

# 20th Century Portslade

**1902** - Victoria Park opens, becoming the first public space in Portslade.

**1902** - Ronuk furniture polish opens their factory in Victoria Road. In 1907 the factory is visited by King Edward VII and granted a Royal Warrant.

**1904** - The new Manor House is acquired by a Catholic Order of nuns. The Manor House is renamed St Marye's Convent. The women are provided with dormitories to sleep in and work in the on-site laundry.

**1909** - A fire station is built in Church Road. The fire appliances had previously been stored in the municipal yard in Vale Road, now Tozer Court.

**1911** - Portslade opens its first cinema in North Street.

**1914** - St Mary's Primary School is built. It cost one shilling a week to attend. During WW1 Belgian refugees are housed there.

**1914** - World War 1 begins. The army occupies various sites in Portslade, with soldiers camped around the village. Portslade Farmhouse in South Street houses the officers.

**1919** - Kemp Town Brewery purchase Portslade Brewery, which is then sold on to Smithers. The Brewery closes in 1938. During the War beer is not rationed, but a weaker brew, known as small beer, is drunk when ingredients become difficult to obtain.

**1942** The Canadian Army and the Australian Air Force set up a large troop camp in Portslade. Five anti-aircraft guns are situated around Portslade.

**1950s** - There is a serious outbreak of smallpox in the Brighton area. Up until the 1970s UK citizens required smallpox injections to travel abroad.

**1963** - Chalet bungalows are built in Mile Oak for young families. The area becomes known as Nappy Land.

**1967** – The new St Nicolas school officially opens on its current site

**1974** – Portslade Urban District Council is incorporated into Hove Borough Council. The Old Village becomes a Conservation Area, with several cottages in the High Street listed as Grade II buildings.

**1987** – The Great Storm. Winds up to 115 miles per hour battered Portslade, causing wide-spread damage. In Easthill Park alone, 160 trees were blown down.

**1992** – Sainsbury's opens its superstore in Portslade.

**1996** – Emmaus purchases the old convent site and grounds.

**2011** – Portslade Community College becomes the Portslade Aldridge Community Academy.

**2016** – The Brighton/British Airways I360 opens on Brighton seafront.

**2017**- Brighton & Hove Albion promoted to the Premier League.

**2020** – Coronavirus causes disruption to schools, work and life in general.

