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MAGAZINE



JUNE 2021  
Issue 50

Monthly Business & Community magazine delivered in & around Chester

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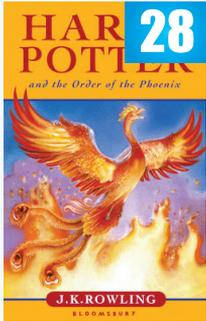


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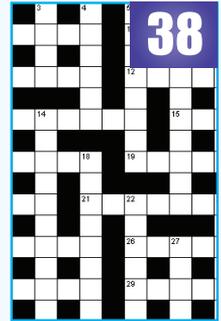
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## Love Chester

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Cover Photo: The Townhouse where you can find the Secret Garden see pages 21 - 24.



Dear Friends,

I don't know what happened in May, we certainly didn't get the weather we were hoping for, fingers crossed for June!

We have some super new advertisers again this month, it is so lovely that we can get out and about safely, at last!

Our advertisers are quality, local and reliable tradespeople offering great services at affordable prices.

We have some great offers for new advertisers, all our contact details are on the front of the magazine. You may want to advertise in our Love Wirral magazine!

Look out for us on the road in our Love Wirral & Chester van.

Keep up to date with us on Facebook and our Facebook Group, Twitter or visit us at: [www.love-chester.com](http://www.love-chester.com)

Best Wishes  
Maxine & Mike



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# Apartment-living in the heart of the city

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With an emphasis on independence and choice, Belong's model ensures both the ability to adapt services as people's needs change and the diversity to suit couples requiring different levels of support.

For those with an eye on the future, independent living in a Belong village apartment is an ideal way to be part of a vibrant community, with a range of facilities on your doorstep, while knowing that there is back-up if needed.

The high specification, one- or two-bedroomed apartments are designed around the needs of older people, with walk-in showers, custom-built living facilities, a 24-hr emergency response and the option of a daily checking service. These are backed by the reassurance of living within a 24-hour



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All Belong customers also have free access to our Admiral Nurse service: specialist mental health nurses providing advice for people living with dementia and their carers.

Located in the heart of the city, Belong Chester is within minutes of the train station and offers an ideal base from which to access to central shopping and leisure areas.

**Floor plans and prices packs for the apartments are now available on request, with Belong Chester due to open in early 2022. To receive further information, please contact one of our friendly team on 01244 470 570, or email [enquiries@belong.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@belong.org.uk)**



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#### Forshaw/Murray - Bebington

We are very happy with all the work and the high standard that was attained.

#### O'Mally - Meols

"Scott and the team certainly gave us best in class service whilst they worked on our extension, kitchen and bathrooms. They kept us informed all the way and worked around our diaries to deliver the programme on time. We highly recommend them to anyone."

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# DO YOU KNOW?

1. Vanilla beans are the product of the world's only fruit-producing orchid, the *Vanilla planifolia*.



2. 9% of the Earth's oxygen is produced by the Amazon rainforest.

3. The coldest place on Earth is a high ridge in Antarctica where temperatures can dip below  $-93.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

4. Unlike many mammals, bears can see in colour.

5. Your brain keeps developing until your late 40s.

6. With over 520 million followers, as of 2019, Buddhism is the world's 4th-largest religion.



7. The smell of chocolate increases theta brain waves, which trigger relaxation.

8. Elephants can hear one another's trumpeting calls up to 5 miles away.

9. Our bodies contain about 0.2 milligrams of gold, most of it in our blood.

10. In 1990, Harry Potter author J. K. Rowling was on a crowded train from Manchester to London when the idea for Harry suddenly "fell into her head".

11. Hitler was saved from drowning by a priest when he was 4 years old. He never admitted to the near-drowning accident in later life, but a small cutting from a 1894 newspaper was found, chronicling how a boy of four was saved from drowning. This confirms the story, told by priest Max Tremmel, of how his predecessor Johann Kuehberger had rescued the terrified Hitler.

12. Koalas sleep up to 20 hours a day.



13. Leo Da Vinci could write with one hand and draw with the other at the same time.

14. Couples who are in love synchronize their heart rates after gazing into each others' eyes for three minutes.

15. Barry Manilow didn't write his song called "I write the songs".

16. The Beatles used to be called Johnny and the Moondogs.

17. Late-night dancing was illegal in Japan until 2015.

18. Japan has more than 50,000 people who are over 100 years old.

19. In an average lifetime human skin completely replaces itself 900 times.

20. People with many friends live 3.7 years more than those who are isolated.



21. A person from Las Vegas is called a "Las Vegan".

22. The word "bride" comes from an old proto-germanic word meaning "to cook".

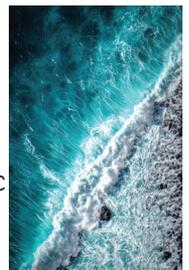
23. The tradition of exchanging wedding rings goes back to ancient Egyptian times.

24. Over 5,000 climbers have successfully reached Mount Everest's peak, including a 13-year-old, a blind person, and a 73-year-old woman.

25. During Apartheid, Glasgow renamed the street where the South African Consulate was located to "Nelson Mandela Place." Consular officials would be forced to look at his name when reading and addressing postal correspondence.

26. If we could capture just 0.1% of the ocean's kinetic energy caused by tides, we could satisfy the current global energy demand 5 times over.

27. Recycling a single plastic bottle can conserve enough energy to light a 60W bulb for up to 6 hours.



28. When the "Elephant Whisperer" Lawrence Anthony died, a herd of elephants arrived at his house to mourn him.

29. An experiment in 1998 found that a bright light shone on the backs of human knees can reset the brain's sleep-wake clock.

30. Similar to fingerprints, everyone also has a unique tongue print.



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# OUR ZOO

## What's happening at Chester Zoo.

### Vets perform sight-saving surgery on penguin at Chester Zoo



*first ever penguin cataracts operation.*

*Now, just a few weeks after his surgery, experts at the zoo have reported that Munch is back with the rest of the colony and nearing a full recovery.*

*The Eye vet said:*

*"I've been in the veterinary field for almost 24 years and Munch is the very first penguin I've operated on – they're not regular clients that's for sure. Unfortunately, because his quality of life was impacted by the diminished sight, surgery was the only option we had available to us.*

*"We had seen the news about how the Covid-19 pandemic had massively impacted Chester Zoo, and this sort of surgery can certainly be costly. Eye Vet was therefore more than happy to donate both equipment and time to help out. We also approached several companies that manufacture specific items that we needed for the surgery to see if they'd kindly donate it to us and, wonderfully, they all agreed. We're really happy to report that the surgery was successful and Munch is now well on the way to making a full recovery.*

*Four-year-old Munch, a Humboldt penguin at Chester Zoo, was discovered to be experiencing blindness in both of his eyes from cataracts, a disorder which creates cloudy patches on the lens which get bigger overtime.*

*Bird conservationists noticed the issue when Munch was having difficulty catching fish during feeding times and started bumping into other members of the zoo's colony of Humboldt penguins - a species listed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as vulnerable to extinction.*

*Following an assessment by the zoo's team of on-site vets, it was decided that only specialist treatment could save Munch's sight, and so animal optical care experts at Eye Vet were called in to help perform the zoo's*



To save Chester Zoo head to: [www.chesterzoo.org/saveourzoo](http://www.chesterzoo.org/saveourzoo)

"Like many of the staff at the zoo, our team has worked throughout the national lockdowns, so we're all feeling mentally and physically exhausted, but taking care of Munch was just the morale boost that we all needed. It's an amazing feeling knowing that we've helped save him, he's the first thing that made me smile in a long time and caring for him was definitely the best part of my year. We can't wait to visit him and the penguin colony now that the zoo has reopened."



Following his procedure, Munch spent time recovering in a shallower nursery pool while keepers monitored his post-surgery progress. During this time, he was joined by his life partner and best friend, Wurlly, who kept him company throughout his recovery.

Munch really dotes on Wurlly and wherever she goes, he follows, so I'm sure she provided some great comfort to him. The pair have

always been inseparable and even had their first chick, Leek, in 2019 and are even incubating eggs once again!

#### Humboldt penguin facts

- This South American penguin is named after the chilly Humboldt current, along which the penguins commonly swim
- In the wild, Humboldt penguins are vulnerable to disturbances in their food chain caused by strong El Nino currents
- Humboldt penguins are social animals, living in relatively large colonies of closely spaced burrows
- Humboldt penguins 'fly' through the water at speeds of up to 25mph
- They enjoy a diet of small fish (anchovies, herring, smelt) and crustaceans



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# THIS MONTH'S HISTORY

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

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE



### JUNE 5th 1968

Robert F. Kennedy was shot and mortally wounded in Los Angeles. The shooting occurred after a celebration of Kennedy's victory in the California presidential primary. He died at 1:44 a.m., June 6, at age 42, leaving behind his wife Ethel and eleven children, the last one born after his death.

### JUNE 6th 1944

June 6, 1944 - D-Day, the largest amphibious landing in history, began in the early-morning hours as Allied forces landed in Normandy on the northern coast of France. Operation Overlord took months of planning and involved 1,527,000 soldiers in 47 Allied divisions along with 4,400 ships and landing craft, and 11,000 aircraft. The Germans had about 60 divisions spread along France and the Low Countries. American forces landed on two western beaches, Utah and Omaha, while British and Canadian troops landed farther east on Gold, Juno and Sword beaches. By the end of the day 150,000 Allied soldiers and their accompanying vehicles had landed with 15,000 killed and wounded.

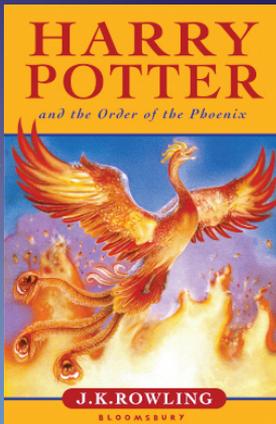


**JUNE 16 1978**

The Movie Grease, starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John opened to the public.

When the movie was being filmed in 1977, no one knew they were making what would become the highest-grossing American movie musical of the 20th century.

Leads John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John played high school sweethearts Danny and Sandy.



**JUNE 21st 2003**

JK Rowling's "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" released and became the fastest-selling book ever.

**1st** - Marilyn Monroe (1926-1962) was born in Los Angeles (as Norma Jean Mortensen). Following an unstable childhood spent in foster homes and orphanages, she landed a job as a photographer's model which led to a movie career. She later married baseball legend Joe DiMaggio. Beneath her glamorous movie star looks she was fragile and insecure and eventually succumbed to the pressures of Hollywood life. She died in Los Angeles from an overdose of sleeping pills on August 5, 1962. Best known for Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (1953), The Seven Year Itch (1955), Bus Stop (1956), Some Like It Hot (1959), and The Misfits (1961).

**10th** - Judy Garland (1922-1969) was born in Grand Rapids, Minnesota (as Frances Gumm). She is best remembered for her portrayal of Dorothy Gale in The Wizard of Oz (1939) and other films including Meet Me in St. Louis (1944) and Easter Parade (1948). She became one of the most popular concert performers of the 1950s and '60s and broke box-office records in New York City and London. She was found dead of an overdose of sleeping pills in London on June 22, 1969.

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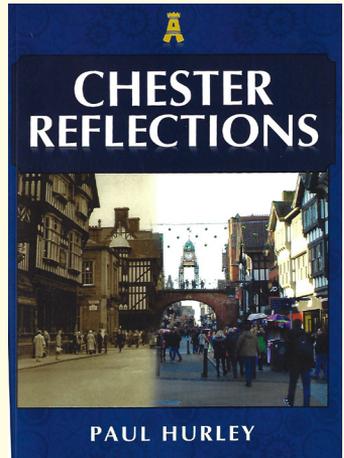


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# BOOK REVIEW: CHESTER REFLECTIONS by Paul Hurley

An exciting collection of historic and modern pictures that are individually merged to reveal how the area has changed over the decades. Each of the 180 pictures in this book combines a recent colour view of Chester with the matching sepia archive scene. Through the split-image effect, readers can see how streets, buildings, the docks and everyday life have transformed with the passing of time. Local author Paul Hurley presents this fascinating visual chronicle that ingeniously reflects past and present glimpses of Chester.



Paul has kindly let us reproduce some images for your enjoyment.



The Cross, 1860 and 2010

This ancient photograph is quite poor, as you would expect it to be. It depicts one of the rarest views of what is known as the Chester Cross area and shows a building in a very poor state. By 1888 it had gone and in its place was built the beautiful black and white building shown.



*Chester Cross 1860 & 2010*



Eastgate Street, 1897 and 2010

Here we have quite a unique photograph as it shows the famous Chester Clock, which straddles the city walls over Eastgate Street. This old photo was taken as the clock was under construction and was to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee on 27 June 1897. In the photograph, only the frame is there as it awaits the fitting of the clock face.

This photograph is absolutely filled with period charm, showing horse trams and many other forms of horse-drawn transport. There have been some alterations to the buildings but in the main little has changed architecturally.



*Eastgate Street 1897 & 2010*



*Lower Bridge Street 1956 & 2010  
(left)*

*This building is the image on our front cover, Now The Townhouse & The Secret Garden!*

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£15.99**

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**Lower Bridge Street, 1956 and 2009**

The year is 1956, and everything still looks very much the same due to careful restoration. On the right is St Olav's Church. It is believed there was once a Scandinavian community in the area – hence the name. The church was founded in the eleventh century, and this building dates from 1611. In 1841 the parish was amalgamated with St Michael's, and in 1849 the church was restored by Thomas Harrison. It was declared redundant in October 1972 and has had several uses since then. The building is Grade II listed.

**ISBN: 9781398104280  
Published by  
Amberley Publishing**

*Northgate Street, 1908 & 2010  
(below left)*

*Chester Suspension Bridge, 1920 & 2010  
(below)*



**Northgate Street, 1908 and 2010**

Aethelflaed built the ancient church at the junction with Eastgate Street and Northgate Street. St Peter's Church, seen on the left of the photographs. She was the daughter of King Alfred AD 907, so it is one of the oldest churches in the county. The policeman in the old photo has rather an easy job directing traffic!



**Chester Suspension Bridge, 1920 and 2010**

Another look at this famous Chester landmark that is the route for pedestrians from the affluent Queens Park area on the other side of the river. Two years after photograph was taken it would be demolished and the new one erected. This, restored in 1998.



# AutoReview by Tony Yates

Keeping you motoring

## Hyundai – i20 SE Connect



I have not tested a Hyundai in a while, so I thought it was about time I tested the new i20 - a car that was on my list of top10 cars to review during 2021. The i20 for me is the 'family car' – the comfort blanket as to say. This is the car you will use to take your wife and children on holiday in and the car you will use for many years to come as you navigate your way through the trials of life.

### Power & efficiency

My test car was fitted with a Turbocharged 1.0 litre T-GDi 3-

cylinder petrol engine (+48v mild hybrid system) that has 100PS and 172Nm of torque – which puts it right up there with the likes of the Ford Fiesta eco edition. The i20 also has a decent 0-62 time of just over 10 seconds and a top speed of 117mph - meaning it will easily keep up in brisk traffic or manage very well on the motorway.

Remember, the i20 is not a pocket rocket. YES, it looks very

sporty with its angled lines and flashy alloys– but when all said and done, in my book - It's what I would call reserved and reliable, and let's remember, these are all the things that will make you and your family very happy indeed.

## On the road

As I said earlier – the i20 is perfect for driving the children to school, pottering around in town, or taking you and your family on a real adventure. The ride quality is not what I would have liked it to be – it's a little bit soft for me– although this is pretty much what most people want in today's world. So, soft is good.

What I will say though is that it felt amazing into the corners and the suspension dealt with most of the surfaces with ease and although the ride itself was soft – you really can throw the i20 into any corner and come out the other side with all your hair still in place and with a grin the size of Mount Rushmore.

## Design & technology

On the outside, the i20 looks elegant and well thought out from a design point of view – even with its loud Blue exterior paint job. In the past, I may have said Hyundai interiors were in my book a little bland. Well, I'm happy to report the new i20 has to report the new i20 has.



## To sum up

The i20 is a great alternative to the Ford Fiesta and is a worthy contender here because it has bags of interior space and a large boot. If you are thinking of buying one, then I would take the i20 out for a test drive before you hit the Ford showroom.

Price: from £18,595

*Where will you go?*



# THE JOSHUA TREE

SUPPORTING FAMILIES AFFECTED  
BY CHILDHOOD CANCERS

## Celebrate its 15th birthday!

Local children's cancer charity The Joshua Tree, celebrate their 15th year supporting families affected by childhood cancers.

The Joshua Tree was founded in 2006 by Lynda and David Hill after their son was diagnosed with leukaemia and discovered a distinct lack in support services for all family members during the traumatic experience of childhood cancer.

The charity, now based in the new purpose-built support centre in Sandiway, Cheshire, have tirelessly fundraised over the past 15 years, to not only provide the family support service for the last eight years, offering vital emotional well-being support to children affected by cancers and their families, but also to build the new purpose-built support centre to develop and enhance this service.

The Joshua Tree's new fit-for-purpose support centre has been constructed in response to the growing demand for the charity's support service from families across the North West and North Wales affected by childhood cancers.



Completed in February 2020, the charity had just moved into its new home in Sandiway, only to be forced to vacate three weeks later because of Covid 19 restrictions. 14 months on and the team celebrate their birthday back in the newly completed centre ready to welcome families.

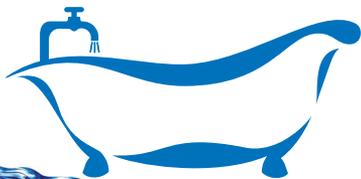
Unfortunately, due the recent pandemic the charity's major fundraising events have been cancelled, and with support costs of £4,000 a year per family, the charity needs public help more than ever to continue to support the increasing number of families affected by a childhood cancer diagnosis.

"We have finally realised the founders' original vision with the completion of the new support centre after so many years of hard work and it is looking fantastic," said Pippa Watson-Peck, Communications and Fundraising Manager.

"But with our major fundraising events cancelled we need support now more than ever to ensure we are able to continue to support families affected by childhood cancers and keep our fabulous new centre up and running."

**To get in touch with the fundraising team please email:**  
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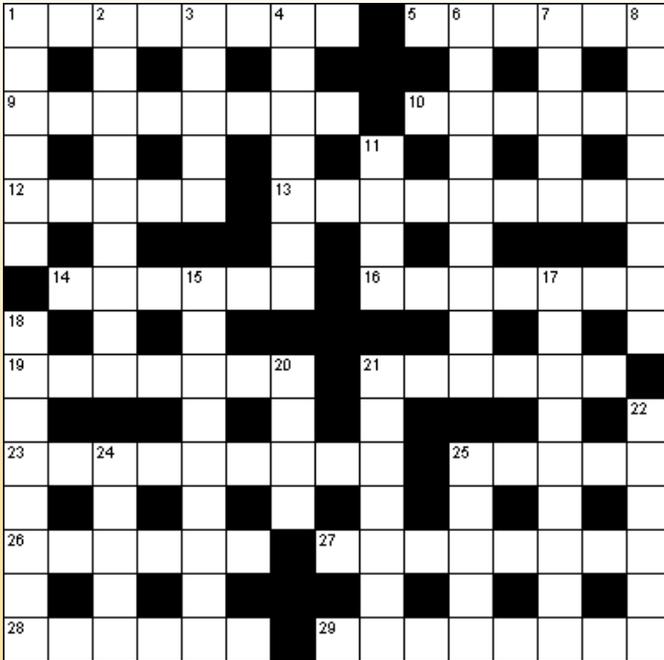
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# PUZZLE CORNER



## Down

- 1 Floor beams (6)
- 2 Whining (9)
- 3 Medium to dark brown (5)
- 4 Lollypops (7)
- 6 Strength (9)
- 7 Additional (5)
- 8 Rotting (8)
- 11 Stalk (4)
- 15 Negates (9)
- 17 They rent apartments (9)
- 18 Beating (8)
- 20 Crucifix (4)
- 21 Questions (7)
- 22 Medicine man (6)
- 24 Not tight (5)
- 25 Alewife fish (5)

## Across

- 1 Happily (8)
- 5 Abroad (6)
- 9 Not moving (8)
- 10 Titillating (6)
- 12 Not our (5)
- 13 Elaborateness (9)
- 14 Goliaths (6)
- 16 Insincerely emotional (7)
- 19 Ordinary (7)
- 21 Victoria, Elizabeth and Mary (6)
- 23 City in Maryland (9)

- 25 Islamic name for God (5)
- 26 Wry (7)
- 27 Unit of mass (8)
- 28 Fatty (6)
- 29 Killer (8)

## Sudoku Puzzle

How to play:

The numbers 1 through 9 will appear once only in each row, column, and 3x3 zone.

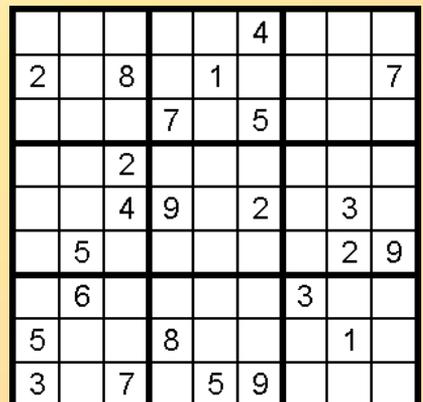
There are 9 such zones in each sudoku grid.

There is only one correct solution to each sudoku.

Good luck!

Difficulty level: Medium.

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If you need advice or support then contact us now on  
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## **A step in the right direction**

With the Covid pandemic hopefully consigned to a drawer marked 'Never to be repeated' we can do what we enjoy most – walking in hills and verdant pastures with fellow lovers of the great outdoors. Members of Chester Rambling & Hill Walking Club were active during the last year and a bit, walking locally, solo or with a partner, or even, when guidelines permitted, a small socially-distanced group. Those few occasions when walking in larger groups was permitted were enjoyed with gusto akin to flies hovering over a cowpat.

But, onwards! Our summer programme kicked off in May, and our leaders have come up trumps with a selection of walks of varying grades, heading in every direction out of Chester. On offer so far have been treks in Wrexham, Wirral, Flintshire, Denbighshire, Shropshire and further afield onto the craggy Snowdonian summits. As well as one or two walks in the neighbouring counties of Lancashire and Derbyshire, the summer promises some enticing new routes in Cheshire, an end product of leaders' lockdown rambles!



Old favourites are always popular too. The Wirral is on our doorstep and, despite the spread of industry and urbanisation across the peninsula, it's possible to enjoy a varied walk incorporating field paths, gravel tracks, heathland, woods and even beaches, with views over the Dee Estuary. May has seen some wild, wet and windy weather, but the day we did our 9-mile Heswall Dales circular walk was mostly dry and sunny. Heading in a north-westerly direction along the foreshore from Parkgate, we also incorporated sections of the Wirral Way, the charming village of Gayton, and The Dungeon, a delightful wooded dell that offered the perfect lunchtime stop. In the afternoon we reached Heswall Dales, with its undulating sandy footpaths and panoramic vistas across the estuary to North Wales. This lowland heath area is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is well worth a visit for its natural beauty and views. Nearby is the more well known Thurstaston Common, which can easily be added on to any walking route this side of the Wirral – depending on how energetic you're feeling. On the day of our hike, however, we headed back from the Dales towards Parkgate along different sections of the Wirral Way and the foreshore.

Parkgate itself is a pleasant village with an interesting history and views across the Dee Marshes. It also provides a great start and end point for a walk, thanks to its free parking, and the added attractions of fish and chips and ice cream!

Now that group walking has resumed, we can't wait to step in different directions with Club members, to revisit our favourite walking areas and try out some new ones.

For the time being, members need to book with leaders if they want to take part in a Club walk. Not a member yet? Joining details, along with the early part of the summer programme can be viewed on our website:

Check our website for updates:

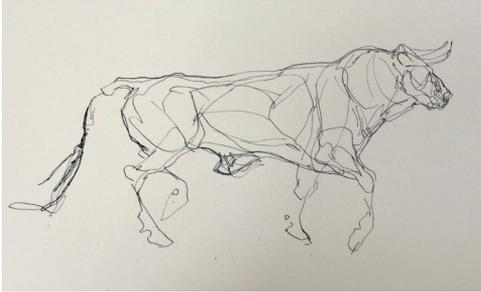
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