



# NEWSLETTER

## December 2017

Dear members,

On behalf of the Trustees, welcome to our society and very first newsletter. Bexhill is fortunate in still having a fascinating variety of buildings, features and assets despite the loss of so much over the years. This charm and integrity should be cherished and we hope, with your support, that we can make a significant difference through conserving, protecting and improving the Bexhill built environment by caring for the past, present and future.

In the coming months we hope to develop the role of Bexhill Heritage by working closely with a number of local partners who are already aligned with our aims and objectives.

Finally, any organisation is only as good as its leadership and I would like to thank our amazing Trustees and support team for all their outstanding diligent hard work during the challenging process of launching Bexhill Heritage.

Raymond Konyn  
*Chairman*



We have plans for a number of local projects one of which includes a feasibility study regarding the possible restoration of the clock at Bexhill West Station.

From 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018, we will have an information point inside St. Barnabas Church. You can talk with us about any heritage concerns, or find out about any planned work of the charity. We will be available Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 2pm to 4pm within the main hall - next to the café.

There will be a public talk at St. Barnabas Church on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018 from 10:30am to 12:30pm with refreshments. Our guest speaker is Daryl Holter from Sussex Police whose theme is 'heritage crime' and how to deal with it. Members, guests, and anyone interested in protecting and enhancing the 'the best of Bexhill' will also have the chance to learn more about Bexhill Heritage's mission, current work and forthcoming projects. Entrance is free to members.

Bexhill Heritage has recently been recognized officially as a 'charitable company' which means we can enjoy certain tax advantages including the opportunity to reclaim tax through the 'Gift Aid' scheme.

## Architecture Spotlight



Cooden Sea Road - house designed by Mackay Hugh Baillie Scott in 1914. Baillie Scott was famous for his examples of British domestic architecture and the work he put into both the exterior and the interior.

## Keep in contact

 [bexhillheritage.org.uk](http://bexhillheritage.org.uk)

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If you like what we are doing then please encourage your friends to join with us and strengthen our society.

Are you interested in being actively involved in the charity? A list of current volunteer roles can be found here:

[bexhillheritage.org.uk/about/the-committee](http://bexhillheritage.org.uk/about/the-committee)

We would like to wish all our members a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year. We look forward to working with you to help us improve our town.

## Letter Boxes in Bexhill-on-Sea



*Victorian letter box at corner of De La Warr Parade and Middlesex Road. The Sackville Hotel opened in 1890 so this box would have been ideally situated to serve its residents.*

Within the TN39 and TN40 postal districts there are 88 letter boxes. 69 of these are pillar boxes (tall cylindrical boxes), 9 are wall boxes (flat rectangular boxes set into walls) and 9 are lamp boxes (small boxes often attached to lamp posts or telegraph poles). In addition there is one non-standard box on the ground floor of Bexhill Hospital. Six boxes carry Queen Victoria's cipher, five are King Edward VII boxes, 30 are King George V boxes, seven are King George VI boxes and 39 are Queen Elizabeth II boxes. There are no King Edward VIII boxes, in fact there are only about 160 such boxes in the whole country.

Of the six remaining Queen Victoria letter boxes in Bexhill, four are pillar boxes located in St Leonards Road, Wickham Avenue, De La Warr Parade (near Middlesex Road junction) and, curiously, in Crofton Park Avenue. This latter road was not built until 1962 so the Victorian letter box was probably in storage somewhere and used to fill a need when the road was built. The two other Victorian letter boxes are wall boxes, one in Lunsford Cross on the Ninfield Road at the junction with Potman's Lane and Peartree Lane and the other on Cooden Drive near the junction with Beaulieu Road closest to Cooden Beach.

Readers may have noticed that during the last six months a number of letter boxes around the town have been given a fresh coat of paint. Bexhill Heritage will be monitoring the completeness and quality of this Royal Mail scheme.