

The Bungalows in Birchington

From notes by Brenda Kirby
1980s

Rossetti Bungalow was demolished in c. 1961 soon after the last occupant left, but at that stage it's future was still being decided. The rebuilding of the seven detached houses, that now stand on the site was completed by c. 1969.

The Hut was renamed **Fair Outlook** by 1948, soon after the then owners won the Derby with a horse of that name.

Dilkoosha (meaning 'Heart's Delight') was the twin to Fair Outlook, but was demolished along with the Llanadern, in the 1960s and now lies under Winston Court.

There are four Tower Bungalows (not three, as one writer has stated). Looking from West to East, the first Tower Bungalow is **Sea Tower**, the second is **Tresco** owned by the Bishop of Gloucester from 1905 until 1925. The third is **White Cliff**, owned for a number of years by the artist Solomon J. Solomon, who had a large studio built into the side of the chalk cliffs. This was designed by his brother-in-law, Delissa Joseph, who was married to one of his sisters (Lily). The fourth Tower Bungalow is **Delmonte** (It did not have an 'e' on the end originally).

A fifth bungalow was planned and its Coach House was built (**'Sunny Lodge'**) at the east end of the private road). The plot on which it was to stand remained part of Delmonte's garden for many years, but when the owner (Miss Wills of the 'Tobacco' family) died in the 1980s, that plot was sold separately and now has a modern interpretation of a Tower 'bungalow' on it.

Cliff-side was lived in by the builder Mr Martin. It was the smallest of all the bungalows and to modern eyes looked more like a glorified beach hut, similar to the beach dwellings at Tankerton and Swalecliff today. Cliff-side was demolished in the early 1950s. Its entrance was on the side of 'Cliff-Gap', now called Coleman Stairs Gap.

Beyond the Gap stood **The Nest**, later renamed **Birce**, then come **Corby Tower**, **Swiss Cottage** and **Basketts** (now called **Beneley**). At this point there is now a private gate, needing a zapper to open it to get through to Epple Bay Avenue and Epple Bay itself.