

Family fun day held in memory of biker

A FUN-FILLED day for all the family is being held in memory of a biker.

Petesparty will be held at the Shoulder of Mutton pub in Ashby on Saturday, August 29.

The event is now in its fourth year and is organised in honour of Pete Banks, who died in a motorcycle accident.

Money raised goes towards the charity Riders for Health.

Previous fun days have collectively raised £10,000 which has helped to provide health workers in Africa with reliable transport.

Attractions on the day will include a bouncy castle, raffle, barbecue and auction.

Entertainment will be provided by a magician and bands in the evening.

Admission is free and the event will run from 9am to midnight.

CORRECTION: Monthly meetings

IN 31/7 The Times stated that meetings for Whitwick and District University of the Third Age held their meetings weekly.

The U3A meetings are in fact held monthly, with the next event taking place on Friday, August 21.

Liz Singleton, the LOROS lottery manager, will be visiting the group to give another interesting talk.

SUCCESS FOR LOCAL COMPANY

Amethyst recognised for providing outstanding customer care and tutor support for learners

By BEN HALL

A LOCAL company is celebrating its success at an awards ceremony.

Amethyst Multimedia Solutions was honoured at the East Midlands Learndirect Achievement Awards, held at Derby County's Pride Park Stadium, in July.

The company, based in Coalville, won the Learndirect

Centre of the Year Award, sponsored by Becta, which recognises Learndirect centres which have provided outstanding customer care and tutor support for their learners, in addition to using technology innovatively in order to provide support by e-learning for businesses and individuals.

On their recognition for this achievement, John Harrison from Amethyst said: "This award is for the people of

Coalville, recognising that, of the 800 or so adult training centres in England, theirs is one of the very best."

Amethyst, which has consistently topped regional performance league tables for the past four years, is involved in various outreach projects in the area and makes vital contributions to regional and national training development.

Jane Williams, Executive

Director for Further Education, Regeneration and Delivery at award sponsors, Becta, said: "We are delighted to be involved in an award which so clearly rewards organisations who use the benefits of technology to create a more exciting, rewarding and successful experience for learners of all ages and abilities, enabling them to achieve their potential."

"We offer our sincere con-

gratulations to all the winners."

The team at Amethyst has also developed an excellent working relationship with Jobcentre Plus, and is currently regarded as one of the top learning providers in the region.

Amethyst will now go on to represent the East Midlands and the National Awards Ceremony in London, taking place on October 19.



ARIA FOODS LIMITED HIGHLY COMMENDED IN CEREMONY

A LOCAL company has excelled in a business awards ceremony.

Aria Foods Ltd, based in Ashby-de-la-Zouch, was highly commended in the Large Company Award category at the East Midlands Learndirect Achievement Awards, held at Derby County's Pride Park Stadium, in July.

The company was recognised as a business which has supported

Learndirect training, demonstrating the positive effect it can have in supporting and achieving business goals.

Angela Sankey, Ufi East Midlands Regional Performance Director, said: "The winners and highly commended finalists in the East Midlands have shown exceptional determination, and have gone that extra mile to support others in learning new skills and

encourage their staff to improve their qualifications.

"They are an inspiration to businesses and Learndirect centres across England, and truly deserve recognition."

Aria Foods has been working to deliver business improvement courses to more than 30 learners at its Ashby factory.

Since the introduction of the scheme, improvements can be seen throughout the factory, thanks to production efficiency techniques across distribution, the main office and on the factory floor.

A spokesman from the company said: "Aria Foods now has a better trained workforce, clearer communication between colleagues and overall increases in profitability."