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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.

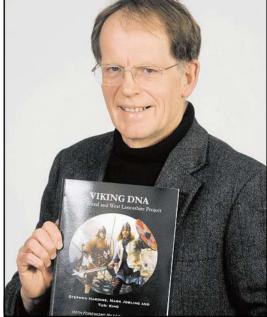
Information from the study was included in a major scientific journal but this is the first time members of the public will be able to see it for themselves.

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



"The results showed quite that origin. firmly that both Wirral and

Find the blog by clicking on 'Views and Blogs" on www.wir-

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

West Lancashire had strong Scandinavian ancestry, with up ralnews.co.uk to 50% of the mix of the DNA in the old Wirral and West Lancs population appearing to be of

Charity variety evening

Theatre is hosting a charity variety night over three evenings 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, Decem-

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

Prof

Stephen

Harding

wrote the book

who

Vikin DNA

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Motability Advisory Clinic.

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