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#### WHAT'S IN THIS MONTHS LOVE WIRRAL MAGAZINE



This month in history



Radio Clatsterbridge



Rotary Club of Birkenhead



Puzzle page



Yesterday's Wirral photos

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The Magazine of Choice for Businesses in Wirral.

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Cover Photo: View from Hilbre Island



Dear Friends,

Summer is here at last! Longer days and lighter nights, lovely weather (fingers crossed), we always seem to fit so much more into the day and I am sure you will agree, everyone is much happier in the sunshine!

Our magazines are all about promoting our lovely part of the country!

It is important that we use our local tradespeople and highstreet shops to keep it that way!

You will find reliable and honest tradespeople at realistic prices in these pages - let them know you saw them in here!

If you are in business and want to attract new customers, why not advertise with us and/or in our Love Chester or Love Wrexham magazines, we offer affordable advertising in our popular magazines - contact details are on our front page.

All our magazines are available online - as well as the answers to our puzzle page :0)

Best Wishes

s Maxine

Circulation of this FREE magazine is distributed to all Wirral areas.

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- The smallest known dinosaur about was four inches (10 cm) tall and weighed less than a chihuahua.
- 2. The word "Dinosaur" comes from the ancient Greek and means "terrible lizard".



- 3. One-third of Earth's land surface is partially or totally desert.
- 4. The word "desert" comes from the Latin "desertum" which means "an abandoned place".
- 5. Within three days of death, the enzymes that once digested your dinner begin to eat you.
- 6. Greek philosopher Chrysippus is said to have died of laughter after getting his donkey drunk, trying to eat figs.



- 7. Anne Frank was born Annelies Marie Frank on June 12, 1929. Anne was born in Frankfurt, Germany, but her family moved to Amsterdam in the early 1930s when the Nazis gained control.
- 8. Benjamin Franklin invented the bifocals eyeglasses in 1784.
- 9. Ancient Rome was eight times more densely populated than modern New York.
- 10. 144 prisoners are known to have escaped from Auschwitz successfully.
- 11. The Berlin Wall was more than 140 kilometres (87 mi) long.
- 12. Theodore Roosevelt Jr was the only General involved in the initial assault on D-Day, after insisting to his superiors to be one of the first ones off the boats. He survived, then died of a heart attack one month later.
- 13. The Farth's core is about as hot as the sun.
- 14. In Japan, Ronald McDonald is called Donald McDonald due to a lack of a clear "r" sound in Japanese.
- 15. Sand from the Sahara is blown by the wind all the way to the Amazon, recharging its minerals. The desert literally fertilizes the rainforest.



### ) YOU KNOW

- 16. The Amazon rainforest has been in existence for at least 55 million years.
- 17. All of the bacteria in our body collectively weighs about 4 pounds.
- 18. Some 15,152 types of life forms, from insects to bacteria, have been identified on the New York subway.



- Argentina's 19. national sport is not soccer. It's Pato, an ancient horseback game.
- 20. Your brain uses 20% of the total oxygen and blood in your body.
- 21. It's scientifically proven that even a small dose of POWER changes how a person's brain operates and diminishes empathy.



- 22. Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world's lakes combined.
- 23. Licence plates in the Canadian Northwest Territories are shaped like polar bears.
- 24. In Turkmenistan, car drivers are entitled to 120 Liters (31 gal.) of free petrol a month.
- 25. Cockroaches appeared 120 million years before dinosaurs.
- 26. Cleopatra, the last Pharaoh of Egypt, was actually Greek, not Egyptian.
- 27. Cy Twombly's painting "Untitled" is worth up to US\$2,3 million.



- 29. Mathematician Paul Erdos could calculate in his head, given a person's age, how many seconds they had lived, when he was just 4 vears old.
- 30. In 2015, a man dressed up as an armored truck driver and tricked Walmart into giving him US\$75,000.





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### E MONTH Z HISTORY

This feature each month will give interesting facts from years gone by.
See what you remember that happened in your lifetime.

#### THIS DAY IN HISTORY FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

#### 5th June 1968

Not long after midnight, Senator Robert Kennedy was shot several times by 24-year-old Palestinian Sirhan Sirhan at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. Kennedy was pronounced dead a day later.

Sirhan confessed to his crime and received a death sentence on 3rd March, 1969. However, since the California State Supreme Court invalidated all death sentences in 1972, Sirhan continues to spend the rest of his life in prison and has since said that he believed Kennedy was largely responsible for the oppression of Palestinians.



Official portrait of Robert F Kennedy 1975

#### 20th June 1984

The biggest exam shake up for over 10 years was announced with O Level and CSE exams to be replaced by new examinations, to be known as GCSEs.

Under the old O Level and CSE system, grades were awarded primarily according to statistical

rules which measured each candidate's performance relatively against those of competing candidates.



The 29 examination boards merged into five groups to reduce the large and complex system of assessment which previously operated, adhering to an agreed national standard to ensure that the same range of knowledge was required to attain certain grades throughout the country.

The introduction of the GCSE meant that, for the first time, grades would be allocated with reference to absolute standards of knowledge, understanding and skill.

#### 26th June 2009

Michael Jackson (the King of Pop) died of acute propofol intoxication in Los Angeles, California, at the age of 50. His physician, Conrad Murray, said that he found Jackson in his room at his North Carolwood Drive home in the Holmby Hills area of the city not breathing and with a weak pulse; he administered CPR to no avail, and security called 911 at 12:21 p.m. Paramedics treated Jackson at the scene, but he was pronounced dead at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in Westwood at 2:26 p.m.



At the time of his death, Jackson had been preparing for a series of comeback concerts, This Is It, due to begin in July 2009 in London. His death triggered reactions around the world, creating unprecedented surges of Internet traffic and a spike in sales of his music. A televised memorial service, held at the Staples Center in LA, was viewed by an estimated 2.5 billion people globally. In 2010, Sony Music Entertainment signed a US\$250 million deal with Jackson's estate to retain distribution rights to his recordings up until 2017 and to release seven posthumous albums over the following decade.

#### **30th June 1937**

First introduced in the London area, the UK's 999 number is the world's oldest emergency call telephone service. The system was introduced following a house fire in Wimpole Street on 10 November 1935, in which five women were killed. A neighbour had tried to telephone the fire brigade and was so outraged at being held



1940's rotary dial telephone

in a queue by the Welbeck telephone exchange that he wrote a letter to the editor of The Times, which prompted a government inquiry.

The initial scheme covered a 12-mile radius around Oxford Circus and the public were advised only to use it in an ongoing emergency if "for instance, the man in the flat next to yours is murdering his wife or you have seen a heavily masked cat burglar peering round the stack pipe of the local bank building." The first arrest – for burglary – took place a week later and the scheme was extended to major cities after World War II and then to the whole of the UK in 1976.

The 9-9-9 format was chosen based on the 'button A' and 'button B' design of prepayment coin-operated public payphones in wide use (first introduced in 1925) which could be easily modified to allow free use of the 9 digit on the rotary dial in addition to the 0 digit (then used to call the operator), without allowing free use of numbers involving other digits.

When using the rotary phone style, the choice of 999 was fortunate for accessibility, because in the dark or in dense smoke 999 could be dialled by placing a finger one hole away from the dial stop and rotating the dial to the full extent three times. This enabled all users, including the visually impaired, to easily dial the emergency number.

Images courtesy of Wikimedia Creative Commons

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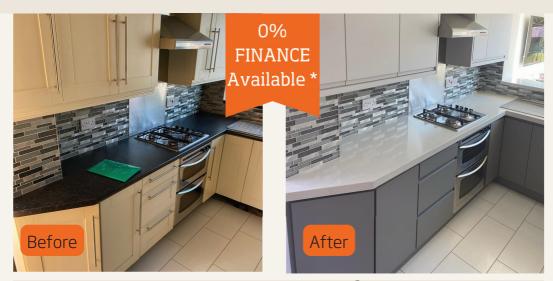
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#### HOROSCOPES FOR JUNE

BY JAMES GRIFFITHS

#### Capricorn

Expect to see new offers and major changes at work, and you are advised to take some chances to make the most of the opportunities ahead.

#### **Aquarius**

You can see some financial boosts from multiple sources and should consider astute investments.

#### **Pisces**

Feelings of extrasensory powers are in full force this month, with opportunities for resolution, reconciliation, prosperity in business, and even overseas travel.

#### **Aries**

May struggle
with inner turmoil
that affects their
relationships, but
they are advised
to remain firm yet
open-minded when
expressing their
opinions.

#### **Taurus**

Feeling pleasantly surprised by how well you cope with unexpected situations, and should expect some memorable moments.

#### Gemini

Confidence and an experience of extreme pride in your work, and will achieve your ambitions through hard work and dedication.

#### **Sagittarius**

You will start to choose to break free from habits and attitudes that don't feel right for you.

#### Scorpio

You have faced personal challenges in recent months, but now take a break from your solo voyage and enjoy the shallows for a while.

#### Libra

A sense of irritation, but you are advised to look within yourself to understand the root of your emotions.

#### Virgo

Virgos are encouraged to catch up with old friends, and may even meet someone special through Venus.

#### Leo

You have been financially strained in recent months, but this is coming to a close, and well-deserved rewards are on the horizon.

#### Cancer

Expect increased responsibility in your daily routine, but you should also be prepared for a bedroom bonus as a result.

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### itterbridge<sup>11</sup>

Radio Clatterbridge is a CIO and has been operating on Clatterbridge Health Park since it's inception on 9th April 1951. It is the oldest hospital and community radio station in the country.

Monty Lister, who has since passed away, was one of the founder members. He assisted in making the station infamous, conducting the very first interview with The Beatles back in October 1962 – a claim to fame!

Left to right: Steve Evans, chair, Geoff Peters presenter, John Barnes (former LFC player), Paul Allt, presenter.



To this day the station continues the good work that Monty started and regularly go to all departments on the Health Park, collect request and dedications. Back in the day, Monty and friends collected requests and played them out on the wards on an old gramophone player! Technology has moved on since then and they now have state of the art mixers with the latest Playout system.

The station has around 35 volunteers, including presenters, assistance, request collectors and technical engineers, with 15 to 20 of them regularly doing live programmes. They are self-funded by those volunteers have a few sponsors and paid for advertisements that assist funding. However, they are always on the look out for supportive funding to keep their equipment up to date to continue the excellent service they provide to the Health Park that patients, staff, and families rely on. The station even supplies a number of radios for staff departments and patients!

Based in the Health Park adjacent to Claire House and on the end of the Wirral University Teaching Hospital's (WUTH) boiler house, the station operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Broadcasting on 1386am medium wave and online via smart devices, TuneIn and their website www.radioclatterbridge.co.uk They can be contacted for requests or and dedications on 0151 334 4980 or text 077 43 40 40 52.

If you'd like to consider volunteering for Radio Clatterbridge, go to the website and apply at: Volunteer — Radio Clatterbridge



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Mandy Shepherd on air in studio 1



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#### He's done it!



To commemorate his 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Rotarian Norman Jones launched a 10K run Crowdfunder appeal, to raise funds for community organisations and charities supported by Birkenhead Rotary Club.

Norman is well known for completing runs over a number of years and completed a socially distanced run around Hamilton Square raising over £2,000 for Rotary funds, when many organisations struggled to raise much needed funds during the pandemic.

He has been training hard for the 10K run that took place in Sefton Park, Liverpool on May 7<sup>th</sup> and he extended his Crowdfunder page target to £2,500. Organisations supported by the club include, Women and Children's Aid, Shaftesbury Youth Club, Charles Thompson Mission, Make it Happen Community hub and social supermarket, Neo, Claire House, Wirral Ark, Stick and Step, Wirral Mencap and others.

Club President Lionel Bolland commented, "We are just so very fortunate to have such a dedicated Rotarian who for years has been raising funds for our various appeals. Alongside that, Norman can regularly be seen carrying out clean-ups in Birkenhead."

Norman finished his run in a record time for him of 84 minutes. "I may slow down a little now, but I won't stop running! I wish to warmly thank all those family, friends and the public for sponsoring my very special Crowdfunder commemoration, which now stands at £2,600."



**NEO - COMMUNITY** 

Ema Wilkes from Neo is pictured with Rotarian Hugh Smith as she is about to update Rotarians on the amazing progress of Neo, based in Beaconsfield Community House.

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#### I'M IN CHARGE BY JOHN FOWLER

I have got to charge my shaver, must remember to do my phone. And if I forget to charge the car, I will never get home.

I have to charge my laptop, and my watch so smart It keeps counting all my steps, and monitoring my heart.

Got to charge the hoover, MP3 and Ipad too. Without all these contraptions, I don't know what I'd do.

If a charge runs out suddenly, it drives you around the bend Mower, drill and tooth brush, it never seems to end.

When we never had to charge, whatever did we do? Life was so much simpler then and we still got through.

Cannot do without my reading lamp, but these LED's seem to fade. So I do them all at once, it's the charge of the light brigade.

#### Wirral Bird Club

"Springtime in New England"

An illustrated presentation by Jim Almond

Thursday 22nd June 2023 from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm

Jim says:-

"For most of May 2012, I was on a tour of New England.



Nature reserves, forests, the coast and gardens were the main habitats visited.

Some of the native plants and creatures will also be featured.

It was a truly memorable trip at absolutely the best time of year."

This illustrated presentation will take place at St Bridget's Church Centre, Church Road, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 7HL.

Visitors are very welcome, and the cost is £4.00, which includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

This is not a ticket event - please just come along.

Details of further illustrated presentations and field trips can be found on our website at www.wirralbirdclub.com or by ringing Bill on 07795 148 140.



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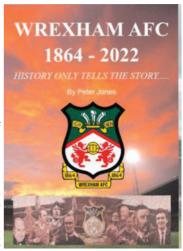


#### **Book review:**

# Success at Wrexham FC: A managerial Lesson for All Clubs

#### **Author - Peter Jones**

On Saturday April 22nd 2023, Wrexham FC were promoted back to the Football League following 15 years of "exile" from the "big time". The euphoria experienced by supporters from Wrexham and surrounding areas of Wales and England was testimony to the efforts of the players and management team throughout the season. Undoubtedly the key factor in the "thrust for promotion" has been the "progressive thinking" and enlightened leadership of Ryan Reynolds and Rod McElhenny, two "Hollywood" stars who purchased the club in February 2021. They have galvanised a re-awakening of the club's aspirations by energising, involving and encouraging supporters to "buy into" their dream of regaining former



experiences of success. In a compelling, excellently researched book, "Wrexham AFC 1864-2022", Peter Jones guides the reader on a memory provoking review of a range of "highs" interfaced with emotionally distressing "unimaginable lows, disappointments and frustrations". The author writes as a passionate and active supporter in a style which engages readers of all ages to enhance their knowledge of past events which have impacted on the Wrexham FC journey over the past 150 years. However, the author's statement that "history only tells the story" is both misleading and detracts from the value of his extensive research. The text is more than a mere narrative (story), it is a factual recall for readers of incidents or events that actually happened, substantiated by pictorial and written evidence and artefacts. In contrast to an historical enquiry based on events that actually happened, that is, factual evidence, a story is mere fiction. The actions of Guterman, Hamilton, Moss, Roberts and others were not fiction!!

In an outstanding introduction, which is a stimulant to readers, Rob McElhenny and Ryan Reynolds focus on the importance of Wrexham AFC to the City and surrounding areas, historically, currently and in the future, in terms of leisure, employment, the Welsh language and culture. They recognise and highlight the significant contribution of players, managers and supporters at the club, including those who tasted success and won silverware, alongside the aspects of losses and disappointments that still resonate today. It is significant in terms of the club's future that Rob and Ryan "picture themselves" in the role of "Stewards of the Club" as an Institution. This refreshing and relatively unique format for ownership linked to management is in direct contrast with the "dictatorial" role taken by a number of owners of other clubs within the Football League

Readers will be intrigued by the range of aspects of facilities and players which were linked to the early history of the club and the formation of local leagues. Clubs included Chirk, Druids, Rhostyllen, Bangor, Newtown, Chester, Bury and Macclesfield. Even in the 1890s when working class lads were physically toiling long hours for a living, the Wrexham area produced a number of outstanding players, notably Billy Meredith from Chirk. The author notes that for the 1921-22 season Wrexham were elected to membership of the Third Division (Northen Section) of the English League. Other teams included Rochdale, Tranmere Rovers, Chesterfield and Accrington Stanley. Interestingly the impact of this "new status" for Wrexham necessitated ground improvements and the need to secure players to carry Wrexham to the top of the third division. The ground improvements included a new stand

and enclosure to transform the Racecourse. To cover the financial costs 8,000 10 shilling shares were issued. It is disappointing that the author fails to draw attention to the correlation between the historical facts of what happened in 1920 and the current 2023 plans for developments at the Racecourse and surrounding areas. It will be interesting to note if any ancestors of readers bought 10 shilling shares!!

The book is full to overflowing with intriguing "pen pictures" of a range of past managers, many of whom were outstanding servants to the club. The author's background knowledge of each manager enables the reader to consider personal judgements on the impact that each individual made during their "period of tenure". What is evident is that planning regarding the appointment of a manager lacked a consistent "coherent course". On occasions the appointment of amenable and experienced individuals highlighted the fact that they were out of their depth in terms of tactical analysis, creating patterns of play, use of sports science and motivational management of individuals. This underlines the old adage, "someone who was a good player doesn't always have the personal or interactive skills to step up to manager". It is unfortunate that the author misses an opportunity to note the role that Wrexham, in particular Joey Jones, has played as a nurturing ground for young coaches, including Steve Weaver, Stuart Webber, and Steve Cooper whose skills have blossomed at other clubs.

In a similar format, Peter Jones analyses in a knowledgeable and insightful style the contribution of his personal choice of "Star Players" in alphabetical order from Chris Armstrong (Llay) to Luke Young. I am certain that memories will be rekindled for many readers as they read the detailed stories of players who have graced the Racecourse (Cae Ras) and performed for the Reds (Cochion). Chris Armstrong, Billy Ashcroft, Bennett, Dai Davies, Gareth Davies, Darren Ferguson, Ben Foster, David Gaskell, Barry Horne, Barry Hunter, Joey Jones, Eddie May, Gareth Owen, John Roberts, Kevin Russell. Bobby Shinton, David Smallman, Manny Smith, Mickey Thomas, Graham Whittle and others. The wide range of pen pictures highlight the contribution of the players through triumphant and difficult periods for the club, both on and off the field.

Key features of supporters of Wrexham are loyalty, resilience and desire for Wrexham to play good football and achieve success. The euphoria and buzz generated following the victory over Notts County, highlighted by the magnificent last minute penalty save by Ben Foster was featured on television channels across the UK and across the Globe. Success has never been far from Wrexham's grasp as the excellent section on "Memory Matches" illustrates. Readers can re-live memories of some outstanding performances selected by the author. For example, were you there on 22nd April 1978 when they beat Rotherham 7-1 to achieve the "dream" of playing in Division Two. Can the current vibrant squad led by Phil Parkinson and the insightful management team push on from their achievements this season to emulate the achievement of Arfon Griffith's team?

From an historical perspective, the key issue which has impacted upon the football club throughout its existence has been "financial insecurity". Peter describes in detail the development of the "Racecourse(Cae Ras)" as part of the Williams - Wynn family heritage which they had "allocated" as a "recreation ground for the people of Wrexham", whilst maintaining ownership. The reader will gain considerably from the outstanding historical research by the author on how the ground evolved as a multi use sports ground and then evolved as the "Racecourse/Cae Ras". Clarity for readers regarding "issues" faced by the club would have been improved within the, at times, rambling text, if the author had created headed sub sections to designate key historical issues linked to impact. Wrexham's financial position was totally exposed in 2002 when Pryce Griffiths the Club Chairman purchased a 125 year lease for£750,000 from Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries and a "peppercorn" annual rent of £1. This was the "financial decision" which precipitated a "roller coaster" of financial deals and appearance of "dubious personalities". In May 2002, with Wrexham relegated to Division Three, Pryce Griffiths "sold" the Club to Mark Guterrman, the former Chairman of Chester FC. A key issue which others, including

the author have failed to clarify, was whether the Chairman of Wrexham was the victim of a financial "scam" or.......!! This "sale" set in motion a horrendous period for the club as they became prey to a wide range of asset strippers, on occasions carrying devious baggage and "false promises". The "Wolves in Sheeps Clothing" scenario has been experienced by a number of football clubs including Chester, Bury and more recently at Worcester Rugby Club. The impact of the "investors" actions has impacted on current facilities at the Club. For example, the loss of Colliers Park training ground has left the club with no fixed training facility or sports science and medical centre for the first team squad, in addition to lack of "professional facilities" to develop a youth academy and Womens football. Has the building two high rise student halls of residence in "vision" of the Kop End of the ground restricted or impeded the re-building and extension of the New Kop Stand?

The author commends the efforts of the Supporters Trust, including individuals such as Dave Bennett and David Griffiths and many others who stood firm "in the storm" to "Save the Club". The completion in November 2011 of the purchase of the Club by the Wrexham Supporters Trust (WST) heralded a significant moment for football clubs "facing extinction". WST became the first ever fan's group to take over a professional football club. They set in motion a model for survival which other clubs will follow.

In contrast with the "carpet bagging" actions of previous investors, the current owners Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenny have given the club, supporters and the community of Wrexham a real boost. They have installed an excellent management team who have taken the Club on an upbeat journey of global popularity and success. The owners have generated "loyalty"and "loveability" to supporters and visitors by injecting involvement of care combined with historical awareness of key social aspects of industrialisation, culture, the Welsh language and displayed a passion for the Club. They have masterminded media exposure with "welcome to Wrexham" and put the City of Wrexham on the map. They are doing for the Club and the City "what they said on the tin". Wrexham AFC is in safe hands. Their honest and open efforts are an example of great leadership. Diolch yn fawr Rob a Ryan Croeso i Wrecsam (Thanks Rob and Ryan. Welcome to Wrexham).

Peter Jones has produced a book with many outstanding features. He highlights many issues which are relevant for supporters of professional football clubs and sporting clubs at all levels. The book is an in depth and well researched historical insight into the "topsy turvy" experiences of football supporters. The text highlights the dangers for clubs, particularly those suffering occasional financial insecurity, who become "prey" for "bogus investors", asset strippers or builders looking to make a "quick million".

Highly recommended to all current Supporters of Wrexham AFC and football teams in the Lower Divisions. An essential buy for libraries in the community schools and colleges to stimulate reading and awareness of "history around us". Thanks /Diolch Peter.

#### About the reviewer

John T Morris BA(Hons), MEd, MPhil, DipPsych, CertEd.

John taught physical education in Ladbroke Grove and was coach to the West London schools Under 15 team. His research at Abertystwyth University was on the relationship between aerobic and anaerobic power. Weight training and fitness coach in Queens Park, fitness coach to Wrexham Rugby Club and with the WRU. He has worked on promoting "the personal skills that enable aspirations" with youth players at Fulham, Chelsea, QPR and Wrexham. He is currently a performance consultant, developing growth mindsets in sport, education and business.

The author is co-ordinating online selling via historyonlytellsastory@gmail.com The book can also be purchased at:

The Wrexham Museum, Waterstones (Wrexham), Siop y siswrn(Mold).

#### DAZZLED

## by John Fowler

"I have brought you a nice cup of tea, your Handsomeness, and some of your favourite chocolate digestives."

"Thank you, Chimp features, I just hope this act of kindness means you are not trying to curry favour with me."

"As if!"

"I have noticed a great improvement in your personal appearance lately. What's brought this on?"

"I thought I would go with the times, your Handsomeness, and try to look like the players, so they would respect me more."

"Yeah, I see you have shaved your hair at the sides, grown a beard, wear an ear-ring, a few tattoos, but most of all I can't get over your flashing white teeth, where there used to be tombstones."

"They are all the rage. I am starting to be attractive to women."

"I wouldn't go that far. Anyway, I have also heard you have been practising defending free-kicks with the lads."

"Yes, lining up the wall, getting the angles right, communicating with the goalie, and the new idea of getting someone to lie down behind the wall, in case the opposition hits a low shot as the wall jumps."

"I'm impressed. I'm impressed."

"Only one problem. These days it seems to take about 5 minutes for the ref to set up the free-kick, so the players are fighting over who should lie down, mainly because it would give them a good rest."

"Whilst we have been talking, Mutton Chops, I am completely dazzled by your flashing white teeth. Where did you get them from?"

"Well, your Glamorousness, a mate of mine is an Undertaker, who works in Turkey."

Pablo sighs and puts his head in his hands.

"Beam me up, Scotty"

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#### Down

- Shun (6)
- 2 A type of internal-combustion engine (6)
- 3 Repair by sewing (4)
- 4 A Hindu festival (6)
- 5 Fort (8)
- 6 Not stereo (10)
- 7 Aversion (8)
- 8 Day after Wednesday (8)
- 14 Attestations (10)
- 16 Suffering (8)
- 17 Blast-offs (8)
- 18 Ability to read (8)
- 22 A plan of action (6)
- 23 A piece of mail (6)
- 24 Flunky (6)
- 27 Network of horizontal and vertical lines (4)

#### Across

- 9 Hunting guide (7)
- 10 Do away with (7)
- 11 A cry of praise to God (7)
- 12 Male chicken (7)
- 13 Bush kangaroos (9)
- 15 Watered (5)

- 16 Mournful (7) 19 Convent (7)
- 20 Calamari (5)
- 21 In a normal manner (9)
- 25 Get over an illness (7)
- 26 Official emissaries (7)
- 28 Pertaining to melts of liquid crystals (7)
- 29 A fire-breathing monster of Greek mythology (7)

## Sudoku Puzzle

How to play:

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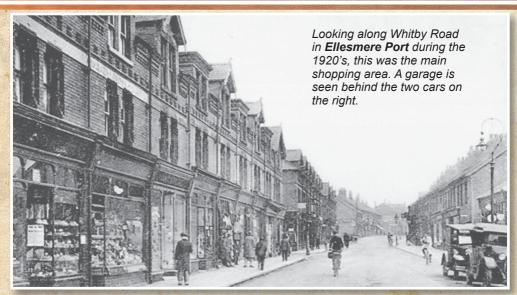


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Above 1919: The thatched, half-timbered Wheatsheaf Inn at **Raby** dates back to 1630. The alehouse keeper in 1754 was William Bushell and by this time was Elizabeth Ellison.

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Above: 1926. The bunting is out and the crowds are gathering for the opening of the Capitol Cinema Liscard Village on 4th September 1926 with the film Midnight Sunfeaturing Laura La Plante and Pat O'Malley.

Below: 1922. Fresh air on **New Brighton** Promenade - pedestrians plus two cars without tops and two motor cycles with side-cars.

The lighthouse is seen on the left and Perch Rock on the right.



Right: The Punch Bowl, pictured to the left of the open car in Market Street, Hoylake, was the cause of a bottle neck for many years and was demolished in 1936 being replaced by the present building which was built behind the old pub.



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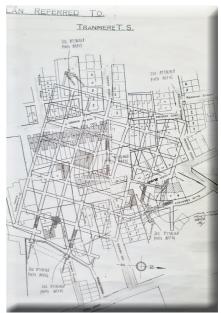
# **Community**



# Get involved... Help us to save this important heritage site!

Tranmere tunnels are a labyrinth of deep underground air raid shelters, built to provide accommodation for Cammell Laird ship workers, their families and the general population of Birkenhead during the bombing of World War II. They are considered to be one of the most extensive networks of underground shelters in the country and possibly the only deep underground air raid shelters built for a shipping work force.

The tunnels are cut into sandstone, approximately 20 feet below ground and appear to retain many of the original features which provide comfort



and safety for thousands of people during the early 1940s. When the Merseyside bombing ended, they were used for food storage and then considered as a nuclear bunker in the cold war (although possibly never used as such). The tunnels were sealed in the 1980s and have not been used since.

For over a decade, local people have aspired to re-open the tunnels as a heritage asset for Birkenhead and a visitor and education resource. Their significance for the history of Birkenhead, World War II and the shipbuilding industry is widely recognised. Tranmere Tunnels Volunteers Ltd (TTVL) was set up in 2014 to facilitate actions supporting the eventual restoration and re-opening of all of the tunnels. In 2014, TTVL secured funding to enter the tunnels to carry out a partial condition survey. This demonstrated that despite decades of neglect, the tunnels are still in remarkably good condition, but in grave danger of serious deterioration without remedial action.

While this work will inform our knowledge of the structural significance of the tunnels, we also want to work with local people to explore their social history and the stories of association with them (including memories of the 1960s and 1970s, when breaking into them for raves and parties played an important part in youth culture of the time). Over the years, many local groups have recognised the tremendous social and economic benefits re-opening the tunnels could have within one of the areas of highest deprivation in the country. This project aims to harness this enthusiasm, tap into local skills and develop new skills and establish a realistic sustainable framework for delivering a major capital project in the near future.

Tranmere Tunnels Volunteers Ltd are in phase two of the Birkenhead regeneration plans. We have the support of the regeneration team at the Wirral Council and local people, Wirral Older Peoples Parliament, Wirral History and Heritage Association, Birkenhead and Tranmere Community Benefit Society.

A Facebook page has been set up to capture support and community engagement.

#### The Tranmere Tunnels time-line:

1939 - 1940 - Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain declares war on Germany. Merseyside was the target of many bombing raids. Birkenhead Town Council agrees to the building of air-raid shelters in rock outcrops in the town - near Cammell Lairds.

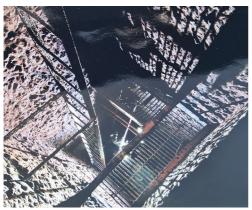
1941 - Excavation commences to break the rocks for criss-cross grid system of connected tunnels - 450 feet x 500 feet inn total cut out of sandstone, floor concreted, walls brick-lined and ceiling was arched with corrugated iron.

1948 - An agreement is signed with the Ministry of Food for the storage of food.

1960's - The tunnels attract many young people and children who use them as a playground.



1988 - The tunnels were sealed off.



In memory of David Liggins.

#### Our journey so far...

2003 - Friends of Tranmere Tunnels Group formed - volunteers working to identify the history of the Tunnels' construction. Co-chaired by Jim Cadwallader and David Liggins.

2006 - Tranmere Tunnels were assessed by the listing branch of English Heritage but their scale and condition could not be verified.

2014 - The Friends Group became a limited company - Tranmere Tunnels Volunteers Ltd is awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund grant to undertake a 1 day technical survey of the Tunnels. In October, on behalf of TTVL, a team from Blackett-Ord conservation Engineering Ltd undertake the Tunnel assessment.



2016 to now - The volunteers continue with their quest to untangle the issue of the Tunnel's ownership with central government and Wirral Council. TTVL continues to work in partnership with local partners to save this important heritage site.





## A summer of live bands and tribute acts in stunning surroundings.

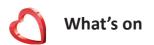
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