

Express Letters

Pick up your Beeston Express at the following locations:

ATTENBOROUGH

Attenborough Service Station
5 Nottingham Road, A'boro

BEESTON

Beeston Library
Foster Avenue, Beeston

Beeston News

86 High Road, Beeston

Broxtowe Borough Council

Council Offices,
Foster Avenue

Chilwell Road News

Corner of Chilwell Road
and Imperial Road

Co-op Food Store

291 Queens Road, Beeston

County Stores

57-59 Trafalgar Road,
Rylands

Discount Food & Wine

46 Lilac Crescent, Rylands

Food & Wine

Priory Island
(10 Derby Road)

Hiral Newsagent

148 Wollaton Road, Beeston

Arun Food & News

154 Meadow Road, Rylands

Plumb News

Lilac Grove, Rylands

Post News

The Square, Beeston

W H Smith

High Road, Beeston

BRAMCOTE

M&N News

40a Sevenoaks Crescent,
Bramcote Hills

CHILWELL

Bains News

Bramcote Avenue, Chilwell

Bramcote Lane Stores

Bramcote Lane, Chilwell

Inham Nook

Community Centre
Inham Road, Chilwell

LENTON ABBEY

J B News

113 Woodside Road,
Lenton Abbey

TOTON

Toton Library

Stapleford Lane, Toton

A bee in your bonnet? Have your say here...

IF you want to express your opinion on anything that affects us as a community, then this is the place to do it. And bouquets are as worthwhile as brickbats are valuable. But please keep your letters short. We do reserve the right to cut letters to fit if necessary. If you contact *The Beeston Express* by email (see panel on page 2), remember to include your home address.

High Road find

DEAR EDITOR: Can I just thank the very kind person who handed into the Town Hall some very important personal paperwork that I had foolishly dropped on Beeston High Road last Thursday?

This was greatly appreciated, and I would like to thank you for your trouble.

*Mr R Elliot
Coventry Road, Beeston*

Appearance isn't all

DEAR EDITOR: Thank you for a great newspaper. I particularly enjoy the Free Ranger's articles, and I think it's best if he remains anonymous.

I certainly agree with one point he made in your last edition (March 28) regarding, "overpaid spin-doctors in sharp suits from posh offices". I have had two leaflets shoved through my letterbox – one from the Conservative Party and one from Labour.

The glossy Conservative one has a full colour picture of their glamorous spokeswoman, never once mentions Beeston, tells us nothing and is published from a fancy address in Nottingham by someone with a posh double barrelled name.

The plain Labour one has black and white pictures of their unglamorous councillors (will they get a haircut?), but contains 15 detailed items about what's going on in Beeston including on my street, what they are doing about it and a message from the MP to say what he's doing for us.

Fancy gloss and glamour won't buy my vote but hard work and dedication will. Despite the national Labour government, I'll be casting my vote for these local Labour politicians.

*Geoff Bryant
Meadow Road, Beeston Rylands*

A life in parallel

DEAR EDITOR: Mr Harvey writes to say he saw only 15 MPs in the house on February 7, for what he says was a vital debate on Europe. He wonders where I was?

On February 7 the Commons debated a technical change in how the House scrutinises proposals from Europe in detail, in particular enabling a member of the European Scrutiny Committee to make a five-minute presentation on the subject of the day to the subordinate European Standing Committees. There was a detailed discussion which interested readers can find at <http://tinyurl.com/358fze>

The proposals were not very contentious and after some discussion of possible amendments, they were agreed unanimously by all parties.

As the discussion was a technical one on procedural issues, I didn't follow this debate, and I think the low attendance (only 15 of 650 MPs) reflects the same reason. Ideally I'd like to take part in everything, but the Commons discusses many different issues in parallel and it's just not possible.

I was involved in a separate discussion on the Energy Bill, which had just completed its committee stage, and on discussions on improving data security with the revised identity proposals.

*Nick Palmer MP
23 Barrett Lane, Attenborough*

Come on you lot!

DEAR EDITOR: Is it the manager or is it the players? That is the question... Or is it both! Which of them prefers the safety of Division 1 football?

I do not believe Forest have the confidence to play Championship football, so at the end of each season they falter in the promotion race to secure football in the lower reaches of the league hierarchy.

Unfortunately failure will breed failure until there is a wholesale change in the club from manager right down to the goal-keeper.

I feel so sorry for the Forest faithful.

*Nicola Lewis
Blandford Avenue, Chilwell*

Out on the streets

DEAR EDITOR: In reply to Mrs Lora's response to our letter to *The Beeston Express* regarding Tesco (Mar 14), I am unable to find her details on Park Street, Beeston, on the electoral register. I therefore find the letter somewhat of a mystery, unless I have missed something. (Perhaps she is an occasional visitor to the area). If she is, then I hope she will understand that there is a good quality of life in Beeston West.

Regarding pavements, this is a County Council issue, and I have been deeply unhappy to view 20 years of neglect since I came to live on Denison Street, and to see the poor and neglected state of pavements not just in Beeston West but the North, which is my Ward.

We all know what the problem is and where it lies because

we walk along it daily, and the essential issue is of County Council funding. I am unhappy at the balance of funding, and yes, I wish to see more funding coming into Broxtowe from the County Council to assist our local environment and the quality of decent improvements for local residents. We push for this, as I can assure all, including Mrs Lora.

Regarding Tesco, I have always been anti-Tesco, because Tesco exists for Tesco alone. You can record that I do not and have never endorsed Tesco. That is my view, which remains unaltered to this day.

*Adele Brunton
Ward Councillor, Beeston North*

Rules made to be changed

DEAR EDITOR: So the Diana inquest has finally established what most of us already believed. If you have a drunk driver, a high-speed chase, and you don't fasten your seatbelt, a fatal crash is the most likely outcome.

This has come as no surprise to most people. All these conspiracy theorists and the Diana followers can get back to their normal lives.

I cannot believe that any other persons' inquest would have cost the tax payer so much money. That said, a public inquest is one the fundamental rights we still enjoy in the UK.

What is terrifying, though, is a new piece of legislation the Government is planning to use to keep their mistakes out of sight of public scrutiny. It will no doubt be supported by the Conservatives.

The death of a Sgt Roberts in Iraq caused the Government a high degree of humiliation. Sgt Roberts was killed by 'friendly fire'. He might have survived his injuries had he not had to give up his body armour a few days before because there wasn't enough to go round.

It's a tragic symbol for the whole Iraq disaster: the wrong preparation, being in the wrong place at the wrong time, and causing more harm than good.

At his inquest, the coroner ruled Sgt Roberts died because of "unforgivable" delays in providing body armour to troops.

It took an inquest to air those issues in public. The rules have since changed.

Clause 64 of the new counter-terrorism bill would allow ministers to direct that

these inquests are in private with no jury, just a hand-picked coroner. Will Labour MPs allow another freedom to be unlawfully murdered?

*Eric Clarke
Marton Road, Beeston*

Not the healthiest of options, Minister

DEAR EDITOR: David Cameron still lives in a different world from that which we mere mortals inhabit.

His most recent plan is for a '24 carat gold' health visiting service: every baby would get 23 hours personal home visiting from a health visitor, spread over a number of years.

This is a wonderful idea, and the Tories have hit a vulnerable spot in Labour's children's services. Health visitors' numbers have declined sharply and, in some areas, mothers get no more than the bare minimum of one visit from overburdened staff.

Professionals are dumbfounded by this new Tory promise. Cameron promises 4,200 more visitors. That doesn't even get the profession up to full strength, let alone allow for the vast escalation in work. There are great miscalculations in Cameron's proposals.

Cameron is suggesting to take £200m away from Sure Start children's centres - where many health visitors are based - damaging the very service that underpins their work. This is a direct transfer of much-stretched resources from Sure Start, the organisation that is the best hope of reaching families in most need of help. All new parents need a health visitor as postnatal depression is no respecter of class or income. But it's an extravagant waste to visit every family so often, regardless of need.

Cameron says he bases his sumptuous health visiting service on a trip by two of his minions to the Dutch maternity nursing system; however, the Dutch pay for such quality with a top income tax rate of 52 percent and government spending of 45.5 percent of GDP.

It's no good cherry-picking other countries' better social services while at the same time promising to "share the proceeds of growth" between tax cuts and spending that falls below inflation.

*Mrs Ruth Moore
Beeston*