

WORD ON THE WEB

You have your say on stories published on the Mail's website each day:

DRIVERS SAY THEY'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THE POTHOLES BLIGHTING BURTON'S ROADS

Posted by grubmuncher

Looks like Burton is the last one in the queue for road repair money from Staffordshire. I have reported potholes numerous times but guess what they only got bigger. SORT IT OUT!

Posted by ABSwad

Has everyone tried bombarding the Staffordshire County Council pothole report system on their website? Worth a try. Reported the potholes on Burton Bridge and they were done inside a week. Get friends and family involved! Seems like it's the only way.

TATENHILL VICAR SAYS 'WE'RE NOT ALL RELIGIOUS NERDS AND BIBLE BASHERS' IN BID TO SAVE CHURCH

Posted by Swadbloke

In a time of recession and cutbacks people start to seriously look at where their money goes. If the congregation cannot afford to keep the church open, then it should be time for them to cut back as well. The time when communities would rally round the church has gone, as less and less people now want to take part. Can't afford it? Sell the land for housing, use the money to rent or build a much smaller building more suited to the needs of the congregation.

TV LICENCE PROSECUTIONS ARE 'UNFAIR ON THE POOR'

Posted by ramsfan76

The licence fee also covers its local radio output and its internet output, both of which are invaluable to many who work away from home for periods of time or even overseas on occasions, like I have. Ad breaks would ruin the programmes. I feel the licence fee is justified.

Posted by choccy

I personally can't abide adverts, I'd sooner pay the licence fee.

'VITAL A38 CHANGES HAVE TO HAPPEN OR DRIVERS WILL DIE' SAYS BURTON'S MP

Posted by nikfantastic

Everyone should stop getting their knickers in a twist about the three objectors. As much as I disagree with their objection the law, process, procedure and democratic ethos of our constitution affords them a voice.

Posted by moonshine39

The speed limit is very necessary. I used to travel to Birmingham daily and certainly from the standard of some drivers who through their own selfishness wish to get there before anyone else! The road is too narrow and is not built for speed especially as you approach Fradley with the large lorries exiting and joining the carriageway. Sadly and all to often I have seen drivers travelling at excessive speeds contrary to the road conditions only to be halted a few miles later when they become involved in a pile-up.

The public cannot dictate the speed limit but the statistics on incidents can as we have seen from this ruling.

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HELPING HAND ... Katherine Sinfield delivers some shoeboxes packed with goodies which will be sent to serving soldiers who are based in Afghanistan.

Charity bike ride success raises £2k for good causes

by Rob Smyth

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A CANCER survivor has revealed the grand total she raised following a mammoth charity bike ride – and how she is also doing her bit to support soldiers fighting for their country.

Katherine Sinfield revealed that a total of £2,001.23 was raised as a result of the BONE-shaker MARROW-thon event, which saw hundreds of bikers travel from Birmingham to Burton to raise money for three charities which helped her in her battle with leukaemia and her efforts to recover from a bone marrow transplant.

The 33-year-old, who lives in Balfour Street, also revealed that prizes left over following a fun day held at the Pirelli

Stadium after the bike ride have been packaged up and sent to soldiers currently serving in Afghanistan.

She said: "We are thrilled to have raised such an impressive amount from our first fund-raising ride – especially when you consider that the weather was against us on the day."

"Feedback from riders has been overwhelmingly positive and supportive – we are therefore seriously considering running a similar ride next year. The format may change slightly as we are tempted to just focus on the ride, the raffle and refreshments with the fun day taking on a separate entity on another date."

"The BONE-shaker MARROW-thon is set to snowball in the coming years

'We are thrilled to have raised such an impressive amount from our first fund-raising ride'

Katherine Sinfield

especially now that the inaugural ride was such a success. Watch this space".

The teacher also explained how some of the leftovers from the event will be placed into shoeboxes for soldiers.

She added: "More than a hundred bikers ventured out to support my event last week, so this is my way of supporting some of those who supported me."

"We have a lot of excess tombola prizes left and so we have packaged them together along with a few sweets, pens and snacks to fill two shoeboxes full of goodies ready for a special bike ride for soldiers."

"We did not take part so we ventured across to Halesowen to deliver the boxes to the organisers."

The event travelled from Birmingham to the National Memorial Arboretum.

Food parcel figures soar

THE number of emergency food parcels doubled last month compared to the same period last year, new Burton Salvation Army figures have revealed.

In February, the Burton branch delivered a total of 86 – 40 more than the same time last year – serving 116 adults and 69 children.

It brings the total supplied this year to 172 parcels (90 in 2013), and this has served 232 adults and 150 children.

Nine referrals for food parcels came from YMCA hostels, and 14 from Trent & Dove Housing, while others have come from social services and schools.

The food parcels are for seven days. The Salvation Army has provided food this year so far to 382 individuals, which equates to 2,674 days' worth of meals, so far this year.

Anyone wishing to donate food or cash can phone Major Jane Morris on 01283 563627, or Vic Wileman on 01889 564117.

All contributions will be used to help those most in need locally.

What do YOU think?

Email us at editorial@burtonmail.co.uk or visit www.burtonmail.co.uk

Nominations welcomed for 2014 'Fire Service Champion'

PEOPLE in East Staffordshire are being asked to show their appreciation for those involved with the county's fire and rescue service by submitting nominations for the 'Fire Service Champion' of 2014 awards.

The ceremony, which is now in its seventh year, recognises both teams and individual members of staff for their outstanding contributions to Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service. In total there are awards handed out across nine categories, but the Fire Service Champion accolade will be decided by members of the community.

Nominations should be for people who have demonstrated a real community spirit or have gone beyond the call of duty to support people to overcome difficult situations.

Chief executive Peter Dartford urged residents not to miss out on the chance to nominate their champion. He said: "This is a really important category in the awards as the communities of Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent can



ISSUING A CALL ... Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service chief executive Peter Dartford.

nominate who they think has gone the extra mile and really made a difference to their lives.

"It would be wonderful to hear some really inspiring stories from the people that we serve so I would encourage residents to submit their nominations as soon as possible to make sure they don't miss out on the chance to vote."

Voting closes on March 31.