Beer cheer surprise for Branoc

A PROUD mum chose a fitting place to wish her son a happy 18th birthday – a brewery.

Sarah Richards dreamt up the surprise visit to mark the special occasion as her first-born, Branoc, shares his name with a beer it produces.

The trip to Branscombe Vale Brewery went down a treat with the teen – who was delighted to be handed a batch of the bitter by owner Paul Dimond.

Colyton Grammar School student Branoc, of Winslade Road in Sidmouth, is yet to crack open a bottle as he is currently sitting his A-levels. He has landed a university place at Oxford to study engineering. The beers have taken pride of place in his bedroom.

"It was such a surprise and a great thing to do," said Branoc.

▲ Branoc Richards on his 18th birthday with a bottle of the local brew given to him from Branscombe Brewery which has his name on it.
Photo by Terry Ife ref shb 3095-22-13TI

Donkey Sanctuary hosts new farmers' market event at HQ

FRESH local produce and goods are on offer tomorrow (Saturday, June 15), from 9am to noon, at the first-ever farmers' market at The Donkey Sanctuary's HQ in Sidmouth.

Organisers say it will be a 'great opportunity' to purchase bakery products, homemade chutneys, jams, pickles, and local meat.

The market is at Slade House Farm, Sidmouth. Admission is free.

The market is set to become a regular feature and will run every third Saturday of the month from June to October.

Sidbury speedsters subject for concern

SPEEDING and illegal parking are causes for concern for the people of Sidbury according to a recent survey – but a proposed employment site remained the hottest topic.

A team from East Devon District Council's (EDDC) environmental health department heard that many motorists drive at double the 20mph speed limit, often around blind bends.

Poorly parked vehicles are creating chaos for buses which cannot fit through, while one resident reported their house was suffering a barrage from large vehicles.

But the most diverse worries were about the possible development of a jobs hub north of Sidford, which EDDC has earmarked in its draft Local Plan.

Residents feared adverse effects on the aesthetics and the smell of sewage in Sidbury, as well as saying the plans were contrary to local wishes.

Homeowners also spoke of the problems of building on a flood plain, as many of them back onto the River Sid and have already been affected by rising water.

The neighbourhood assessment had responses from around 80 households on topics from roads to refuse, housing and crime.

It was carried out by volunteers and a Sidmouth PCSO, who heard that the village is relatively litter-free, but some waste was thrown by passing motorists, and there were also complaints of fly-tipping and dog fouling.

Most people said they feel safe in the village and are not affected by crime or antisocial behaviour.

Residents answered the questionnaire on March 1.

The issues that arose have been passed on to the relevant authorities.

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• Saturday 6 July 2013 - 10.00am
• Tuesday 9 July 2013 - 10.30am
• Saturday 7 September 2013 - 10.00am

Each programme will commence at the time given above and is scheduled to finish at approximately 11.30am. The basic format will be the same for each Open Morning comprising an introduction to the 11+ and a tour.

Applications for entry are available online at www.colytongrammar.devon.sch.uk
And further details are available from:
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