

# Burngreave Messenger



## Voice of the Burngreave Community

Including: Pitsmoor, Ellesmere, Carwood, Firhill, Fir Vale, Pye Bank, Shirecliffe and Woodside

### Burngreave Community Radio

R'n'B, Soul, Dance, Reggae,  
Hip Hop, Africa Beat, World  
Music, local bands, BNDfC  
election coverage, community  
news and more...

# 96.1FM

## 25 June – 22 July

Funding to be confirmed



Get in touch if you  
want to get involved

0773 987 8596 or 273 1040

aishaspecialk\_sct@hotmail.com

aisha@bndfc.co.uk



Burngreave Sports Network Presents

# BURNGREAVE MILE RUN 2005

another day of sports fun and activities

## Sunday 19th June 10am

Starting line: Abbeyfield Park S4

Finish line: Petre Street playing fields S3

children's fun run

10:00 am

1 mile: age 14 and under

teens fun run

11:00 am

1 mile: age 19 and under

1 mile pram push

10:30 am

carers and babies

Open to all Race

11:30 am

1 mile: age open

All races will end at Petre St playing fields where there will be games, bouncy castles, music, food stalls, drinks, community information stalls and plenty of fun.

Running contestants can register before the race by calling 0114 272 8008 stating which heat they wish to enter.

Registration on the day begins at 9:00am.

All contestants must register 1 hour before your race.

## Abbeyfield Park Multicultural Festival

## Summer of fun

**Planning ahead for the summer? Make sure you get Burngreave's events in your diary.**

First up is the Mile Run (left) and then the summer fairs at Firs Hill School 22nd June 2–4pm, St Catherine's School 25th June 1.30–3.30pm, and Firs Hill TARA 2nd July 1–4pm. Then Abbeyfield Multicultural Festival (below), and Osgathorpe Jam One Love Festival (page 20). Don't forget Pitsmoor Adventure Playground's free trip to Alton Towers (page 20) and New Deal are off to the seaside (page 15).

And all this with a soundtrack from Burngreave Community Radio (above). This year it will be helping to promote the New Deal elections, the deadline for ballots is 11th July, alongside the usual amazing mix of music, interviews and community news.

If your group has something planned for the summer, get in touch with so we can put it in the next issue – due out on 16th July. The New Deal website also has an events listing, all you have to do is fill in an online form:

<http://www.bndfc.co.uk/>.

We're looking forward to a summer of fun!

## Sunday 10th July



1pm - 6pm

Special Guests

# ZION TRAIN

**FREE ENTRY**



3 Music Stages • Interactive Workshops • Treasure Hunt • Carnival Parade • Environmental Area • Dance Performances  
Martial Arts Display • Sports Activities • Huge Inflatable Slide & Bouncy Castle • Trapeze & Circus Skills  
Walk About Performers • Huge Fringe Market • Information Stalls • Global Food & Craft Stalls • Relaxation & Massage  
Wind & Solar Power • Site Decor • Face Painting • Hair Braiding

**FESTIVAL INFORMATION LINE : 0114 2440353**

# Advice Centres in Burngreave

Burngreave New Deal are supporting a group of Advice Centres in the Burngreave area to give advice and information on a wide range of subjects including: Welfare rights, Housing, Debt, Employment, Immigration, etc.



## Pitsmoor Citizens Advice Bureau

30 Spital Hill, Sheffield S4 7LG

Tel: 0114 275 5376

Fax: 0114 276 9454

Email: pitsmoorcab@yahoo.co.uk

African Caribbean Community:  
Howard Golding at 30 Spital Hill  
on Tuesdays 12:00 noon-3:00pm

Somali Community:  
Sahra Abdi at Burngreave Library  
on Mondays 9:30am-12:30pm  
MAMAS on Spital Hill on Thursdays 12:30-2:30pm



## Northern Refugee Centre

30 Spital Hill, Sheffield S3

Tel: 0114 241 2780

Call in: Monday or Friday  
10:00am-1:00pm or telephone 275 5376  
for an appointment

At Sheffield Advice Link (SAL)  
The Gallery, Castle Market, Sheffield S1 2AJ  
Drop in service:  
Tuesday or Thursday 10:00am-12:00 noon



## Yemeni Welfare and Advice Centre

43 Attercliffe Common, Sheffield S9 2AE

Tel: 0114 261 5164

Fax: 0114 261 5164

Email: advicecentre@yetc.co.uk

Arabic speaking community  
43 Attercliffe Common  
Drop in or telephone for an appointment  
Monday-Friday 9:30am-1:00pm



## Pakistani Advice Centre

58 Owlser Lane, Sheffield S9 2AE

Tel: 0114 261 9130

Fax: 0114 242 3634

Email: pacfirvale@aol.com

Burngreave Library  
Monday 9:30am-12:30pm

58 Owlser Lane  
Monday 1:00-3:00pm  
Tuesday & Wednesday 10:00am-3:00pm



## Invitation to all parents and carers

*Interested in joining a parent support  
group? Then look no further.*

A fantastic opportunity has been given to Burngreave parents from all communities to form a group looking at how you as parents can help to strengthen your relationships with your children.

As our children go through life changes we know that there are hurdles in their way which can affect their achievement. The group will look at some of these hurdles, helping to prevent some of the negative effects.

If you are interested in participating in this support group then I would like to hear from you.

Please contact me, group facilitator  
**Ruth McDonald**, on **0779 660 2268** or  
**Michael Dennis**, Burngreave Support  
Officer, on **0114 273 5446** or  
**0775 378 0227** or even send a text and we  
will call you back.



## TRIBAL FUSION DANCE

*is an energetic mix of Arabic,  
Latin, Tongesaye's African  
and Zehara's Tribal Gypsy  
dance that can help keep  
us happy and healthy.*

*Awaken the wild woman  
within in a series of fun  
classes for women 16+.*



**Wednesdays**

**13, 20 and 27 July, 2005  
from 6:30-8:30pm**

at **One World Healing Foundation**  
80 Spital Hill, Sheffield S4  
call **0795 850 0314**  
or email  
**dancingdaisy75@yahoo.co.uk**  
for more information

sponsored by



# Forum House uncertainty

**The three Directors of Forum House Limited, 35 Spital Hill, have recently put it voluntarily into administration after receiving a winding-up petition from creditors.**

Forum House, part of the Black Community Forum group, was refurbished in 2001 as a multicultural arts and business enterprise venue using European and Government money. Currently there is no suggestion that it will close or that tenants like the Learning Campaign will have to move. The building has rarely run at full occupancy and at the moment only a third of the space is let. The administrators would urgently like to hear from local people interested in renting office space or using the meeting rooms. Contact Tracey Taylor from Abbey Taylor on 292 2402.



What do you think went wrong? Email your views to [messenger@burngreave.net](mailto:messenger@burngreave.net). Are there lessons to learn here before other Burngreave buildings like Sorby House and Vestry Hall are expensively refurbished?

## No MUGAs in the park

**Despite the hard work of residents, renovation of the old tennis courts in Abbeyfield Park is unlikely to happen in the near future.**

The Burngreave Green Environment Programme (BGEP), who have secured funding to make the tennis courts in a MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area), has found itself stuck between a rock and a hard place. Its planning application was withdrawn because of residents' concerns about flood lighting, but the potential funders won't fund it without flood lights! BGEP are currently trying to work out a compromise.

A bureaucratic nightmare has also dogged the youth shelter, which was originally planned in July 2004. It was held up in the planning process because of the heritage status of the park. The shelter now has planning permission and will be built later in the summer by Green City Action and the Greenwatch Rangers. The Youth Providers Implementation Group, convened by New Deal has been meeting since October 2004 to find solutions for young people in the park. They are organising a series of events for the summer, no details are yet available.

While the youngsters will have to wait for their facilities, there is good news for the older generation as after several attempts the bowling green is looking fabulous, with new fencing and turf. Bowlers will be able to use it for practising later this year.

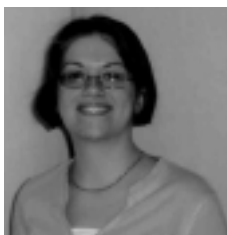
Further improvements to the park are on hold until phase two of the New Deal-funded BGEP is finalised. If agreed, the Council will receive New Deal money to improve the park in line with the plans set out in phase one of BGEP.

## Call for witnesses

**Police are appealing for help in tracing the last movements of a 28-year-old woman found dead off Rock Street on Monday 16th May.**

Joanna Claire Rouse went missing from her home in Walkley at teatime on Friday 13th May. She was later found at 9am on 16th May in a wooded area off Rock Street and Pye Bank Road. Her movements are unknown during the 48 hours prior to her been found and police are asking that any sightings of Joanna during that time are reported to the police on 296 4080.

The police are not treating the death as suspicious, and the post-mortem has proved inconclusive. An inquest into Joanna's death has been opened and adjourned.



## The Editorial

The Masterplan has been approved (page 7). It aims to strengthen housing markets and Spital Hill, bringing investment and guiding future planning decisions, but there have already been considerable improvements to the area.

The Messenger is concerned disadvantaged communities and the 57 busy Spital Hill shops may be helped to relocate rather than helped to remain in the area. It seems a hard price after years of regenerating the area themselves, and for residents like 75% of those on Skinnerthorpe Road who like where they live.

Not everything is set in stone, there is a commitment to continued consultation in the Residents and Business Charter, but unless residents and businesses get involved it will have no teeth.

### Messenger Management Committee needs you!

Join us to help increase communication, and give Burngreave residents a voice.

We meet once a month to decide how the Messenger is run. We would particularly welcome residents with business or media experience.

Contact the office for more information.

### Messenger Info

Meetings: 6.30pm, Wednesday at Abbeyfield Park House  
Editorial: 8th June  
Management: 13th July

All welcome.

Copy deadline: 29th June

Burngreave Messenger Ltd  
Abbeyfield Park House  
Abbeyfield Road  
Sheffield S4 7AT

(0114) 242 0564  
[messenger@burngreave.net](mailto:messenger@burngreave.net)

The Burngreave Messenger is a community newspaper, funded by New Deal, with editorial independence. We aim to increase and encourage communication in Burngreave. Each edition is put together by an editorial team who write articles not otherwise credited. This month's team: Farzana Ahmed, Annie Blindell, Clare Burnell, Martin Currie, Andrew Green, James Heath, Saleema Imam, Mark Lankshear, Tim Neal, Rob Smith, Gaby Spinks, Christine Steers, Iain Stokes, Lisa Swift and Paul Taylor.

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**Refugee and Asylum Seekers Week aims to increase awareness of what people fleeing to this country have to face and the great contribution refugees make when here. This month we look at the facts behind refugees and some of the issues they face.**

Anyone at all is allowed to ask for sanctuary in another country if they are suffering persecution in their own. An asylum seeker is someone who has submitted an application for asylum and is waiting for a decision. A refugee is someone who has had their application thoroughly investigated, and who has proven that they have 'a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion' in their homeland and are afraid to return to that country. They are therefore entitled to protection.

Asylum seekers are not allowed to work while their cases are being assessed and only receive 70% of Income Support levels. Councils receive extra funding from the government to make housing available for asylum seekers. This is often achieved by repairing housing stock in poor condition. Most of them are housed in private accommodation. None of this is paid for out of council tax. Children are educated in Sheffield schools like everyone else, and the costs of this are met through specific grants. Local services have not suffered. The arrival of new families has even helped revitalise many neighbourhoods.

The number of asylum seekers being supported in Sheffield is tiny. Local authorities in the Sheffield region have an agreement with the government that numbers will not ever be greater than half of one percent of the population. In Sheffield asylum seekers make up approximately 0.36% of the total population, which amounts to 1,638 individuals including dependent children (*February 2005*).

The asylum system is very tough and sorts out people who are genuinely in fear of their safety from those who have other reasons for leaving their home country. Asylum seekers have to prove their case if they want to stay and the evidence shows that many have their claims accepted. In the meantime, all asylum seekers are entitled to be treated with respect and dignity whilst they are living in our communities.

## Support organisations

### Asylum Seeker Health

226 1738

GP service for asylum seekers

### City Council asylum team

273 6612

Information on asylum issues in Sheffield

### Immigration Advisory Service

0113 244 2460

Charity offering legal advice for asylum seekers, Leeds office.

[www.iasuk.org/](http://www.iasuk.org/)

### National Asylum Seekers Support Service

0845 602 1739

Part of the Home Office

Immigration and Nationality

Directorate, asylum applications etc.

[www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/ind/en/home/applying/national\\_asylum\\_support.html](http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/ind/en/home/applying/national_asylum_support.html)

### Northern Refugee Centre

241 2780

Advice service for people with refugee status and working with refugee communities to set up groups. Volunteering and befriending, women's group. Information library re law and

international history.

[nrcentre.org.uk/](http://nrcentre.org.uk/)

### Red Cross

266 0656

Tracing relatives in home country

[www.redcross.org.uk/](http://www.redcross.org.uk/)

### Refugee Education and Employment Programme (REEP)

281 2113

Education, support and guidance for refugees and asylum seekers.

[www.refed.plus.com](http://www.refed.plus.com)

### Refugee Council

Helpful website

[www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/)

### Refugee New Arrivals project

241 2780

Help into post-16 education training and work

### Refugee Week Sheffield

[www.sheffieldrefugeeweek.ik.com/](http://www.sheffieldrefugeeweek.ik.com/)

National Refugee Week site

[www.refugeeweek.org.uk/](http://www.refugeeweek.org.uk/)

### Voluntary Action Sheffield

249 3360 ext 129

Volunteering opportunities

[www.vas.org.uk/](http://www.vas.org.uk/)

## Sheffield Events

### Mon 20th June, 6.30–8.30pm

Speakers Event – refugees and Asylum Seekers from a range of countries talk about the situation in their country  
Quaker Meeting House, Norfolk Row  
Helen Todd 241 2783

### Wed 22nd June, 2–7pm

Open Day – Refugee Education and Employment Programme  
REEP – Alpha House, Carver Street  
REEP 281 2113

### Thu 23rd June 1–6pm

BBQ – halal and vegetarian and open day at The Station Foyer. Pool competition with cash prize. Family entertainment. All welcome.  
The Station Foyer, The Wicker  
Marion Boyd 267 5273

### Thu 23rd June, 7–11pm

SPAT-C multicultural celebration  
RNIB, Mappin Street  
SPAT-C 275 6815

### Sat 25th June 7.30–11.30pm

"Bambanani" (unite in Ndebele) Party and live performance to celebrate diversity. Everyone welcome  
RNIB, Mappin Street  
Helen Todd 241 2783

### Sat 25th June 11am–5pm

Refugee Week activities at the Ponderosa Carnival. International music, games for children  
Ponderosa Park, Upperthorpe  
Helen Todd 241 2783  
or Jane Elliot 201 1490

### ALL WEEK

Exhibitions – Refugee Week 2005, featuring information, artwork and photographs  
Central Library, Surrey Street, Howden House  
Refugee New Arrivals Project 241 2785

### ALL WEEK

Selected films  
Showroom Cinema, Paternoster Row  
More information: Gez Walker  
276 3543, times/tickets 275 7727

### Mon 11th July 10am–4pm

Refugees and asylum seekers training and volunteering fair. Stalls, workshops, free lunch and childcare. Prayer room available.  
Sheffield Hallam University  
For more information: Ivelina or Pete  
0113 214 3949



# The dictatorships and the epidemic

**In early 1960 this country had a crisis in recruiting nurses and the British government encouraged people from Africa, India and the West Indies to come to this country. It was in 1966 at the age of 20 that Selestine Lubowa arrived in Edinburgh from Uganda. Here she studied general health nursing and midwifery.**

In 1969 Selestine returned to Uganda, where she began work in the Ugandan Institute for Reproductive Research, as a community nurse and midwife. In the early '70s Uganda began to descend into political turmoil under the dictatorship of Idi Amin. "When Idi Amin was overthrown Uganda was ruled over by President Obote and his regime was just as ruthless," explains Selestine. "He was ousted and now another regime is in power, we still have an internal war that's been going on over twenty years." Selestine's professional position in a country ravaged by an AIDS epidemic also became very dangerous for her. "It's during this regime and due to my work around HIV/AIDS, opposing old tribal beliefs that my life was threatened. The last time this occurred I was advised by friends and surviving relatives to escape the country, I had to do this by running away."

Selestine's arrival in England as an asylum seeker in September 2000 meant being all alone knowing nobody. She was placed in a holding house in Burngreave. "I left all my worldly possessions my livelihood and, most of all, my five young children – my eldest son by then only 15." Dispersed to Plymouth, she waited another year before being granted full refugee status and was allowed to remain. Selestine then undertook a return to midwifery practice course and worked in nursing homes to support her family back in Uganda.

***"Under advice from the Citizens' Advice Bureau I was applying for family reunion. I knew that my children's fate without me was at risk. The news I was hearing from home wasn't good, when my husband died leaving them totally alone with family friends."***

## Eldest son is left behind

In 2003 the British Government granted family reunion rights allowing four of Selestine's five children to join her here. Her eldest son who was then 18 was denied those reunion rights. "When my children were alone in Uganda my eldest son fended for them, especially when their father died and our family house had been taken over. They were living rough and their cries tearing me apart inside for so long." Selestine is a single parent who at 59 suffers diabetes and must surely need her first-born son, who has had to be the pillar of her fatherless family.

She is crying and so am I, asking how this can be right.

***"I live in Burngreave as the first place I came in England and I liked it here. I wanted all my children to be here with me. Now Father Joseph Obunga, the main mentor for my son, has recently passed away in Uganda. This leaves my son terribly alone, he has nobody there Rob, nobody."***

Reapplication for her eldest son was turned down. But an appeal in 2004 by Howells solicitors allowed a visitor's visa for two weeks holiday stay with his family. Sticking to the law, and encouraged by Selestine to obey the rules, her son returned to Uganda. The British High Commission has turned down all recent applications for further visits.

## Comment

Selestine's case surely speaks of a systematic inhuman treatment of her and her offspring. I am now writing to my local MP Richard Caborn to demand that he intervene in Selestine Lubowa's case. If you want to do the same you can email caborn@parliament.uk or write to him at 2nd Floor, Barkers Pool House, Burgess Street, Sheffield S1 2HF.

**by Rob Smith**

# No way back

**What happens to asylum seekers when the Home Office does not grant asylum and appeals are unsuccessful? They usually receive a letter informing them they must leave Britain. Those that do not leave voluntarily are issued 'removal directions', where the authorities arrange a date and time for 'removal'.**

But what about those who have 'no safe route' back to their home country? The Home Office is currently not returning 'failed' Iraqi asylum seekers for this reason, yet they are still not entitled to work, help with housing or to claim benefits. Iraqis in this position can apply for temporary 'hard case support', also known as Section 4 support, from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS), if they have previously been supported by NASS. In order to receive

the support (a bed, and either three meals a day or food vouchers for supermarkets) they must show they are willing to return voluntarily when a safer route is available.

However, many are reluctant to sign up and it is perhaps not surprising. The level of support is basic and inadequate. The limited number of supermarkets which accept the vouchers do not stock halal meat. The asylum seekers receive no money so cannot pay the bus fare to see friends or get to college.

Further, under Section 10 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 2004, failed asylum seekers will soon be required to work full time, unpaid, carrying out 'community service' or 'activities' in exchange for this basic support. The Refugee Council and other agencies think 'failed' asylum seekers should be given temporary status and

the right to work. Indeed, they want to work and help the community but not in this demeaning manner.

**by Kate Atkinson**

There are many Iraqi Kurds in Burngreave who have 'no safe route' home. The Messenger has heard that many are destitute, after refusing to sign up for Section 4 support. Fears run high that signing an agreement to return home will mean they can be picked up at any time and returned to Iraq or placed in a detention centre.

Ahmed Saleem, Advice Worker from the Kurdish Community Centre on Verdon Street said, "We have around three thousand Kurdish asylum seekers and refugees in Sheffield. Many here are in fear of their lives in returning to Iraq and therefore won't sign Section 4 voluntarily but many then find themselves forced into signing it."

# It's official – Cactus Club opens!



© Anwar Suliman

**Thursday, 19th May at 1pm all roads led to the newly-established Cactus Club based in Earsham Street, Burngreave.**

This grand official opening meant the sound of drums greeted all arrivals to Earsham Street. Members of Siyaya African drum and dancing band performed outside the club's entrance.

Cllr Jackie Drayton was thoroughly entertained before cutting a blue ribbon tied across the club's main entrance. All those gathered outside began to enter the premises and included John Heath of the funeral directors, John Clark of New Deal, Tony Hall of the Employment and Enterprise theme group, Elisa Clark of Voice of the People, Panni Loh, Ruggie Johnson of The Monitoring Group North, Jean Wood of All Saints Tenants' & Residents' Association and many other central community figures.

The bottles of *Moët et Chandon* were on display opposite a banquet of food surrounding a large, fancy, iced decorated cake. A few words of thanks and recognition to all those who helped make the club a legal entity and a success preceded

people eating and having a drink. Jackie Drayton spoke of the need to embrace this club facility that will cater for a large section of this community. Ruggie Johnson hailed Castel Fanty and Anwar Suliman for all the works they have both done and likewise the management thanked Ruggie for being instrumental in pursuing the removal of legal obstacles.

While people helped themselves to food and drinks, members of the African Drum band performed and entertained. All those present raised glasses in a toast to the future prosperity and success of this venture.

by Rob Smith

## Dregg Sat 18th June

SATURDAY

**KISS FM London**

**DAVID RAM JAM RODIGAN**

**WILL POWA**

**RUFFCUT/SKINNY/MR MENTION/PEPPA/KOJAK**

Tickets available from:

Powa House Records & Barbers: 0794 614 1983

Reflex Records: 0114 275 9035

Fox Records and Video Store: 0114 258 1472

Cactus Club: 0114 263 4090

**Cactus Club**, Earsham Road, Sheffield

CCTV Cameras in operation

## Burngreave celebrates learners

**On a sunny Saturday morning two marching bands made their way noisily towards Verdon Street to celebrate Burngreave Adult Learners Festival week. Organiser Anne Grange of Burngreave Community Learning Campaign (BCLC) said that "Many adults who have achieved through the learning campaign will receive their certificates here today."**

The New Orleans Strollers played Hello Dolly, drawing in more people. Katumba dance class then performed live, before involving youngsters in a rowdy drum workshop.

Penny Withers' clay model making stall attracted many people of all ages and Penny explained that she runs a course in clay pot making at Firth Park Community Arts College.

The Rhythms of Resistance Sheffield samba band, had drummed in the crowd from Abbeyfield Park, and they



waited eagerly to perform on the main stage. Meanwhile children queued inside the recreation centre to have their faces painted by Tina Waterhouse representing Sheffield City Council. Many other community information stalls and stands were inside the centre and present outside throughout the day.

Lord and Lady Mayor Roger and Catherine Davison attended along with Councillors Steve Jones, Jackie Drayton and Ibrar Hussain.

On the main stage Cllr Jones spoke of how proud he was to have been invited to attend an event that celebrates the achievements of adult learning. Ibrar Hussain spoke of his connection to Burngreave and commitment to its people and the idea of the adult learning programmes. All those who spoke hailed the success of Burngreave Community Learning Campaign.

Jimmy Carol of BBC Radio Sheffield with famous local artist Joe Scarborough, presented successful campaigners with their BCLC certificates of merit. All eyes stayed focused on the main stage as an array of local and national artists to performed. The Pete Lyons Jazz Band, African dance group Siyaya, The London Reggae Philharmonic Orchestra, No Excuses and many more local artists.

Aisha Special K said, "This has been a wonderful, fantastic day that recognises adult learners' achievements."

by Rob Smith

# Council approve Masterplan

**Sheffield City Council Cabinet meeting approved the Burngreave and Fir Vale Masterplan on Wednesday 25th May.**

This means that money can now be accessed to begin work. A potential £174 million could be invested over the course of the project.

The public gallery was crammed with local residents who had come to follow the debate and decision.

Councillors and City Hall officials first heard a series of objections to the plans by representatives from the Spital Hill Local Voice group who expressed concern at: the possible 'demolition of Spital Hill'; a lack of council commitment to setting up working groups for Woodside, Spital Hill and Catherine Street and the fact that New Deal was continuously referred to, although other key organisations such as BCAF, Burnbank TARA, Burngreave Business Forum and Spital Hill Local Voice were not mentioned in the report put to the Council.

Concern was again expressed about the location and nature of a supermarket as well as the impact it may have on local businesses. Fir Vale residents protested that demolition of their homes might leave them at a financial disadvantage.

Replying on behalf of the Cabinet, Councillor Chris Weldon quoted New Deal, saying that there had been numerous consultations. He promised that the Council would continue to work closely with local residents through the project groups and reassured Fir Vale residents that they will not lose out financially.

In a presentation to the Cabinet Joanne Rooney and David Shepherd, from the Council Area Planning Office, stressed that 'extensive consultation' had taken place,

including 786 written comments and 2,700 people at public meetings. They also mentioned that no final decision had been taken about the proposed supermarket and that the views of Spital Hill traders will be taken into account.

Approving the Masterplan, Jan Wilson, Leader of the Council, said that a proposed Council Planning Office Charter – which guarantees a commitment to consulting both residents and businesses – would become part of the plan.

Councillor Steve Jones made a further plea for people to get involved in the project groups and acknowledged that the Council needed to continue 'building trust'.

Residents left looking unimpressed by Council reassurances and vowed to continue to make sure that 'the Masterplan actually does what people want and doesn't simply turn into a money-making opportunity for developers or supermarket chains'.

by James Heath

Dear Messenger

I was disappointed at John Clark's (New Deal Chief Executive) comments relating to the Masterplan printed on page 5 of May's Messenger – "Research showed a supermarket would bring local jobs and boost income for other shops". The research he is referring to is by 'Business in the Community' – sponsored by Ikea, Next, Lloyds TSB and yes, what a surprise, the supermarket chain Tesco!

Also he commented "the Hallcar Road site [New Roots Café and The Plaza] was the only viable option". This assertion was also included in a report from BNDfC put before the Council Cabinet meeting 25th May. I am puzzled by Mr Clark's fixation on having a supermarket on Hallcar Road, are there personal issues here? Are the supermarket chains (the ones he has chosen to negotiate with at any rate) choosing the prime sites on the Spital? Perhaps most significant is the fact that his comments on the Hallcar site, reported to the Council Cabinet, were not endorsed by the 'New deal Partnership Board'.

The details of the Masterplan are now to be worked out in Project Groups. I hope as many people as possible within Burngreave will participate and that New Deal, just one of the many key stakeholders, will approach the process with a willingness to listen and work together to achieve an outcome that will truly reflect the needs and wishes of Burngreave as a whole.

Jeff Kirby

## Church Hall sold

St Catherine's Church Hall, just next to the Catholic Church on Burngreave Road, has been sold for over £200,000. The new owner also owns Osbourn House, next door, which is now up for sale again.



The Christian group, Kidz Klub, is now renting the former church hall. They will be running their popular Saturday club there which has been a success at Verdon Recreation Centre for the last two and a half years. Kidz Klub is now permanently based in its new home and caters for children aged 4–11 with sessions starting at 11am and 2pm every Saturday. A toddler group is also starting on Fridays at 1.30pm.

For more information about Kidz Klub contact Mark on 0793 910 2725 or email [mark@kidz-klub.com](mailto:mark@kidz-klub.com).

## Burngreave Academy

People in Burngreave have a lot of knowledge about regeneration and issues that affect the area. They are very involved in what happens in the area and they have lots of experience but there's often a lot of pressure to make things happen.

Local resident, John Vincent, is piloting the Burngreave Academy in June, with a series of seminars where residents can reflect on what they know and have experienced in Burngreave. The seminars will be at Burngreave Ashram Studio, Hallcar Street. The first will be Women's Issues on Tuesday 14th June, 7.30pm. The second – Regeneration Issues on Tuesday 21st June, 7.30pm with Julian Dobson, editor of the regeneration magazine *New Start*. And finally Faiths and Community on Tuesday 28th June, 7.30pm.

John hopes the Burngreave Academy can be the start of higher education based in Burngreave with involvement from universities.

For more information contact John Vincent on 243 6688.

## Rebound

**2005 has been a really good year for the Basketball Development Centre at Firvale Sports Centre. A lot of the success is due to the hard work of the Burngreave Sports Project, the Development Centre staff and the commitment of the young people whose talents have been developed.**



In September 2004 the centre was going through a bad patch, with hardly any young people turning up. This is where outreach work with young people, hard work and determination came into play. The Burngreave Sports Project was adamant this was not going to be a failure. We promoted these sessions in local schools, youth clubs and other organisations in the community.

Within a matter of weeks, the number of young people that wanted to come and join the session, was phenomenal. On a weekly basis we have 20 to 25 young people attending. There is a mixture of boys and girls. We have entered a number of tournaments and have been successful – coming second in two tournaments. Recently one of the female players has qualified as a Level 1 Basketball Coach and has gone on to play for the Sheffield Hatters women's basketball team.

The Basketball Development Centre is situated at Firvale Sports Centre at Firvale School. This takes place on Saturdays from 9.30–11.00am.

For more information, contact Ben Hamilton of Burngreave Sports Project on 07810 685 523.

## Wanted! Community Volunteers

**Burngreave Mile Run  
19th June 2005**

**Road Stewards, Race Registrars  
and First Aiders**

**Please contact  
Mink Naylor on 0775 214 7657  
or Rob Smith BSN on 272 8008**

## Five-a-side success

Burngreave Sports Network (BSN) entered a team into the regional X-Box 5-a-side adult football tournament which was held at Pitz Soccer at Woodburn Stadium in May.



Thirty-two teams entered and the BSN team made it into the quarter finals, which is phenomenal as the proposed team couldn't make it on the day. The team on the day was: Manny, Razor, Jay Jay, Yasin, Naz (Arabic's), Adem and B-Bjorn.

Watch this space for more adult football tournaments this summer. Contact Rafiq for information on 0791 740 3299.

### Want to play for a football team?

**Burngreave Saints JFC**, affiliated to the Sheffield and District Junior Sunday League 2005-06, will be holding training sessions 4.30-5.30pm starting from Monday 6th June for Year 1 boys and girls (under 7s) at the Sheffield United Academy Firs Hill.

#### For more information contact

Under 7s Manager, Patrick Edwards on 0774 783 1856.

Other teams are also looking for unregistered players to join their junior teams.

#### Under 8s

contact Manager Rob Jolly 281 6885

#### Under 9s

contact Manager Patrick Blake 0781 610 6346

#### Earl Marshal Under 10s

contact Mark Moran Healey 0777 645 7732

@jsaints  
Soccer School

BSN  
Burngreave Sports Network

**Mondays\*** • Y1, Y2, Y3 & Y4 • 4.15–5.30pm  
\*Except Bank Holidays

**Wednesdays** • Y5, Y6, Y7 & Y8 • 4.15–5.30pm  
Sheffield United Academy, Firhill Crescent, Shirecliffe S4 7DR  
**£1 per session**

For more info contact Burngreave Sports Network on 241 9100

Must be accompanied by an adult  
Consent and membership forms available on site.



# Council to decide the future of Parkwood

**Viridor, who run Parkwood Landfill, are seeking permission to tip active waste into Cell 4 (area D), previously a buffer zone for inert waste only. They are already allowed to dump active waste in Cells 1, 2 and 3.**

Rubbish can be broken down into three basic types: Inert, Active and Hazardous. Since July 2004 Parkwood no longer accepts hazardous waste.

**Inert Waste** – anything that doesn't rot or breakdown in any way, including soil, rock, brick, glass and some incinerator ash.

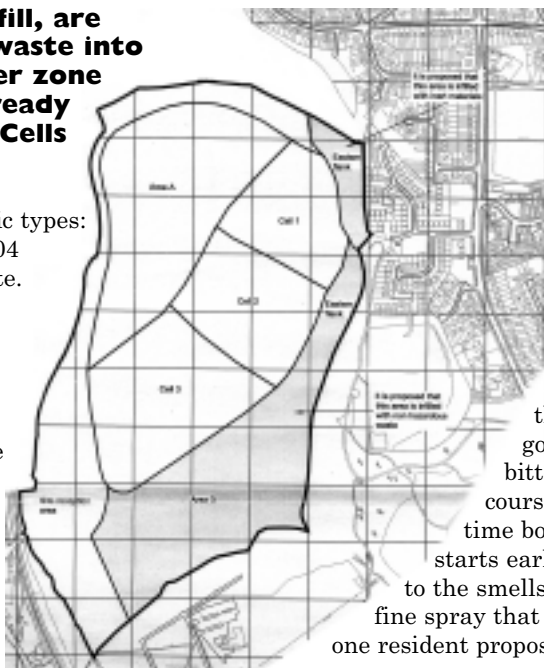
**Active Waste** – waste that does biodegrade or putrefy including household and garden rubbish and some incinerator ash. This is the waste that causes unpleasant smells.

## On the edge

As the decision by the Council planning committee draws closer the *Messenger* talked to residents on the Standish Estate, perched on the edge of Parkwood.

We were told "a lot of people don't understand how big it's going to be," and one resident admitted they "didn't really know that much about it," but we found they did have strong views. "It's tolerable up to a point," said Wayne, who noticed the gassy smell and flies that meant he couldn't leave the doors of his house open – both comments repeated by nearly everyone we spoke with.

Neil said, "you don't actually know what they're going to do". He mentioned the health surveys and had heard of cancer-inducing particles being found in high concentrations, but that nobody had been able "to prove it comes from that site".



Two people mentioned the promise that the site would close early and a golf course would be built. One noted bitterly you aren't allowed to build golf courses on landfill, or rather "a bloody toxic time bomb." One noted work sometimes starts earlier than the official start, contributing to the smells. Nobody I spoke to was sure what the fine spray that circles the site was. "Disinfectant," one resident proposed, "to combat the smell."

Mr and Mrs Askew observed they had contacted the Council about the plans on two separate occasions but never received a response. Mr Askew described how he had to write to neighbours on all three sides to get permission to build his conservatory, "We are neighbours to this tip but the Council never wrote to us about it."

People were worried by the potential drop in property values in this very secluded estate and by the health hazard. "It nearly scared you out," one man reminded his wife. Neil, like other residents, had a calm attitude towards the situation "and anyway," he commented sarcastically "the people that matter don't live here".

by Tim Neal

## People power in Shirecliffe

**Shirecliffe residents have forced the Council to move a works compound away from a local wildlife sanctuary. Within days of the compound being built, local resident Jean Armstrong, had 109 signatures of local residents complaining about the site and sent this straight to the Council's Cabinet.**

Councillors were quick to respond to the residents' petition and have confirmed the compound will be moved to Longley Avenue West before the end of May.

Jean, and fellow members of Parkwood Landfill Action Group, have secured £20,000 from Landfill Tax Credit to fund the preservation and improvement of Parkwood Springs as a wildlife sanctuary, and work began earlier this year with expert hedge laying. The group has been working closely on this with the Council and Sheffield Wildlife Trust. Jean was astonished to find out that the Council's Parks department had offered the land right next to the sanctuary to the building contractors, potentially blocking access to the recreation ground behind. Jean told the *Messenger*:

**"Residents living close to the Parkwood Springs open space are**



**relieved to learn that the latest threat to this precious bit of green open space has been removed. The huge compound built on 6th and 7th May is to be dismantled and relocated. We would like to thank our Woodland officer, our Area Co-ordinator and Councillors and everyone who helped make this possible."**

The site may not be safe for long, the Ski Village have applied for planning permission to build a cable car station on the same site as the recently removed compound. The cable car would run from Shirecliffe to the Ski Village and onto Shalesmoor. What do you think of a cable car in Shirecliffe? Contact the *Messenger* with your opinions.

# Fun times in Abbeyfield

## Funny bunnies in the park

On a sunny May morning pre-school Pitsmoor children were treated to a Ranger-led event in Abbeyfield Park. The aim was to let children meet each other and see and touch small animals. There was a bunny treasure trail and parachute games led by Ranger Jacquie Porter-Martin.

But the main event was a small tent where Ranger Rachael Kerr let children to stroke two sociable rabbits, a surprisingly relaxed guinea pig and two bewildered chicks.

More events aimed at pre-school children are planned for the summer. I don't know how much the animals enjoyed it, but the children certainly had a good time.

by Martin Currie



## Abbeyfield Environment Day

Hundreds of people turned up on Saturday, 14th May to make their free hanging baskets at the Abbeyfield Park Environmental Day. There were free cycle kits for the kids next to a free bicycle MoT stall. Residents also participated in the South Yorkshire energy efficiency survey and received free energy saving light bulbs and water hogs to reduce the amount of water we waste. Great fun was had making instruments out of recycled materials in the junk music workshop. Other stalls offered information on environmental matters or sold local arts and crafts. New Roots were there to feed the hungry masses – with a wide and delicious variety of snacks alongside Betty's tea stall. On the football pitch the Burngreave Sports Project ran activities for the kids, while mum and dad took time out to relax in the sun.

The event was co-hosted by Green City Action and Recycling Matters with support from the Area Panel. One resident was heard to say, "I have never had so much fun whilst learning how to be green".

by Bob Worm

## Shot in the park

Shots rang out across Abbeyfield Park. Two brothers lie dead, killed just as they've discovered they were twins, separated at birth. But after gasps and cries of shock the audience burst into applause as the first powerful and emotional play, *Blood Brothers* by Willy Russell, came to an end.

Green City Action, in conjunction with The Sheffield College Performing Arts Department, have again brought drama of a welcome kind to Abbeyfield Park. The final work, after a two-year BTEC National Diploma course, saw the twenty-six students perform two plays twice in one day.

The second play, *Accrington Pals* by Peter Whelan, told the tragic tale of a battalion of volunteers early in the First World War. The Mayor of Accrington recruited 250 men in 10 days from this small Lancashire town. Nearly half were killed or injured within half an hour on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. The play tells the story of these young men and the devastating effect the loss had on the community.

It was a great afternoon's entertainment and exciting to see so many people turn out to enjoy Abbeyfield Park being used in such an imaginative and inspiring way. As one of the students said, "This course and the play has stretched me in ways I never thought possible, I'm so proud of myself. Anything is possible!"



© Reuben Vincent

by Mark Lankshear



# Inner Relief Road



Coming soon, two huge dual-carriageways cutting Burngreave off from the rest of Sheffield. Stranded pedestrians will soon watch cars speeding miles out of their way on a pointless one-way system until they hit the new bottleneck a mile down the road. The Wicker and Spital Hill could become interesting high streets. However the latest vision seems to be to turn them into slip roads and traffic islands. Personally I'm not enthusiastic. — Martin Currie

Work is well under way on Stage 2 of the inner-relief road. When completed, a new dual-carriageway will cross Spital Hill above The Wicker Arches, joining Saville Street to Corporation Street and Penistone Road. Most of the buildings on Spital Hill below Forum House will be demolished during the work which is due to go on until the middle of 2007.

A second new dual-carriageway will cross The Wicker, stretching from Corporation Street to 'Cutlers Gate'. This will complete the section, opened in 2000, that already links the Parkway to The Wicker. The Wicker will be closed to cars travelling into town when the £56 million Government-sponsored scheme is completed.

The Nags Head Pub and the derelict former Wigfall's offices have been demolished, the first of 40 mostly older industrial buildings due to go. Old mine works around the Wicker Arches have been filled in so a rail bridge can be built over the new ring road. Work is expected to affect Spital Hill towards the end of programme.

You can see detailed maps of the new roads, read about how the building work is going and see how it will affect traffic at [www.sheffield.gov.uk/out--about/irr](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/out--about/irr).

by Mark Lankshear

# Close to the Heart

**Around 100 people gathered at the Workstation on Monday 16th May to celebrate the opening of 'Close to the Heart' - an exhibition showcasing the work of 14 male students from Firth Park Community Arts College.**

The work was born of a series of workshops run at the College by five local male artists. Muazzam Khatana, aged twelve, summed up the experience for the assembled crowd, "It gave me such a lot of confidence". (Muazzam's artwork is pictured right.) The results were very impressive with the main feature of the exhibition a series of collages, drawings and photographs made and taken by the boys themselves. These get 'close to the heart' and the boys' self-portraits against a background designed and constructed by themselves made this a very satisfying exhibition to visit.

Other sculptures and images produced by students from the College were also on display and I particularly enjoyed the series of assembled wooden cut outs making poignant statements about the concerns of young artists.

The exhibition showed what the boys can do with the support and creative mentoring that the College is actively encouraging. For more information please contact Panni Poh Yoke Loh who curated this exhibition in her role as Community Education Co-ordinator: 257 4027.

by Tim Neal



# On the buses

**The students and tutors from the local 'Introduction to Community Development and Health Course' have undertaken a short informal study of the Burngreave Linkbus. It came about because several of the group commented that these buses seemed to be running empty. Having obtained permission from Sheffield Community Transport to interview passengers and drivers the group set out on Tuesday 3rd May to catch the 12.42 and 12.45 B1 and D1 services.**

## Route B1 to Meadowhall

On route B1 seven people boarded the bus at Ellesmere Green. One of these was an elderly lady who said that since the Post Office closed on Verdon Street, she now walks down to Ellesmere Green once a week to collect her pension and then catches the bus back up the hill to Verdon Street, with her shopping. Next a lady in an electric wheelchair and her companion caught the service to Meadowhall as it passes



close to home and access for the wheelchair was easy. At the Northern General Hospital a student nurse came on board. She caught this service most days to her current placement near Meadowhall. We thought it was good for staff and visitors that the bus travels round the hospital grounds as opposed to leaving passengers on the perimeter of this vast complex. The next people to board were two ladies and a child who said that the service gave them easy access to Meadowhall. At Meadowhall all the other passengers alighted and no-one else boarded the bus on the return journey to Ellesmere Green. The driver said that this was not unusual at this time of day.

## Route D1 to Catcliffe

On board the D1 service there were only five passengers and none from the

Burngreave area, everyone got on and off the bus in Darnall. It is a pity that the service is not better used by people from Burngreave as it visits several useful locations including Matalan, Morrisons, Big W, B&Q, Hitchens, Karachi Stores as well as the Pakistani Muslim Centre. The driver said that the uptake of this service by people from Burngreave was very poor.

## Enthusiastic fans

Since 3rd May I have travelled on the B1 and B2 routes several times and found that there is a small but very enthusiastic number of people who have discovered the benefits of these buses and use them all the time. Everyone I have spoke to said it is an excellent, convenient service and many remarked that it is safe and friendly because they know the drivers. The drivers reported a slow but steady increase in the number of people using the buses. We would like to suggest that there should be better signs on the buses to indicate the destinations, clearer indications about the route on bus stops and a more user-friendly timetable that is available from more outlets in the Burngreave area.

by Pauline Hirst

# Supporting Somalis

**The needs of the local Somali community are still not being met... This was the conclusion of the Somali Development & Support Organisation (SDSO) General Meeting and conference.**



The SDSO put on its first major event on 28th April, with the support of the Agency for Community Empowerment (AfCE) working with Home Office sponsorship. The event was well attended, mainly by Somali men, who discussed some of the real issues that affected them and their families such as accessing housing, health services, education and training and getting work.

Saleh Ali, a Director of SDSO, said "Although we have had some help from AfCE and funding from the Lottery and South Yorkshire Community Foundation, we have found it very difficult in getting on-going support".

The participants clearly thought that despite official sources

indicating that there are about 20 Somali community organisations locally receiving funding there was still very little to show for the public money spent.

John Clark, Chief Executive from Burngreave New Deal for Communities, also attended the event and shared his concerns

about the views expressed by the Somali participants.

The conference concluded that ineffective organisations need to be weeded out and those that are stronger and more successful should work smarter by forming partnerships or focusing their attention by developing complimentary areas of activity.

The SDSO is interested in holding a complimentary event for Somali women. If you are interested in being involved please telephone the organisation's Secretary on 201 7163.

by Vic Berry (AfCE) & Saleh Ali (SDSO)



# At Work success

**Jackie Last, Sarah Law, Manny Heywood, Mohammed Ramzan, Zahra Jamal and new manager Ezra Durant are on hand to assist all local people seeking employment, training and full-time work.**



At Work Recruitment say the aim is to target black and ethnic, hard to reach groups, in and around Sheffield, offering experienced mentoring while motivating, negotiating and educating people back into work. This initiative was established in 1993 and opened a branch in October 2004 inside Spital Hill Plaza.

"At Work are recruitment consultants offering their service to the public totally free of charge," explains Mohammed Ramzan. "We have connections with a lot of retail and sales employers like Macro, Tesco, Marks & Spencer, Currys and others, our job is to find employable people for those companies."

"We are also working closely with employers to help develop a recruitment drive that breaks down any barriers that prevent ethnic integration into Sheffield mainstream workforce," continues Mohammed.

"We also deal with people who have very little work experience," adds manager Ezra Durant. "Our staff will register clients and find out their capabilities, especially those with refugee status who in many cases have work experience but lack the communication skills. The fact that we can find employment for people who are often difficult to place is very rewarding. The majority of candidates come from ethnic minority groups where barriers to employment are often language and skill based, but At Work Recruitment are committed to finding a job for anyone who wants one. We are thrilled that our new branch is forging positive relationships with local employers who are committed to corporate social responsibility and that our excellent team at the branch are creating life changing opportunities for ethnic minorities in Sheffield."

At Work Recruitment situated at Spital Hill Plaza is open from 9am till 5pm Monday-Friday, for any further information contact 278 7878.

by Rob Smith

## Friends of Osgathorpe Park Annual General Meeting

Chaired by Cllr Ibrar Hussein

Saturday 2nd July at 12 noon in Osgathorpe Park Pavilion

Refreshments. All Welcome.



## Aged 16-18? Looking for work?

*Let APPRENTICESHIPS FOR ALL  
help you reach your potential!*

### Our Apprenticeship opportunities include:

- Training allowance
- Real work with an established employer
- Training relevant to your Apprenticeship
- Additional support (eg language support, child care)

### You could work in:

- Administration and IT
- Care
- Catering
- Horticulture
- ...to name but a few!

Ring **FREEPHONE 0800 138 4045**  
to see how we can help you  
move forward!

Or call in to see us at:  
Spartan House,  
Carlisle Street,  
Burngreave,  
Sheffield.

Sheffield  
City Council



employment unit  
Sheffield City Council

## Burngreave Language Support Agency



### Translation & Interpretation Courses 2005-06

**The Burngreave Language Support Agency will  
be running training courses for people wanting to  
become Translators and Interpreters.**

**The courses start in September and will run for 33  
weeks. The classes are on Tuesday mornings at  
the Fir Vale Centre or Saturday mornings at the  
Ellesmere Centre and last three hours.**

**Courses are free  
to all Burngreave residents.**

***Places are limited, so book early  
to avoid disappointment.***

**Contact the BLSA Team  
on 272 2833 or 272 8008  
email: [info@blsa.org.uk](mailto:info@blsa.org.uk)  
[www.blsa.org.uk](http://www.blsa.org.uk)**



**BCAT Building,  
12 Burngreave Road,  
Sheffield S3 9DD**



## News in brief

### New project

A new project to help promote emotional health and well-being to Burngreave's Yemeni and Pakistani communities has been given the go-ahead.

The emotional well-being project, which has been set up by Sheffield Care Trust (SCT) with part-funding from BNDfC, hopes to improve the access for Yemeni men and Pakistani women to emotional well-being services.

Kick-starting the project is the recruitment of two part-time workers who will work in the community to provide an emotional well-being service to members of their respective communities.

Community seminars (two for each post) will be held to discuss these posts and everyone, whether you wish to apply or are just interested, are welcome. For more information on the project, job roles and seminars please contact Greg Harrison at SCT on 226 2660.

### Thank you!

Many thanks to everyone who attended our public meeting – it was a great success. We will soon be able to update you on the issues raised.

### Theme Meetings

Everyone is welcome at the following theme meetings:

**Employment & Enterprise:** 6 July, Ellesmere Children's Centre, 1.30–3.30pm

**Health:** 6 June & 4 July, St Peter's Church Hall, Lyons Street, 5.30–7.30pm

**Over-arching:** 14 June & 12 July, The Furnival, Verdon Street, 6–8pm

**Education:** 8 June & 13 July, St Peter's Church Hall, Lyons Street, 6–8pm

**Crime:** 21 June, Pitsmoor Methodist Church, 6–8pm

**Environment:** 23 June, Pitsmoor Methodist Church, 6–8pm

**Housing:** 14 July, BCAT meeting room, 6–8pm

## Election Update

### It's your vote – make sure you use it!

**Nominations are now being collated for you to elect community representatives to sit on the Burngreave New Deal for Communities partnership board. It will soon be over to you to elect who you want to represent your community – don't miss your chance to have a say.**

Those elected will be joining five local residents who are already on the board:



Aisha  
'Special K'  
Wilson



Dorett  
Buckley  
Greaves



Tony Hall



Chair  
Rose Ardron



Muhammad  
Iqbal



### Voluntary and Community Sector candidates

In addition to the community representatives, you also need to select representatives from the voluntary and community (VolCom) sector.

The VolCom organisations, who the candidates will work for, will be located within, and provide a service to, the BNDfC area.

### What to watch out for...

We felt it was important to incorporate an information session at the BNDfC public meeting on 28 May so that people who couldn't attend the previous information sessions had a final chance to find out more about becoming a board member. Therefore, the deadline for candidate nominations to be put forward to join the BNDfC partnership board has been extended until 6 June.

The electoral register closes on 13 June so make sure you are registered. If you are not sure please complete the form

that should have been delivered to your home and send it back by this date or get in touch with the BNDfC Information Shop on Spital Hill, tel: 292 0464,

From 20 June, ballot papers will be distributed to all homes in the BNDfC area.

There will then be a three-week period to post your vote, or if you miss this, you can bring your ballot paper to the Abbeyfield Festival on 10 July where BNDfC will have a polling station.

On Tuesday 21 June (12 noon–2pm), Saturday 25 June (3–5pm) and Monday 27 June (6–8pm), the BNDfC Information Vehicle will be out and about on the streets of Burngreave for the election hustings. This is your chance to meet the candidates and hear what they have to say and what they want to do. Look out for more details on this including venues.

Contact the BNDfC Information Shop if you need any help or more information and don't forget everyone over the age of 15 who lives in the BNDfC area is entitled to vote.

# A New Deal for Burngreave



## Summer schedule

**As summer approaches and the sun starts to shine (here's hoping...) the usual questions start to surface about what you can do to keep yourself occupied. Well worry not, there are some great events planned over the next couple of months which are sure to keep the whole family entertained.**

### Burngreave Mile Run – Sunday 19 June

It's that time again when the people of Burngreave don their running shoes and get ready to take part in a mile-long run around their neighbourhood.

There are different runs for different age groups so everyone can enter and a carnival atmosphere is expected again with a whole host of activities to get involved with.

### Abbeyfield Festival – Sunday 10 July

What more can be said about the Abbeyfield Festival – the hugely successful event that gives local people the opportunity to showcase their talents and really enjoy the rich diversity of their community. Excitement is mounting as Burngreave's biggest event is back!

### Seaside Trip – Saturday 23 July

Life's a beach – well for one day at least!

The trip to the seaside – guaranteed to be a family favourite.

Organised by BNDfC, the subsidised excursion gives local people and their children the chance to visit the seaside and enjoy an action-packed day out. Location is yet to be decided so look out for more details in the coming weeks.

For more information on these events please contact the BNDfC Information Shop on Spital Hill. There will also be a range of other activities happening throughout the summer organised by BNDfC, Sheffield Futures and other young people service providers in the area.



*Family fun at last year's seaside trip to Skegness.*

## Partnership Board Meeting – Wednesday, 27 April 2005

### What was discussed

#### Streetwork Burngreave Youth project

Co-ordinating youth projects and working with young people on the streets.

#### Transport Strategy Project

Development of the Spital Hill public realm and road safety projects.

#### The Burngreave and Firvale Masterplan

Which documents prospective changes to housing and shops in the area.

#### Allocation of £10 million by Government Office opposed to the £11.3 million requested by BNDfC.

#### The forthcoming BNDfC partnership Board Election for 5 Community representatives and 3 Voluntary & Community sector representatives

### What we decided

To approve the project in the sum of £945,908 (subject to the conditions being satisfied).

To approve the Project in the sum of £7,448,000 (subject to the conditions being satisfied).

To endorse the Burngreave & Fir Vale Masterplan and to stress the urgent need for the size and central location of the supermarket to be resolved by SCC.

To deliver all activities identified in the Year 5 Deliver Plan and secure additional resources where necessary to enable this to happen.

To strengthen the role of the Voluntary & Community Sector representatives and agreed a minimum attendance level at meetings for members of the board.



contact: 276 9134

# Burngreave Area Panel

## School gates

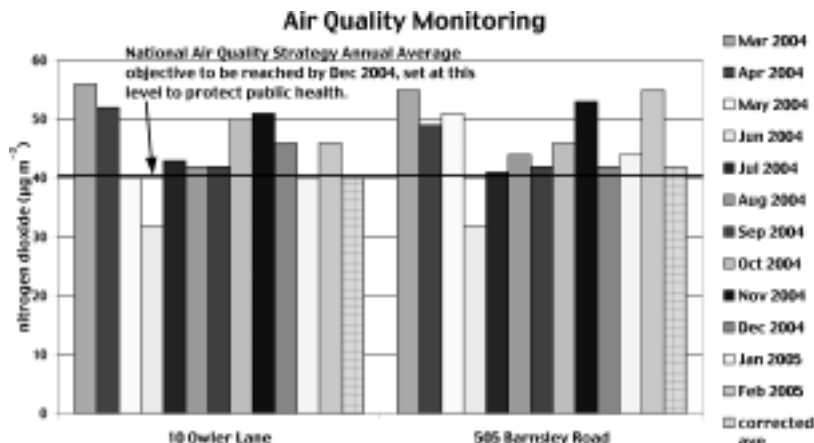
Something weird seems to happen when adults have to get to and from school gates. Some of us lead lives that mean we never have enough time; we don't have a minute to waste before leaving the 6-year-old at school, and getting into work by 9am. And the job isn't round the corner – it's on Ecclesall Road. And sometimes we have to fetch children on a wet day from two schools that are half a mile apart. So the journey to and from school is by car, if there is one.

Owler Brook school at Page Hall isn't the only school that has this problem. At least the cars don't tend to be 4x4s! But it means that on Wensley Street there are problems, and rows and arguments and revving engines – as tempers fray and nothing moves.

There are different ways of dealing with this. Some people say that we need wider roads and special car parks. Others say that we need double-yellow lines, parking wardens and fines. And some say that nothing should be done to encourage more drivers – but we should try and do something to see if more children (and parents) could walk to and from school.

But then I've heard something different. Someone white explained that it was 'cultural'. Apparently it had been said (by an Asian dad) that "in our culture, women shouldn't be seen walking to school with their children". The conclusion was that at the mention of the word 'culture', the argument should cease as nothing could be done. As it happens, I don't agree. I don't agree that culture is one unchanging, unchangeable thing. Cultures change as people and communities change. Secondly, for anyone to suggest that there is a cultural – or is it religious – explanation for jumping into a car is daft and wrong. And thirdly for this absurdity to be repeated is more than wrong. It creates an 'us' and 'them' – and rapidly becomes an urban myth, or a prejudiced claim. How could anyone think that for Asian women – or any parent, it is dishonourable being seen to be walking children to school?

We know that burning carbon-based fuels (like petrol) are a major contributor to global warming. We might not be able to 'see' that in Burngreave, but we could 'see' it as virtually all the world's glaciers are retreating. We know that airlines are major polluters, but that motorists travelling short distances in slow-



moving traffic are contributing to pollution. And we know from air-quality measurements of nitrogen dioxide in Fir Vale that pollution is high. Things need to change; but that won't happen if lazy and prejudiced thinking prevents us all from trying to do whatever we can to reduce traffic emissions.

## Bring outs

The most popular section of this page – judging by the phone calls! Since last November, the Area Panel has paid for 22 bring out your rubbish days in the whole area, covering every house. The last three are in June – Carwood on 7th, around Earldom and Malton on 14th and Ellesmere/Buckingham/Sutherland on 21st.

## Area Panel

The next public meeting – Thursday 30th June at 6.30pm at Pitsmoor Methodists. We've got the local NHS colleagues (Gary McCulloch from North PCT) talking about action against the main local killer diseases – like diabetes and heart disease; and staff (Shanza Hussain) from Planning explaining how we can influence the way the city and our localities might be changing for the better in the next ten years – the new 'planning framework' which controls and encourages particular sorts of development throughout the city.

## Councillor's Surgery Dates

Your local councillors, Jackie Drayton, Ibrar Hussain and Steve Jones (pictured left to right below), share surgeries on a rota basis.



- Burngreave Library, second and fourth Saturday of each month.
- Firshill TARA, second Saturday of each month.
- Firvale Forum, third Thursday of each month.
- Wensley TARA, second Tuesday of each month.
- Shirecliffe Community Centre, first Thursday of each month.

## Next Area Panel Meeting Date

- Thursday 30th June, 6.30pm – Pitsmoor Methodist Church.

Don't forget you can contact the Area Panel and Burngreave Area Action Team at: 12-14 Burngreave Road, S3 9DD.  
Tel/Fax: 276 9134 Email: burngreave@btconnect.com.



# Devon Gardens – A Gem of A Park

**Ever heard of Devon Gardens? For many people in Burngreave, it's not a major feature on the landscape. Yet this tiny pocket park, located at the top of Abbeyfield Road, is one of several heritage sites in the area. The story of its creation, and of how it has kept its unusual character, is one that illustrates some of the changes in the social and cultural history of Sheffield.**



*BGEP, Greenwatch Rangers and Burngreave Voices organised a Victorian tea party in the park one warm April afternoon. Whilst drinking tea and eating cake, people were invited to talk about their memories of the park and why they think it's special.*

At first glance, the park doesn't appear to look anything special. A bit of research shows how its development reflected a time when Burngreave was a fashionable neighbourhood for the aristocracy and professional classes to live in. During the late 1800s and early 1900s there was a flurry of house building on what were then the outskirts of Sheffield. As large, gracious villas began to appear along Abbeyfield Road and Burngreave Road, the area changed dramatically in character from rural to urban and it was at this point that the need for green spaces was recognised.

In 1912, the 7th Earl Fitzwilliam offered a small parcel of land off Abbeyfield Road to the Sheffield Corporation, on the condition that it was fenced and maintained as a recreational space. A couple of years later, in 1914, Devon Gardens opened to the public, offering *"...a pleasant retreat for people wishing rest and quietness"*. Built in the style of an Edwardian town square, it had a circular path, flower beds filled with roses and spacious lawns. The Gardens were nicknamed 'the Nanny Park', because of their popularity with nannies and children in their care from the big houses nearby.

Although the gardens' fortunes fluctuated, with complaints that they weren't being maintained even as far back as 1928, they were still a place of beauty and tranquillity in the 1950s. Arriving to live on Abbeyfield Road in 1957, Dorrett Buckley Greaves described the gardens as, *"Serene – a place to watch the world go by and be at peace. And such a mass of roses!"* Whilst the days of nannies pushing prams in the park had gone, she remembers her neighbours as *"All posh people: they were well spoken and sophisticated... but snooty. One of them had been a nanny who had married the father of her charges when his first wife died. Another one used to dress like the Queen Mother!"*

It is only by a curious combination of neglect and direct community action that the character of the park has been preserved. A shortage of funds in the '60s and '70s led to the park's decline, but in the 1980s they were targeted for improvement. However when work began, residents objected to the lack of consultation and demanded that the original features and layout of the gardens were kept. As a result the essential character of the park was saved from destruction and a small piece of Burngreave's heritage preserved.

What does the future hold? Whilst new plans are afoot to improve the gardens, this time they will take account of residents' views: Burngreave Green Environment Programme (BGEP) and the Greenwatch Rangers have held events locally to find out what people liked about the park and wanted to see

improved. They hope to get some additional funds to add facilities such as benches and bins but also to repair the existing paths and plant more colourful borders, in keeping with the original character of the park.

**by Nikky Wilson, Burngreave Voices**

If you want to read more about the history of Devon Gardens, come to Burngreave Library and ask for the Devon Gardens report.

## Burngreave Voices Our Stories Celebrated

### War Time Memorabilia

*Do you have any old bits of equipment or papers from the Second World War at home? Would you donate it to a collection for use in local schools?*

eg: Old gas masks, Air raid rattles, Old helmets, Bits of shrapnel, Ration books, Clothing coupons. Petrol coupons, Utility clothing or nylons...

If you can help, please get in touch with **Nikky Wilson** on **276 1900** or call into **Burngreave Library**.

Burngreave Voices: Our Stories Celebrated is a Sheffield Galleries and Museums Trust project in partnership with Sheffield Libraries, WEA and Sheffield College. Supported by Sheffield City Council and Burngreave New Deal for Communities.

## Friends of Burngreave Chapel and Cemetery present

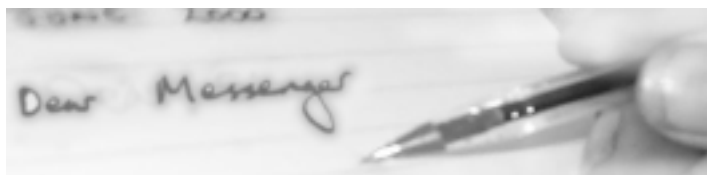
***"Old soldiers never die, they simply..."***  
*An exhibition about people who died fighting in wars.*

**1st–12th June • 10.00am–4.00pm**  
**Free entrance • Refreshments served**

Come along to the Chapel and tell us about your family's experience of war.

For more information contact  
**Christine Steers on 0114 281 6950.**

*Please note:*  
*The exhibition is wheelchair accessible but sorry, there is no disabled toilet.*



Dear Messenger

I am wondering if you could investigate the process or real criteria for gaining the facelift scheme on your road or street.

Residents of Roe Lane were informed that their houses were included in the approved areas for the scheme. I recently sought confirmation of this and was informed by the council that this was the case, subject to budgets and continued government funding. Last year the scheme moved to Firs Hill, Firs Hill Road and most of Barnsley Road South and beyond. These are completed. On contacting the Council to find out why the scheme had bypassed Roe Lane and continued into Firvale, I was informed that the scheme had been brought to Firs Hill Road because of a petition from the residents – I was shocked. I was also informed that Abbeyfield Road residents were completing a similar petition and the scheme would therefore most likely go there next.

If the process for gaining this scheme were by petition from the residents then the residents of Roe Lane and other areas would have been grateful to have been informed of this. The criteria for choosing the next road should not be based on who lobbies the council but on the basis of fair and transparent criteria, such as prioritising the area and then completing it rather than doing some and leaving other residents to feel a sense of unfairness. Other priorities should be homes of elderly residents and disabled people who cannot afford the cost of face lifting their properties, as is the case of some residents in Roe Lane and other areas that appear to have been bypassed. Can you find out if this is a facelift scheme for our area or if it's a lottery?

Regards, Mrs F Cotterell

The *Messenger* approached the Council and received the following response:

*"Ideally we would like to be able to facelift the whole area. However, because of limited funding, we have to have a priority system to determine which streets we facelift so that the work has the most impact and benefit to the area as a whole.*

*Funding is allocated on a yearly basis, so we cannot plan any further ahead than each year. This year's funding has been allocated to Nottingham Street, Rock Street, and Andover Street.*

*Roe Lane is a street we would consider for facelift but we will have to wait and see how much money we are allocated next year, if any, and then spend it according to the priority system.*

*We welcome the views of people and take them into consideration, but with limited funding we do have to apply criteria when deciding how to spend it. We haven't and would not facelift a street purely on the basis of a resident's petition."*

The Council told us each street is judged against the following:

- 1 If any grant work has been done in the street before.
- 2 If the street is close to a new 'development site' such as new housing or renovations.
- 3 If the street is visible from a main road or bus route.

Points 2 and 3 have equal weighting. Point 1 has a lower weighting. This criteria has been reviewed and is to be brought to an Area Panel meeting for approval.

The Council received a petition from Firs Hill, but not from Abbeyfield residents. They confirmed that Roe Lane was on the list of potential streets for facelift, but there wasn't enough funding to do the work this year

# Burngreave Green Environment Programme



## Events in June & July

### Saturday 18th June – Cycle Safe

10am–12 noon. Ellesmere Park. Bring your bike down to Ellesmere Park and join a guided bike ride (3 miles on the flat) and lots of cycling fun and games for all the family. Bike repair team on hand. Meet at the park entrance. Contact Burngreave Rangers on 278 9651.

### Thursday 23rd June – 'One World' Talking Trees Art Shop

1–3pm. Abbeyfield Park House. See ad below. Contact Karen Wood on 0799 077 2362.

### Tuesday 5th July – Climbing Wall

4–9pm. Osgathorpe Park. For young people age 13–19. Contact Matt on 0789 113 3696.

### Sunday 17th July – It's a Bug's Day!

1–3pm. Little Roe Woods (Norwood Road Entrance). Get your hands dirty finding bugs and other creepy crawlies in the mud & in the water. Contact Burngreave Rangers on 278 9651.



## 'One World' Talking Trees Art Workshop

Thursday 23rd June, 1–3pm  
Abbeyfield Park House

*An exciting opportunity to get your art published!*

Come along to this free workshop (all materials are provided) and work with a local artist and tutor to create tree-related illustrations for a collection of stories from all over the world. They were collected by children from Burngreave primary schools, working with local storyteller Shonaleigh and illustrator Graham Higgins. The children were studying the trees planted by local people in Abbeyfield Park last November at the 'One World' Talking Trees event. The trees include olive, eucalyptus, Kashmir rowan, dove tree, almond and tulip trees – all now happily growing in Abbeyfield Park.

Places are limited, so please book first by calling  
Karen Wood on 0799 077 2362



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## Burngreave Ramblers

Interested in walking? BR is a small friendly group who welcome new members on any of their walks.

**All walks...**

...are on Saturdays: 11th June, 2nd and 16th July

...leave from Abbeyfield Park Gates, Abbeyfield Road at 11.00am, returning about 3.30pm

...are moderately easy, 5-7 miles, usually in the Peak District

...are FREE!! Just wear suitable gear and bring packed lunch and drink

Still interested?

Phone David (242 3870) or

Jill (243 8867) for more info.

## Join Our Celebrations

St Peter's Church, Ellesmere – Silver Jubilee

**Anniversary Weekend Events**

Saturday June 25th 2.30–5.00pm

**Fun For All The Family**

Games, Food, Stalls & Entertainment

Sunday June 26th

**Thanksgiving Service**

with Rev Philip West

Followed by Refreshments – Everyone Welcome



Welcome Home Furniture Service & Community Re>Paint

40 Earsham Street S4 7LS Mon–Thu 10.00am–3.30pm

25% Discount for Burngreave residents on a low income

tel: SCRAP on 275 5599 or 275 5055 for more details



**Are you a Private Tenant?**

Problems with housing disrepair?

'Drop in session'

Free advice and help about repair and management

Come and have your say!

Every Wednesday afternoon, 2-4pm, BNDfC Shop, 131 Spital Hill

Burngreave Private Landlords can access

Advice • Access to the Responsible Landlord Scheme and its range of benefits • 'Landlords for Excellence' course at Sheffield Hallam University - FREE

For more information tel: 273 4642 or 273 5134

'Private Rented Project', Private Sector Housing, 3rd Floor, Howden House, Sheffield S1 2SH



## Pitsmoor Credit Union

**Your Local Savings and Loans Co-operative – Join Now!**

For more information, phone 273 8555 or come to a Collection Point

**Mondays 8.00–9.00pm**  
at the Halicar Tavern, Carwood Estate

**Tuesdays 8.00–9.00pm**  
at The Rock Public House, Rock Street

**Thursdays 11.00–12.00am**  
at the Welcome Centre (Christchurch Community Hall)

**Office open for enquiries**  
**Monday–Friday 10.00am–3.00pm**

Pitsmoor Credit Union is regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Reg No: 213562

## Greentop Community Circus Centre

**Circus in Performance Course**

12-week full-time course for adults covering trapeze, acrobatics, juggling, stunts, unicycling and performance skills.

Previous students have gone on to perform in big top circuses, the Millennium Dome show, community arts, stunt work, and do further circus training.

For further details & prices contact:

Greentop on **0114 244 8828**

email: **info@greentop.org**

or visit our website:

**www.greentop.org**

This course is accredited through the Open College Network.



## ANN SUMMERS PARTY PLAN

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*'Reap the Rewards'*



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Offering you a creative service in the comfort of your own home.

Call Cath for an appointment on: (0114) 243 6985 or 0789 900 1285.





# Have a go!

## English or Maths National Qualifications

Come in and talk to us, practise and get free guidance at one of the 7 sessions in Burngreave.

Monday 13th June, Firshill School*	1.00pm - 3.00pm
Tuesday 14th June, Furnival project*	10.00am - 12.00 Noon
Tuesday 14th June, Owlter Brook School*	1.00pm - 3.00pm
Wednesday 15th June, Pitsmoor Methodist Church	4.00pm - 7.00pm
Thursday 16th June, Byron Wood School	9.15am - 11.15am
Friday 17th June, St Peter's Church	10.00am - 12.00 Noon
Saturday 18th June, Burngreave Library	9.30am - 12.00 Noon

\* Creche by request: phone Tony, 266 9489

Then two weeks later sit a nationally recognised qualification in 1 hour - FREE, and receive one of these on completion.



If you need further information Call (0114) 279 4960



## Test yourself

"The idea," said Jon Cowley of New Deal, "Is to give as many people as possible the chance to gain national English and Maths qualifications. The second is to encourage people to improve their English and Maths skills in general. You should give it a try Rob!" Jon informed me that, along with himself, Tony Tingle from the Adult Community Learning Unit, Burngreave Community Learning Campaign and other partners have been working to bring the Sheffield College tests to Burngreave.

"So has this initiative been a success?" I asked.

"It has been a great success elsewhere in the city. The Burngreave sessions will take place in several places around the community starting on June 13th. You should have a go Rob. Come along and bring a friend. For those who complete the test there will be a £30 Meadowhall voucher to spend."

"30 quid! So all I have to do is do OK at the practice session, then take the national test two weeks later!"

"Yeah Rob it's as simple as that."

"I'll be there Jon, it smells like a free meal ticket to me."

by Rob Smith

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# 1-8pm Sunday 31 July 2005

Osgathorpe Park (Earl Marshall Recreation Ground)

In its fifth year the festival is an excellent annual family occasion.

There will be a diverse range of activities including...

Musical Sound System & Live Entertainment, Penalty Shootout, Grass Sledging, Sports Games & Competitions, Food, Drinks, Ice Cream, Bouncy Castles, Sumo Wrestlers, Bronko the Bull, Large Slide, plus much more...

## Book your stalls now!

Or get involved as a volunteer, and help make it happen! Help us to make this year's festival the best ever, by helping us to spread the word of 'One Love'.

Contact: Aisha Special K (Festival Manager)

**Burngreave Problem Busters**

119 Brunswick Road, Sheffield S3 9LQ

Tel: 0114 273 1040 or 0773 987 8596

Email: aishaspecialk\_sct@hotmail.com



Osgathorpe Jam One Love Festival 2004's Live Musical Showcase on DVD now on sale. Contact the Burngreave Problem Busters to secure your copy.

Funding to be confirmed



# Pitsmoor Adventure Playground



**FREE TRIP TO ALTON TOWERS**  
Monday 8th August  
For children aged 16 and under  
Under 8s must be accompanied by an adult  
First come first serve  
Contact Claire or Steve on 203 9394 to book your place