

THE HOCKLEY FLYOVER (AREA 6)

ABIGAIL WILLS

Having only driven over the Hockley Flyover a few times and with dire warnings from Dave Allen, I headed over on the way back from Gravelly Hill with the central locks on, fully intending not to get out the car and most likely end up saying I wasn't doing it.

It was bright and sunny but very cold. Surprisingly for a Monday lunchtime the vehicular traffic was light although the pedestrian traffic was high.

The Hockley Flyover spans a natural valley on the B4100 between Soho Hill and Hockley Hill. It dominates the landscape close up but from the distance is hidden by the buildings surrounding it. There is a combination of large warehouses, small local shops, Sikh temples and residential houses adjacent to the Flyover

I parked up on Soho Hill and walked along the road adjacent to the flyover, having been told that walking on the flyover was not permitted. At the car park at the bottom, I asked the 3 Police officers parked up why I couldn't walk along it as it had a large central pavement. They said I could but it wasn't advisable and warned me that if I walked along it another day that I might be questioned as it is very sadly a suicide spot.

So I carried on walking along the bottom roads avoiding the subways as they looked threatening. I went down the shortest and brightest one, following the Police who were on Patrol.

At the end of Hockley Hill, I decided to walk along the Flyover as the traffic was light and I wanted to!