

## NORTH SEA LODGE

In 1900, Delissa Joseph was commissioned by his friend and fellow Jew, Herbert Bentwich, to design **Carmel Court** in Beach Avenue, Birchington.

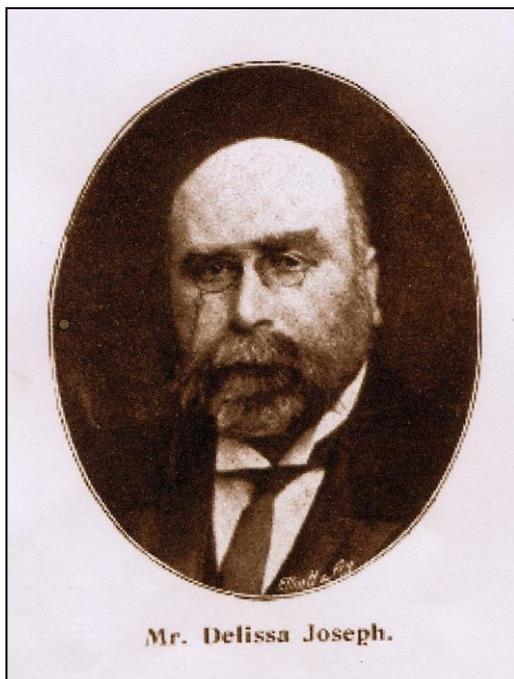


He married Lily Solomon in 1887, and was asked by his brother-in-law, Solomon Joseph Solomon, to design a studio at "White Cliff" in Spenser Road, when Solomon bought this Tower Bungalow in 1905. As a brilliant artist, Solomon appreciated the wonderful clear north light available on the cliff edge. Having visited both the Bentwich and the Solomon families from 1900 onwards, Delissa and Lily decided to build a home for themselves in the village. This was to be their own personal version of a Tower Bungalow, which was eventually completed in about 1908. Lily and Delissa used to come and stay with the Solomon family until their bungalow was finished.



They named their new home 'North Sea Bungalow', because, from its windows, they could look straight down Darwin Road to the North Sea. By 1911 they were using the bungalow each summer and enjoying the company of both the Solomons at White Cliff and the Bentwich family at Carmel Court. From Kelly's directory, it would appear that they had sold (or perhaps let) the bungalow by 1915, as there is a new name beside it in the directory, by then called 'North Sea Lodge'. The new occupants were friends of the Josephs and welcomed them to the bungalow to stay each summer for some years. The Jewish community in Birchington was welcomed and accepted and even after the Solomon family and Delissa and Lily no longer had properties here, they continued to visit the Bentwich family at Carmel Court for many years.

Delissa Joseph had been born at Notting Hill on the 30<sup>th</sup> January 1859. When he married Lily Solomon in 1887, she was 24. Lily was a gifted artist like her brother, though with a very different style. She continued to paint until almost the end of her life. Delissa died in 1927, the same time as Solomon J Solomon, but Lily lived on until soon after the start of the Second World War, dying in 1940.



Lily Delissa Joseph  
self portrait