**16C**

**Arden of Faversham** (Marnie Stanley)

On St. Valentine’s day 1551 a grizzly site was found in the grounds of Faversham abbey - the landowner Thomas Arden lay dead in the snow, his wife’s affair with the tailor Mosby having taken a murderous turn. The 1570s saw the rise in popularity of true crime narratives in print, and in c. 1590 the Arden murder was turned into a play.

**19C**

**Ainsworth, Harrison** (Laura Allen )

William (Harrison) Ainsworth, born on 4 February 1805, had his first success came with the 1834 Gothic Romance *Rookwood* (which invokes Canterbury). His literary circle included Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Robert Southey, William Makepeace Thackeray, and many more. He was also close friends with Charles Dickens in the 1830s. He died on 3 January 1882.

**Austen, Jane** (Susan Civale)

Born in Steventon, near Basingstoke, Hampshire, in 1775, Jane Austen often visited Kent, the birthplace of her father, and the long-term residence of her brother Edward Austen Knight, with whom she stayed at Rowling House and later at the magnificent Godmersham Park. During these extended visits, Austen travelled to many other destinations in Kent for social calls or leisure outings.

**Barr, Robert** (Carolyn Oulton)

American humourist Robert Barr (‘Luke Sharp’) arrived in England in December 1889 and spent some time in Folkestone the following summer with Jerome K. Jerome. While their subsequent collaboration on *The Idler* would end in disarray, Barr maintained close links with the *Folkestone Visitors’ List and Society Journal* until 1894.

**Blackmore, R. D.** (Peter Merchant)

Best known for *Lorna Doone*, novelist R. D. Blackmore sets part of his novel *Alice Lorraine* (1874–75) in the Weald of Kent.

**Broadstairs** (Carolyn Oulton)

Broadstairs was the favoured holiday resort of two famous Victorian figures: Dickens and the fictional Charles Pooter. One journalist reported in 1864 that ‘Broadstairs is a quaint old place, and its inhabitants are still very primitive.’

**Burnand, Francis C.** (Carolyn Oulton)

F. C. Burnand (1836-1917) was an editor of the comic journal *Punch* and author of *The Z.Z.G., or Zig Zag Guide round and about the bold and beautiful Kentish coast*… with illustrations by Phil May. He lived in Ramsgate from at least 1875 until his death.

**Dover** (Carolyn Oulton)

Dickens was sceptical about Dover as being unnecessarily ‘genteel’ but it is also the haven David Copperfield is desperate to reach in Dickens’s first autobiographical novel. Plans to construct a Channel Tunnel were abandoned in 1882.

**Folkestone** (Carolyn Oulton)

‘Fashionable Folkestone’ established its reputation as a resort in the 1840s and ‘50s. Visitors include Dickens and later his great admirer Jerome K. Jerome.

**Folkestone Free Library** (Carolyn Oulton)

What is now Folkestone Library was established in 1879, moving to its current location in 1888. Surviving catalogues and other records show the ideological issues at stake, from the controversy over fiction to the practices that helped to discourage particular groups of users.

**Franklin, Sir John** (Jacquie Stamp)

On 19th May 1845 Sir John Franklin set sail from Greenhithe on what would be his final, doomed expedition to the Arctic regions in search of a north-west passage. There were no survivors.

**Grand, Sarah**

Sarah Grand (Frances Elizabeth Bellenden Clarke), feminist campaigner and proponent of sex education for girls, lived in Tonbridge Wells from 1898-1920. Here she became President of the local branches of the National Council of Women and the National Union of Women’s Suffrage Societies and was involved with the Women’s Volunteer Reserve Force during WW1.

**Grossmith, George** (Carolyn Oulton)

Actor and theatrical manager, producer and director, George Grossmith is perhaps best known today for his comic ”Diary of a Nobody”, written with his brother Weedon. He retired to Folkestone in 1909 and died there in 1912.

**Hoodening** (Jacquie Stamp)

The Hooden Horse is an animal-character unique to the folk traditions of East Kent. He is key to the East Kent tradition of Hoodening, in which a group of disguised individuals call at their neighbours’ houses to request money in return for musical and comical entertainment.

**James, Henry** (Peter Merchant)

Henry James’s play 1895 *Summersoft,* his 1898 prose tale‘Covering End’ and his 1907 comedy *The High Bid* share a similar plot, and are generally believed to have been inspired by either Osterley Park or Hatfield House. However a number of details suggest that Kent’s Hever Castle is the more likely ‘original’ James had in mind.

**Jerome, Jerome K.** (Carolyn Oulton)

In the summer of 1890 Jerome K. Jerome spent some in Folkestone with Robert Barr, with whom he went on to found and edit *The Idler* in 1892. A scene in *Three Men on the Bummel* is set in the town.

**Kent** (Carolyn Oulton)

Known for its farming and hop fields as much as for its coastline, Kent attracted writers and artists across the nineteenth century. Among the better known, Jane Austen, Princess Victoria, Dickens, Thackeray and Jerome K. Jerome all recorded their impressions of the county.

***Kentish Gazette*** (Katie Holdway)

The *Kentish Gazette*, founded in 1768, was first a bi-weekly and subsequently a weekly provincial newspaper, circulating in Kent and the surrounding counties. Founded in 1768, and soon merged with the *Kentish Post* (founded 1717), the newspaper remains in print to this day.

**Marchant, Bessie.** (Laura Allen)

Bessie Marchant was born at Debden Court Farm, Petham, Canterbury on 12 December 1862, to Baptist parents. Several of her early novels are set in the county, including the 1898 *Yuppie*.

**Margate** (Carolyn Oulton)

The ‘modesty hood’ attached to bathing machines, was invented in Margate in 1753 and a charitable [Royal Sea Bathing Infirmary](http://glorious-and-unknown.co.uk/margate-royal-sea-bathing-infirmary/) was founded in 1792 for the treatment of scrofula. Ironically Margate would become one of Kent’s more populist resorts in the nineteenth century.

**Ramsgate** (Carolyn Oulton)

‘Royal Ramsgate’ could boast Princess [Victoria](https://github.com/kent-map/dickens/blob/master/19c-victoria-albion-house) among its more illustrious visitors in the mid-1830s. Readers of Dickens will recall that the Tuggs family stayed in the town at around the same time.

**Reynolds, G.W. M.** (Peter Merchant)

Where in Victorian literature is Dover Beach first used as the backdrop against which a young couple launch unitedly but uncertainly into a new phase in their lives? The Quite Interesting answer is not Matthew Arnold’s poem “Dover Beach” (possibly written 1851, published 1867) but one of the early chapters (published 1851) of *Mary Price*.

**Rossetti, D. G. and Christina** (Laura Allen)

Dante Gabriel Rossetti died on Easter Sunday 1882 at a friend’s house in Birchington. His burial in the local churchyard was the inspiration for Christina Rosetti’s poem ‘Birchington Churchyard’.

**Seaside Resorts** (Carolyn Oulton)

From the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries fishing villages along the Kent coast were reinventing themselves as seaside resorts. Initially aimed at invalids, these towns increasingly attracted pleasure seekers and families.

**Shore, Emily** (Carolyn Oulton)

Margaret Emily Shore (1819–1839) was an observant and precocious diarist. She was born and brought up in Suffolk, but in 1831 she and her four siblings visited Broadstairs following a serious illness.

**Queen Victoria**

**Fort Pitt** (Alyson Hunt)

**Ramsgate / Albion House** (Alyson Hunt)

While staying at Albion House between 29 Sept 1835 and 11th Jan 1836 Princess Victoria visited St Lawrence Laurence Church, Ramsgate Pier, Piermont House Broadstairs and Canterbury Cathedral.

**Walmer Castle** (Alyson Hunt)

**West Cliff** (Alyson Hunt)

**Dickens Land**

**Biography** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

Born in Portsmouth in 1912, Dickens spent much of his childhood in Chatham and later spent holidays in Broadstairs and Folkestone, before returning to Kent after buying Gad's Hill Place near Rochester in 1856. After his death a number of guides to Dickens Country or Dickens Land appeared.

**Broadstairs** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

Dickens holidayed in regularly between 1837 and 1851. While ‘organs, fiddles, bells, or glee-singers’ could be distracting and the were perilous in bad weather, he wrote in 1849 ‘I am still of opinion that Broadstairs beats all watering places into what the Americans call “sky-blue fits”’.

**Broadstairs, 2 Nuckell’s Place** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

While David Copperfield runs away to his Aunt Betsey in Dover, the model for her cottage is actually in Broadstairs, a short walk from Fort House, where Dickens was staying in the summer of 1849 (chapter 13 published September 1849, details David’s arrival). The cottage was 2 Nuckell’s Place but renamed ‘Dickens House’ in the mid-1890s. In the twentieth century it was the residence of novelist and dramatist Gladys Waterer, who adapted Dickens’s novels for the Dickens Festival from 1937.

**Chatham** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

The Dickens family lived in Chatham from 1816 to 1922, and the young Charles would have been exhilarated by the noise and activity of the docks where his father was employed by the Navy Pay Office. The family moved to London following a series of financial disasters.

**Deal** (Carolyn Oulton)

Contrary to popular belief, the novel *Bleak House* has nothing to do with Bleak House in Broadstairs. However it is partly set in Deal, further along the coast. It is here that Esther confronts a disconsolate Richard Carstone as he prepares to abandon his career as an army officer.

**Canterbury** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

When the eponymous David Copperfield makes his journey on foot to Dover, his route takes him through Canterbury. He will soon revisit the city under very different conditions, as the guest of Mr Wickfield and a pupil at Dr Strong’s school (based on the King’s School).

**Cooling** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

Children’s tombstones and high mortality rates are memorably invoked in the opening scene of *Great Expectations*. An orphaned Pip is menaced where his parents are bodily present but unable to intervene, and runs in terror across a flat and open landscape, where he would remain clearly visible to the watchful Magwitch.

**Dover Road / Leather and Dust** (Elizabeth Waterman-Scrase)

**Eastgate House** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

Eastgate House is the original of the Nun’s House in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, the ladies’ seminary attended by Rosa Budd. Like the Blue Boar and Satis House in *Great Expectations*, its homely associations are belied by the vulnerability of the young Rosa when the school is infiltrated by an unscrupulous man.

**Fort House**

Dickens entertained numerous friends, including writers such as Wilkie Collins, at Fort House in Broadstairs. The house was informally known as ‘Bleak House’ from at least 1864, officially changing its name somewhere between 1879 and 1885. Frederick Kitton, who saw it in 1889, deplored its subsequent conversion ‘into a pretentious-looking mansion of Tudor design, with castellated eaves.’

**Gadshill Place** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

In 1856 Dickens bought a freehold for the first time, and recalled his father telling him that if he worked hard he might eventually live in a house like Gad’s. The vendor was Eliza Lynn Linton, remembered for her ‘Girl of the Period’ articles published in the *Saturday Review* in the 1860s.

**Goodwin Sands** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

Dickens wrote about storms and shipwrecks on several occasions while staying in Broadstairs. He wrote the last chapters of *David Copperfield* at Bleak House, where his study window looked directly out over the sea. It is possible that the Kent coast inspired the famous Yarmouth storm in which Steerforth and Ham drown.

**Guildhall** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

The Guildhall in Rochester High Street is the setting for a pivotal scene in Great Expectations, where Pip is bound to Joe as his apprentice. Pip’s feelings of vulnerability and shame anticipate are rewritten in the later scene when he accompanies Magwitch to his criminal trial in London.

**Leather Bottle** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

The Leather Bottle in Cobham features in Dickens’s first serial novel *The Pickwick Papers* and remains a self-consciously Dickensian inn replete with framed illustrations and memorabilia, what Frederick Kitton called in 1905 ‘a veritable Dickens museum’. It became an attractive landmark of the ‘Dickens Country’ enjoyed by literary pilgrims after his death.

***Pickwick Papers*** (Katie Holdway)

Charles Dickens’s first and immensely popular serial, *Pickwick Papers* was first published in monthly instalments between March 1836 and November 1837. It details the adventures of Samuel Pickwick and his followers Tracy Tupman, Augustus Snodgrass and Nathaniel Winkle as they journey around England, including some locations in Kent.

**Ship and Lobster** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

The Ship and Lobster in Gravesend is the most likely inspiration for ‘The Ship’ where Magwitch spends his last night of freedom in *Great Expectations*.

**Staplehurst** (Carolyn Oulton)

On 9 June 1865 Dickens was travelling back from France with Ellen Ternan on the tidal train from [Folkestone](https://github.com/kent-map/dickens/blob/master/docs/Dickens/Folkestone) when the train dramatically crashed at Staplehurst. Dickens famously climbed back into an unstable carriage to rescue the latest instalment of *Our Mutual Friend*, before joining in with efforts to relieve the injured and dying.

**Swiss Chalet** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

Dickens’s two-storey wooden chalet was a present from his actor friend Charles Fechter for Christmas 1864. Currently located outside Eastgate House in Rochester, it was originally positioned at one end of an underground tunnel leading from Gad's Hill to a small field on the other side of the road outside the house. Dickens wrote the last words of *Edwin Drood* here.

**Restoration House** (Ken Moffat and Carolyn Oulton)

Satis House in *Great Expectations* takes its name from an actual mansion in Rochester, but somewhat confusingly it is based on Restoration House in a different part of the town. Its dark interior provides the perfect imaginative setting for Miss Havisham’s self-immolation.

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**20C**

**Waterer added to Github with 19C articles.**

**Maugham, Somerset** (Laura Allen)

William Somerset Maugham attended the King’s School in Canterbury. Two of his novels have obvious connections to Kent, including *Of Human Bondage* 1915 (based upon his experiences at King’s School) and *Cakes and Ale* 1930 (based upon the people of Whitstable)

**Von Arnim, Elizabeth** (Carolyn Oulton)

*The Caravaners* follows the German Baron von Ottringel on what is meant to be a month long holiday in Kent with his wife and a group of friends. His selfish behaviour and complete lack of self-awareness provide much of the humour of the novel, but also force his frustrated companions to abort the holiday after only a week.

**Holt, Victoria** (Mandy Jones)

Victoria Holt became intrigued by the Goodwin Sands while staying with friends in Deal in the 1960s. The area inspired the atmospheric backdrop of her 1969 novel *The Shivering Sands.*

**Waterer, Gladys** (Carolyn Oulton)

Gladys Waterer, a minor novelist and playwright, lived in ‘Aunt Betsey’s cottage’ and was a founding member of the Dickens Fellowship in Broadstairs in 1937. She was involved with the annual festival for the rest of her life and dramatized every one of the novels bar *'Oliver Twist*.

**H. G. Wells** (Simone Blandford)

H.G Wells spent around thirteen years living in a small coastal town between Folkestone and Hythe. Sandgate and the life Wells lead there became the inspiration behind *The Sea Lady*, the tale of a mermaid coming ashore at Sandgate, *Kipps*,a rags-to-riches story set in Folkestoneand *The History of Mr. Polly* set in Fishbourne, a fictional town inspired by Sandgate.

**Pamela Wynne** (Carolyn Oulton)

Novelist Pamela Wynne set the 1932 *Love in a Mist* in Margate and died at her son’s house in Sissinghurst in 1959.

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