

# The Gazette

Western Park



No.34 June 2012 [www.westernparkgazette.co.uk](http://www.westernparkgazette.co.uk)  
News and Views for Western Park ● Westcotes ● The Fosse



*Weir just 10 mins from Braunstone Gate*

## Hello From The Editor

Welcome to the June issue of the Western Park Gazette.

This month's issue is a little thinner since we got rained off for over a week at the start of May and have been unsuccessfully playing catch-up ever since, but we'll be back to normal next month.

Roger Blackmore has the history of Imperial Type-writers who used to be a major part of the Leicester business landscape and there's our Gardening god, Tony Huxley on about his "tickseed"

Helen Knott's article last month's Gazette hit a nerve so we've include responses from Fullhurst and the Bosworth Colleges. This month Helen's actually delighted... hard to believe but true. And we have the latest from the boys and girls in blue at Hinckley Road Police station.

We have a ridiculously frustrating Sudoku, the Brain Tazers and a new crossword.

We're also offering you the chance to spend three days at the Glastonbudget Festival in Wymeswold over the Jubilee Bank Holiday.

If you're holding a Jubilee celebration in your street, then please send us the pictures and we'll include them in the next issue.

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

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Woodgate, Fosse, and Newfoundpool

# Big Jubilee Lunch @ Rally Park



Grab a picnic because Rally Park is the place to be if you want to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee!

The Fosse Inter-Agency Network, a group of local voluntary and statutory bodies are organising a celebratory lunch on Sunday June 3rd, between 12 and 4pm.

Funding has come from the Police, All Nations Church, Slater Street School, the Council, Groundwork, Christians Against Poverty and the Fosse Ward budget

Bring a picnic and the family to celebrate at this free event for all who live in Woodgate, Fosse and Newfoundpool. Free activities include a barbecue, community café, sports, entertainers, theatre workshops and information stalls.

## 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 WI:** 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.

**Dovelands Primary School Summer Fair:** 23rd June. 1-3pm. Stalls, activities and more.

**Peter Crebbin & His Cool Swing Band:** 3rd June, 1st July & 5th Aug at the Hilton Hotel. 1-3.30pm.

**Teddies Jubilee Railway Day:** Sat 2nd June. Abbey Pumping Station. 11-4.30.

**Diamond Jubilee Big Lunch:** Sun 3rd June. Hummerstone Gate, 12-5.30. Free.

**Riverside Festival:** 9/10th June. Western Boulevard to Bede Park from noon, Free.

**Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy:** 29th June. Original cast. DeMontfort Hall.

**Race for Life:** 1st July. Western Park. 11am. £14.99. 08716 41111.

**Pelargoniums with Mike Darch:** & plants for sale. Evening talk at St. Anne's Church Hall, 19 June.

7.30pm. Visitors £1.50. For details T: 0116 255 9245

**Western Park Festival:** Sun July 15th. 12-8pm.

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## Men Wanted!

A well established local choir is calling for more men to join their 60 member group.



The Fosse Singers are a mixed choir of all ages and perform a variety of music from pop, soul, jazz, rock, classical, folk, choral, musicals as well as carols at Christmas time. The choir also performs regularly at a wide variety of venues and events, and has also participated in an international choral exchange.

This year they are particularly looking for more men to join the choir and even out the numbers. Members don't have to read music, just enjoy a good sing-song.

Choir members have commented on how being part of the choir has helped them to make more friends, improve their confidence to sing and provided the opportunity to sing new and varied music at a range of venues and locations.

For more information, contact Hannah Brine on 07814 935 049 or e:fossesingers@hotmail.com



# The Mens' Shed

**The Mens' Shed is a new project from Coping with Cancer, based at the Rowley Fields allotment site on Meredith Road in Leicester.**

The aim of the project is to provide a place for men affected by cancer to meet, socialise, learn new skills and generally put the world to rights over a cup of tea.



There is an allotment plot, some raised beds as well as the use of the community pavilion, nature areas and easy parking.

There are tasks

on offer to suit all levels of ability and fitness from easy weeding to hard core muck shovelling!

No gardening experience is necessary and volunteers are on hand to help and offer a friendly ear.

The Mens' Shed is open to all men affected by cancer whether patient, relative or carer.

The Mens' Shed is open every Thursday between 10-3.00pm. To find out more, contact Sarah on 0116 223 0055 or e: [shed@c-w-c.org.uk](mailto:shed@c-w-c.org.uk)

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# Imperial Typewriters...



**Hidalgo Moya was undoubtedly what we would call a colourful character.**

Of Spanish American extraction he was both imaginative and inventive and it was this which led to him to design one of the worlds very first typewriters which was to bear his name.

Hidalgo was married to a Leicester girl, Sophia, the daughter of local businessman, J.G. Chataway. In 1902, the inventor went into partnership with his father in law to set up the Moya Typewriter Company in a factory in Garton Street on the site of what is now part of the Royal Infirmary.

Before long the new company attracted the interest of members of the Goddard and Evans families in Leicester who played a key part in re-launching the business as the Imperial Typewriter Company in 1908.

Imperial, as it quickly became known, moved to new premises in East Park Road after the First World War and quickly became established as Britain's premier typewriter manufacturer. By the 1960's, when I worked for the company for a few years, it employed 1700 workers in Leicester plus a further 900 in Hull (engaged in the manufacture of portable typewriters including the famous "Good Companion" machine) as well as a further couple of hundred service and sales staff in two premises in London. Its Leicester operations had by then been complemented by additional premises at Clumber Road and a special machines department at Copdale Road in North Evington.

Hidalgo Moya himself had long ago ceased to be involved in the business. Interestingly a house at the corner of East Park Road and Chesterfield Road used as a residential base for trainees and apprentices continued to be known as "Moya House" right up until the end of the 1960's.

The company was at its peak one of the largest employers in Leicester. In 1966 Imperial was taken over by Litton Industries of America and by the early 1970's its closure was heralded despite some significant local opposition.

The closure of Imperial Typewriters came as a real blow not least to the thousands who had worked for the company over the years.

How ironic that within a few years of its closure new-fangled machines called computers were being hooked up to typewriter style keyboards to create a whole new technology. Perhaps Leicester could and should have become a significant player in these new developments?

© Roger Blackmore



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## Leicester's First Jubilee Party!

Residents of Western Park Road will be enjoying their **diamond jubilee street party on Sunday May 27th 2012**. Friends and neighbours have joined forces to celebrate the big day with food, fun and fundraising for local charities Loros and Rainbows.

Residents have been planning the day for months and have not only applied to have the road closed, they have organised a bouncy castle for their kids, face painting, games, music, specially created jubilee cakes, street decorations, a Know your Neighbour quiz and a raffle.



**It's a big day in West Leicester on the 15th of July, as local group, The Friends of Western Park hold the first Family Festival.**

It promises to be a huge event for local people with live music, food, stalls, a kidszone and best of all... a real ale tent!

Watch this space for more details

## KNOTT'S LANDING

*Helen Knott*

**People are very quick to complain about things these days but less inclined to give credit where credit is due.** I'm not sure if this is because we all feel the world is out to get us and we are on the defensive, but I do know that there is a whole industry now devoted to teaching people how to give praise and criticism. I remember reading a card in a restaurant that said "If you liked what we do here tell your friends, if you didn't like it, tell us!" Wise words so often forgotten.

So here's my praise. Sandhurst Playgroup at St Anne's Church Hall on Letchworth Road has been blooming marvellous for my little boy and I think they are brilliant.

He will be leaving at the end of this term because he starts school in September, far too early in my opinion but there is a system and we have to work with it, so these are his last few months with Xani, Louise (or Waleaze as my little one



calls her!), Joti, Cam and Renu.

It's not a fancy playgroup, it is run in a church hall, it only runs in the mornings, they don't have big gardens or rooms for every little job. What it does have is a lot of love, spirit and care. It managed to nurture my not so settled little one and it gave this Mum a much needed break. It took months to get him to stay alone but we persevered. Xani managed to win his trust all the while exercising the minds and bodies of lots of little people discovering the world for the first time.

The things they have helped teach my little boy are small but so important. Things like how to sit on a mat nicely, waiting turns,

playing nicely with other children, it doesn't matter if it's not perfect, how to make friends, how to sit and eat his lunch with other children. These are the things that prepare him for school and mean it won't be so scary when he goes. He will have friends in his class from playgroup and he is a confident, friendly little boy. I couldn't have done it alone. Thank you Sandhurst Playgroup, you are ace!



# Schools Confusion

**PARENTS hoping to send their children to Market Bosworth High School are being urged not to worry about proposed changes to the school which would see it take children from 11-16 years old.**

The changes had caused some parents of children at Dovelands Primary School to fear it would no longer be an option available to them, a fear compounded when a number of children expecting to get into MBHS had applications rejected this year.



Currently children from Dovelands can go to MBHS until they are 14 and then go on to Bosworth Academy (formerly Bosworth Community College) for their GCSEs and A' levels.

If approved, the proposals would see Market Bosworth High School take children from 11-16 and Bosworth Academy take children from 11-19 starting in September 2014 and creating additional school places in the area.

John Hemingway, principal at Market Bosworth High School, explained some confusion had arisen when he had been unable to offer some children from Dovelands a place in September 2012.

He said that this year there were an additional 25 pupils from within the catchment area, meaning that there was less out of catchment places available. In catchment numbers are expected to drop again next year so he hoped those additional places will again be available.



Chris Parkinson, Principal at Bosworth Academy said the proposed changes would be good for parents and children in the area because it would mean more choice and more school places.

He said: 'There is a long history of students from Dovelands attending Market Bosworth High School and then transferring to Bosworth College. These students progress fantastically well. Their progress is the best in Leicestershire and they achieve nearly 80% 5A\*-C grades including English and Mathematics. This would make us the highest attaining city or county school if we only admitted these students.'

And he urged people not to worry: "If you put your first choice school as either Market Bosworth High School or Bosworth Academy, and the other school as second choice then you are as good as guaranteed to get into one of them. This is a vastly improved situation from the present".

## Why We Chose Fullhurst

**According to Helen Knott, (Gazette, May 2012) Fullhurst Community College is somewhere that, '...no-one in their right middle class minds would send their kids'.**

As parents whose kids have thrived at Fullhurst, we wonder why anyone would inflict a journey across the city (or even out of it) on their kids?



The views about the school in May's Gazette are so out of date that we'd like to share some facts with parents facing the important decision about schools.

The facts about the pupils who finished at Fullhurst Community College in 2010/11 are that... EVERY child who entered Fullhurst five years before with the ability to achieve five A\* to C grades (including English and Maths) succeeded; Four out of every five children at Fullhurst achieved five GCSEs at grade A\* to C (80% compared to a national average of 77%). That places Fullhurst in the top half of Leicester schools.

50% more children achieved five GCSEs (at grade A\* to C including English & Maths) than

their entry standards suggested. That's according to the Fisher Family Trust index, the standard used by most schools to judge likely performance. They have been through a school where bullying is rare and the way it is dealt with has received a nationally recognised award.

The parents writing this are professionals, three working in universities, so we know what good secondary education looks like. We send our children to Fullhurst not just because they get good results there but because they get a rounded education. School productions range from 'We will rock you' to an acclaimed version of 'A midsummer night's dream' in the 2010 Shakespeare Schools Festival. That is why in an independent study, the parents declared the school 'good', with many saying 'outstanding'. The pupils were less equivocal with the majority declaring it 'outstanding'.

Now you can see why right minded parents (regardless of class) DO send their children to Fullhurst. Five years ago, the school wasn't this good and when we sent our kids we had to trust that the school would make the changes they promised. Now you have the facts that show that they have delivered.

*Dr Tony Churchill, Sharon North MA, Sally Lloyd BA (Hons), Nicki Mullineaux MA*

## June Police Update

**A woman's leg was broken in three places during an attempted robbery in Stephenson Drive.** The incident took place at about 8pm on Saturday April 28 when the 28-year-old victim was approached by a youth on a bike who attempted to grab her handbag.

During the struggle the victim fell to the ground and the suspect made off empty handed towards Fosse Road Central with another two youths, who were also on bikes.

The suspect has been described as being white, about 17 years-old. He was wearing a grey hooded top the other two youths were also white and were wearing dark tops. They were riding bikes similar to BMX.

Detective Constable Derek Johnson said: "This was a despicable crime which will probably leave a lasting affect on her. We need to catch the people responsible and urge anyone with any information about the suspect to contact us."

**Officers investigating a burglary at a business on Narborough Road South have released a CCTV image of a man they want to identify and trace in connection with the incident.**

Between 5.30pm and 7.15pm on Wednesday April 4, someone entered an office at a business and stole a purse containing cash, cards a set of car keys and a Blackberry mobile phone.

Officers are asking people to have a look at the image and contact them if they recognise the man.

A Westcotes man who stole £139 worth of alcohol from Sainsbury's and a £450 iPhone from a man, has been given an eight-week jail sentence, suspended for 12 months, and ordered to attend a drug rehabilitation programme.

Roger Burke (47), of Bruce Street, admitted using threatening behaviour and theft at Leicester Magistrates court.

**Garden shed owners are being asked to beef up security over the summer to prevent theft.**

Simple measures like a better padlock, covering screw heads, shed alarms, fixing batons to windows and postcoding items can all help reduce the chance of a break in.



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## SUNDAY AFTERNOON CONCERTS



Once again, the bandstand on Western Park plays host to a season of summer concerts.

**3rd June:** Youth Brass 2000.

**24th June:** The Hathern Brass Band.

**8th July:** Peter Crebbin's Cool Trad' Jazz Band.

**12th August:** The Enderby Brass Band

All the bands will play from 3pm.

**2nd September:** St. Anne's Church Music Group with Praise in the Park at 4pm.

## 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 monthly 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.



## 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* or "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!

*More from Tony next month.*

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## Win Tickets to Glastonbudget!

**Whilst many will be celebrating the Queen's Jubilee, 15,000 people are expected to let their hair own in the company of some of the greatest names in Rock n' Roll... And you can join them!**

The Stones, T-Rex, Bowie, Pearl Jam and Erasure to name a few will be strutting their stuff over the two stages of Glastonbudget.



It's like the Glastonbury Festival, but cheaper with bigger names and in Leicestershire.

This three day festival is simply the biggest and best tribute group heads down boogiefest in the world with 160 bands ready to blow your ears off! If you missed the chance to see Freddie Mercury or the Police at their peak, now is your chance to win a pair of tickets to the festival that recreates these legendary bands right in front of you at

Turnpost Farm in Wymeswold between 1st and 3rd of June.



### THE COMPETITION

We have a pair of tickets valid for the entire festival to give away to one lucky winner.

This is an email only competition and your answers must be in by 29th of May, so be quick!

### THE QUESTION

**Oasis, Maet Loaf and Guns 2 Roses are tribute bands for which classic rock acts?**

Answers by email only to  
[editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk](mailto:editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk)

*Comp T&Cs: Cut off date 29th May. One winner. One entry per person, Tickets non transferable, No cash alternative. Judge's decision is final.*

### FIND OUT WHO'S ON

[www.glastonbudget.org](http://www.glastonbudget.org) or follow the link on our homepage [www.westernparkgazette.co.uk](http://www.westernparkgazette.co.uk)

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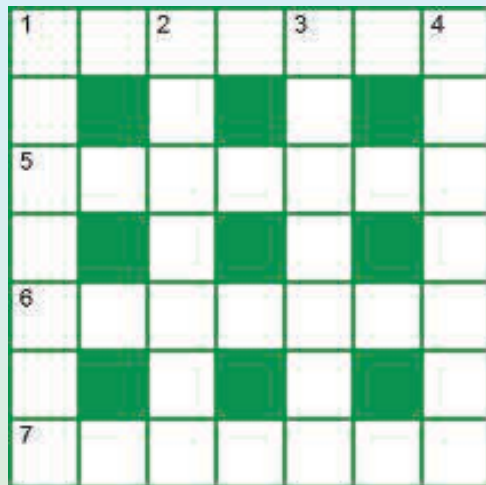
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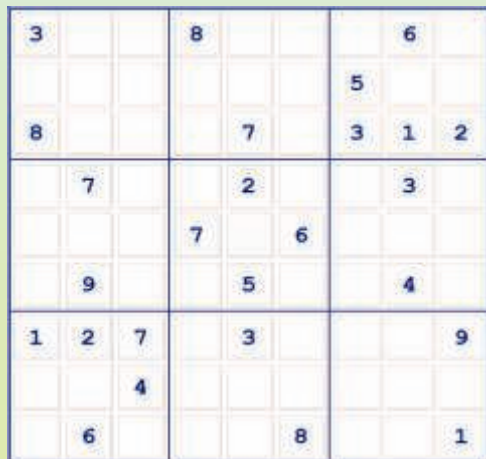


# BRAIN *TAZERS*



**Down:** 1. Scam 2. Foreword 3. Adjure 4. Quisling

**Across:** 1. Perspicacious 5. Inactivity 6. Idiom  
7. Voter



1. Add 3 identical digits to make 12. You can't use the number 4.
2. Two parachutists drift off course. When they land, one walks west and the other east, but they meet up within an hour. How come?
3. There's a massive explosion destroying everything for miles, but at least one man a few feet away survives. Why?
4. What mathematical symbol can be placed between 7 and 8 to create a number bigger than 7 but smaller than 8?

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