A bee in your bonnet or a comment to make? Have your say here...

IF you want to express your opinion or comment on anything that affects us as a community, this is the place to do it. Be it a bouquet or a brickbat, let’s hear it. 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.

Guiding awards for local leaders and volunteers

GUIDE leaders and volunteers from Beeston were amongst those honoured at a special ‘Awards Afternoon’ held by Girlguiding Nottinghamshire on Sunday, September 29. Taking place at Ramsdale Golf Club in Calverton, the event marked the hard work and dedication of some 60 members of Girlguiding Nottinghamshire and included long-service awards to 15 women who have devoted a combined total of more than 530 years to Guiding.

In addition to the awards marking 30, 40 and 50 years of service, the afternoon saw presentations of Oak Leaf awards to show appreciation for commitment and loyalty to their unit, district or division or for the work carried out in overcoming difficulties and running a full and varied programme, to six local Guiders. The Nottinghamshire Star, for non-uniformed members or friends of Girlguiding, male or female, to show appreciation for the advice, support and help they give to enable Girlguiding to work in Nottinghamshire, was awarded to 12 non-uniformed volunteers, together with nine Queen’s Guide Awards and eight special ‘Thanks’ badges given by County Commissioner Kate Royse as a personal gesture of appreciation for ‘going the extra mile’ for Guiding.

Entertainment for the award winners and their guests was provided from 1st Daybrook Brownies. Kate Royse, after presenting the awards, said: “We all enjoyed a lovely afternoon of celebration. “Girlguiding Nottinghamshire is proud to acknowledge the service and achievements of its members, especially those who keep on Guiding under difficult circumstances. The commitment shown by our leaders and volunteers ensures that Guiding continues to provide opportunities for girls and young women across Nottinghamshire to have fun and to develop their full potential in a safe, girl-only space.”

Enquiries about membership, volunteering and ways of working and achieving outcomes with safer streets are always welcome: contact county commissioner.”

Advice for safer streets

DEAR EDITOR, The Labour county council was elected in May following a manifesto commitment to make streets around schools safer with 20mph speed limits. The county’s ‘Transport’ committee has voted on detailed proposals, which included ‘advisory’ 20mph limits at schools in the county... except in Beeston. ‘Advisory’ means I could race past a busy school gate school at 29mph and still be legal. Nottinghamshire has one of the worst road accident rates in England outside London, whilst successive county council administrations have failed to tackle the problem. By contrast I note the very active role Nottingham city council is taking to improve road safety on the City’s streets, perhaps unitary councils have their advantages?

Name and Address Supplied

Robert Barnes

DEAR EDITOR: Many of your readers will have read letters from Australia by Robert Barnes, and perhaps wondered who he was. First of all, let me say that Bob died last Friday after a long fight with cancer, but he had a smile to the last. Bob came from Beeston, and he and I had been friends for 68 years. He never forgot Beeston and if ever I mentioned a road, he would tell me just where it was. Bob and Joyce, also from Beeston, did lots of things for people and if he is still about, one man would know what I mean – he was visited in prison by Bob and Joyce and when he came out, took him into his home and had him until he got a job and really made a go of his life – just one of the many things they did. Bob will be missed by many, so very many. He could make you smile, even if you didn’t feel like it.

So no more letters from Australia, but I for one will never forget him.

Cynthia Hage

Scott Avenue, Beeston

Pushing the frontiers

DEAR EDITOR: It has been brought to my attention that moves are possibly afoot to extend the city’s boundaries to take in Beeston, Chilwell and Stapleford. If this is so, I am sure it will be of great concern to local voters. Should this happen, I hope people realise it will bring local businesses within the city’s ‘Company Parking Levy’ and no doubt increase local car parking costs to match those of the city, to further supplement the cost of the tram. It may well also effect many aspects of our local Broxtowe Borough Council.

I would just like to say that I hope this is not true. If it is, then the councils involved should let the voters know – now.

Bob Heeley

UKIP voter, Chilwell

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Girlguiding Nottinghamshire’s County Commissioner Kate Royse (c) presents her ‘Thanks’ badge to Jo Ward (l) and Helen Robbins (second left), and Queen’s Guide Awards to Helen Sladen (second right) and Rebecca Drane (far right). Rebecca was also presented with a special Peer Educators award. All four recipients are from the Beeston Division.