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Viking links uncovered

THE findings of a major study into Wirral's Viking links are being published this week.

The book, *Viking Wirral*, explores the results of a genetic survey which showed a strong Scandinavian influence in the DNA of old Wirral families.

Information from the study was included in a major scientific journal but this is the first time members of the public will be able to see it for themselves.

It includes case studies and a breakdown of how researchers extracted the information from a simple saliva swab.

Professor Stephen Harding of Nottingham University, a leading authority on Wirral's Viking ancestry, co-authored the book with Mark Jobling and Turi King, geneticists at the University of Leicester.

The original survey took place between 2002 and 2007 and also looked at Viking links to West Lancashire.

Professor Harding said: "We know the Vikings were here from place names and archaeology but we wanted to know if they were still here in terms of DNA."



● Prof Stephen Harding who wrote the book *Viking DNA*

Code NA

"The results showed quite firmly that both Wirral and West Lancashire had strong Scandinavian ancestry, with up to 50% of the mix of the DNA in the old Wirral and West Lancs population appearing to be of

that origin.

Find the blog by clicking on "Views and Blogs" on www.wirralnews.co.uk

● *Viking DNA: The Wirral and West Lancashire Project* is available in bookshops, priced £17.50

Charity variety evening

BIRKENHEAD'S Little Theatre is hosting a charity variety night over three evenings from Thursday.

Moore Variety is organised by Lilli Moore, 19, to raise funds for cancer re-

search, and as a tribute to her late grandfather.

Tickets from Quandary dress shop in Oxton village, by calling 07870 744968 or on the door.

Prices £10 for adults and £6 concessions.

Irby lights switch-on

IRBY's Christmas lights will be switched on by Father Christmas and his biker elves on Friday, December 3 from 5pm.

It will be followed by a firework display at the Shippons pub, with refreshments at Irby Library from 5 to 7pm.

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Motability Advisory Clinic.

Two Mills Honda

Every Monday 2pm till 4pm

Have you got any questions regarding the Motability Scheme? If you do, you're not alone - many people are unsure about how the scheme works and how to take the next step

With this in mind, Two Mills have set up a regular Motability Advisory Clinic to help answer any questions you may have. Every Monday from 2pm till 4pm please feel free to drop in for a friendly no obligation chat - we'll supply the coffee and cakes!

As a Premier Motability Partner dealer, we have access to all the up to date information.

We are lucky to be one of only a few dealerships in the country to have ALL our Sales Team Motability accredited. So you'll be guaranteed to get all the help you need.

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