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The Monthly Business & Community Magazine



April 2013
Issue 14

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APRIL UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS IN WIRRAL



2013

1st until 14th April - Easter Egg Trail at Ness Gardens

Until 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.

2nd to 6th April - James and the Giant Peach at Floral Pavillion, New Brighton

6th -7.30pm April - "Let's Hang On" - Gladstone Theatre - music of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, ticket price **£17**

9th - 13th April - 7.30pm "Leverhulme Youth Drama Festival" - Gladstone Theatre - a series of 2 or 3 act plays performed by under 18's in competition - tickets **£8**

16th - 20th April - 7.30pm "Leverhulme Open Drama Festival" - Gladstone Theater - a series of 2 or 3 act plays performed by adults in competition - tickets **£8**

13th April - Wirral Farmers Market - New Ferry Village Hall, Grove Street, New Ferry

19th April - Funky Friday, An evening of Soul - St Anne's Social Club in Rock Ferry With DJ Terry Lennaine and recording artist Diane Marsh

Tickets **£7.50** or **£10** on the door in aid of St Johns Hospice - Call Hayley on 343 0778 or hayley@wirralhospice.org

20th April - Wirral History and Heritage Assoc. Annual Fair - Birkenhead Town Hall - **free admission**

26th April - 7.30pm "Mercury" - Gladstone Theatre - tribute to Freddie Mercury and Queen - tickets **£16.50**

27th April - Merseyside Astronomy Day at Spaceport, Seacombe Ferry

27th April - West Kirby Farmers Market - St Andrews Church Hall, West Kirby

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Notice to all our customers

Since opening our Clothesbank stores last year, we have been asked by our customers if we could accept other items to be recycled as we were only able to accept clothes, pairs of shoes, handbags and belts. *We have listened to you and have made some interesting changes!*

Firstly, because we are now accepting other items, we have had to change our name - we are now known as **"We Pay Cash For...."** we now **BUY** and **SELL** a much wider range of goods:



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PAINTING AN ATMOSPHERIC SKY

Q: A reader asks: Have you got any advice to help me when painting my skies?

A: **There is a golden rule when painting skies:**

'A simple foreground requires an atmospheric sky' but a 'detailed foreground requires a simple sky'.

It is not as a rule a good practice to have a fussy sky and fussy foreground together.

In the painting illustrated - a Scottish seascape with lots of rocks and waves lashing against them, I felt a simple sky was not appropriate here.

I was unsure how detailed the sky should be until I had painted the rocks and sea so I decided to paint the sky in last to suit the foreground.

I painted a cobalt blue/alizarin crimson background leaving a white area with a subtle hint of raw sienna added in places to represent the cloud formations.

All of my 11 books include many examples on how to paint skies.

If you would like to paint like Keith Call him on 0151 327 1601, email: fenwickart@sky.com or see his website www.keithfenwick.co.uk for the materials used, details of his painting holidays in the Lake District (£295 for 3 days tuition accommodation and B/B) also his books and DVD's.





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Through our weekly sales, held each Monday, we auction items, including: coins, stamps, jewellery, watches, silver and gold, antique furniture, clocks and collectable items. In addition to these special lots, we also offer modern household goods, including furniture, white goods, TVs, glassware, china, dinner services, garden furniture and many more interesting items.

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The BBC will be filming one of their antiques programmes with us on Monday 29th April - there's no stopping us now!

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I once again can't fit into my office as it is being used as an overflow storage room. I anticipate it will only take half an hour to sort the Hotsom from the Jetsom. We need to sort out all our nooks and crannies as the television crew, cameras and personnel are due soon. A feeling of panic is not unfamiliar to anybody that was allowed a T.V. crew into their home or business. I once presented a series for **Channel 4** and vividly remember the looks of triumph and exhaustion on people's faces, they were always excited to have the show coming to their homes, but the hours of effort, cleaning, gardening, scrubbing and polishing did not go unnoticed.



Filming is not an intimate procedure, your home is invaded by a cameraman, his assistant, the soundman, soundman assistant, the director, the director assistant, a runner or trainee plus the interviewer or 'the talent' as they are called in the business.

A minimum of 8 people. *Why am I telling you all this? Oh yes, we've got the cameras coming to Kruger Gibbons.* One of those auction shows, oh the free publicity, the excitement, the goodwill, quodos, but oh the disruption, can't wait!

I'm ready for my close up my Tarrantino. Stay tuned on our **Kruger Gibbons Facebook** page to find out when we will be on air and join in the buzz.

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20 PUB WALKS AROUND WIRRAL

WALK



The Seven Stars Inn,
Thornton Hough



Bromborough Cross - Bromborough Golf Course - Raby - Thornton Hough - Clatterbridge - Dibbinsdale - Bromborough Cross (Walking distance 9 miles)

This walk is through an unspoilt part of Wirral and, although you are never very far from residential areas, no sign of this is evident along the quiet paths and byways.

Bromborough is very old, at least 1,000 years, although little now remains of its antiquity. The ancient, respectable village, chiefly built of red sandstone, has largely been swept away, although a few old buildings remain. Even the market cross is modern, the steps are genuine 13th century, but the cross is far younger - a gift from the Bromborough Society.

To start the walk, go down Allport Lane, when you reach the crossroads turn right into Allport Road. Follow this pleasant tree lined road for half a mile, passing Bromborough station and continuing to into Raby Hall Road. Continue straight ahead along this road for about 10 minutes and shortly after passing Blakeley Road look left for a signpost. This directs you over a stile into Bromborough Golf course, and you walk straight across to the motorway. Now your way is to the left over a step-stile, to follow a path along the edge of a large field (running parallel to the M53). The path ends at a further step-stile, which you cross and then turn right, into a short lane which crosses the motorway and brings you into Benty Heath Lane.

Now the way is to the left and at the next bend in the road look right for a signposted bridle-path. Follow this broad track (which can be very muddy in wet weather) for about 200 yards and then turn right, over a step-stile, to reach a fieldpath. This path follows the right hedge in a straight line over three fields, each of which is reached by crossing a plank-foot bridge and a stile, there is a particularly good view of Willaston Mill. This was Wirral's largest flour mill. It was built in 1800 and was in use until 1930, in that year a storm destroyed the sails and put it out of action for all time.

Leave the fields by way of a two-bar stile and stone steps and turn right, into a well trodden bridle path. Very soon the path divides, and here you take the left fork. The track now winds its way through the trees, crossing a small stream and passing a pond, to bring you to the Clatterbridge road. Your direction is now to the right and, after you have passed Benty Heath Lane, cross the road and turn left into Willow Lane. This byway brings you to Willowbrow Farm. Here you turn right, and a few minutes walk brings you to Raby. Beyond the old, thatched



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

Wheatsheaf Inn, you reach Raby Mere Road. Your way is now to the left for a few yards, and then right, into Raby Road. The steeple of Thornton Hough's parish church is now in sight and, a short walk along a pleasant lane, brings you to the Seven Stars Inn. This cheerful rural pub offers a wide range of pub food. In warm weather there is a very nice beer garden to relax in.

Leave Thornton Hough by way of Thornton Common Road and, after walking for 3 minutes, look left for Crofts Bank Cottages. Enter the lane by the side of the cottages and then turn right, to cross a stile and enter the fields. Go straight across the first field and keep the hedge on your right as you continue over the next 2 fields. Leave the 3rd field by crossing a 3-bar stile to meet a cart track. Cross this diagonally left, to reach another 3-bar stile. With the hedge on your right, cross the next field to reach another step-stile. The way now runs alongside the hospital for some distance between fence and hedgerow, to bring you to Clatterbridge Road, near the old Clatter Bridge.

Here you turn right and, when you arrive at the crossroads, the way is left, into Thornton Common Road. This pleasant rural lane follows a straight course for half a mile and then crosses the motorway. Soon the lane drops down to a narrow bridge and a crossing lane. Here you turn left - the road to the right takes you to Raby Mere. Follow the narrow byway as it winds uphill through the trees and eventually brings you to the junction with Poulton Road.

Go straight across Poulton Road to reach a 2-bar metal stile. In the cultivated field which follows, a raised footpath runs straight across to a further metal stile. Cross this stile to reach a well trodden track which bears right as it descends into Dibbinsdale. Cross the footbridge over Dibbinsdale Brook and then climb the steps to reach a steep track running through the trees. Soon you go over the railway into a housing estate. Keep forward into The Rake and, very soon, you are back at your starting point.



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When a dog is presented to us in a severely matted condition, it is our policy to shave the whole coat using electric clippers with a close blade. We groom HUMANELY, to de-Matt would cause the dog tremendous stress and discomfort, often leaving a very thinned and damaged coat. Shaving the coat is quicker and more gentle on the dog. Many dogs are traumatised by unnecessary hours of de-matting, putting them off grooming for life. We consider shaving an act of kindness.

A SEVERELY MATTED DOG CAN SUFFER MANY CONDITIONS

Hotspots and sores

Fungal & bacterial infections

Yeast infections

Flea infestation

Moist eczema

Mites & lice

Maggot infestation

Urine & faeces scalding

Eye & ear infections

Severe itching

Once the coat is removed, the skin can be red due to the lack of air circulation and dirt that has accumulated underneath. Occasionally there are sores, these may need veterinary treatment. Dogs tend to scratch and rub their skin after the shaving, this is normal, however some dogs can over scratch and this may lead to broken skin. If in doubt speak to your vet.

Dogs feel different after shaving, lighter, off balance and cooler, most are glad to have freedom of movement again, and are full of life. Others seem to take it quite personally that they are bald, they hide and sulk for days. The skin will feel like suede and, depending on the colour of the dog, can be quite pink. Regardless of how the dog will look, he will feel 100% better.

Book your next appointment NOW, advance bookings ensure you get appointments at regular intervals at times that suit you. Your dog will always look and feel good keeping the coat and skin in a healthy condition.
Do not wait until he is matted again!

Now is also the best time to start a home grooming routine, the coat is short and manageable, begin gently stroking over the dog, make the grooming session pleasurable for owner & dog. After each short session, give a small reward, as the coat begins to grow progress to using a soft brush then a comb. If bathing your dog ALWAYS brush & comb the coat before, and again after bathing. If you do not have time to groom your dog at home, consider having him professionally groomed more regularly.

Thank you for understanding that we put your dog's welfare first, that we want his grooming experience to be positive and non-stressful.

We cannot justify hours of torture for the sake of good looks. Coats grow back (surprisingly quick) the skin benefits, but most of all **YOUR DOG WILL BE HAPPIER.**



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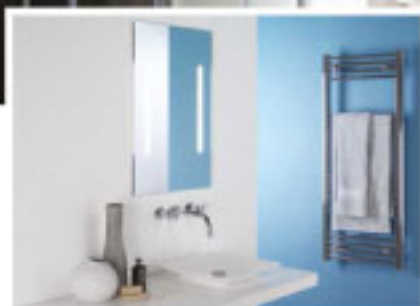
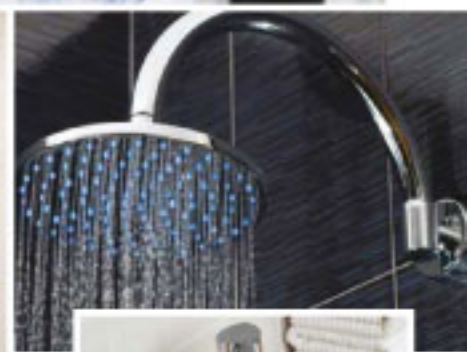
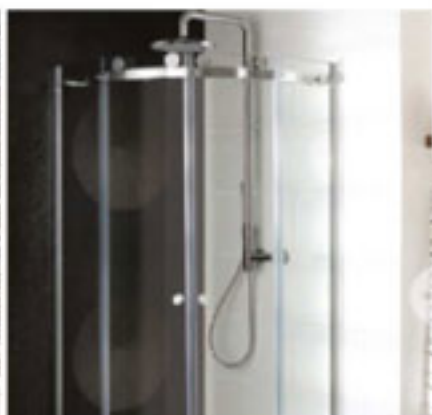
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A woman with dark hair styled in an updo, wearing a white strapless wedding dress with a fitted bodice and a full skirt. The skirt features a subtle floral and vine pattern. She is standing in front of a stone building with a wooden door and some greenery. The overall mood is elegant and romantic.

Planning your Perfect Wedding

Every couple want their wedding day to be special and meaningful. Input from both partners is essential and help from family members and close friends should always be enjoyed as they want the very best for you! However, it can be very stressful and challenging and be assured some plans will not go as planned, so plan for that eventuality too!

Ultimately, the key is to stay organised and to give yourself plenty of time to achieve everything. Another key element is to not over-stretch yourself financially or energy-wise; this way, you'll find the planning process a lot smoother.

We suggest you arrange a meal out for yourselves and both sets of parents (somewhere neutral) parents are excited too! This way you can discuss together the size of the wedding, who you would like to be invited, any compromises, budget ideas.

Remember, you want to enjoy every minute of your wedding, stressing yourself out could spoil things for you and put added strain on your relationship!

Firstly, we suggest you look at a wedding planner to help you, these are not as expensive as you may think and will take a huge amount of worry from you. As this is their business, they know what they are doing! They have often worked out discounts that wouldn't be available to you and this in turn pays a lot towards their services, win win situation!

SIZE OF WEDDING AND BUDGET

Decide on the size of your wedding. Remember to talk this over with your fiancé. A dream wedding for one might not suit the other - compromise and expectations are very important at this stage. You will need to know how many people are going to attend for venues, catering and invitations. Also, choose the size of your bridal party i.e. how many bridesmaids.

Set a realistic budget. While this is a very special day in your life, it's not an excuse to be wildly extravagant with money you don't have. You don't want to start your married life with stress over debts! If parents or family members are contributing to help you, find out how much they are willing to help with at the beginning, don't assume!

PLANNING

Reception venues can get booked up quick! Take a bit of time to visit several venues, keeping ideas of prices per head, what can be provided (saving you money) and dates available. You will also need to work with the service venue for dates!

RECORD-KEEPING

Choose the method for your record-keeping. You'll need to keep tabs of everything you've already decided and what's planned ahead. Invoices, quotes, receipts, seating plans, photos of desired decorations/clothing, patterns, instructions, etc. will need to be kept in one place, so have at least one large plastic pocket to keep these in one place. If you're more organised, use a few pockets, a notebook or a digital form of recording can be ideal - a mixture of both can work well too.

CHOOSE THE VENUE

The sooner this is done, the better so that you know you have the place you really want. Check out the spaces offered, the catering deals, the marriage fees, the ability to decorate a church or wedding space, etc. Find out whether the prices quoted cover everything or whether you'll be expected to pay for extras. Be aware that even church venues may charge fees. If planning your wedding well in advance, a great idea is to send out a 'save the date' card to your guests! (I think this is an American idea and a real good one!)

CHOOSE A THEME

It doesn't have to be anything really specific, but you want there to be a consistent feeling throughout. The colour of the bridesmaids usually blends in with the bouquet and flowers, ties and cravats, the cake, invitations, and decorations. Make sure the theme is easy to plan and decorate. Everything should be consistent with the theme.

As part of the theme research the flowers you want at the wedding. Find out if they're available during the time of your wedding. Finalise flowers around four months ahead of the wedding date.

Have wedding programs. As with the invitations, you can have your programs professionally printed or make your own.

THE DRESS

Research, design and order your wedding dress around the mark of nine months to go, start researching your wedding dress ideas. Are you having one custom made or purchasing off-the-rack? Either way, you'll possibly need several fittings and

adjustments to perfect it. Alternatively, make your own or steer clear of traditional wedding dresses and buy a dress that you simply love and know you can wear again after the wedding. You don't have to stick with tradition or spend a fortune on something you'll never use again.

Select a wedding veil if you're having one too. And don't forget the shoes - from flip flops to diamond encrusted satin slippers, what's your preference and do they need special effort or will you buy them ready-made?

BRIDESMAID DRESSES & PAGE BOYS SUITS

Decide on bridesmaid's dresses at the same time. It's a good idea to take the bridesmaids with you, if possible, you need to make sure the style suits them and they like them!

MORNING SUITS

Around four months prior to the wedding is a good time to decide on styles (that suit) you will know by now the colour of your bridesmaid dresses and flowers so you can co-ordinate ties/cravats and waistcoats. It's a good idea to get sizes checked 4 weeks before the big day as a good fit is essential!

THE RINGS

Select the wedding rings. This is a fun task to do together, and symbolises your devotion to each other. Most couples get matching rings to show that they complete one another's soul. If you're having rings specially made (commissioned), leave plenty of time to get the rings exactly how you want them, all the thought, love and special meanings built in forever.



PHOTOS, VIDEOS AND MUSIC

Find a photographer and/or a videographer. Consider using a professional for this special occasion, and make sure that this person is reliable so that you don't have to worry about him or her forgetting your wedding or stuffing it up. There are just too many stories of relying on friends or family to do this aspect and years of regret as to fuzzy, out-of-focus shots or no footage at all because the photographer got carried away doing something else...

Is entertainment packed in with your venue or do you need to hire your own? Decide on whether you're going to have a soloist, band, quartet or a DJ. It's not recommended to do this part yourself with an iPod; there is more to wedding entertainment than just music! Professional musicians will keep the flow of the event, make announcements, and plan all your special events with you.

This aspect should not be booked last, because all the good bands and wedding DJ's get booked first! The entertainment is crucial and is what makes a wedding one to remember! It's recommended that you sort out this aspect of your wedding at least 10 months before the day.

THE CAKE

Pick a cake. Before settling on a cake it's best to have a tasting first. Also look into a cake that will match your theme, and please both the bride and groom. Sample cakes around eight months before the wedding and select the design at this time. Check in on the baker again a few months prior to the wedding to be reassured that your order is still on the books and ready to go as planned. It's best to have the cake delivered directly to the reception venue.

FOOD AND GIFTS

Decide what type of food and refreshments you will offer at the reception dinner. Try to find a happy medium between what would please your guests and what you can afford. Your venue will have tasting sessions where you can try samples of their range and make your choices mmmmm! If you are hiring a hall or a marquee, it is a sensible idea to hire a professional caterer, it's one less thing you'll have to handle personally.

GIFTS

Register for gifts when there are about 9 months to go until your wedding. This gives guests plenty of time to check your list and get the gifts.

TRANSPORT

Choose suitable transportation. If you have multiple venues, plan how you will travel from the ceremony location to the reception location. Some couples may choose to hire a limousine or ride in a classic car. Others like horse-drawn carriages. If it's popular with other people, book early.

If there will be alcohol at the reception, do you have a safe way for you and your bridal party to get home? It is worth hiring a suitable sized coach from a reliable company! this way everyone can enjoy themselves - if your budget doesn't stretch to this, guests will be very happy to pay a few pounds each not to have to worry about how they are getting home and finding enough taxis late at night. Remember, you want everyone to enjoy your wedding as much as you!

In some families it is tradition to decorate the couple's vehicle, so if you have a nice car, you may want to keep it at home in the garage!

BRIDAL SUITE AND HONEYMOON

(Plus accommodation for overnight guests)

Research the honeymoon locations and the wedding night room. Many couples book a "Bridal" suite the night of their wedding. Also, you may need to reserve a block of rooms for guests that will be attending your wedding. Booking as a group will usually ensure they all get the best rate but this should be done well in advance of the wedding.

Start researching where to go on honeymoon when there are about 8 months to go, so as to take advantage of special deals and good prices. Talk to your travel agent, let them know what you expect out of your holiday, lying on the beach and sea sports or visiting different villages/towns, travelling etc. they are the experts and will work with your budget and give you the benefit of their years of experience.

The final three months

Finalise the vows

Buy or make wedding accessories, such as the ring bearer pillow, toasting glasses, favours, guestbook, flower baskets, table decorations etc.

Book hair, nail and makeup appointments (incl. trials to get it right!).

Prepare the ceremony program.

Plan the seating arrangements for the reception; plan for last minute revisions.

2 months to go:

Mail the invitations.

Schedule a wedding dress fitting, it might be your first or one of several.

Buy personal gifts or make gifts for members of the bridal party.

1 month to go:

Finalise all plans for the wedding ceremony.

Check that all bookings for hotels, transportation, venues, guest arrangements, etc. are as they should be.

Pick up the wedding rings if you haven't already done so

Continue with dress fittings (*many brides lose or perhaps even gain weight from stress, so final fittings should be as close to the time as possible, to ensure perfect fit*).

3 weeks to go:

Write up the place seating cards.

Continue with any fittings.

Check that you have relevant gifts for people.

Chase up anyone who has not yet sent an RSVP to your invitations.

2 weeks to go:

Get the honeymoon packing done so that it's not worrying you

Have last alterations made to dress; it should be ready by now

Check all bills and make sure that all of your suppliers have been properly paid.

Follow up any loose ends, especially anything that is worrying you.

Have a hair trim.

1 week to go:

Aim to stay as relaxed as possible; you should have done most of it by now!

Collect your wedding dress if not done already, as well as any last accessories and shoes.

Keep everything in one place, covered and away from pets, kids and nosy people.

Enjoy your hen night or stag.

Go over your vows but don't obsess...

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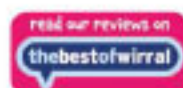
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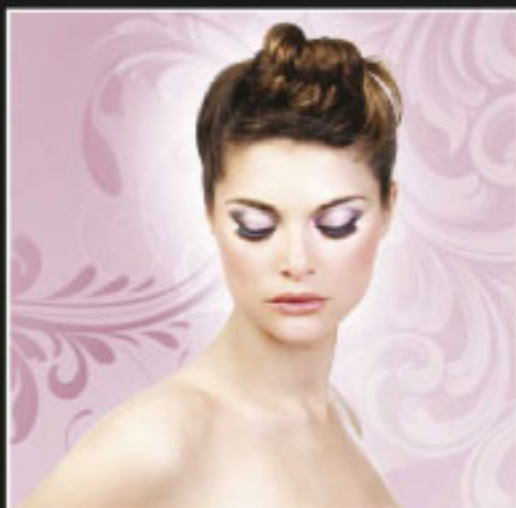
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lots but I thought this one was just about right!

"It is your presence, and not your presents, that we require on our special day. Having lived together for a number of years, we have all our pots and pans and our bills are paid. If you do feel that you would like to give a gift, then a contribution towards our honeymoon would be very much appreciated"

Whatever you decide, **Love Wirral magazine**

*Wish you a wonderful day
and a lifetime of happiness!*



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Dear Friends,

What a busy month this has been with Spring only around the corner. Inside this issue we have a **wedding feature** to hopefully help all you new brides and grooms to be. With helpful tips and advice about your really special day. We have teamed up with a few speciality advertisers in the feature to help your day a huge success. So why not give them a call to find out how they can help you on this special occasion.

From April, we will be launching a bi-monthly new magazine called Love Liverpool which will be delivered from Liverpool 1 and a 8 mile radius outwards. So get in touch with us if you want to stretch your advertising across the Mersey.

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Above: **Bebington** village drinking fountain with signpost and lamp. A gift in 1863 from Charles Hill. Note the bollards around it to stop horses from crashing into it. In 1905 it was moved to Mayer Park and later returned back to the village.



Above: **New Brighton** taken in 1895 when large ice-floes had come down from the upper reaches of the River Mersey bringing small icebergs.



Above: **Bromborough** Cross - Note The Royal Oak pub on the right hand side dating back to Charles 1st, now a florist today.



Above: **Eastham** village looking towards the Hooton Arms covered in ivy. The delivery vehicle is outside the post office and the newsagent has the boards outside.

Right: **Eastham Ferry Hotel** pictured in 1907, was erected in 1846 to encourage new visitors to Eastham either by coach or ferry. At the gates it says 2d (1p) to the gardens.





Left: **West Kirby Marine Lake** is pictured in 1930. In February 1931 the local council borrowed £2,450 for construction of baths in West Kirby Lake and the bathing facilities improved. However, a scheme to build a wall separating the baths from the lake proved to be costly.

Right: **Seacombe Ferry**. This postcard was produced to show the new entrance hall officially opened in **Seacombe** on 10 April 1933.



Left: Banks Road in **West Kirby** pictured in 1906 with Dee Lane in the distance and The Crescent off to the right.

Right: **West Kirby**, Ashton Park in winter with ice skaters enjoying the ice. The upper park, across the bridge is now the Wirral Way was once the Wirral Railway line.



Left: **Heswall Telegraph Road**, the Devon Doorway described then as 'a small coaching cafe', was built in 1930 for a Devon lady Mrs Aldridge. It is situated on the junction of Telegraph Road and Chester High Road with Barnston Road which was ideally situated for an RAC box.

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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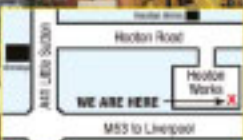
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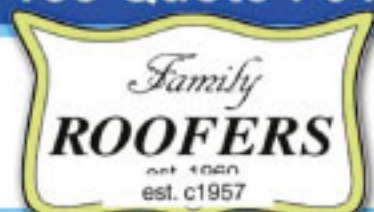
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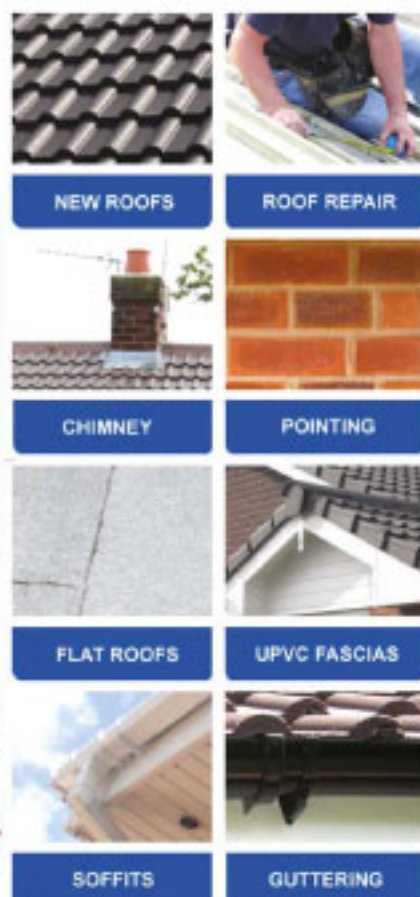
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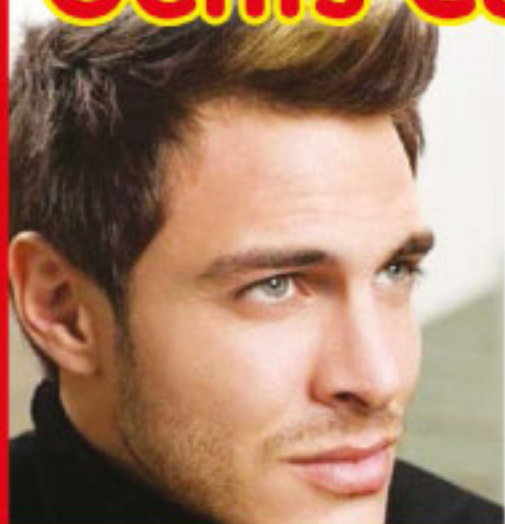
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11. The Taj Mahal was actually built for use as a tomb.
12. People over the age of fifty will start to lose their dislike for foods that taste bitter.
13. Montreal was named after a local mountain "Mont Royal."
14. A jiffy is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second. Thus the saying, I will be there in a jiffy.
15. Every person has a unique tongue print.
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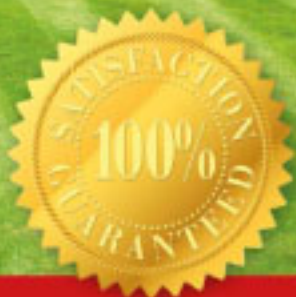
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- Letter after sigma
- Baglike structure
- Come into being
- French for "Word"
- Adult male singing voice
- One or more
- Banana oil, e.g.



Down

- American Dental Association
- Flee
- Uncleanness
- Purple shade
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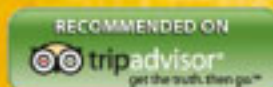
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Benefits of Buying Local Food

Food! We all enjoy it and what's better than cooking fresh local produce? Be honest, we can all throw a frozen or ready-made meal in the oven and sit in front of the tv to eat it, but when we take the time to cook a beautiful meal for those we love (or want to impress) we take pride, dress the table up (and ourselves) open a nice bottle of wine, maybe invite friends, but most importantly, we sit down, relax, talk and enjoy the food and each others company!

There is something about buying fresh local food. There are so many positive and important reasons to buy local.

- *It's better for everyone's pocket - we have the satisfaction of supporting our local communities and economy.*
- *Access to the freshest, healthiest and best tasting.*
- *In-season produce is usually cheaper, especially when you take out the travel costs.*

- *By supporting local farmers they are able to offer greater variety in their types of produce and livestock.*
- *It also gives us, the public, a chance to meet with the growers directly. Who doesn't enjoy a visit to the local farmers market or farm shop? What you've not been ... You don't know what you're missing! Join in the fun, you will be surprised by the diversity of goods produced on your doorstep and the quality is outstanding.*
- *Learn about your environment, what's going in, what's in season.*
- *Encourages you to eat healthily, sensibly and to build on your cooking skills and offer greater variety in your food.*

So next time you are shopping, think on, healthy fresh locally produced or unhealthily preservative laden frozen/ready meal?

No contest really!



Fabulous Food with Integrity Monthly Farmers' Market

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

Over 30 stalls

- Chicken & game
- Beef, pork & Lamb
- Buffalo, goat & ostrich
- Lancashire & Cheshire cheese
- Italian, Greek & Turkish foods
- Fish
- Fruit & vegetables
- Bread
- Cakes & puddings
- Scones & biscuits
- Chocolates
- 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.



BAR at KNOCKALOE HALL

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a Stranger
& leave a
Friend"



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WELCOME TO THE OC...



The OC Bar

Our range of real ales, lagers and continental drinks provide a good choice for the beer lovers. The OC bar is listed in the beer lover's guide and is recognised by CAMRA as a provider of quality real ales.



Bar Opening Times

Sunday - Thursday 12 - 11pm & Friday - Saturday 12 - 12

Food Opening Times

Monday - Saturday 12 - 9pm, Sunday Lunches 12 - 7

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*Consultation & patch test required. £25 payable at time of booking. Fully refundable against treatments.



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Spring into Spring



Being a complete optimist about our English weather I love my flip flops. I heavily dislike shoes and socks, they are restrictive. I've never got on with shoes, often resulting in blisters, pinched toes or ankle pain. I love a high heel or a wedge for going out but every day shoes just annoys me and kicking them off is my favourite part of the day. I have often said if the streets were cleaner I'd be found walking barefoot. However like many women, I suffer from the dreaded dry & hard skin that often comes with preferring bare feet or flip flops to a full shoe.

Over the years, I've tried creams, exfoliators, 'ped eggs', a large variety of foot files from soft to 'oh my god that's vicious' grades of sandpaper attached to them, gels, magic potions from salons or chiropodists promising soft & smooth skin and I have suffered at the hands of shocking chiropodists who slice away skin to the point of bleeding, over enthusiastic Beauticians that may be more suited to career in Joinery not beauty and of course some of my less proud moments of going at the hard/skin myself with a pair of nail scissors in hope that lopping off slices of the skin would somehow make it look better.

Now at the grand old age of 32, I have found a regime that works for me and hopefully will for you; so here goes.

Stage 1: Find a good Chiropodist who you feel comfortable with and can treat your hard/dry skin with the contempt it deserves. The downside to a Chiropodist is they don't sort out your cuticles

or paint your toes or allow your feet to soak in a refreshing foot spa or massage your feet for you. I have three appointments a year.

Appointment 1: March time to prepare my feet for my first pedicure.

Appointments 2: August time to keep on top of what I call 'flip flop' build up

Appointment 3: October time ready to put my feet away for winter.

A Chiropodist can also help with corns, calluses and array of other foot related issues that Beauty Salons cannot usually deal with.

The cost: Chiropody costs vary usually £20-£25. Over 60s discounts usually offered and if you have BUPA or a health plan you may also be covered.

Stage 2: Find a good Salon to do the nice bits. Depending on what you are after most salons offer everything from a straight forward file & polish of your tootsies to a fully luxury pedicure. Personally I like a Luxury Pedicure, it complements the work the Chiropodist does. From the foot soak to the leg, ankle & foot massage to the cuticles being removed to polish being applied a Pedicure really is a treat for your feet and for your soul. I have two luxury pedicures a year (March & October) the rest of the time I opt for a file & polish

The cost: File & Polish from £6-£12, Pedicure costs usually from £15-£30 depending on level of Luxury. Over 60s discounts usually offered.

Stage 3: Keep on top of your feet at home or your feet may

not like you;

Who hasn't had aching sore feet after a long day at work, running after children or even a long days shopping. Remember to treat your feet to some home care. Invest in a good quality vitamin e rich cream and slather your feet in it then wear some socks to help soak the cream in. Buy yourself a good foot file and pumice stone then gently rub the soles of your feet every couple of days in the bath or shower to help keep the dry/hard skin at bay.

The cost: Good Quality foot cream from £3-£20, Pumice Stone from £2-£12 and Foot File from £2-£20

Top Tips:

- ❖ Expensive products/services don't always mean the best results so don't feel you have to pay for the dearest to get the best.
- ❖ Don't go at your feet yourself to remove dry/hard skin cos you may cause infection &/ or seriously hurt yourself then you won't be in those sexy sandals just a NHS blue booty and there are no outfits that go with those!
- ❖ Use a reputable Chiropodist and Beauty Salon

Good luck getting those summer toes!

Becki, Owner
@The Beau-Tea Rooms,
Bromborough xx

Next month: Holiday Skin:
How to get a tan, keep a tan and not put yourself at risk.