

Gardens opened

GARDENS IN Thurcaston and Cropston will be open to visitors in June.

For the last two years Richard Hill School PTA have organised an Open Gardens weekend. Spokeswoman Linda Bennett said: "These have been a great success and much appreciated by many members of the community as well as raising funds for the school. We are therefore trying to make this an annual event and this year it will take place over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday June 27 and 28."

She added: "This year will see a slight change in that gardens in Thurcaston will be open on the Saturday 27 and gardens in Cropston on Sunday 28. We hope to have at least ten in each village of varying types - family gardens, a Japanese garden, and a water garden to name a few, as well as a plant swap. Do come along and join in this great community weekend."

The organisers are still looking for volunteers to open their gardens - contact Linda on 2363872.

Entrance will cost £4 per person, accompanied children are free and tickets will be valid for both days. They will be available on the day from either the gardens themselves or from Richard Hill School, Anstey Lane, Thurcaston. To purchase tickets in advance please contact richardhillpta@aol.com

Other activities will also be taking place that weekend - the Richard Hill School Summer Fair will be on the Saturday afternoon with cream teas, stalls, games and bouncy slide.

In addition the Thurcaston Cub group will be washing cars on the Saturday from 9am to 6pm in the Wheatheaf pub car park in Thurcaston. Anyone is welcome to drop in to get their car washed for £3.50.

For more details of this weekend please contact richardhillpta@aol.com or phone the PTA on 0116 2362503.

Club's good start

TENNIS teams in Birstall have made a flying start to the Leicestershire summer League season.

In their opening matches, five of the six teams representing Birstall Watermead Tennis Club won, with the sixth narrowly losing.

Remarkably, three of the men's four teams won by the same margin, 8-1, on the same evening!

Early success began when the men's first team beat Syston Northfields third team 5-4 at home. Meanwhile, Birstall Watermead's second team defeated Hinckley Town's second team 8-1 away.

The men's third team carried on the impressive start by beating Rothley Ivanhoe's fifth team 8-1 away, and to cap a great night and a consistent scoreline, the men's fourth team thrashed Hamilton's fourths 8-1 away.

The ladies' first team opened their account with a 7-2 away victory against Victoria's seconds, while the ladies' second team lost a tight encounter 5-4 at home to Loughborough Greenfields.

Birstall Watermead T.C. has welcomed back two former players to the club - Andrew Hutchinson, and Ian Bartlett.



THE NEW season is now well under way and we have managed to dodge the rain and have played all our games so far.

The 1st Team started with two winning draws against Newbold Verdon and Huncote and followed up with two wins against Appleby Magna and Burton on the Wolds. This has left them 2nd in the Premier Division so this is a great start.

The 2nd Team started with a win against Newbold Verdon 2nds and a losing draw against Huncote. This was then followed by a loss against Braunstone Cricketers leaving them midtable in Division 2. This is a good start for the 2nds as due to losing a few players some of the Junior players are being given a chance and they have all played well. Joe Carnan, Josh Pacey and Aaron Headley have come into the side and have all bowled well and have been taking wickets.

The Midweek Team have started with two wins against Anstey & Glenfield and Bardon Hill.

Roll Of Honour

- Andy Galpin - 69 v Newbold Verdon
- Josh Saye - 112 v Huncote
- Dave Sharpe - 56 v Appleby Magna
- Liam Grest - 63 v Newbold Verdon 2nds
- Mick Jones - 5/26 v Braunstone Cricketers

On the Junior front the Under 11s had a disappointing start. They were all ready and raring to go but the opposition couldn't raise a side and pulled out at the last minute.

The Under 15s have lost their first three games which sounds disappointing but this is a new team and they have been playing against three good teams. They are all Birstall lads and have a good team spirit so hopefully results will improve over the season.

All in all it's been a good start to the season and there is a positive feel around the Club. It's nice to have some local youngsters playing for us. These will hopefully play for the Club for a number of years and keep us going in the future. It also shows that not all young lads are causing trouble around the village and that they can make a contribution to their local community.

From Andy Merry

Planning

Land adjacent to 237 Birstall Rd - retention of 2.25m high gates and pillars at front of house

8 Denegate Ave - erection of single storey extension to side and rear of dwelling

42 Wanlip Lane - alteration to extension from hipped roof to gabled roof

The Mulberry Tree, White Horse Lane - to fit clear plastic roof on pergola garden, fit decking on top of damaged slabs, create children's play area, level lawn on second tier and cut back trees fronting river

The White Horse Inn, White Horse Lane - felling of 1 ash tree and trimming of 2 lime trees, 1 poplar tree and 4 ash trees

27 Woodgate Drive - single storey side extension

65 Stonehill Ave - erection of conservatory to rear

20 Briargate Drive - erection of two storey extension to side and single storey extension to rear of dwelling

St Pauls Filling Station, Loughborough Rd - installation of 2 internally illuminated free standing single sided display units.

Unit 3, 121 Sibson Road - change of use to restaurant/hot food takeaway (Class A5)

51 Worcester Ave - erection of single storey extension to front, side and rear of dwelling

Needle injury

A SEVEN year old boy was injured by a discarded hypodermic needle he found on the Greengate Lane allotments.

The boy was with his mother and five year old brother at the time. The mother, who does not wish to be named, said: "I went to our allotment after school with my two sons when the oldest told me he'd found a needle and it had stuck in his finger. I felt sick with panic."

She washed her son's wound for 10 minutes and took him to hospital where he was given an injection for hepatitis and a blood sample was taken.

"I want parents to be aware that their child may find a needle and they need to explain to them what to do if they do find one" said the mother.

Official advice if you find a discarded hypodermic needle is to not try to dispose of it yourself but call Charnwood Borough Council's cleansing service on 01509 634563 or email cleansing@charnwood.gov.uk.

If you sustain a needlestick injury you should encourage bleeding and wash the wound with soap and water, then go to your GP or the hospital's A&E unit. There is a small risk of infection from a range of viruses and other blood borne diseases including hepatitis C, hepatitis B and HIV.

Birstall Scouts join parade

BIRSTALL'S BEAVER, Cub and Scout members put their best foot forward to take part in this year's St George's Day Parade.

Around 40 scouts were taken to Leicester to join up with hundreds of scouts from across the county. They were led by two scout marching bands as they paraded through the town centre and met up at Leicester cathedral.

It was a proud day for Jonathan Rumball (8) carrying the flag at the front of the Birstall Group, his final duty in Beavers before moving on to Cubs. Jonathan was doubly happy as he has also earned his Chief Scout Bronze award in the process.



Group Scout Leader Vic Dolby said: "The boys were a credit to Birstall and to the scouting movement." Pic (top): (left) Jonathan Rumball (8) and Jacob Clarke (6)

Home library service

IF YOU love to read but find it difficult to get to your library because you are elderly or disabled, or because you are caring for someone at home, the Home Library Service is for you.

The service provided by the Leicestershire Library Service is absolutely free and provides access to a huge range of books, including books in large print and talking books. Music CDs are also available and a DVD subscription service for a small charge.

A spokesman said: "Signing up for the service couldn't be easier. We will visit you to discuss your choice of books or music, and a volunteer will then visit regularly to deliver the items to your home. Alternatively, arrangements can be made so that a friend or relative can collect books and other items on your behalf."

If you would like to receive the Home Library Service or want to find out more, please contact your local library or call 0116 3056988. You can also email: libraries@leics.gov.uk or visit our website at www.leics.gov.uk/homelibraryservice

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