

Dawlish timeline from 1800

(a work in progress)

- 1800 Building of Luscombe Castle commenced
Building of Sea Grove (now Lanherne)
- 1801 Population 1590
Kings Union Arms set on Church Gallery
- 1802
- 1803 Houses built in Pleasant Row (now Strand)
- 1804 Luscombe Castle complete
- 1805 Park Street (now High Street) opened
- 1806
- 1807 Sale of part of the Manor at Courtenay Arms, Starcross. A large section of the centre of Dawlish bought by John Edye Manning who immediately started development and created the Lawn.
- 1808
- 1809 New Teignmouth Road constructed out of Dawlish
First stage coach to Exeter
First wooden arched bridge replaced plank bridge (where Jubilee bridge is now)
- 1810 10th November 'The' Flood – bridges, houses and Lawn destroyed
- 1811 Population 1882; 855 males and 1,027 females
Public Assembly rooms built on site of later Royal Hotel
Jane Austen wrote *Sense & Sensibility* and mentioned Dawlish
- 1812 Regular coach service to Exeter started
- 1813
- 1814 Congregational Church built in Chapel Street
- 1815
- 1816
- 1817 Leader's stage waggon for Exeter left Dawlish on Mon, Weds & Friday
First fire engine purchased for £68
- 1818 Third Sunday church service commenced

- 1819 New Poor House in Old Town Street
National Parochial School established adjacent to new Poor House

Loyal declaration from people of Dawlish printed in Trewman's Flying Post
- 1820 Condition of coast road improved
Riot against treatment of Queen Caroline
Infant school established on same site as school established 1819
- 1821 Population 2,700. Males 1,233. Females 1,467
- 1822 West churchyard wall built
- 1823 Road cut from Minnadab to Smugglers Lane
Elm Grove Road made
Parish church nave rebuilt
Teignmouth & Dawlish Turnpike Trust established and holds first meeting at York Hotel
- 1824 East lych gate removed from parish church
- 1825 Public spirited residents obtained lease on Lawn
Parish church rebuilt
Bacon bridge (i.e. bottom of Barton Hill) built or rebuilt
Strand Hill rebuilt
Act of Parliament for improving Dawlish-Teignmouth road
- 1826
- 1827 Stonelands bridge built of Portland stone
- 1828 Waterloo Bridge opposite Waterloo House opened on Waterloo Day
First post office in Mill Row (Brunswick Place)
- 1829
- 1830 Bath house built/rebuilt on Marine Parade [some accounts say 1828]
Langdon house built
East cliff road made
- 1831 Population 3,151. Males 1,362. Females 1,789
Alarm about cholera
- 1832 Beach Road built from beach to coast road
As commemoration of Reform Bill – collection to provide free water
- 1833 Last Parish Apprentice bound
- 1834 Evening service in Parish Church revived
- 1835
- 1836 Sea wall constructed for protection of Esplanade

29th March – brig Cheviot wrecked near Langstone cliff
The Butterfly, a light coach, runs to Exeter
Act W4 c86 for local road work

- 1837 Bretheren's Room in New-Cut (Lawn Hill) opened for worship
- 1838 Work commenced on repairing Cofton Church after 70 years neglect
- 1839 Bishop of Exeter granted Allen of Teignmouth right to preach at Wesleyan Chapel
Tithes were commuted. Vicarial for £440 and Rectorial for £360
- 1840
- 1841 Population 3,116. Males 1,382. Females 1,734
- 1842
- 1843
- 1844 Bill for construction of South Devon Railway received Royal Assent
Iron bridge to replace wooden arched bridge (where Jubilee bridge stands)
New girls school built in Weech Road
- 1845 Painting of Last supper on High Alter uncovered.
- 1846 31 May South Devon Railway Exeter-Teignmouth section opens
Boathouse for H.M. Preventive Service built
30 Dec South Devon Railway Teignmouth-Newton Abbot opened
- 1847 8 September Atmospheric trains first shared passenger traffic
Company formed for making gas
- 1848 9 Sept Atmospheric train system abandoned
4 November Town streets first lit by gas
- 1849 1st stone of St Mark's church laid 15 May
- 1850 Literary Institution established
last inmate of Poor House removed to Union, Newton Abbot
- 1851 Population 3, 545
23 April, Bishop Phillpotts consecrated St Mark's
- 1852 Dawlish Rifle Volunteers formed
- 1853 Vestry Hall built
- 1854
- 1855 The Dispensary for the poor started. It moved to the top corner of Queen Street 1866 (?)
Weekly Newspaper 'Westcotts Local Press' commenced publication
9 February Devil's Hoof Marks – unidentified tracks seen in the snow

1856

1857 Local police established

1858 Bank of Messrs Watts, Whidborne and Co. (later Lloyds) established in the Strand. The premises were rebuilt in 1891.

1859

1860 Methodist Chapel built in Brunswick Place

Dawlish Local Board [of health] set up and took over most of the secular responsibilities of the Vestry in the urban area. It covered responsibilities such as drainage and water supply, the cleaning of streets and removal of refuse, licensing of slaughter houses and hackney carriages and looking after the Lawn.

1861 Population 4,014

1862 Weekly Newspaper Dawlish Times commenced – publisher Cornelius
Footway constructed for bathers from Cows Hole to Coryton Cove
Chapel erected adjoining Luscombe Castle

1863 Authority obtained from Home Office for loans for purchase of Lawn
Two oaks planted near Waterloo bridge on occasion of royal wedding
Ladies bathing machines to be supervised by women
Rev R.H.D. Barham retired to Dawlish

1864 1st May Dawlish Bathing Association commenced
18 Oct Wesleyan Chapel Brunswick Place opened for Divine Worship
Coryton Cove for male bathers only
Bridge in Church Street rebuilt and widened

1865 Vessel named 'Ranger' wrecked upon Langstone Rock
Cosens Institution formed
Coal Club formed
19th March, church first lit by gas
Meeting of Gentlemen to consider erection of pier

1866 Dawlish Bathing Co. formed

1867 8 January – violent sea storm. 60 feet gap in sea wall near Sea Lawn House
Poem 'Monk of Haldon' by R.D.H. Barham in July number of 'Temple Bar'

1868 Coastguard cottages erected
Royal Hotel built

1869 1st Feb storm. Sea wall near San Remo washed away
Rev Orlando Manley appointed as vicar

1870 Congregational church built in Strand
1st hospital for town at junction of Old Town Street/Regent Street opened
Rockstone bridge opened

- 1871 Population 4,237. Males 1,740. Females 2,497
Death of William Cosens aged 91
- 1872 Salem Lodge of Freemasons started
- 1873 The Creche opened
14 August Railway station totally destroyed by fire
Rebuilding of Parish Church commenced
- 1874 School Board established
- 1875 Flood 19th October destroyed bridge in Church Street
Church restoration completed
- 1876 1st Feb GWR took over South Devon Railway
- 1877 New boys school on School Hill
- 1878 Girls Friendly Society formed
Lea Mount gifted to the town by Sir Thomas Lea
- 1879 Ladies Bathing Pavilion Co. formed with 1,000 £1 shares
Lea Mount and the cliff path opened
Girls school and infants school in Old Town Street rebuilt
- 1880 Iddesleigh Terrace built
Ladies Bathing Pavilion opened
The hospital moved to the new cottage hospital at the top of Hospital Hill
- 1881 Population 4,519
Shaftesbury Hall built
Primitive Methodist Chapel built
- 1882 Cemetery formed
May: Shaftesbury Hall opened as 'Our Room'
Devon & Cornwall Banking Co. opened branch (later National Provincial)
New parish Room – building commenced
- 1883 Reservoir at Thorns constructed and water piped via Houndspool and the Burrows to the town
Lawn tennis tournament first held on Lawn
YMCA Dawlish group formed
- 1884 Railway from Smugglers Tunnel to Teignmouth doubled
Dr Armstrong's fountain erected at entrance to Lea Mount
Proposed Dawlish pier discussed by local Board
22nd March, cemetery consecrated by Lord Bishop of Exeter
Congregational Sunday School built
Rev Orlando Manley died 25th Feb, Rev J.A.Bullen inducted 1st April
- 1885 Cab shelter erected near railway station
Footbridge over railway at end of Marine Parade erected

Cliff collapse between Boat Cove and Coyton beach killed three women
Drinking fountain erected on Exeter Road
St Mark's enlargement completed
Burial Board empowered to erect mortuary
Soup kitchen set up in Old Town Street [later used as public library]

1886 Rev R.H.D. Barham died
Sea Lawn estate commenced
Athletic club started

1887 Jubilee Carnival 7 November
Cliffs below Lea Mount scarp and wall to Coryton Cove built by Mr Early
Jubilee bridge built
St Michael's Home of Rest, Strand Hill, founded

1888

1889 New organ built in Parish Church
First sewage outfall completed

1890 Masonic Hall, Barton Terrace, built

1891 Population 4,823
Violets first sent from Dawlish district to Covent Garden
Bank of Watts, Whidborne & Co absorbed by Capital and Counties bank
large part of Ladies Bathing Pavilion swept away
Ladies Bathing Pavilion Co decided to wind up
Permission granted to Telephone Co to carry overhead wires through town

1892 Last broad gauge track converted to standard gauge from Exeter to Falmouth
Laundry and wash house completed for Cottage Hospital
Proposed pier discussed by Local Board

1893

1894 First Dawlish UDC elected

1895 Gaiety restaurant built.
Gentleman's Club built on site of the bath house, Marine Parade.

1896 Infirmary at Sidford House in High Street commenced
Galleries removed from Parish Church

1897 24 April, 1st edition of Dawlish Gazette published
Restoration of church tower
Dawlish Association Football Club formed
Jubilee celebrations – carnival
Church Institute formed to meet at Cosens Institute
Peter Hoare marries and resides at Luscombe Castle – grounds no longer open to the public

1898 Osborne Jubilee oak planted in upper Lawn
Family bathing allowed for first time

Modernisation of drainage system completed
Rugby club formed
Enlargement of Girls' School

- 1899 20th April, last issue of Westcott's Local Press
1st August, church reopened after interior restoration
Wesleyan Chapel renovated
Tucks Plot officiuually named York Gardens
Spontaneous enthusiastic demonstration at departure of Dawlish reservists to fight Boers
- 1900 5th April First trial and naming of Dawlish horse drawn fire pump
Bandstand on the Lawn erected
- 1902 Kings Walk opened
- 1907 Bowling green opened
2nd fisherman's shelter opened
- 1909 St Agatha's Roman Catholic church completed
- 1911 Two more bells added at St Gregory's in commemoration of Geo. VI's coronation
- 1913 Picture Palace opened in Jan. at Albert Hall, Chapel Street
1st 36 electric lamps installed (there remained 128 gas lamps)
- 1914 Council took over Knowle House for Surveyors Dept, depot, fire station & recreation ground
Fire station opened
- 1918 July Bridge House taken over as a railway convalescent home
- 1921 1st council houses on Oak Hill
War memorial opened
- 1923 The Hut opened
- 1926 Midland Bank opened on corner of Strand Hill (home of BetFred)
Dawlish Brewery closes
- 1927 Public library opens in Old Town Street
Coastguard lookout and old boathouse sold to Dawlish Council
- 1928 A 3 span viaduct replaces the old colonade
Scala Theatre opened
- 1930 First motor fire engine bought
- 1933 GWR inaugurates 'Railway Air Service' from Cardiff to Haldon Aerodrome and Plymouth
- 1935 Playing fields at Sandy Lane opened
- 1936 1st 60 houses built on Marina/Pidgley Estate
John & Olga Hardin 'Last of the Romanoffs' fraud case
Council takes over Dawlish Warren
- 1937 3rd Fishermans shelter opened
- 1941 Automatic telephone exchange opened
- 1942 2nd July Dawlish & District Club [is this the Gentleman's Club on Marine parade?] sold to council
- 1943 B17F Flying Fortress crash lands in field near Langdon Hospital, damaged by flak. Later repaired and flown out
- 1945 Victory tea celebrations
- 1946 Manor House purchased (opened Apr. 1947). gardens opened too.
- 1948 1st post war new homes at Newlands
- 1950 Great Cliff House combined with 2 other buildings to become Great Cliff Hotel
- 1952 Railway subway in Marine Parade closed
- 1953 Dawlish Gas & Coke Co. plant closed
- 1958 Strand Mill closed
- 1959 Shaftesbury Theatre opens. Owned by Dawlish Repertory Co.

The Hut demolished

- 1959 2 Feb 1959 Post Office building in Brunswick Place opens
- 1961 new canopies for railway station
- 1962 Dawlish cider making business closes
- 1965 17 May Railway goods yard closed
- 1975 St Mark's Church demolished
- 1999 Sewage scheme completed at Tucks Plot and new pitch and putt course laid out
- 2005 Salvation Army building in Park Road closed
- 2013 Strand improvement scheme completed
- 2014 5 Feb-4 April Railway line closed because of breach at Riviera Tce and later a cliff fall between Parsons tunnel and Teignmouth
- 2018 October. Lloyds bank in the Strand closes (the last in Dawlish)
 - Safari golf course opens
 - The Ratcliff and Oak Park schools in John Nash Road merge to become Orchard Manor
- 2019 Jehovas Witnesses Kingdon Hall demolished in High Street
 - Work begins on the new sea wall between the viaduct and Boat Cove
 - The RAFA Club in the old Cozens Institute building is put up for sale
- 2020 March. Coronavirus/Covid becomes a pandemic and first lockdown begins
 - July New sea wall from viaduct to Boat Cove opens
 - Bridge House (built 1793) closes as run by Railway Convalescent Homes Charity