



## NOT A DROP LEFT! BEER FEST - DRUNK DRY



*More on Page 4*

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# Hello From The Editor

Welcome to the September edition of the Western Park Gazette.

On the first weekend of September, the fifth two day Western Park Charity Beer Festival took place at the community hall on Letchworth Road generating, even more interest than ever. We attended and went wobbling around with a camera. At the same time, Western Park hosted its first Scarecrow Trail featuring some terrific examples of local lateral thinking.

In our regular features; There's the Project Hive update, Gardening Guru Tony Huxley, dives into pruning, Mark and his team at Hinckley Road Police, continue to shut down local drug dealers, burglars and put a stop to anti-social activity wherever they find it. Additionally local singers Mia and The Moon will be appearing at the De Montfort Hall and there are new directors at Upstairs at the Western.

DMU's Square Mile Project continues to offer an array of activities across the city - so get involved!

As always the crossword and Sudoku lurk with intent on the back page.

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Published by Rapsallion Media

62 Ainsdale Rd  
 Leicester LE3 0UA

Printed by Flexpress Ltd  
 6 Coal Cart Road, Interchange,  
 Birstall, Leicester, LE4 3YB



# Events Diary

**St Anne's Weds Club:** Monthly, 1st Weds. St Anne's Hall. Letchworth Rd. 2.30-4pm.

**Free Thurs Club:** 2-4pm. Robert Hall, 147 Narb' Rd.

**Perfectly Edible UK's** Market & Community Cafe: Fri 11-2pm. West End Centre, Andrewes Street.

**Coffee Mornings:** Fridays 10-12 noon. St Anne's Hall.

**Women's Taekwondo.** Fridays. Brite Centre -10am & Thurs - 8pm at St Anne's Hall. 07951 426 386

**Walking Group:** Sundays. 2pm. 96 Deg. B-Gate.

**Sun Eve Dru Yoga with Emma:** St. Anne's Hall, Letchworth Rd. 7.15-8.30pm 07393 811150.

**Free Children's Art Club:** Saturdays 10.30-12.00. Fosse Neighbourhood Centre. Mantle Rd.

**Free drop-in Coffee Morns:** Tues. 10-11.30am. St. Andrew's Methodist Church, Glenfield Rd.

**Upstairs @ Western in Sept: 20th: One Foot in The Rave, 25th: RE: Jessi, 26th - How To Find Home, 2 Oct - How The West Was Lost.**

**Children's Music Tasters:** Sat 12th Oct. 10-1pm Woodgt Resources Cent. To Book 0116 253 0717

**DM Hall: 18 Sept - Rip it Up The 70's. 19 Sept- Bradley Wiggins, 20 Sept- Ben (M Jackson Trib)**

**22nd Sept - Mia & The Moon w/ Leic Symp Orch**

**Last Friday (Street food & Entertainment): 27th Sept. LCB Depot. 5-10pm.**

**Curve Theatre: 7-9 Oct: Evening With Eric & Ern, 15-19 Oct: Cabaret, 22-26 Oct: A Taste of Honey**

**Little Theatre:** Oliver! 7-12 Oct.

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

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## BEER FEST DRUNK DRY... AGAIN!

The Fifth Western Park Beer Festival grabbed hold of the good and sensible folk of West Leicester and got them well and truly 'relaxed' in a two day exhibition of hard core yet polite and measured socialising.

In this case 'polite and measured' means 700 people drinking the place dry by sinking 2000 pints of beer and cider whilst wolfing down 500 samosas, 120 cobs, 100 scotch eggs and 200 pizzas.

The Festival held on Sept 6th & 7th at the Community Hall on Letchworth Road is a charity event with the money raised split between Coram Adoption East Midlands, Leicester Home-Start Horizons, Project Hive and Leicester Wheels For All.





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# WORZEL GUMMIDGED

A thousand pairs of feet trekked past 62 scarecrows bedecking the roads of Western Park as a countryside tradition came to the city.

Scarecrow trails have long been popular attractions in country villages and now, thanks to Project Hive who are raising money to build a community centre on the old EcoHouse site, that tradition is set to become a regular and popular feature in Western Park.

The certainly succeeded in their aim of fostering a sense of community creativity as hundreds of families paid their £2 for a guide and roamed across the neighbourhood.

All the money raised goes into the pot towards the £400 000 needed for the redevelopment.



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Contact Centre for prices and to book

### Children's Music Taster Day (5-16 Years)

Sat 12th October - 10.00am-1.00pm FREE admission, subject to availability but book in advance  
Instruments include guitar, keyboard, violin, cello, African drums & possibly wind instruments

### Adult Music

**African Drumming Group:** Weds 7.30 – 8.30pm. £6.00 per session. For all abilities. Contact 01509 814569 or 07904541520 for details. **Guitar:** Weds. Various abilities. Cost £5.00 per lesson. Contact 07958542564 **Cello:** Fridays. Call 2530717 for details. Possibly other instruments

### Lunch Club

Mondays and Thursdays. 12.30pm. Cost £2.50 for 2 course meal plus tea/coffee

### Senior Citizens Club

Mondays 2.00 – 4.00pm. Cost £1.50 per session

### Senior Citizens Keep Fit

Thursdays 11.00am – Noon. Cost 70p per session

### Our Co-op Friendship Group

Tuesdays 10.00am – Noon. Cost £1.00. Learn craft skills and make new friends

### Yoga

Mondays 6.00 – 7.15pm and 7.30pm – 8.45pm. £4.50 per session, unwaged £4.00  
Must book in advance

### Salsa Classes for Beginners

Tuesdays 7.30 – 8.30pm. Cost £6.00 per session or £40 for eight sessions  
No need to bring a partner. Ring 07414 596 481 for further details

### Tetsudo

Martial Arts. Sundays 11.00am – 1.00pm. Cost £4.00, Under 12s £3.00  
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### JKS Shotojuku Karate Club

Sundays 9.15 – 10.45am. Ring 07886 504 516 for details

### Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesdays 7.30 – 9.00pm. Ring NA helpline 0207 7300 009  
Ask for Woodgate – Leicester Meeting

**The Centre is also available for bookings.** There are three rooms. The main room is particularly suitable for children's parties and other family events. The small rooms are suited for meetings and training events. Contact Centre for rates and availability

**For more information contact the Woodgate Residents Association**

**Woodgate Resources Centre, 36 Woodgate, Leicester LE3 5GE**

**Tel. No: 0116 253 0717 e: [office@woodgateresidents.org](mailto:office@woodgateresidents.org)**

**The Woodgate Resources Centre is funded by Leicester City Council**

## Orchestral Manoeuvres On The Moon

Westcotes based singer/songwriters Mia & The Moon have joined up with the Leicester Symphony Orchestra for a unique gig at De Montfort Hall on 22nd September.

Sisters Mary-Anne and Laura Ratcliffe say their song Midnight in London is such a cinematic piece they thought it would sound incredible being arranged for an orchestra. Laura met with The LSO's conductor, John Andrews, who liked the song and said the orchestra would do it. He also liked the potential cross over and fusion of a classical group and pop group from the same city uniting.

Info & tickets from [www.miaandthemoon.com](http://www.miaandthemoon.com) or visit their social media pages for links.



## A New Curtain Rises

It's all change at Upstairs at The Western, as new directors with a new ethos breath life into Leicester's only pub theatre.

This new Autumn season marks an exciting time in Upstairs At The Western's history with six new Directors joining to refresh and revitalise the great work already put in place by those before us. Alongside this wealth of theatre experience, we are delighted to welcome Fishhouse Theatre as our resident company.

We're thrilled to kick off our Autumn programme with a brilliant set of shows which really give a flavour of the new direction Upstairs At The Western is taking. This includes an emphasis on quality theatre and we're passionate about the wonderful diversity that theatre has to offer. Once you've seen Katie Arnstein's Sexy Lamp or Fishhouse Theatre's Ruby & Cedar, we know you'll be won over.

A big part of our new mission is to truly reflect the community in which we sit. We will be looking to expand our membership, connect with our neighbours and offer great new writing, production and creative opportunities.

Find out what's in store by visiting [w.upstairsatthewestern.com](http://w.upstairsatthewestern.com) or heading to their Facebook and Twitter accounts.

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# EVERYBODY'S READING IN OCTOBER



141

Different events across Leicester —  
the most in the festival's history

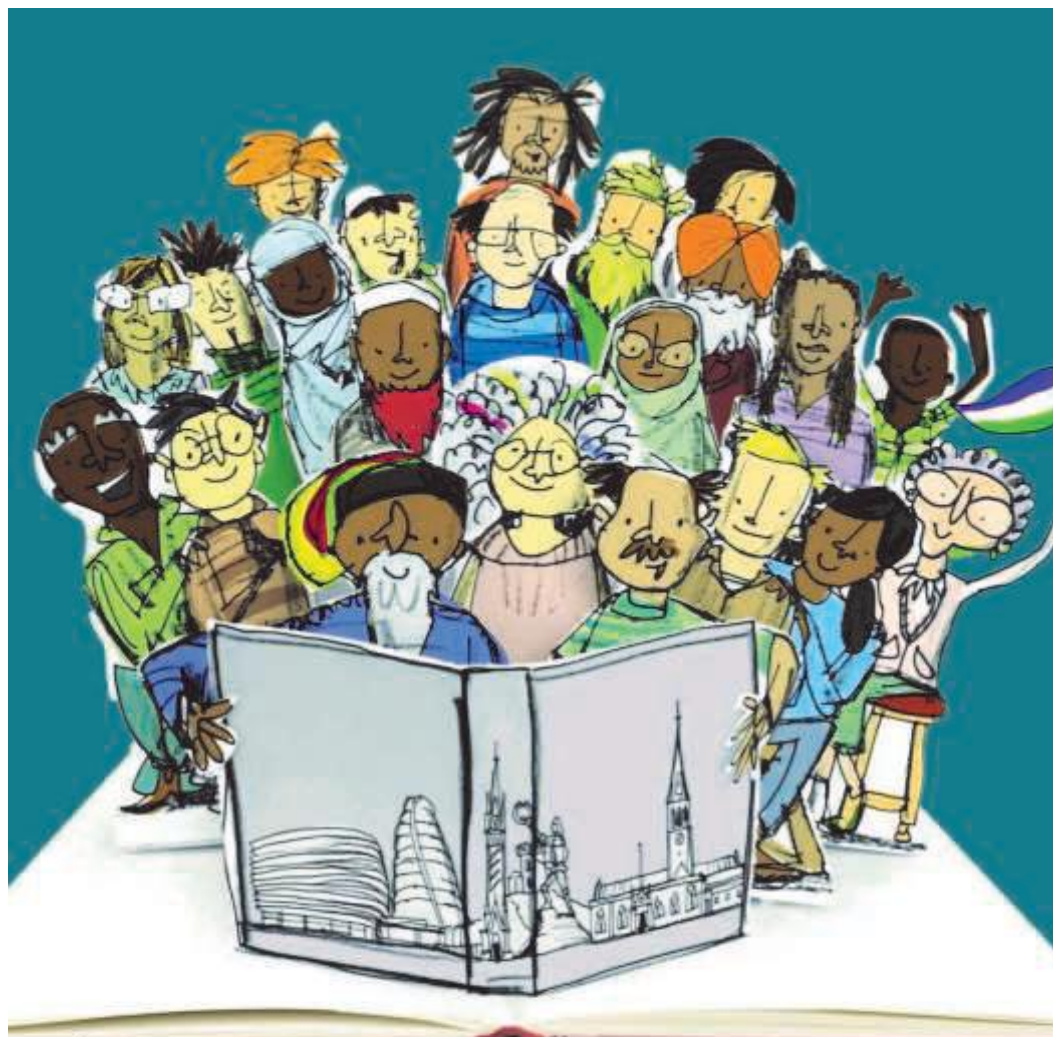
64

Different venues across the city will  
be staging events this year

31

Days of October— the longest  
Period the event has been staged

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**PROJECT hive**

Project Hive is run by the **WWCE**, a group of local residents raising funds to **redevelop the former Eco House into a community space.**

We took another big step towards the much delayed crowd funding phase of the project this month, with the filming of a video to feature in the campaign. The community answered the call, and came along to help us bring the ideas behind Project Hive alive on screen. We were also fortunate to be joined by PCSO Sally Morgan and Braunstone & Rowley Fields Councillor Su Barton. They are both supporters of what we are trying to do, and will appear in the finished video.

BBC Radio Leicester sent a reporter to visit the park during filming, he recorded an interview with two of our team about what we had planned for the site. It was aired the following week during their breakfast programme.

WWCE would like to say a huge thank you to everyone involved on the day, and those who helped with the additional filming on the following days. Without your involvement the video would not have been possible.

We will be premiering it on our website and Facebook page very soon, and the crowd funding itself should launch shortly afterwards.

**Find out more about WWCE and Project Hive at our website [wwce.org.uk](http://wwce.org.uk) or on Facebook @wwceleicester**

**Norton Housing Fundraising Dinner**  
Norton Housing & Support has been providing support and accommodation to adults with ongoing mental health needs for **thirty-five years**. More recently, we have opened a scheme offering accommodation to young women and children at risk of homelessness.

In an environment of funding cuts, we are fundraising to ensure we are able to continue to provide much needed services.

We have organised a fundraising dinner at popular local restaurant, Chef and Spice, Hinckley Rd, on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 7.15pm. For just £15, diners can enjoy a delicious buffet meal.

Everyone is welcome at this informal event! Also, if you are a local business or organisation who would like to either reserve a table, or donate a prize for our raffle, to be drawn on the night please get in touch.

**For ticket sales or further information, please contact Suzy Killick on 0116 2538541.**

**[www.nortonhousingandsupport.org.uk](http://www.nortonhousingandsupport.org.uk)**





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## Sept Police Update

Your teams continue to be proactive against drug dealing and crime in the area. Police search warrants this month have been completed at: Andrews Close where 3 people were arrested and class A drugs recovered and Fosse Road North where 3 people arrested for burglary;

If you see suspicious activity going on in your area with people regularly visiting and leaving an address then please report anonymously to Crimestoppers via 0800 555 111. This allows us to identify new priorities for police activity in the coming months.

We continue both uniform and plain clothes patrols in the area of Bede Park, Western Boulevard and Western Road with one plain clothes patrol arresting one person on Bede Park for possession with intent to supply class A drugs!

We are also regularly seizing motorbikes being ridden anti-socially in the local area! We have powers to seize bikes in such circumstances but please help us by giving us vehicle registration numbers if possible and ideally the address where bikes are being stored. Please call 101 to report such incidents.

An annual campaign to encourage people across Leicester to consider their safety during the upcoming season of celebrations and events has just been launched.

As part of this year's Celebrate Safely launch, Year 6 pupils from Shaftesbury Junior School, attended Warning Zone, a life-skills centre and children safeguarding charity in Leicester. Here they watched a demonstration by firefighters and were given a tour around Warning Zone.

They also got to look around a range of emergency vehicles and received some safety advice, which they can now share with their family and friends.



I am pleased to welcome Sergeant 1966 Anil Mehta who is now the Westcotes team Sergeant replacing Sergeant 1747 Spencer Dyer.

I am also moving to pastures new this month and will be replaced by Sergeant 800 Ed Jones. It has been an honour to work with the local policing teams based at Hinckley Road Police Station, our local Councillors, partners and the community over the past 2 and a half years!

**Sgt Mark Brennan**

## Tony Huxley's Compost Corner



**As summer starts to peter out, I find myself desperately cramming more and more tasks into shorter and shorter days.**

My hedge-cutter is working overtime. Those laurel hedges need to be cut before the end of the summer to avoid getting silver leaf fungus. And the Beech and Hornbeam need cutting now so they retain their leaves, like a winter plumage. So, here are a few tips I've learnt over the years about using hedge-cutters.



Always start at the bottom and cut upwards, sweeping the cutter in a gentle arc. Then step

forward, parallel to the hedge and repeat. On a large hedge this can feel like a linear dance. If you cut downwards you can easily pull the hedge out of shape as the weight of the trimmer drags the branches down.

Don't try and go faster than the hedge-trimmer can cut. And don't forget the blades can continue to reciprocate for several seconds after releasing the trigger. It's easy to become complacent, believe me, I have the scars to prove it!

It can be tempting to follow the density of the hedge, cutting harder into thinner areas and going around tougher sections. This will leave the hedge lumpy. Try to just cut in a straight line. Visualize an imaginary line in front of you. If there are hollow sections where you cut nothing off, don't worry, next year it'll have thickened up and it'll look much more even. If there's an area that the hedge-trimmer struggles to cut, come back with a pair of loppers and cut it flush. Step back regularly to check the line of the hedge. If there's a lot of growth, cut it in stages, this is because the hedge shape will change as the weight comes off. Laying a tarpaulin at the base of the hedge will make clearing up afterwards so much easier.

And when you're finished, make sure you oil the trimmer blades before you storing. Last of all, don't forget to admire your handy work with a celebratory cuppa!

**Tony Huxley**



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# Martin Page

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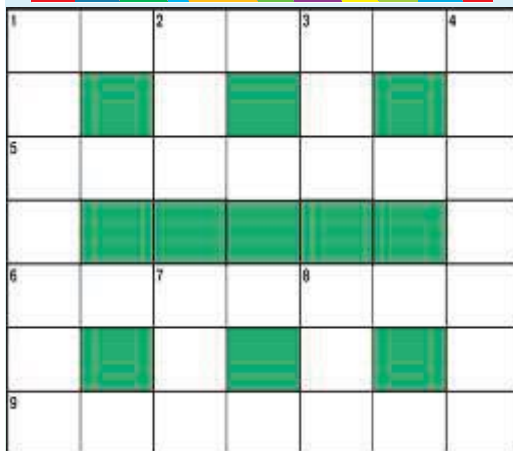
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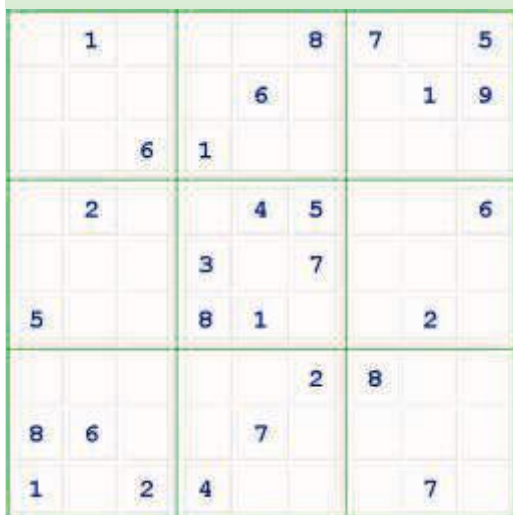
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**1 Across:** 10th month **1 Down:** 8 armed sea creature **2:** Spirit measure **3:** Forbid **4:** Repurpose **5:** Ice cold ship **6:** Ocean **7:** Motor **8:** Excessively vain man **9:** A moral © Paul Towers



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