

News



PICTURES: STEVE HUNNISETT

Museum displays recre

COSTUMES now on display at Bexhill Museum are not "so last season" or even "so last century" - they date back to the 1800s when Queen Victoria was on the throne.

There are, in fact, two exhibitions now on view at the Egerton Road site - Crinolines and Curios and From the Cradle to the Grave.

Highlight of the displays is undoubtedly a magnificent mourning dress worn by Queen Victoria in 1892 while grieving for the loss of her eldest grandson, "Eddy", the Duke of Clarence, aged just 28.

He died in an influenza epidemic and the Queen chose to



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wear a full-skirted dress and train, predominantly made from silk chiffon, to mourn his passing.

Also on show is a range of adults' and children's clothing from the period, together with accessories, jewellery, furniture and other items creating an impression of life in the 19th century.

Don Phillips, museum administrator, said: "The aim is to illustrate different aspects of Victorian life - at home, at work and play."

The second exhibition looks at how objects and archives can combine to tell the story of a person's life and assist family historians with their research.

Visitors at Sunday's launch were able to sample the delights of a Victorian tearoom and see members of the Bexhill Classic Cycle group clad in period costume and riding vintage bikes.

Further information about the museum's attractions can be found on its website: www.bexhillmuseum.co.uk or by calling 01424 787950.

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ate 19th Century living

