

A WEEK IN WORTHING

August 1998

Like Morecambe goes with Wise and strawberries with cream, Worthing in August is synonymous with bowls. Host to the National Championships each year, we were in Worthing in 1998 when the competitions were in full swing.

Although we were not there specifically for the championships we did find time one afternoon to watch some of the local talent in one of the many parks.

But there is much more to Worthing and East Sussex than bowls as this publication sets out to prove.

Read and enjoy the words and pictures of this diary of a holiday.



BY GARTH NEWTON

THE GOLDEN DAYS

If only we could call a halt to time
And hold the summer at its golden
prime.

If only we could keep this lovely day
But all too soon the bright hours slip
away.

Yet, might we weary of eternal June
Of endless summer and perpetual
noon?

“A Week In Worthing”

recalls a few

“Golden Days”

we are thankful for having experienced.

A WEEK IN WORTHING

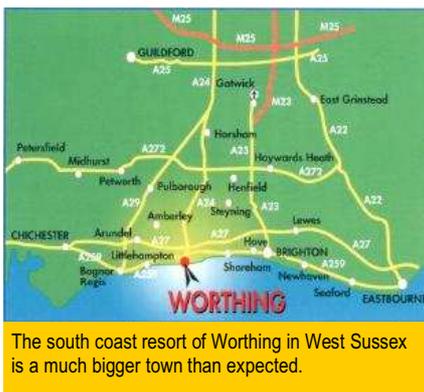
BY GARTH NEWTON

A Week In Worthing
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THE DIARY OF A HOLIDAY

This journal is a record of a week's holiday spent by Garth and Sandra Newton and Sandra's mother, Elsie Evans, during the summer of 1998.

The publicity says, "With a shingle and sand beach, a pier and bracing air, **Worthing** is a popular seaside town." Originally a fishing village, Worthing developed into a seaside resort during the 18th century and is now the biggest resort in West Sussex. We were surprised by how big it was having spent several holidays in previous years visiting **Minehead** in Somerset which is really only a village in comparison. Minehead is in fact a quiet little town on the Bristol Channel with one main shopping street containing a number of well known chain stores such as Boots and W H Smith's.



The south coast resort of Worthing in West Sussex is a much bigger town than expected.

Worthing on the other hand has pedestrian shopping precincts and is almost comparable to our local centres in Nottingham or Derby.

Worthing then, was to be our base for a week in August 1998 from where we would explore the surrounding towns, villages and countryside as well as the town itself. We were blessed with good weather for most of the week as many of the following pictures will prove and thoroughly enjoyed our time on the south coast.

The publicity goes on to say that Worthing has five miles of seafront and the area has many other attractions. The following pages display just a few of these attractions – there are still many more to be explored.

BOATS ON THE BEACH



Left: A publicity shot of Worthing Beach but yes it's true – fishing boats are still a colourful sight on the seafront and local fishermen still sell their catches along the promenade

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Goodwood	14
Chichester	15
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Holiday Highlights:

- Colourful gardens
- Historic towns
- Castles and Cathedrals
- Devil's Dyke and The Trundle – South Downs beauty spots
- Seaside attractions
- Areas of outstanding natural beauty

AUGUST 1998

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Arrival	8 Worthing	9 Littlehampton
10 Arundel	11 Brighton	12 Chichester	13 Lancing	14 Home	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



.....and they said we wouldn't get a tan in England.

Our Schedule

- **Saturday 8th** – A stroll along the seafront and some street entertainment in Worthing
- **Sunday 9th** – Bognor, Littlehampton and Basil the cat
- **Monday 10th** – Gardens at Highdown and a visit to Arundel
- **Tuesday 11th** – Along the South Downs via Brighton and Lewes followed by a walk on the pier.
- **Wednesday 12th** – A racecourse, a cathedral and a tree – Goodwood, and Chichester.
- **Thursday 13th** – More of Worthing and a trip to Lancing College.
- **Friday 14th** – Our home for the week – Bonchurch Hotel

SATURDAY – FIRST IMPRESSIONS

We arrived in Worthing on Friday afternoon and after our evening meal, we took a leisurely drive for a few miles in both directions along the coast just to get our bearings and find our way about.

The next morning, still in leisurely mood, we continued our explo-



The Pier at Worthing

rations but this time on foot. A stroll along the seafront in the pleasant summer sunshine was interrupted by a pause in a shelter to read the morning paper and take in the sea air. Our vantage point provided us with a fine view of Worthing's Pier abandoned by the retreating tide. Scavenging gulls on the beach were disturbed by a visiting Japanese family who crunched down the pebbles with excited children to enjoy a morning on the sand.

Itchy feet soon got the better of me and I too left the refuge to wander on the

beach and take a second picture looking back towards the shelter and the prom.



A view of the prom from Worthing beach

STREET ENTERTAINMENT

Following our jaunt along the seafront, we ventured into the town itself. One of the things that struck us immediately was the quality of the street entertainment. Used as we were to local buskers strumming guitars and attempt-

ing to sing with voices that were never designed for such a task, we were pleasantly surprised in Worthing by the sheer professionalism of the town's street entertainers.

We first encountered a group of South American musicians known as "The Amazonas" performing traditional and authentic sounding pan pipe music outside Marks and Spencer's on one side of the street and Boots' (behind the scaffolding) on the other. As a memento of our holiday we purchased a CD of their music.



The Amazonas – a group of South American musicians playing authentic pan pipe music.



Cassettes and compact discs were on sale and proved popular with many a passer-by.

THE STICK

As we moved further down the street, the South American music gave way to guitar sounds which echoed around the shopping area. Expecting to see several people playing a number of instruments, it came as quite a surprise to see just one man sitting under an umbrella with nothing but a huge amplifier and the neck only – no body – of a guitar. It transpired that the instrument obviously influenced by an

"The instrument has both bass and lead guitar strings on the neck and it is played by tapping the strings."

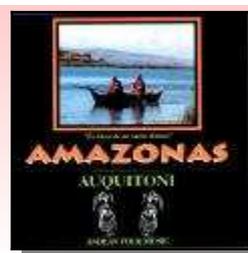
Indian Sitar was known as **The Stick**. Invented by an American, the instrument has both bass and lead guitar strings on the neck and it is played by tapping the strings. Expertly played in Worthing by Derek Dallenger, it proved another example of the professional street entertainment in this part of the country. Another CD was soon added to the collection.



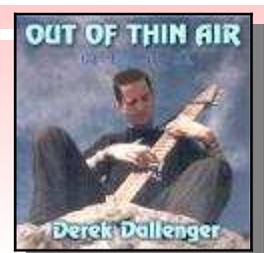
Professional street entertainment in Worthing town centre.



Derek Dallenger and The Stick



A Collection Of CDs



“IT COULD BE YOU” - AND IT WAS

Whilst sitting in Worthing town centre listening to the soothing melodies of Derek Dallenger, it seemed a good opportunity for Elsie to chance her luck with a £75000 scratch card purchased from the newsagents just across the street. She carefully removed the silver covering from each of the symbols and thinking it was another loser, she was about to discard it. Sandra however, peering over her mother’s shoulder (even without the aid of her glasses) could see that there were three £10 symbols on the card – a winner! Returning to the newsagents to redeem the card, Sandra was greeted by an

incredulous shop assistant who asked “Do you want the money?” Apparently she expected all winners to take more scratch cards to the value of the winnings. We’re not that silly! It’s better to have one £10 winning card than risk another ten £1 losers.



£10.00 better off in Worthing town centre as a scratch card comes up trumps.



Elsie’s luck did not stop there though. As it was Saturday, we had also picked six numbers each for entry into the National Lottery. In that evening’s draw, three of Elsie’s numbers came out of the machine and she was another £10 to the good – not a bad start to our holiday.

AN AFTERNOON IN THE GARDENS

In the afternoon we continued our explorations of Worthing and wandered into Steyne Gardens. My itchy feet soon got the better of me though and leaving Sandra and Elsie sheltering from the sun in the shade of a big tree, I continued further along the seafront to Denton Gardens, the Aquarena Swimming Pool and along The Esplanade before returning along the Brighton Road to rejoin them in Steyne

Gardens. Along the way, I stopped to take a picture of the sunken garden (*below left*) in Denton Gardens and both this and the publicity picture (*below right*) provide evidence of the beautiful flower beds that are available for all to enjoy and appreciate.

Beautiful flower beds are available for all to enjoy in Denton Gardens



Denton Gardens, Worthingthe real thing.....



.....and the publicity photograph. Both provide evidence of the colourful flower beds that are a feature of the gardens.