

FIRE BRIGADE

Note by Laurie Brooks

Birchington Fire Brigade - My father's comment on the rear - "Not many of this crowd on their feet today."

He is second from the right in the middle row. His father (my grandfather) is second from the right in the front row, supporting the shield. The photo must be after WW1 as my father is wearing hi medal ribbons (he was in the Buffs, driving Rolls Royce armoured cars on the North West Frontier). I don't know the names of any of the others. I think the photo was taken outside the Bungalow Hotel.



Note by Jennie Burgess

The photo was taken about 1921-22

The man in the middle of the front row is Freddie Lonsdale, who lived in the village for a few years. He wrote plays for Gladys Cooper and Ivor Novello and was greatly enamoured with Dr Worthington's wife, Glitters. He was the Fire Brigade's Chairman for about three years.

The man standing behind him is the Brigade's Medical Officer, Dr Brunton.

We have the names of almost all the firemen in this picture.