# HAZARDOUS ROW *to* RENDEZVOUS

“Ah, it’s a ‘ealthy place, is Margate, only its so ‘orrid vulgar!”
`To which responded B`, “Well now, *Hi* didn’t hobserve that!”

***Did Elephants pass this way?***

*The whole parade, pulled by scores of richly decorated horses and led by the band wagon, was a colourful*

*spectacle the like the poor folk of Margate had never seen.*

# …a female beaked Whale came on Shore 27 feet in length…

‘There was a grand donkey race upon the sands. The concourse of spectators was immense…

…a young boy plunged into the icy waters to retrieve an ornate cross…during **The Blessing of the Seas**

‘an immense variety of vehicles anxious to whirl you away
– waggonettes, landau’s, fly’s, donkey chaises, goat chaises,
Bath chairs & perambulators,

**‘The Duke of Wellington & the Margate Boatmen have been recently fighting for a whale which was fool enough to tumble like a great sand eel onto the sands of Margate.**

# **Mr Brown**, Donkey Man

Dave
Chas
Sunny

Sandy
Fury
Smoky
Rocky

…middle aged females “got-up” in the most juvenile manner with knowing hats, short petticoats and those fawn coloured boots so peculiar to the visitors to the Isle of Thanet;’

‘If the Jetty were alive, the streets were equally so – flymen, goat and donkey-drivers, owners of children’s perambulators & chaises, boatmen, fire-men, shoeblacks, vendors of cakes, Bath buns, apples, pears, cherries, strawberries, pologne-sausages, lollipops, brandy balls, ginger beer, imperial pop, periwinkles, shrimps, red-herrings, ginger beer, nuts and roast potatoes: saleswomen offering laces, embroidered collars, worked sleeves, antimacassars, crochet work, worsted ornaments for the table, children’s socks, garters and night caps; salesmen with shoes, boots, slippers, bootlaces, and blacking balls; fishermen crying fresh soles, lobsters, whiting, shrimps, Pegwell Bay prawns, mackerel “all alive”.

‘So many people were attracted to Margate that the visitors began to include many who were not so **‘Genteel’**, and when this happened, the **‘Genteel’** no longer flocked to the place, and it was left to the less **‘Genteel’** to come in larger & larger numbers so that it soon became a place mainly for ‘trippers’ from London, which it has remained ever since’.

The crowds that visit Margate during the Summer season from London are immense.

In the course of a season they have amounted to **100,000**

**Crickett Mrs., marine restaurant**
**Benjamin Beale** *inventor of the* **Bathing Machine**
**Garners Library on Horn Corner**

At this time there were 6 Bathing Houses:

OLD JENNIE

MRS KNOCK

1. **Philpot's – Warm Water Salt Baths**
2. Mssrs T. Hughes & J. Beale.
3. **Mrs Hubbard of *Hubbard's Point***
4. Mrs Beale – an improved plan with marble baths
5. **Mr Cleveland**
6. S. Hughes & Son.

Booths "Assinarium"

'For the mental gratification of the tenants, there is the New Marine Library… subscribers may enjoy the full use of their telescopes! -

# …for a Peep at the Mermaids’.

“Sir, don’t you bathe?” “Bathe, sir! – No, truly, not I – ‘tis diversion enough to see others do it “-

‘Though oft I have been
In a bathing machine,
I never discover’d till now,
The wonderful art
Of this little go-cart
‘Tis vastly convenient I vow
A peg for your clothes,
A glass for your nose,

And, shutting the little trap-door,
You are safe from the ken
Of those impudent men
Who wander about on the shore'.

# "Looking a bit black over Will's Mother"

**Hubbards Point**

The greatest Storm ever known on this coast – waves were rising over the cliff

*"a tremendous storm from the North West, accompanied with an immense swell of the sea, and a spring tide, swept away, …nearly one third of the Pier, the Bathing Rooms, and a great part of the High Street from the Kings Head to the Harbour'*

An official escort and carriages were awaiting him at Margate King's Stairs. Churchwardens spent money on erecting a large Royal Arms on the Quayside on the Parade. (Paid 1/6 for a painter to come over from Canterbury, 13 ½ days work for a local joiner, 4/- for the beer). All this was for nothing.

**"It is a most pitiful sight to see here at Margate how the men, having no place to receive them, die in the streets.**

**Margate resembled a charnel house**

*This afternoon the King – Charles II - hearing news of Henrietta, Princess of Orange, (daughter of Charles Ist) being at Kings Stairs he & the Duke of York went down thither to meet her…*

**…the** Princess & her train went aboard the 'Montague' commanded by Sir John Holmes.

*He had selected Margate as his favorite place of embarkation*

# Landed in rough seas from a small open boat in Margate Harbour which took him to King's Stairs

"These Stairs are surely a Public thoroughfare"

# Beach Steps

*Bennett the Pieman had his pitch near here* ***"Toss or Buy"*** *was his cry*

# Revetment

## Turnstone Quay

*Areneria interpres*

Turnstones are `faithful` to a particular bay 2699 miles from Baffin Island

**Sanderling  Redshank  Purple Sandpiper**

**Knob Shoal**

**Tizard bank**

**Princes Channel**

**Pan Sand Tongue**

**Kentish Knock**

**Fisherman's Gat**

**Foulger's Gat**

**South Edinburgh**

**Queens Channel**

**Margate Road**

**Margate Sands**

**Margate Hock**

**Black Deep**

**Long Deep**

**Knock Deep**

*The area is known to be a spawning and nursery ground for a number of species of fish, including sole and herring*

# sand ripples, megaripples & sand waves

*Magelona johnstoni* *Spiophanes bombyx*

Queen Scallop & Common Whelk

Limanda limanda

Solea solea

Marlangius merlangus

Sprattus sprattus

***…the largest continuous stretch of intertidal chalk*** *…the single most important chalk cliff site for marine algal communities in Northern Europe…*

**'Twas in Margate last July, I walk'd upon the pier,**
**I saw a little vulgar Boy -- I said, 'What make you here?**
**The gloom upon your youthful cheek speaks anything but joy;'**
**Again I said, 'What make you here, you little vulgar Boy?'**

White Hart

Imperial

Metropole

# Turner Landing

*a breach of the peace in the Town caused by the impressment of several inhabitants who had been carried by force aboard HMS Texel*

**“Soon as though gett’st within the Pier,**

All Margate will be out I trow

And people rush from far & near

As if thou hadst wild beasts to show”

# Husbands Boat

…His friend Jemmy Green was even more gorgeously attired. He had on a woolly white hat, a pea green coat and his shirt was embroidered, pleated and puckered like a lady's habit-skirt. His trousers were very wide, with a broad blue stripe upon a white ground and cut out over the foot of rusty-black chamois leather opera boots. Sky blue gloves and a stout cane with large tassels completed the rigging of this Borough dandy.'

# Jarvis's Jetty

…`they **arrived** at eight o clock on the far famed Margate Jetty …the cries of flymen, the importunities of innkeepers, the cards of bathing women, the salutations of donkey drivers, the programmes of librarians…

`The great storm blew up into a cyclone and all but destroyed the town, its harbour, sea front and main roads.

# The sea is completely white with driving spray

*'Friends of all Nations'*

Huge slabs of masonry were hurled along the **torn up** surface of the promenade as waves cut six feet into the structure

*Chaos reigned and ruin was rampant*

**The decking of the jetty was torn away, its iron piles dislodged and thrown, as if by giants' hands, on to the shore**

*4 of 8 horses leading the boat were drowned after being caught by an unexpected wave*

The sea water poured over the harbour & on to The Parade shortly before midnight rushing down King Street, Duke Street, Love Lane & Market Street

On Sunday morning the 60ft lighthouse was leaning like the Tower of Pisa & crowds gathered to

**watch its ultimate fate. At 10.20am it tottered and then crashed into the raging sea**

*7000 deckchairs were washed out to sea & lost*

Now’s the season for laughing and jollity

Crowding together, all nations and quality,

Margate, a hoi, as I halloa cry,

All come on board while the sea breezes blow

I remember **Taffy Rook** ….canvas shoes a pair of jeans
a string vest and a white topped sailor's hat,
a cigar in his mouth and rode an old Trades bike.

# Scuppers

**Robert & Jane, Dispatch, Prince of Wales, Francis, Endeavour, Diligence, Diana**

**Engineer, Eclipse, Favourite, Majestic, Victory, Waverley**

# Stone Pier

**Great quantities of Skate, wraiths, turbots, haddock, soles, whitings, small cod, mackerel, & lobsters**, oysters etc readily supply the town but most is destined for the Metropolis'.

# Iron Jetty

*Part destroyed by the Brigantine 'Charles Davenport' driven against it by the Storm.*

# Bankside

**the scene then was a magnificent but appalling one… … great showers of sparks were thrown out and blown towards the pier.**

*Some of these sparks were quite six inches in length,*

**…the progress of the fire was being watched by hundreds of people on whose faces the sheen of the fire cast a lurid reflection which had a most weird effect"**

*…Room 66, is still untouched except by dust”*

# 3 acres reclaimed from the sea

*A skating rink & switchback railway were on the site*

…all but cleared by the storm which destroyed the Switchback, Marine Palace & the bridge from the Jetty to Bankside…

**Rendezvous** Grand Circus

# A Grand Piano swept out to sea