

Express Letters

Where to collect your Beeston Express:

Please note that this list is regularly updated.

ATTENBOROUGH

Attenborough Nature Centre
Barton Lane

Attenborough Service Station
5 Nottingham Road

BEESTON

Beeston News
86 High Road, Beeston

Chilwell Road News
86A Chilwell Road, Beeston

Co-op Food Store
291 Queens Road, Beeston

G & A Middleton
99 Central Avenue, Beeston

Hiral Newsagent
148 Wollaton Road, Beeston

Sainsbury's
Stoney Street, Beeston

Sangha Newsagent
182 Queens Road, Beeston

W H Smith
High Road, Beeston

BEESTON RYLANDS

Arun Food & News
154 Meadow Road, Rylands

County Stores
57-59 Trafalgar Road, Rylands

Discount Food & Wine
46 Lilac Crescent, Rylands

Plumb News
1 - 3 Lilac Grove, Rylands

BRAMCOTE
M&N News
40a Sevenoaks Crescent,
Bramcote Hills

CHILWELL
Bains News
Bramcote Avenue, Chilwell

Bramcote Lane Stores
181 Bramcote Lane, Chilwell

Chetwynd Stores
8-10 Chetwynd Road, Chilwell

Sunnyside Post Office
Sunnyside Road, Inham Nook

STAPLEFORD
Wilsons News
7 Pasture Road, Stapleford

TOTON
Toton News & Off Licence
79 High Road, 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.

Vote of heartfelt thanks

DEAR EDITOR: I write to thank the Editor and readers of *The Beeston Express* for their incredible support over the three years that I have been managing the Treetops Hospice Ripple Appeal. The Ripple Appeal has been raising funds for a new £1.4m Care Centre. Building work is nearing completion and Treetops Hospice has a wonderfully designed new building. Looking out of my office window, I can't quite believe that all the hard work has finally resulted in the new landscape that I see.

The publicity that *The Beeston Express* has allowed the Appeal has been brilliant. Our profile has been massively raised as a result and I'm proud to say that most people that I speak to now know about the amazing nursing support that is given at Treetops Hospice.

The publicity has resulted in so many different local groups, clubs, schools, churches, Rotary, Probus, Ladies Inner Wheel, Lions Clubs, many local businesses and many wonderful individuals coming on board with fundraising for the Ripple Appeal. I have been amazed by the generosity of local people for their local hospice. You have helped to leave your permanent mark in your local community by contributing to the Ripple Appeal.

Fundraising continues in earnest at Treetops Hospice as sustainability of the new building is paramount and the hospice has ambitious plans to continue to grow their services to the local communities of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

I shall be moving on to a new career challenge now that the new Care Centre is built so, once again, I send huge thanks to you all.

Kate Shaw
Treetops Hospice

True care for care homes?

DEAR EDITOR: In her first column for *The Beeston Express*, Anna Soubry asked for ideas for the Private Members Bill that she has the chance to promote. I can offer her a suggestion which the majority of her constituents of whatever party will support – my suggestion relates to the sale of the council care homes for the elderly. Prior to the election, Ms Soubry voiced her support for the Conservative County Council's decision to sell all of their care homes to the private sector. The only proviso was that they would be retained as such for three years. Thereafter, the new owners would be free to close them and sell the

land, should they wish. However, once Ms Soubry realised the almost total opposition in Broxtowe to the sale of the Bramwell Care Home, she immediately announced that she was against this particular sale. Good for her – but she still refuses to oppose the sale of all the other care homes in Nottinghamshire. A cynic might think that the reason was that the other care homes weren't in Broxtowe; in other words, her sudden change of stance has more to do with earning brownie points from her constituents than from any real concern for the inhabitants of the homes. This possibility was strengthened a couple of weeks ago when a planned TV debate on this issue, with Labour Cllr Alan Rhodes, was cancelled at the last minute, when Ms Soubry announced that she was not, after all, prepared to appear on the show with Mr Rhodes. Readers will draw their own conclusions.

However, Ms Soubry now has the chance to prove any such cynics wrong. I suggest that she promotes a bill which would make it obligatory that any council care homes anywhere in the country which are sold to the private sector must remain as care homes and must never be sold off for conversion to luxury flats or any other form of property development. If the new owners decide that they no longer wish to continue to operate the care home, then they would be obliged to sell it to another operator prepared to do so; first refusal would be given to the council to buy it back at the same price it was sold for. Such a move would, at a stroke, ensure that care homes would never become a target for the get-rich-quick, fat-cat, cowardly property developers.

Over to you, Ms Soubry!

J Arthur
Wollaton Road, Beeston

Knock-on effect of parking charges

DEAR EDITOR: I thought I'd send you an update, as it's now more than two weeks since I sent you my initial thoughts on how I think car parking availability has improved since charging took place (Letters, July 2). I'm pleased to say I still get a parking spot every time.

However, there is just one drawback, and that is that lots of people now park on Dovecote Lane from the Memorial down to the recreation park, making driving

down that road both difficult and dangerous. You can't see what's coming up the road because of the bend, and the road is so narrow at the top.

I suspect I'm not the only one to notice this and I assume the residents aren't delighted either – I wonder if they will also restrict parking on this road as a result?

Pete Shaw
Beeston Rylands

Come share a glass or two

DEAR EDITOR: I am not sure that I quite agree with you when you imply that we do not want real ale drinkers from around the county visiting the Crown Inn, now that it has deservedly won the prestigious CAMRA 'Pub of the Year' competition (July 2, Front Page).

Real ale drinkers are not normally rowdy and do contribute to the local economy in several ways. As a regular in 'the Crown' for over 30 years, I am delighted with the new management and will proudly welcome visitors to our pub and town; I feel that we must be careful to avoid being seen as an insular community.

Pete Shaw makes a good point regarding parking charges (July 2, Letters p4) and how this frees up spaces for short-term stays: that is one of the intentions and several of us (councillors) fought hard to retain free parking for such visitors. He asks whether or not residents outside the borough can buy season tickets; the answer is 'yes'. We are very mindful that a lot of people come to Beeston to work, both in the shops

and the several offices within the town. They contribute greatly to the economy and vitality of the town and we feel that they should be offered the same terms as Council employees and Councillors. At present, although we have public transport links which are as good as the local congested roads will allow, we do not have a park and ride. Once the two which are proposed are opened and 10 minute or better services introduced, then parking for outsiders should become less of an issue.

Cllr Steve Barber
Broxtowe Borough Council
Foster Avenue, Beeston

Raise your glasses to a good cellarman

DEAR EDITOR: As a regular in the Crown Inn, Beeston, I would like to congratulate not only Everards for rejuvenating the pub but also Greene King for selling it. (July 2, Front Page).

It's the best thing they have ever done for Beeston and I wish they would now dispose of their other pubs to people who know how to run a decent house.

Of course it's the beer which makes a great pub, and I take my hat off to the young cellarman at the Crown who knows a terrific amount about keeping ale – I believe he is called Joe. Not only does he keep a good cellar but he is a true gentleman.

Hopefully, with his help, the Crown Inn will go on to win the national 'Pub of the Year' contest.

Name and address supplied
A 'Crown' regular for almost half a century.

Next Issue

Your next *Beeston Express* will be published on July 30

Ordering The Beeston Express

To the Newsagent:

Commencing July 30, 2010, please reserve _____ copies of each issue of *The Beeston Express* for me, at 25p per copy, until further notice. I will make my own arrangements with you for collection and payment.

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