



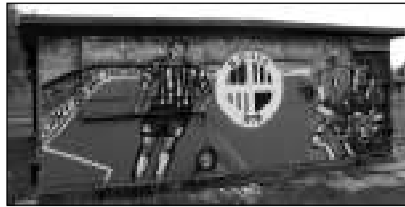
New pavilion artwork

YOUNG PEOPLE working with graffiti artists have transformed a Birstall sports pavilion.



Around 30 young people worked together to create a design on the Birstall United Juniors Clubhouse on Meadow Lane with artists Dones and Emtea from Kolor-blindesignz.

The artwork depicts the BUJFC badge, a footballer, bmx riders, skateboarders and a granny on a mobility scooter.



Money for the project was provided by Charnwood Borough Council after County Council Youth workers in Birstall put in a bid for funding.

Phil Hughes from BUJFC said: "We are absolutely delighted with the new painting on the clubhouse and would like to express our thanks to County Council youth workers and Charnwood for making this possible. We would also like to thank the artists Dave and Jack and the helpers who included several members of our club. It's fantastic that our members were given the opportunity to contribute to this community project, to help brighten up our little corner of Birstall."

After completing work at the pavilion, the group moved on to Birstall Youth Centre on the Longslade campus where they decorated walls with a welcome sign.

Pic (below left): Artists Dones and Emtea with some of the young people who worked on the graffiti project, pictured above



Praise for volunteer

A VOLUNTEER youth worker has been praised for helping young people with no thought of reward other than the pleasure he gets from creating memories they will cherish forever.

Mark Hickenbotham (46) has been a youth worker at St Theresa's church, Birstall for more than 20 years – he now runs the weekly St Theresa's Youth Club for 8 to 13 year olds.

"I think he's an absolute angel" says fellow Youth Worker Mandy Gamble. "He's always happy and enthusiastic and his whole concern is for young people, giving them something to do and keeping them happy".

She added: "The young people have a lot of respect for him and many don't realise he does it all for nothing. It takes a special person to do what he's doing."

Every August during the school holidays Mark organises a week of day-trips for young people – this year he took a coach load of 70 to Waterworld, Skegness, Alton Towers, the GCR and on a canal boat trip

Fr Keith Tomlinson is the priest at St Theresa's. He said: "Mark has my whole hearted support for the work he's doing. He's a solid worker, gets on well with people, is very friendly with everyone and very good with the children who all like him. He's sacrificed a lot and gives his time very generously."

Mark's Youth Group meets every Sunday at St Theresa's from 6-8pm. Admission is free, the group is open to all and there are 35 members. Activities are planned by the young people and include dance, drama, arts, crafts, quizzes and play as well as themed food nights.

Mark said: "What's important is the young people themselves, giving them confidence and helping them be positive in life, giving them the opportunity to mix with others and make friends and seeing adults setting a good example by treating each other with compassion."

"It's so rewarding, if you put others first you're halfway there. On the trip to Skegness this year we took some young people who would not normally go on a trip like this – to see the look of awe on their faces when they saw the sea for the first time, that is my reward. I think these are memories they will keep forever."

Mark finances the group by holding regular car boot sales, selling items donated by parishioners, and says he could not continue the group without this support and the help he gets from helpers and parents.

For more details about the group contact Mark on 2203628.

Pic: Mark Hickenbotham (centre) with young people on a trip to Skegness

Bowls club top class

FOUR LADIES from Birstall Bowling Club recently competed in the English National Championships at Leamington Spa.

Sue Wilson, Pa Walker, Jan Everitt and Diane Hurst played four matches, reaching the last 16 in the country.

The preliminary round saw them ease past a team from Bridport, Dorset 22-12. In the first round they came up against one of the favourites for the competition, a rink from Kings, Torquay, who included two England internationals in their line up.

A close game saw Birstall leading 14-13 with three ends to go, before conceding five on end 19 which made them four shots behind. They managed

to pick up four on end 20 to level the score going into the last end. A superb bowl from skip Diane Hurst saw Birstall edge home by the narrowest of margins, 19-18.

Round two was far easier with Birstall getting through 23-13 against four from Victoria Park, Kent. The last 16 clash against a team from Eastnor, Herefordshire, started in appalling weather conditions. During the rain, Birstall slumped to a 1-19 deficit before a break in the clouds saw a brief resurgence. This was not enough however and the wet towel was thrown in after 18 ends with Birstall trailing 8-23.

In the Leicester City and District Parks finals Birstall once again dominated, winning four of the six competitions.

Dave Clarke won the singles by beating Oadby's Kevin Berry 21-5. Last years mixed pairs runners up went one better this year. Pa and John Walker beat Veronica Hogg and Dave Brooks (Abbey Park) by one shot 19-18. Grahame White and Dave Clarke won the pairs, beating Abbey Park's Harold Palmer and Alan Gutteridge 20-18. Dennis Measom, Andy Wye (substituting for Stuart Hartop) and Dave Clarke won the triples 23-16 against a team from Oadby skipped by Alan Sharman. Stuart Hartop was a singles semi finalist and Roy Nutting and John Lee reached the semi final of the senior citizens pairs.

Finally, a play off win against Leicester meant that Birstall's men are promoted to the first division of the Leicester League for next season.

More information is on the club website www.birstallbowling.co.uk

From Andy Wye

REGISTERED OSTEOPATH
ROBIN BATTEN Bsc (Hons) B.Ost

- Neck and back pain
- All muscle and joint pain
- Sports injuries • Arthritic pain
- Sciatica and repetitive strain injuries
- Headaches and stress

DAY, EVENING & WEEKEND APPOINTMENTS

0116 2674066 mob: 07872 620809
 robinbatten@aol.com

Safe Hands

jpm
 air conditioning ltd

Design, Installation & Service
 Maintenance, Hire & Sales,
 Sub Contracting

- Mitsubishi • Daikin
- Fujitsu • Hitachi
- Toshiba & More

Tel: 07816 456389

Heating & cooling air conditioning for conservatories, lounges, bedrooms or the work place

At Very Competitive Prices As No Overheads

FREE 70, Jean Drive, Leicester LE4 0GD
 Quotations 0116 2674066
 email: jpc@aircon.co.uk

NOW OPEN!

The NEW Day-Today Store

1a Kingsgate Avenue, Birstall LE4 3HD

BEAT THE CRUNCH
 Lower prices right on your doorstep

We offer you a local, reliable and friendly service for all your daily needs, all at unbeatable prices

OPEN
 Mon-Sat: 9am-9pm
 Sun: 5-9pm

Look out for our weekly & three weekly promotions

OFF LICENCE • GROCERY • FRESH FRUIT & VEG
CHILLED & FROZEN FOODS • FRESH FLOWERS
MOBILE TOP UP • WE ACCEPT CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS

FREE PARKING IN FRONT OF THE SHOP

Electrician

Registered part P **M E E I C**
 DOMESTIC INSTALLER

- Fuse board upgrades
- Garage/Shed supplies
- Garden/Security lighting
- Extensions
- Rewiring
- Additional sockets/lights
- Landlord certificates
- PAT testing
- All work guaranteed

Metric
 Electrical Services
 Jon Bradshaw

Hill Rise, Birstall, Leicester
 0116 2108591 or 07808259437

Furnishings for your home and conservatory

CK Windows

Sofas, 3 Piece suites,
 Chairs, Coffee tables,
 Table lamps.
 Breakfast set
 £199.00

Sofas from £240 Chairs from £140
 Visit our showroom between Birstall & Rothley A6, Loughborough road
 Telephone 0116 2875778

Free local delivery