

# Wartime West Sussex 1939 – 1945 AIR RAIDS – GAS MASKS

## Gas masks for adults

Back cover of ARP warden's handbook



Extract from *Despatches from the Home Front, The War Diaries of Joan Strange 1939-1945* (Monarch Publications, 1989)

**1939**

**March 7<sup>th</sup>** Reported at Beach House for my gas mask. Quite footling but thought I'd better. Discovered Mother and I were not even registered! Luckily the first one fitted all right (shouldn't fancy having to try more than the one, especially as someone else may have breathed hard into it). The room is humorously labelled: this way → to Chamber of Horrors. Gas masks. And so it was! Mother wouldn't even look at mine and is not proposing to go.

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# Gas Respirators and Boxes for All

Have You Got Yours?—If Not,  
Read This

Residents of Worthing who did not obtain their respirators during the crisis last September are now to be issued with them.

They will be fitted at Beach House, the Borough A.R.P. Centre, during the fortnight commencing Monday, February 27th, and ending Saturday, March 11th.

The respirator census for the Borough has now been completed, and, in addition to issuing the balance of respirators, boxes to keep them in are to be distributed to all.

All persons of the age of four years and upwards who have not already received respirators, will be fitted, but babies' bags and special respirators for children between the age of 1½ and four are not yet available. They will be dealt with later.

The public are requested to assist the Local Authority in their efforts to complete this distribution by not failing to call for their respirators and boxes.

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