



# BURNT OUT!

*More on page 4*

## Hello From The Editor

Welcome to the August issue of the Western Park Gazette... an Olympic free zone!

In this issue Helen Knott encourages teens to get out there and earn some extra cash during the summer holidays.

We find out about Movin'2gether, a creative dance group from Newfoundpool who are also getting youngsters moving, there's Aarti Thobhani looking ahead to this year's Summer Sundaes Festival at DeMontfort Hall and Tony Huxley has a word or two about Tickseed!

There seems to be more than a bit of local crime around at the moment, some of it quite serious; so we have an update from the police at Hinckley Road. They would also like to remind us to properly secure our homes and property during the summer months, even if we're close by.

This month's magazine is a little slimmer because many local businesses are taking a summer break and so have we, but it's back to the grindstone in August. In the meantime, you can always join us on Facebook or find us on Twitter! And, as always, if you have any local stories, please get in touch.

e: [editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk](mailto:editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk)

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The Western Park Gazette

# BURNT OUT!

**A Major West Leicester Landmark, one of the first factories of Leicester's industrial revolution, has been virtually burnt to the ground.**

A massive fire broke out overnight on the 23rd of July and tore through the derelict 18th Century Grade 11 listed Friars Mill on the banks of the River Soar.

Because of the former factory's architectural importance, the city council has posted security around the remains to prevent further damage before deciding if the building can be saved.

The blaze has destroyed much of the structure leaving only the walls standing.

Fire investigators have sifted through the debris and the police are waiting for their report before launching an enquiry.

## Rally Park Revamp

**Work to improve The Rally Park has begun after the City Council secured nearly half a million pounds of Government funding.**

Following local concerns over anti social behavior, trees, hedges and a new play area will be created with the aim of improving the area to make it safer and more attractive.

## A Child's Rights

Childhood is a precious time, but all too often, alone, abandoned or taken advantage of by adults, made to work in dangerous environments, trafficked into the sex trade or forced to fight in wars.

That's why Unicef has made a promise to uphold every child's right to a childhood.

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## Park Award

**Western park has picked up a new award in a national scheme that recognises the best parks in Britain.**

Nine city parks have received Green Flag Awards in the scheme managed by Keep Britain Tidy, The Conservation Volunteers and Green Space.

Green Flag awards recognise and reward well-managed, high-quality parks and green spaces. The city can now fly the coveted Green Flags at Abbey Park, Aylestone Hall Gardens, Castle Gardens, Evington Park, Knighton Park and Welford Road Cemetery. An award for Watermead Country Park is also held jointly with Leicestershire County Council.

Paul Todd, manager of the national Green Flag Award scheme, said: "A Green Flag Award provides national recognition for the achievements of all those who's hard work and dedication has helped to create these fantastic places for all to enjoy."



# Events Diary

**Zumba Class** Tues. 6.45-7.45 & 8-9.00pm at New College. Call Sarah 07810 307 113.

**Fosse Camera Club:** Fridays. St. Peter's Church Rooms. 7.45pm. 0116 299 2230.

**Leic' Ladies Wl:** Meets monthly on 3rd Mon. 7.15pm Upstairs in The Almanack, 15 Bath House Lane.

**Breastfeeding Group:** West End Sure Start Children's Centre, Catesby Street, Leicester, LE3 5PB Every Tuesday 1:30pm - 3:00pm. 0116 225 2225.

**Story Lab:** Fosse Library. 5-11yrs. Weds in August. 2-3.30pm.

**New Parks Extravaganza:** Family Fun Day at New Parks Leisure Centre. Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Aug. 11-3pm. Free.

**Oliver:** Community Theatre at Curve. Until 12th Aug. [www.curveonline.co.uk](http://www.curveonline.co.uk)

**Leicester Fringe Fest:** City Centre. 10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Aug from 7pm. [www.leicesterfringe.co.uk](http://www.leicesterfringe.co.uk)

**Speakeasy:** Children's theatre at Fosse Library. 16<sup>th</sup> Aug. 11-12.30pm. Free.

**Artworks:** Children's drawing at Westcotes Library. 16<sup>th</sup> Aug. 2-3.30pm. Free.

**Castle Park Food Fair:** Castle Park and Guildhall. 18<sup>th</sup> Aug. 11-4pm.

**Leicester Farmers Market:** Humberstone Gate. 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 9-4pm.

**Craft Fayre:** 10-3pm. Sat 22nd Sept. Ukrainian Hall. Contact: 2991 454 or e: [dinahmscott@hotmail.com](mailto:dinahmscott@hotmail.com)

## St. Anne's, St. Paul's and St. Augustine's

### **At St. Anne's Church Hall -**

**Mon - Fri:** Playgroup 285 7440. (term time)

**Mon:** 5.30 - 7.00pm: W.E.A. Yoga 255 6614.

7.15 - 9.00pm: Tai Chi. Call Rick 285 5159.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tue:** 2.00 - 4.00pm: MU Speakers.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tue:** 7.30 - 9.30pm: W.P. Gardening Club.

**Wed:** 5.00 - 8.00pm: Weightwatchers.

**Wed:** 8.00 - 9.00pm: Tai Chi with Rick.

**1<sup>st</sup> Wed:** 2.30 - 4.00pm: Wednesday Club.

**4<sup>th</sup> Wed:** 7.00 - 9.00pm: MU Speakers.

**Thurs:** 9.00 -10.00am: Pilates for fitness.

1.30 - 3.30pm: Pram Club. (Term time)

6.30 - 8.00pm: Rebounder Aerobics.

**Fri:** 10.00am: Coffee Morning.

**1<sup>st</sup> Fri:** 1.30 - 1.00pm: Lunch club.

**2 & 4th Fri:** 2.00 - 4.00pm: Folk dancing.

**Tuesdays** 10.00am: Mums and Toddlers: Over 60's Club. 12.30 (**St. Paul's**)

## Church of the Martyrs

**Westcotes Drive Leicester**

**Street Self Defence:** Mondays in the Hall. 7.30-8.30pm Call 07788 637 686 for details.

**Martyrs Football Training:** every Weds eve 6.30pm at Nelson Mandela Park..

**Craft Group:** for any type of craft. Thurs 12th July and every 2nd Thurs of the month.

**Karate:** Fridays in the Hall. 6.00-7.00pm.

**Rainbows:** Mondays 5.15pm.

**Brownies:** Mon & Thurs. 6.30pm.

**Guides:** Tuesdays. 7.00pm.

## St. Andrew's Methodist Church

**Glenfield Road East, Leicester**

**Fri:** Pram Club. Term Time. 10.00-11.30am. T: Jean, 0116 255 2912.

## Parish of St. Peter

**21 Hinckley Road Leicester**

Details of events and services can be found on line at [www.stpetersleicester.org.uk](http://www.stpetersleicester.org.uk)

## Epworth Methodist Church

**Blackbird Road, Leicester**

Weds: Boys' Brigade 6.00 - 9.30 (ages 5 - 17)

Tel: John Ogleby 0116 233 7978

## COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES

**Fosse Cllrs Surgery:** Monthly, 2nd Sat, 10.30-11.30, Fosse Neighbourhood Centre & last Sat 10.30 - 11.30am Woodgate Residents Association

**Westcotes Cllrs Surgeries:** Westcotes Library, 1st Sat each month, 10.30 - 11.30am and 3rd Fri each month, 5.30 - 6.30pm. West End Neighbourhood Centre, 4th Fri each month 9.30 - 10.30am.

Manor House Neighbourhood Centre, 2nd Friday every month, 10-11am.

**Western Park Cllrs Surgery:** Monthly-2nd Weds St. Paul's Church Rooms, Kirby Road. 7-8.00pm.



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If you're holding an event or perhaps you're doing something special and you'd like people in West Leicester to know All about it,

# SHOUT IT OUT!

e: [editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk](mailto:editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk)



# KNOTT'S LANDING

*Helen Knott*

**Do teenagers not work for their money anymore?** I am constantly amazed that the teenagers around me do not seem to work for cash anymore.

It is virtually impossible to find someone under 18 to mow the lawn, walk the dog, water the plants or baby-sit and there seems to be no decent reason for it. The kids I come into contact with all seem like jolly nice well adjusted young people, a lot like I was when I was younger, except these kids all have an allowance and have no need to work. It's almost as if we have decided, as a society, that work is beneath our little angels. Their school work is far too important and they need their rest!

When I was 15 I was babysitting several nights a week and there was the brief but disastrous stint teaching English to Hong Kong Chinese kids. Admittedly I was living in Hong Kong at the time but a quick poll of friends reveals a catalogue of paper rounds, dog walking, babysitting, grass cutting, car washing and ironing to earn cash to fund our cd buying, cinema trips and clothes habits. While I babysat, I did my homework and I was always back by 11 on a school night so there was never a problem with my parents. I was on to a nice little earner! So what has changed? Is it that they do not have to work or that we don't want to employ them?

I have heard of one enterprising young lady aged about 16 with younger brothers and sisters who did a leaflet drop offering babysitting services and only got two jobs in her first month. I would have thought she would have been inundated with requests, but no!

Maybe it's because we don't want strangers in our homes. Maybe it's because we don't trust anyone else with our babies. Maybe we have lost our trust in teenagers. Whatever it is, I am fairly sure that we are all losing out so here's my message. Teenagers – the summer holidays are here and they are a huge opportunity to make some cash. Get out there and advertise your services and grown ups – get over whatever it is that's stopping you saying yes, employ these kids and help give them a sense of pride and the worth of work all while you relax and enjoy yourself!



## August Police Update

**Police have charged a 25-year-old man in relation to a serious sexual assault.**

The incident happened at around 3.30am on Saturday July 7, when the victim, was assaulted in a car in Richard III Road.

The man has been charged with two counts of rape and one count of attempt murder and has been remanded into custody and is due to appear at Leicester Crown Court.

**A man has been charged following an incident after an injured man was found lying in the street.**

Officers were called to Winchester Avenue near to the junction with Lavender Road. The victim died later at Nottingham's Queens Medical Centre.

A 50-year-old man is currently charged with Section 18 GBH and has been remanded into police custody.

**A man with a knife was hit by his victim during an attempted robbery on July 20th on Fosse Road South.**

The 20-year-old was approached at approximately 2.45pm near to Winchester Avenue. The man pulled out a knife and demanded wallet and keys. When the victim refused the man punched him in the stomach, but the victim hit him back.

The suspect then ran away along Fosse Road South towards Winchester Avenue. He is described as a black man with a light complexion, approximately 5'7" tall, of medium to muscular build and had short black hair. He was wearing a dark jacket.

**Two 21 year old men have been charged with burgling a house on Glenfield Road.**

The offence is alleged to have occurred on July 8th when a 32 inch TV was taken.

The accused appeared at Leicester Magistrates' Court on July 25th.

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# Movin'2gether

**Movin'2gether, a West End creative dance business working from the Newfoundpool Neighbourhood Centre, are engaging with local young people to give them a step into higher education through the art of dance!**

They are working with De Montfort University and their innovative Square Mile Project, which aims to link the university with local residents to provide a quality dance programme for young people.

Not only does this give participants an opportunity to experience the facilities at DMU, Movin'2gether are also providing the chance to complete their Bronze Arts Award qualification.



Seven young girls aged 13 and 14, including four from the Fosse area, have taken part in Movin'2Bronze over the past two months, comprising of practical and theoretical dance sessions taught by the company's co-directors Emily Bolton and Rachel Eke, as well as guest DMU lecturers.

"We have been working with the girls on their dance practice and choreography skills and are so impressed at the level of commitment and talent that is emerging from the participants!" explains Emily. The programme has also provided an opportunity to have a tour around Curve Theatre, as well as taking part in 'Movin'2Bronze The Showcase' which took place in July: "Our participants performed the pieces they have been choreographing over the project, alongside two DMU graduates and a documentary film showing snippets throughout the whole process", says Rachel.

"We were also able to present their portfolios in our Movin'2Bronze Exhibition which detailed the girls experience of the programme in pictures and writing. All of our guests were so impressed!"

The portfolios are soon to be moderated giving the girls their Bronze Arts Award qualification.

Movin'2gether aim to run more of the Movin'2Bronze programmes as well as Movin'2Silver and Movin'2Gold awards. The Company are also planning to work on similar projects with local primary schools.

For more information email:

[movin2gether@gmail.com](mailto:movin2gether@gmail.com) or call 0792 600 4915



# Summer Sundae

**It's that time of the year to dig out the tent and head off to The Summer Sundae Festival, which is set to rock Leicester into the summer with three days of non-stop music and fun.**

Now in its twelfth year, the Summer Sundae Festival has transformed from a one day event into a giant three day festival with camping and is expected to attract over 7,000 music fans. Held at Leicester's De Montfort Hall & Gardens, from the 17th of August, the event will host two main stages for music performances, comedy acts, arts and entertainment catering for all ages.

Having played host in the past to the likes of Patti Smith, Amy Winehouse, Elbow and many more, this year's packed festival line up of 90 acts, kicks off with Dark Horse opening the main stage, followed by a fantastic line up including talented singer songwriter and Mercury Prize nominee Ed Harcourt and all girl four piece Savages.

The event gives a platform to local talent like the Vows, hailing from the Midlands, who have shared stages with acts like MONA and Various Cruelties, the chance to entertain with their fresh, energetic sharp guitar lines, complex arrangements and pop sensibility.

National artists make appearances like South London's Katy B who's set to wow the crowds with her vocal talent infused with some dubstep, UK Garage and RnB beats and performing her hits like Kay on a Mission along with a whole host of musical talents who are set to perform and entertain crowds with a mix of music and beats.



And there are classic rock and pop acts too. There's Adam Ant & the Good and the Mad Lovely Posse and the legendary Johnny Rotten struts the stage with Public Image Limited. Top selling 90's rockers, Ocean Colour Scene, and folk punk poet, Billy Bragg also make welcome appearances.

If you're looking for a relaxed and chilled weekend with an eclectic line up of music, then Summer Sundae Festival in Leicester is the place to be.

*Aarti C Thobhani*

# Tony Huxley's Garden Tidings



It's funny how you can forget what you planted in the garden only a year before. I was wondering what was missing from several bare areas at the front of a border; was it due to more plants having succumb to the harsh late winter? Then I noticed faint patches of fine feathery leaves belonging to *Coreopsis rosea* "American Dream". The foliage of this plant is very attractive and tactile. The deep pink petals and yellow centred flowers are only an inch across but they achieve a stunning effect by blooming in profusion.



Coreopsis are also known as Tickseed, an unflattering name for a pretty plant. They were predominantly available in shades of yellow, but now many different colours are sold in nurseries. "Sweet Dreams" is a variety with two tone pink and maroon petals. "Limerick Ruby" has deep velvety red flowers.

The previous hard winter wiped out several other Coreopsis varieties from my garden including a gorgeous intense yellow variety "Sunray". Fortunately Coreopsis are not expensive plants and can easily be propagated by seed or division, and they will usually flower in the same season. They do prefer a well drained, warm sunny spot, but can handle partial shade and are quite drought tolerant. They are also very good in containers. This is a good way to grow smaller varieties that may easily be swamped in a busy border. Dead heading larger species will prolong the flower season. For smaller varieties a careful clip back with shears or scissors will often stimulate a worthwhile second bloom.



Slugs, snails, aphids, and mildew in certain conditions can be a problem, but rarely a serious one. But Coreopsis are good at attracting more desirable bugs like bees and butterflies. And sometimes they can surprise you by rising from the ashes!

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# BRAIN TAZERS

1		2		3		4
5						
6						
7						

**Across:** 1. Amusing 5. Associate 6. Run 7. Trigonometric function **Down** 1. Compatibility 2. Physician 3. Dressing 4. Sincere

						7
		4	3	8		
		7		6		5 3
	1	6			2	8 4
8			4		1	
4		9	8			3 7
	6	3			4	2
					1 3	9
9						

- One letter in each word of these two proverbs has been changed. Work out the original proverbs: "Wetter mate than fever" & "Paint peart newer son pair lads".
- Make 4 out of 2, 5, 6, and 8. (Several solutions)
- Laterally think out this: Why are there several corpses floating in the middle of an ocean near a yacht?
- How can 5 really large men crowd under one tiny umbrella and not get wet?

Answers on line: [www.westernparkgazette.co.uk](http://www.westernparkgazette.co.uk)