

IN BRIEF

Pop along to charity jumble sale in village

THE Grimsby and Cleethorpes Ladybird Club are holding a charity jumble sale at the Waltham British Legion on Saturday, February 4. Doors open at 11am and admission to the event is 50p. Everyone is encouraged to come down and help support a charity that does so much work for others.

Parish council meeting

WALTHAM Parish Council will meet in the reading room at the library on High Street on Tuesday, February 7 at 7pm. The meeting is open to the public and is an opportunity to get involved in village life. There will be a public forum during which matters of concern can be raised.



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NEWS



GET TESTED: Volunteers for the Cancer Collaborative Eileen Clark and Mary Wheatley had a stand inside Boyes on Freeman Street. Picture: Abby Ruston

Ladies - when did you last go for your test?

Group is raising awareness during Cervical Cancer Prevention Week

CERVICAL Cancer Prevention Week returns next week and the Health & Wellbeing programme want women to understand how important it is for them not to miss their screenings.

From tomorrow up to Saturday, January 28, health professionals will be out and about promoting the signs and symptoms to look out for. This year advice will be uploaded on Twitter and Facebook using #ThinkCervical

In Grimsby, volunteers for the Cancer Collaborative Eileen Clark and Mary Wheatley had a stand inside Boyes on Freeman Street.

Eileen said: "Today we are promoting cervical cancer and this is a month long event they are running, to all ladies to look after their health. We both started 10 years ago because North East Lincolnshire were the worst in the country for smears. Over the ten years smear tests in this area have gone up but it has dropped recently from people not attending.

"One big thing is now young girls are being called during age 24 so they are on the graph for age 25, to get a true reading of what it is like. A lot of young girls are frightened to

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go. It's a really soft small brush, not as bad as they think. A female nurse will do it, so girls feel more comfortable and it is over within minutes. Recently a specialist told us one reason some girls don't go is because their partners don't like the idea of it and stop them from going. Just go because it's to take care of their own health."

Fellow volunteer Mary continued: "People have been very receptive and very pleasant, this one elderly lady took all our different leaflets to give to her friends and nieces to tell them about the importance. Any ladies who have been for smears recently can write down their tales on forms we have and write their story of it being not as bad as they thought."

Smear Tests save the lives of over 75 per cent of women who are diagnosed with cervical cancer each year but statistics currently show that one in four women miss their appointments because they do not see it as a priority. Every day nine women are told they have cervical cancer and three of them will die from it.

From the age of 25 it is important to be booked in for a smear test and from then you have one every three years up until the age of 64.

A smear test consists of an examination of the cervix which only lasts five minutes using a very small brush which then gets sent to the lab for tests to see if any abnormal cells are present or not.

If abnormalities show, the majority can be fully cured but for those who do develop cervical cancer, the alternative would be either radiation therapy or even surgery depending on severity.

One of the most common symptoms is random spots of bleeding between periods and the majority of the time cervical cancer can be developed through a sexually transmitted disease.

Changes in the cells of the cervix are often caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV). There are over 100 types of HPV, they vary from high risk to low risk.

Schools, colleges, post offices and community areas are all asked to get involved with #ThinkCervical, #SmearforSmear or #CCPW and print off posters and leaflets to promote awareness.



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Resort car park reopens following protests from residents

A POPULAR Cleethorpes car park that had been closed for the winter months, has reopened following an outcry from town residents.

The car park outside

Thorpe Park on Anthonys Bank Road, was meant to be closed until March 1, with the owners of the car park, Thorpe Park, citing a lack of visitors to the park and staff as a

reason for closing the car park.

There was an immediate outcry from local residents who enjoy using the car park all year long as it provides

convenient access to a section of the beach that is accessible throughout the year and very popular with dog walkers, windsurfers and other beachgoers.