

## **ARMADA SESS - 1588**

The Armada Sess is a list of parishioners of Birchington and the amounts they paid when a Sess or Rate was levied to raise money for the Dover ship to be fitted out to fight Spanish Armada in 1588. Birchington was a Non-Corporate Limb of the Cinque Port of Dover from about 1250 until the Borough of Margate decided to include the village in its borough in 1935.

There are 40 names on the list and the amounts contributed vary from 3<sup>d</sup> to £1. Birchington was assessed at £5 – 16s – 8d, but nobly did its duty and paid £7 – 12s – 6d over to Dover.