

Cato Crane Auctioneers

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- **Free Pre-Sale Valuation at the Sale Room**
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- Removal of Low Value Items
- Secure Insured Storage Facilities
- Removals Arranged to All Parts of the UK
- **Live On-line Internet Auctions.**

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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CATO CRANE
AUCTIONEERS

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days no one, not even an expert, is prepared to take the risk of having to pay out hundreds of thousands of pounds in compensation. If, however, you have a Lowry painting bought from a London art gallery with a receipt, an original sales catalogue, and 'cast iron' documentary evidence by the owner stating its whereabouts since it was bought, then you are in with a good chance of it being authenticated and you are in the money! Big money!

If, however, you buy a portfolio of pencil drawings at a car boot sale or find them in Uncle Jim's flat after he died, then the chances of them being genuine is extremely remote and you won't be able to get them authenticated anywhere, no matter who you go to or how much you plead and pay!

What do I think about this illustrated drawing? Well... a nice, extremely good pencil drawing and I have my opinion, but to be safe I'm keeping that to myself until I do find an expert specialist willing to take the risk and put it in writing on his own letterheaded notepaper! Thirty years ago at a valuation day at Alexandra Hall in Heswall I remember valuing a small genuine Lowry sketch with good verbal provenance at £600; today it would be worth in the region of £25,000!

While we are on the subject of replica items, it is probably worth mentioning that Louis Vuitton handbags and purses are widely copied and obviously not authentic. Many copies are convincing so do check the signs to look out for with copies, as there are several. The most important ones being the soft cloth storage bag should be there and the date should be stamped on the inside. There are several useful websites to consult that can help. Is the handbag illustrated we discovered recently worth £2,000 or £20? That is the question!

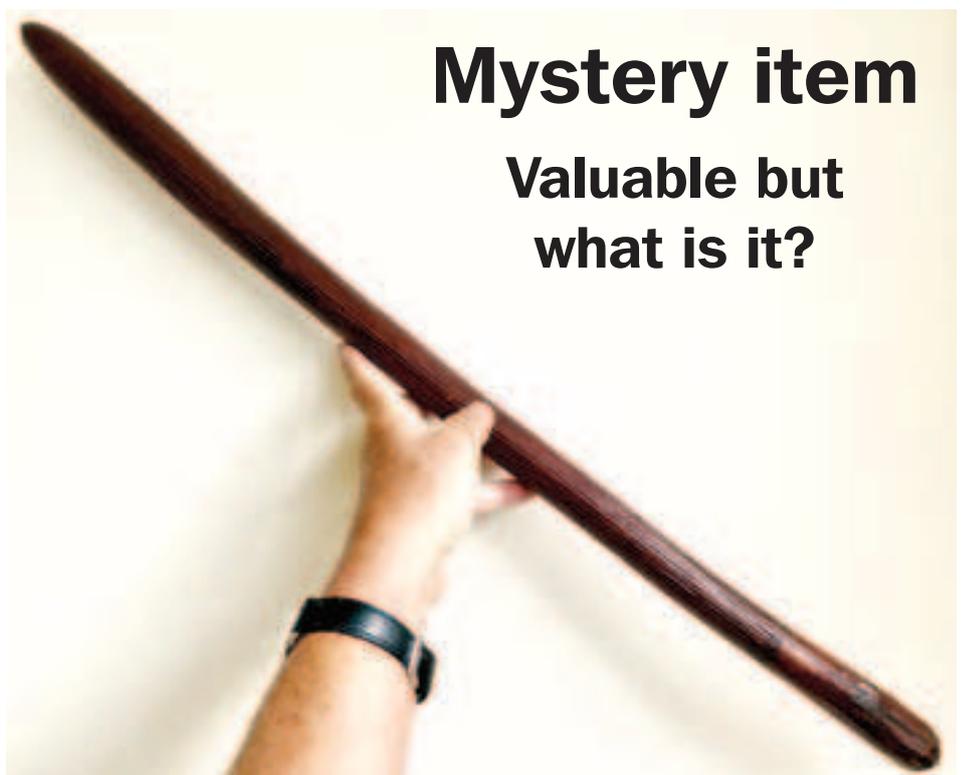


The Cato Crane valuation office in Heswall continues to be a hive of activity as we take in a myriad items for auction. The Wirral office is open by appointment every Friday and other times by appointment during the week. For appointments for home visits throughout Wirral, the North West and North Wales, phone 0151 342 2321 as usual.

Cato Crane still provides a restoration service and a general house clearance service in Wirral. Please telephone me directly on 0151 342 2321 up to early evening!

I look forward to meeting you and if you are passing the office at 48 The Mount, please pop in and say hello! Visitors are always welcome.

Follow us on Twitter @CatoCrane and also on Instagram. Happy antiquing to you all.



Mystery item

Valuable but what is it?