



■ The Norwich Lanes area has been nominated in the Great British High Street Awards.
Picture: SIMON FINLAY

Man assaulted by group of 10 to 15 people

A man has been injured after he was assaulted by a group of up to 10 to 15 men and women in Norwich.

The 28-year-old victim was walking in the area away from Tombland when he was approached by a group of between 10 and 15 males and females.

One of the males asked the victim if he knew a 'Jamie' but before the victim could respond he was head-butted.

The victim tripped up when trying to get away and was further assaulted resulting in bruising and cuts to his nose, elbow and hip.

Police are appealing for witnesses to the incident which took place in Palace Street some time between 12.45am and 1.15am on Sunday.

Officers would like to speak to anyone who believes they may know who was responsible for the attack or who may have seen the incident itself.

→ Anyone with information should contact PC Michael Pearce at Norfolk Constabulary on 101 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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Breaking news online

Norwich shopping quarter gets nominated for national awards

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A Norwich shopping quarter bustling with a number of eclectic independent stores could be in line for some national recognition after being nominated in the Great British High Street Awards.

When Chapelfield opened in 2005, there were fears that it would have a devastating impact on the survival of Norwich's eclectic independent shops.

But the Norwich Lanes, a series of medieval streets, alleyways and open spaces, has gone from strength to strength over the past few years and now boasts more than 300 independent retailers, cafes and bars.

The district is already well known and loved in the city but it could be in line from an influx of shoppers from other parts of the country after it was nominated for a national award by the Norwich Business Improvement District (BID).

A spokesman for Norwich Lanes said: "We're absolutely

"We honestly believe that this remarkable community of independent retailers, restaurants and bars is unique in Britain and to be recognised nationally would be a fitting reward for everyone involved"

Norwich Lanes spokesman

delighted to be nominated for the Great British High Street of the Year Awards.

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The news was also welcomed by comedian, actor, writer, presenter and Twitter phenomenon Stephen Fry. Mr Fry, who is a director of Norwich City Football Club and has a home in west Norfolk, tweeted: "Hurrah! The wonderful @NorwichLanes have been nominated for the #GBHighSt of the Year Awards!"

The High Street of the Year Award is a new competition is open to Town Teams and recognised local partnerships who can nominate a high street in their area – all with the aim of celebrating the incredible diversity and services that British high streets provide.

A panel of expert independent judges, comprised of members of the Future High Streets Forum, the Association of Town and City Management and the Department of Communities and Local Government, will assess applications to the awards.

Applications should outline innovative schemes aimed at regeneration of the high street, how local people, organisations,

businesses and local authorities have been engaged and how the high street has benefitted.

The winners of the awards, who will be announced in the autumn, will receive a share of £50,000 prize money, provided by Forum sponsors, as well as access to a tailored package of support and mentoring from industry experts.

High streets in six categories – city centre; town centre; market town; coastal community; local shopping centre or parade of shops and village – have been nominated in the awards which are supported by a number of politicians, including Great Yarmouth MP Brandon Lewis.

People have been urged to support The Norwich Lanes nomination by explaining why they love the Lanes on Twitter and Instagram using the hashtag #GBHighSt and leave a comment.

→ Have you got a business story for the paper? Call Ben Woods on 01603 772426 or email ben.woods@archant.co.uk

Witnesses sought as woman knocked to the ground

A man has been detained by police after a woman was knocked to the ground in Norwich.

Police received reports of a man assaulting people in Castle

Meadow at just after 3.50pm yesterday.

A woman was knocked over while another woman, that was with the man, also reported being assaulted.

A police spokesman said officers were quickly on scene and detained a man in his late teens, who remains in police custody.

Investigations into the incident are ongoing but the spokesman

said there did not appear to be any serious injuries.

→ Anyone who witnessed the incident should call the police on 101.

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