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FEBRUARY 2020 Issue 36

Monthly Business & Community magazine delivered in & around Chester



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Chester Rambling & Walking Club



What's Happening At Our Zoo



Charity Celebrates 35 Years



Helping Hedgehogs In The Garden



Auto Review By Tony Yates

Love Chester

The Local Magazine for Businesses in and around Cheshire.

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Cover Photograph: Tour bus on corner of Bridge Street and Grosvenor Street, Chester.



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MBE for Cheshire chair caner Brian Crossley

Brian Crossley from Tattenhall in Cheshire has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's New Year Honours List 2020 for services to chair caning, in recognition of his unparalleled craftsmanship and tireless work in ensuring his skills are passed on to current and future generations.

Brian was among three craftspeople nominated by the Heritage Crafts Association in this year's New Year Honours, following 16 previously successful nominations since 2013. Earlier this year, the charitable organisation - which was set up ten years ago to support and champion traditional craft skills - published the latest edition of its groundbreaking HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts, the first report of its kind to rank endangered craft skills by the likelihood they will survive into the next generation.

Brian has been involved in the endangered craft of chair caning for over 50 years — initially in his spare time, and now full time - having been taught by his mother. He has devoted himself to perfecting and passing on the skills, and is now one of the most revered practitioners in the world, regarded as an expert and ambassador in his field. He is the go-to craftsman for prestigious museums and antique collectors to repair and re-cane their furniture, including the Ruskin Museum where he re-caned John Ruskin's very own high chair.

Brian was a founder Trustee of the Heritage Crafts Association nine years ago, and its first Secretary, setting up the Association such that it had sound governance and a solid foundation for

the future. He is a strong advocate for craft, being a great ambassador for both chair caning and heritage crafts in general. His unique skills as a maker, teacher and researcher have been recognised by the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers, of which he is a Yeoman.

Brian's previous career was in civil engineering, and he has provided decades of mentoring and developing others through the Institution of Civil Engineers. He rose from Chair of a regional committee to eventually Vice President of the Institution for four years, responsible for standards of civil engineering in many countries. From 2002 to 2013 he volunteered for the Historical Engineering Group, researching and preserving unique past engineering works. In 2001 he won the Garth Watson medal, the highest

award for service to the Institute. He has also been awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Bolton for his outstanding contribution to the field of construction.

The two other craftspeople receiving MBEs in the New Year Honours are reverse glass sign artist David A Smith MBE from Torquay in Devon and upholsterer Wendy Shorter-Blake MBE from Welwyn Garden City in Hertfordshire.

HCA Chair Patricia Lovett MBE said:

"While countries like Japan and Korea have National Living Treasures schemes to celebrate master craftspeople, the UK does not yet have an equivalent way of recognising our most highly skilled makers — and sadly we are one of only 15 of the 193 UNESCO member states yet to ratify the 2003 Convention on the Safeguarding of Intangible Heritage. We are therefore delighted that these talented individuals, who give so much of themselves to ensure that their crafts continue, have been recognised through the honours system, putting traditional craftspeople up there with other great luminaries of public life."

The HCA encourages anyone who supports the continuation of traditional craft skills, whether or not they are makers themselves, to become HCA members via its website www.heritagecrafts. org.uk. The charity has set up an Endangered Crafts Fund to provide small grants to projects that increase the likelihood of endangered craft skills surviving into the next generation, and is currently seeking donations to save more of Britain's most endangered crafts from oblivion - visit www.heritagecrafts.org. uk/ecf to find out more and to donate.

Brian Crossley passing on skills to the next generation.







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DO YOU

- The blobfish is actually a normal looking fish, it just decompresses when you take it out of extreme depths.
- ns.
- The deadliest James Bond was Pierce Brosnan, who killed an average of 33.8 people per movie.
- 3. Sony makes more money as an insurance company in Japan than selling electronics.
- If a potato is exposed to light while growing, it will turn green and become poisonous.
- 5. The Netherlands surrendered to Nazi Germany after just 5 days.
- 6. The U.S. Secret Service has its own flag.
- Frogs find their way back to their breeding grounds by following the smell of the pond's algae.
- 8. Plants can suffer from sexually transmitted diseases.
- Harry Houdini could pick up pins with his eyelashes and thread a needle with his toes.
- A leech can take up to 200 days to digest a meal.



- 11. Lobsters don't scream in pain when you cook them. The noise you hear is air that has been trapped in the stomach and forced through the mouth.
- **12.** River snails and a parasite prevented a Chinese invasion of Taiwan in 1949.
- 13. "Placenta" comes from Latin, meaning "cake."
- 14. Benjamin Franklin left the cities of Boston and Philadelphia \$2,000 in his will, but they could not draw the full balance for 200 years. In 1990, the cities received \$6.5 million.



- It's unsafe for travellers to rely on 'St Christopher' any more: he was removed from the calendar of saints in 1969.
- 16. Before they reached international stardom, The Beatles auditioned for Decca Records, who rejected them saying they had "no future in show business."
- Before he was Wolverine on "X-Men" or a Broadway star, actor Hugh Jackman got fired from his cashier job at 7-Eleven.



KNOW?

- An investor in the initial public offering of Microsoft would have seen a return of 30,207%
- The first time comedian Jerry Seinfeld walked on stage at a comedy club he froze and was booed off stage.
- 20. Unit 684 was a South Korean black-ops team of 31 convicted criminals whose mission was to kill North Korea's premier Kim Il-sung. They mutinied, hijacked a bus, and were shot by the army or committed suicide.
- The Queen is the legal owner of one-sixth of the Earth's land surface.
- In the UK, all horses, ponies and donkeys must have a horse passport.
- In London, it is illegal to die in the Houses of Parliament.
- **24.** Slavery was not made a statutory offense in the UK until April 6, 2010.
- **25.** The Queen Mary of Scotland became queen when she was only six days old. ____
- 26. 1.3 million Earths could fit inside the sun, an average-sized star.
- 27. It takes 8 minutes and 20 seconds for light to travel from the sun to the earth.
- **28.** There are more living organisms in a teaspoonful of soil than there are people on earth.
- **29.** Before trees were common, the Earth was covered with giant mushrooms.
- **30.** In 5,000 years of human history, only one disease has been eradicated: smallpox.
- 31. When Columbus "discovered" the Americas, the continent was already inhabited by 90 million people which was a third of the world's population.
- The eruption of Krakatoa in 1883 was the loudest sound in recorded history, heard 3,000 miles (4800 KM) away.
- 32. Ice Age Britons used human skulls as cups.
- **33.** The first car accident occurred in 1891, in Ohio.



34. The Aztecs sacrificed 1% of their population every year, or about 250,000 people.



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Winter often brings challenges for those of us who love the great outdoors. But, with the right number of warm layers, woolly hat, gloves and extra socks, plus lunch and a flask of coffee to line our insides, members of Chester Rambling and Hill Walking Club still brave the elements through the darkest of the seasons.

It may have been a cold, damp winter generally, but there have been glorious moments of sunshine. One recent hike took us up Bryn Alyn, near Llanferres. We'd parked in the large layby at Plymog on the A494 Mold/Ruthin road, and began the 9-mile walk by heading easterly across the fields and over the River Alyn. The morning was cloudy, but bright and clear, and an open plateau near the hamlet of Bryn-Haidd offered us our first marvellous views of the nearby Clwydian Range. This is a great spot to take a break, slosh some coffee into a beaker and admire the hills lined up in front of you: Moel Gyw, Gyrn, Moel Eithinen, Foel Ffenlli and Fron Hen – Moel Famau hiding over the brow of Fron Hen at this point. Onwards, and our route took us in an easterly direction, along a lovely footpath with views facing south towards the Llantisilios.

Dipping down into the hamlet of Nant, you might think this was always a sleepy backwater, but it has its own little piece of history. Giveaway clues indicate that the village once played a part in the region's rich lead mining industry, and that life round these parts wasn't always as serene as today. A long redundant chimney, surrounded by well-established trees, towers over the few cottages, and many decades have passed since the nearby engine house last saw action. Other relics of past lead mining and limestone quarrying have left their mark on the nearby hillsides. Nature is slowly claiming back what humans have discarded, but the evidence is there.

From Nant we started a gradual ascent up the lower levels of Bryn Alyn. At 403m at its highest point, Bryn Alyn is exposed and almost treeless, a wild and windy place where a brisk pace is needed to keep the cold at bay. Up here too, are the remains of a remote and long dead mine, bringing home to us the bleakness of a lead miner's lot back in the 19th century. Today, the only industry on Bryn Alyn is sheep farming, the hillsides populated with hardy woolly beasts who happily graze the area's lush vegetation.

The descent from the summit brings into view one of the region's few working quarries and our route passed briefly close to this blot on the landscape. Soon we headed uphill

once again, to another favourite viewpoint. Here, Moel Findeg can be seen to the north, Bryn Alyn sits behind us to the south, and the main Clwydian Range is to our west - a magnificent place to stop for a breather, especially on a clear bright day.

From this point our route avoided that final ascent to the top of Moel Findeg. Instead, we took a lower footpath back towards Maeshafn, through Big Covert Wood. As we neared the edge of the woodland, the sky cleared and the lowering sun glowed between the trees. By the time we emerged from the woods, a beautiful winter sunset shone in all its glory.

On that dark morning, it was hard to crawl out from under the duvet at the trill of the alarm clock, but once out on those hillsides enjoying the bracing winter air and all those gorgeous views, we were so glad we did!

If you fancy group walking in new areas, why not join us? Check out what we're up to during the coming weeks by visiting our website: www.chesterwalkingclub.com or take a look at our Facebook page to see photos of some of our recent walks.

Maria Owen, Press Officer, Chester Rambling and Hill Walking Club

CHESTER RAMBLING & HILL WALKING CLUB

CHESTER RAMBLING & HILL WALKING CLUB

We are a Chester-based walking club, offering up to 3 grades of walks on Sundays, and alternate Wednesdays, and a programme of short summer rambles on Tuesday evenings. The summer season also sees a flurry of camping activity, when we pack up our tents, hook up the caravans, book B & B's and cottages, and head off to destinations slightly further afield for a few days.

Led by experienced leaders, our Sunday and Wednesday walks last approx 6 hours, so bring picnic, flask and water. These hikes cover Snowdonia and North Wales, Cheshire, Shropshire, Lancashire and Derbyshire. Sorry - no dogs or under 18s allowed on our walks.

The club runs mid-week social evenings during the winter, including supper evenings, quiz nights and the ever popular Christmas party!

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What's happening at Chester Zoo.

ON THE MARCH:
Rare caterpillars at Chester Zoo destined for the wild



- The large heath butterfly is one of the England's rarest insect species
- The large heath has been extinct across most of England since its habitat disappeared in the 1800s
- Chester Zoo is working with the Lancashire Wildlife Trust to reintroduce the species to its historic range across the north-west
- As part of a breeding programme, 150 individual millimetre-long large heath caterpillars are growing up at Chester Zoo
- Amazing images capture the early moments of the rare species, as invertebrate experts use fine art paintbrushes to carefully move the miniscule animals

More than 150 rare caterpillars have hatched at Chester Zoo, destined for release into part of their historic home range in the wild across North West England, where they have been extinct for a century.

More than 150 rare caterpillars which have hatched at Chester Zoo are now destined for release into the wild in Manchester and Cheshire, where they have been extinct for a century.

The Chester Zoo butterfly team is working to raise the caterpillars to help prevent their extinction, in partnership with the Lancashire Wildlife Trust.

Each member of the army of freshly hatched "large heath" caterpillars is currently only a couple of millimetres long.

Conservationists at the zoo have been using fine art paintbrushes to move the miniscule species into their specially designed habitats at the zoo.

The paintbrushes allow the zoo's invertebrate keepers to be precise and delicate when handling the precious insects.

After plenty of eating and growth, the tiny youngsters will hibernate over the winter and pupate next year, emerging in the summer as large heath butterflies.

These adults will be the first to return to areas that their









OUR LATEST NEWS & EVENTS

species once called home – the Astley Moss of Manchester and the Risley Moss at Warrington.

Large heath butterflies were once common across the British Isles but over the last 200 years, they have been pushed further and further north. Large colonies previously at home in the boggy mosses of Manchester and Liverpool have long since been lost to local extinction.

As the UK has built its agriculture over the last two centuries, the wet mosslands that the large heath needs to survive have been drained and converted into farmland. As the land dried, the food plants for the butterfly were lost, resulting in a cascade of wildlife disappearance.

The butterfly can be identified by their orange wings, each bearing six black and white 'eyespots' on the underside. Conservationists hope to ensure that they will one day be a common sight across the UK once again.

Ben Baker, Team Manager of the Chester Zoo butterfly team, said:

"Few people realise that the butterflies we might see in our gardens, forests and mosslands across the UK are heavily under threat, with many species disappearing from their last strongholds throughout England. "The Chester Zoo butterfly team already cares for endangered and rare invertebrates from across the world, as well as these local butterflies. We are working extremely hard to stop these species from disappearing.

"It is an amazing privilege to play a part in embarking these rare caterpillars on their journey, returning the species to their historic home.

"Although miniscule in size at the moment, we'll watch them grow and grow in our care over the course of the year, wishing them farewell in the spring."

The breeding programme and reintroduction forms a key part of the Lancashire Wildlife Trust led "Manchester Mosses Species Reintroduction Project". Funded by £265,000 from Veolia and £25,000 from the Casey Group, the work is seeing a return of many long-lost plants and insects to special areas of conservation in the Manchester, Cheshire and Lancashire region.

Chester Zoo supports conservationists and conservation projects across the United Kingdom to prevent the extinction of unique and endangered species, safeguarding diverse and healthy ecosystems.



Charity to Celebrate 35th Anniversary



The Neuro Therapy Centre, based in Saltney, Flintshire will be celebrating its 35th anniversary in 2020 - with lots of events and fundraising ideas throughout the year.

The charity was first formed in 1985 to support people with MS by offering Oxygen Therapy – its four founders were people who either had the condition or were Carers of people with the condition. Over the years it has expanded its support into a wide range of therapies including physiotherapy, gym facilities and counselling, as well as a social space where people can meet and support each other. In 2011 the Centre also increased the number of conditions it supports to embrace a wider range of neurological conditions including Parkinson's Disease. Fibromylagia, Motor Neurone Disease and MF.

"The Centre has evolved over the years and we make

sure that we keep embracing change to meet the needs of people with neurological conditions and their Carers The inspiration of our four founding members is always with us and ensures that we continue to provide a professional and friendly service to those who need us," said Jane Johnston-Cree, Centre Director at the Neuro Therapy Centre. "The degenerative long-term conditions we support can stop people in their tracks, leaving them without hope and having to change their lives dramatically. We are here to encourage and support a life after diagnosis and the supportive nature and caring atmosphere at our Centre shines through - it's the first thing that people notice when they walk through the door."

The Centre will be using its anniversary year to raise awareness of its work throughout the region, across

North Wales, Cheshire and the Wirral.

Jane added: "We are the only Centre of our kind in this region, so it is important that we reach as many people as we can who can benefit from our services. Therefore, we are encouraging everyone that can help us spread the word about our services to do so – whether that be employers supporting partner employees. organisations, **GPs** and friends and neighbours. We want 2020 to be a landmark vear for the Centre and we're keen to hear from anyone that can support us."

The charity has also planned several fundraising events to mark the special year, two of which start in January. The Centre is encouraging people to get sponsored to give up their bad habits for the month of January and join them in taking part in their

'Banuary' campaign. "We're excited to hear what people are going to give up," said Shannah Goodrick, Events and Volunteer Co-ordinator at the Neuro Therapy Centre. "Chocolate is a popular one so far along with alcohol, we've also heard mention of people being tempted to give up Netflix binges for the Whatever people month. choose it's great to know that they can use this opportunity to raise funds for our work and perhaps it may even lead to a permanent lifestyle change."

The Centre's second fundraising campaign to start in January will be their 'Virtual Voyage' where people can sign-up to 'travel' part of the distance between the Centre and Tokyo in time for the launch of the Paralympics on 25th August. "We're really excited about this one," said Shannah. "The distance is 5897 miles, so it's going to be quite a challenge, but with as many people as possible contributing to cover the distance I'm sure we'll make it. People can choose how they wish to take part whether that is through swimming, walking, running, rowing, cycling or something else."

The Centre also has plans including a golf day, charity auction, and their largest ever fashion show during their celebration year – with more to be announced.

People wanting to find out more about the Neuro Therapy Centre, its services, or its fundraising events can visit the Neuro Therapy Centre's website at www.neurotherapycentre.org or call 01244 678619.







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HELPING HEDGEHOGS (RECT FILE has flee

IN THE GARDEN

If you've got a garden, hedgehogs are useful visitors. They will eat slugs, beetles, caterpillars and a variety of other insects.

To attract hedgehogs to your garden you can try providing a natural shelter using log, leaf and compost piles (always check before moving the pile or having a bonfire) or allow patches of bramble to grow up, creating 'wild' areas. You could also place a piece of board against a pile of bricks to form a type of bivouac or buy a purpose built hedgehog house.

Hedgehogs can travel around a mile every night so, to provide access to enclosed gardens, try cutting holes in fences, removing bricks from walls, or digging tunnels under the garden boundary.

This will allow local hogs to move freely in and out of your garden. Food and fresh water laid out between February and October will encourage visiting hedgehogs to return regularly. You could try leaving out food such as minced meat, fresh liver, tinned dog food (not fish-based), or even scrambled eggs. Remember to check and replace the food and water daily and dispose of food if not eaten.

Hedgehogs like milk but it may give them diarrhoea. So it's best to give hedgehogs plain, fresh water each night in a shallow bowl. They should never be given cows' milk.





Hedgehog friendly gardening...

GARDEN PONDS can be death traps to small animals - make sure there is always an easy route for hedgehogs to climb out of the water. Steps built out of house brick or wire mesh are often used in ponds. Alternatively, make sure the pond has a gentle slope on at least one side. Ideally, swimming pools should have shallow steps and a tight-fitting insulating cover should be used overnight. Remember to check your pond or pool every day!

STRIMMERS should be used sparingly under hedges and in other areas of undergrowth and always make sure you check any areas you want to cut or strim before starting – hedgehogs and other animals are likely to be resting there during the day.

DRAINS and similar open holes frequently trap unwary hedgehogs and they can starve if they are not rescued. Keep all drain covers in good condition and cover any open holes.

LITTER is a real hazard – hedgehogs frequently get their heads stuck in tins, plastic bags, binders from drinks cans or discarded yoghurt pots - make sure you dispose of your rubbish safely. Bin bags left on the ground will also attract hedgehogs, they might try to nest in them and get put out with the rubhish!

NETS particularly those used for tennis, football or cricket, must be furled well above the ground when not in use - hedgehogs often get entangled and die of starvation. Fruit nets are a similar source of danger but can be kept taut to stop animals getting entangled. Make sure all barbed wire is also kept off the ground.

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Autoreview by Tony Yates

Keeping you motoring

Hyundai Santa Fe Premium SE - 2.2 CRDi - 8 Speed Auto- 4WD.(200PS)



Power and Efficiency:

Fitted with a 2,199cc turbocharged diesel engine with 200PS @ 3,800rpm and 440Nm of torque @ 1,750 - 2,750rpm. 0-62mph is around 9.3sec, and fuel consumption is a decent 44.8 mpg combined with a top speed of 127mph.

Now, I know we all think large engines are a thing of the past – but we are all wrong. How do I know that – well Hyundai has proved that a large diesel engine can be just as efficient – and I think they are right, as the 2.2-litre engine in the 'New Generation' Santa Fe is an excellent choice as it goes well and sounds great. Its also quite refined actually with no signs of shake, rattle and roll.

At the end of the day, it all comes down to balancing the mechanical efficiency and power of this engine - which I hope helps it stand out above some of the other not so efficient units on the market. Plus,

remember the Santa Fe is a car that can be used to move large amounts of stuff around with ease.

On the road:

Actually, it's pretty nimble for such a large car – but it can't be classed as 'frisky' if I'm being honest. Take the Santa Fe out on the open road though, and you soon begin to feel just how well it grips. Of course, manufacturers spend an awful amount of money designing and developing the chassis and suspension, because they want it to be the best it can be. But sometimes there are compromises to be made. Well after just a few hours driving, I realised the Santa Fe is a great buy.

Design & Technology

I don't want to speak out of turn here, but the Santa Fe really is a handsome thing – Yes, it won't suit everyone – and I should know as I own a VW UP! – which is not the prettiest of things I grant you, but, then again - I don't think the latest Land Rover Discovery is particularly 'good looking' either - but people will still spend lots of their cash buying one.

Also, when I do any road tests out on the open road, I follow a pretty simple set of rules - its either 'good or bad or very bad'. Well, I'm happy to report that Santa Fe is firmly aligned with the word 'Good'. So, there you have it, another decent car with some faults such as an interior which is not on my favourite list, but its still functional.

The 'New Generation' Santa Fe also benefits from a superior rigidity through the use of advanced high strength steel and high impact energy absorption that protects passengers in the event of a collision. There are also six airbags: two front airbags, two side airbags and two curtain airbags from first to the second row, protecting both driver and passengers. All safe & sound there then.

Standard equipment on the Santa Fe Premium SE starts with; 8" Touchscreen Sat-Nav, 19" Alloy Wheels, Blind Spot Detection System with Brake Assist. Electric

Front Seats, LED Headlights, Heated Steering Wheel, KRELL Premium Audio with 10 Speakers including External Amplifier and Subwoofer, Rear Cross Traffic Alert, Leather Seat Trim, Smart Keyless Entry and a whole host of other extras. I'm not kidding here, the list is so long – that it actually boggles the mind.

To sum up:

What can I say – the Santa Fe is a great drive and perfect for someone who wants a large car that comes with a large amount of space and many extras for a reasonable amount of money. Hopefully, you will now go out and give it a test drive and see for yourself what the new Santa Fe has to offer.

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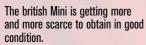
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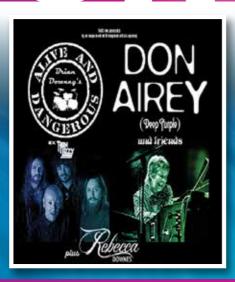
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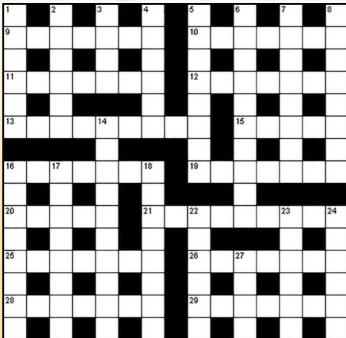
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Quick Crossword Puzzle

Down

- 1. Chronicles (6)
- 2. Pertaining to a bride (6)
- 3. Newbie (slang) (4)
- 4. View (6)
- 5. Graphic symbol (8)
- 6. Vilify (10)
- 7. Disapproved (8)
- 8. Educator (8)
- 14. Rainproof (10)
- 16. Carved deeply into (8)
- 17. Cardiopulmonary exercises (8)
- 18. One who makes payment (8)
- 22. Personal security (6)
- 23. Set aflame (6)
 - 24. Putting surfaces (6)
 - 27. Unrestrained revelry (4)

Across

- 9. Anxious (7)
- 10. Drool (7)
- 11. Hearable (7)
- 12. Luxurious (7)
- 13. Brine (9)

- 15. Fruity-smelling compound (5)
- 16. A small kitchen appliance (7)
- 19. Wander aimlessly (7)
- 20. Mistake (5)
- 21. Becoming proficient (9)

- 25. Nightclub (7)
- 26. Walk emphatically (7)
- 28. Insert (7)
- 29. Fasten (7)

Sudoku Puzzle

How to play: The numbers 1 through 9 will appear once only in each row, column, and 3x3 zone. There are 9 such zones in each sudoku grid.

There is only one correct solution to each sudoku. Good luck!

Difficulty level: Hard.

Solutions can be found on our website:

www.love-chester.com

			7				5	
					1	2	4	
1			6	9				
				2				
	2					5		4
	6	3	8			7		
6						9		
				3	4		6	5
	5							2

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5th February 2020 Chester Music Society Showcase

St Mary's Creative Space, Chester CH1 2DW Tel: 01928 787496 Tickets £5 at the door Wednesday 19:30 - 21:30

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14th February 2020 Friday Night Comedy 20:30

Alexander's Live, Chester Rufus Court, Chester, CH1 2JW £12.10 / 01244 401 402



14th February 2020
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Tickets: £35 per person Opening Times Friday 19:30 - 23:00



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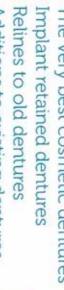
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