

## Slime time in garden

JOSEFZ DETECTS MUNCHERS P11

## GCSE RESULTS Full round-up

JOY AND TEARS OVER RESULTS P15 & 17

## Max sucks up to Paddy

PARROT ESCAPES JAWS P9

### BRIEFLY

## Conversion plan for former store is put on hold

PLANS to convert a former carpet store on Woodwell High Street into a bar have been put on hold following an application for flats of the same location.

The original proposal was to change the use of the building from retail to residential which was approved last year.

However an application made last week proposes the development of four, one-bedroom flats on the site.

Council officer Andrew Burton said: "It is the property owner who has put these plans in, if they are approved he will have to choose between the bar or the flats."

"The new bar was originally planned for the ground and the first floor but those flats are for the first and the second."

"It may be the applicant will re-apply to use just the ground floor for a bar."

The approval for the change of use from retail to residential will expire in April 2009.

# Two-bedroom house sleeps family of 12

By Carla George

A FAMILY of one living in a two-bedroom house have been forced to live in a tent as there are people in their 'shared room' according to Barnsley Council.

Laura Wardle, 30, has been living with her parents, her husband and their eight children on Hough Lane, Woodwell, for almost five months since her house was repossessed.

"The tent, as you can see, is not the best solution but we have no other choice," she said.

"We were told that we could be rehoused only after we had moved from the house into private accommodation, which we couldn't afford, or into a bed and breakfast in Sheffield, which was too far from my children's school."

"The family has now been on the housing register for 13 months but cannot be rehoused until families are out of the area."

Mrs Wardle said: "I have three children sleeping on the conservatory every day, three in the spare room and two with myself, my husband and my parents."

"How is that not urgent enough and how is it that people in other areas are more of a priority than us?"

Barnsley Housing Lettings manager, Bob Cartwright, said: "We are aware of Mr and Mrs Wardle's circumstances since their own home was repossessed and appreciate the difficult conditions they are being in currently."

"There is very high demand for our properties and we have to allocate properties under the strict rules of our housing policy and unfortunately for Mr and Mrs Wardle there are people who are more urgent need."

Commenting on the housing policy people who have a medical need, have a new baby, have a fire or are losing their home due to domestic violence or are over 60 and are on the housing priority list.

Mr Cartwright also confirmed that the council housing policy does not have any local housing criteria so people from any part of the borough can apply for vacancies in Woodwell.

Chris Jack, Wardle, said: "What chance do people have when there are only one or two houses coming available and at least to people applying for each one, that is how it is in Woodwell."

Chris Dawson White said: "There is a real problem in Woodwell and it is being made even worse by the fact that due to construction in other areas, houses are being knocked down and people are being rehoused to areas in Woodwell."

When the Chronicle spoke to Barnsley Housing further medical information has been obtained which an assessment has led to Mr and Mrs Wardle being awarded the highest priority and should help with their circumstances.



The two-bedroom forced property on Hough Lane, where Mrs Wardle, her husband, parents and eight children are living.



Headresser to the stars Barnsley's Julie Paton. She will be styling models for the catwalk at London Fashion Week next month having been selected through auditions. The 20-year-old, of Dovecot Drive, who works at Tots and Tots, went to London last month to compete against about 50 applicants. She said: "I don't know who I'll be working with exactly, all I know is I'll be there on September 18 and 19. It's really exciting." She will be based at the Natural History Museum in South Kensington. Picture: Jamie Lorrain

## Revamp for kids' home

SUMMERWELL, children's home, will receive an £800,000 refurbishment to provide a short break service and community resource centre for disabled children and their families.

The work on the home, at Newcourt Avenue, Woodwell, will see all nine units refurbished with modern facilities including six suite bedrooms.

There will be space available for services to be provided by specialist health care, social and leisure therapy and positive therapy services.

Council Leader Stephen, a council spokesperson, said: "This development is exciting news as it will provide additional, significant support for children and young people with disabilities as well as their families and carers."

The development of the facility will also play a significant role in Barnsley's response to the Government challenge, aiming 'High for Disabled Children.'

Council Leader Stephen said: "All these Woodwell children were consulted on the plans and so are all extremely pleased about them."

"We have got to move with the times and as it was the home was not fit for its purpose. It is good that we will see change and can keep it in Woodwell."

The development, which will take 12 months to complete, will also include the closure of the short break unit at Riverside, with young people using the new services in Woodwell.

Chris Dawson White said: "All three members visited the site and noticed it was a little tired and we are now delighted that it is going to get a makeover."

## Hoyland man puts his snaps online

A PHOTOGRAPHER has launched a website specifically for pictures in and around Hoyland.

Andy Harris, of Rother Croft, Hoyland, has put many of his own photographs on the website and has invited others to share their shots.

"This is only the second website I've done but with this one I wanted to have one based in the community I live in."

"Initially I just put my photos on there but now other people can show their photos on the website too."

Anyone interested should visit [www.hoylandphotos.co.uk](http://www.hoylandphotos.co.uk).

## Man, 33, found dead at his home

A BIRMINGHAM man was found hanged at his home on School Street.

The body of Richard Anwarhan Smith, 33, was discovered on Monday.

An inquest was opened and adjourned on Tuesday.



## Residents petition for action over pavements

A PETITION has been handed in to councillors asking for action to be taken on the maintenance of pavements on Altham House Lane, Woodwell.

Over 20 residents signed the petition describing the paths as "dangerous" and "unusable" with potholes and debris to improve them for 30 years.

Council Leader, 36, of Altham House Lane, said: "The pavement we think something should be done."

I have lived here for 31 years and remember when work started on the pavements, they told the house out and have never finished the job.



Nicola Wootch 18 celebrates her A/A results in Chemistry, Maths and History. Picture: Jamie Lorrain

## Family A-mazed with Nicola's exam results

A STUDENT from Hoyland has A-mazed her family and friends with her exam results.

Nicola Wootch, from Broadacre Road, was celebrating after she got the top grades in Chemistry, History, Maths and an art and design A's.

The Sheffield High pupil said she was over the moon about her achievements.

She said: "I am pleased and couldn't believe it when I was offered them. I was very relieved."

"I felt so nervous the night before as I'd worked so hard for it and it was just a relief."

The 18-year-old will now study history at the University of Bristol next month.

"It was just a matter of submitting the subjects."

"I know I didn't want to do maths or chemistry and I did really enjoy doing history."

"I'm looking forward to getting started."

### SUMMER SALE FINAL WEEK

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