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Our main offices and two auction rooms are located in Stanhope Street, opposite the Liverpool Marina. There is free on-road parking. Visits to clients in Wirral, Chester and North Wales are made every week. Evening and weekend visits to clients homes can be made by prior arrangement.

To book your appointments simply telephone **John Crane** personally on either **0151 709 5559** or mobile **07836 209995**

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Heswall office on The Mount

As usual, I like to include a couple of Oriental pieces to share with you. It takes a lifetime or more to learn which colour and pieces of jade are desirable, but here are two. One piece is simply known as black and white jade and is known as a carved jade mountain. This mountain is 11cm tall and from the middle Qing dynasty. The second is a carved spinach-green jade mountain from a similar period and is 21cm tall. Both are in private American collections, but worth admiring for the design and pursuit of the excellence in the craft of carving fine jade pieces.



Black and White Jade Mountain

Finally, still with the oriental theme, it's cherry blossom time again. I thought you might like to see a cherry blossom that was extinct in Japan but one tree remained in a Sussex garden which was discovered by Captain Collingwood Ingram in 1932. Cuttings were reintroduced to Japan after several attempts taking seven years; the successful attempt being on the Trans-Siberian Railway to avoid extreme heat. This 'great white cherry' is the Tai-haku tree and it would grace any Wirral garden.

Fine valuable decorative pieces of silver, jewellery, furniture and pictures are still discovered on my travels and house visits in the area and beyond... more of recent important discoveries in my next article. That's all for this issue. I'm heading off out again to look at fine objects and provide a service for the community of Wirral and far beyond.

The Cato Crane pre-auction Valuation Office is open every Friday and other times by appointment – contact us on 0151 342 2321 or CatoCrane.co.uk and you can follow us on Twitter and Instagram. Don't forget, I'm happy to come to see you too.



Italian Majolica – damaged but restorable and still valuable



Spinach Green Jade Mountain with Recumbent Deer and Cranes



Tai-Haku or Large White Cherry Blossom



Old stainless steel Rolex watches bring high prices