

Community Events

Meeting People

A subscription scheme has been introduced for entries to the Meeting People column. Subscriptions cost £24 per annum (£1 per issue). If you would like your group to be included in the column, please apply to The Beeston Express for a subscription form using the contact details on page 2.

Attenborough & Chilwell Women's Club Every Wednesday at 7.30pm. Douglas Taylor Room, Attenborough Village Hall. Talks, quizzes, outings, demonstrations and fund raising. Ladies welcome from all areas. Call 0115 925 6498 for more details

Attenborough Parish Church (St Mary's) is open for coffee every Tuesday morning, 10.30am until 12 noon. St Mary's is always worth a visit to look around, sit and think or light a prayer candle in our Peace Corner

Beeston & District Local History Society Meets 3rd Wednesday every month 7.45pm in the Chilwell Memorial Hall, High Road, Chilwell. Talks by guest speakers of local & general historical interest. New members welcome. Contact 0115 925 8913 or 0115 922 6971 for more details

Beeston Players Meet every Monday at 7.30pm, Beeston Library, Foster Avenue, Beeston. Whether you are looking to act or help with costumes, sound effects, lighting, props, scenery, or front of house, just pop along to meet us, call Debbie on 0115 939 8417 or visit www.beestonplayers.org.uk

Beeston Probus Club 1st and 3rd Monday each month in the Girlguiding Beeston Division HQ, West End, Beeston. 10am for 10.30am. A social club for retired professional and business men. Contact Neville Bostock on 0115 922 6971 for more details

Bramcote History Group Meets 3rd Monday each month between September and August. 8pm in St. Michael's Church Centre, Church Street, Bramcote. Varied program of historical talks and other events. Visitors welcome. For details call 0115 925 1491

Chilwell Afternoon Townswomen's Guild Meets 4th Tuesday of each month (not August) at 2pm at Chilwell Road Methodist Church, Beeston. New members welcome. Call Mrs J Hughes on 0115 930 6451 for details

Chilwell Circle of Friends - for the Over 50s Meets on Monday afternoons at Grove Court, Central Avenue, Chilwell between 2pm and 4pm. Speakers, tea and entertainment. Phone 0115 925 1483 for more details

Christ Church Chilwell Bereavement Team A Christian organisation willing to visit the bereaved in the parish of Chilwell. For more details, contact the Bereavement Co-ordinator, Christ Church Office, 6 College Road, Chilwell or phone 0115 922 2809

Disability Matters A local group for people with disabilities. Meet monthly, usually first Tuesday, in the Catholic Church Hall, Foster Avenue, Beeston (wheelchair accessible). 1.45pm - 3.45pm. (Dates may change due to Bank Holidays). Call Christine on 0115 925 1483 for details

The Friendship Club Meets alternate Tuesdays, 2.30pm - 3.30pm at the United Reformed Church, Boundary Road, Beeston. Open to men and women over 50. Contact Mrs Underwood on 0115 922 4326 for more details

Hemlock Gardening Club Meets 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm at Memorial Hall, Church Street, Bramcote. New members very welcome. Annual subs £8.50, visitors £1. Contact 0115 925 2507 for more details

Inham Nook Café Church Sundays 3.30pm - 4.30pm, at the centre on Pearson Avenue, Chilwell. Need a change on Sunday afternoon? Join us for tea/coffee, cakes and chat. All free!

Inham Nook Methodist Leisure Hour Wednesdays between 2.30pm and 4pm. Inham Nook Methodist Church. Fellowship meetings and guest speakers. Contact Mrs Maisie Short on 0115 925 4903 for details

Issues of our Time - Public Meetings with Discussion organised by Beeston North Labour Party are held every second month at the New Venture Social Club, Technology Drive, Beeston Rylands at 7pm

Mind Alert - Now in our 28th year! Thursdays between 2pm and 4pm. The Conservative Club, Station Road, Beeston. Talks, quizzes, tea dances, games afternoons and outings. Contact May on 0115 854 5898 for details

The Rotary Club of Beeston Mondays at 6.45pm, Beeston Fields Golf Club. We welcome people from businesses and professions and use our skills to help others who are less fortunate. For details contact David Biggs at secretary@beestonrotary.org or Barbara Hadfield on tel: 07787 512 813

Sixty in South Broxtowe Every Thursday between 10am and 3pm. St Helen's Church Hall, Stapleford. M2M, Chiropodist, Massage, 2-course Lunch, Speakers, Trips. For information, call Margaret Bowen on 0115 949 1175

Toton Ladies Group Meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (except August) at Toton Methodist Church at 7.30pm. Speakers at most meetings, new members welcome. Admission £2 includes coffee and biscuits. Call Mrs Bainborough on 0115 973 3483 for more details

Two O'Clock Club Every Thursday, 2pm - 4pm. Chilwell Road Methodist Church, Beeston. A varied programme of talks and outings. Admission £1. Visitors welcome. Contact 0115 925 9199 for details

Thinking inside the box

KIND-hearted firefighters in Stapleford have been doing their bit to bring some festive cheer to members of the British armed forces serving overseas this Christmas. Crews at the station have been collecting shoe boxes filled with seasonal treats, which will be delivered to troops based at Camp Bastion in Afghanistan's Helmand Province.

Earlier in December, officers from the 63 Works Group Royal Engineers paid a visit to the station to collect around 100 of the morale-boosting boxes, which included gifts such as chewing gum, toiletries, playing cards and chocolate.

Watch Manager Ray Burton, who organised the collection, believes troops serving overseas should not be forgotten during the festive season. "We really wanted to do something to show our support to local soldiers who will be away from their families

this Christmas. These lads are all based at Chilwell and they do such an important job that we wanted to do something to let them know that there are people back at home thinking of them.

"We have liaised with the Army to ensure all these gifts are shipped to named soldiers in a way that won't cause logistical problems or clog up their supply routes. Members of the public have been incredibly generous and we are hoping to collect a total of around 400 boxes."

Major Mark Quince, who collected the boxes on behalf of the Royal Engineers, said he greatly appreciated the generosity of everyone involved but highlighted the need for gifts to be dealt with in the correct way. "This is great stuff," said Mark. "The guys in theatre will really appreciate these gifts but people need to realise that logistical channels are finite.

"I am happy to accept

these boxes as they have been planned for a long time, but further gifts should be directed to one of the MoD endorsed charities. There are many groups that provide great support for the Armed Forces and these are signposted on the MoD website."

For more information, visit www.mod.uk/publicsupportforourservicepersonnel

Ducks Away 2010

THE 19th Annual Duck Race will take place on Friday, January 1, 2010 at Manor Park, Toton, starting at 2.30pm.

The Mayor of Broxtowe. Cllr John Longdon, will start the race by releasing 1000 plastic ducks into the River Erewash. They will float down the river and be caught at the bridge approximately 600 yards downstream. The owners of the first 10 ducks to cross the winning line will receive a prize.

The Duck Race is always a fun day for all the family. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served and festive music will be played at this fund raising event, with

proceeds going to Help the Aged.

For the payment of £1.25 in the currency of the realm, people can have the opportunity to sponsor a duck and win a prize.

Angela Barnes, Committees Co-ordinator for Help the Aged, said: "The Duck Race has become a great local event and people start ringing as soon as Christmas is over to make sure that they can reserve a duck for the race. We usually attract hundreds of local people and many family pets. It is one of the few events that the whole family can enjoy together and there is always a great atmosphere. People from

the Toton-Beeston-Long Eaton-Sandiacre-Stapleford-Nottingham and Derby area now attend as a matter of course.

"After all, what else can you do on New Year's Day?!"

Mrs Barnes continued: "All of the prizes are donated by local businesses and the race is sponsored by a local business. And all of the money raised will be used to benefit the older people of this community.

"I hope that Duck Race 2010 is going to be even better than in previous years.