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EXTRA Leicester Mercury

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1976

6p

Daisy Day Committee for the Blind
CHRISTMAS WHIST DRIVE
TO BE HELD IN
Prebend House, Prebend St., Lk.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10
commencing at 7.30 p.m.
BUFFET ADMISSON 20p

TWO DIE IN VAN SKID AS ICE GRIPS ROADS

TWO Anstey men were killed in a crash early today as winter tightened its grip and turned roads into sheets of ice. They were passengers in a van which slid off the road on a bend near Anstey telephone exchange — and hit two trees.

It was the coldest night in Leicestershire for three years. Temperatures plunged to -6C (21F), and road hazards were increased by widespread patchy fog.

The AA reported that the big freeze had spread to every corner of Britain, and roads were affected in every county. In Scotland snow was adding to the difficulties and snowploughs were out on motorways in the Edinburgh area.



Composer Benjamin Britten died today at his home in Aldeburgh, Suffolk. Our picture was taken when he received an Honorary Doctor of Music degree at Leicester University in 1965. See story on Page 17.

The Anstey crash happened at 2.25 a.m. The men who died, Kevin Francis Kenney (21), of 2 Burgin Road, Anstey, and Alan Geoffrey Bowcott (22), of 46 Bradgate Road, Anstey, were passengers in a van driven by Alan Harding (20), of 48 West Street, Blaby. The driver was taken to Leicester Royal Infirmary and allowed home after treatment.

Police believe that the van, which was wrecked, skidded on the bend, hit one tree, and bounced off into another. No other vehicle was involved.

ONE TRAPPED

Fire crews from Western station and Lancaster Road, Leicester, including an emergency tender, had to release one man trapped in the vehicle. It is believed the three men had been into Leicester for a night out.

Alan Harding's brother, David, (25), had planned to go out with them, but decided against it because he was going to work today.

Alan worked for the Severn Trent Water Authority in the estates department at the Leicester Water Centre — as do David, another brother Terry (24), and their father.

A keen Leicester City fan, Alan used to play for one of the authority's football teams. He and Kevin went out into Leicester regularly on a Friday night with other friends.

OTHER ACCIDENTS

Kevin, a qualified plumber, who had been made redundant, recently started work at Telford Tubes as a production inspector. His father also works there.

He was a regular first team member with the Old Aylestonians Rugby Football Club, and was due to make a comeback today after an injury had kept him out for a few weeks.

Police today appealed for witnesses of the crash. The icy conditions caused a number of other accidents in the county.

There were accidents on the main Leicester to Coalville road and in the Ashby area of the Nottingham to Birmingham road.

A police spokesman said today that there were no major pile-ups. Most crashes were not of a serious nature, and although a few people had to go to hospital, all were discharged after treatment.

There were also collisions at Barlestone and Newbold Verdon. Most motorways in England and

Wales had speed restrictions in force because of ice and fog. A 40 mph speed restriction was in force on the Severn Bridge because of freezing fog, with visibility down to 50 yards.

On the Thames, the Woolwich Ferry did not start operating until 9.15 a.m. because of fog.

According to the forecasters snow showers could affect parts of East Anglia by tonight. The snow which started to fall in the eastern sector of Scotland yesterday was working its way southwards down the east coast and had reached Newcastle by mid-morning.

According to the Weather Centre at Bracknell, Berks., one of the coldest places during the night was Eskdalemuir in Scotland with minus 11C (12F).

As the day's soccer programme took a battering members of the pools panel assembled in London and prepared to be called into action for the first time for three years.

The panel will operate when 25 or more pools matches have been lost to the weather.

Meanwhile all four race meetings were abandoned because of the conditions.

King of reggae Bob Marley and wife shot

BOB MARLEY, Jamaica's king of reggae singing, and his wife were shot and wounded at their home in Kingston, Jamaica, last night, police said.



BOB MARLEY

The big Bond Winners

THE weekly £50,000 premium bond prize, announced today was won by bond number 4WB 237393. Numbers drawn for prizes of £1,000 each:

1CN 438229	7PS 567022	13VZ 125268
4FP 080751	23W 261228	9WP 451168
6FT 412316	4OK 130259	6XP 357729
2XP 432280	4RN 884159	6XP 357729
3KW 913854	2SE 188732	6YS 322842
3LN 088137	3SN 427794	6ZW 195104
3LP 472823	8SP 047451	10ZK 244403
8P 822119	6SW 725482	
6PN 802187	7TS 185775	21ZZ 446200

Waiting for Rod



It may be freezing hard... but these fans were prepared to brave the weather if it meant seeing Rod Stewart tonight. Left to right: Sharon Phillips, Terry Reid and Lindsey Wells.

Fans brave big freeze for places at the front

ARMED with blankets and flasks of coffee, three Rod Stewart fans braved the sub-zero temperatures for 12 hours outside Leicester's Granby Halls while waiting for the big concert this evening.

Lindsey Wells (14), of 77 Barclay Street, Leicester; Sharon Phillips (15), of 115 Barclay Street; who both attend Newark Girls' School, and Terry Reid (16), of 160 Wolverton Road, Leicester, who goes to Westcotes School, Leicester, had been waiting since 8 o'clock and were surprised to find they were first in the queue.

It is their first Rod Stewart concert. "Our parents thought we were mad," Lindsey said, "but it will be well worth it to get good places."

"I'm rather small so I need to be standing right at the front."

To mark Rod Stewart's two-concert visit to Leicester, tonight's Leicester Mercury incorporates four pages of articles and pictures on the pop idol and his group. Our scene-setter to his concert tour begins on Page 9.

MINERS URGED TO VOTE 'NO'

North Wales miners leaders today urged a 'no' vote in the pithead ballot on industrial action to back the union's claim for early retirement.

The North Wales executive said they support early retirement but consider the wording of the ballot paper conflicts with the resolution passed at the annual conference.

In their view the conference resolution stated that the membership should determine the form of industrial action, but the ballot paper wording sought to give the NEC authority to make the decision.

WEATHER FORECAST

Leicester, East Midlands: Patchy freezing fog overnight. Mainly dry, hazy sunshine. Cold. Max 1 to 4C (34 to 39F). Night frost. Outlook: Mostly dry. Rain, sleet or snow may spread from the south-west to many parts later. Light-up: 4.25 p.m.—7.30 a.m.



The New Chrysler Alpine 'CAR OF THE YEAR'

An international jury of motoring journalists has voted the exciting new Chrysler Alpine 'Car of the Year 1976.'

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COUNCILLORS TO VET PUNK ROCK GROUP

THE Sex Pistols punk rock group, whose four-letter word TV shocker created a national furore were this afternoon being vetted by councillors in Derby — and on the outcome hung the fate of a public concert in the town to-night.

So far seven concerts on the group's current nationwide tour have been cancelled because of disgust over the infamous "dirty words" interview given by the group on Thames TV on Wednesday.

The Derby councillors, who include two women, have been assured that the band's audition performance would be identical to the one they plan to give in public tonight.

Worried

Mr. Norman Rushton, Derby's entertainment officer, said the promoter of the group's tour had said that he stood to lose a lot of money because other towns were now worried about their bookings.

"We shall listen to the Sex Pistols and other local authorities can ring on Monday to find out how it went," he said.

Last night a Pistols performance at the University of East Anglia was banned, and concerts in Newcastle, Bournemouth, Lancaster, Preston, Bristol and Birmingham later this month have also been cancelled.

More hampers to be won

WEEK TWO of the Where's the Ball? bumper Christmas hampers starts today.

As last week, the first prize winner will receive a £50 hamper full of expensive items fit for a banquet — and £1,000.

The second prize will be a £30 hamper and £50, and the third a £20 hamper and £30. A turkey goes to the first three winners as an extra.

In addition ten readers will receive £20 hampers and £20, and 20 pensioners will win £20 hampers also.

MAKE THIS A REAL CHRISTMAS WITH WHERE'S THE BALL! TO DO SO TURN TO PAGE 7.