

# Answers on a postcard

## MAKING WAVES

From left: Naomi Watts at this year's *Elle Style Awards*. Miv Watts at sea, 1994. Driftwood camel. Naomi on a Norfolk beach, 1978

**Do you have a favourite piece of beach memorabilia?**

**M** A driftwood camel.  
**N** Shells and pebbles picked up from the beach, which my mother has kept in the house in Norfolk since I was a child.

## MIV AND NAOMI WATTS

Interior designer and retailer Miv Watts and her actress daughter Naomi both adore the coast, and have spent many years living and holidaying at the beaches of Norfolk and Australia

**What do you like to do together on the beach?**

**MIV AND NAOMI** Mud-fights in the creeks at Stiffkey in Norfolk.

**Is there anything you collect from beaches, wherever you go?**

**M** Sand in my shoes.  
**N** Memories.

**Where is your favourite beach?**

**M** Balmain Beach, Sydney.  
**N** Bondi Beach at 7am in the winter.

**What is your most precious memory of beaches?**

**M** Hiding in the dunes at Holkham with bangles on our heads; and jumping out at passers-by singing 'Cadbury's Fruit & Nut Case.' You asked!  
**N** My memories of Norfolk are mainly of visiting the fairgrounds at Cromer or Hunstanton, and eating candyfloss with my friend Saffron Aldridge.

**Do you have a favourite place to visit?**

**M** Cable Bay, Anglesey. Remembering my Welsh grandfather, who would invite himself to everyone's picnics, and then invite everyone home to tea.

**N** The little church at Aberffraw, Anglesey, where my brother Ben took a silly photo of my own rather eccentric Welsh grandfather.

**Which beach would you most like to visit?**

**M** The mythical one in the film *The Beach*, where Samuel Gough plays his guitar.  
**N** Anywhere in the Greek Islands.

**How does the coast inspire your work?**

**M** We have just launched a range of paints inspired by Australia's Byron coastline. Last year, in conjunction with Francesca's Lime Wash, we launched the Solace range, inspired by the colours of the Norfolk marshes.

**N** Yoga on the beach in the morning, and a chance to flop and read a script on my own.

**What are your favourite types of wildlife from the Norfolk coastline?**

**M** A rare species: a super-eccentric sexy old Etonian wildebeest of a fishmonger called Mike Gurney.

**N** Potted shrimps caught by the above. ☐

House Bait (01328 730667; [www.mivwatts.com](http://www.mivwatts.com)).

## MARINE LIFE

Above: Norfolk fishmonger Mike Gurney. Left: jewelled slippers, £22-45, House Bait. Below: beach huts at Wells

**Where is a good place to buy beachwear and accessories?**

**M** I don't buy Naomi jelly sandals any more, but there's a fabulous range of beach hats at my shop House Bait this year.

**N** Planet Blue in Malibu; and I love my mum's hats.

