

Fosse Way Gazette

Fosse • Woodgate • Newfoundpool • Tudor Road •
No 2 August 2010 www.fossewaygazette.co.uk



On Yer Bikes Lads!

A Western Park university student is about to embark on the ride of his life from John O' Groats to Lands End.

Twenty two year old Ryan Beattie is joining fellow students from Manchester University on the thousand kilometre trek to raise money for Cancer Research.



Ryan who has just finished his chemistry degree came into contact with the charity during his course and impressed with the work they do, decided to join two friends on a fundraising bike ride.



He said: "We spend a lot of time riding in the Peak District and thought that a thousand kilometres was just about do-able. We regularly cycle and we wanted a challenge to celebrate our graduation." They expect to set off from John O' Groats on 1st of September. None of the traditional comforts for them! They are

travelling without support and carrying all their kit on their backs. And will be camping out overnight.

"We're looking at covering around a hundred miles a day, taking breaks every twenty five miles. The whole trip should take between ten and twelve days."

Ryan and his friends David Bourne and Matt Tatton, will update their Facebook page with blogs and photos of their progress.

Ryan said: "We're still looking for backing. We'd like a company to sponsor our cycle jerseys and if readers of the Gazette can sponsor us as well, that would be great."

You can donate at-

www.justgiving.com/johnogroats2landsend2010.

Or contact them directly from there through their Facebook page. Search for Ryan, Matt and Dave's CRUK cycle ride.

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The Fosseway Gazette

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Greetings From The Editor

Welcome to the second issue of the Fosse Way Gazette!

The response to our debut has been very encouraging! We've had emails and calls from all over the area; it's nice to know that we were right to do it!

In this issue, we meet a local lad who will probably be sitting in a bath of ice after his mammoth 1000 kilometre trek from John O' Groats to Lands End.

Local Historian and former Lord Mayor of Leicester, Roger Blackmore, joins us with a tale about a warrior queen who makes Boudica look like a nursery teacher. Helen Knott points her waspish tongue at something that can sting back and Richard Perry looks at the pitfalls of file sharing.

If you're into live music, we have a tremendous prize up for grabs!

Our friends at Summer Sundae have given us a days pass for two at this years musical extravaganza on Victoria Park! You can enter on line for that but be quick!

Don't forget you can contribute to the magazine on line at www.fossewaygazette.co.uk or search for us on Facebook.

Sharon

editor@fossewaygazette.co.uk

Events Diary

Fosse Cllrs. Surgery Monthly, last Mon (6-7pm) and 2nd Wed (5.30-6.30pm) Fosse N'hood Centre.

Westcotes Cllrs. Surgeries Westcotes Library, 1st Sat each month, 10.30 - 11.30am and 3rd Fri each month, 5.30 - 6.30pm. West End N'hood Centre, 4th Tues each month 1.30 - 2.30pm

Zumba Class Tues 8-9.00pm at St Anne's Church Hall. £4.00 Call Sarah 07810 307 113.

Spiritual Development Circle every Thursday. 6-9.00pm at Angel Source Holistics, 14 Hinckley Road. Dishna - 07955 634 221.

Knitting Circle Meet every Thursday from 1pm at Mary Clare, 4 Shaftsbury Rd. Tel: 0116 255 1866.

Have Fun with Clay Day! At The Guildhall. 12th Aug, for children, £2.00.

Bands on Western Park. Enderby Brass Band and Friends. Sun 15th Aug. 2.45-4.15pm.

Play Ranger Sessions: Until 27th Aug. Westcotes Park. Free.

City Horticultural Show: Aylestone Leisure Centre, 30th Aug. 10-4.30pm. £1.00 entry.

Twycross Zoo visits Belgrave Hall: 25th Aug. Interactive animal experience. Book on 266 6590. £3.00.

Castle Park Heritage and Arts Festival from 23rd - 30th Aug. www.leicester.gov.uk/castleparkfestival

Indoor Bowls Club: Fosse N'hood Centre. Mondays from 10.30am. Contact Centre.

Quit & Get Fit: Free stopping smoking and physical activity sessions at New Park's Leisure Centre.

Events in the Parish

The Church of the Martyrs

Thurs 12th Aug at 11.30am: Teddy Bears' Picnic in Church.

Sun 22nd Aug- After Church: Picnic in Park - Abbey Park in front of the tea room.

Sun 29th Aug 10.30am: ALL AGE SUNDAY CLUB ACTIVITIES with Liz Preston in Church Hall,

Thurs 2nd Sep at 10.00am - 11.30am: Shake, Rattle and Roll in Church,

Thurs 9th Sep at 10.00am - 11.30am: Shake, Rattle and Roll in Church.

Sat 11th Sep at 8.30am - 10.00am: (Early that week only) Tomatoes & BREAKFAST in Church, 10.00am Ride & Stride in Church.

The Church of the Martyrs recently hosted the rehearsal of the Leicester Sing for Water Choir.

Thanks to everybody involved as singers, sponsors, money collectors, refreshment makers and as an appreciative audience.

It was a highly successful event, raising over £2,800 for WaterAid. This figure is likely to increase as monies collected through Justgiving and Gift Aid are added.

You can see a short film of the performance on YouTube called: "Sing For Water at the Leicester Riverside Festival".

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ENGLAND'S FORGOTTEN QUEEN

In a corner of the courtyard in Leicester's historic Guildhall, stands a small statue of a very regal lady.

Although everyone in Britain has heard of her famous father, few realise his eldest daughter, Ethelfleda was one of the most powerful and politically effective rulers in the annals of Anglo Saxon History.

This lady was none other than the daughter of Alfred the Great.

Born around 868, Ethelfleda, was brought up in the powerful Wessex court of her father during the turbulent times of the Viking Invasion. She excelled in her studies and had a natural aptitude towards soldiering and tactics. Her sharp intellect, along with her British and Anglo Saxon heritage, made her a formidable force in the years ahead.

When she was fifteen, she made a politically significant marriage to Ethelred, the Earl of Mercia, effectively ruling the kingdom and becoming active in securing the Midlands from Viking attack.



This task developed apace when in 911 her husband died and she succeeded him as sole ruler and "Lady of the Mercians." Although she continued her father's work of uniting Anglo Saxon and British Kingdoms, her priority was to control the influx of Danish settlers, which she eventually succeeded in doing, by offering them land in the East Midlands and the Fens - using force and political skill to ensure they stayed there.

During one expedition, when she discovered three of her officials were murdered in Leicester, she took the city by ringing the walls with her forces, demanding its surrender and the loyalty of its Danish leaders.

Five years into her reign as Queen, she put a stop to successive incursions by the Welsh by capturing the town of Brecon and with it the Welsh King!

During this violent period, she became engaged in many hostile expeditions across England. In 917 her army captured of the Danish stronghold of Derby and a year later, Leicester.

She died in 818 at Tamworth leaving a daughter Elfwynne and was buried at St Oswald's Priory in Gloucester, a city she helped design.

The Lady of the Mercians certainly deserves her place in a little corner of our Guildhall.

Roger Blackmore

If you know some local history, get in touch through the website. www.fossewaygazette.co.uk

Local Crèche Under Threat

City Council bosses are due to close the crèche based in the Newfoundpool Neighbourhood Centre on Pool Road.



The Council announced in March they were looking to save nearly £300,00 by shutting fourteen crèches and childcare units across the city.

Most of the units, based at leisure centres and colleges, have already closed.

The last to go is Newfoundpool Crèche which caters for 12 children with parents paying £1.50 per three hour session.

The Crèche will finally close its door at the end of August.

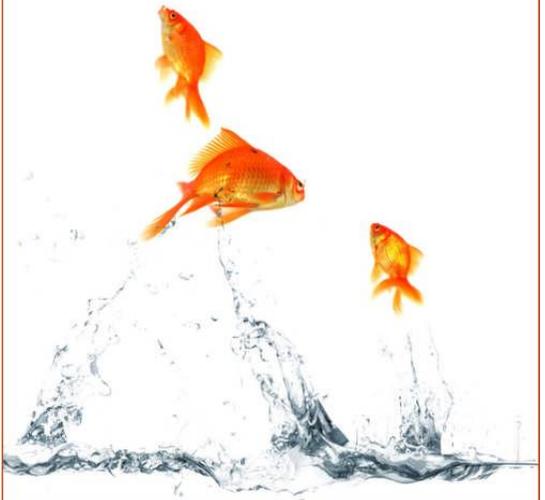
Parents have been told they can take their children to local ShureStart Centres, but many feel the Newfoundpool Crèche is unique and are hoping to find a way of keeping it open.

What do you think? Start a thread on the Gazette's discussion board. www.westernparkgazette.co.uk and click the link on the top bar.

Make a Splash! The Fosse Way Gazette

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Helen Knott, our perpetually furious local journo and broadcaster aims her pointy tongue at something that can sting back!

KNOTT'S LANDING

Helen Knott

Believe it or not I don't like getting my blood pressure up so I am always mightily relieved when the object of my crossness disappears.

This happened recently when I got to play fireman! It was a hot and sunny day, the first for a while so I had put on at least three loads of washing and got it all on the line before we left the house. I don't own a tumble dryer – I'm too green for my own good. I got home from the library a couple of hours later with a sleeping toddler who needed to be extracted from his pushchair, only to find clouds of thick smoke boiling across my garden. I left the boy in the hall and went flying into the garden to get the washing, stubbing my toe in the process (guaranteed to get me grumpy anyway). Once everything was inside and the baby was in bed (mother-in-law was watching him) I took off to ask nicely in a controlled fashion if the bonfire owner could douse his flames until the evening. It was only a couple of doors up and as I passed I noticed where the smoke was coming from so I walked up to the fence to see if everything was OK. It turns out my neighbour was on a mission to annihilate one of my worst enemys – wasps! It had just gone a bit pear shaped and set fire to his fence. I ended up playing firefighter armed with a watering can. Angry to happy as a clam in about three minutes and the evil wasps were defeated – now that's a good day! *Helen Knott*



VERY SWISH FUNDRAISING

There's a "Book, CD and DVD Swish" on Tuesday 14th Sept from 6.30pm at the Church of the Martyrs, Westcotes Drive LE3 0QT.

After our very successful Book Swish in May we're doing another one - bring your CDs, DVDs and books that you no longer need and take away some you haven't seen yet - free!

You can bring some nibbles to share too if you like.
Nina de Salis Young

We're still looking for more people to help us deliver the Western Park and Fosse Way Gazettes. If you can help - email sales@fossewaygazette.co.uk
We'll try not to lose your details like last time!

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RACE FOR LIFE

This year's Race for Life at Western Park attracted more female participants than ever according to organisers.

7000 women, ran, jogged or walked their way around the 10 and 5 kilometre courses.



Supported by 3000 spectators it's thought the runners raised a total of £400,000 for Cancer Research UK.

Onlookers witnessed a sea of pink as fundraisers dressed in the Cancer Research colour took to their heels in 20C.

The weather was hotter than last year and Ambulances were on standby to deal with those suffering from heat exhaustion.

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SUMMER SUNDAE COMPETITION

The winner of last months competition for meal for two at Bungalow 6 on Braunstone Gate is **Chris Dean**. And that famous après ski drink was Gluviné.

This month we've got together with our friends at The DeMontfort Hall to give you the chance of spending Friday 13th at this year's Summer Sundaes Weekender in Victoria Park.

There are a pair of tickets worth £80.00 up for grabs for Leicester's biggest musical extravaganza! Just answer the question below

THE QUESTION

How long has Summer Sundaes been running?
Is it in it's...

- A. 9th year?
- B. 10th year?
- C. 11th year?

Email your answer by August 10th 2010 to
editor@fossewaygazette.co.uk

Or to - Editor c/o Fosse Way Gazette
62 Ainsdale Road, Leicester , LE3 0UA

One correct answer picked at random. No cash alternative and editor's decision is final.

July Update

From Hinckley Road Policing Unit

It's been a busy month for officers from Hinckley Road Local Policing Unit. Three people were arrested for Theft of Motor Vehicle and a total of ten males and two females have been arrested for separate burglary offences. An amount of cannabis was also found during one arrest.

Officers have executed a Misuse of Drugs Warrant at an address on the Braunstone Estate. Officers recovered a number of Cannabis plants and stolen property from a recent burglary and arrest were made.

Laptops and an amount of cannabis were recovered by Hinckley Road officers whilst executing a warrant at an address in the Westcotes area. Two males were detained and our enquiries continue

Officers have arrested and charged a male with a series of Thefts from Motor Vehicles. After our investigations he was charged and sentenced to fourteen weeks imprisonment.

Following concerns raised at the recent Fosse Ward Meeting, Officers and Council Street Wardens checked every vehicle parked on in the Tudor Road, Newfoundpool and Central Road area.

Over 56 Offences were dealt with including out of date tax disc, vehicle obstructions, vehicles parked inconsiderately or on double yellows, and Skip offences.

Officers have been tackling a number of issues across our area from Burglaries and Anti Social Behaviour to targeting known drug dealers and dealing with speeding vehicles. Without the huge amount of support from residents it would have been difficult to achieve such good results.

Good news to report is that there is a reduction in Crime across the Hinckley Road Local Policing Unit.

Robberies - reduction of 24%

Theft of Motor Vehicle - reduction of 40%

Theft From Motor Vehicle - reduction of 14%.

However, we have experienced a number of burglaries across the area which has heightened our figures. Burglaries continue to be a priority and more officers have been allocated to concentrate on this and are specifically targeting those offending. High visibility patrols have also been increased to deter offenders.

Anyone with information about burglaries in Leicester is urged to call Leicestershire Constabulary on 0116 222 2222 or Crimestoppers, which is free and anonymous, on 0800 555 111 or your local beat team at Hinckley Road.

Tired of waiting for the latest music, DVD or software releases? Too tight to pay for them? Fancy a bit of internet piracy? Richard Perry takes a look at why you really shouldn't.

Nice Box - What's in it? Richard Perry

The thing about pinching music and films off the internet is – it's easy and tempting.

It's called file sharing or peer-to-peer networking (P2P for short)

All you have to do is download and install a bit of software called a Bit Torrent Client and then search a Torrent service to download your favourite CD or movie.

It works by connecting your computer to dozens, perhaps hundreds of others which have your chosen material, taking a little slice from them all and putting it all together. The end result is as good as the original.

So far, so good. But here's where it gets tricky.

File sharing isn't illegal, neither are the programmes needed to do it, but in practice it's a minefield of dangers and if you're not careful, the possibility of massive fines.

According to a 2009 report carried out by the record industry, 95 per cent of music downloads are unau-

thorised, with no payment to artists and producers. In the world of films, last year's illegal download Pirate King was Star Trek with nearly 11 million copies beamed onto computers.

This year's Digital Economy Act introduced fines of up to £50,000 for criminal offences relating to copyright infringement - for example if music

is downloaded with intent to sell. There have already been individual fines of £2500 for those caught illegally file sharing.

If that hasn't put you off how about this: A lot of "Torrents" are riddled with viruses and a plethora of malware which will gum up your computer and take ages to remove.

And if you think you can get a quality copy of a newly released film, think again, unless you like seeing the back of someone's head and a shaky camcorder picture with wobbly sound.

Governments around the world are tackling illegal file sharing with fines. Since the technology isn't illegal, but using it to download copywritten material is - it's you who run the risk of a fine if you press the download button.



Kirk and Co - The Pirated Kings

Tony Huxley's Garden Tidings



If home improvement is so popular, why do so many of us ignore the obvious route to "kerb appeal"- the front garden? The smaller the garden the greater the need to show it is a worthwhile space, not a forgotten pause between the pavement and front door.

The best front gardens keep to a simple design using just a few key material types. There are lots of landscape products out there, but choose wisely. Pick products that compliment your house and the materials it's constructed from, not just in terms of colour, but texture too.

The same goes for ornaments or pots and planters. Too many ornaments create clutter, which can shrink the space. Also consider security, garden burglary is now common place. The theft of a cheap plastic gnome may be seen as an act of mercy, but if your showy bronze sculpture is stolen your neighbours may have even



less sympathy. Don't put on show what is likely to go! Let's be honest, anything metal and portable will soon be weighed in for scrap, (like my sorely missed 80kg lawn roller!).

Putting hard landscaping or planting at an angle to the house can bring small areas to life. Creating different height levels can also add interest to a small space. It's best to avoid lawns in small gardens - they require a disproportionate amount of care and are rarely successful.

If you have no interest in a planted front garden and prefer your vistas paved then you need to avoid getting into a lather over SUDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems). This is an Eco measure to help reduce flood risk. You will need planning permission for non-water permeable paving if the area is over 5m².

Next time, planting ideas for smaller gardens.

Who said sprouts were just for Christmas?!

More from Tony in the next issue

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FOSSE LIBRARY

Fosse Library has been in the Fosse Neighbourhood Centre on Mantle Road for over 25 years since it was moved from Woodgate yet still people tell us they have lived here for ages and did not know the library was here!



People who have not used a library for over 10 years may not realise how we have moved with the times; we are friendly and helpful, it is easy and free to join and we offer more than just books. We have computers and free Internet access and offer a range of regular and special events.

These are a few of the special events for the coming months:

Toddler times every Monday morning 9.30 -11.30.
Computer/IT help sessions every Friday morning.
Children's Summer Scheme "Space Hop" events Wednesdays August 4th, 11th, 18th 2-3.30 pm
"Get Hooked on Crochet"- first Tuesday of each month-expert on hand for beginners and advanced.
Reminiscence and local history coffee mornings first Friday of the month 11-12 pm; August 6th "Old remedies", September 3rd "Bygone trades".

"Fosse Books and Biscuits Reading Group" first Wednesday of every month 2-3.30pm
For 'Everybody's Reading' Week on Tuesday October 5th 7pm we shall have a talk and slideshow by Ned Newitt on his books "Slums of Leicester" and "People's History of Leicester".

I look forward to seeing you soon

Jean Burbridge, Senior community librarian.

Tel 0116 225 4995

Email: fosse.lib@leicester.gov.uk

Monday	9.30am - 6pm
Tuesday	2pm - 5pm
Wednesday	12pm - 6pm
Thursday	Closed
Friday	10am - 1pm
Saturday	10am - 4pm
Sunday	Closed

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Baseball Comes to Western Park

Western Park will witness the biggest Baseball game in Leicester Blue Sox's 4 year history.

The local team hope to beat rivals Birmingham Maple Leafs and secure their first ever British Baseball Federation Midlands Division title.



Last season Leicester finished 4th in the division but progressed to the 'A'-division playoffs as a wildcard team and ultimately triumphed at the National Baseball Championships in Croydon, beating the Essex Archers to take the 'A'-division NBC Crown.

Now neck and neck with Birmingham, Leicester only needs to split the forthcoming double header on 8th August to gain the Midlands title as they have the superior head-to-head record. The Maple Leafs will need to sweep the Blue Sox if they are to take the title back to Birmingham for the 4th time in 6 years. First pitch is at midday. More details can be found at www.leicesterbluesox.co.uk