

Community

2009 Poppy Appeal Launch



THIS year's Poppy Appeal will be launched in Beeston on Friday, October 23 at the Legion Club, 16 Hallcroft, at 8pm.

The Deputy Mayor of Broxtowe, Cllr Pat Lally, will launch the appeal by buying

the first poppy in Beeston.

All are welcome to come along to the launch, which will be followed by entertainment from Beeston Big Band during the evening.

A light-hearted look at Nottingham's historic past

A BLUE Badge Guide, Mrs Margaret Harrison had those attending the Toton Ladies Group meeting in September in stitches as she recounted anecdotes of the hilarious situations that have arisen as she takes groups of tourists around the City of Nottingham.

Mrs Harrison entitled her talk 'A Year of Mirth' and then comically acted out some of the scenes as she remembered them, month by

month throughout the year.

In mid-September, the churches of Toton joined together for a 'Vision Day' that started with a Prayer Breakfast at St Peter's Church at 8.30am, before continuing with a service at the Greenwood Centre, prayer stations at the Methodist Church and Prayer Walking in Toton. The day's events culminated with a service of worship at 4pm back at St Peter's.

Chilwell School awards *by the Editor*

DOUBLE Olympic Gold Medallist Rebecca Adlington was the honoured guest of Chilwell School on September 24, having been invited to present awards and support the achievements of the school's students at the annual Awards' Evening.

Parents and carers packed into the Chilwell School Theatre as young students from all year groups received their awards from the gold medallist.

As well as awards for Academic Achievement in subjects at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, certificates are also presented in each School Year in the categories of Effort and Improvement. As many of these awards are made as the school thinks are merited.

The school is also rightly proud of a number of Special Awards made for significant achievements throughout the school year.

Rebecca Adlington, who won the gold medals – a distinctive special award if ever one existed – for Great Britain at Beijing in 2008 in the 400m and 800m freestyle swimming events, presented Chilwell School's own Special Awards to Colette Mitchell (KS3) and Megan Morgan (KS4) for their 'Contribution to School Life'.

Two 'Determination to Succeed' awards were made, one to Paige Chamberlain (KS3); the second to Kevin Wallbank (KS4), who qualified for the Vina Goercha Award, dedicated to the memory of a pupil at

the school who died in 2001 after a long illness.

Next up to receive their own Special Awards from Rebecca – named as Great Britain Sportswoman of the Year in 2008 before receiving an OBE in the 2009 New Year Honours List – were Luke Thornton (KS3) and Sam Adhikari (KS4) for Outstanding Achievement.

Last but not least of the Special Awards: the Helen Robson Achievement Award, the Councillor Tom Pettengell Award for Service to the Community, and the Prison Me No Way Award for Services to the School, were presented to Natasha Malkinson, Georgia Young and Ben Orgill, and Alex Wright respectively.

Cleverest team decided on the toss of a coin

THE MAYOR of Broxtowe, Cllr John Longdon, did eventually find himself on the winning team after two tie-breaker questions failed to produce a result in a general knowledge quiz arranged by the members of Beeston Probus Club.

The quiz had been timed to coincide with the Mayor's visit. Cllr Longdon was

due to visit the club when he brought along a Grant Aid cheque for £100 from Broxtowe Borough Council, the money to be put towards the club's general running costs.

The club has 32 members and five teams took part in the quiz. However, the two teams that tied for first place answered each of

two tie-breaker questions simultaneously, and so the winners were decided on the toss of a coin.

New members are always welcome at Beeston Probus Club, which meets on the first and third Monday of each month. For more details, see the Club's entry in the 'Meeting People' column on page 8.

New breastfeeding support group opens

BEESTON mums wanting to breastfeed will have a new place to go for support and friendship when the Breastfeeding Network's 100th breastfeeding centre opens next week.

Formed by two local mothers who are fully registered Breastfeeding Network (BfN) helpers, the support group will be open every Friday morning between 9.30am and 11.30am at the Beeston Family Centre on Trevor Road.

BfN members run similar centres right across Britain, largely staffed by volunteers trained in infant feeding and breastfeeding skills. They offer independent information and support to all new and expectant mums as well as to those who've decided they'd like to try breastfeeding their second or subsequent babies.

BfN registered helper Alice de la Rue decided to set the new Centre up after she found breastfeeding her first child,

Amy, difficult. She said: "I was really determined to breastfeed, but found things difficult at first. I was fortunate in that I found the help and support I needed, so I decided I wanted to help other women because I recognised how vital that skilled support is, especially in the early days.

"I trained as a BfN helper and decided it would be great to have somewhere around here where mothers can meet up for support. Now we're ready to open and the Beeston Breastfeeding drop-in will be a weekly Breastfeeding Support Group for all mums, babies and toddlers as well as mums-to-be."

The new group will also be a place where mums-to-be, thinking about how to feed their baby, can go for a coffee to meet other mums with babies. It's also where you'll find some support with your new baby. "The focus is on breastfeeding, but mums who

feed their babies formula are, of course, welcome as well," explained Alice, who will be running the Centre with fellow BfN helper Nerida Kho.

BfN Director Lesley Backhouse said: "Peer support has been shown to help mums continue to breastfeed, because BfN helpers are trained to support mums having difficulties. We aim for this group to be part of a local support system, including other agencies, supporting breastfeeding.

"I'm especially delighted that Alice and Nerida are seizing the opportunity to get this Centre going – because Beeston will be our 100th!"

Beeston Breastfeeding Drop-In Centre opens at 9.30am at the Family Support Centre, Trevor Road, Beeston on Friday, October 9.

All new and expectant mums are welcome, whether breast or formula feeding.