

Buzz

The Beeston Express

CONTACT

The Editor
PO Box 7440
Beeston, Nottingham
NG9 1ZS

Tel: 0115 922 8007

email:

enquiries@beestonexpress.co.uk

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Beeston Express is independent of any organisation, commercial or political. Our policy is to provide readers with news and information that is fair, accurate and balanced.

We try hard to avoid mistakes, but some may inevitably slip through. If you have any comments to make about the paper, or any complaint, please contact us. We will, as far as possible, try to put things right when the error has been ours.

NEXT ISSUE

Friday, 29 January 2010

Deadline for Adverts
Monday, 25 January

ADVERTISING in The Beeston Express

Classified

£3 per single column
centimetre (scm).
Minimum: 3 cm.

Notice Board

(8cm x 8cm Box)
Mono: £45
Colour: £55

Display

Price on Application

Meeting People Column

Subscription:
£24 per annum (24 issues)

www.beestonexpress.co.uk

Useful telephone numbers

Police

0115 943 0999

NHS Direct Line (24 hours)

0845 46 47

Queens Medical Centre

0115 924 9924

City Hospital

0115 969 1169

Broxtowe Borough Council

0115 917 7777

Citizens Advice Bureau

0844 499 1193

Beeston Library

0115 925 5168

Train Timetable Enquiries

08457 48 49 50

Snow scenes

THE story of a young boy who was airlifted to QMC out of the snow last week made the national news, but for those of you who missed it, we bring it to you here.

The eight-year-old boy was airlifted to the Queen's Medical Centre by the Nottinghamshire Police force's helicopter unit for a kidney transplant after he and his family became stuck in their car on the A614 in north Nottinghamshire.

The boy's family had received a call from the hospital that morning to say that an organ was available for him, but the atrocious weather conditions caused by snow and ice hampered their journey from their home in Gainsborough, Lincolnshire to the QMC.

In desperation, they phoned police after getting as far as Warren Hill on the A614. The force helicopter was scrambled and the crew landed in a nearby field at 9.15am, from where they airlifted

the boy and a family friend to the QMC in seven minutes.

"When we saw the call, we knew that we could help and offered our assistance straight away," said PC Steve James, based at the Helicopter Unit.

"The kidney was waiting at the hospital and if we didn't get him there pretty quickly, it would have been useless."

Control room operator Darren Wells arranged for the helicopter team to meet the family at a nearby location.

"It was really important to keep the father calm throughout the call," said control room operator Joanne Kowalczyk who spoke to the boy's dad during the 999 call.

"I wanted to reassure him we were doing all we could to help and that we could find his exact location."

Chief pilot Andy Mortimore, assisted by PC James and

Derbyshire PC Graham Fish, landed in the field and took the boy to hospital.

PC James said: "The boy was fine throughout the short flight. We gave him an intercom head set so that he could hear everything that was going on – we had to make sure the little lad was happy and comfortable. We were very happy to help – it was one of those days where you feel glad to have made it through the snow and into work."

And a 23-year-old man found himself in custody after being arrested on suspicion of burglary at an Army Cadet building in Wilford Lane, West Bridgford, last week.

Officers responded to a call from a resident at 2.30am early one snowy morning and saw a man running away from the building.

His footprints in the snow were followed to a nearby playing field where they found the suspect – hiding under a bush!

News in Brief

Brrrr, the water's not very warm...

AS temperatures remain low and more bad weather is expected, the county's emergency services are reminding people of the dangers of walking and playing on frozen lakes and ponds.

Police were called to a pond in Wilford last week following reports that a student had walked onto the ice to write his name in the covering of snow. The officers arrived and gave the student and his friends some words of advice. Inspector John Woodward said: "No matter how safe the ice appears, youngsters should never venture onto the ice as it can crack quickly and without warning. If a child falls through into the cold water, they can become trapped under the ice and unable to break through to the air."

People are also being advised to keep their pets away from high risk areas such as frozen ponds and lakes.

"If you see someone, or a pet, fall through the ice and get into difficulty, never try to rescue them yourself. Ring 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service," said Andy Bettison, firefighter and Station Manager. "We have specialist equipment and crews that are trained to carry out rescues in difficult situations."

A spokesman for East Midlands Ambulance Service added a further warning. "As well as the danger of falling through the ice and drowning, the shock of suddenly being immersed in freezing water can bring on a heart attack."

Relatives sought

SHEILA Bradley, aged 80, passed away at The Roundway, Leicester, on Wednesday, 30 December, 2009.

The Leicester Coroner has been unable to trace any relatives of Sheila Bradley living locally, but has learnt that the lady may have had relatives living in or around Beeston.

Anyone with information relating to the deceased is asked to contact the Coroners Office, Leicester, on (0116) 225 2535.

That's the spirit of Christmas

A GROUP of work colleagues at The University of Nottingham read about the Treetops Hospice 'Buy A Block Appeal' in *The Beeston Express* and, instead of buying each other Christmas presents, decided to buy six blocks.

Building work on the new Care Centre at Rislely has already started and potential contributors were invited to buy virtual 'building blocks' at £5 each; their names to be added to the Block Appeal Book, which will be kept at Treetops.

Getting to the gritty nitty *by the Editor*

NEWS came at the end of last week (week ending January 8) that supplies of road salt had been centralised by the government. Wasn't this something of an over-reaction? An expensive bureaucratic response to what is only ever a short-term problem in the UK, that of snow and ice?

Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) issued a statement declaring that they were running out of supplies. They went on to say that because the government had taken over controlling salt stocks centrally through the 'national salt cell', an advisory body which assesses where the salt is most

needed, they were likely to run out by Sunday (January 10), and were valiantly trying to eke out what they had left.

Apparently, all NCC could do was contact the central advisory body and ask for more salt to be delivered to Nottinghamshire, irrespective of whether they had any unfulfilled orders placed with the salt supplier.

Leaving aside the relevance of who needs road salt the most – here in our part of south Nottinghamshire we had little more than a light sprinkling of snow whereas other areas of the

country received significantly more – learning that the government was literally to decide who should stand and who should fall was, in my opinion, not something they should be concerning themselves with.

With the situation on the country's roads changing almost hourly, how could a centralised department possibly be best placed to decide where any available salt and grit should go?

Our local authorities are usually capable of standing on their own two feet in such situations, with lending and borrowing quite commonplace over county fences.

Appeal after attempted robbery at Beeston petrol station

POLICE are continuing to hunt two people after an attempted robbery at Sainsbury's petrol station on Stoney Street, Beeston, at around 10pm on Monday, January 4.

The offenders went into the petrol station and jumped over the counter before demanding money from the staff. However, they fled empty-handed after staff pressed the alarm button.

The offenders drove off towards

The Nurseryman public house in a blue Peugeot 206, and police recovered a similar vehicle they believe is linked to the attempted robbery after it was found abandoned on Bagnall Road, Bulwell, later the same night.

None of the staff required hospital treatment, but all were left shocked by the incident.

Both offenders were wearing balaclavas, and detectives have

been viewing CCTV footage in an effort to get more detailed descriptions.

Anyone who witnessed this incident, or who saw a blue Peugeot 206 on Stoney Street or Bagnall Road between 9.30pm and 11pm on Monday, January 4, should call Det Sgt Pete Shaw at Beeston CID on 0300 300 9999, ext 812 5636.

Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.