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SUNNY SOUTHSEA

MEMORIES OF A GOLDEN AGE

Anthony Triggs

REPRINT

Saucy postcards, buckets and spades, fish and chips, candy floss, the bandstand, and a bracing walk along the prom are all reminiscent of a great British tradition – the seaside holiday.

And one of the jewels of the south coast was always Sunny Southsea. It may have lacked the gentility of Bournemouth or the brashness of Blackpool, but its shingle beach still attracted visitors by the thousand. After all, it offered two piers, a bandstand, a fairground, boat trips to the Isle of Wight and along the coast, and an unrivalled panorama of great warships and liners in the Solent.

This new collection of nostalgic photographs revives a hundred years of Southsea's popularity, from its early days at the end of the nineteenth century through to the last years of the twentieth century.

Anthony Triggs has drawn upon nearly 130 historic photographs to record a century of bracing fun, from bathing machines on the beach to modern-day events on the common, from hot days to stormy seas, from royal reviews to paddle steamers.

Although the golden age of the seaside is sadly no more, readers can roll up their trousers and hitch up their skirts and take to the waters of Sunny Southsea without leaving their armchairs.

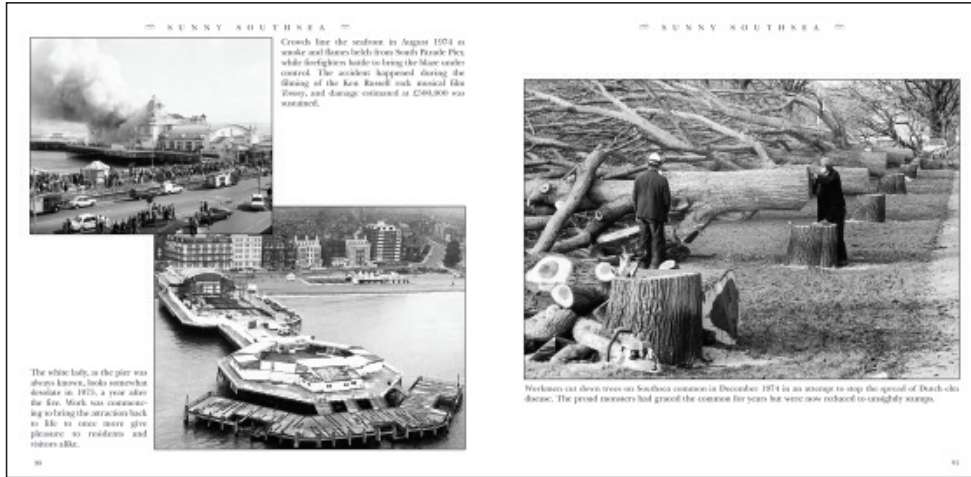
Anthony Triggs is the author of nine previous books on the history of the Portsmouth area. He is a retired journalist and lives at Portchester with his wife Sue. In addition to local history Anthony lists his interests as family history and photography.



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Example of a double page spread.



A picture of day trippers dated August 1932



The resort of Southsea in its early days at the end of the nineteenth century with Beach Mansions to the right of the picture.



A photographer was obviously a rare visitor to Margate Road, early in the century



Illuminated trams were often used to promote events in Portsmouth and Southsea.



Crowds line the seafront in August 1974 as smoke and flames belch from South Parade Pier.



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