

Western Park Gazette

News-Views and advertising for the Western Park Area
No 12 February 2010 www.westernparkgazette.co.uk



Western Park Golf Club Celebrates 100



Happy Birthday Western Park Golf Club

Western Park Golf Club celebrates 100 years of teeing off this year.

As the club marks its centenary, golf at the Western Park Course has never been so popular with over 240 new members joining from all over Leicester and beyond. "2009 was a very busy year," says Club Captain Dave Fitzgerald. "We have between 70 – 80 competitors every week and a growing team of enthusiastic young players including two County Juniors."

The Lord Mayor of Leicester, Cllr. Roger Blackmore paid the club a visit to offer support for the celebrations and to join the "Drive In" where team Captains hit the first ball of the season. (Pictured with Dave Fitzgerald)



Plans for the centenary are well under way with a week of celebrations lined up for July. This includes special competition matches with pro-am, junior and seniors all battling it out.

Once situated behind Letchworth Road near Green Acres School, the 18 hole course and club moved to it's present New Parks location off Scudamore Road in 1973. In fact the original club house can still be seen.

It is believed F.G. Hawtree, one of the famous Hawtree family of golf course architects, designed the original greens. The family continued to work on the present course into the 1980's.

Today local golfers can enjoy the putting green, practice field, indoor nets and tuition from a PGA professional coach.

Other facilities for the avid golfer include a well equipped shop as well as bar and catering facilities.

For information call Bill Bale - 0116 287 5211.



(Top picture, left to right: Sam Brown, Jake Cartwright, Simon Cartwright, Martin Brooknall, Bill Bale and Dave Fitzgerald)

Greetings From The Editor

Welcome to February's Western Park Gazette.

This month we join the Western Park Golf Club as they prepare to celebrate their centenary. Our resident historian, Roger Blackmore, looks back at one of his remarkable predecessors in the Mayor's Office, gardening guru, Tony Huxley, waxes lyrical about sun blushed tomatoes and Richard Perry starts to dribble uncontrollably (again) at some new 3D TV's that are so expensive he's planning to sell a few organs to raise the cash to buy one.

Helen Knott reveals an unhealthy interest in her milk pixie and the magical hassle free delights of doorstep deliveries. We also hear the latest news from the Hinckley Road Policing Unit as they crack down on things that need cracking down on.

We've fiddled with the website and launched the discussion board. Here you can leave comments, thoughts and argue a lot. We're looking for voluntary moderators, so get in touch if you'd like to help.

And this month we're giving you the chance to win a DVD of last years blockbuster Pixar movie "Up".

Don't forget, you can download PDF versions of the Gazette from our website.

Sharon

editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk

Events Diary

Western Park Councillor's Surgery 11th March at

St. Paul's Church Rooms, Kirby Road. 7-8.00pm

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 634221.

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

Leicester Badminton Club New College Leicester

Mixed abilities - all ages. Tues 7pm, term time, £3.00.

Tel: Michael Cheung 07967 592 208.

West End Dance Academy West End Neighbourhood Centre, Weds aged 7+ 5.30-6.30pm and 11+ 6.30-7.30pm. Tel: Diana 07949 495 081.

Fosse Singers Fosse Neighbourhood Centre, Weds 7-8.45pm, term time. Tel: Hannah 07814 935 049

Hand Made Market Fire Bug, MillStone lane, Sat 20th March, 12-5pm - Free.

St. Patrick's Parade Sat 13th March, 12-1.30pm from High Street to Humberstone Gate.

Sing-A-Long-A-Sound of Music Curve 19th March,



Events in the Parish

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

At St. Anne's Church Hall -

Mon - Fri Term-time Sandhurst Playgroup

Mon: 5.30 - 7.00pm: W.E.A. Yoga 255 6614.
7.15 - 9.00pm: Tai Chi with Rick.

Tues: 8.00 - 9.00pm: Zumba Fitness.

2nd Tues: 2.00 - 4.00pm: Mothers' Union Speakers

3rd Tues: 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: Mothers' Union 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: 11.30 - 1.00pm: Lunch club.

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

Tuesdays 10.00am: Mums and Toddlers & 1.30 pm: Over 60's Club. (**St. Paul's**)

1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd March - Christian Aid Hunger Lunch at the Vicarage in aid of Haiti - 12 to 1.30 pm

Sat 13th March Spring Fair at St. Paul's Worship Centre 10 am to 2 pm and Neighbourhood Watch Fair -10 am to 12 noon in St. Anne's Church Hall.

To Book St. Anne's Community Hall call Nick Butler on 07792 123 630

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Western Park Councillor and Lord Mayor of Leicester, Roger Blackmore, examines the life of a mayoral predecessor with a nice line in social agitation, assault and arson!

From Rebel To First Citizen

The life history of Elizabeth Rowley Frisby is certainly a very interesting one.

She was the daughter of Joseph Frisby, founder of the famous Leicestershire Footwear Company and educated at Wyggeston Girls School.

In 1909 the young Elizabeth was one of the founders of the Leicester Branch of the Women's Social and Political Union - The Suffragettes.

Elizabeth was active in pressing the cause of votes for women and was regularly in trouble with the law. She was arrested on at least one occasion for "assaulting a police officer" and in 1914, along with three other militants, she was responsible for burning down Blaby railway station in the dead of night.

She was in Antwerp as the First World War broke out, but returned to Britain where she undertook a wide variety of war work including opening a clothing depot for families of reservists in Leicester and later joining Women's Police patrols in London. Elizabeth also took on a great deal of

work with the YMCA for which she received an MBE from King George 5th in 1918.

After the war and back home in Leicester, she joined the Conservative Party and became an active party worker in the Knighton Ward.

In 1927, she became both a Justice of the Peace and an elected member of the City Council.

In the coronation year of 1937, this remarkable lady became the first woman High Bailiff in the City of Leicester.

On the outbreak of the Second World War, Elizabeth threw herself into work with evacuees and organised the first salvage campaign in the city.

In 1941 she became the first woman to be elected to the position of Lord Mayor of Leicester

- quite a far cry from setting alight Blaby Railway station some 27 years earlier!



Catch up with Roger's historical articles on line at www.westernparkgazette.co.uk

GAZETTE COMPETITION

January's Gazette competition champion is Ann Gibson who won a Valentines meal for 2 at the Crow's Nest. She worked out that a billion Valentines cards are sent every year.

This time there's the chance to win a DVD of one of the biggest family films of 2009.

Disney - Pixar's computer animated film "Up" tells the story of an elderly widower, an over eager boy scout and their trip to South America in a house carried by balloons....

THE QUESTION

What was Disney's first full length colour cartoon feature film?

- A. Snow White
- B. Tron
- C. 101 Dalmatians

Email your answer by March 10th 2010 to editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk

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

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



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Western Park writer, journalist and broadcaster, Helen Knott, actually has a soft spot! This one is for the delights of home delivery.

KNOTT'S LANDING

Helen Knott

People always seem to be surprised when I say I have my milk delivered by a milkman. I don't know why it should be surprising. For me it's a no brainer, milk appears on my doorstep at regular intervals, I pay by direct debit and they do a whole lot more than just milk. I love that when I go on holiday I can leave a little note before we go and bread, milk, butter and orange juice will be waiting on the morning of my arrival home. No scrabbling around looking for the right currency as you get off the plane. No desperate search for a supermarket open at stupid o'clock!

The thing I am sorry about is the fact that whereas a couple of years ago they used to process their own milk, from local cows, in a local processing plant just down the road, now they buy it in from outside. My Milky says their place used to be bustling with big machines that could process 24,000 bottles of milk an hour. Now it's just a huge empty space, all the machines sold off because of "commercial pressures".

Truth is, I think we just got out of the habit of having a Milky deliver to our doors. Supermarkets are convenient because they are open all hours and they do big, cheap plastic bottles of milk. The trouble is they are always a quick car journey away which costs extra in petrol and wear and tear on the car. So actually they aren't as cheap as we think they are. It is just money we can't see we are wasting. Personally I always worry about how fresh supermarket milk is and I missed getting the top of the milk in my cereal. Now that's a really satisfying splat first thing in the morning. I say we should all get the milkman to deliver to us. You immediately drive five miles less a week and your deliveries are made by electric milk float so it's brilliant for the environment and it helps keep a local dairy in business. Isn't it another no brainer?

More from Helen next month.

Join the chat on our discussion board on-line.



LEICESTER WEST - ELECTION 2010

With a general Election only months, perhaps weeks away, who is standing for Parliament in Leicester West?

The Big Three candidates are -

Peter Coley (Lib Dem) Meet him at his monthly Councillors surgery at St. Paul's Church Rooms on Kirby Road on the second Thursday of every month. www.petercoley.mycouncillor.org.uk
Email - coley4parliament@btinternet.com
Tel: 0116 285 7408.

Celia Harvey (Conservative) is available at the West Leicester Conservative Club 55 Westcotes Drive, Leicester on the first Friday of every month between 7 - 8pm. www.celiaharvey.co.uk Email: celiaharvey@leicesterconservatives.com or call/text on 0787 254 2500.

Liz Kendall (Labour) www.lizkendall.org. Email liz@liskendall.org. FaceBook and Twitter. Tel: 0116 253 7374.



Peter Coley



Celia Harvey



Liz Kendall

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New Year Update

From Hinckley Road Policing Unit

Western Park has seen an increase in reports of burglary but there is a decrease from this time last year. Most of the Burglaries are occurring during the early evening.

Hinckley Road Policing Unit ask that any suspicious activity is reported to the police. Additionally the facility to mark property is available at Hinckley Road Police Station. Ask one of the Neighbourhood Team for more details.

There has been a slight increase in Robbery and arrests have been made.

There is a slight increase in theft from unattended motor vehicles. Theft of number plates is occurring in the area, especially around roads near the park.

Reports of anti social behaviour have risen from 8.2% last year to 10.3% this year with some of these reports relating to snowball fights and mini motos on Western Park.

The issue of youths and mini motos on the park is a Neighbourhood Priority and the Neighbourhood Teams are concentrating on this area.

Westcotes continues to see reductions in Burglary, Robbery and vehicle crime. Police are

working with the Community Safety Unit carrying out target hardening on addresses in the area to make them less vulnerable and prevent easy access.

There is a slight increase in reports of violent crimes. The majority of the reports relate to the night time economy, as a result police continue late night and weekend patrols around the Narborough Road and Braunstone Gate areas. They have introduced 'Inn Watch' which ensures all the licences are complaint with current legislation. This means there is greater control and a genuine passion to make this area a safe and enjoyable area to socialise.

Police Number 222 2222

Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111

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LEICESTER BEER FESTIVAL

The Leicester branch of the Campaign For Real Ale's annual four day beer festival kicks off on Wednesday 10th March at 5pm .

This year, the festival features over 220 beers, 40 ciders and perries with around 70 coming from breweries within a 25 mile radius of Leicester City Centre.

Beers will be sourced from all of the Leicestershire & Rutland breweries along with beers from some of the newest and smallest micro-breweries from other parts of the country.

There are also some one-off

"Festival Special" brews along with fruit beers.

As March is the CAMRA campaigning month for dark beers – there is a wider selection of mild, porter and stout to choose from including a dozen beers over 7%.

The festival is held at the Charotar Patidar Samaj Hall behind Farthings Plumbers Merchants off St Margaret's Way on the corner of South Churchgate and Bay St, next to Leicester Volkswagen. Admission is free to CAMRA members and £2.50 for non members. More information at www.leicestercamra.org.uk



Whether you agree with the climate change notion or not, you will agree that the thump of gas and electricity bills on the doormat means ever increasing energy costs for the home.

QHRs - GENERATE YOUR OWN HEAT!

Sponsored Article

The "science" behind man made global warming may be in dispute, but the idea of generating some of our own household power without totally relying on expensive energy providers is undeniably attractive.

One Western Park based company is offering just that service.

QHRs – "Quality Heating and Renewable Solutions" have a variety of traditional and renewable answers to your heating needs.

QHRs can install Solar Hot Water systems using sunlight to deliver up to 60% of you household hot water per year.

QHRs can install Ground Source Heat pumps in your garden which converts naturally stored ground heat to hot water and heating. It can also work in reverse and keep your home cool in the summer and there are no harmful emissions. If there are space limitations, QHRs can fit an Air Source Heat Pump which extracts energy from the air.

QHRs also offers a full range of traditional gas central heating installations including servicing, power flushing and a boiler scrap-page scheme where you can save up to £400 on an upgrade and a £250 grant for the over 60's.

Under Floor heating is a speciality, removing the need for wall radiators, creating more living space and an energy saving of between 15-40%.

To find out more visit www.qhrs.co.uk



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GAZETTE LETTER BOX

RE: Phil Hardy's letter about the name of the pub on the corner of Narborough Road and Hinckley Road. Correction: Shipstone's Arms.

I share Helen Knott's concern about inconsiderate cycle riders on the pavement. (*January Gazette*) I have been nearly knocked off my feet on several occasions by cyclists who think it is my fault I am a pedestrian.

Since speed humps are so popular on the roads these days, I would suggest they are placed on the pavement as well.

Bruised and Battered Western Park

Having seen for myself the pile of rubbish left after the closure of the furniture shop on the corner of Hinckley Road and Woodville Road and prompted by the letter and photograph in last month's Letter Box, I phoned the City Council's Streetscene Line to report it. They assured me that the mess will be cleared up and a recent phone call from an Environmental Health Officer confirmed this. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this letter, the problem will have been solved. If not, may I suggest that as many people as possible call the Streetscene Line on 0116 252 7001 and chivvy them up.

Clarefield Rd

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WESTERN PARK CHARITY BALL

If you fancy putting on your glad rags, letting your hair down and having fun then there is still time to get tickets for the Friends of Western Park Charity Ball.

A black tie event, the evening will include a three course meal and a live band as well as an auction, a raffle and a photographer to capture you looking your best.



Ady Alexander, chairman of FoWP, said: "There is still time to get your tickets for this amazing event. We have tables of 10 as well as individual tickets available and all funds raised will go towards improving and maintaining our beautiful and historic City of Leicester Park." The Friends of Western are a group hoping to make big improvements to the play facilities on the park through raising money and awareness. The event takes place at The City Rooms in Leicester on Saturday 6 March and tickets cost £35 per person, £350 for a table of ten.

For more information email info@friendsofwesternpark.co.uk or call Ady Alexander on 07952 972212.

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The ink isn't even dry on the HD signs in the TV shops and already there is something new to tempt us.

Nice Box - What's in it? Richard Perry

Whilst most of us are still scratching our heads over the complexities of Hi Definition and Blu-ray - 3D Television is here.

If you have seen Avatar in the cinema in 3D, imagine that sort of technology on your telly. Marvellous as long as you don't mind having a pile of special polarised viewing glasses sitting in a bucket waiting for family and friends.

Sky TV have already broadcast 3D football matches to limited locations with special TVs, but again viewers needed those glasses. Okay for the cinema, but tedious for watching at home.

What we really need is 3D without the glasses and fortunately that now exists, albeit in early forms.

IBM, LG, Samsung and Philips have all developed pure 3D screens. Instead of the other system where two slightly different images are watched through brain fooling polarised glasses, these new "lenticular" screens work by actually building the glasses effect onto the screen to create the illusion of stereoscopic depth.

All very well and good, but at the moment, there is very little 3D content to watch, so what we need is something that can convert all our normal TV shows and DVDs to quality 3D.



Philips £16 000 Quad 3DHD - Go on, buy 2!

Philips have done just that with some brain achingly expensive new technology. It's the 56 inch Quad Autostereoscopic 3DHDTV. This monster has 4 times the definition of the highest standard HDTVs. Additionally Philips 3D WOW technology converts regular HD transmissions or Blu-ray to 3D.

This is the prototype for our future TVs but it will be several years before this level technology becomes affordable. If you'd rather not wait, it will cost you £16,000 to impress the neighbours!

Tony Huxley's Garden Tidings



Even though winter has some way to go, now is the time to plan summer crops. They say you can't bottle sunshine. We disagree in our household. Last year, I had an excellent crop of *Principe Borghese* tomatoes. They're not the best salad toms: eaten raw, their texture is poor. They're not that great in sauces either. But sunblushed and bottled in olive oil they're delicious.

To "sunblush" in Britain you must cheat. You need an oven on low heat for up to 24 hours - and lots of tomatoes. We recently finished our last jar and my wife is bereft! "You HAVE to grow some more this year". I needed no further encouragement to hide away in the potting shed! If you want to try some, get planting now to ensure you get a good crop before the dreaded Tomato Blight



Marzano Tomatoes

strikes. Last season, many gardeners got caught short when blight hit early.

When I wrote about tomatoes last year, I mentioned my good Italian friend Pino. He introduced me to the wonderful cooking tomato *San Marzano*. He had given us a bottle of *San Marzano* toms, peppers and basil that his mother had sent from his home town of Matera. Last week we used it to make the most delicious pasta dish. We ate it and thought of our generous and loyal friend Pino, who we lost to cancer a month earlier. Bottle as much sunshine as you can.

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email:editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk
or The editor c/o 62 Ainsdale Road
Leicester LE3 0UA

BRAIN TASERS

Penny Palmer

Using numbers

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Task: select a 2 digit number (eg 45), multiply by 1 digit (eg 5) to get a 3 digit answer (225). The catch is all 6 numbers can only be used once.

As a man hurriedly leaves home in the morning to go to work, he glances at the reflection of a clock (with hands - not digital) in the mirror. There are no numbers on the clock and he makes a mistake reading the time.

He gets to work 20 minutes later and discovers the work clock is 2 hours and 30 minutes later than the time he saw in the mirror image of his clock at home.

The clock at home and work were correctly set. What time did he get to work?

Answers at

www.westernparkgazette.co.uk

What's Your Favourite Pothole?

Three hundred potholes are reported every day according to one fleet management company.

The recent cold snap means more damage to the roads as moisture seeps into the tarmac and starts to freeze and thaw causing the surface to fracture. And this means damage to your car.

It's estimated that potholes cause 1 in 5 mechanical failures on British roads with an average repair bill of £350 for a new axle or suspension.

In the Western Park area there's a nice one growing on the junction between Glenfield Road and Woodville Road. There are some spectacular dents on Westfield Road; but our favourite is this little monster near the corner of Linkway and Fosse Road South.





Holy Week



At St. Anne's, St. Paul's & St. Augustine's

Palm Sunday (28th March)

8 am Holy Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer [BCP]) at St. Anne's

10 am Holy Eucharist at St. Anne's

10.15 am Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's

6 pm Stations of the Cross with music and readings at St. Anne's

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week

9 am Mattins and 5 pm Evening Prayer (BCP) at St. Anne's

7 pm Holy Eucharist (said) at St. Anne's

Maundy Thursday

9 am Mattins & 9.30 am Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's

11 am Maundy Thursday celebration with Bishop Tim at the Cathedral

8 pm Holy Eucharist (Choral) of the Last Supper at St. Anne's

Good Friday

10 am at St. Paul's and 3 pm at St. Anne's: The Hour at the Cross

8 pm Sung Compline (The Night Office) at St. Anne's

Holy Saturday

8 pm Vigil of Easter at St. Anne's

Easter Day

8 am Holy Eucharist (BCP said) at St. Anne's

10 am Holy Eucharist at St. Anne's

10.15 am Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's

6 pm Festal Evensong for Easter Day at St. Anne's

St. Anne's is on Letchworth Rd, St. Paul's Worship Centre is on Kirby Road.

More details from The Vicar: the Rev'd Chris Oxley on 285 8452