

HOLIDAYS



Plan a seaside getaway

Discovery Box





LEATHER SUITCASE

1920 - 1950

Compare this suitcase with the wide range available nowadays which come in lots of different materials, colours, shapes and sizes.

What would you pack to take away with you on holiday?

SAILOR COSTUME

Sailor suits became popular in Victorian Britain after Queen Victoria dressed her children in them in the 1840s.

At the end of the 19th century, the sailor suit was one of the most popular styles of children's clothing and was worn by both boys and girls.





TRAVELLING IRON

Made by Clayton, Lewis & Miller (Clem) in 1945.

Irons for holiday or hotel use appeared almost as soon as domestic irons became popular.

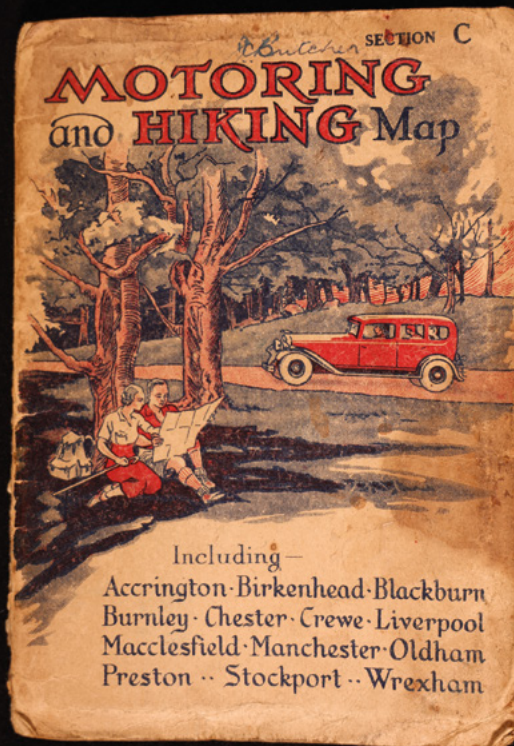
This example is a neat and popular design with a thick chromium base, red aluminium casing and a black plastic handle in the style of larger irons. Later versions have a voltage adjustment.

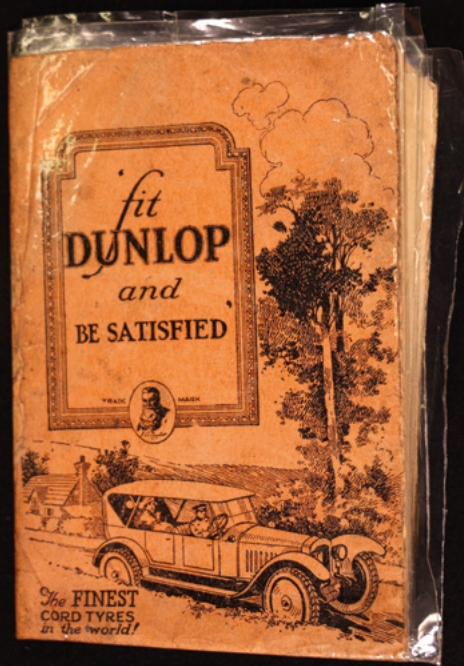
MAP

Produced by Geographia Ltd, 1920 - 1935.

Alexander Gross migrated to the UK from Hungary and established Geographia in the early 1900s. His daughter Phyllis Pearsal went on to found the Geographers A-Z Map Company. From their offices in Fleet Street, Geographia produced street maps and atlases of all the major UK towns and cities.

Their most successful product was the Greater London Street Atlas, a forerunner of the Collins Greater London Street Atlas.





TOURING MAP

Made around 1920.

This map would have been given as a free gift, perhaps at a petrol station or when buying new tyres. Cars were invented in 1896. By the 1920s, touring holidays in the country or by the coast were very popular.

It was made by William and Alex Keith Johnston who worked for the Queen. They travelled the country to explore rocks, water and plants so that they could be added to maps. There are lots of tiny dots to show where the parks and fields are. Can you see Tatton Park on the map?

KODAK BROWNIE CAMERA 1960s

Carefully open the camera using the side switch.

You can see the space where a plastic roll of film would have been stored. When the button clicked, light would flash onto the film inside and capture the picture. The film was then 'developed' at a shop in a dark room with special lights, chemicals and photo paper. Throw-away cameras have the same type of film as this one.





BOOTS CAMERA FILM 1970s

This is an object donated to the education handling collection.

The donor of the film rediscovered the lost film in her loft in the early 2000s. She took it to a specialist film laboratory that was able to process it. On the film, she discovered just four exposures (photographs) taken of her children and brother over 30 years ago in the family garden.

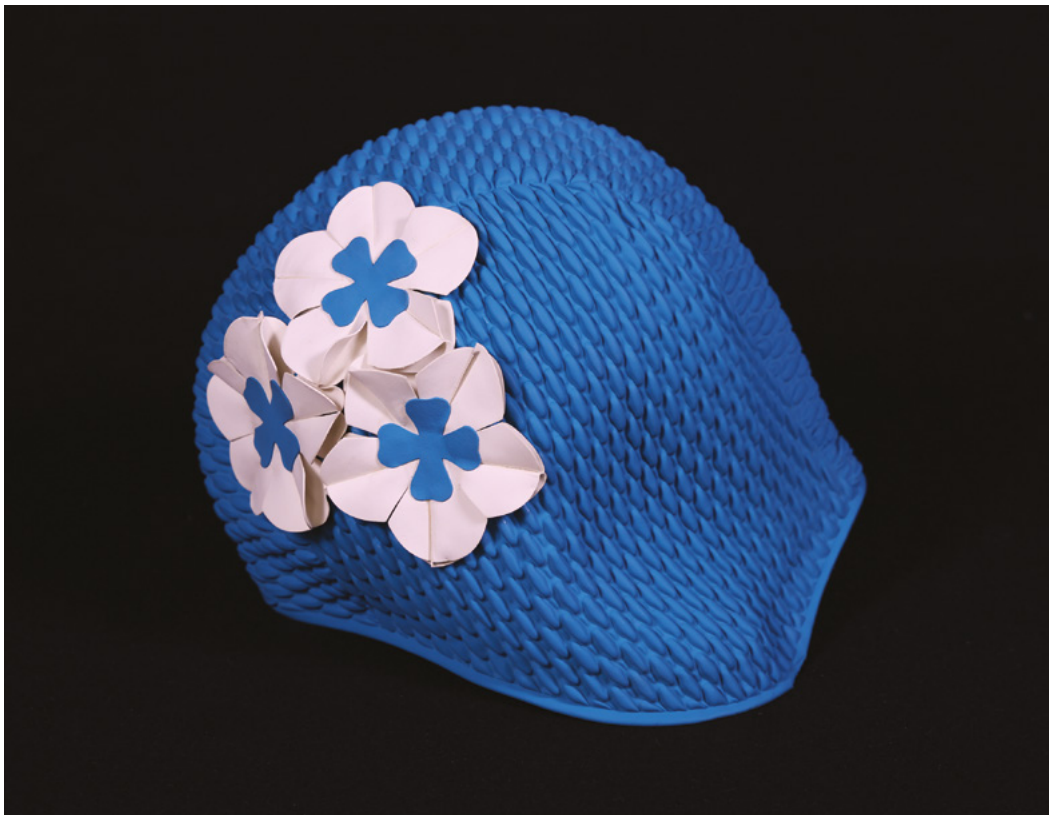
PLASTIC JELLY SHOES

Jellies are made of plastic and come in a variety of brands and colours.

Jelly shoes were designed after World War II when there was a leather shortage in Europe. They were most fashionable in the 1980s and 1990s, when a pair could be bought for just a few pounds.

Plastic shoes remain popular today. People wear them whilst paddling in the sea to protect their feet from stones.





SWIMMING CAP 1960s

Swim caps cover the hair while swimming.

Between 1900 and 1920, they were made of latex. During the 1940s, swim caps became a rare sight, as rubber was needed to make war materials.

In the 1960s, decorated caps with spiky flower petals, like this one, became popular. They were seen in the pages of fashion magazines like Vogue.

Today's swim caps come in a range of styles: racing, water-tight and streamlined for competitive swimmers. Do you have a swim cap? Is it anything like this one?

SEIKO TRAVEL CLOCK 1970s

People originally took travel clocks on holiday as there was no other way to tell the time.

The forerunner was a 'carriage clocks', which was designed to travel with an upper class person when they went on a journey by horse and carriage.

This travel clock has been designed to fold in to a case which helps to protect the clock face. It is lightweight and easy to pack.





MODERN SUNGLASSES

Sunglasses were invented to stop strong sunlight from hurting your eyes.

Sunglasses became very popular after the first pair was sold in America in 1929.

Over 250 years ago, eyeglass maker James Ayscough invented glasses with side pieces to keep them on your head. The lenses were made of tinted clear, blue or green glass to correct failing eyesight.

VINTAGE SUNGLASSES 1970s

Early sunglasses had a special purpose.
Can you guess what it was?

A long time ago Chinese judges wore dark glasses to hide their eyes and faces in court - perhaps from the people they may have been sending to prison. Did you know that hiding your eyes makes you look more scary?

You may also see famous people and celebrities wearing sunglasses for the same reason and to stop fans noticing them in the street.

Styles change but some come back in fashion. Do these glasses look like ones you find in the shops today?





PARASOL

Upper class ladies of the Victorian age would have used a beautiful parasol like this one to shade them from the sun on a trip to the seaside.

PUNCH & JUDY PUPPETS

(Modern replicas)

Punch and Judy shows were a popular form of Victorian seaside entertainment.





SHELLS

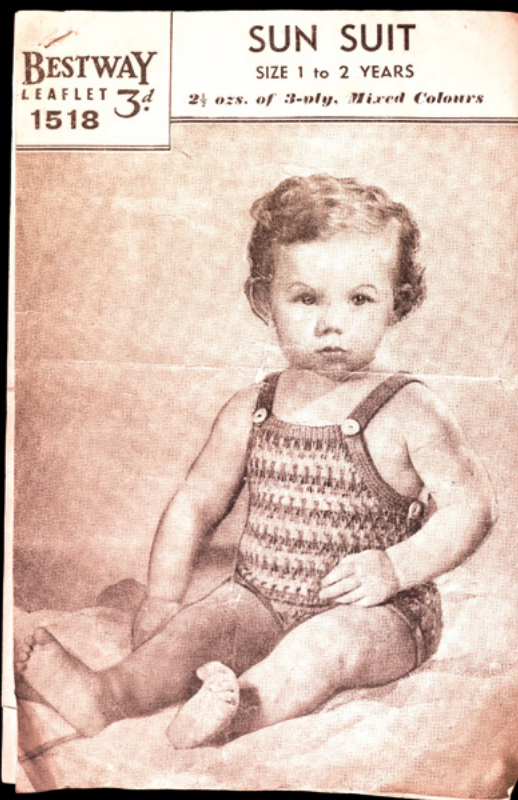
Collecting shells at the seaside is a favourite pastime that has endured for generations.

Shells can be made into souvenir items and jewellery or simply used as decoration around the home.

Amongst the most common types found on British beaches are: periwinkle, auger, limpet, banded wedges cockle, mussel, razor, grey top and barnacle.

KNITTING PATTERN 1950s

This knitting pattern shows how children's bathing costumes were made in the past. Can you imagine how heavy a woollen costume would be when wet? It would have been very difficult to swim in.





12 VINTAGE POSTCARDS

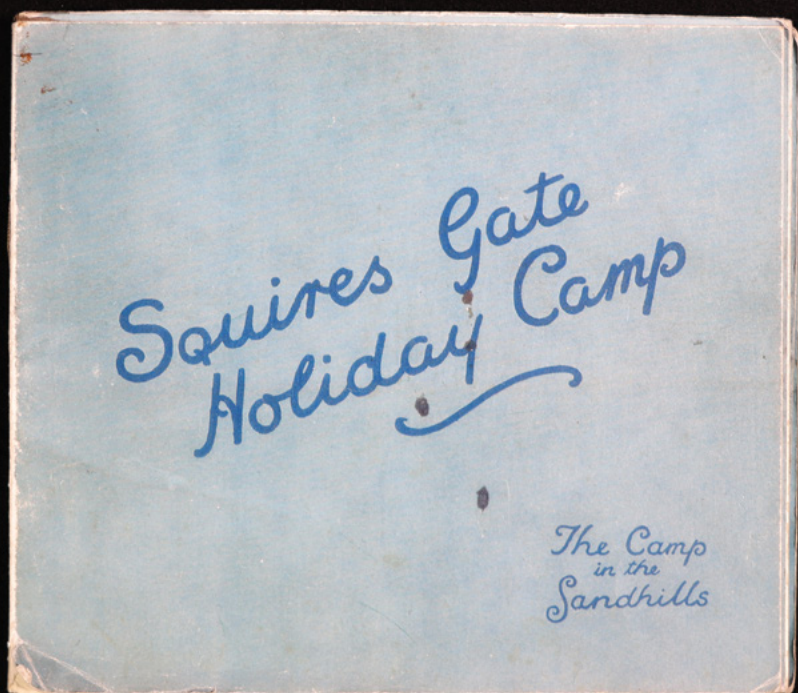
These cards depict holidays in the past.

Around 100 years ago, many Rochdalian workers in factories and mills made cotton and other materials. They holidayed together during Wakes Week.

Look closely and you can see the difference between how they spent time on holiday and at home.

SOUVENIR BOOKLET

This is a reproduction of a souvenir booklet from Squires Gate Holiday camp.
The camp was bought by Pontins in 1961 and is still in existence today.





PENNY LICK

Before the invention of the cone, ice cream was licked out of a small glass known as a 'penny lick', which the vendor would then wipe clean and re-use. They were eventually made illegal for public health reasons in 1926.

SMALL VINTAGE FLAG

This old flag was probably used to celebrate events such as a royal wedding or birthday.

Flags can also be bought at traditional seaside resorts as souvenirs.
Don't you think it would make a perfect finishing touch to a sandcastle?





TIN BUCKET & WOODEN SPADE

This spade is typical of the toys taken by Victorian children to the beach.

Fathers and grandfathers would hand-make spades like this, especially for trips to the seaside. Buckets and spades are still popular today, but are more likely to be made from plastic.

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