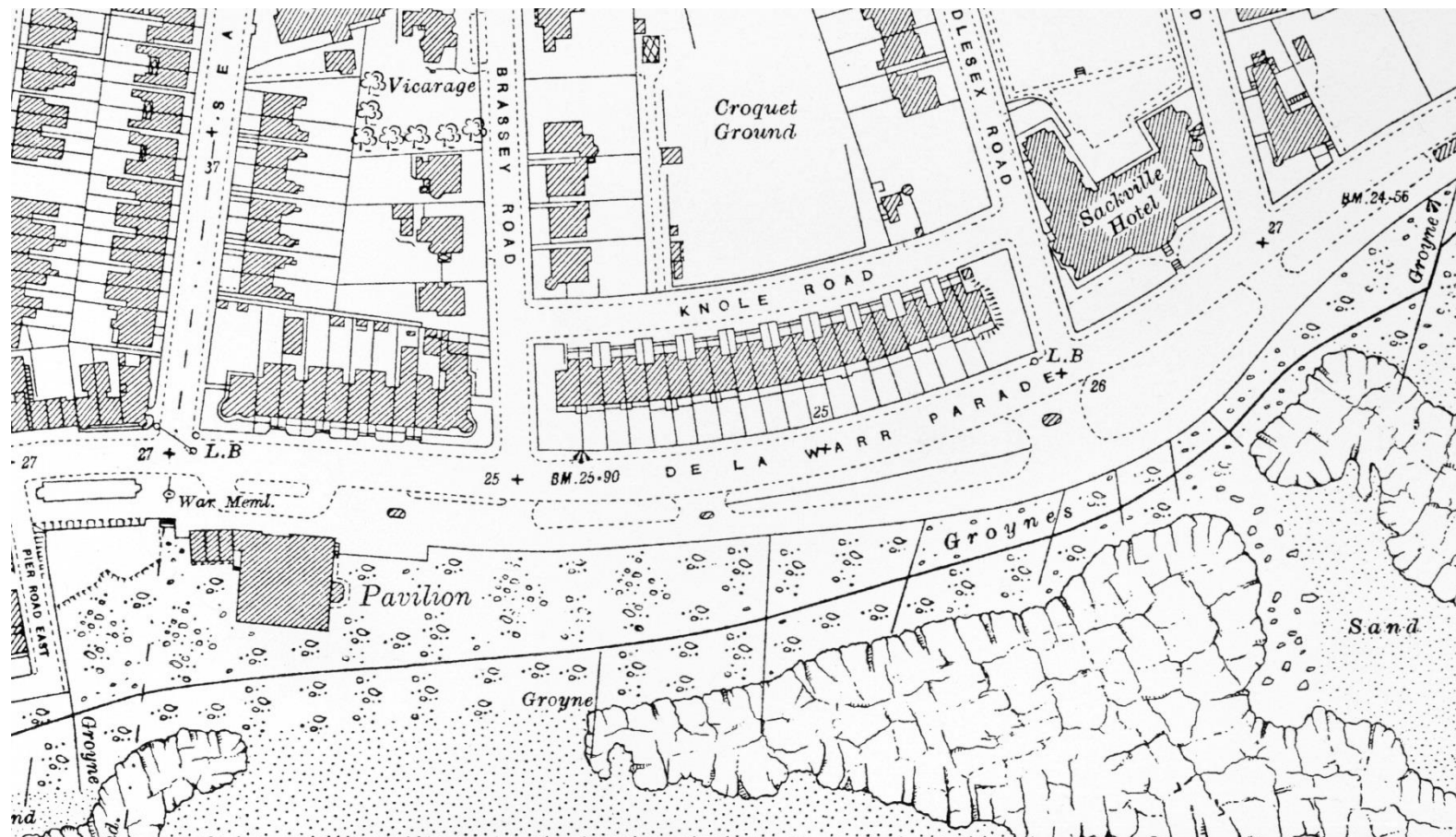




**Seafront Gardens
and the mystery of the
missing shelter**

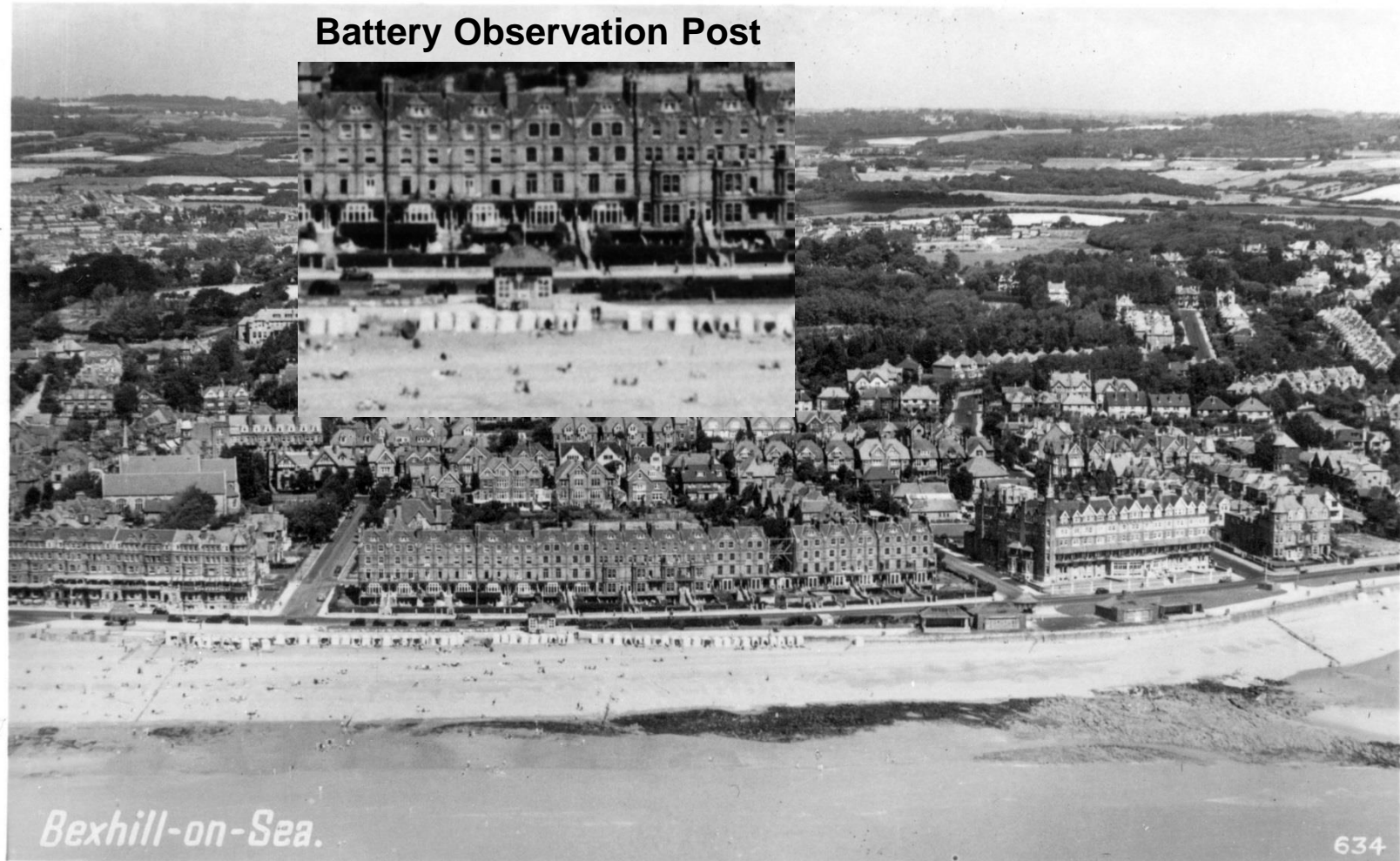


Marine Parade 1899



De La Warr Parade 1930

Battery Observation Post



Wartime features c.1946



De La Warr Parade Tropical Garden and Sun Shelter



Shelter set within garden and Cycle Chalet c.1914



Keep fit with Miss Baker 1933

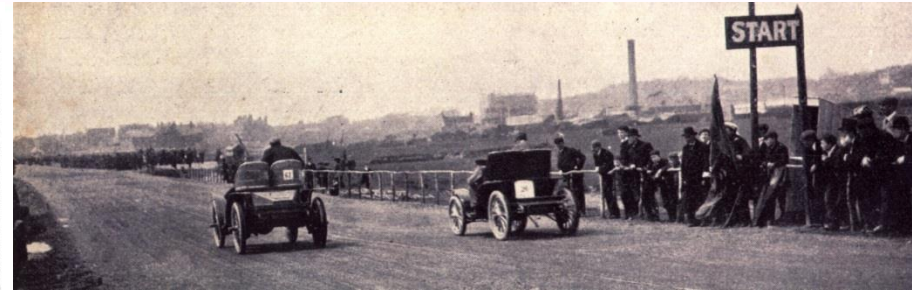


REGATTA DAY, CHILDREN'S SPORTS.

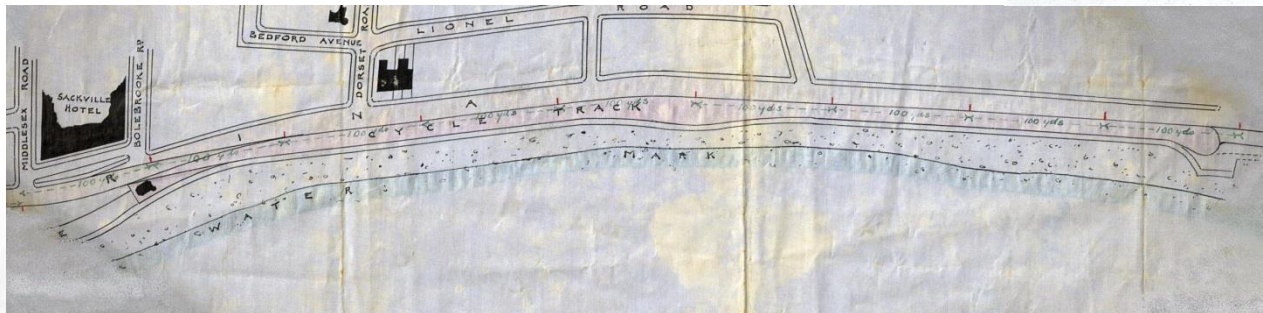
Children's Sports 1935

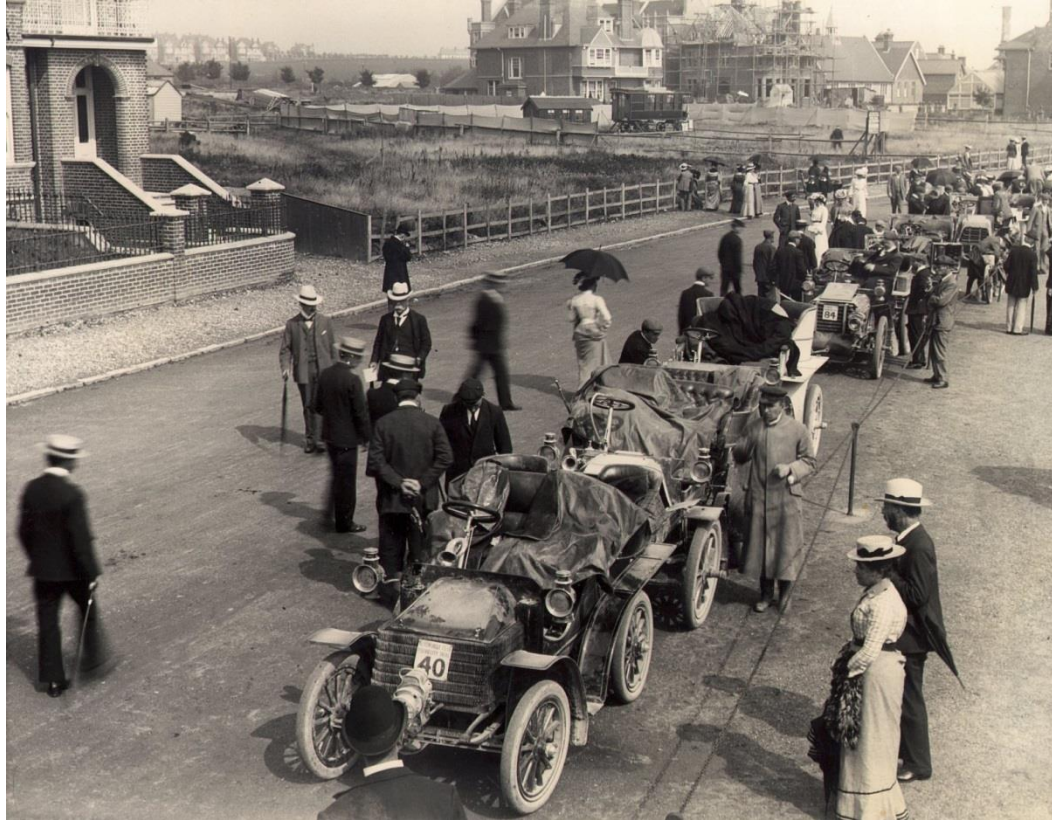


Bexhill Bicycle Boulevard and Cycle Chalet, 1896



**First British Motor Car
Race, Bexhill 19.5.1902**





Bexhill Motor Reliability Trials 3.7.1902



**Dr Gordon Stables caravan
The Wanderer**



Bexhill Cycle Track c.1906



East Parade 15.8.1935



East Parade 1925



THE EAST PARADE DURING MOTOR RALLY.

East Parade Motor Rally 1935



Galley Hill c.1950

East Parade Improvement Programme

Project A: Bexhill East Beach

Project B: East Parade Heritage Project

Project C: East Parade Landscape Uplift Project

Project D: De La Warr Parade Ornamental Lighting

Project A: Bexhill East Beach



Project A: Bexhill East Beach

Architect's Concept Design Visual



Project B: East Parade Heritage Project



Project C: East Parade Landscape Uplift



Project DC: De La Warr Parade Lighting



Thank you

