

## **Ferry Cross the Mersey**

(Gerry and The Pacemakers)

Life goes on day after day  
Hearts torn in every way

So ferry cross the Mersey  
Cause this land's the place I love  
And here I'll stay

People they rush everywhere  
Each with their own secret care

So ferry cross the Mersey  
And always take me there  
The place I love

People around every corner  
They seem to smile and say  
We don't care what your name is boy  
We'll never turn you away

So I'll continue to say  
Here I always will stay

So ferry cross the Mersey  
Cause this land's the place I love  
And here I'll stay  
And here I'll stay  
Here I'll stay

"Ferry Cross the Mersey" (sometimes written Ferry 'Cross the Mersey) is a song written by Gerry Marsden. It was first recorded by his band Gerry and the Pacemakers and released in late 1964 in the UK and in 1965 in the United States. It was a hit on both sides of the Atlantic, reaching number six in the United States and number eight in the UK. The song is from the film of the same name and was released on its soundtrack album. In the mid-1990s a musical theatre production also titled Ferry Cross the Mersey related Gerry Marsden's Merseybeat days; it premiered in Liverpool and played in the UK, Australia, and Canada.

"Mersey" refers to the River Mersey in northwest England, a river that flows into the Irish Sea at Liverpool. The Mersey Ferry runs between Liverpool and Birkenhead and Seacombe on the Wirral.

The song is often misspelled as "Ferry 'Cross the Mersey", but according to the song's lyrics, the track is correctly titled "Ferry Cross the Mersey". "Cross" is not a contraction of the preposition "across" but rather an imperative verb – "Ferry, cross the Mersey." In the US, the title was rendered on all 45s – even reissues from decades after the original release – as "Ferry Across The Mersey".

In May 1989, a charity version of "Ferry Cross the Mersey" was released in aid of those affected by the Hillsborough disaster, which claimed the lives of 95 Liverpool fans the previous month (a 96th, Tony Bland, died in 1993 as a consequence of that disaster). The song was recorded by Liverpool artists The Christians, Holly Johnson, Paul McCartney, Gerry Marsden and Stock Aitken Waterman. The single held the #1 spot in the UK chart for three weeks and the Irish chart for two weeks.