



HELP PLEA . . . Katherine Sinfield is urging people to help their fellow man by joining the bone marrow donor register.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Beer garden plan survives protest

A SOLO protest against a pub's decision to build a beer garden and children's play area has been defeated.

Planning chiefs at North West Leicestershire District Council unanimously approved the proposal lodged by the Halfway House, in Donisthorpe.

Neighbour Niki Whitehouse had claimed building out from the pub would infringe on her human rights.

Landlord Peter Riley had laughed off the complaint but admitted it did plant a seed of doubt in his mind.

He said: "I was quietly confident but when anyone objects to anything there is always a bit of doubt."

More than £100,000 is being spent on the play area.

Volunteer scheme in funding boost

A VOLUNTEER group has scooped a share of a £2 million funding boost.

NHS England the Royal Voluntary Service East Midlands division, which covers South Derbyshire, will be one of eight projects receiving cash to help provide extra support when people are discharged from hospital, such as older people living alone without a support network.

David McCullough, Royal Voluntary Service chief executive, said: "We know that the right help on a return home from a hospital stay can make a huge difference to the health and wellbeing of older patients."

Man charged with criminal damage

A MAN has been charged with criminal damage in connection with an incident that happened in Burton.

Police were called out to the scene at approximately 7.15pm on Friday August 8, after a report of a disturbance at a house on South Uxbridge Street.

When police arrived they found that 31-year-old Richard Clarke, of Broadway Street, had been with causing criminal damage to the front door of a property.

He has been granted bail and is to appear at Burton Magistrates' Court later this month.

Pet preference a shock to leukaemia survivor

By Rob Smyth

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A SHOCKING new survey has shown that more people in Burton and South Derbyshire are more likely to help their pet than help a stranger whose life is at risk.

A poll conducted for the blood cancer charity Anthony Nolan found that 75 per cent of people in both areas would be willing to help their pet if it was in danger or needed help but only 50 per cent would put their lives at risk or decided to help out to save their fellow man or woman.

The survey also showed that only 62 per cent of people would go out of their way to help save the life of a teenager in the area.

Now, charity chiefs are hoping to use these shocking statistics to help bolster the number of people signed up to donate bone marrow.

Anthony Nolan chief executive Henny Braund spoke to the Mail.

She said: "These findings have raised thought provoking questions around how far we would each go to save a stranger's life.

"We can all be guilty of seeing a stranger in need and assuming someone else will

help the person in need out

"But every day, three amazing donors give someone the chance of life by donating their stem cells, without knowing anything about the person they are helping.

"That is quite remarkable."

The statistics showed that less than one per cent of people in Burton and South Derbyshire are on the Anthony Nolan register.

Katherine Sinfield was the centrepiece of the Mail's Take Five Minutes campaign to try and bolster the number of bone marrow donors.

The 33-year-old teacher, of Balfour Street, Burton, fought back after being diagnosed with leukaemia with only a bone marrow transplant saving her life.

Ever since, Mrs Sinfield has been campaigning for more people to sign up and become bone marrow donors and potentially save a life one day.

Tell us your views – would you act to save a life, or does your pet come first?

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Katherine said: "Through education we can hopefully dispel the many myths and scare stories surrounding stem cell donation and increase these figures.

"What's worrying is that these statistics relate to lives.

"We're not talking about materialistic objects, we're talking about giving someone – maybe someone close to you in your family – a chance of survival."

Figures released by Anthony Nolan, a UK blood cancer charity, show there are currently 508 people from Burton on the register, compared to more than 600 in the mid-Derby area.

Burton is currently ranked 515th out of 650 areas in the UK for donors.

Bone marrow transplants are used to help patients suffering from lymphoma, anaemia and leukaemia.

Mrs Sinfield added: "We need lots of young, healthy people to sign up to the register to help save more lives."

She is now working with Burton and South Derbyshire College to try and boost the number of youngsters prepared to donate.

More information on how to potentially save a stranger's life is available by heading online to www.anthonynolan.org/strangers

'What's worrying is that these statistics relate to lives'

Katherine Sinfield

Trial date set for man who caused evacuation

A DATE has been set for the trial of a man who was charged with two explosive offences after 200 people were evacuated from their homes in South Derbyshire.

Glenn Robinson, of Belvoir Crescent, Newhall, appeared at Derby Crown Court yesterday.

He is charged with one offence under Section 2 of the Explosive Substances Act 1883 (cause an explosion likely to endanger life), one offence under Section 4 of the same act (make an explosive substance for an unlawful purpose) and the production of cannabis.

A date of January 12 was set for a three to four day trial and Robinson, 55, was remanded into custody.

Robinson, who wore a grey t-shirt and grey jogging bottoms, will next appear at Derby Crown Court for a plea and case management hearing on November 24.

Robinson was arrested from his home on Saturday, July 26, and up to 200 people were evacuated from their homes and a 100-metre cordon placed around the flat.

Many people spent the night at the nearby Pingle School.



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Warning over fake bank card callers

POLICE are warning residents about a scam where fraudsters con people to obtain their bank account details and debit cards.

Derbyshire Police revealed that a fraudster has been calling victims and pretending to work for the bank they have an account with, telling the victim there has been fraudulent activity on their account across the area.

They ask the victim for their PIN and then

tell them a courier will be sent to the house of the victim to collect their debit cards.

They encourage the victim to ring their bank to clarify the call is genuine but do not hang up, leaving the phone line open.

When the victim believes they are dialling their bank, they are actually speaking to another fraudster on the same line, who then confirms the fraudulent transactions.

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