



NARBOROUGH RD BLAST

Two people have been charged with the manslaughter of 40 year old Fiaz Ahmed Anzari following an explosion that destroyed Kams King of the Grill takeaway on Narborough Rd on August 29th.

Mehwish Yasin and Shabaz Kahn, were among seven people arrested following the early morning Bank Holiday Monday blast.

Leicester Magistrates heard that Mr Anzari's body was found by contractors clearing the site later that day.

The post mortem of Mr Anzari, who was an employee of the takeaway, indicated he had been close to the heart of the explosion.

Police recovered four petrol cans after the blast which destroyed the two storey building and caused an estimated £42,000 worth of damage to nearby businesses,

Miss Yasin, (24) formerly of Cranmer Street was bailed to live in Birmingham and Mr Kahn (24) was bailed to an address in Harrow.

Neither entered pleas and both are due to appear at Crown Court in December.

Police have released three women and a man without charge but a 28 year old man remains in custody.

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The Western Park Gazette

Hello From The Editor

Hello and welcome to the September issue of the Gazette.

This month our offering includes that explosion at a local Kebab shop which claimed a life of a man; there's the historic tale of John Flower, one of Leicester's most influential artists; Helen Knott, says there's a strange, unearthly hum flowing out of Western Park and straight into her ears and Tony Huxley's has some helpful suggestions to prep up your garden for Autumn.

We'll find out more about a big health and wellbeing event on at the Fosse Neighbourhood Centre, the local police have their monthly update and the revamped BMX track on the Rally Park has been scrawled on - already.

The Gazette competition returns with the chance for you to win a meal for two at Loaf on Braunstone Gate.

We are always looking for news and contributions, so if you've ever fancied writing for a magazine or you have some local news or information, please get in touch.

And don't forget to visit our back issues at www.westernparkgazette.co.uk.

Sharon e: editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk

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Flowering of an Artist

John Flower was born in 1793 at Castle Mill, close by what is now the Soar Point public house. His father died when he was very young and his family struggled to make a living with the result that in 1806, at the age of thirteen, he was apprenticed to a local framework knitter.

It was a local doctor, Doctor Alexander of Dannetts Hall, who together with Mary Linwood, the famous Leicester artist and seamstress, who first recognised John's talent for painting and pencil drawings. They sponsored him to study in London for a year and as a result, he was able to take employment as a professional artist and art teacher. As a teacher he operated for many years in Marble Street, close to the town centre.

John soon became known as the "Leicester Artist" and in 1826 published a book called "Views of Ancient Buildings" of Leicestershire which considerably

enhanced his reputation.

He worked in oil, water colour, pencil and engraving, specialising in intricate architecture and landscape portrayals. He and his wife,

Frances, embarked on sketching tours of the country with the result that his



West Bridge - John Flower

work came to feature various parts of the United Kingdom, venturing as far as North Wales; a considerable distance at the time.

As his fame and fortune rose, he moved to a substantial house, which he partly designed himself at what is now 100-102 Regent Road. Today the address carries a blue plaque in his honour. He lived there until his death in 1861 and is buried in Welford Road Cemetery.

John Flower's work can be found in many private and museum collections, including over 200 unpublished works at Leicester's New Walk Museum and Art Gallery.

In addition, a small exhibition detailing his life and work is currently doing the rounds of city museums. I last caught up with it at the Guildhall from where it is moving to St. Martin's House.

Roger Blackmore

More from Roger in the next issue.

Events Diary

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

Free Computer Courses: Westcotes Library: 0116 299 5510.

Spin It: 24th Sept. Eco House, Western Park. Love your bicycle! Bike related activities.

Wedding Show: 17th Sept. Cathedral, Guild Hall, St. Martin's House, 11.00-4.00pm. Free

Walk Through Victorian Leicester: 22nd Sept. 7.00-8.00pm. Hamilton Library. Free.

An Inspector Calls: 22nd Sept-1st Oct. Curve.

Braunstone Park Run: 24th Sept. 9.00-11.00am. Braunstone Park. Free.

Aliens Anniversary: 24/25th Sept. Space Centre. 10.00-5.00pm. info@spacecentre.co.uk

Navratri Fest': 28th Sept. DeMontfort Hall. 7.00pm.

WW2 Leicester Illustrated Talk: 29th Sept. Westcotes Library. 10.30-12.00pm. Free

Bygone Leicester on Film: 4th Oct. Fosse Library. Free.

Fosse Community Meeting: 5th Oct. Newfoundpool Neighbourhood Centre, Pool Road. 6pm.

National Trust Leicester Association: Talk on Croome Park. Highpoint Conference Centre. 11th Oct. 7.30pm. 0116 222 9133.

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

Events in the Parish

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

At St. Anne's Church Hall -

Mon - Fri Sandhurst Playgroup 285 7440.

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

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

2nd Tue: 2.00 - 4.00pm: MU Speakers

3rd Tue: 7.30 - 9.30pm: W.P. Gardening Club.

Wed: 5.00 - 8.00pm: Weightwatchers.

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

1st Wed: 2.30 - 4.00pm: Wednesday Club.

4th 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.

1st 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**)

Sat 24th Sept: St. Anne's Autumn Fair. Church Hall. 11am-2pm.

Church OF THE MARTYRS

Westcotes Drive Leicester

Tomatoes Cafe (Church) live music alternate Saturdays -10am-12pm.

Shake Rattle & Roll for babies toddlers & carers every Thursdays in term time - 9.30-11.30am.

Taekwondo 7.30 - 8.30pm, Mondays in the Hall.

Zumba 6.30pm, Tuesdays.

Karate 6.00-7.00pm, Fridays in the Hall.

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

Rainbows: Mondays 5.15pm; **Brownies:** Mon & Thurs 6.30pm; **Guides:** Tues 7.00pm .

Details of events and services can be found at www.martyrs.org.uk

St. Andrew's Methodist Church

Glenfield Road East, Leicester

Weds: Brownies. 6.30-8.00pm. T: Heather Valentine 0116 287 1056.

Fri: Pram Club. Term Time. 10.00-11.30am.

T: Jean Rawson 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

Are you holding an event? Then get in touch with the Gazette and tell everyone!

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Is there something strange going on around Western Park? Helen Knott, believes her own ears...

KNOTT'S LANDING

Helen Knott

There is a hum in Leicester. For years people have told me I'm nuts when I mention that it sounds like someone is running a digger on Western Park in the middle of the night. If you open my bathroom window at 4am you can hear it loud and clear. It's still there at 5am but it dies away in the wash of noise that starts around 6am. At first I thought it might be the railway line but it's a constant noise. Then I thought it was a lorry parked up running its engine. It couldn't be a bus, they don't run that early. It's a hum.

Until recently I thought I was going a bit doo-lally. All the evidence suggests that's the case. I could hear it, but not my husband. You can't really ask guests to get up at 3am and listen for a hum, it's not the done thing. Then I read about other people who hear the hum in different places. A village called Woodland in Durham is the latest to report the noise defined on Wikipedia as "a persistent and invasive low-frequency humming noise not audible to all people". Aha! I shrieked as I triumphantly

read it to my husband. He looked at me and did that thing where they use their finger to circle their temple implying that you might not be in full possession of your faculties.

Unfortunately he might be right. There is no explanation for this noise, sometimes known as the Bristol Hum, or the Bondi Hum. Both slightly more glamorous than the Western Park Hum! Wikipedia cites Spontaneous otoacoustic noise as a possible cause (noises

your own ears make) or my personal favourite, colliding waves. Yes, scientists have registered infrasonic sounds made by waves colliding and crashing into the ocean floor off... wait for it... the North West coast of the USA and they could be traveling all over the globe, all the way to Leicester!



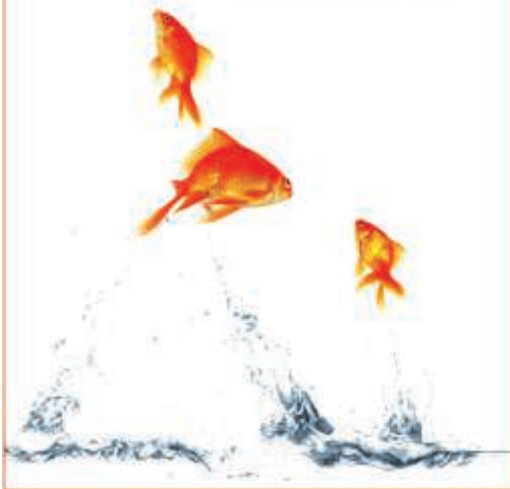
Western Park Hum?
The Real Reason - 20 Ton Bees

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Letterbox



I didn't think the "riots" would hit Leicester-but they did. In London the shops hit were described as "high end" so at first it could be confused with the damage that occurred during the TUC protest, but Nandos, the last Plan-tagenet and Pound Stretcher? Who are these people-snobs who don't like a bargain?

This just demonstrates to me that this isn't a riot. There isn't any unifying protest about the cuts or any social commentary but just people who enjoy smashing things and having a set to with the police.

Dawn Howard

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Gardeners Question Time

Have you garden problems solved at the St. Anne's Garden Club Question time on 11th October at the Church Hall on Letchworth Road.



7.15 for 7.30 Refreshments included and guests are welcome. £1.50 / £2.00

September Police Update

A 22-year-old man has been charged with three aggravated burglaries. The incidents happened on August 7 in Abbey Lane, on August 20 in Kirby Road and on August 21 in Fosse Road Central. He has also been charged with assaulting a PC and damage to a police cell. **Officers from Leicestershire Constabulary's serious collision investigation unit are appealing for witnesses after a fatal collision in Leicester.**

The crash happened at about 4.22am on Friday September 2 on Narborough Road city bound near the Tesco Express service station and involved a silver Renault Master van.

One passenger received serious injuries and later died.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact DC 506 Ady Keeble.

Officers from Hinckley Road carried out a two week long operation and successfully reduced burglary after a steep increase in these offences over one weekend.

Between August 13, and 15, there were 11 reports of burglaries in and around the area of

Wilberforce Road and Glenfield Road, compared to only two reports across the area in the previous weekend.

Sergeant Will Cheshire from Hinckley Road said: "Officers conducted high visibility and plain clothes patrols in and around the streets the burglaries occurred and gave as much 24 hour coverage as possible. Officers conducted street consultations with residents and informed them of the increase in burglaries in the area and gave advice on how to make their property secure and to prevent them from becoming a victim."

During the burglary operation a man was arrested and has since attended court. He has been remanded in custody until November 2011.

Police dog Bodie helped locate and arrest a man following the report of a burglary at a house in Westcotes Drive.

The incident happened on Sunday morning, September 4, when two flats were broken into and property was taken from inside.

Bodie located a man during enquiries with officers that day and he was arrested.

Two men, aged 22 and 30-years-old, have been arrested in connection with the incident. Both have been bailed pending further enquiries.

NEW BMX TRACK VANDALISED

Work costing £475,000 to improve Rally Park has already fallen foul of vandals.

The park is part of the regeneration programme for the city's waterside area,

Originally part of the Leicester and Swannington Railway, the park has now become a focus for anti social and criminal activity.

The council hope the improvements will make the Rally a more enjoyable and safer place to visit, but the recently revamped BMX trail has already been "tagged" by vandals.



One angry Tudor Road resident says: "They've only just finished building it up and now look at it! Some I've seen on it aren't kids either."

Tony Huxley's Garden Tidings



One of the things I love about classic English gardens is deep herbaceous borders. As we head into autumn they often look a bit tired as the main summer flowers fade and bedding plants begin to tire. But there are many ways to keep the borders flowering till the first frosts.

Cut back the spent earlier flowering plants, making room for later flowering selections. *Sedum spectabile* "Autumn Joy" is

a classic late summer plant that provides the last sip of nectar for many hibernating butterflies. *Rudbeckia* "Goldsturm" blooms from late summer to autumn and is ideally suited to the heavy clay soil of many Leicester gardens. So are Japanese Anemones.

"September Charm" is a fitting variety that can also tolerate semi-shade. *Verbena bonariensis* will hunt the sun at the back of border and complements ornamental grasses like *Stipa gigantea* and



Autumn Joy

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squaring the circle

Miscanthus sinensis. Grasses are an excellent autumnal foil for late flowering perennials and provide interest in their own right.

Cutting back perennials that have already flowered can promote a second flush of blooms. Hardy geraniums and some asters are good examples. Delphiniums and their cousins foxgloves and penstemons will often respond with a lesser but still worth while second flowering.

Simple dead heading often extends flowering because the plant doesn't waste energy creating seed heads. Roses are a prime example but it works with many other species.

Sweet peas will often stop flowering if you let them set seed.

If you want to get more from your plants you should try and put something back. Mulch the roots with organic matter and keeping them well watered. If using a liquid feed use one low in nitrogen as this will stimulate leaf growth rather than flowers. With a little effort you can squeeze a bit more summer out of the garden.



Foxglove

Fosse Health & Wellbeing Day

Leicester Libraries, has teamed up with Leicester NHS and Fosse Neighbourhood Centre to hold a Free Community Health Day.

The event promotes the ONE Leicester vision of improving local health and well being and takes place on October 8th from 11am-3 pm at Fosse Library and Fosse Neighbourhood Centre.

The aim of this day is to raise awareness of the diverse range of health and fitness opportunities on offer locally; to promote positive health and support people wishing to make changes towards a healthier lifestyle.

There will be many health activities available from personal health checks to sporting demonstrations; there's even special activities for children including face painting and clown magic. Visitors will have a chance to experience holistic



therapies such as Indian Head massage, Reiki and more. Other services attending include the police, fire brigade, East Midlands ambulance, all giving visitors the chance to learn more. This is a Free event and all are welcome.

COUNCILLOR'S SURGERIES

Fosse Cllrs Surgery Monthly, first Sat, 10.30-11.30, Fosse Neighbourhood Centre & last Sat (10-11.30am) 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 Tues each month 1.30 - 2.30pm.

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

Your City Councilors hold regular **Ward Meetings** to update their constituents on local issues and concerns. To find out when and where, click the link at www.westernparkgazette.co.uk

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FOSSE SINGERS

If you've got a bit of a singing voice and fancy testing it out on the public, then one local group want to hear from you.

The Fosse Singers Choir performs regularly and enjoys singing a wide range of material, including show tunes, jazz, pop, light classical, folk and gospel.



term time from 7pm until 8.45pm.

The choir, which is open to anyone over 18 who loves singing, is led by Hannah Brine, who says: "Setting up a choir in Leicester's West End has been hugely exciting. I have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of the people who have joined and I am looking forward to meeting other people in the area who love singing. The choir is now into its fourth year and we just keep getting better and better, so it's a very exciting time."

More details at www.fossesingers.co.uk

LOCAL PRAM CLUB IS BACK

Pram Club has started the new term at St Anne's Church Hall on Letchworth Road and they are looking for volunteers to help serve tea and coffee.

The club is a playgroup for children from 0-5 years and has been running for over a decade. Each week the organisers put on a craft activity for kids and there is always someone to chat to.

You can find out more by coming along on Thursday afternoons from 1.15 to 3.15pm or contact them through their new Facebook page.



They meet at the Fosse Neighbourhood Centre on Mantle Road every Wednesday evening during