

Victorian Loan Box

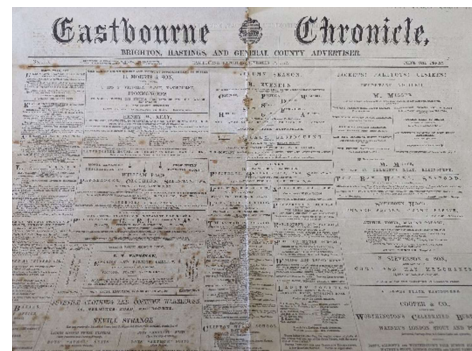
You can use the objects in this box to explore and uncover the Victorian stories of Eastbourne and the surrounding area.

Find a selection of real Victorian artefacts used and made by people in Eastbourne

Contents

Eastbourne newspapers

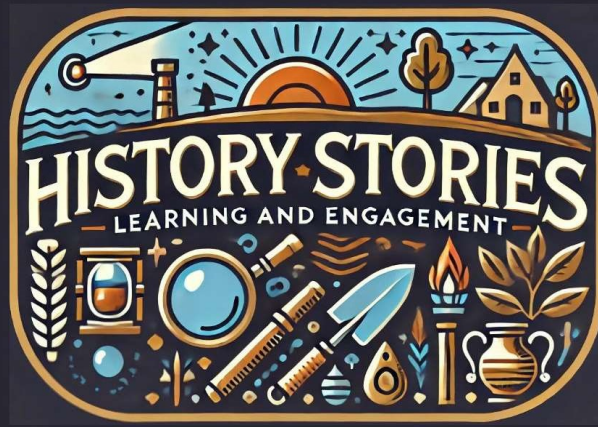
The oldest Eastbourne newspaper is the Eastbourne Chronicle (1856). It was a great way for people in Eastbourne to keep up to date with the towns news as well as find out who was visiting that week. The paper would publish a list of all the fashionable visitors staying in or around Eastbourne.



Elliotts and Devonshire Stores advertising blocks



These blocks were used to stap adverts onto posters and at the top of receipts in Elliotts (later Devonshire) Stores. The shop was at the end of South Street opposite St Saviours Church Eastbourne.



Elliots/Devonshire Stores

Flat Iron

The flat iron was also known as the sad (meaning solid) iron. Flat irons were used in pairs so that whilst one was being used, the other could be heated up. The irons were placed face up in front of open fires on stands called trivets or suspended from hangers over the fire.

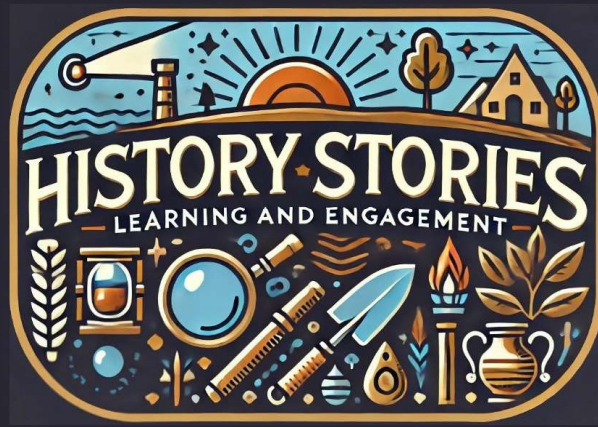


Police Truncheon

Truncheons like this one were often painted with the Royal Crest or the Eastbourne Crest and would be an important part of their uniforms and equipment. Until the mid-1990s, British police officers carried traditional wooden truncheons of a sort that had changed little from Victorian times.



Some information about the Eastbourne Borough Police can be found here <https://british-police-history.uk/f/eastbourne-borough>



Medicine bottles

Before the Victorian period, medicine had been prescribed as a dry mixture which the patient would take home to brew into a dose. From the mid-1800s, multiple doses of liquid medicine, mixed and ready to take, were bottles. Medicine in bottles like this would be purchased from a chemist – sometimes without seeing a doctor first. Seeing a doctor or going to hospital wasn't free in the Victorian period so poorer Victorians would either not be able to see a doctor or would only do it if they were very sick.



Star Brewery and Hurst Brewery bottles

The Star Brewery was founded in 1777 and was built in the area around Waitrose car park in Eastbourne. The brewery was a major employer in Eastbourne and primarily made beer and lemonade. They stopped brewing in 1967, and the buildings were demolished in 1971.



Part of the Star Brewery building



Toasting Fork

Used to toast bread in front of an open fire. The person using it stuck a piece of bread onto the fork tines (prongs) and held the bread in front of the fire until it was done. By about 1800, some toasting forks had telescopic handles with some three to four slides so the length could be reduced when the fork was not in use.



Isinglass

Isinglass, made from the bladders of fish, was the purest form of gelatine and used in recipes for puddings or thickening of soup. It was most popular around the 1880s.

