

Bank Holidays

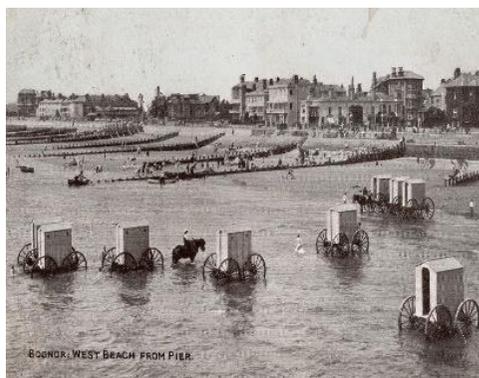
For families living in dirty, smog filled factory towns, a visit to the coast would have been a welcomed break.

In Victorian times, poor people worked every day (except Sundays when they were expected to attend church). They were not allowed to take holidays from their jobs and it was only when Bank holidays were introduced by law in 1870 that the working classes were able to enjoy a proper day off.



Clothing and Bathing Machines

Women wore a bathing gown in the water. These were loose ankle-length, full-sleeve gowns made of wool or flannel. They were long dresses of fabrics that would not become transparent. The men's swim suit had long sleeves and legs. A bathing machine was a wooden hut on wheels where people would get changed into their swim clothes.



Entertainment at the Seaside

To attract visitors, lots of seaside towns built piers out into the sea. People enjoyed strolling piers and promenades to breathe in the fresh, healthy sea air.

Other popular forms of entertainment included: watching Punch and Judy puppet shows, eating an ice cream (sometimes called a hokey pokey or penny lick), riding on donkeys, building sandcastles on the beach with a bucket and spade, eating fish and chips; watching variety acts at a music hall such as: brass bands, singers, dancers or comedians.



Significant Person from the Past	Why is she remembered?
<p>Grace Darling, was born in 1815 in Bamburgh, Northumberland and is a British heroine who became famous for her participation in the rescue of shipwreck survivors.</p> 	<p>On 7th September 1838, there was a storm. A boat crashed into rocks. Grace and her father rowed a boat to the rocks to save those stuck in the water. They saved 9 lives. They were awarded a silver medal from the RNLI for their bravery.</p>

RNLI
 The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) is the largest charity that saves lives at sea around the coasts of the United Kingdom. Founded in 1824 as the National Institution for the Preservation of Life from Shipwreck.



Key Vocabulary	
holiday	This word comes from the word 'holy day', as holidays were taken for religious festivals
steam train	A mode of transport that took people to the seaside
penny lick	A container filled with a penny's worth of ice cream
bathing machine	A place people got changed into their swimwear, before going into the sea.
brass band	A group of musicians playing brass instruments.
Punch and Judy	A popular puppet <u>show</u> where there were two main characters.
carousel	A Victorian fairground <u>ride</u> .
pier	A platform on pillars running from the shore into the sea.
promenade	A walkway that runs next to the beach

Travelling to the Seaside
 Going to the seaside was a huge treat for most Victorian families. Poor families would visit for a day, whilst rich families would take a holiday for a week or so. People would travel there on trains. Railways were built all around Britain at this time.



Sunderland Seaside - Where I live
 We live in Sunderland. This is in the North East of England. We have lots of beaches - Roker, Seaburn and Seaham. How have these changed over time? What is on the local coastline now? Comparing Sunderland's seaside today to the Victorian seaside.



Roker Park



Roker Pier and Lighthouse



Seaburn Beach



Seaham Sea glass