Western Park and Fosse Way Gazette

Western Park, Westcotes, Newfoundpool, The Fosse No 18 October 2010 www.westernparkgazette.co.uk



It might look more at home in Bruce Wayne's Bat Cave, but there's a shark like, sleek, black machine gliding around the roads of Western Park.

The Dualatron with its smooth 50's super car lines is the brainchild of local man. Paul Bacon.

Paul, (Pictured on the front) a former Braunstone lad, who now lives in Western Park, originally had the idea of building his own custom car when he was a boy. "I love making things and I've been thinking about building my own car since I was ten. The design was inspired by a 1960's "Kustom" car called the Golden Sahara. I took the idea and wanted to design and build a progression of this great car.'

Two and a half years ago Paul came across a battered old Citroen BX which he bought for £200.00. Then for the next 18 months he spent every spare moment on his front drive, working through the wind, rain and cold. He braced the chassis, put in a steel framework, re-sculpted the body with fibre glass and built new doors and interior. Paul even made the steering wheel "In fact the only thing I didn't make is the rear screen and the instrument cluster!"

Luckily, Paul had tolerant neighbours during the build, "I must live on the most understanding street in the world. The neighbours loved it. Kids, old ladies, everyone was popping over to take a He will - and it will probably fly as well. look!"

Stunning as Paul's creation is, he has managed to upset certain petrol heads in the custom car fraternity. "All of a sudden, pictures of it have appeared all over internet chat rooms and Facebook. It



caused ructions in America because it's basically a front wheel drive Citroen, not a rear wheel drive muscle car. I even had one person saying it should be crushed, but he's since apologised! Now I'm getting hundreds of positive comments, but I'm still staggered at all the interest."

Paul is already thinking about his next project. "I'm going to build the car out of the Jetsons, based around a BMW." He said with a slightly demented gleam in his eye.

Greetings From The Editor

Welcome to the October issue of the Western Park Gazette.

This month Roger Blackmore celebrates the much maligned life of King Richard the Third. Helen Knott, who spent many years as one of the Midland's foremost radio people, bemoans the mutation of Leicester Sound into an iPod from London and keeping an eve on the media is Richard Perry, with news about a set top box for your telly that might turn out to be quite good.

We also get up to date with the latest news from Hinckley Road Policing Unit and our Garden Guru. Tony Huxley, looks at some snails; it's what he does and we're not going to argue.

And in our cover story, there's a bloke who's built a car in his front garden. It's a nice car - it's black and scary and looks like a shark, therefore ideal for Halloween!

And if you are a bit of a petrol head, then this month's competition gives you the chance to actually take a ride in Western Park's coolest car!

As always, if you'd like to contribute either write to us or send and email. You can also start a topic in the discussion forum or join us on Facebook

Sharon

e: editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk

He was only 32 years old and had been King for although there can be no disputing the fact that just over two years when he fell in battle in Leicestershire. He was a hated figure after his death, but today he has his supporters.

KING RICHARD III

The Annual Meeting of the Richard the Third society was held in Leicester earlier this month.

A couple of hundred members from all over Britain attended at this, the first A.G.M. of the Society to ever be held in our city.

Members of the group are, of course, champions of the last Plantagenet King whose reputation as an evil scheming child murderer with a humped back and withered arm, they believe was maliciously put about by the early Tudor Monarchs and cemented by Shakespeare's immortal play portraying the King as a villainous tyrant responsible, for amongst various other atrocities, the murder of the Princes in the Tower.

Fact and fiction are difficult to unravel when we look at the story of Richard's life.

It is certain that he spent the last night on this earth at the Blue Boar Inn on High Cross Street in Leicester, before setting out to meet the forces of Henry Tudor near Bosworth. Even the actual battle site has been the subject of recent dispute.

Cut Down on Car and Travel Costs SHOP LOCALLY

Help Keep Local Business Going

KEEP IT LOCAL! KEEP IT ALIVE!

Its all here in West Leicester TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUISINESS CALL 0116 299 7953 The Fosse Way Gazette The Western Park Gazette

"Supporting Business and Loving Life In in West Leicester"

the battle was a close run thing.

It is also certain that on the morning of that fateful day in 1485, Richard rode out with his army across West Bridge and up past what is now Western Park. In the evening his body came back to Leicester with the Tudor adventurer who was guickly crowned King Henry the Seventh.

Depending on which story you believe, the dead

king was either thrown unceremoniously into the River Soar or respectfully buried by a local monastic order.

Maybe we shall never know the real truth about King Richard's short yet eventful life. One thing is certain: The Richard the Third Society is clearly thriving and seems to have greatly enjoyed their Annual Meeting in Leicester.

kichard' last terti

Roger Blackmore

More from Roger in the next issue. You can catch up with Roger's local history by downloading previous Gazette pdfs from our website.

Events Diary

Western Park Clir's Surgery Monthly-2nd Thursday, St. Paul's Church Rooms, Kirby Road. 7-8.00pm. Zumba Class Tues 6.45-7.45 & 8-9.00pm at New College, 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.

Leicester Badminton Club New College Leicester Mixed abilities - all ages. Tues 7pm, term time, £3.00. Tel: Michael Cheung 07967 592 208.

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.

Continental Market 27th-31st Oct City Centre.

Vampire Weekender 30th Oct. Multimedia event at the Y Theatre. Dress to scare! 8pm-late.

Farmers Market: 4th Nov. H/stone Gate.

Firework Night Displays 5th Nov at Abbey, Braunstone and Humberstone parks.

Coffee and Calligraphy 11th Nov. Westcotes Library. from 10.30-12.00pm.

Astronomy Night 13th Nov. Space Centre. 6-10pm. Winter Food Festival: 21st Nov. Market Centre. Xmas Lights Switch on 21st Nov. Town Hall Sq.

empower yourself



website design from The Western Park Gazette The Fosse Way Gazette

Individually built and styled with domain name and email Flexible, functional and elegant unique content managed websites with software that grows as you do

0116 2997956

e:sales@fossewaygazette.co.uk or sales@westernparkgazette.co.uk

Events in the Parish

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

<u>01. An</u>	ine s, ot. i dui s and ot. Augustine s
At St. Anne's Church Hall -	
Mon - Fri	Sandhurst Playgroup 285 7440. Term-time
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.
2 nd Tues:	2.00 - 4.00pm: Mothers' Union Speakers
3 rd Tues:	7.30 - 9.30pm: W.P. Gardening Club.
Wed:	5.00 - 8.00pm: Weightwatchers.
Wed:	8.00 - 9.00pm: Tai Chi with Rick.
1 st Wed:	2.30 - 4.00pm: Wednesday Club.
4 th 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.
1 st Fri:	11.30 - 1.00pm: Lunch club.
2 & 4th Fr	ri: 2.00 - 4.00pm: Folk dancing.
Tuesdays 10 00am: Mums and Toddlers & 1 30 nm	

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

Sat Oct 23rd: 10th Anniversary Celebration at St. Paul's. Worship Centre. Caribbean Experience –3-6pm.

Sun 14th Nov: Remembrance Sunday. Victims of armed conflict will be remembered in prayers. More details about forthcoming events from the Reverends Chris and Paula Oxley. 0116 285 8425.

Church OF THE MARTYRS EVENTS Westcotes Drive Leicester

Wed 3rd Nov: 7.30pm Guiders Christmas Gift Sale in Church Hall.

Thurs 4th Nov: 10.00am - 11.30am Shake, Rattle and Roll in Church.

Sat 13th / 27th Nov: Tomatoes Cafe Church with live music, cooked breakfast and the morning papers all for \pounds 1. 9.30am at the Church.

Sun 11th Nov: 4pm Memorial Service - to remember those who have passed away. Open to all. Sat 20th Nov: 7pm: Launch of the Martyrs CD 'With

One Voice'. Live music, variety show, soft drinks and nibbles provided - bring a bottle of wine if you like. Martyrs Community Hall. Tickets £3/£1.50.

Fri 19th - Sun 21st Nov: Tapestry, Quilts and Jewellery Exhibition by Mary Clare and friends at the Church of the Martyrs.

Nite-lite is looking for more volunteers to help out on Friday nights from 10.45pm -2.30am at Robert Hall Baptist Church. Nite-lite is a drop in café serving free drinks and offering a listening ear. They work along side the Westcotes Street Pastors. If you want to know more please contact: Rev. Jenny Few on 0116 223 0486.

email: jenny.few@ntlworld.com

Western Park journalist and broadcaster Helen and as such, Leicester Sound is woven into the Knott mourns the passing of local commercial fabric of our lives in Leicester. We remember the radio in Leicester. We remember the station from when we were young, the constant

KNOTT'S LANDING

Helen Knott

I am waiting for the death of local radio. It will come this January when Leicester Sound ceases to be and is replaced by Capital East Midlands. There may be the odd bit of local traffic news, a few Leicester businesses advertisements, perhaps the odd Leicester news story but that is where the local connection will end.

The reason it is happening? One of the last things the Labour Government did was pass the Digital Economy Act which abandoned any commitment to local media. Industry regulator Ofcom has rubber stamped this plan and, in a bid to scrape up some cash, in one stroke Global Radio will effectively destroy our city's one and only commercial radio station.

I have to declare an interest here. I've worked for Global as a radio presenter. I appreciate that their plan has some valid commercial reasoning behind it. I understand that it is practically impossible to get a 19 year-old marketing executive in London to

understand about all the different radio station names around the country. I get that branding is king in this world. I understand that they have to cut costs. I am still bloody angry.

A whole raft of talented people will lose their jobs so we can hear networked radio shows, supposedly better shows but ask yourself, are Roberto and The Bassman really the best presenters Britain has to offer? Initially breakfast will be "local" but mark my words it won't be long before you are listening to Johnny Vaughan and Lisa on their nationally syndicated breakfast show.

I wouldn't mind so much if I thought it would benefit us with better quality programming. One thing I do know is that radio presenting is an art and not every z list celebrity can do it, let alone do it well. There are also a huge range of things local radio helps with that will be lost. Next time it snows heavily who will we turn to find out which schools are closed? If a big breaking news story comes along will it take 20 minutes or 2 hours to get a reporter there? Will the missing child alerts be as effective? Will you ever get the chance to meet a pop star outside of London again? What will local charities do without the support of the local radio station? What happens at the Christmas lights switch on?

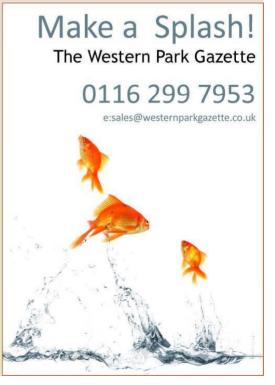
Local radio stations are part of local communities

and as such, Leicester Sound is woven into the fabric of our lives in Leicester. We remember the station from when we were young, the constant repetition of Dreams by Fleetwood Mac and names like Kenny Hague, Guy Morris and Sara Blizzard who is now a BBC weather presenter. When it is gone what will fill that void. I'm sure something will come along but for now all I can see is a hole in our collective psyche. So I shall enjoy what's left of it and in January I shall switch off. Thank you and goodnight.



If you would like to comment, join our discussion board at www.westernparkgazette.co.uk

More from Helen next month.





WARNING TO CAT OWNER

Earlier this year our cat went missing. After days of searching he was found minus head near the Railway track at the back of Hinckley Road. Recently one of our neighbours cats was found in the same vicinity and in the same condition. We think this is the work of foxes and urge cat owners to be vigilant. I would not condone hurting any wildlife, foxes included, but to discover your pet in these circumstances is very distressing so please, cat owners, be aware of this threat. John - Western Park.

So the English Defence League came to Leicester to exercise their democratic right to disrupt the city and leave the Police, shopkeepers and of course us, with an estimated £1 million bill. They did not come here to compliment us on our mostly harmonious race relations, but to dance drunkenly on lamp posts and cause damage. The organisers of this pitiful display should be given the bill, democratic right or not. Mike - Western Park

CYCLING TO SUCCESS

Western park student Ryan Beatie and his friends, David Bourne and Matt Tatton have successfully completed their marathon bicvcle ride from John O'Groats to Land's End.

They completed the 984 mile trek in 11 days, raising £1554.04 for Cancer Research UK, smashing their target of £1000.



Rvan and his friends are keen cvclists and were looking for challenge after finishing University and thought a thousand kilometre ride was achievable. Ryan says, "Money is still coming in and you can still donate at our Justgiving website."

You can donate at:

www.justgiving.com/johnogroats2landsend2010

Celebrating your Big Day? or need a stylish company video?



Creative Video Experts on Your Doorstep

Promotional & Corporate

From Script to Screen Company Presentations to On Line Videos

Full High Quality Production Facilities and Cameras CREATIVE AND UNIQUE VIDEO PRODUCTION

WEDDING PACKAGES

"Photography & HD video productions - a touch of Hollywood"



On DVD, Blu-ray or iPhone

5:1 Surround Sound

Canvases, Albums Acrylics and On Line Gallery Tailored to Suit Your Budget PHOTOGRAPHY from £425.00 **VIDEOS FROM £790.00**

Call 0116 299 7953 e: sales@westernparkgazette.co.uk

10 Reasons to Have a Regular Eye Exam From S.I. Opticals

1. You only have one pair of eyes. Once lost, your evesight may never be replaced.

2. Unlike the rest of your body, your eyes do not usually hurt when there is something wrong.

3. The eve examination can pick up early signs of potentially blinding conditions such as glaucoma, diabetic disease or macular degeneration.

4. The earlier a problem is detected, the greater the chance of successful treatment.

5. The eve examination can also detect a number of underlying health problems such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol or diabetes.

6. An eve exam checks whether your evesight needs correcting with glasses and determines the best form of correction for your vision.

7. Good vision means working and playing better and safer - in fact it means a better quality of life.

8. For young people, good eyesight is vital for learning. Eye examinations will detect any issues with sight which may affect school performance.

9. Failing eyesight is often taken for granted as people get older. However by having an eye examination and remedying problems in sight, older people can improve quality of life significantly.

10. Poor eyesight is dangerous. Make sure that you are legal to drive and safe to operate your vehicle. Shabir Ibrahim Sponsored Feature

Cut Down on Car and Travel Costs

Help Keep Local Business Going

KEEP IT LOCAL! KEEP IT ALIVE!

Its all here in West Leicester TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUISINESS CALL 0116 299 7953 The Fosse Way Gazette The Western Park Gazette

"Supporting Business and Loving Life In in West Leicester"

Top Marks for Local Playgroup Hopscotch Playgroup on Westcotes Drive, has received 100% across the board in a national scheme for improving child communication skills.

The Early Talk scheme is awarded by the children's communication charity I CAN to providers

of early years education. Leicester City Council offered support to gain the I CAN accreditation to providers of early years education across Leicester as part of the Talk Matters programme launched in 2009. Hopscotch Playgroup is one of only seven providers across the city to gain accreditation.



Earlier in March, children

attending Hopscotch Playgroup benefited from the creation of a £15,000 outdoor play space. A grant to support Information Communication and Technology is also providing programmable toys, cameras and software. Finally the outdoor learning environment is benefiting from a further £3,500 spent on planters and children's bikes.

October Update

From Hinckley Road Policing Unit

In early October a Vehicle Operation was conducted over the Tudor Road area. Different agencies attended including Police, Traffic Wardens and Council Wardens. 100's of vehicles in the area were checked for tax offences, illegal number plates, foreign vehicle offences and parking offences.

As a result, 25 vehicles have been reported for no tax, a large number of parking tickets issued and various vehicles reported for foreign vehicle offences.

This is an example of agencies working together to sort out a problem that concerns local residents. Police hope that the message gets out that they will deal with vehicle offences in a positive and pro active way.

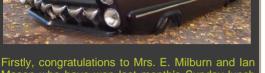
Members of your local Neighbourhood Policing Team will be offering free Smartwater property marking in Westcotes. Smartwater allows the Police to identify stolen property and can assist in the prosecution of offenders. The process consists of applying a clear liquid to your property, which carries a unique coding for your address. Property believed to be stolen is checked for Smartwater marking by the Police.

The local Neighbourhood Policing Team will be working door to door during the afternoon and evening over the next few weeks. If you are interested in this scheme and would like to arrange a convenient time for an officer to visit you, please contact Sergeant 1269 Dave Shields on (0116) 222 2222 ext 6831.

A report of Burglary in progress on Sept 31st was received at Hinckley Road Police Station. The offenders had made off from the scene, but within 10 minutes, officers had detained two males who were charged and appeared at court. Also last month two males have been arrested for Robbery. These offences occurred in the Narborough Road area. Both males have been charged and bailed awaiting their court appearance.

25 community consultations where carried out at a beat surgery outside Fosse Primary School. A variety of issues where discussed, including poor street lighting, rubbish dumped in alleyways, speeding, dog fouling, noisy neighbours, being the main ones. The main comment was that there seemed to be a great improvement in the area over the past year, with lots of officers seen about in the area and a reduction in incidents.

GAZETTE COMPETION WIN A TRIP IN THIS!



Mason who have won last month's Sunday lunch for two at the Crows Nest.

coolest car - The Dualatron, driven by its creator. Paul Bacon.

2010.

Which classic Kustom car inspired Paul to build his mean machine? (Look on page 4) Answer to-

Editor c/o 62 Ainsdale Road, Leicester, LE3 0UA. e:editorwesternparkgazette.co.uk. One right answer picked at random, no cash alternative and editor's decision is final.

The St. Anne's Garden Club

St Anne's Garden Club aims to meets on the third Tuesday of each month, where we have either garden speakers/practical advice or per-This years Halloween Spooktacular is set to scare haps a quiz and chance to meet other local gar-the living daylights out of grown ups as children deners, to swap ideas and plants.

We are a down to earth group who welcome new Western Park. members and guests and have planned the follow-Last year's Halloween party was frighteningly ing events for the remainder of 2010.

Her talk the will take us away for a late holiday! 'Gardener on Holiday' poses that question and then spooky stories from Paul takes a tour of various gardener trips, some close to Goby. home and some further a field.

Tuesday 7.30pm 21st December. Christmas DIY! Having had expert tuition for the last two year mak- Friends of Western Park ing Christmas decorations, we will be helping each who are raising money for other this year create Christmas table or door deco-new play facilities on the ration. Collectively we have had fantastic ideas, park.

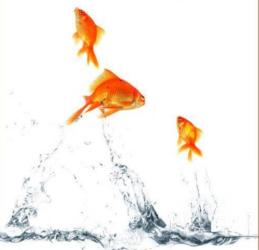
used all sorts of things from the garden and from the Chairman of the group Ady house. For those who haven't had a go before we Alexander said, "Last year's will provide a list of useful items to bring and some event was fantastic and grape and nibbles for sustenance!

Meetings are held at St Anne's Church Hall, in the success." main hall, 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.£2 for guests It all happens on Sunday 31st October between 4 £1.50 members. Christine Holton

Make a Splash! The Western Park Gazette

0116 299 7953

e:sales@westernparkgazette.co.uk



Halloween on Western Park

from all over West Leicester dress to scare on

successful with over 200 children taking part in Tuesday 7.30pm 16th November Linda Robinson pumpkin carving competitions, fancy dress, hunt

lantern games and

> This is the second Halloween event organised by

we're hoping for another



-6pm at the Bowls pavilion near the play area. And the cost is 50p per child.

You might have Sky TV. Virgin or a standard set and levels of interactivity with your favourite protop box. You might even have a currently pointless 3D TV. But now there's something coming that might actually be useful without forking out a fortune.

Nice Box - What's in it? **Richard Perrv**

It will change TV forever, they say - marvellous, this what we want ... again.

A new set-top box being developed by the major changing with terrestrial TV companies at a cost of over £100 million is the successor to the Freeview Box which most of us have either inside or outside our TVs.

The BBC, ITV, Channels 4 and 5, TalkTalk and BT have developed a box of tricks called You-View

There's a one off cost of £200 and you will need broadband internet connection, but in return it will pick up all the FreeView channels, their HD counterparts as well as 7 day catch-up and pause live TV functions. You will also be able to search for your favourite programmes by genre, interest or locality, including films, sports and new content from the internet. There are even plans to offer an applications store to offer new types of services

grammes. A bit like iPhone apps for your telly.

Since it's a mostly free service, this has upset Sky and Virgin TV so the whinging has begun.

Sky has accused the BBC of wasting taxpavers money and expanding beyond its remit. Virgin has gone running to the regulator Ofcom blubbering that its uncompetitive.

As far as I can see, it a natural development of a very popular bit of kit.

The way we view TV is more of us usina BBC iPlaver or downloading content directly from the internet.



so offering an improved platform for traditional telly in an increasingly technologically aware nation, makes sense to me.

Obviously you won't be able to pick up the many popular Sky channels or Virgin on YouView when it's in the shops next year, but if you want that pay £300 a year for a satellite or cable subscription.

Coffee Morning

Letchworth Area Watch welcomes vou to their Autumn Coffee Morning with Stalls at St. Anne's Church Hall, on Saturday 30th October from 10am. to 12noon.

Stalls include crafts. cakes, preserves, plants Cards and small bric a brac etc.

Admission is Free. Please come and join us

and bring a friend, particularly one who has

never been to one of our coffee mornings before. Further details from Pat Abraham 0116 2857795 or Brenda Cavers 0116 2856314.

Holding an event ? **TELL US ABOUT IT** email:editor@westernparkgazette.co.uk or The editor c/o 62 Ainsdale Road Leicester, LE3 0UA



empower yourself



website design from The Western Park Gazette The Fosse Way Gazette

Individually built and styled with domain name and email Flexible, functional and elegant unique content managed websites with software that grows as you do

0116 2997956

e:sales@fossewaygazette.co.uk or sales@westernparkgazette.co.uk

Tony Huxley's Garden Tidings



Now the hot dry summer is over (when exactly was that, I can't remember?) I've noticed increased activity by our mollusc friends. I encountered one unfortunate snail the other night as I nipped across the patio - barefoot! Not a pleasant experience, but far more crushing for him. The slugs are already tucking into any tomatoes that stray too close to the ground, and are quickly finding the wind-fall apples.

Snails have been the subject of ground-breaking research. Forget a cure for the common cold or the Higgs Boson Particle.



A retired tutor called Ruth Brooks has been crowned "Amateur Scientist of the Year" for prov-

ing what most gardeners suspected, snails have a homing instinct. The experiment showed they can find their way back home from 30 metres away. To make sure they won't come back to mow your delphiniums and brassicas they need to be moved 100 metres. Unfortunately I can't throw that far, that's at least five gardens away! Someone needs to invent a snailpult.

This summer has brought many weird and wonderful little beasties into Leicester gardens. I've seen grass snakes in composters. I've seen hornets and giant hornet mimicking hoverflies (called Volucella zonaria). I've seen rare migrant Hummingbird hawk moths that fly during the day. I've even got scorpions in my compost bin! Not the tropical ones that can kill with a sideways glance, but psuedoscorpions, a tailless relative. It has venom in its pincers and is less than 8mm long. They are great predators of small bugs, but harmless to humans.

And don't get me started about the spiders. If I ran around the garden for ten minutes I'd come back like a silken mummy (the Egyptian type that is). Late summer wasn't great for gardening, but it's been terrific for wildlife in the garden.

More from Tony in the next issue.

Email us to comment or catch up with previous articles, just download Gazette pdfs from our website.

BRAIN *TAZERS*

1. Put the following numbers into the black circles

so that they all add up to the same thing. 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9.

2. A 40,000 kilometre metal band circles the earth, touching the ground at all locations. The slightly crazy Editor of the Gazette sneakily adds 10 metres to its length. It is now one four-millionth longer, and floats just above the ground at all locations. How far has it risen? Could you squeeze underneath?

3. What connects the words sitcom, smog, brunch, muppet and cyborg?

4. When you don't have it, you want it, when you do have it you want to share it but you have to keep it. What is it?

5. How do you calculate the rough distance between lightning and the thunderclap?

Answers at www.westernparkgazette.co.uk



4

9

3

2

4

9

<u>SODUKU</u> 9 3 5 1 9 3 1 9

4

8

6

9

7

4

2

1

3

1

8

7

6

9

8

5

7