



New Series Sunday 29 April 6.00 ITV for eight weeks

NEWS RELEASE

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Immediate

Search for the Local Vikings Leads to Yellow Submarine

A search for the Viking treasures in Wirral and Liverpool for a forthcoming TV programme unexpectedly led to the story behind the Yellow Submarine.

The Lost Treasures TV team were following the trail of the Vikings around Bidston (Wirral), Meols and Hale when they chanced upon the childhood experience of a certain John Lennon who used to play in the area.

Two whales swam up from the Thames and were eventually washed up on the shore near the lighthouse causing great media attention 50 years ago.

http://icliverpool.icnetwork.co.uk/0800beatles/0050news/tm_headline=was-this-the-inspiration-for-yellow-submarine-%26method=full%26objectid=16713625%26page=1%26siteid=50061-name_page.html

The young Lennon and his friend David Ashton was fascinated by the rotting corpse which began to turn yellow.

Spokesman for Planet X who produce the programme for ITV Granada said: “We were looking for icons of the 10th century and via the *Liverpool Echo* we stumbled upon an icon of the 20th. It occurred to us that Lost Treasures can be applied to all

sorts of objects which have effects on all sorts of people. You don't have to be an archaeologist to be inspired by something you find yourself. Lennon clearly felt his lost treasure needed a voice.”

David Ashton who now lives in Denmark discovered a drawing of the incident by John Lennon and he was convinced that the yellow submarine was born from the experience.

The episode traces the Vikings from the Wirral where a new find was discovered in a village garden, Meols which potentially could rock the archaeological world with what lies beneath and the Viking settlers of Hale near Speke.

The first episode will be broadcast at 5.30 On Sunday 29th April.

ENDS

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