

# MUNITIONS AT LULLINGSTONE

**1913** - Victor Motor Company founded by Sir Oliver Hart Dyke, son of Sir William & Lady Emily Hart Dyke of Lullingstone Castle.

**1914** - Producing 'The true Cyclecar' until 1st World War.

**1914-1918** - Making components for munitions. 350 worked there.

**1916** – The works connected to the sewer and more toilets were added for the extra work force.

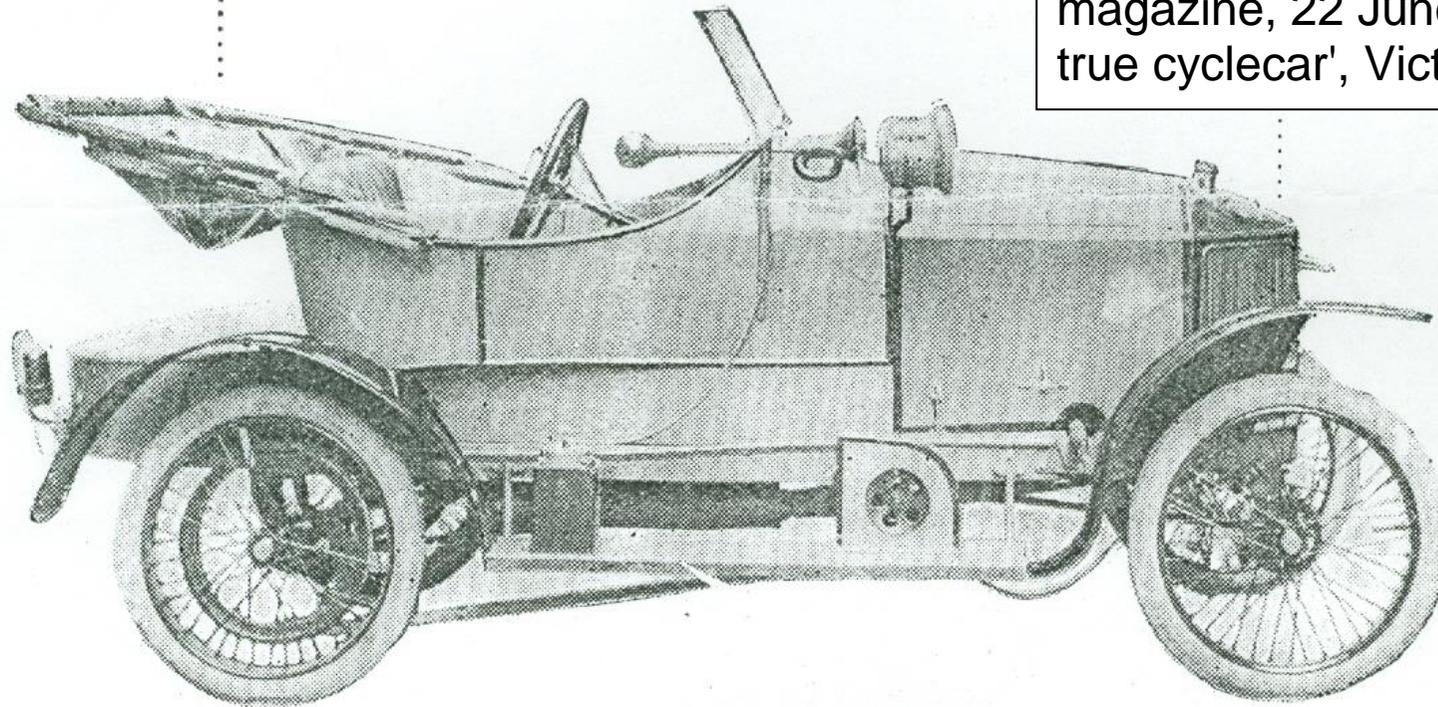
**1920/4** As Eynsford Engineering Company resumed car and motorised bicycle production until went into liquidation.

FELHS publication no. 17. Miscellany 1. Motor vehicle manufacture at Lullingstone, by Wilfrid Duncombe



**Site:** Car park of Lullingstone Roman Villa, then having a water-powered saw mill. Old Lullingstone watermill, 1887

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Advert in Light Car & Cyclecar magazine, 22 June 1914 for 'the true cyclecar', Victor

No. of seats, two; make of engine, Precision; cooling, water; No. of cylinders, two; bore and stroke, 85 mm. by 85 mm.; cubic capacity, 965 c.c.; carburetter, Claudel-Hobson; control, hand; lubrication, Best and Lloyd drip; clutch, Ferodo cone; No. of speeds, two; gear ratios, 5 and 11.6 to 1; transmission,

belts; springing, transverse front and cantilever rear; steering, direct; fuel capacity, 3 gallons; wheelbase, 7 ft.; track, 3 ft. 6 ins.; overall width, 4 ft. 6 ins.; ground clearance, 10 ins.; size of wheels, 650 mm. by 65 mm.; approx. weight, 6½ cwt.; equipment, hood, screen, lamps, etc.; selling agents, Tyler Apparatus Co., 15, Gerrard Street, London, W.



Typical munition workers, J.E. Hall, Dartford

## **MUNITIONS AT LULLINGSTONE**

**Lady Emily Hart Dyke** worked in the inspection room checking the parts before they were packed and sent off.

**Ethel Darby** made shell caps and remembered **Hon. Sydney Hart Dyke** and her sister, **Hon. Mrs Bell**, from Lullingstone Castle working there too.

**Norah Ward** (nee Crook) was 14 when war broke out. She had won a place at Bromley Grammar School, but as one of a family of 8, she had to go to work. So off she went cycling down from Highcroft Cottages, Swanley, to Lullingstone Munitions Works where she was employed until she married in 1922. After making caps for shells the works made motorcycles after the war.

**Doll Wickenden** came from a skilled paper-making family, and after the war learnt these skills, but as one of 9 children was sent to work in the munitions works, organised by Hon. Sydney Hart-Dyke.