

PREPARING FOR NEW MUSEUM

Last chance to see the Museum of Liverpool Life

The Museum of Liverpool Life closes to the public on Sunday 4 June 2006 so that preparations for building work can begin this autumn on the new £65 million Museum of Liverpool.

The next few weeks offer a last chance to see displays at the museum that has been a popular Liverpool waterfront feature since opening in 1993.

The Museum of Liverpool will be a bigger and better version of the Museum of Liverpool Life which is housed in a former boat hall and building used by pilots controlling traffic along the river.

The Museum of Liverpool Life and its collections celebrate the people of Liverpool, their culture, achievements and contributions to national life. The fascinating displays also give remarkable insights into a unique city and its inhabitants.

During the final week of opening, a fun-packed programme of free family events takes place to mark the closure of the museum.

- Hear stories from a Meccano factory worker and handle items from the famous toy collection in *Meccano in the Making* at 1pm - 4pm hours on 25 May and 1 June 2006.
- Boo the heroes and cheer the villains in the time-honoured puppet show *Punch & Judy*. Show times are 1pm, 2pm and 3pm hours on 27, 28 May and 4 June 2006.
- Get to grips with the techniques and principles of printing with expert printer Dave Veevers. Drop in between 1pm and 4pm hours on 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 May and 2, 3, 4 June 2006.
 - Take the opportunity to enjoy the fantastic *Living With The Romans* exhibition for the last time. Call in on *Veritrix in the Roundhouse* and meet the Iron Age resident between 12noon and 4pm hours on 3 and 4 June 2006. Alternatively, indulge in some *Celtic Crafts*, between 1pm and

- 4pm hours on 29 May 2006. Fun art, craft and dressing up are on offer for kids of all ages.
- Enjoy a guided tour around the galleries of Museum of Liverpool Life and rekindle some fond memories of our fair city. Tours start at 2pm and 3pm hours on 30 May 2006.
- Visitors with under-5s can enjoy a day at the seaside in early-years *Playday*. Bring the little tiddlers along between 1pm and 4pm hours on 31 May 2006.

Jen McCarthy, the Museum of Liverpool Life's head of social history, says: "We look back over the past 13 years since the museum opened with great affection. The museum has been very popular with the people of Liverpool as well as visitors from all over Britain and the rest of the world.

"We are looking forward to building work starting soon on the Museum of Liverpool. The new museum will be much bigger than the Museum of Liverpool Life and will be able to do true justice to our magnificent collection of Liverpool-related exhibits that are currently in store."

Museum of Liverpool On the Road, a travelling exhibition featuring items from National Museums Liverpool collections, will visit popular places around the city in the years leading up to the opening of the Museum of Liverpool in 2010.

In addition, two major exhibitions about Liverpool will be staged at the Merseyside Maritime Museum. In 2007 a large-scale exhibition will explore Liverpool's history over the last 800 years, told through the lives of ordinary people, the famous and the infamous. A major multi-sensory, exhibition in 2008 will celebrate Liverpool as the capital of pop and rock, exploring Liverpool's popular music heritage from 1945 to the present.

Notes for Editors

Museum of Liverpool Life Pier Head, Liverpool **Admission** FREE

Open 10am-5pm every day **Information** 0151 478 4080

Website www.museumofliverpool.org.uk <<http://www.museumofliverpool.org.uk>>

There are six galleries in the museum called *City Lives*, *City Soldiers*, *Demanding a Voice*, *Making a Living*, *The River Room* and *Mersey Culture*.

City Lives explores how people who settled in Liverpool shaped culture in the city. Among the fascinating exhibits are the original Liver bird from the old St John's Market and a recreation of a Victorian slum court.

City Soldiers presents the life and history of the King's Regiment through film, video, memorabilia and an extensive collection of uniforms, medals, trophies of war and weapons.

Demanding a Voice

shows the history of Liverpool people in their struggle to gain a political voice through the trade union and Co-operative movements and women gaining the vote.

Making a Living tells the story of the working lives of Liverpool people over the past 200 years and includes Dinky toys from the original Liverpool Meccano factory.

The River Room celebrates the role of the River Mersey in the lives of Liverpool people and holidaymakers from further afield with film and exhibits.

Mersey Culture explores the sporting, theatrical, literary and musical traditions that have played such an important part in the life of the city.

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Visit 'Pre-Raphaelite Drawings' at the Lady Lever Art Gallery until 14th May 2006
Visit 'eye for Colour' at the World Museum Liverpool until 27th August 2006

www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

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