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# NEW BRIGHTON REVISITED

**From The Last Resort to Looking For Love: New Brighton through the lenses of three of the most widely revered contemporary British photographers.**

Words: Christopher Torpey / @CATorp  
 Photography: Martin Parr / @parrstudio  
 Photography: Ken Grant / @kengrantinfo

Issue 91 / August 2018 **CURRENT ISSUE**

📶 EE 4G 12:26 🔋

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♥ Northern Narratives liked

 **Jo Mousley** 🦉  
 @MouseyMousedale

Incredible exhibition this aft  
[#NewBrightonRevisited](#) Thanks to  
 legendary photographers @parrstudio  
 @kengrantinfo #TomWood  
 #photieman & @NorthernNarrat2  
 Moments of time travel back to my  
 childhood! #Wirral

**Northern Narratives** @NorthernNarrat2  
 bidolito.co.uk/feature-new-br...

21/07/2018, 15:20

1 RETWEET 4 LIKES

Reply to Jo Mousley 🦉, MARTIN PARR,...

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< #newbrightonrevisited 🔍 ✍️

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 **Imagine Wirral** @imagin... · 14/07/2018

Martin Parr, Tom Wood and Ken Grant  
 in conversation talking about taking  
 photos in New Brighton and living  
 here. Fantastic to hear all three  
 discussing the iconic work featured in  
[#newbrightonrevisited](#)  
 @NorthernNarrat2 @parrstudio  
 @kengrantinfo



👤 5 ❤️ 14 ✉

 **Tracy Piper-Wright** @tracypwright · 2d

Fabulous view of the lighthouse from  
 the new Sailing School Gallery.  
 Brilliant exhibition!

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Mix @mixdevil66 · 17/07/2018  
#NewBrightonrevisited – three decades in pictures. A group show brings together for the first time the #NewBrighton pictures of internationally renowned British photographers #MartinParr, #KenGrant and #TomWood. @imaginewirral @sailing\_the theguardian.com/artanddesign/g...



Northern Narratives and Independents Bi...

2 7

Kate-M-Yates @KateMY... · 16/07/2018  
Martin Parr and that amazing image.



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#NewBrightonrevisited – three decades in pictures. A group show brings together for the first time the #NewBrighton pictures of internationally renowned British photographers #MartinParr, #KenGrant and #TomWood. @imaginewirral @sailing\_the theguardian.com/artanddesign/g...



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Kate-M-Yates @KateMY... · 16/07/2018  
Martin Parr and that amazing image.



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GIRLFANS @jacquimcassey

Glorious evening at #SailingSchool for #NewBrightonRevisited @NorthernNarrat2 until 25.08 #kengrant #tomwood #martinparr @TranmereRovers



15/07/2018, 07:44

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1 6

Dawn Mander (Bird) @... · 14/07/2018  
#MrMartinParr & me talking #photography & selfpublishing in #NewBrighton @martinparrfdn @OpenEyeGallery #NewBrightonRevisited @NirthernNarrat2 @WirralCouncil photocredit @KateMYates



1 13

John Johnson liked

Denise Courcoux @deni... · 14/07/2018  
Loved hearing from @kengrantinfo, @narrstudio and Tom Wood on

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EE 4G 12:29

#newbrightonrevisited

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**Denise Courcoux** @deni... · 14/07/2018  
 Loved hearing from @kengrantinfo, @parrstudio and Tom Wood on photographing the 'seedy, energetic, attractive, visual' (in the words of Parr) New Brighton @NorthernNarrat2 #newbrightonrevisited



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Tish Murtha liked

**Geoff Davies** @GeoffDav... · 14/07/2018  
 Can't believe I've just been in the

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#newbrightonrevisited

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Tish Murtha liked

**Geoff Davies** @GeoffDav... · 14/07/2018  
 Can't believe I've just been in the same room as these great photographers! Amazing exhibition at sailing school gallery, #newbrightonrevisited @imaginewirral @NorthernNarrat2 @parrstudio @kengrantinfo @martinparrfdn #tomwood



1 6 14

**Neil Sheakey** @NeilShea... · 14/07/2018  
 #newbrightonrevisited and #SirDavidAttenborough launching today - huge events on on THE

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**Mix** @mixdevil66 · 15/07/2018  
 #NewBrightonRevisited. "It's like the town itself is another artist in the show," says Tracy Marshall of an exhibition revisiting the iconic work made by #MartinParr, #TomWood, and #KenGrant in #NewBrighton bjp-online.com/2018/07/new-br... @1854 #photography @Biennial @sailing\_the



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**Jan** @Janiceevans67 · 14/07/2018  
 @NorthernNarrat2 Ken Grant, Martin Parr & Tom Wood

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EE 4G 12:32

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**Observer New Review** · 08/07/2018  
 The big picture: romance in rave-era Wirral

Photograph by @kengrantinfo, from a new exhibition @NorthernNarrat2 #newbrightonrevisited

theguardian.com/theobserver/20...



10 12

**Wallasey Constituency** · 08/07/2018  
 Great article! #NewBrightonRevisited

Northern Narratives @NorthernNa

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Essays: > [New Brighton Revisited](#).

Colin Pantall / New Brighton Revisited.  
July 2018

"It's not Liverpool," says Ken Grant. "It's got its own remoteness and its own energies. It's in Wallasey which translates as Welsh Island. And it feels like an island, it feels like that you're on the edge of this here-be-dragons world."

"A lot of people would come up (to New Brighton) from Liverpool and they always had this idea of a release. It was a place with a bit of open space and going over on the ferry was something you'd always want to do. When it was getting warm in the summer, you'd always have this blast of air from the Irish Sea. It's like when people talk about New York in the summer when anyone with any money will get out of New York, and if not they'll find somewhere with a little bit of peace and cooler air. That was New Brighton. It was always that kind of release."

This release from the daily grind, this sense of space, and the otherworldly nature of New Brighton are reflected in the world-class photography that has been made there by three photographers who lived, worked and socialised together in the 1980s and 1990s; Ken Grant's black and white images of the town show an intimate and poetic understanding of how New Brighton and the open reaches of the Irish Sea provide an escape from the intensity of urban living, Tom Wood's long term photography of the town and its people is a philosophical insight into what we are, who we are and how we live, while Martin Parr's internationally acclaimed pictures from New Brighton (first exhibited in 1986 with Tom Wood as *The Last Resort*) show the town in



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By showing the work in almost the exact spot where the photos were taken @NorthernNarrat2's exhibition with @kengrantinfo, @parrstudio and #TomWood they show how something's change and don't but also remind us that work can be done right here where it's seemingly the everyday.



Reply to Pete Carr, Northern Narratives,...



Went to see the opening of the fabulous New Brighton Revisited exhibition this morning, New Brighton, Sailing School Gallery. Many thanks to @NorthernNarrat2 and of course to @kengrantinfo @parrstudio #TomWood for the amazing photographs !

14/07/2018, 14:14

3 RETWEETS 10 LIKES



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14/07/2018, 14:14

3 RETWEETS 10 LIKES



Reply to Stig Starr, Northern Narratives,...



Mark Durden plugging @kengrantinfo #TomWood and @parrstudio upcoming show in New Brighton @NorthernNarrat2 @apheuk #APHE18 @UniSouthWales



Reply to DocPhotUSW, MARTIN PARR, N...

EE 4G 12:47

British Journal of Photography

**BJPhoto - 1854** @1854

"It's like the town itself is another artist in the show," says Tracy Marshall of an exhibition revisiting the iconic work by Martin Parr, Tom Wood, and Ken Grant in New Brighton

[bjp.photo/newbrighton](http://bjp.photo/newbrighton)

© Martin Parr/Magnum Photos

#NewBrighton #MartinParr #TomWood #KenGrant



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EE 4G 12:53

BJPhoto - 1854 Retweeted

**Spectrum** @SpectrumLab

'New Brighton Revisited' by Martin @parrstudio, Tom Wood, and Ken Grant is now open from 14 July – 25 August at The Sailing School, Marine Point, New Brighton, see more via @1854: [ow.ly/VeXs30kZXHd](https://ow.ly/VeXs30kZXHd)



Reply to Spectrum, BJPhoto - 1854, MAR...

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EE 4G 12:47

Geoff Davies @GeoffDavies

Can't wait for this! @NorthernNarrat2 @imaginewirral @parrstudio #tomwood #martinparr #kengrant



Reply to Geoff Davies, Northern Narrative...

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EE 4G 12:54

BJPhoto - 1854 @1854

As his latest exhibition opens in New Brighton, BJP talks with respected documentary photographer, Ken Grant on his approach to photography and teaching

[bjp.photo/kengrant](http://bjp.photo/kengrant)

© Tracy Marshall

@kengrantinfo #KenGrant #BJP #NewBrighton #LookandLearn



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**The big picture**  
Photography

## The big picture: romance in rave-era Wirral

Ken Grant's image of 90s New Brighton captures the innocence of young love in a pre-gentrified seaside town

**Kathryn Bromwich**

@kathryn42

Sun 8 Jul 2018 07:00 BST



300 33



▲ Young Couples, New Brighton, 1993. Photograph: Ken Grant





Tweets Media Likes

**MARTIN PARR** @parrs... · 14/07/2018  
 Today sees the opening of New Brighton Revisited an exhibition of #MartinParr, Tom Wood and @kengrantinfo #photography at @sailing\_the, #NewBrighton. This week's instagram presents lesser known images from the iconic Parr series The Last Resort - [bit.ly/2j65N9G](http://bit.ly/2j65N9G)



1 35 126

**BJPhoto - 1854** @1854 · 16/07/2018  
 Have you ever had a mentor that helped you take better photographs? What are your most treasured...

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## New Brighton - mecca for photographers

17 November 2014 by [Sam](#)



Keith Medley Archive Liverpool John Moores University

In many ways New Brighton is no different from many other seaside towns. In its heyday it was a bustling resort with people outnumbering pebbles on the beach. This glorious time is captured in fantastic photographs from the Keith Medley archive at Liverpool John Moores

Tweets Media Likes

**BJPhoto - 1854** @1854 · 12/07/2018  
 "It's like the town itself is another artist in the show," says Tracy Marshall of an exhibition revisiting the iconic work by Martin Parr, Tom Wood, and Ken Grant in New Brighton

[bjp.photo/newbrighton](http://bjp.photo/newbrighton)

© Martin Parr/Magnum Photos

#NewBrighton #MartinParr #TomWood #KenGrant



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# WirralGlobe

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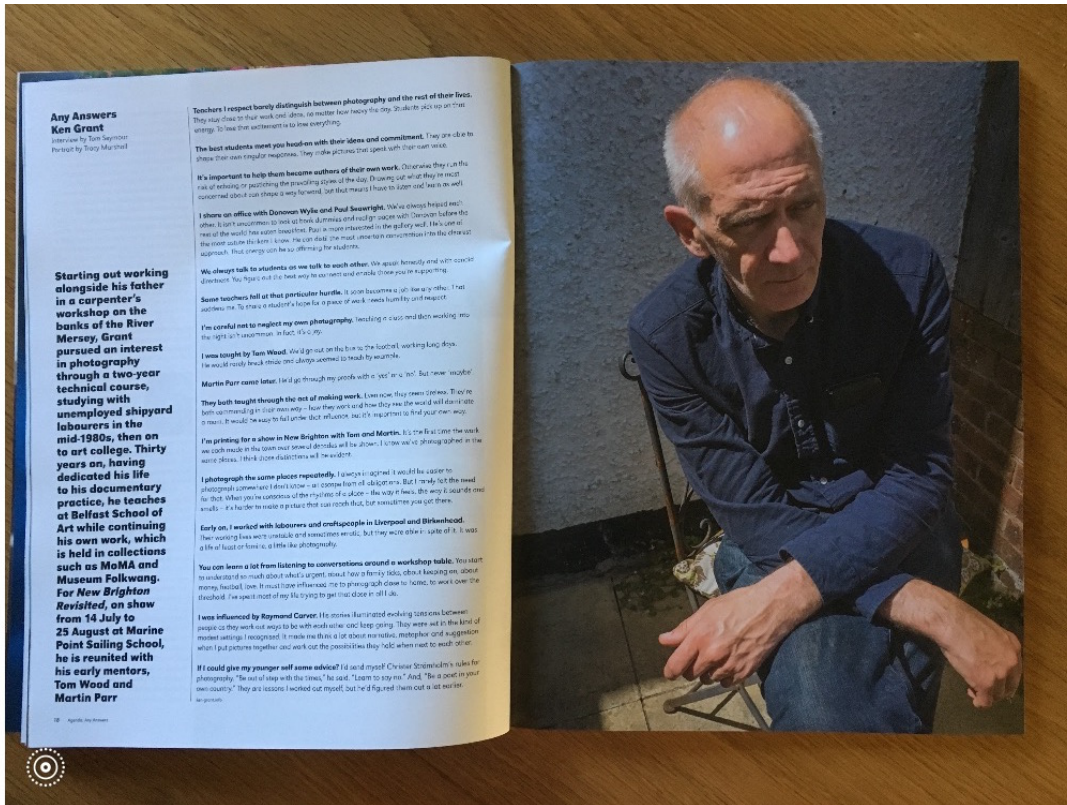
2nd July

## PREVIEW & GALLERY: Three decades of life on view in 'New Brighton Revisited' exhibit

[Craig Manning](#) @craigiemann

Chief Reporter





**Any Answers Ken Grant**  
Interview by Tom Seymour  
Portrait by Tracy Murrell

**Starting out working alongside his father in a carpenter's workshop on the banks of the River Mersey, Grant pursued an interest in photography through a two-year technical course, studying with unemployed shipyard labourers in the mid-1980s, then on to art college. Thirty years on, having dedicated his life to his documentary practice, he teaches at Belfast School of Art while continuing his own work, which is held in collections such as MoMA and Museum Folkwang. For *New Brighton Revisited*, on show from 14 July to 25 August at Marine Point Sailing School, he is reunited with his early mentors, Tom Wood and Martin Parr**

**Teachers I respect barely distinguish between photography and the rest of their lives.** They may cheer if their work can show, or matter four hours this day. Students pick up on this energy. To have that sentiment is to love everything.

**The best students invest you head-on with their ideas and commitment.** They are clear in their own regular responses. They're the pictures that speak with their own voice.

**It's important to help them become authors of their own work.** Do you value the risk of exhibiting or pitching the practical side of the day? It's wrong to say what they're most concerned about is not those it may be, but that means I have to listen and have an well-concerned about that those it may be.

**I share an office with Duncan Wylie and Paul Sewright.** We've always shared each other's work. I'm interested in how Duncan and Paul go on to work with their own. I've seen that one of the world has a very good time. Paul is more interested in the gallery world. He's one of the most open to the idea. I love the way that the most, since his own responses to the street approach. That energy can be so affirming for students.

**We always talk to students as we talk to each other.** We speak directly and with respect. I don't think you should be too much of a teacher. I don't think you're supporting someone. To have a student's love for a piece of work needs humility and respect.

**Some teachers fell at that particular hurdle.** It soon became a job they're after. I had someone say, "I'm a student's love for a piece of work needs humility and respect."

**I've found not to neglect my own photography.** Teaching is a good and then working, but the right isn't a student. In fact, it's a job.

**I was taught by Tom Wood.** We'd go out on the boat to the beach, working long days. He would really break things and always wanted to teach by example.

**Martin Parr came later.** He'd go through my work with a 'yes' or 'no'. But then 'no' he'd be both. I'd go through the rest of making work. I've seen that one of the world has a very good time. Paul is more interested in the gallery world. He's one of the most open to the idea. I love the way that the most, since his own responses to the street approach. That energy can be so affirming for students.

**I'm getting far above in New Brighton with Tom and Martin.** It's the first time the work we did made in the same way. I don't think I'll ever see it again. I know we've photographed in the same places. I think those distinctions will be there.

**I photograph the same places repeatedly.** I always enjoyed it. It's all the same. I've seen that one of the world has a very good time. Paul is more interested in the gallery world. He's one of the most open to the idea. I love the way that the most, since his own responses to the street approach. That energy can be so affirming for students.

**Early on, I worked with labourers and ethnographers in Liverpool and Birkenhead.** Their work was very much about the social and the social. But they were about a 'yes' or 'no'. I was a bit of a fan of that. I think it's a bit of a fan of that.

**You can learn a lot from listening to conversations around a workshop table.** You start to understand so much about what's urgent, what's a family idea, what's a feeling, what's about money, what's love. It must have influenced me to photograph children to have, to work over the weekend. I've seen most of my life going to get me done in all of it.

**I was influenced by Raymond Carter.** He was a brilliant working class man between people as they work and would be with each other and keep going. They were out in the kind of modest settings. I recognized. It made me think a lot about narrative, metaphor and suggestion when I put pictures together and work out the possibilities they hold when next to each other.

**If I could give my younger self some advice?** I'd say to myself, "Chris, your photographs make for photography." He said to me with the time, "he said, 'Learn to say it.' And 'Be a part of your own country.' They all lessons I looked out myself, but he'd figured them out a lot earlier."

#newbrightonrevisited

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Mix @mixdevil66 · 17/07/2018

**#NewBrightonrevisited** – three decades in pictures. A group show brings together for the first time the **#NewBrighton** pictures of internationally renowned British photographers **#MartinParr**, **#KenGrant** and **#TomWood**. @imaginewirral @sailing\_the\_guardian.com/artanddesign/g...

Northern Narratives and Independents Bi...

2 7

GIRLFANS **GIRL FANS**  
@jacquimcassey

Glorious evening at **#SailingSchool** for **#NewBrightonRevisited** @NorthernNarrat2 until 25.08 **#kengrant** **#tomwood** **#martinparr** @TranmereRovers

15/07/2018, 07:44

#newbrightonrevisited

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 **Dawn Mander (Bird)** @... · 14/07/2018 ▾

#MrMartinParr & me talking  
#photography & selfpublishing in  
#NewBrighton @martinparrfdn  
@OpenEyeGallery  
#NewBrightonRevisited  
@NirthernNarrat2 @WirralCouncil  
photocredit @KateMYates



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@NorthernNarrat2  
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#NewBrightonRevisited. "It's like the town itself is another artist in the show," says Tracy Marshall of an exhibition revisiting the iconic work made by #MartinParr, #TomWood, and #KenGrant in #NewBrighton bjp-online.com/2018/07/new-br... @1854 #photography @Biennial @sailing\_the



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 **Jan** @Janiceevans67 · 14/07/2018 ▾


@NorthernNarrat2  
Ken Grant, Martin Parr & Tom

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 **Observer New Review** · 08/07/2018 ▾

The big picture: romance in rave-era Wirral

Photograph by @kengrantinfo, from a new exhibition @NorthernNarrat2 #newbrightonrevisited

[theguardian.com/theobserver/20...](http://theguardian.com/theobserver/20...)



← ↻ 10 ❤️ 12 ✉

 **Wallasey Constituency** · 08/07/2018 ▾

Great article!  
#NewBrightonRevisited

Imagine Wirral Retweeted

**WallaseyConstituency**  
@wallaseyteam

Love the new banners for the [#NewBrightonRevisited](#) exhibition!  
[#ComingSoon](#)  
[@NorthernNarrat2](#)



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#newbrightonrevisited

Top Tweets All Tweets

**Imagine Wirral** @imagin... · 23/06/2018

New Brighton Revisited opens in **3** weeks! A landmark exhibition capturing **3** decades of life in New Brighton by **3** internationally-renowned photographers - Martin Parr, Ken Grant and Tom Wood. [@NorthernNarrat2](#) [ow.ly/f9D730kuJOY](#) #photography #newbrightonrevisited



19 25

**Pete Carr**  
@petecarr

By showing the work in almost the exact spot where the photos were taken [@NorthernNarrat2](#)'s exhibition with [@kengrantinfo](#), [@parrstudio](#) and [#TomWood](#) they show how something's change and don't but also remind us that work can be done right here where it's seemingly the everyday.



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**Stig Starr**  
@Stig\_Ofthedump

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14/07/2018, 14:14

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@SpectrumLab

'New Brighton Revisited' by Martin @parrstudio, Tom Wood, and Ken Grant is now open from 14 July – 25 August at The Sailing School, Marine Point, New Brighton, see more via @1854: [ow.ly/VeXs30kZXHd](http://ow.ly/VeXs30kZXHd)



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 **DocPhotUSW**  
@DocPhotUSW

Mark Durden plugging @kengrantinfo #TomWood and @parrstudio upcoming show in New Brighton @NorthernNarrat2 @apheuk #APHE18 @UniSouthWales



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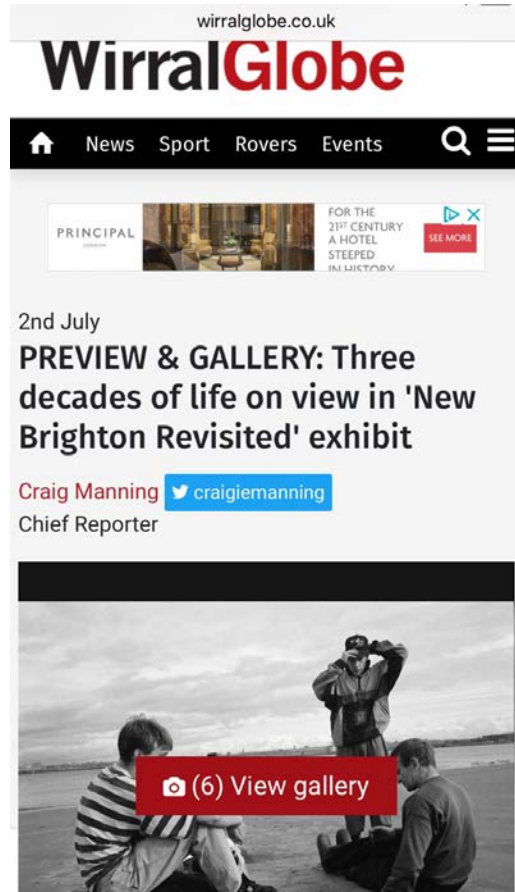
 **MARTIN PARR** @parrs... · 14/07/2018  
Today sees the opening of New Brighton Revisited 📸 an exhibition of #MartinParr, Tom Wood and @kengrantinfo #photography at @sailing\_the, #NewBrighton. This week's instagram presents lesser known images from the iconic Parr series The Last Resort - [bit.ly/2j65N9G](http://bit.ly/2j65N9G)



🔙 1 ↻ 35 ❤️ 126 ✉️

 **BJPhoto - 1854** @1854 · 16/07/2018  
Have you ever had a mentor that helped you take better photographs?

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## Liverpool museums

<http://blog.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/2014/11/new-brighton-mecca-for-photographers/>

## Vogue Italia

<https://www.vogue.it/en/photography/news/2018/07/02/new-brighton-revisited-by-colin-pantall/>

Liverpool Echo

<https://www.google.co.uk/amp/s/www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/whats-on/whats-on-news/amazing-retro-photos-new-brighton-14841891.amp>

Art in Liverpool

<https://www.google.co.uk/amp/www.artinliverpool.com/new-brighton-revisited-through-the-lens-of-three-of-its-most-famous-exports/amp/>

BJP online

<http://www.bjp-online.com/2018/07/new-brighton-revisited/>

The Observer

<https://www.google.co.uk/amp/s/amp.theguardian.com/theobserver/2018/jul/08/big-picture-ken-grant-new-brighton-1990s>

Magnum/ Martin Parr

<https://www.magnumphotos.com/events/event/martin-parr-photographic-journey-exhibition/>

Huxley- Parlour

<https://huxleyparlour.com/new-brighton-revisited/>

<https://www.bidolito.co.uk/feature-new-brighton-revisited/>

<https://www.photomonitor.co.uk/new-brighton-revisited-2/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/gallery/2018/jul/16/new-brighton-revisited-three-decades-in-pictures>