

Dawlish timeline

(a work in progress)

- 1044 Edward the Confessor grants 7 manses (manors) at Dawlish to Leofric his chaplain
- 1069 William I granted land including Holcombe to Church of St Peter in Exeter (leofric was Bishop in Exeter). He granted Dawlish to all present and future Bishops of Exeter.
- 1086 Domesday Survey – Dawlish.
- 1148 First mention of a church in Dawlish-Teignmouth
- 1301 Report to Bishop Bytton, Chancel handsome and newly built but statue of Gregory lost hand
- 1438 St Gregory Church rebuild (partial or complete) but included the tower
- 1640 Dawlish manor let on lease by Dean & Chapter of Exeter to raise funds for Charles I
- 1665 Sir Peter Balle is Lord of the Manor and holder of the great tithes
- 1665 Barton House built (site of Barton Crescent) with extensive grounds to south of the Brook. Effectively the first Manor house.
- 1720s Strand Mill constructed and the leat for the ancient Town Mill redirected
- 1733 Town Mill rebuilt by Knowles family
- 1759 Dawlish fishing industry flourishing. Pilchards sent to Exeter. Beach used for drawing seines (large nets taken out a short distance by small clinker built boats with oars and sails. Some built in Vicary's Yard in what is now Brook Street.
- 1771 A Dr. Downman of Exeter advised visiting Dawlish for the 'refreshing breeze and inhaling the briny spray'
- 1778 The first bathing machine is recorded
- 1786 John Inglett Fortescue purchased the lease of the Manor from the Dean & Chapter at a reduced price as a sitting tenant. In 1802 he sold it off in parts in 1802.
- 1786 Sea Grove (later Lanherne) built by William Watson
- 1800 Building of Luscombe Castle commenced
- 1801 Population 1590
Kings Union Arms set on Church Gallery
- 1802/3 The Rise built
- 1803 Houses built in Pleasant Row (now Strand)

- 1804 Luscombe Castle complete
- 1805 Park Street (now High Street) opened
- 1806 Caroline of Brunswick (Princess of Wales) stayed at The Rise
- 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, canalising the brook and creating 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)
The Preventive Service established and a building put up on the beach to prevent smuggling
- 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 when churchyard extended.
Churchyard extended
25 November – sea storm -waves up to bridge and sea to London Hotel

1825 Public spirited residents obtained lease on Lawn
Parish church rebuilt, except for tower, and roof raised
Bacon bridge (i.e. bottom of Barton Hill) 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 [Marine Parade]
29th March – brig Cheviot wrecked near Langstone cliff
The Butterfly, a light coach, runs to Exeter
Act W4 c86 for local road work

1837 Plymouth 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 on old turnpike
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.

“Dawlish cider” made from local apples – business begins

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 for the moral, intellectual and physical use of the working men of
Dawlish
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 after demolishing the York Inn
1st hospital for town at junction of Old Town Street/Regent Street opened
Rockstone bridge opened
Barton Cottage demolished by William Gray to enable a road to connect Barton Terrace with
the church.

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
Atmospheric engine house demolished

1874 School Board established

1875 Flood 19th October destroyed bridge in Church Street
Church restoration completed
Semaphore signals installed by Kennaway Tunnel
12 April new Dawlish station opens

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
Footbridge Marine Parade to Boat Cove erected
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) in Lawn Terrace
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
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]

Conservative Club in Park Road opens

- 1886 Rev R.H.D. Barham died
Sea Lawn house demolished and new estate commenced
Athletic club started
First fisherman's shelter built at Boat Cove
- 1887 Jubilee Carnival 7 November
Cliffs below Lea Mount scarp and wall to Coryton Cove built by Mr Early (including stonework for path to Marine Parade)
Jubilee bridge built
St Michael's Home of Rest, Strand Hill, founded
Dawlish Corps of Salvation Army formed
- 1888
- 1889 New organ built in Parish Church
First sewage outfall completed
- 1890 Masonic Hall, Barton Terrace, built
The Devon & Cornwall bank opened in new premises at the bottom of Teignmouth Hill along with no. 5 Brookdale Tce.
- 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 trains 20 May, track converted to standard gauge from Exeter to Falmouth
Laundry and wash house completed for Cottage Hospital
Proposed pier discussed by Local Board
- 1893 First telephone exchange opened
- 1894 First Dawlish UDC elected
- 1895 Gaiety restaurant built.
Gentleman's Club (later Constitutional Club) built on site of the bath house, Marine Parade.
- 1896 Infirmary at Sidford House in High Street commenced
Galleries removed from Parish Church
(c.1896) Shelter built on horizontal path to Coryton Cove
- 1897 24 April, 1st edition of Dawlish Gazette published
Restoration of church tower. Extensive alterations to church
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 officially named York Gardens
 Spontaneous enthusiastic demonstration at departure of Dawlish reservists to fight Boers
 Dawlish Cricket Club founded
 Brixham trawler (Lady Haytor) wrecked off the Warren
- 1900 5th April First trial and naming of Dawlish horse drawn steam powered fire pump "Sir Redvers Buller"
 Bandstand on the Lawn erected
- 1901 Local coastguard service downgraded with final parade on the Lawn
- 1902 Kings Walk opened
- 1903 The Dispensary, the Infirmary and the Cottage Hospital amalgamated on the Cottage Hospital site
- 1905 Family bathing allowed on main beach
 First halt opened at Dawlish Warren
 Completion of the widening of the 5 tunnels towards Teignmouth to allow double track
- 1907 Bowling green opened
 2nd fisherman's shelter opened
 Devon & Somerset engineers build temporary bridge across road at Lea Mount
- 1908 Nos 1 & 2 Sea Lawn gutted by fire on 22 December.
- 1909 St Agatha's Roman Catholic church completed (some say opened 1908)
- 1910 Dawlish Warren golf clubhouse built
- 1911 Two more bells added at St Gregory's in commemoration of Geo. VI's coronation
 Family bathing allowed at Coryton Cove between 9am and 1pm
- 1913 Picture Palace opened in Jan. at Albert Hall, Chapel Street
 1st 36 electric lamps installed (there remained 128 gas lamps)
 In December a fire destroyed the cottages at the entrance to parish church
- 1914 Council took over Knowle House for Surveyors Dept, depot, fire station & recreation ground
 Fire station opened
- 1916 Seagrove House became Lanherne School for girls
- 1918 20 June Bridge House opens as a railway convalescent home
- 1920 Parsons Tunnel lengthened to protect trains from falling rocks
- 1921 1st council houses on Oak Hill
 War memorial opened
 22 September railway collision on the Kennaway Tunnel side of the viaduct
- 1923 The Hut opened (arrived 1920)
- 1924 Bowling Pavilion on Lawn built
 12 March parish church officially changes name from St Michael to St Gregory
- 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 colonnade

Scala Theatre opened

1930 First motor fire engine bought
Dawlish coastguard station closes and buildings sold

1933 GWR inaugurates 'Railway Air Service' from Cardiff to Haldon Aerodrome and Plymouth

1935 Playing fields and Pavilion at Sandy Lane opened: 2 football pitches, hockey/cricket pitch, bowling green, hard & grass tennis courts, children's play area and car park

1936 1st 60 houses built on Marina/Pidgley Estate
John & Olga Hardin 'Last of the Romanoffs' fraud case
Council takes over Dawlish Warren
Salvation Army moves into the 'Tin Tabernacle' formerly the house of the Primitive Methodists who had just merged with the main Methodist church

1937 3rd Fishermans shelter opened
Dawlish Senior School opens in Elm Grove
Boys school becomes Dawlish Mixed Junior School
Bandstand modified with blocks instead of open wooden panels

1940 Bathing Pavilion destroyed

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

1944 Lanherne school for girls closed and became GMWU convalescent home for men. (Sefton Hall for women)

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

1955 Fire destroys 6 bedrooms at Mount Pleasant Inn

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 of Ferris & Ellis closes at Houndspool
Scala Cinema closes

1965 17 May Railway goods yard closed
Concrete footbridge over railway at Marine Parade replaces original
Lanherne Lodge demolished for road widening

1966 San Remo footbridge over the railway dismantled

1969 Elm Grove House demolished for Wimpey estate

1972 The Newhay purchased by the Council from the church
Westcliff Junior School opens

1973 Lanherne convalescent home closes
Town Mill demolished

1975 St Mark's Church demolished

1979 Lanherne demolished

1981 Library opens in old Scala Cinema premises

1994 Baptists take over the old Vestry Hall

1999 Sewage scheme completed at Tucks Plot and new pitch and putt course laid out

2004 Wheel at the Strand Mill is refurbished to turn again

- 2005 Salvation Army building in Park Road closed
Great Cliff hotel demolished and 23 luxury appartments built on site
- 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
Dawlish Gazette office closes
- 2021 TIC closes
Stand introduced for kayaks and paddle boards at Boat Cove

DA 01/01/23