

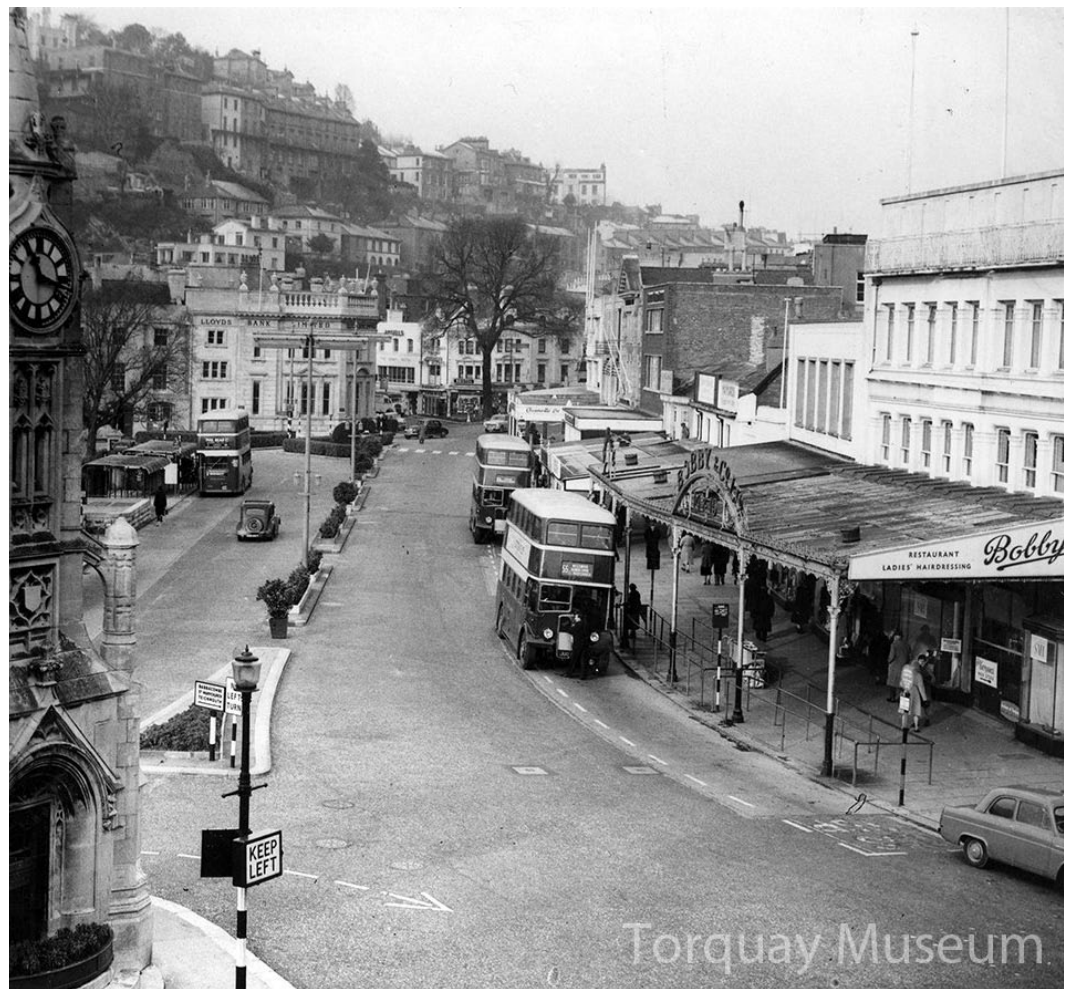


Visitor services officer Francesca behind a newly-installed protective screen



Torquay Museum

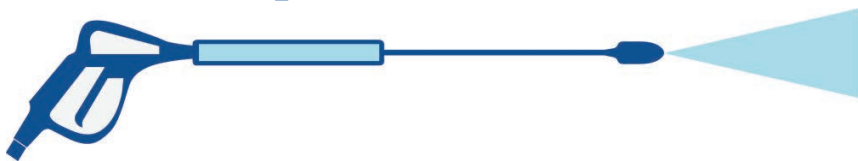
Elevated view of Meadfoot beach showing the Osborne Hotel and Kilmore from the Collection of Aston Reed (PR17018)



Torquay Museum

Double-decker buses and Mallock Memorial Clock Tower in February 1960 (PR4737)

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## Team's delight as museum reopens

**Everyone at Torquay Museum is delighted to announce that the museum opened its doors to the public on Wednesday, July 22.**

Regular visitors have been eagerly awaiting the museum reopening, and staff are now delighted to be able to welcome them back to the museum, along with visitors who may never have explored one of Devon's finest and oldest museums.

Along with the museum's ever-popular Agatha Christie and Explorers galleries, the museum also has a fascinating temporary exhibition: Claws! A Human History of Cats.

This reveals the relationship of cats and humans from distant prehistory until the present day and includes cats in Ancient Egypt, Myth and Magic and Man eaters.

**BASIL GREENWOOD**  
Director, Torquay Museum

This exhibition will run until the autumn and includes many specimens from our extensive collections and even a mummified cat. A must for all cat lovers!

From the middle of August, the museum will also be opening a new temporary exhibition: 'The Russians are coming! Soviet Spies and the Secret Mapping of Torbay' which will explore Cold War spying.

Museum staff have been working hard to ensure the museum will be safe for visitors and staff when we reopened.

Visitors must book their tickets in advance, either online or by telephoning the museum directly. Visitor numbers are being restricted and

monitored to ensure everyone can maintain social distancing and the safety of visitors.

Protective screens have been installed at the ticket desk and in the shop, and a one-way system has been created around the museum in order to help maintain social distancing. Additionally, a rigorous cleaning regime has been implemented throughout the day.

Staff and volunteers who work in the public areas of the museum will wear face masks or face shields, and visitors will be encouraged to do likewise.

The museum will be open from 10am to 4pm (last entry 3.15pm), Monday to Saturday. Entry is only guaranteed if visitors book tickets in advance, preferably online through at [www.torquaymuseum.org](http://www.torquaymuseum.org) or by telephoning the museum directly on 01803 293975.