

Community

There's lots going on in and around Beeston for all age groups.

For those caring for younger children, information about toy libraries, playgroups, toddler groups, and parenting skills is readily available from Beeston Clinic, Dovecote House, 38 Wollaton Road, Beeston.

If you are planning events or wish to advertise products or services for families, ring 0115 922 8007

Beeston guides rise to the Challenge

REACHING for the top are two members of the 5th Beeston St John's Guides, Jess Etheridge and Bronwyn Stapleford, who have both completed their Baden-Powell Challenge Award and were delighted to receive their certificates and badges at a special presentation last week. This included an opportunity to use the climbing wall at Beeston Youth and Community Centre, close to where the 5th Beeston Guides meet in the Guide HQ.

It took the two young people about 18 months to achieve their Baden-Powell Challenge awards. The highly-acclaimed Challenge has two parts: guides must complete ten special 'challenges' and take part in a Challenge Adventure. Having decided they

were going to 'go for it', Jess and Bronwyn prepared personal action plans with the assistance of their Guide Leader.

To achieve the award, the guides decide what their challenges will be and carry them out. One of them must be chosen from a programme zone of Discovery, Healthy Lifestyles Celebrating Diversity, Global Awareness, or Skills and Relationships.

Fourteen-year-old Bronwyn, a pupil at Alderman White School, Chilwell, took part in a 'Ready, Steady, Cook' activity that involved making an omelette for her patrol. "I worked in a team with Jess to produce a tasty-looking omelette," she said. "Which it was – if you took the burnt bits out. On the whole,

though, it was quite nice."

Bronwyn and Jess (15) also organised a 'Bring a Friend to Guides' party with food, drinks and music. She explained: "We wanted to show just what 5th Beeston Guides has to offer.

"We also held an evening about Fairtrade as part of our Global Awareness challenge. We had intended to do global warming but then decided it had been in the news quite a lot recently and that people might be getting bored with the subject. Fairtrade isn't really noticed in the news, and we thought that maybe people didn't know enough about it to take action.

"One of the fun things we did towards our Challenge was to hold a Mini Olympics – with water! We

held it outside on a sunny day and had games such as a water relay where you needed to spill as little as possible, and an obstacle course that had to be negotiated wearing a blindfold and carrying a glass of water. Someone from your patrol guided you along the course and, again, you needed to spill as little as possible. That's quite hard when you're blindfolded and the last to compete, with all the pressure aimed at you."

Jess is a pupil at the Nottingham Emmanuel School. She said: "I have really enjoyed taking part in the Challenge. It has enabled me to enjoy lots of different experiences and opportunities, and to spend time with my friends at Guides. As well as the cooking competition, I kept a Fitness

Diary for a month and we held an International Evening at Guides."

For their Baden-Powell Adventure, the two Beeston guides spent two days at the Elton Campsite in March 2008 with ten other guides from around Nottinghamshire.

Bronwyn continued: "There were so many activities to take part in at camp, and a lot of them were related to God. One of them was to go out and each find five things that we thought might relate to God."

Now that the Challenge is completed and they are ready to move on, Jess and Bronwyn are keen to become young Guide Leaders.

Racing for Life

THE eight team members from Beeston Chiropractic Clinic taking part in the 'Race for Life' to raise money for Cancer Research UK got a real adrenalin buzz as they crossed the finishing line and, in so doing, raised more than £560 for the charity.

This year, more than 230

charity runs were scheduled to take place across the UK, with the Nottingham event taking place at the Victoria Embankment on June 21.

The women-only fund raising event invites entrants to get themselves sponsored to walk, jog or run 5km, and the Beeston team achieved an average speed of 35

minutes and 26 seconds.

Delighted team member and chiropractor Alex Newton said: "We did it! All eight of us crossed the line and, so far, we've raised more than £560 for Cancer Research UK.

"In the process, we had a great day."

Great Central Railway locomotive to be star attraction at Transport Heritage Centre gala

Saturday, July 11. 2pm

THE last remaining Great Central Railway (GCR) steam locomotive in the world still in steam will be coming to the Nottingham Transport Heritage Centre (NTHC) at Ruddington for the July Gala on Saturday, July 11, when the centre's new 200m long Platform No. 1 will be officially opened by the Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke MP.

Performing the official opening ceremony at 2pm with Mr Clarke will be His Hon Edgar Fay QC, son of the only GCR General Manager, Sir Sam Fay.

Celebrations to open the new platform will include the ex-GCR Class 04 Robinson 2-8-0 tender locomotive No. 63601,

courtesy of the National Railway Museum in York and the GCR custodians at Loughborough, and with the help of David Clarke Railway Trust.

The locomotive is scheduled for a ten-day visit and will operate on July 11/12 and 18/19 from the new platform at NTHC and over over nine miles of GCR track to the Brush Works at Loughborough.

NTHC Director Alan Kemp said: "Platform No. 1 is a massive effort over a six year period by GCRN volunteers led by Project Director Peter Wilson. It has been funded by donations from volunteers and through the LNER GC Heritage Trust and Main

Line Steam Trust, which has invested more than £75,000 into a high quality facility that transforms our railway operations.

He continued: "This is a major achievement. Our visiting public deserves improved facilities. However, this is only Phase One of our station project and we are now raising funds for a new terminus building to go with it."

Former GCR footplate man Arthur Barber said: "This is a big homecoming for the Class 04 locomotive. All GCR enthusiasts will be thrilled to see this old locomotive – built in 1912 – on this preserved line, and we expect to see Kenneth Clarke in the driving seat!"