

Seaside Loans Box



Parasol

The parasol was an **important** accessory for Victorian women. Parasols **protected** the lady's delicate **facial skin** from the sun's rays so that she could maintain her '**peaches and cream**' Complexion. **Tanned skin** was **not** a desired look for Victorian women, as this denoted a woman of **work** and not one of **leisure**. Parasols also served as an elegant **fashion accessory**.

Parasol canopy tops were sometimes made from **satin**, lined in **silk** and were often trimmed in **lace**. They could be in many **different colours** and made to match a lady's outfit for **special** occasions. Parasol **handles** could be made from **horn, silver, ivory or ebony**. Many Victorian ladies adorned their parasols with **silk cords, bows and tassels**. The two parasols in the box are dated **1920s to 1930s**.

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Punch and Judy

From Victorian times **Punch and Judy** has been associated with the **seaside resorts**, although Mr. Punch dates back to the **17th century** and was known as **Punchinello**. In Victorian times Mr Punch became a **glove puppet** instead of a **marionette** and the street Punch and Judy show was born.

When the **railways** brought travel to the masses and took **town crowds to the seaside** Mr Punch went too, making himself part of traditional **beach fun** along with **sand castles, paddling and donkey rides**. With the gradual **decline** of the **traditional British seaside holiday** the Punch and Judy man has found it **harder and harder** to make a living from a **seaside pitch**.

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Boy's bathing costume [replica]

This is an **accurate replica** of a **1920s** boy's **one-piece** bathing costume. Wool was used because it didn't become **see-through** when wet, however it did **cling** and **hug** the body.

By the late 19th century men's swimsuits started to show more leg and at the beachside had even started to show some chest, with the shorts design of today beginning to make an appearance. During the **20th century** men's bathing suits shorts got **shorter**. A specialised swimsuit company called Speedo introduced the Y-front brief swimsuits for men. This became the fashion for a number of years until the surfing culture saw the rise of long shorts again.

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Ladies swimming costume

This is an **original** 1960s ladies swimsuit, made from a mix of **nylon** and **stretch** material. Modern swimming costumes have the same **style** (although the **material** is different).

In **Victorian** times things were very different as ladies wore **bloomers** and a **wool over-dress**. The dress ends were sometimes **weighed down** to stop them rising up upon entering the water. In the early **1900s** ladies grew tired of these **heavy woollen swimsuits**. Swimming costumes have changed over the years, reflecting the changes in **freedom** and **fashion** in clothing for women.

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Dinky Toys

Dinky toys were the first British toy cars produced using advanced die-casting techniques which made them **cheaper** and **easier** to make than **tin toys**.

The first Dinky toys appeared in the **1930s** in **Liverpool** but **World War II** brought production almost to a **standstill** for **several years**. When it resumed **Dinky Toys** produced **cars, trucks, buses, military vehicles, aircraft, ships, dolls house furniture and farm implements** and virtually every boy and many a girl in the **1930s, 1940s, 1950s and 1960s** would have played with them.

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Dacora Camera

This camera dates to the 1950s. It is a simple camera and is **light** and **compact** so it was probably meant for home use. The camera lens can be packed away so you could **fold it up** if you didn't want to get it dirty (for example, with sand from the beach).

The 1950s in Britain was of increasing **prosperity** and **full employment**. People had more money to spend and this camera could have been bought as a **hobby** (a pastime) or for taking pictures of family and friends and of special occasions.

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Brownie Camera

This camera was made between **1917 to 1927**. Autographic cameras were special as **dates and names** could be included on the **negatives**. This camera is **small, light and portable** and therefore ideal for taking on holiday and to the seaside.

The cameras of the nineteenth century were quite **expensive** and not many people could afford them, so George Eastman introduced the **Brownie, the first simple, affordable** camera. This company still makes cameras today. The name **Brownie** came from the characters in a children's storybook, which was popular in North America.

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Bucket and Spade

Initially the **first** toys for the beach were made of **wood**, but soon **tin** became more common, especially for buckets as it gave more opportunity for colourful **patterns** and **pictures**. Today most seaside toys are made of **plastic**, which means they no longer become rusty.

In the **nineteenth** century the **seaside holiday**, as we know it, developed. It was made possible by the **expansion** of the **railways** in the 1840s and 1850s, which made long distance travel **affordable** for most people.

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Magic Grandad DVD and Resource Pack

Magic Grandad takes his two grandchildren **back in time** to find out about life at the **seaside** one hundred years ago.

The three programmes from the BBC use **photographs, postcards, old film and souvenirs** to provide a rich stimulus for contrasting seaside holidays then and now.

Programmes: The Promenade, The Beach and Entertainment and each programme lasts fifteen minutes and is divided into different sections.