

BY HAND

070/02/52

17th July, 1951.

The Comptroller,
Lord Chamberlain's Office,
St. James's Palace,
S. W. 1.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of July 16th granting us permission to include in one edition of Pathe News a shot of the candelabra lent by The King to the Exhibition of Antique Dealers at Brighton.

We would point out, however, that this film is required for shipment to different parts of the world, including America, and we will be glad to receive the necessary authority from you. You will appreciate, of course, that it is very good publicity for this country.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,
ASSOCIATED BRITISH-PATHE LTD.

c.c. Mr. Thomas
Mr. Fielder / Mr. Murray
Mr. Waple ✓

G. E. ORRINS,
Editor,
PATHE NEWS.

Next issue of film 5/60.

1951 Festival Antique Dealers' Fair

The Brighton & Hove Antique Dealers' Association
request the pleasure of the Company of

G. J. Cummins, Esq. and friend

at the

Official Opening by

His Grace The Duke of Wellington, K. G.

to be held at

Corn Exchange, Brighton

on Monday, July 16th, 1951 at 2.15 p.m.

THIS TICKET IS ALSO AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE AND PRESS VIEW ON
SATURDAY 14TH, JULY, 1951. FROM 11 A.M. TO 9 P.M.

14/7/51.

PRESS NOTES.

1951 FESTIVAL ANTIQUE DEALERS' FAIR.

(Sponsored by the Brighton & Hove Antique Dealers' Association).

President: WILLIAM TEELING, ESQ., M.P.

THE CORN EXCHANGE, BRIGHTON.

From

Saturday July 14th.

to

Saturday July 21st.

Excluding Sunday

*Domitille -
short-story
let somebody
look see*

This is the first fair of its kind ever to be held in Brighton and the largest Antique Fair ever to be held in the Country outside of London.

*show Domitille
may get many
Americans to
this ship goes
U.S.A. - free take*

It is the Brighton Antique Dealers' Association's contribution to the Brighton Festival of Britain programme. His Grace The Duke of Wellington has kindly consented to open the Fair on Monday, July the 16th, at 2.15 p.m. and after his tour of the Exhibits, a reception will be held at 4.0 p.m. to which the press are cordially invited.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal has graciously consented to visit the Fair on Tuesday the 17th of July, and Her Royal Highness the Princess Marie Louise has also graciously consented to attend the Fair on Thursday the 19th instant.

We are including Antiques made up to 1851, this being an appropriate date coinciding as it does with the Centenary of the 1851 Exhibition held in Hyde Park, London. The Exhibits will include very fine porcelaine, pottery, furniture, silver, maps, rugs and carpets, books, clocks, musical boxes, jewellery, glass, lace, etc. etc. representing the work of the finest craftsmen of bygone years. There will also be a display of

Exhibits of historic interest which have been kindly loaned by various donors, and this display will be televised during the Fair.

We have pleasure in enclosing an invitation to attend our official opening by His Grace the Duke of Wellington and it will be noted that this invitation is available for Saturday, July the 14th, the unofficial opening day.

The Executive Committee of the Antique Dealers' Association will be most happy to welcome you on both of these days.

JANE BROWN: Thackeray wrote "George IV invented Brighton" and how true this is, for his patronage turned a small resort into a magnificent town with beautiful squares and Regency houses, all centred round the domed, exotic Royal Pavilion.

From July 14th. to 21st, there is to be an Antique Dealers' Fair in what was once the Royal Riding School, and is now The Corn Exchange. This is to be one of Brighton's many contributions to the Festival of Britain. Now why an Antique Fair? The answer is plain. As a result of the gambling and high living of Regency days, when many of the courtiers must have been reduced to penury, and forced to pay their debts by parting with their treasures, Brighton became - next to London - the greatest antique centre in Britain.

One of the most fascinating parts of the town is "the lanes", known locally as the twittens, a section of narrow alleyways not large enough for traffic. When I walked there the other day I found literally a mass of small cottage antique shops and bric a brac. I was told that, in olden times, these cottages, built for fishermen, were notorious for smuggling, and to this day there's still a connecting door in many of them, through which the guilty ran from one house to another to escape the law.

At the Fair, there will be many loans on show for the first time, one of them is a charming patch box in Battersea enamel with a picture of the Royal Pavilion.

The Duke of Wellington has kindly consented to open the Fair, and a figure of his famous ancestor will be on show. Another loan connected with the great heroes of English history is Nelson's watch with its original letter of thanks to a Mr. Lloyd. He ends by saying: "Lady Nelson and my father thank you for your kind remembrance of them and believe me, my dear friend, your most affectionate Horatio Nelson". Next to this, will be a silver wine jug that he gave to Lady Hamilton, it bears the inscription "Nelson to Emma in commemoration of the victory of the Nile". There is also a bust of William IV, the sailor King.

In Brighton I found and bought an intriguing musical box depicting a Lady of the Georgian period playing a piano, and this too is going to be shown at the Fair.

Of course, Brighton is famous throughout the world as a watering place, and the most picturesque figure of the days of the bathing cabins was a lady named Martha Gunn. Her duty seems to have been to immerse unwilling bathers into the sea - she was, in fact, a professional dipper. A dress believed to have been hers was found and this will be on view in the exhibition; it's made of mauve and white striped cotton with a cross-over muslin fichu, and it's not hard to imagine what a sight she must have been with her black hat, black stockings, and ruffles at her neck.

Lying meekly by the side of all these treasures will be a tiny pincushion made by a child, on it, the word "Brighthelmsten", the original name of Brighton.

To finish, I would like to mention one humorous, but rather gruesome exhibit - a case of "boxing rats". This was a great sport in Regency days, and was much sought after, another, of course, was cock fighting.

I personally - shall spend many, many hours in this very interesting Anique Dealers' Fair.

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