

Wirral Extra

Got a story? Contact our Wirral team...

Joe Thomas on 07901 716001 (joe.thomas@trinitymirror.com)

Rob Pattinson on 07824 432 772 (rob.pattinson@trinitymirror.com)

Liam Murphy on 07795 266978 (liam.murphy@trinitymirror.com)

Newsdesk on 0151 472 2436 (news@liverpool.com)

ECHO SHORTS

» World War I collection goes on show

A COLLECTION of official records and newspaper cuttings from the time of World War I will go on display in Wirral next week.

Wirral council's archives services has put together the exhibition to commemorate the outbreak of the war.

Going on display from Monday, August 4, it will feature records from shipbuilders Cammell Laird as well as newspaper clippings.

The exhibition will be open weekdays from 9.30pm - 4.30pm in the archive service, lower ground floor, Cheshire Lines Building, Canning Street, Birkenhead, which can be accessed through the car park at the back of the building.

A workshop on the outbreak of World War I, including an introduction to the records which the Archives Service holds for the period, will take place at 2pm in the lower ground floor conference room on Thursday, August 7.

The workshop is free, but booking is required by calling 0151 606 2929.

Viking longship due to set sail following repairs to mast

A VIKING longship berthed in Birkenhead docks is due to set sail this weekend on the next step of its voyage.

The impressive Draken Harald Harfagre, crewed by a number of local volunteers, is set to leave on Sunday afternoon.

The ship has been docked near the Liverpool Victoria Rowing Club (LVRC) site close to Poulton Bridge, and has attracted a number of members of the public for tours.

It arrived in Merseyside after a dramatic sea voyage that saw the vessel's huge mast snapped in a vicious storm near the Shetland Islands, but using the 115ft boat's back-up engine the crew successfully negotiated the trip.

The idea of bringing the longship to Liverpool came from Wallasey-born Steve Harding, who is now Professor of Applied Biochemistry at Nottingham.

The visit of the longship also coincided with St. Olav's Day, July 29.

Every year Steve helps organise a St Olav's Viking heritage walk and pilgrimage which involves three churches with strong Viking connections.

Jim Bibby from LVRC said the longship is due to leave on Sunday around 2pm, depending on weather and crew member Gerry Gedge, from Wallasey, said: "The support we have had has been fantastic."

● To book tours on the longship before it leaves see www.lvrc.co.uk

■ The Viking longship Draken Harald Harfagre as it is moored in the West Float and, below, Gerry Gedge



■ Tom Pinfold (left) and Malcolm Leach (right) lead a group of this year's Wirral's St. Olav walkers

PHOTO: ASTRID KÄHLER