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## PERFECT SOUTHWOLD

*Alan Childs*

Southwold, set on the Suffolk Heritage Coast, has been described as the most perfect seaside town in England, and few of the thousands who visit the place each year would disagree. Seemingly timeless, and displaying a wide range of building styles the houses of the town sit on what is almost an island, bounded by the North Sea, the River Blyth and Buss Creek. Indeed its famous lighthouse adds to its sense of splendid isolation.

In this book photographer Alan Childs captures the perfection of Southwold both in the broader sweep of the town and through the individual and distinctive character of its buildings. From the gaily painted beach huts and the pier to the splendour of its many delighted Georgian and Victorian town houses separated by the town's many greens and open spaces. Southwold, 'easily the loveliest town in East Anglia'

Aimed at both those lucky enough to live in Southwold ('easily the loveliest town in East Anglia'), and as a memento for those visiting Suffolk, *Perfect Southwold* is indeed the perfect book.



**Alan Childs**, photographer and author, lives in Norfolk and has produced a number of books about East Anglia including *A Portrait of Norwich* and *Discover the North Norfolk Coast*. He is also co-author of *The Man Who Loved Horses: The Story of Jack Juby*, *Face to Face*, and *Holt Hall – An Illustrated History*.



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## HALSGROVE PUBLISHING

## TITLE INFORMATION – PERFECT SOUTHWOLD



Southwold's pier has had a chequered history. It was built in 1899–1900, very much with calling steamers in mind.



Example of a double page spread.



Some people keep to the custom of Southwold's beach huts, watching the world go by from the safety of a chair. Others enjoy the sea bathing, and it is a comfort to know that should things go wrong help is at hand. Children and adults are under the watchful eyes of the lifeguard team who know well that tides and currents can be treacherous.

Cherished: The colourfully painted beach huts, like the lighthouse, have come to characterise the town, even if prices almost require a second mortgage!

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Southwold's famous lighthouse.



Above: The School of Industrial Art in Park Lane.

Left: The former Cromer lifeboat house now houses the Alfred Corry, the town's third historical boat, (1893-1918).



Southwold, it would seem, was well defended by its cannon.



Above: This amazing water clock was built in 1998 by Will Jackson and Tim Hunkin,

Left: Nets and pots and the black-tarred fishermen's huts from another age, Southwold, it would seem, was well defended by its cannon.