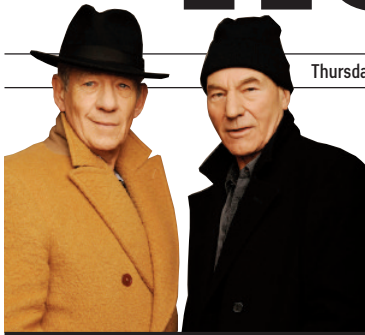


NORTHAMPTON Herald & Post

Thursday, March 12, 2009 | Issue number: 1506 | www.NorthantsHP.co.uk | £1.00 where sold | ABC 47,270 Jul-Dec 2008 (99.8% free)



Curtain call for Hollywood stars

PAGE 25

Charity's ready for birthday celebrations

PAGE 15



Appeal for witness

A MAN who may have witnessed a sexual assault is being urged to come forward by police.

He is said to have walked up Bridge Street, Northampton, at around 9.30pm last Monday.

A woman believes she may have been the victim of a sexual assault but has little recollection of the events of the night and so officers are appealing for this man who may prove to be a valuable witness.

He was black, of thin build and about 5ft 7 tall.

This man or anyone else with information is asked to contact police on (08453) 700 700.

Air ambulances land on the M1

TWO air ambulances landed as sections of the M1 in Northampton were closed on Tuesday morning following a traffic collision.

Two people were taken to hospital in Coventry following the two vehicle collision at about 8.55am in lane three between junction 15 and 15A.

Police said the M1 northbound was shut between the junctions so the helicopters could land to assist emergency services following the accident on the southbound carriageway which was also closed.

Motorists were advised to avoid the area with diversions put in place.

A silver Vauxhall Zafira and a blue Ford Focus were travelling southbound on the M1 when the traffic slowed and for reasons yet unknown, the Zafira failed to slow and was in collision with the rear of the Focus.

One of the casualties is the driver of the Zafira, a 31-year-old man, who has abdominal injuries, while the 55-year-old female passenger in the Zafira has head injuries.

Police said both are serious injuries but not life-threatening.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Drivewatch Hotline on (0800) 174615.



FRUSTRATED: Brian Gammage looking out at Boughton Green Road, showing just some of the parked cars

FIFTEEN years on and Brian Gammage is still debating parking issues on what has been described as an 'accident hotspot' on Boughton Green Road.

Mr Gammage, 73, has lived on the corner of Boughton Green Road and Isham Close for 35 years.

It was 15 years ago he raised the issue to a former Northampton Borough Councillor about students parking on the grass verge, cars covering people's drives and clogging up the close in Isham Close.

As the size of the University grows so does the number of students, which only increases the problem for residents.

He said: "It (The University) has gone from a few hundred and now caters for about 20,000."

There are a number of problems, said Mr Gammage: "Two weeks ago the dustbin men came to get the rubbish."

"A student had came up and parked opposite the car on the other side of the road."

"The dustbin men could not get up (Isham Close)."

Mr Gammage sees this as a problem,

BY LAURA CORCORAN

laura.corcoran@northants.co.uk

adding: "My main concern for most residents is if you needed an emergency vehicle God forbid there's no access."

But he does not entirely blame the students: "I feel for them because I know they have to park their car. But the University should make provisions."

Residents and Sally Keeble MP for Northampton North are now calling on improvements to be made after meeting with transport officials from County Hall to find a way forward.

Among the improvements planned are the repainting of a pedestrian crossing close to Eastern Avenue North, bollards to prevent pavement parking outside a shop and new, brighter street lights to improve visibility.

The council is also to consider a flashing sign to warn motorists of their speed.

Residents who attended the meeting are to consult their neighbours about the possibility of a residents parking scheme, a move that would need to go to full consultation by the county council.

The commitments to improve the road came at a meeting at Kingsthorpe Methodist Church, Welford Road on Friday February 27.

It is one of the major transit routes through north Northampton, despite also being the access road for a primary school, a secondary school, a nursing home and the university.

The group of residents first met in December 2008 following a particularly serious accident in which eight cars were damaged.

About half of them attended the second meeting.

Sally Keeble said: "Residents have shown real persistence in pressing for improvements in their road and community."

"The changes that the county council proposed will be a good first step forward."

"There's further to go and in future months I will work with residents to see if a parking scheme is the right way forward."

"This is a major arterial route as well as a very busy local road for the schools and university and we need a solution to protect public safety."

NEWS

On the run
Rotary Clubs join forces for event
PAGE 2

Tough times
Woman's search for a job goes on
PAGE 3

Crackdown
New wardens scheme backed
PAGE 5

Cash boost
Marina project can get underway
PAGE 7

Exhibition
Former mechanic's love of art
PAGE 9

Brawn GP
Uncertainty ends as Honda is sold
PAGE 11

Friends plan
Week of turmoil for Emma Beard
PAGE 14

Lots of laughs
Comedy night set for Franklin's Gardens
PAGE 24

INTERNET

Go online
For the latest local and national news and sport, log on to www.NorthantsHP.co.uk

A REAL TREE destroys Darwin's *THEORETICAL* 'Tree of Life'.

Without trees and vegetation **mankind** (and animals) would not exist and certainly **could not** have evolved!!

The leaves of TREES **absorb** CARBON DIOXIDE (poisonous to us) and **give out** OXYGEN (without which we would die).

WHO ARRANGED this balance in nature? GOD, who also told Adam to 'replenish' or **fill again** the earth, (Genesis 1:28) which must therefore have been inhabited before, thus explaining why some fossils are found aged rocks, etc.

GOD has also challenged 'evolutionist' et al, by claiming His existence **can** be proved (Isaiah 44:7, 8 and 46:10) by **foretelling** the history of the Jewish people in Leviticus 26 and Jeremiah 30:11. **GOD**, in His mercy, **has forewarned US** of what lies just ahead, in Zechariah 14.

Contact: Ivor Thomas 18 Meadway Close Kettering Northants NN15 6QG or phone 0800 092 3357 for more information.