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The Monthly Business  
& Community Magazine



February 2013  
Issue 12

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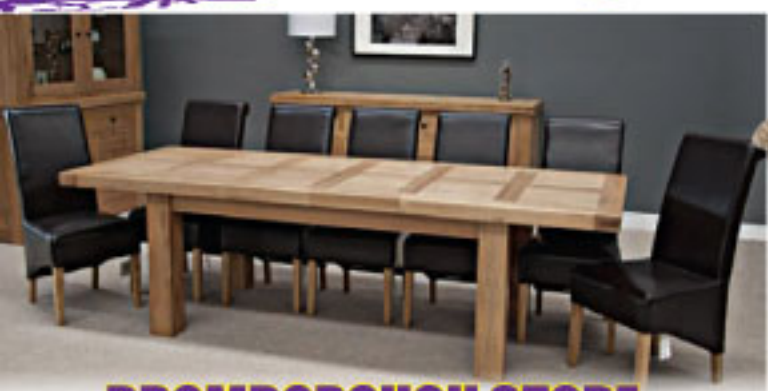
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Dear Friends,

**Welcome to our 1st Birthday Edition!**

What a unique year I have had! Building a new business, meeting so many new people and making some lovely friends!

I'd like to thank everybody who has helped me along the way, the advertisers, my great family and friends who support me and help distribute the magazine and all the contributors who put in a great deal of work! But not least, my thanks go to the readers who continue to be so positive about the magazine.

Keep up to date with us on [facebook](#), [twitter](#) & [www.love-wirral.com](http://www.love-wirral.com)

Best Wishes

*Maxine*



## Love Wirral

The Magazine for all businesses in Wirral

### Note to our advertisers

We go to print each month on 24th and the copy deadline for advertisers is 20th. Any advert space cancelled after the 18th of the month will be charged the full amount.

### Advertising Rates

Our advertising rates can be found on our website [www.love-wirral.com](http://www.love-wirral.com)

Circulation of this FREE magazine will be distributed to all Wirral from South Wirral Whitby to West Kirby & Birkenhead areas covering all businesses, doctors, opticians, hospitals, fast-food outlets, one-stop shops, dentists, police stations, estate agents, clinics & health centres, libraries, solicitors, builders merchants, public houses, hotels & homes.

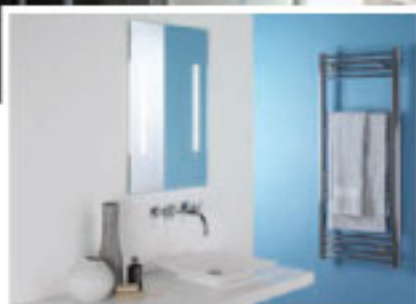
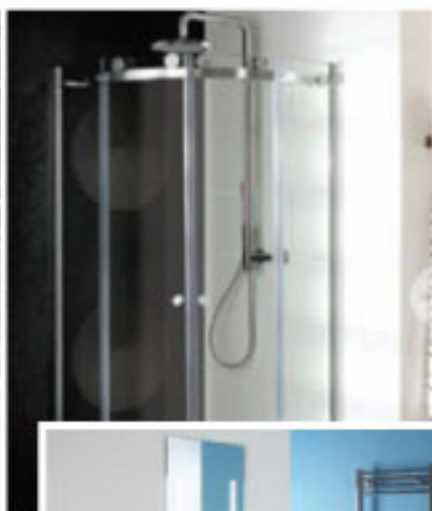
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**Q. What is hypnosis?**

**A.** Hypnosis is simply physical relaxation coupled with Beta conscious activity. When these two occur hypnosis automatically happens.



**Q. Can anyone be hypnotized?**

**A. YES.** Everyone is hypnotizable.



**Q. How does hypnosis work?**

**A.** For behaviour modification hypnosis simply allows the conscious mind and the subconscious mind to **AGREE**.



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# Home Improvements



PART 2

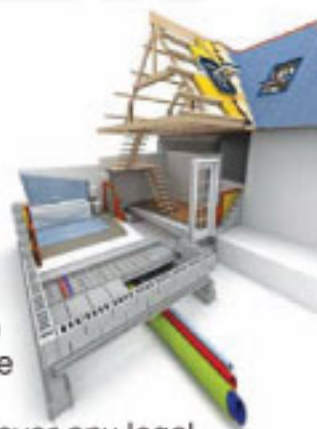
## Renovations and Home Extensions

### Planning Ahead

*It's crucial to plan your building extension carefully!*

Your property is an asset, by extending your property it's a great way to get the house of your dreams. Extra space, an extra room, an en-suite bathroom or a beautiful new room can totally transform your house into a home.

Planning ahead is a crucial part of any renovation, working out the best way to get more square footage, and booking building contractors in plenty of time, we have all seen the problems on TV with such programmes as "Grand Design". Putting essential planning procedures in place also ensures you don't fall foul over any legal problems that can arise.



### Building Regulations & Planning Permissions

Our resident architect **Steve** will guide you to what planning permission you will require and what consent you will need for your extension or renovation. Most building renovations to your house, such as a loft extension, will require consent also known as "planning permission". You will need to contact your local planning office, as your local authority decides how planning is managed in your particular area or postcode. Building regulations require set standards for certain jobs. Some jobs require that you will need to have them inspected by your local authority to ensure that they meet their standards.

### Party Walls & Your Neighbours Concerns

Before seeking planning permission it is very important that you consider your neighbours and let them know what you intend to do. See if they have any concerns and what effect your conversion or extension may have on them. They may lose natural daylight or even worse become overlooked.

If you live in adjoining properties, such as, semi-detached or terraced house, building on or near a boundary then your neighbours may be interested in also extending their home at the same time, saving you both considerable costs. You would also need to draw up contracts between yourself and your neighbour with the contractor, in case one party has difficulties paying or you don't agree on how to move forward with the work to be carried out.

### Choosing The Correct Trades Persons

Recommendation is often the best way to find a trades person/contractor, so first ask friends and family who have had work done to their homes.

**Love Wirral** can also recommend trades persons in our magazine by looking out for our "Customer Recommendations" this is identified by this symbol opposite.

You should also make sure you draw up a contract in case anything does go wrong.

*Please use our advertisers in this magazine and check out their recommendations to us on our website, some of which are on these pages.*



# So you want to extend your home...

Advertisers who wish to be included in the next issue call us on **0151 513 1279**.

Our resident architect **Steve** (details below) has answered some of your questions sent in to us from the last edition and we would welcome any more questions via our email. [info@love-wirral.com](mailto:info@love-wirral.com)

## Q. What is Building Control?

A. Building Control is the process by which any building work, with limited exceptions, is checked to ensure that it is designed and constructed in accordance with minimum standards laid down by the Government in the form of the Building Regulations. Building work can include the erection or extension of a building. A material alteration of a building. The provision, extension or alteration of a controlled service or fitting i.e. wc, central heating, drainage works etc. Or a material change of use (i.e. dividing your house into flats).

## Q. What does a Building Regulation application consist of?

A. The specification would typically consist of about five A4 pages, accurate scaled drawings showing existing and proposed plans, elevations and sections together with any structural calculations, an application form, o.s. map and fee.

## Q. How much is the Building Control fee?

A. The fee varies according to the floor area and type of work. The fee is paid in two parts, the first is paid with the application and is for plan examination. The second is paid once the work commences and is for site inspections by the Building Control Officer. Typically the fee for a single storey ground floor extension under 10m sq would be £180 for plan inspection and £216 for all the site inspections.

## Q. How many times does the Building Inspector inspect the works?

A. The Building Inspector would normally expect to visit a site three or four times and issue a completion certificate. It must be remembered that the Building Inspector will not be instructing the contractor how to do the work, the householder is expected to appoint a competent contractor.

## Q. How long does it take to obtain approval?

A. It would normally take between 10 days and five weeks for the Building Control Officer to vet a "full plans" application. This can vary depending upon his work load, the quality of the drawings and if the structural calculations have to be checked.

## Q. What is a Building Notice?

A. A Building Notice can be submitted to the Local Authority in lieu of a "full plans" application. This in my opinion should only be used for the simplest of jobs i.e. window frame renewal or some electrical work. The fee for a Building Notice is more than for a Full Plans submission.

## Q. What happens if I just do the work without applying to Council?

A. Its very unlikely that the contractor will carry out the work to an approved specification, the work will not be inspected and it will come to light in the buyers search when you want to sell the property - which will de-value your house and make it more difficult to sell. You would then have to apply to the Council for a **Regularisation**, pay a fee and expose walls, floors, roofs, beams etc to prove that the work had been carried out to the correct standard.....*do you really want all that disruption?*

## Q. Do I need Building Regulation Approval to convert my loft into a room?

A. **YES**, this is vital that this work requires the fabric to be thermally insulated, new fabric joists and structural beams inserted, fire precaution work and suitable stairs with the required headroom constructed - failure to carry out this work correctly will result in wasted money! It will not be considered a habitable room when you eventually come to sell the property - **JUST A LOFT!**

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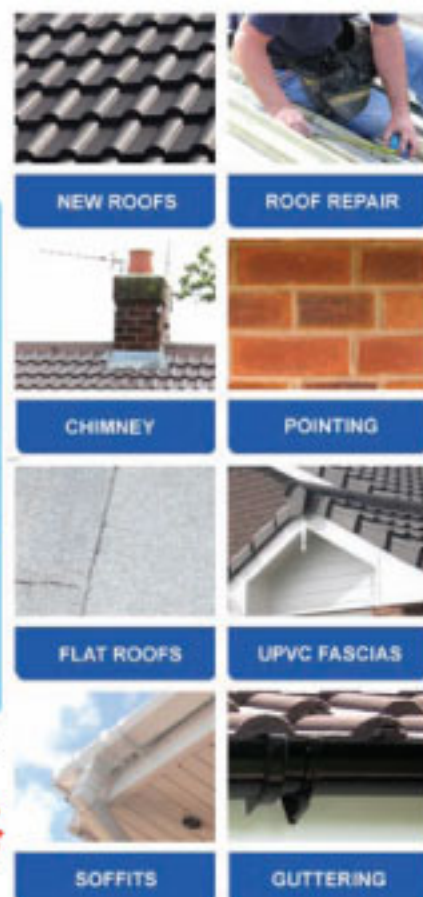
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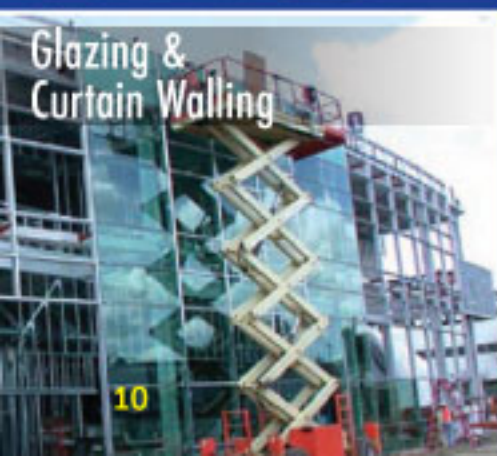
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This is all about to change. If you bring a claim after 1st April 2013 a deduction of 25% of any compensation you receive could be made to fund your legal costs as the government are changing the laws on "no-win no fee" arrangements.

If you bring a successful claim now, the person or organisation that caused your accident has to pay all of your legal costs. However from 1st April the amount they have to pay will be limited. Due to reforms being introduced by Parliament, Solicitors will be entitled to deduct up to 25% of your compensation award to fund part of your legal costs.

The government are introducing these changes following pressure from

insurance companies to reduce the amounts they have to pay out for personal injury claims.

At WhatsMyClaimWorth we believe that these government reforms to personal injury claims are unfair because injured people will lose out. However, if you **act now** it is still possible to make a claim and keep 100% of your compensation.

The new rules will apply to any claim made after 1st April 2013, even if your accident happened before then. If you start a claim before 1st April you will avoid any deduction from your compensation, even if your claim is settled after that date.

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**YOUR TUTOR - KEITH FENWICK**

*B Tech (Hons), C.Eng, FRSA, CIGA, ABWS*

Keith is a Chartered Engineer, A Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and holds several professional qualifications including an honours degree. Having spent many years in management in both industry and education, he took early retirement as Associate Principal/Director of Publicity of one of the country's largest colleges of further education, allowing him to devote more time to his love of landscape painting.

Keith's paintings are in private collections in this country and abroad including the USA, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Japan and the Middle East as well as most European countries.

He is a council member of the Society for all Artists. Keith is fortunate enough to spend his life doing what he loves - landscape painting

Keith's expertise in landscape painting, his writing, teaching, DVD making and broadcasting ensure an understanding of student problems.

He finds great satisfaction in encouraging those who have always wanted to paint but lack the confidence to have a go, as well as helping more experienced painters to develop their skills.





# Artist, Teacher, Demonstrator

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Tel: 0151 327 1601, email: [fenwickart@sky.com](mailto:fenwickart@sky.com) website: [www.keithfenwick.co.uk](http://www.keithfenwick.co.uk)

**TV background:** Presented the 'Art Doctor' on Sky TV for 15 months, where he could be seen painting landscapes 3 times a day, 6 days a week. Presented Granada TV's ART SCHOOL and BBC's Eleventh Hour Challenge. He has been seen painting landscapes on TV on more than 1000 occasions.

**Books and DVD's:** 11 books published on the art of landscape painting. His best selling books have been translated into French, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, German and Russian. He has produced over 40 teaching videos and DVD's.

**The Course costs are for Tuition, Accommodation and Breakfast.**

Lunch/Evening meals at extra cost chosen from an extensive menu to suit your needs/budget. Participants should budget for approx **£12/£15 per day.**

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# Month Of Love and Good Food



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You have either succeeded in your goal to eat well and exercise more, or you have already fallen at the January hurdle. Well February is as good a month as any to pick yourself up and reset the goals. It's the month of love and romance which brings with it feel good endorphins. Use them to your advantage and hit the gym again. If your planning on an Easter break away then you have the perfect amount of time left to get your body in shape.

Bellow is a guide to the types of food to eat and to avoid for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. Most of which you will find are made up of protein, vegetables and fruit.

Remember that you can still have too much of a good thing. Portion control is just as important as the types of food you consume.

## Breakfast

### Do Eat:

Eggs - Natural Yoghurt - Low fat Greek yoghurt - Oats - Milk - Lean Bacon  
Protein Shakes - Smoked Salmon.

Blueberries - Grapes - Strawberries - Watermelon - Grapefruit - Tomatoes  
Mushrooms.

### Avoid:

Cereal - Dried Fruit - Margarine - Bagels - Muffins - Fruit Juice - Bread  
Cereal Bars - Jams - Croissants - Sweet Yoghurt

## Lunch

### Do Eat:

Beans - Chicken - Mackerel - Ham - Hard Cheese - Sardines - Cottage  
Cheese - Tuna.

Green Salad - Salad Peppers - Beetroot - Avocado - Tomatoes - Cucumber  
Fresh Soup - Rivita - Rye Bread - Seeded/Multigrain/Wholemeal Bread.

### Avoid:

Pasta Salad - Sandwich Fillers - Coleslaw - Crackers - Oat Cakes -  
Baked Potatoes - Baguettes - Wraps - Quiche - Pasties - Pies .

## Dinner:

### Do Eat:

Fish - Beef - Lamb - Quorn - Chicken - Eggs - Home Made Soup  
Peas - Carrots - Cabbage - Salad - Asparagus - Broccoli - Onions - Leeks  
Cauliflower - Butternut Squash - Aubergine - Pulses .

### Avoid:

Pasta- Pies - Ready Meals - Potatoes - Pizza - Risotto - Creamy Curries  
Takeaways - White Rice - couscous - ALCOHOLIC DRINKS.

### Snack on:

Pumpkin Seeds - Salsa - Hummus - Carrot Sticks - Greek Yoghurt - Olives  
Almonds - Brazil Nuts - Pistachios - Bananas - Pineapple - Oranges - Apples  
Blackberries - Cherries - Green Tea.

### DRINK PLENTY OF WATER

**EXERCISE** - Minimum of 3 times a week. For at least 45 minutes of cardio.  
Combine the gym with out door training.

If you are looking for help and guidance with exercise, diet and nutrition  
then contact Jodie at Vitruvian Fitness (07725888819) or visit

[www.vitruvianfitness.co.uk](http://www.vitruvianfitness.co.uk)

For more info on training or anything else feel free to call **Zone Fitness Neston** on 0151 353 0530  
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### Getting good mortgage advice.

In today's current economic climate and uncertainty about the financial market now more than ever is it important to seek out quality advice when wanting a mortgage.

Many people automatically think that they should go to their bank, this is not always the best course of action! If you go into a bank they can only talk to you about their **own** products and their **own** criteria. Some mortgage advisers also operate a limited panel of lenders, thus limiting your choice of lenders.

**BFL Mortgage Services Ltd** is a local family run business with advisers that are qualified and experienced and can offer clients a quality service. **BFL Mortgage Services Ltd** can offer advice from the **whole of the market**, so this means we can find a suitable mortgage for our client's circumstances, for many clients this is finding them the cheapest mortgage deal but for many clients that do not fit some lenders standard criteria, with the experience of our advisers we are able to place them with another high street lender. Even where clients are locked into a mortgage product with a lender, with some lenders, we are able to port the existing mortgage to the new property and arrange any top up mortgage required.

**BFL Mortgage Services Ltd** also has access to many **exclusive mortgage rates** and sometimes we are able to get better products from the banks than the banks are able to offer to their own clients! So it really is worth shopping around. Unlike many other advisers **we do not charge a fee for our advice.**

In 2012 we found many clients were dipping their toes in the Buy to Let market. Many let out their existing property as they felt that they would prefer to wait for the housing market to recover rather than having to sell but have bought their next home now. Also many clients are seeing the additional potential income and capital rewards that Buy to Let properties can give them and are building small portfolios to potentially supplement their income or build up a fund for retirement.

With the cost of buying, selling, legal fees & stamp duty we are seeing many clients improving or extending their current homes. Many approach their existing lender but again this is another area where we help many clients by researching the whole of the market and finding the most suitable remortgage deal for them. Many lenders offer "fees free" remortgages where there is a free basic valuation and basic conveyancing, so it really is worth finding out if your mortgage is the best one for you.

**To arrange a no obligation meeting with one of our advisers please call Jane on 0151 342 1755 please quote Love Wirral.**



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This is a new feature in Love Wirral, which, over the coming months will feature old photographs of Wirral. Next month we will feature on the villages of Bromborough & Eastham.

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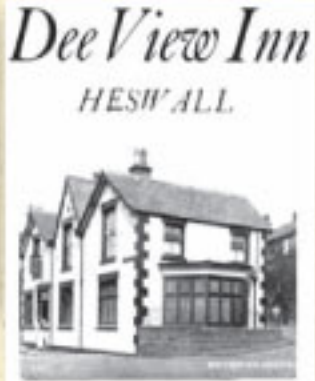
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For further details contact:- Ian Boumphrey - Tel/Fax 0151 608 7611  
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Above: 1933. The Dee View Inn had become a Birkenhead Brewery Pub (see p.32 for pub walk)

Right: an advert for the Dee View Inn celebrating its Ales & Stouts along with activities such as billiards.



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A 1915 comic postcard sent from Heswall at this time



Above: 1921. Three of John Pye's motor vehicles outside his bus station in Telegraph Road where he ran a service from Heswall to Birkenhead. In 1924 he sold the business to Crosville. He also operated a cinema here from 1916.



Above: 1926, Heswall Station where a Constable Mullins found three men had ripped open the station safe.

Below: 1914. Young men of Heswall gather in The Mount for a photograph. Most of the men were fighting in France by Christmas.



Above: 17th June 1926 Pilot Officer Pentland's RAF bi-plane crash-landed onto Heswall Golf Course





*Above: The Glegg Arms, Gayton, at the start of the Chester High Road. Built around 1840 and takes its name from the Glegg family who owned Gayton estate. The weighbridge office can be seen on the left a single storey with a post box in the wall.*



*Above: The centre of Heswall with the cinema on the left. On the right Lloyds Bank on the corner of The Mount.*

*Above: The Kings Cinema in Telegraph Road, Heswall was taken around 1950 and was showing Alan Ladd in a film called "After Midnight". The King's Hall, built c.1912, was upgraded by John Pye in 1928 – it closed in 1958.*



*Above: Stacey's in Lower Heswall is the near two thirds of the thatched cottage seen in Village Road after 1928.*

*This stood opposite to Roscote, the country home of Thomas Brocklebank the shipping magnate.*



*Above: Heswall Castle was built on land between The Mount and Telegraph Road and was home to the Female Orphan Society. The castle was demolished in 1935.*



*Above: Shops in Castle Buildings, Telegraph Road in the 1950's and to the left behind the trees were cottages now replaced by shops. Left: Telegraph Road, showing the Church of Good Shepherd and a crosville bus entering the depot in the distance. c.1955*



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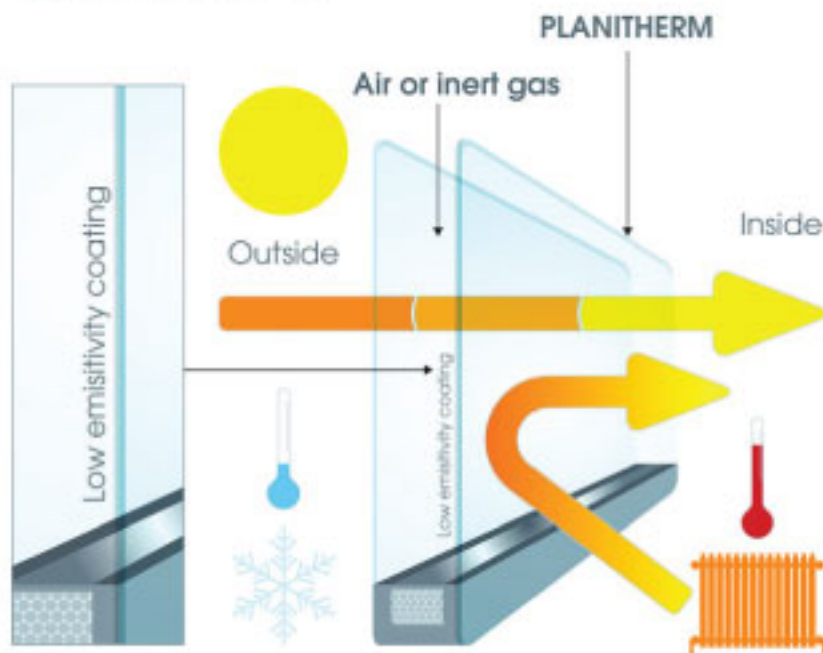
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## UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS IN WIRRAL FEBRUARY

# 2013

**1st February - 31st December 2013**

### **The Wilfred Owen Story**

34, Argyle Street, Birkenhead

Relaunches from February 2012 with a truly unique and historic exhibition [www.wilfredowenstory.com](http://www.wilfredowenstory.com)

### **The Vegi-Table Cookery Courses at**

**Claremont Kitchen** - Old Clatterbridge Road, Bebington

**2nd February** - Just Bread

**16th February** - Cakey Bakey Tart

**3rd February & 3rd March**

### **SKYDANCERS AT PARKGATE**

12 noon until dusk (Price: Free)

Skydancer is an exciting new four-year project aimed at raising awareness and promoting the conservation of hen harriers in the north of England.

Most people have never seen a hen harrier, but once seen it is rarely forgotten. This bird is a beautiful, agile hunter, and its aerobatic sky dances are among the most awesome spectacles in nature.

Unfortunately, with only a handful of pairs still breeding successfully in England, the hen harrier is currently a species on the brink.

Come along to Parkgate to find out more about the hen harrier story and what you can do to help save hen harriers before it's too late!

Look for the RSPB Love Nature marquee  
[www.rspb.org.uk/skydancer](http://www.rspb.org.uk/skydancer)

**9th February - 7th April**

### **Exhibition at Lady Lever Art Gallery**

Fresh Perspectives : Art from Wirral Schools

An exhibition showcasing the artwork of students from Prenton High School, South Wirral High School, Wallasey School and Weatherhead High School revealing the creative talent of emerging Wirral artists.

**9th February**

### **Wirral Farmers Market**

New Ferry Village Hall, Grove Street, New Ferry

**9th February**

### **Beatles Tribute Night**

Whitby Sports and Social Club, Ellesmere Port, 8pm

Tickets **£7.50** in aid of **Hospice of the Good Shepherd**

**9th & 10th February**

### **A Night At The Movies**

Time: 4:45 PM - 8:00 PM - Deeside Ice Skating Club, Queensferry. Ticket: Tickets are £8 for adults, £6 for children or £25 for a family ticket (two adults, two children) A great night of family fun for ice skating and movie fans alike!

A bucket collection will be made on the night for **Claire House Children's Hospice**.

Tickets can be obtained from **Deeside Leisure Centre Reception**.



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FROM YOU.**

**NEW YEAR, NEW YOU**

Kate, June 2008





## The Dee View Inn, Heswall



### Thurstaston Visitor Centre - Dee Shore - Heswall - Heswall Dales - Oldfield Farm - Thurstaston Visitor Centre (5 1/2 miles)

This short walk is a favourite of Merseyside ramblers which takes you along the Dee shore and through Heswall Dales.

From Thurstaston Visitor Centre, go to the end of Station Road and follow a steep winding path which drops down through a cleft in the cliffs to Dee shore.

Once on the beach, turn left and take in the views of the shoreline of North Wales. (If there has been a high tide you may prefer the more comfortable walk along the Wirral Way, in which case leave the Way at the Banks Road signpost and pick the route up at Delavor Road).

After walking over the sand for about half a mile, you will reach a point where you see large boulders have been placed along the shore. Leave the shore here and follow the path which bears left to pass a wooden gate, and then leads to a group of bungalows at the bottom of Target Road. Now the route is along this quiet lane, as it winds its way between trees to bring you to Broad Lane. Here the way is to the right.

After walking for about ten minutes, you pass Banks Road to the right hand side and then continue forward into Delavor Road. You very soon bear to the left, over the old railway bridge, and follow Delavor Road uphill to reach the crossroads. Here you cross Thurstaston Road to enter Dee View Road, at the top of the road you will come across The Dee View Inn.

Over 100 years ago, Heswall as we know of today was one of the outlying suburbs of Merseyside and contained little more than a collection of picturesque cottages amongst bracken, gorse and heather. This the highest point in Wirral, 359 feet. Excellent views over the Dee Estuary can be viewed from here with its beautiful coast stretching out towards Wales.

The Dee View Inn is an old Victorian pub with its black and white exterior. One of its outstanding features is its sandstone beer-cellar. A cosy, beamed bar which also has a comfortable furnished lounge offers hot and cold food and drink as a welcoming rest point for the Rambler.

On leaving The Dee View, turn right, along the Dee View Road. Once reaching Thurstaston Road, turn right and a short walk will bring you to Queens Drive. Continue forward for a few yards and then turn left, into a path running alongside a sandstone wall, from here this is your way forward into Heswall Dales, a delightful



Map and pictures produced by kind permission of Derek Young, "Pictures from the Past".

track of common gorse, bracken and wild heather, across which wander many sandy tracks. The path runs downhill and you then have many tracks from which to choose from on your way through Heswall Dales. If, however, you bear to the left as you begin to climb out, you should then leave at Oldfield Road.

Now turn left, to pass the old site of Cleaver Hospital and reach the crossroads at the end of Oldfield Road. It is hard for us in the 21st century to imagine a hospital in Heswall but for many years there were two. The foundation stone for Heswall Cleaver (consumption) or the West Derby, Liverpool and Toxteth Park Joint Hospital as it originally known, took place on October 25th 1901. The hospital was situated in Oldfield Road and it remained in service as a hospital until it closed in 1983. The other hospital was originally known as The Royal Liverpool Country Hospital for children and later as The Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital. This was situated in Telegraph Road on the present site of Tesco. The foundation stone for this hospital was laid on April 21st 1905 and it continued as a hospital until its closure in 1985.

Here, a sign pointing the way to Thurstaston directs you straight ahead into a lane leading to Oldfield Farm. The farmhouse was once a manor house and a stone inscribed RS 1604, a reminder that this was built for Sir Rowland Stanley, a famous knight in Elizabeth times.

Beyond the farm, go forward to cross a sandstone stile giving access to a well trodden footpath which, after turning right and then left, runs in a straight line for nearly a mile, over many stiles, to bring you to Thurstaston Village. The village a cluster of red sandstone buildings. The church, the third to occupy the site was erected in 1886. Close to the church is Thurstaston Hall with its oldest part dating back to 1350, the west wing.

From the village, turn left, into Station Road. After walking for around 15 minutes or so you will arrive back at a cafe at the entrance to the Visitor Centre, another chance for a well deserved cup of tea or coffee.



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# DID YOU KNOW?

1. Other than London, Liverpool is the most filmed British city, and was used to film more than 140 films in 2002.
2. At 120 miles per hour, a Formula One car generates so much downforce that it can drive upside down on the roof of a tunnel.
3. The smallest bone in the human body is the stapes bone which is located in the ear.
4. The word vaccine comes from the Latin word "vacca," which means cow. This name was chosen because the first vaccination was derived from cowpox which was given to a boy.
5. The liquid inside young coconuts can be used as substitute for blood plasma.
6. Michael Jordan makes more money from Nike annually than all of the Nike factory workers in Malaysia combined.
7. Termites do more damage in the U.S. ever year than all the fires, storms and earthquakes combined. They do an average of \$750 million in damage annually.
8. The sex of a baby crocodile is determined by the temperature in the nest and how deeply the eggs are buried.
9. Walter Hunt patented the safety pin in 1849. He later sold the patent rights for only \$400.
10. If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.
11. The word, tattoo originated from the Tahitian word "tattau" which means "to mark."
12. TYPEWRITER, is one of the longest words that can be made using the letters only one row of the keyboard.
13. Soil that is heated by geysers are now making it possible to produce bananas in Iceland.
14. Owls swallow their prey whole because they have no teeth. After approximately 12 hours they cough up the feathers, bones, and fur in a shape of a football pellet.
15. The cruise liner, Queen Elizabeth II, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.
16. To produce a dozen eggs, a hen has to eat about four pounds of feed.
17. The ant can lift 50 times its own weight, can pull 30 times its own weight, and always falls over on its right side when intoxicated .
18. On a bottle of brandy VSOP stand for "Very Special Old Pale."

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Wirral Farmers' Market was established in 2000 and is held every second Saturday in New Ferry from 9.00am to 1.00pm.

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- Ready meals
- Eggs & yoghurt
- Olives & oil
- Smoked foods
- Jams & chutneys
- Flowers & plants
- Beer & cider



**Next markets:**  
Saturday 9 February  
Saturday 9 March  
Saturday 13 April



*The Market is a Community project run by volunteers with the objective of helping local charities and support groups.*

# He's a dedicated follower of fashion



*Kruger Gibbons*  
Auctioneers and Valuers

We live in strange times, what with the global economic situation, the weather doing its best to be almost like winter. Elsewhere, roads are blocked with snow, flights delayed and cancelled but on **Wirral** life continues much the same.

Times change as do fashion and taste but at quite an imperceptible pace – well almost. I grew up in the 1970's – the energy crisis, three day weeks and power cuts – my mother liked huge patterned floral wallpapers and made me wear zip up acrylic cardigans. The wallpapers are back in fashion and I've just bought myself a zip-up cardigan (of cashmere, but only on the sale rail).

**Vintage china retro-style** are the current antidote to everything Ikea, but even they now appear to cater for old-fashioned taste. I'm told proper records (LPs) are back on sale again – second hand ones are sought out by collectors – with the exception of Harry Seacombe, Bay City Rollers and Val Doonican.

Maybe as a result of the financial situation some of us seek out the familiar, the tried and tested and the plain old-fashioned and the comfortable. Others crave the very latest and newest cutting edge of design and technology. Call it fashion, taste or style – I would like you to consider each individually and combined, look at objects and try to remember why you bought them. A perfect example for me is the ironing board cover – it's hideous, how did that vile thing get into my world? I don't see it often, but on the odd occasion I remember to use it to rearrange the creases on a shirt it offends my eyes.

**William Morris**, the famous 19th century designer once said "have nothing in your home that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful". If the poor chap were to be transported through time he'd have a fit if he had the misfortune to visit my home. Yet I probably do him a disservice for he'd no doubt marvel at the double-glazing, fitted kitchen, internal plumbing, inside lavatory, washing machine and dishwasher but his social conscience would prompt him to ask how many domestic staff these items have replaced.

As I sit here in my study overlooking the river Mersey (converted box room) pondering the aesthetics of life, I have come to a conclusion. My home is full of ugly Victorian furniture, painted in Farrow & Ball (oh-so-tasteful) muted shades, that nothing's new, I'm derivative, nostalgic, unoriginal and highly English. Its all so comfortable, un-chic and so knowingly unfashionable – that I'm quite possibly in fashion.

**What about you, dear reader?**

*I've just checked my reflection, no I'm no Kirsty Allsop – I have a moustache!*

*James Gibbon - Senior Auctioneer / Director*





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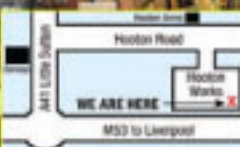
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For information regarding Wirral Heart Beat's activities, please telephone **Derek Noble** (after 6.30pm) on **0151 652 2200** or email: [wirralheartbeat@gmx.co.uk](mailto:wirralheartbeat@gmx.co.uk)



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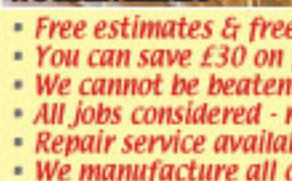
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Neston Managers hosted a Christmas Dinner for colleagues; this included a full roast turkey dinner and desserts. We held a quiz and presented prizes to the winning teams. The managers dressed up in fancy dress costume. Colleagues and customers paid £1 to Northern Lights charity as the Manager did a tour of the store in his fancy dress costume.

Collectively we raised over **£160** for Northern Lights Children's Charity.



## Sainsbury's

In NESTON

## XMAS FUNDRAISING



We held a Guess the name of the Teddy competition - this was won by local schoolgirl Megan Evans, she came into store to have the teddy presented to her by PR Ambassador - Louise Irvine.



Lisa Lambson and her school friend Wren are both pupils at Woodfall Primary School, they came into our foyer to sell home made Xmas cards to raise funds for Northern Lights. The cards were all designed and made by Lisa, she spent several weeks making the cards at home, we were all very impressed by her creativity and she came up with some wonderful fund raising ideas.

The NE singers came into our foyer just before Xmas and entertained our customers with some beautiful Christmas Carols. We would like to thank them very much for taking the time to come in and they are most welcome to come back again next Christmas.





# PUZZLE PAGE

## Valentine Wordsearch

- |           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| Admirer   | Hearts     |
| Be Mine   | Jewellery  |
| Candy     | Love       |
| Card      | Mail       |
| Chocolate | Red        |
| Cupid     | Roses      |
| Doily     | Saint      |
| Envelope  | Secret     |
| February  | Sweetheart |
| Flowers   | Valentine  |
| Friends   |            |

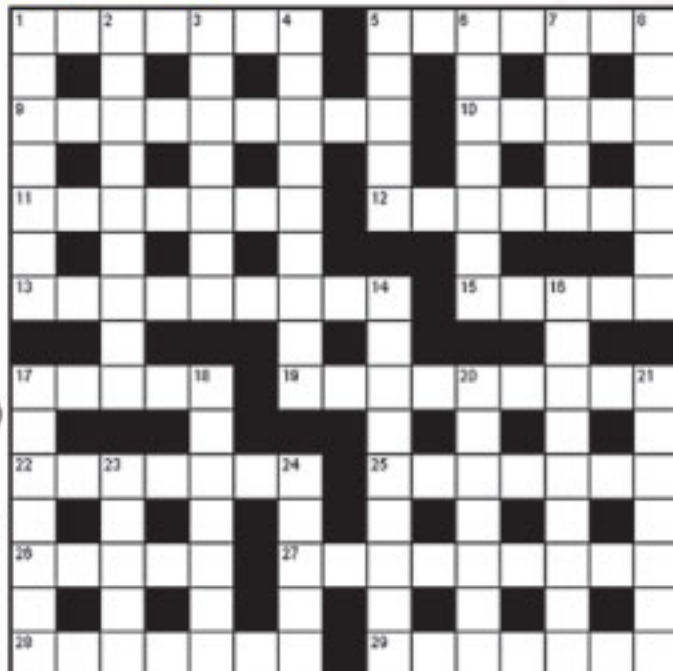


A	C	D	A	F	A	C	A	R	D	A	H	M	P	O
D	U	Y	R	H	E	T	K	S	R	E	W	O	L	F
G	P	J	E	L	O	V	E	F	E	D	O	I	L	Y
H	I	E	D	E	J	E	W	E	L	R	Y	S	H	K
K	D	J	Q	K	E	V	A	L	E	N	T	I	N	E
L	G	K	W	L	L	F	D	K	S	D	W	E	S	D
S	A	I	N	T	E	T	M	H	F	J	L	T	I	U
W	L	L	R	T	C	I	I	S	W	E	R	G	E	T
E	F	P	J	W	A	Y	R	D	S	A	O	J	N	E
E	E	Q	H	L	N	T	E	G	E	K	S	L	V	M
T	B	R	G	U	D	F	R	H	W	V	E	F	E	A
H	R	Y	S	T	Y	F	H	W	X	B	S	V	L	I
E	U	K	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	D	F	J	O	L
A	A	U	J	E	B	E	M	I	N	E	D	J	P	L
R	R	S	E	C	R	E	T	R	D	R	K	P	E	Y
T	Y	E	T	W	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	R

## Crossword Puzzle

### Across

- 1 Normally found at the start of paragraphs (7)
- 5 Portrays (7)
- 9 Reluctance (9)
- 10 Mistake (5)
- 11 Weirdos (7)
- 12 Masts, spars and sails (7)
- 13 Churchgoing (9)
- 15 Twice thirty (5)
- 17 Stuffed bear (5)
- 19 Girds (9)
- 22 Disinherits (7)
- 25 Something to be imitated (7)
- 26 Fifty-eight in Roman numerals (5)
- 27 Vest (9)
- 28 Failed to fulfill a promise (7)
- 29 Female deity (7)



### Down

- 1 Asthma medication dispenser (7)
- 2 Pillaged (9)
- 3 Zilch (7)
- 4 A sedimentary rock (9)
- 5 Washer and \_\_\_\_\_ (5)
- 6 Solemn promises (7)
- 7 Breed of dog (5)
- 8 Jagged (7)
- 14 Loathsome (9)
- 16 Marimba (9)
- 17 Infant (7)
- 18 Caterwauling (7)
- 20 Responded (7)
- 21 Detectives (7)
- 23 Heir (5)
- 24 Cut wood (5)



Puzzle Solutions can be found on our website at:

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BAR at KNOCKALOE HALL

"Enter a Stranger & leave a Friend!"



WELCOME TO THE OC...

NO MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED  
WE ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

# Valentines Day

## Thursday 14th February

Romantic 3 course meal for 2 & a bottle of wine  
& enjoy Live Music by  
Andrew Coleman singer/ pianist from  
Buble to Sinatra all your favourites!



Facebook

COMPETITION  
WIN £200 CASH



Twitter

### FACEBOOK AND TWITTER COMPETITION!

Like us on FB or follow us on twitter and you can win **£200 CASH** the winner is picked by random so everyone has a chance to win. Facebook is: The OC Sport & Leisure, Bromborough Twitter is @TheOCBar

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## KNOCKALOE HALL

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