

Buzz

The Beeston Express

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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, 12 February 2010
Deadline for Adverts
Monday, 8 February

ADVERTISING in The Beeston Express

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

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(8cm x 8cm Box)
Mono: £45
Colour: £55

Display

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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

Toton Sidings

...continued from page 1

there by British Rail many years ago.

The tree felling was reported to the Forestry Commission by Broxtowe MP Nick Palmer, who said: "The Forestry Commission sent their inspectors to look at the site, and their initial view is that there has indeed been illegal felling of trees, and I am pressing for a solution.

"In the meantime, I think that one of the worst aspects of the whole affair is the lack of consultation by the landowners."

Although the site had been identified for potential development locally, there are no clear indications from the new owners or their agents as to what use the site might be put to at this stage.

The Oaks Medical Centre

PATIENTS living in Bramcote and registered with The Oaks Medical Centre, on Villa Street, Beeston, have been shocked to receive a letter from the practice asking them to find themselves another doctor.

The reason given is that the list of patients registered with The Oaks has grown too long and needs to be reduced, this compounded by traffic congestion making the visiting of patients "increasingly difficult".

The letter received by patients in Bramcote says, "We are writing to all registered patients who live outside our practice to ask them to re-register with another, more local doctor." It goes on to say that, in order to be fair, all patients in an area are being contacted – with no exceptions.

Many of the patients have been on the list at The Oaks for many years and are understandably upset. Initial enquiries are being made on their behalf as to how boundaries between doctors' practices are set in the first place, and if they can be 'bumped off' a list in such a manner - and at such short notice. One month's notice has been given. *The Beeston Express* has attempted to contact the surgery for more details, but was unable to get a reply.

In the meantime, we would be interested to hear from any patients registered with The Oaks who have received a copy of the letter, to see just where they live.

Improvements to Nottingham Station begin

PROGRESS is being made to transform Nottingham Railway Station and the surrounding area. Paving works have already started on Station Street as the first phase of major enhancements to the public realm and the creation of a dedicated new cycle compound has begun.

Nottingham Station is poised to become 'The Hub' of Nottingham's integrated transport system.

The key partners – Network Rail, East Midlands Trains, Nottingham City Council and East Midlands Development Agency (emda) – are also close to reaching an agreement to enable works to upgrade Nottingham Station to begin later in the year – starting with the construction of a new multi storey car park off Queens Road.

The £67m redevelopment of the station will include a new ticket office and improved passenger facilities, along with

the transformation of the existing taxi waiting area into an enclosed passenger arrival hall with new retail outlets. A new concourse will be built to connect with NET Phase Two, Lines Two and Three of the tram extension proposals.

Emphasis will be placed on marrying the station's historic features with a new modern look. Cllr Jane Urquhart, Nottingham City Council's portfolio holder for Transport & Area Working says: "The station is an important gateway to the city. A new modern station will not only benefit passengers and visitors to Nottingham, but will be a major boost for the economic wellbeing of the city. Businesses have been calling for the station to be improved for years. Together with the proposals for lines two and three of the tram, Nottingham will boast a state-of-the-art transport interchange that allows passengers to move freely between tram and train."

Crime reduction in Broxtowe South

CRIME in Broxtowe South has seen a dramatic reduction thanks to the work of a dedicated policing team.

Since the Policing For You with 20/20 Vision initiative was launched in November, there has been a steady drop in crime in the South Broxtowe policing area, which includes Beeston, Chilwell, Stapleford, and Toton.

January has been a particularly successful month so far in comparison to last year, with a 66 percent reduction in burglaries (17) and a 68 percent reduction in vehicle crime (21).

Reports of damage are down by 51 percent to 32 and the number of thefts in the area dropped by 35 percent to 47. Reports of anti-social behaviour are also down by 21 percent, to 175. Anti-social behaviour includes vehicle nuisance, dog nuisance and abandoned vehicles.

The Broxtowe South team has seen an increase in the number of detections during January, detecting 76 percent of all violent crime.

Zoe Hallam, Neighbourhood Policing Inspector for Broxtowe South, said: "These figures are very encouraging and will dramatically improve the quality of life of those living in the area."

The Policing For You with 20/20 Vision initiative was set up to increase public confidence. Police officers and staff were asked to review the way they do things to reduce crime, increase detections, and increase productivity by 20 percent

Insp Hallam added: "We have a fantastic team in Broxtowe South and the officers and staff here are committed to keeping people safe. Since the 20/20 Vision was introduced, we have become more focused, and this fantastic work means we are seeing a significant fall in crime.

"But we don't want to rest on our laurels and I would still encourage the public to be vigilant, to look after themselves and their property, and continue to report incidents to us."

News in Brief

Buried in technology

MANAGEMENT of burials within the borough of Broxtowe will become more cost effective and efficient now that a decision has been made at the Council's Cabinet meeting to purchase an additional module of Epilog, a software system that manages registrations, cremations and burials.

The Epilog system is already in use for the management of funerals at Bramcote Crematorium. Funeral bookings for cemeteries are currently undertaken using a manual, paper-based system. This will be replaced by the computerised system, which allows for the recording, containment and protection of all burial information. The cost for the additional module and its installation is £10,000, with an additional £800 per annum for support and maintenance.

Why let drink decide?

A NATIONAL campaign encouraging parents to talk to their children about alcohol has been endorsed by NHS Nottinghamshire County. Local research shows that around 13,000 13 to 15 year olds in Nottinghamshire have had an alcoholic drink in the last seven days.

The 'why let drink decide' campaign was launched last week by the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families, Ed Balls. It persuades families to have open and frank discussions about the risks associated with drinking from a young age.

Tammy Coles, Alcohol Lead for NHS Nottinghamshire County, said: "The things that parents often worry about happening to their kids can be fuelled by drinking. Alcohol can make young people vulnerable to problems such as unwanted pregnancies, road traffic accidents and poor marks at school.

"Our research shows us that young people under 19 years old accounted for around 27 percent of alcohol and violence related A&E attendances in 2008/09.

"We know that a child's perception of alcohol shifts from negative to positive at around the age of ten. Statistics show that many parents don't speak to their children about alcohol until their child gets drunk for the first time. It's important that families start talking about alcohol earlier to build a safe and sensible relationship with drink."

Locally, parents can get confidential advice, information and support about their child's drinking from Regents House, tel: (0115) 912 8011 or Hetty's (0800 850 941).