

# Worthing Pier in the News!



Newspaper reports featured in the *Worthing Herald* between 1960 and the late 1980's.

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THE DOME Cinema and tatty shell of a rundown old building.



A QUIET stroll along the prom is marred by ugly building work.



THE WARNES HOTEL masked by a mass of scaffolding.

## Ugly, tatty seafront hasn't changed at all

A LOOK in this year's Tourist Guide says Worthing has all the natural attractions of a seaside resort.

That contrasts sharply with the Herald's findings in March, when we asked if you 'wished you were here' amid battered seafront shelters, derelict buildings and rusty scaffolding.

So just how attractive is Worthing's seafront during this peak holiday time, and how have things changed since March?

The Herald took to the streets this week to see what changes - if any - have been made.

Warnes Hotel is still looking battered. A great wall of scaffolding holds up the remains of the fire ravaged structure which rattles like a ghost ship in the wind.

A few steps along the

Report: Mark Slide

cracked promenade is one of the seafront shelters.

Holidaymakers can sit among smashed and missing panes or find themselves sitting next to a group of drunk tramps trying to shelter from the harsh breeze.

The ruins of the empty Southdown building still stand. The masonry is cracked and falling away, the paint is flaking off the walls and weeds are growing at the front.

Next along is The Dome cinema. The subject of a heated debate to preserve it, the old building now stands masked in a wall of scaffolding.



THE WORTHING GUIDE claims the town has natural attractions.

Outside is a bus shelter with fading yellow stickers

peeling away in the salt air. Meanwhile, over the road is a pattern of double yellow lines that run recklessly up the pavement.

Just opposite, Rendezvous Cafe owner Dominico De Fardelli stands almost alone in the cafe he has run for the last 22 years.

'Things are so quiet I don't know if I can keep it going,' he said.

Over the road is the Pier, often the favourite spot in any seaside town.

The walkway planks look well cared for, but dog mess is still spattered across the beams in places.

The St John Ambulance station has the words 'Now Open' scratched on to one of its painted windows. It was locked and tatty.

The railings have been repainted but broken

rubbish bags had scattered open beside them.

A few rusty old tyres still lay behind the Beach Office, but not as many as last March.

Along the prom, a handful of people swim in The Lido. The paint on the front windows is flaking and the old oil painting display boards are bare and rusting.

Beside the Lido was a dirty, rusting trailer, surrounded by cans.

My seafront stroll ended outside the Alexander Hotel with its rotting window ledges

Over the road, a battered shelter is surrounded by a wall of chipboard.

After a walk along the promenade, would you spend your holiday in sunny Worthing?



THE AFTERMATH of roadworks, bits left scattered.