

*This day in May in Portsea
History...*

May 1st 1912 St Nics school was closed at 1pm so everyone could attend a matinee in aid of the survivors of the Titanic



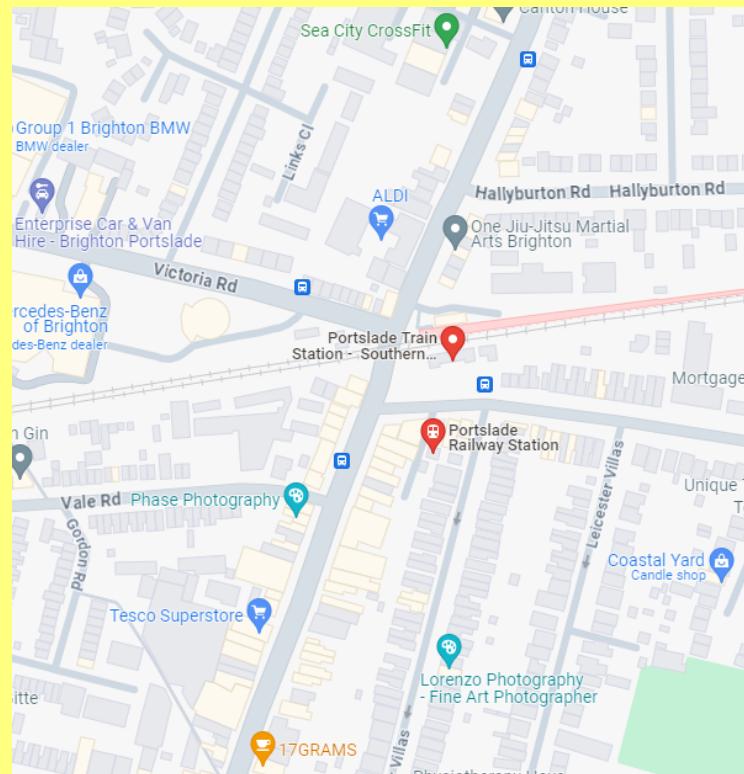
May 2nd 1914

St Peter's school was officially opened by the bishop of Chichester, 6 years after being built. This was the first elementary school to be built by the East Sussex county council.



May 11th 1840

The original railway station serving Portslade was opened. It was located on the West side of the level crossing, so was actually in Portslade. However, due to a lack of passengers, the station closed down in 1847 for at least ten years.



May 11th 1881

Portslade railway station was re-sited on the East side of the level crossing, including construction of the main building which is still there today.



May 12th 1243

Hubert De Burgh, the Lord of Portslade Manor, died. He was the one of the most influential men in England during the reign of King John and King Henry III. He was the only Portslade resident to be in a named character in a Shakespeare play.



May 13th 1949

George Tomlinson, minister of Education, opened Benfield school. There were 354 children with ten teachers and one head teacher. One class had 43 children!



May 16th 1907

The Portslade Brass Band began their series of Summer concerts. The council gave them permission to play on Tuesdays or Wednesdays between 7-9pm in Victoria Park



May 18th 1899

Loxdale House - the grand residence still located on Locks Hill - received planning permission from Portslade council. The house was built and owned by Walter Mews who also owned Portslade brewery. The nine bedroom, five reception room house also has a large wine and beer cellar.



May 22nd 1958

The 1000th Woolworth branch opened in Boundary Road. The peak of 1,141 Woolies branches was reached in 1968. The shop, along with all the others in the UK, was closed down in December 2008 as the company went into administration.



Now Iceland stands in its place

May 27th 1988

Train commuters were now able to go from Portslade directly to London.



May 31st 1666

During a lightening storm, the parsonage (church house) of St Helen's church in Hangleton was struck and the resulting fire destroyed all records of Portslade back to medieval times.

