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MAY 2019  
Issue 87

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# WHAT'S IN THIS MONTHS LOVE WIRRAL MAGAZINE

14



**Holiday Destinations - Western Med**

18



**Auto Review by Tony Yates**

24



**Summer Bulbs To Plant Now**

49



**Swap Meat For Seafood**

52



**What's On Gig Guide**

## Love Wirral The Magazine of Choice for Businesses in Wirral.

- New Rights For Tenants - Phoenix **8**
- Do You Know? **10**
- Holiday Destinations **14**
- Local Community News **17**
- Auto Review by Tony Yates **18**
- Summer Bulbs to Plant Now **24**
- Local Community News **31**
- Local Community News **34**
- Yesterday's Wirral - Old Photos **42**
- Where To Eat & Drink In Wirral **46**
- Swap Meat For Seafood - Recipe **49**
- What's On Gig Guide - North West **52**
- Please Support Local Charities **53**
- Birkenhead Rotary Caribbean Party **56**
- Puzzle Corner **58**
- Diary Dates in Wirral 2019 **61**
- Wirral Care Home **62**

**Cover Photograph  
New Brighton Lighthouse**



### Dear Friends,

We have 2 bank holidays this month (Early Spring Bank Holiday on 6th and Spring Bank Holiday on the 27th) make sure you do something nice either with the family or friends!

Isn't it lovely to have the lighter nights, time to enjoy the garden, hopefully BBQ's with family and friends!

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Best Wishes

*Maxine*



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## NEW RIGHTS FOR TENANTS

Tenants will be given more rights when changes to the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 are made on 20 March 2019. People who rent will be able to sue their landlords if their homes are not up to scratch. Issues with damp, noise, ventilation, repairs, drainage, infestations and facilities for cooking are a number of the issues tenants will be able to take action on. It will cover tenants immediately and not just for new tenancies, existing tenancies will be covered. These changes mean that those in social housing will now have more power to force local authorities to carry out necessary repairs.

It is estimated that over 1 million rented homes have hazards that pose a serious risk. The new changes will mean that tenants will be able to take their landlord to court for an injunction to compel the landlord to carry out the works or for damages (compensation) for the landlord's failure to keep the property in good repair.

Compensation can also be paid to tenants for any issues that have caused injury or illness.

We offer free advice and take on housing claims on a no win, no fee basis, meaning that help is available. If the disrepair

is a serious risk to you or your family members health and safety, then legal aid is available.

You'll need to have information and evidence to help support your case. This includes:

- A copy of your tenancy agreement
- Copies of any correspondence between you and your landlord about the disrepair
- Photographs of the disrepair
- A list of or photographs of belongings that have been damaged because of the disrepair and copies of receipts if you had to replace damaged items
- Copies of medical reports or a note of medical visits if you were injured or made ill by the disrepair.

---

If you need advice or support then contact us now on

8 **0151 306 3694** or email **[ab@phoenixlegalsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:ab@phoenixlegalsolicitors.co.uk)**



# HAVE YOU BEEN THE VICTIM OF MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE?

We all put our trust in the medical judgement and information we are given by qualified health professionals and practitioners, but sometimes their advice or treatment can result in things going wrong.

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# DO YOU KNOW?

1. In 1873, Colgate made a toothpaste that was available in a jar.
2. The Kodiak, which is native to Alaska, is the largest bear and can measure up to eight feet and weigh as much as 1,700 pounds.
3. The size of a raindrop is around 0.5 mm - 2.5 mm, and they fall from the sky on average 21 feet per second.
4. The word "walkman" was included in the Oxford English Dictionary in 1986.
5. Smartest dogs: 1) Scottish border collie; 2) Poodle; 3) Golden retriever.
6. Humpback whales are capable of living up to 95 yrs.
7. The 1912, a wrestling match in Stockholm between Finn Alfred Asikainen and Russian Martin Klein lasted more than 11 hours. Klein eventually won, but was too tired to participate in the championship match.
18. If you were standing on Mercury, the Sun would appear 2.5 times larger than it appears from Earth.
19. Paper money is not made from wood pulp but from cotton. This means that it will not disintegrate as fast if it is put in the laundry.
20. The American Kestrel hawk weighs only four ounces.
21. The largest earthworm on record was found in South Africa and measured 22 feet.
22. India has a Bill of Rights for cows.
23. The puma and the leopard are the highest jumping mammals. They are able to reach a height of 16.5 feet.
24. Dueling is legal in Paraguay as long as both parties are registered blood donors.
25. There are no ants in Iceland, Antarctica and Greenland.



8. The Chinese politician Mao Zedong refused to ever brush his teeth and instead just washed his mouth with tea.
9. In 1884, Dr. Hervey D. Thatcher invented the milk bottle.
10. The Shroud of Turin is the single most studied artifact in human history.
11. Some toothpastes and deodorants contain the same chemicals found in antifreeze.
12. Honey is used sometimes for antifreeze mixtures and in the center of golf balls.
13. Early Romans used to use porcupine quills as toothpicks.
14. English sailors were referred to as "limeys" because sailors added lime juice to their diet to combat scurvy.
15. Taipan snakes have 50 times more toxic than a cobra snake.
16. Bruce Lee was so fast, that they actually had to slow a film down so you could see his moves. That is the opposite of the norm.
17. Chameleons can move their eyes independently. One eye can be looking forward and one eye backward at the same time.



26. Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history. Spades - King David; Clubs - Alexander the Great; Hearts - Charlemagne; and Diamonds - Julius Caesar.
27. In 1989, twenty-three people were hired in Jacksonville Florida just to flush toilets so the pipes would not freeze.
28. There were no red colored M&Ms from 1976 to 1987.
29. In 1989, the space shuttle Discovery carried 32 fertilized chicken eggs into orbit.
30. The most recycled product in the world is the automobile.
31. In 1929, the Coca-Cola slogan was "The Pause That Refreshes".
32. The longest one-syllable word in the English language is "screeched."
33.  $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$
34. Pepsi originally contained pepsin, (the same stuff in pepcid AC) thus the name.
35. The only bone fully grown at birth is located in the ear.
36. Dolphins can swim and sleep at the same time.



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## Dear Residents

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**O**n this holiday you will visit some amazing cities including Barcelona, which is the capital city of the autonomous community of Catalonia in Spain and Spain's second most populated city. Founded as a Roman city, in the Middle Ages Barcelona became the capital of the County of Barcelona.

The city is full of culture and wonderful architecture such as Gaudí's masterpiece, Sagrada Família church. Here you're sure to visit all the main attractions and night life with it's great restaurants and bars.

You will be staying for 1 night in Italy's **Genoa**.

**Genoa** (Genova) is a port city and the capital of northwest Italy's Liguria region. It's known for its central role in maritime trade over many centuries. In the old town stands the Romanesque Cathedral of San Lorenzo, with its black-and-white-striped facade and frescoed interior. Narrow lanes open onto monumental squares like Piazza de Ferrari, site of an iconic bronze fountain and Teatro Carlo Felice opera house.

You can visit **Rome** once at Civitavecchia which is a small train journey at around 8 euro.

Rome's history spans more than two and a half thousand years. While Roman mythology dates the founding of Rome at only around 753 BC, the site has been inhabited for much longer, making it one of the oldest continuously occupied sites in Europe.

The city is located in the central-western portion of the Italian

Peninsula, within Lazio (Latium), along the shores of Tiber river. The Vatican City is an independent country geographically located within the city boundaries of Rome, the only existing example of a country within a city: for this reason Rome has been often defined as capital of two states. Monuments and museums such as the Vatican Museums and the Colosseum are among the world's most visited tourist destinations with both locations receiving millions of tourists a year. Rome also hosted the 1960 Summer Olympics.

Rome has earned its ancient nickname of The Eternal City - no matter how many places in Italy vie for our attention, there's no city that can compare to Rome. Here you can walk the same streets that Caesar once walked, set foot in the smallest independent nation on earth, and see the handiwork of some of the world's greatest artists. Then you can turn a corner to see how modern Romans live alongside all that historic splendor.

Stroll through the one-time epicenter of the Roman Empire, gaze over the largest Roman amphitheater, see the Pope give his weekly address in St. Peter's Square, test your resolve at the Mouth of Truth, learn to fight like a gladiator, and find out what makes Roman pizza different from the stuff you'll eat in Naples. Few cities can entertain and overwhelm as quickly as Rome, so plan to take your time - and take plenty of breaks to sample the city's famous coffee and gelato. And don't forget to throw a coin in the Trevi Fountain to make sure you get

a return trip to this most fascinating of cities.

You will then sail away to visit **Marseille** which is the second largest city in France after Paris.

Marseille was historically the most important trade centre in the region and functioned as the main trade port of the French Empire. Marseille is France's largest city on the Mediterranean coast and largest commercial port as well as a leading cruise and freight port.

You will then sail away to visit **Barcelona**, prepare to be wowed by the creative genius of Gaudí, take time out along the stunning harbour, and get to know these sandy shorelines by the shimmering Mediterranean. Bars, beaches, boutiques and more...

You again set sail for the beautiful island of **Mallorca** one of Spain's Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean. It's known for beach resorts, sheltered coves, limestone mountains and Roman and Moorish remains. Capital Palma has nightlife, the Moorish Almudaina royal palace and 13th-century Santa María Cathedral.

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

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## Cameras at the ready as Cheshire Wildlife Trust seeks wildlife photos for 2020 calendar



May - Winner Ian Knox - Starlings



June - Winner Lynda Haney - Brown Hares



Dec - Winner Rob Gough - Sparrow Bathing - Worleston

Cheshire Wildlife Trust is calling on budding photographers to enter their wildlife photographs into a competition to win publication in its charity calendar for 2020.

Jo Darlington, Director of Fundraising and Communications said: "We're looking for photographs that celebrate the variety of wildlife and landscapes our region has to offer. We had some fantastic photographs sent in to us last year so I can't wait to see what we receive."

The Trust is seeking the images for its 2020 charity calendar which will go on sale later this year. The twelve best entries will each feature as a full A4 page in the calendar and the winning photographers will receive a free copy. Twelve runners up will also see their photos featured in the calendar and the overall winning entry will get the prized cover opportunity.

People are being urged to look through any photographs they have previously taken, as well as to check their garden and surrounding neighbourhood for any opportunities to take new shots. "We'd like the calendar to reflect the seasons, as well as the variety of wildlife that surrounds us," said Jo Darlington. "We are delighted to have leading wildlife photographer Ben Hall on the judging panel to help us make the final selection too."

Ben Hall's work has appeared in leading wildlife and photography magazines including BBC Wildlife Magazine. He has won numerous awards for his photography and his reputation has led him to take photographs all over the world.

The competition is open to all ages and levels of photography experience. The Trust works across Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Halton, Stockport, Warrington, Tameside, Trafford and Wirral, and welcomes photographs taken in any of these areas.

**Closing date for entries is Friday 31st May 2019.**

To enter the competition and to see its terms and conditions, visit [www.cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/photography\\_competition](http://www.cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/photography_competition)

**Our 2019 competition winners:**

Greg Foord, Tony Marsh, Tim Preece, Diane Craddock, Joe O'Hanlon, Ian Knox, Lynda Haney, Tony North, John Davis, Gareth Rainsforth and Rob Gough.



Cheshire Wildlife Trust



## Nissan Micra Tekna DCi 90



*First off – I will happily admit I’m not a Nissan fan! Yes, they make some good cars – but they are not really for me and I have had these thoughts for many years, but recently I had the pleasure of testing the new Micra and I was pleasantly surprised just how good it was. I’m not kidding here folks – I think I may have seen the light. Now without any further waffle let’s get on with this week’s review and why I have your attention,*

### **Power and Efficiency:**

Fitted with a 1461cc diesel engine with 90PS @ 5000rpm, 220Nm of torque and a fantastic short shift 5-speed gearbox that gives you a good feel between gear changes. Also, give it the beans and you will get a healthy 0-62 time of around 11.9sec and an impressive 61.4mpg (combined) which I managed very

easily – along with a top speed of around 111mph, which is decent by all accounts. The engine is also happy to be driven hard to get the best out of it. But, I do have one niggle – in that it sounded a little noisy – but then it’s a diesel so I can forgive it for that.

### **On the road:**

Like all Micra models – they handle like a go-cart and I can feel where Nissan has made some major changes over the older Micra model because everything feels so much more together – which all helps in giving you a lot of confidence into the bends even when full to capacity – as well as giving you a great ride on uneven surfaces. Even on the motorway, all was good, and the road noise at high speed was very minimal.

### **Design & Technology**

As with all Nissan’s, the interior is of a good standard – but, I feel Nissan could have made it feel a little

less 'cheap'. Of course - it will last for years, and the seating is rather good - even after a long journey. Plus, all the dials and switches are laid out very well and are very clear and precise but there are areas I would like to see some improvements.

Some of the standard equipment across the range includes; ABS with EBD and Brake Assist, Driver, passenger, side and curtain airbags, front and rear seatbelts warning light, speed limiter, Tyre Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS), Intelligent trace control, Intelligent ride control, ISOFIX child seat anchorage points (rear x2 and front passenger seat\*), Hill Start Assist, Intelligent Emergency Braking with Pedestrian Recognition, High-Beam Assist, Lane Departure Warning, Intelligent Lane Intervention, Automatic hazard lights, Halogen headlights with signature finisher, concealed rear door handles, LED signature Daytime Running Lights (DTRL), rear roof spoiler and door mirrors with turn indicator.

And it doesn't stop there either - as my test car was the 'Tekna' version, you also get additional features such as; 17" alloy wheels, Absolute black cloth trim

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### To sum up:

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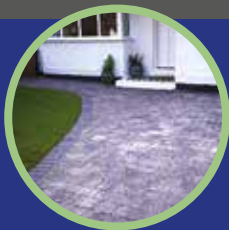


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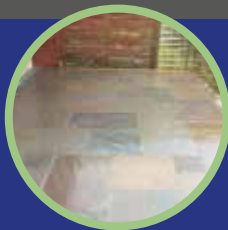
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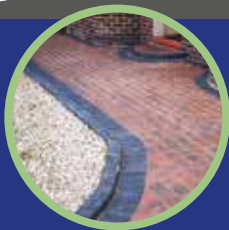
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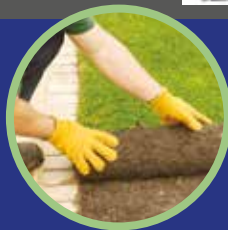
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# COMMUNITY NEWS

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## FRIENDS OF HADLOW ROAD STATION COMMUNITY GROUP

### FRIENDS OF HADLOW STATION UPDATE

Relaying the rail track has now been completed. This has come in at a total cost of around £9,500.

This cost covers all the new sleepers, plus the new pieces of rail track and rail fittings that extends alongside the signal box, the ballast, and also the direct expenses incurred by Real Skills Training for getting their apprentices to/from Hadlow Road Station, etc, whilst the apprentices labour was provided free of charge. This has been a huge undertaking and much bigger than we realised when we started but we feel that the end product is well worth the effort put in by our superb maintenance team led by Tim and will last for another 40+ years all being well.

You will notice that more memorabilia signs have been installed around the station, (renovated and fitted by Andy). There is one inside the far shelter and also two "Way out" signs on the main platform. See if you can spot them.

Three more Rowan trees have been planted on the green space embankment behind the signal box to go alongside the two trees kindly donated and planted by Willaston Hey W.I.

Existing flagstones on this section of the platform have been cleared (which is now much easier to walk along). A cost of £3,420 will be incurred to put edging stones down that match the far platform so budget prioritisation will need to be undertaken including agreement on how to spend the very kind £600 donation from South Wirral Rambling Club.

Garden maintenance has started up again now that the weather is improving and there are a lot of spring flowers showing. These will be supplemented with the £45 National Garden Gift Card donation received from Chester & North Wales Cyclists' Touring Club (Weds Group).



The Pop-up-cafe continues to be a great success thanks to your support, and the very hard work of all the catering team in planning and organising the food purchasing supported by other volunteers on serving duties when the pop-up café is open on Sundays.

The next pop-up cafe openings will be April 28th from 10.30am to 1.30pm.

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Hilary Booth





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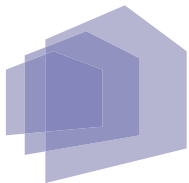


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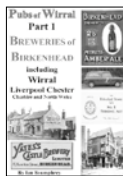
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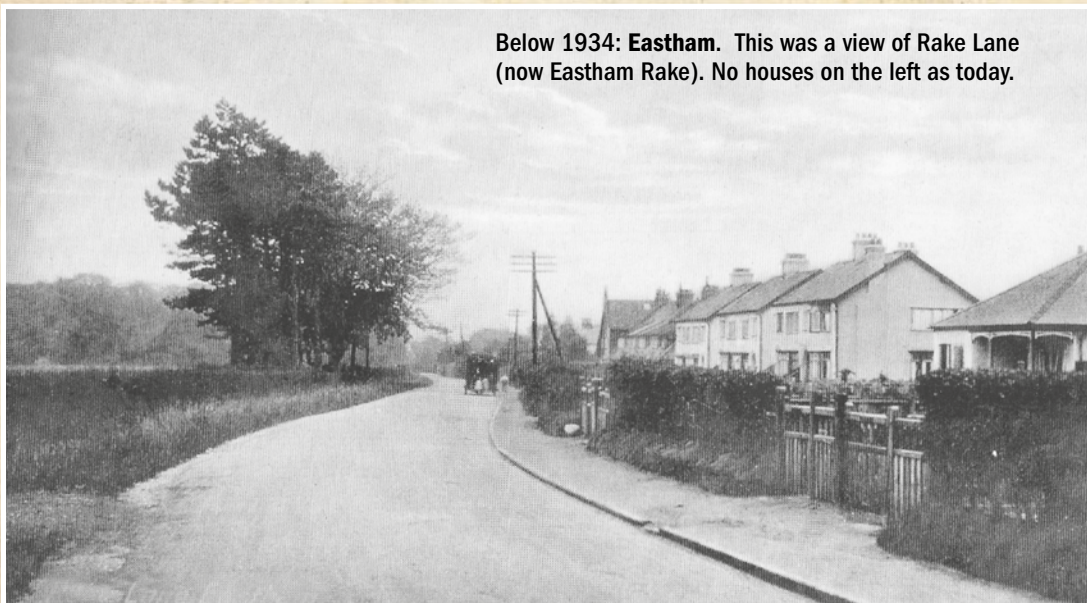
web site: <http://www.yesterdayswirral.co.uk>



Right: The old and new transport systems of trams and buses are seen side by side at **Woodside Birkenhead** in 1932 with Woodside Station building in the background. The letter 'C' on the balcony rails of the No. 23 tram was for the Circle route via Conway Street. The last tram ran 17 July 1937.



Below 1934: **Eastham**. This was a view of Rake Lane (now Eastham Rake). No houses on the left as today.





Above: 1892. The submerged forest at **Meols** extended to Leasowe. The roots and stumps of trees were partially buried in peaty soil which was the result of a pre-historic forest becoming submerged by the sea encroached up the land. From 1817, antiquities of

various materials were discovered dating back many centuries - by 1860 over 3,000 had been listed. The remains had not been seen for decades until they were briefly exposed in Spring 1982.

Right: The bathing huts on wheels are seen among the sandhills at **Hoylake**. The skeleton of a beached wooden boat can be seen on the beach with fishing boats beyond.



Above: The turreted building on the right was the Post Office with T Cross, ironmonger beyond - the pony and trap in the middle of Market Street **Hoylake** belonged to Woolley, butcher 10 Bank Road **West Kirby** with - George Watkin provision merchant on the left and the side of Gibsons' Stores 'cheapest cash grocer' either side of Lake Place.

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*Please contact the minister to clarify the time of service,  
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For more information call Rev. Phil Waldron on 07828 883484 email  
philipunitarian@gmail.com

[www.ukunitarians.org.uk/wirral/](http://www.ukunitarians.org.uk/wirral/)



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## Swap Meat for Seafood

Seafood can transform traditional dishes

Cod Parmesan  
with Zucchini Noodles

**N**ow more than ever, food choices matter. People want healthy, environmentally friendly foods without sacrificing flavour. Substituting the traditional protein in your favourite dishes with seafood is one deliciously smart way to satisfy these demands.

Seafood offers numerous health benefits. In fact, because seafood is high in protein, omega-3 fatty acids and essential vitamins and minerals, but low in saturated fat and calories, several health organizations recommend two servings per week.

When it comes to the environment, seafood offers an advantage as well – it's the most environmentally friendly of all the animal proteins. In a comparison of environmental costs, wild-capture fisheries have a miniscule cost compared to foods such as beef, chicken, pork and dairy.

Changing up traditional meals to incorporate the goodness of seafood is easier than you may think. Just pick a non-seafood protein dish that you regularly enjoy, and replace the protein.

*You could also try one of these other dishes which we will provide you with next month.*

### Cod Parmesan with Zucchini Noodles

**Serves: 4**

Prep time: 15 minutes

Cook time: 20 minutes

- 2 medium zucchini (5-6 ounces each), thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 teaspoon olive oil, salt and pepper, to taste
- 1/4 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 1/2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/8 teaspoon dried basil
- 1/8 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/8 teaspoon onion powder
- 4 cod fillets (4-6 ounces each)
- 2 tablespoons shredded Parmesan cheese, divided

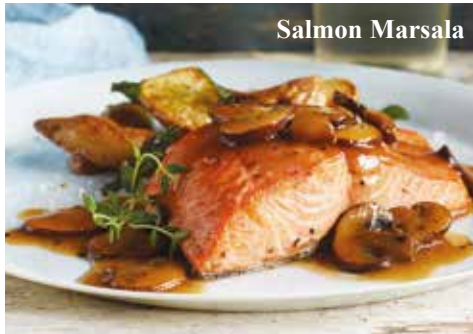
In nonstick skillet, saute zucchini slices in butter and oil just until soft. Add salt and pepper, to taste. Keep warm.

Heat oven to broil setting. Mix grated Parmesan cheese, mayonnaise, lemon juice, basil, oregano and onion powder together. Add salt and pepper, to taste. Divide and spread topping onto the top of each fillet.

Place fillets on foil-lined broiler pan. Broil 5-7 inches from broiler element for 3 minutes, or until top is browned and bubbly. Reduce heat to 300 F and cook 3-5 more minutes. Cook until fish is opaque throughout.

To serve, place 1/4 of zucchini on each plate. Top with cod fillet and garnish with 1/2 tablespoon shredded cheese.

Salmon Marsala



Smothered Cod or Pollock



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Hoylake



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It's our 21st year and we are expecting a record number of entrants this coming June so we are looking for extra help with marshalling the course. Instruction and guidance will be provided before the event so if you are able to support us please contact : [info@wirralbikeathon.com](mailto:info@wirralbikeathon.com)

We are also looking for new members to join our committee due to the retirement of some of our long standing members. If you're enthusiastic, like the idea of organising or helping out at events or fundraising and have a few hours per month to spare then please contact us for further info on [info@wirralbikeathon.com](mailto:info@wirralbikeathon.com)

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Presents



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*Party*

**SATURDAY 18th MAY 2019 - 6:00 for 6:30 start Buffet 7pm**

Entertainment provided by  
**The Semi Acoustics and Andrew Morris**

Proceeds in aid of Rotary supported organisations, including the Shaftesbury Youth Club Minibus Appeal

Dress code - bright colours and casual. Tickets available from:- [enquiries@birkenheadrotary.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@birkenheadrotary.org.uk)

This is a Marquee Event held at New Brighton Rugby Club, Reeds Lane, Wirral CH46 3RH



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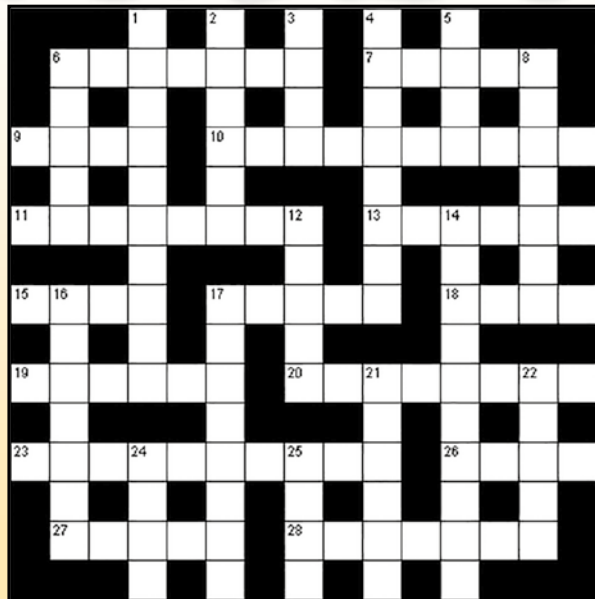
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# PUZZLE CORNER



## Down

1. Bookkeeper (10)
2. Slender (6)
3. Naval jail (4)
4. Squirming (8)
5. Leveling wedge (4)
6. Fit out again (5)
8. Rocket launcher (7)
12. Bake in a shallow dish (8)
14. What some science fiction is (10)
16. Belief (7)
17. Rumormonger (8)
21. Promise (6)
22. Our planet (5)
24. Feces (4)
25. Utilized (4)

## Across

- |                             |                         |                      |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 6. Recuperate (7)           | 13. Influx (6)          | 20. Described (8)    |
| 7. Rehabilitation (5)       | 15. Kind of bean (4)    | 23. Dispense (10)    |
| 9. Hairdo (4)               | 17. Coming and ____ (5) | 26. Classify (4)     |
| 10. Make legal (10)         | 18. Orange pekoe (4)    | 27. Audacity (5)     |
| 11. Those without seats (8) | 19. Gap (6)             | 28. Our language (7) |

## Word Search

- |          |           |            |            |
|----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| activity | elevator  | illegal    | pear       |
| annex    | erasure   | internal   | portent    |
| beggar   | fate      | irrational | reactor    |
| category | fight     | liberal    | sacrosanct |
| chastise | frustrate | material   | send       |
| convert  | gasoline  | meat       | summer     |
| crucial  | gelatin   | musket     | vague      |
| dangle   | gull      | nation     | vertical   |
| deliver  | half      | often      | weary      |
| doctor   | hermit    | opposite   |            |
| echoes   | honor     | ores       |            |

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

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# DIARY DATES MAY

# 2019

**Friday 3rd May 2019**

**Big Band Swing Cruise - 7:30pm**

**Seacombe Ferry Terminal,  
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Tel: 0151 330 1003**

Get your glad-rags on and join The Prohibition Pop Band for an evening of roaring twenties glamour! Dance the night away to new – and old – hits with a glitzy, Gatsby-style twist.

This incredible live band is made up of vocals, horns, guitars and percussion will take you right back to the dancefloor of a smoky, roaring speakeasy, so grab your flapper dresses and get foxtrotting!

**Ticket Price: £18 per person  
Cruise Duration: Approx 2½ hours  
Departs from Seacombe, Wirral at 7.30pm. Departs from Pier Head, Liverpool at 7.45pm**



**Saturday 4th May 2019**

**Spirit of the 80s - 7:30 - 10pm**

**Floral Pavilion Theatre  
Marine Promenade, New Brighton  
CH45 2JS Tel: 0151 666 0000**

Spirit Of The 80's is a sensational 1980's decade show, which takes you on a musical journey through that crazy decade of big hair, shoulder pads and pop fashion! Performing songs from all the big stars of the era, such as:- Wham, Madonna, Duran Duran, Spandau Ballet, FGTH, Cher, Bananarama, Culture Club the Human League and many more. With Authentic costume changes this two hour show will have you dancing and singing along all night!



**Until Sunday 5th May 2019**

**Williamson Open Art &  
Photography Exhibition 2019**

**Slatey Road, Prenton,  
Birkenhead, CH43 4UE**

The Williamson Open continues a tradition stretching back to 1913, when Birkenhead's first Museum and Art Gallery held the Birkenhead Spring exhibition. It was open to local artists, amateur and professional alike, to enter work on an equal footing and from that event some of the earliest pictures in the gallery's collection were selected.



**Sunday 12th May 2019**

**Secret Gardens of Oxton**

**Oxton, Wirral CH43  
Tel: 07962 248 268**

The delightful Wirral conservation village of Oxton will once again be hosting Secret Gardens of Oxton on Sunday 12 May, 2019. This award winning event showcases about 20 private gardens not normally open to the public and all within walking distance of each other.

Last year our courtyards, rockeries, walled gardens, ponds and colourful borders attracted nearly 4,000 visitors.

**10:00am - 5:00pm**



**1st May - Friday 31st May 2019**

**2019 Wirral Walking Festival**

Coordinated by Wirral Council's Parks and Countryside Service, the Wirral Walking Festival highlights the variety of walks that take place on the peninsula in May each year from short strolls around the Secret Gardens of Oxton to long distance treks like the Coast to Coast walk. Many of the walks are just part of an annual programme like the Buggy Park Fitness Sessions or Walking for Health Walks and both the Ramblers and Wirral Footpaths and Open Spaces Preservation Society offer a full calendar of walks that take place throughout the year.



**Tuesday 21st May 2019**

**Pedal Away ride**

**10:00am - 12:00pm**

**Meet outside Guinea Gap Leisure  
Centre, Riverview Rd, Wallasey  
CH44 6PX**

Every Tuesday meet at 10am at Guinea Gap for an easy cycle ride.



**Do you have any events coming up then why not share them with our readers and email us.**

# I BEAT TORVILL & DEAN REVEALS WIRRAL CARE HOME RESIDENT, 94

**A Wirral care home resident has revealed that he competed against Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean – and once beat them in a competition.**

Derek Drury, 94, who lives at The Hazelwell, a residential, nursing, palliative and respite care home in Heswall, started roller dancing at the age of four, in Manchester and then as a teenager began ice dancing.

He said: *"I started roller dancing very young because I didn't like football, and my mother was a roller dance teacher so it was a natural step. I met my wife on a skiing holiday and we spent many years ice dancing together at Silver Blades in Liverpool (now Planet Ice Widnes), and although she didn't dance with me competitively, she was very supportive of me competing.*

*"For many years I spent every Saturday at the Birmingham ice rink, and that's where I first met Torvill and Dean. I only did ice dancing, not figure skating, but I skated many times against Torvill and Dean, and I even beat them in one competition in Liverpool."*

Derek is still well known in the ice dance world especially for his choreography work. In his later years, he was a highly respected judge in the England Championships as well as National Ice-Skating, judging to a gold standard. Staff at The Hazelwell recently took him to the Deeside Leisure Centre in Queensferry when he met up with friends and people he used to teach how to skate.

Derek added: *"I always tried to give helpful advice to all the dancers after the shows. I love photography and after retiring as a judge I went on to spend many years at ice rinks taking photos of competing skaters."*

The Hazelwell deputy care home manager Sue Ball said: *"It's wonderful for us all to hear stories about Derek's ice-skating past. When we're all enjoying Dancing on Ice, he can fill us in on behind the scenes expert information. It's like having a celebrity in our midst!"*

**For more information about The Hazelwell contact Sue on 0151 342 9654, email [info@thehazelwell.com](mailto:info@thehazelwell.com) or visit [www.thehazelwell.com](http://www.thehazelwell.com)**



Torvill and Dean

Derek Drury, 94,  
who lives at The Hazelwell



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