

Burngreave Messenger



Voice of the Burngreave Community

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

Spital Hill road closures

Spital Hill is to close for traffic flowing into the city centre from 4th September for twelve months.



The closure is due to the construction of a new retaining wall and road junction on Spital Hill. Traffic flowing into the city centre will now have to divert onto Gower Street, Sutherland Street, Attercliffe Road, Savile Street and then onto the Wicker.

However, traffic will still flow one-way from the city centre and will be open to pedestrians.

Lee Tinkle, Project Manager at Birse, contractors for the project said: "The closure and diversion is a recent change to plans due to technical reasons. We don't expect an increase in traffic or congestion due to the diversion."



The changes are due to the development of the ring road which will run past the bottom of Spital Hill towards Brunswick Road joining another link road that will run across the Wicker from the Parkway. The new trunk road will then run past the Riverside Exchange development and towards Penistone Road.

A spokesperson for Birse said: "The purpose of the new link road is to improve traffic flow, reduce congestion and reduce traffic flow into the city centre".

However, locals from Spital Hill see the

developments as good news if you're a motorist but not so good if you're a resident or pedestrian. They complained that the new road will be unpleasant as it will create more traffic and congestion. For pedestrians the new link road may also act as a barrier and cut off Burngreave from the city centre. Ahmed Gurnah, of the Burngreave Community Learning Campaign, based at Forum House said:

"Although Burngreave is less than a mile from the city centre it already feels isolated and this scheme may increase that feeling."

by Naheem Hanif



**Saturday
10th Sept
2005**

**Abbeyfield Park Part 2
Multicultural Festival**

1pm - 6pm

FREE ENTRY

Celloman the bighdaddies

PLUS MANY MORE

This event is being staged with the generous help of both the New Deal for Communities and Sheffield City Council, this is a celebration of the wonderful atmosphere which is abundant in the Burngreave Community, the event that was hosted on Sunday 10th July came to an abrupt end for well publicised reasons this was a shame as the event which was in it's 7th year had been declared by many to be the best yet! Since the cancellation of that event, we have been inundated with support from all sectors to finish what we started. So come along and enjoy the entertainment that didn't get to play.

FESTIVAL INFORMATION LINE : 0114 2440353

Security grants for local companies and voluntary groups

Are you missing out?

Following the successful pilot project on Spital Hill, the security grant scheme has been extended to cover the whole of the BNDfC area.

Your group or business could qualify for a grant of up to £5,000 towards security improvements such as CCTV and alarm systems, roller shutters, fencing and door entry systems.

Businesses can get two thirds of the work funded; voluntary, community and faith groups may be eligible for 100% funding (up to a maximum of £5,000).

The grants are spread throughout the year and applications can be submitted at any time.



For an application form and further information please contact:

People United Against Crime

275 8688

security-grants@people-united.org

Needing out of school child care?

Then try...

Burngreave Out of School Club

We're based at **Firshill Primary School**, but take children from the whole of the Burngreave area and beyond.

We provide qualified, professional (and fun!) child care for 4-13 year olds between 3pm and 6pm each day for only £6 a session and there are some free and subsidised places available.

For more information call at the club (we're in the mobile classrooms) or telephone us on 256 0989 between 3pm and 6.30pm in term time or 8.30am and 6pm in holidays.

We look forward to seeing you!

Now taking bookings for Holiday Play care (8.30am to 6pm each day) during October Half Term.

rethink

Volunteering Opportunity for people interested in mental health

Rethink are looking for open-minded and motivated volunteers to spend three hours per week doing social activities with people who have a mental illness, either one-to-one or in a group. Training, support, supervision and expenses are provided.

We welcome applicants who have themselves experienced mental illness.

For further information contact

Kate Webster on 267 7660 ext 1 or email kate.webster@rethink.org

We particularly welcome Black and Minority Ethnic applicants

Shirecliffe Smiles Festival 2005

Saturday 10 September

12 noon-5.00pm

**at Parkwood School,
Penrith Road, Shirecliffe.**

Stalls from local groups, games and rides, music, dance, food, and information.

Car boot/table top sale!

If you would like to take part or would like more information, please contact:

Lyn or Janet on 242 3366

Burngreave Children's Centre – Launch!

Saturday 24 September 2005

Come and help us celebrate the opening of our brand new Children's Centre at 19 Spital Street, Sheffield, S3 9LB

11am - 12 noon – Arts and Crafts at Burngreave Young Children's Centre (Catherine Road)

12 noon – March down to Spital Street

12.30pm - 2pm – Opening Ceremony and activities at Spital Street

Everyone welcome

Activities include:

Arts and Crafts

International Cuisine

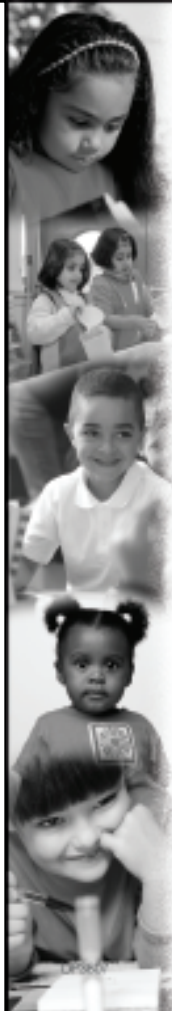
Children's Entertainment

Range of Information Stalls

For more information, please telephone 0114 244 3887 or 0114 261 2010



SureStart



Cricket winners

The Sheffield Federation for School Sports' Raynor Trophy was won by Firs Hill Community School on 21st July, playing against Parson Cross Primary. A resounding win of 88 runs to 15.

Twenty schools from across the city took part in the league. Firs Hill reached the finals by beating Abbeydale Primary in the semi-finals.

Coaches Mrs Hussain and Mr Rasool said, "It was an outstanding performance by all of the team." The whole team get voted 'men of the tournament', and Dhanyal Safier (Y4) and Hamzah Younis (Y5) received the accolade of 'men of the match' for the finals.



Firs Hill School cricket team: Aram Hussain, Chavaz Bashir, Islaan Ali, Dhanyal Safier, Bilal Rasool, Mikail Ashraf, Majid Khan and Hamzah Younis.

by Gaby Spinks

New Deal get tough

A £1.3 million environment project has been rejected by New Deal after months of negotiation between Sheffield Wildlife Trust, Sheffield City Council and local group Green City Action.

The organisations were part of the Burngreave Green Environment Project (BGEP) phase 1, which ended in March 2005, spending about £1.3 million since October 2002. Concerns were raised that phase 1 didn't deliver enough real improvements, and phase 2 was intended to focus on practical work for Burngreave's green spaces.

However New Deal rejected the proposal for phase 2 saying it didn't provide value for money, and that money was being requested to fund existing posts which would hope to secure a further £1.2 million match funding to actually do the work.

New Deal now intend to tender out the work, alongside a project delivered by Green City Action. A member of the BGEP steering group expressed concern this would lead to further delays and an unco-ordinated approach.

The decision reflects a growing trend in New Deal. In July Burngreave Community Action Trust lost the Grants Scheme and in August Pitsmoor Somali Youth Project had their funding withdrawn. In both cases New Deal would only say this was due to concerns about management and delivery.

Sorby House and Vestry Hall

The year long £4 million New Deal project to refurbish Sorby House, due to start this month has been delayed until October. Delays are in part due to failed negotiations with Ladbroke's who want to stay in the building and are unwilling to leave during the renovations, which will add costs to the project.

Sorby House is intended to be community and commercial office space and the £3.1 million Vestry Hall project, which is due to start at the end of October, is set to create a learning centre. Neither buildings have completed business plans yet and a member of the Vestry Hall Steering Group expressed concern to the *Messenger* that they had not met since April or been able to see the draft business plan.

The Editorial

Just say no

Local politics can be challenging and rewarding, but it can be hard. Two of our local councillors sit on the Planning Board which will soon have to decide whether to give Viridor the go ahead to dump more 'active waste' into Parkwood (see page 8)

Parkwood is part of the largest green space in Sheffield, close to the city centre and our homes. It has Burngreave caught in a toxic sandwich between the landfill and the huge incinerator being built on the other side of the hill. Of course waste has to go somewhere, but we could recycle more. Latest figures (2003-4) show Sheffield is in the bottom quarter of authorities, recycling only 12% of the city's waste.

Councillors always have to balance the interests of different groups and organisations, local, city-wide and national issues, but they are also elected to represent us. Residents have been campaigning for years, saying Parkwood isn't the place for active waste. The *Messenger* joins their calls on our councillors to 'just say no' to even more of the stuff.

Messenger Info

Meetings: 6.30pm, Wednesday at Abbeyfield Park House
Editorial: 31st August
Management: 28th September
All welcome.

Copy deadline: 14th September

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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, Kate Atkinson, Annie Blindell, Clare Burnell, Camille Daughma, Andrew Green, Naheem Hanif, Saleema Imam, Mark Lankshear, Carl Rose, Gaby Spinks, Christine Steers, Lisa Swift and Paul Taylor.

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Understanding Islam

Ahmed Hussain was once better known as DJ Billy. He was signed to a record label; he was even offered a chance to record in India. Yet he gave it all up to devote his life to Islam. He now runs the Iqra Book and Gift centre on Owler Lane. The shop and his role model status have prompted young people to question their faith and idols, promoting a deeper understanding of Islam.

After the death of a close family member, Ahmed took a break from DJing and started to question life. He found that Islam and the belief in a creator gave his life purpose and he found happiness in this security. Yet to become a dedicated Muslim, he had to abandon the competitive nature and pride that came hand in hand with his DJ career.



Muslims have been linked with terrorism by parts of the government and the press.

"Islam condemns all kinds of terrorism, whether it's in Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, America or London. The Koran teaches peace and offers guidelines on how to live peacefully. I run an Islamic bookshop and none of these books teach or preach the killing of innocents. As Muslims, we are instructed not even to kill a fly. Islam is not the 'barbaric ideology' that Bush and Blair have called it."

Despite national reports of increased hostility to Muslims, Ahmed notes the spotlight on the religion has opened people's eyes. "Since September 11th there are more Muslims in America than ever before. People started questioning Islam, asking what it is. All the libraries ran out of Korans!"

Ahmed's shop provides an opportunity for everyone to learn more about Islam and counters the representations offered by the national media. "Everybody is welcome, Muslim or non-Muslim to come to the shop for a free copy of the Koran and talk to me and others about Islam."

Iqra Book and Gift Centre, 92 Owler Lane, Tel: 244 0300.

"Many of the kids round here are influenced by rap culture, getting into guns and the drugs it promotes. Their role models are people like Biggie and Tupac – and they died young. I opened the shop eight months ago to give young people (and old) a chance to find out about Islam. I'm a role model to some kids, and many did come back to Islam after I opened the shop."

It was hard to talk about Islam without reference to how

by Kate Atkinson

PATWAR

Local residents have been meeting to discuss what people in Burngreave can do in response to the tragic events in London.

Richard Belbin, a member of Pitsmoor Against the War [PATWAR] said:

"We reject the view that terrorism is rooted in Muslim fanaticism and are concerned that there has been a marked increase in attacks upon Muslims nationally: neither Muslims nor Islam are the problem. This all has far more to do with the war in Iraq and the situation in the Middle East".

PATWAR will be holding a fundraising and information evening with food at The Kashmir on 20th September at 7pm, in the run up to a national anti-war demonstration. The demo will be in London, on 24th September – there will be a PATWAR coach from Burngreave.

For more information contact: patwar@blueyonder.co.uk, Richard on 0779 061 2473 or James on 0779 668 4029.

Relative harmony

After residents raised concerns about possible negative effects of the London bombings on local Muslims, the Messenger spoke to Imam Ali Amed of the At-Taqwa Somali Mosque and Community Centre.

"The London bombing was a disaster for both Muslims and non-Muslims. The Muslims shared with the others that were killed by the bombs and then also are victimised and blamed."

The Messenger asked if he'd been made aware of any negative behaviour towards Muslims. Imam Amed said:

"I haven't heard of any major problems or tension in Burngreave, with the exception of some victimisation of women wearing Hijabs on buses."

We asked the Secretary of the Dar-ul-Aloom Saddiquia Mosque, Mr Raja Saddiq, if there has been a rise in tension between Muslims and non-Muslims in Burngreave since the bombings. Mr Saddiq said:

"No, not around here. I think because it is such a mixed place, where everyone lives happily together."

Dr Vithal Patel is the Chair of the Hindu Samaj Cultural and Community Centre on Ellesmere Road. Dr Patel told us that Hindus and Muslims have been placed under the same pressure and believes it's wrong to blame all of Islam for the acts of a few radical Muslims.

Asked if Hindus have experienced any negative behaviour since the bombings, Dr Patel said:

"Yes, against our facility on Ellesmere during our independence celebration on 14th August. Two youths threw stones smashing glass in the centre. When challenged, the two youths shouted 'Paki bombers', before running away."

When asked if this sort of behaviour has risen in Burngreave Dr Patel said he didn't think so and believes that we live in relative harmony together here.

Developers anger Grimesthorpe residents

Local residents on Grimesthorpe Road are expressing concern over plans to build two blocks of five-storey flats at the top of Smithies Field.

The developers, Redwall, have already begun to clear the site, although they don't have planning permission to begin construction.

Concerns about their actions were brought to the *Messenger's* attention by Pete Hunt (pictured right), who owns two houses next to where the flats are planned and has lived there for 23 years.

"I used to have a drive that gave me access to the land at back of my house. This has now been fenced off by the developers."

Letters sent to Mr Hunt from the developer's solicitors deny that there is a public right of way through that part of the land and have informed Pete that he has just 14 days to sort out any access issues. After this date he will no longer have access to back of his property through the site.

Since work started in July, a path that is used by the public on Grimesthorpe Road to access the fields that lead onto Carwood has been blocked by the developers.

Whilst there I witnessed a group of bewildered looking walkers stumbling over a mound of rubble that has since replaced the path. Looking at the collection of burnt trees, rubble and waste it is hard to believe that just three weeks ago it was densely filled with trees and plants.

Alan Bullock, Pete's next door neighbour comments on how sad it is to see the place demolished:

"The developers have just been cavalier in their whole approach, their planning application said they would leave major trees, but they seemed to be clearing as much as possible. There has been wholesale destruction of the wildlife habitat for no real reason – this area has been home to song thrushes and sky larks; we often see bats."

Alan hopes the Council will think twice before granting planning permission for the flats:

"Residents are planning to object to the proposals, mainly because five-storey blocks are completely inappropriate, they're just too tall. Some of the flats they are planning are tiny, 26 square metres are the smallest, which is no bigger than a large living room. They are trying to sell the idea that they are low-cost starter homes, but £50k is not cheap for something of that size."



Another Grimesthorpe Road resident, Philip Ward, told us:

"The developers own all the land at the top of Smithies Field, but they have only put in an application to build on 90 metres of about a 350 metre stretch, and yet they are clearing the whole site. They seem to be trying to bounce the Council into a decision when the rest of the site comes up for planning permission, by clearing it and environmentally degrading it now."

by Carl Rose

Redwall clear the site

Following an urgent phone to the *Messenger* on 17th August, I went to Grimesthorpe Road to find Redwall in the process of clearing the entire site.



On the road I ran into Reg Drabble, a local resident, who was very concerned about the work being done and what residents are being told.

He had been told all current works were to be carried out further up Grimesthorpe Road and the site near to Carwood wouldn't be touched for three years. However, while we were speaking, Thomas Higginbottom, the site supervisor for Redwall, admitted to Mr Drabble that wasn't the truth.

I asked Mr Higginbottom if he realised local residents were unhappy about the clearance and would he consider stopping. He said he knew residents weren't happy because his digger had been sabotaged, but Redwall owned the site and they were entitled to do what they liked with it. "We own it," he said, "we are clearing away this eyesore and reducing health and safety risks, the site is full of rubbish and dead animals."

I asked him whether they intended to put in further planning applications for building at which point he declined to continue the interview and answer any more questions. Reg then told him to expect a lot of opposition from local people.

by Gaby Spinks

Residents have been given until 30th August to register objections. However comments are accepted right up until the application is considered by the planning board, a date for this is not confirmed.



Footpath before the developers started work.

To comment on the plans contact Sheffield City Council Planning Department on 273 4215 or planningdc.north@sheffield.gov.uk or write to Howden House quoting reference 05/02963/REM.

Alice Ingham – A Life in Pitsmoor

In the fast and hectic pace of the 21st century, most of us will move house, change neighbourhoods, jobs and even schools several times during our lifetimes. Alice Ingham, a Pitsmoor resident for almost ninety years, has a very different story to tell. Not only has she lived almost all her life on the same street in Pitsmoor, but she went to only one school and worked for only one firm. Not many of us can boast of such a strong connection to one place.

Alice was born in 1916 into a terraced house on Fox Street, her parents having moved there as soon as they were married. She was the oldest of three children and they grew up together playing on the street or further down the hill in a big field “with a castle on top”.

Between the ages of five and fourteen, Alice went to the local school at Pye Bank. “There was only the one school at that time but just after I left, a new school, Burngreave Secondary Modern, opened and my brother and sister went there. But I didn’t have that chance.” Instead she was sent by the Labour Exchange to work at the Bachelor’s factory behind the Wicker. That was the beginning of a long stint of over 40 years, interrupted only by the Second World War.

“I started on piece work, going through sacks of dried peas and picking out the bad ones. You were paid by the weight of the discarded ones but you had to earn eight shillings’ worth each week, otherwise they took it off next week’s wages! And it was a ten-hour shift each day, although I did manage to get home for lunch,” said Alice. “By the time I was 21, I had



become a supervisor and then Bachelor’s started a canning factory at Wadsley Bridge. So I moved on to work there, still for the same firm, mind you.”

Then came the war years, interrupting both her home life and her job. “During the Blitz, our house was damaged in a bombing raid. We were about to sit down to meat and potato pie for our tea one night when the sirens sounded and we had to go into the shelter in the garden. When we came out the following morning, everything was still on the tea table but covered in soot. But there were plenty around us who had been killed in the bombing.” The family moved over to Gleadless temporarily, coming back a few months later to a house a few doors up on the same street. During this time Alice had not been able to get to work but, as soon as she was back in Pitsmoor, she resumed her working routine for another thirty years. “After fifteen years’ service, I got a gold watch and after forty, they gave

me a bedroom suite. Even now that I’m a pensioner, they send me vouchers for Christmas and my birthday. They were good to me!”

At almost ninety, Alice is still deeply attached to Pitsmoor. When asked why she had never moved away, she said, “It’s always been quiet and clean here, people are friendly and you can walk to town. I’ve never wanted to leave.”

by Nikky Wilson

If you would like to read more about Alice’s life and the stories of other women, call into Burngreave Library and ask for a free copy of *Shadows Lie Behind* by Kate Thomas.

Burngreave Voices: Our Stories Celebrated **Got any treasures?**

Not of the expensive variety but things you value because they bring back memories or have special meaning for you? It could be an old photograph, something a loved one gave you or even an object you found. Burngreave Voices is planning to hold an exhibition to show how people’s treasures are enormously varied and interesting.

If you would be willing to have your photograph taken with your treasured object, please contact Nikky Wilson on 276 1900 or call into Burngreave Library.

Burngreave Voices: Our Stories Celebrated is a Sheffield Galleries & Museums Trust project in partnership with Sheffield Libraries, WEA and Sheffield College, and is supported by Sheffield City Council and BNDfC.



Alice receiving a gift from Batchelor’s for her years of service with the company.

DIY Masterplanning

Spital Hill and Woodside were again under discussion at a community conference on 28th July at Shiloh Church.

Two new project groups are being set up, one to work on the new housing proposals for Catherine Street/Woodside and one for Spital Hill. Local people who live or work in the area can join the groups. People voiced concerns that the Council wouldn't take any notice of what these groups said. Councillor Jackie Drayton said they would be taken very seriously; they would be chaired by a Councillor and report directly to the Area Panel. However she did admit that ultimate decision making powers would still rest with the Council Cabinet.

Supermarket search

The Council is doing a physical feasibility study on sites around Spital Hill, including the Ellesmere old people's home site. They are going to talk to supermarket chains and carry out independent market testing. Current thinking is the supermarket will be around 12–16,000ft² – this compares with the Infirmary Road Tesco (45,000ft²), the average Morrisons (70,000ft²), Netto or Aldi (20,000ft²).

A local shopkeeper asked about the Hartnells site on Saville Street; where there is current planning permission for a 20,000ft² supermarket. The planners are looking into this, but think that the site owner has no real plans to build and is only trying to increase the value of his site. While this is going on shopkeepers and businesses on Spital Hill are left in limbo, a number said outside developers were hassling them to sell and that the former betting shop had recently sold at auction for £175,000. All seemed agreed that a decision on a supermarket needed to happen fast. The Council promised to report back to the next Spital Hill project group meeting in September.

Chance for local shoppers

These groups are only going to be successful if local residents attend and make their views felt. There was a distinct shortage of residents at the meeting. The Spital Hill proposals look like they will be decided by the two most vocal groups of people present at the meeting; the all-male owners of the businesses, whose views will be reasonably clouded by personal financial issues; and the serious environmentalists who think all supermarkets are bad things that harm the environment. Local people need to come to these meetings and say what sort of shopping centre they would use.

To do this for the Spital Hill Project Group, contact Rob Slow on 261 7216 or rob.slow@sheffield.gov.uk and for the Burngreave Housing Project Group contact Caroline Stiff on 261 7216 or caroline.stiff@sheffield.gov.uk.

by Clare Burnell

Fir Vale Masterplan

Fir Vale residents met with councillors on 26th July to initiate the project groups that will help shape the future of the area. There were notably less people than at previous meetings.

The Page Hall area will set up a project group, which will work with the Area Panel on plans to feed back to the Cabinet. Over the next 9–12 months a bid will be put together for the funds to regenerate the area. This is likely to involve mostly refurbishments and identifying areas for change at the house and street levels.

Groups will also be set up for the Skinnerthorpe and Earl Marshall areas to implement the plans already decided. There were dismayed residents from Skinnerthorpe who were not happy with the demolition planned for their area.

Trust was not always evident in the meeting; there were those who continued to press the panel for more information and insisted that not all was being revealed. But my feeling is we have to put some trust in this process as it's not going away and we will have to work together at some point.

The first meetings for the groups will be in September. To join contact 261 7216.

by Kevin Eckersley

Iraqi Kurds

Iraqi Kurds in Sheffield are facing renewed fears of deportation. Stories of sudden arrest and removal have been spreading through the Kurdish community as the Government has started to round up and detain 'failed' asylum seekers at Heathrow.

The government has already declared its intention to deport thousands of Iraqi Kurds, saying that Kurdish areas of Iraq are now 'safe', but a spokesperson from a meeting in Burngreave told us they are alone in this view:

"The United Nations High Commission for Refugees says 'no part of Iraq can be considered safe' and this is a view shared by Amnesty International, the European Union and even the present 'government' in Iraq. Even the UK Foreign Office strongly advises against Britons travelling to Iraq because... it's too dangerous. Indeed, the presence of around 200,000 US and UK troops in Iraq indicates that the actual situation is far from safe."

The meeting of Kurdish and non-Kurdish supporters launched a campaign to oppose the detention of Iraqi Kurds at Heathrow their deportations and the removal of rights to food and shelter. Supporters said:

"We urge all Burngreave residents to stand with our Kurdish brothers and sisters. We will do our utmost to publicise their desperate situation and defend their right to live here."

If you would like to help the campaign contact 0770 426 6613 (Kurdish) or 0791 370 1740 (English).

A 'Companionable' Night

Friday 29th July, the Friends of Burngreave Cemetery and Chapel held a fundraising Blues Night at the Companions Club on Barnsley Road.

Playing were local bands *Green Onions* and *The Robin Hoare Band*. Guest stars were local stone basher Farne Errington who provided the 'rock-ing beat', and Sarah Starbuck on guitar.

Secretary of the Friends group, Christine Steers said:

"We were really pleased, a fantastic effort and an enjoyable evening. We raised £150 and now we are looking forward to the next one on 3rd December. Thanks to Cassie Limb and Robin Hoare for organising the event."

Decision time for Parkwood landfill

Plans to tip more active waste at Parkwood landfill are worth an estimated £34 million to site operators Viridor. They have now submitted the long-awaited planning application and local residents are intensifying their campaign against it.

At present the site is divided into four cells. Viridor have planning permission to tip active waste (the kind that rots) in three cells. Permission for the fourth (Area D in the application), on land leased from Sheffield City Council, covers only the tipping of inert waste.

In the application lodged on 21 July Viridor estimates that 'rephasing' of the site – tipping active waste on Area D – will reduce the life of the site by eight to nine years. This is because active waste is more readily available than inert waste. Without this change, it would take another twenty years to fill Area D. When the site is full, it will be restored as public open space.

Viridor also propose to transfer inert material from Area D so as to create a 50 metre buffer zone between the Standish estate which borders the north-east area of the site. At present active waste can be tipped just five metres from the recently-built houses.

"The objective... of the application... is to reduce the impact on local residents of the development," Viridor claim. Restoration of the site to public use would begin nearest the houses and continue in stages towards the south-west where Area D lies.

Paul Antcliffe of Parkwood Concerned Tenants, Residents and Businesses Group, which opposes the application, points out that there is no reason why Viridor should not install the buffer zone and carry out the staged restoration under the existing planning consent. He argues that these benefits are being offered to win local residents over to support the new plan.

Objectors argue that what Viridor calls



a "small proportion of additional non-hazardous [ie active] waste" would be a third as much again as the amount currently being deposited. Not only the volume of active waste but the period during which active waste would be dumped would be increased. Active waste is the source of the odours, irritations and pests reported by local residents.

According to Viridor's figures, it would take twelve years to fill all four cells with active waste. If the additional waste assigned to Area D in their plans were divided between the existing three cells, then they would be full about four years earlier, and restoration of those cells could take place eight years from now.

To fill Area D with inert waste at the rate of 50,000 tonnes a year would take twenty years, so the area has a capacity of 1 million tonnes. The site receives 105,000 tonnes a year of inert waste, but 55,000 tonnes is used to cover the active waste. If the three existing active waste cells were completed in eight years, then all 105,000 tonnes would be available to fill Area D, making it possible to fill it in a further six years – fourteen rather than twenty years from now.

All these figures are estimates, including Viridor's. But fourteen years from now is 2021, which is the same date for completion given by the previous site owners.

The cost of tipping inert waste is about £10 per tonne (not including tax). This figure is unlikely to increase due to inert waste (mainly hardcore) being

unavailable. Viridor have admitted it is difficult to obtain it. Assuming a generous 10% of this is for site operating costs, that would mean that the income from Area D over its life would be £9 million.

The cost of tipping active waste is currently about £30 per tonne (not including tax). Allowing 10% for operating costs, Area D would generate a total income after deduction of costs of £27 million. But the cost of tipping active waste is forecast to rise sharply, to as much as £66 per

tonne by 2011. Taking a figure halfway between these two of £48 per tonne gives a total income after costs of over £43 million. The difference between that figure and the £9 million that would be generated by inert waste would be £34 million – the estimated value to Viridor of this planning application.

Viridor Waste Management Ltd is part of the Pennon Group plc which has assets of £2.7 billion. Contact: Dan Cooke, External Affairs Manager, (01823) 721400.

Although the formal deadline for comments about this planning application is given in a letter to local residents as 24 August, the planning department has assured the *Messenger* that all comments received after that date will be taken into consideration. Comments should be sent to Development Services, Howden House, 1 Union Street, Sheffield S1 2SH, or email planningdc@sheffield.gov.uk, quoting reference 05/02877/ful.

Campaign contacts

Parkwood Landfill Action Group, c/o Green City Action, Abbeyfield House, Abbeyfield Road, Sheffield S4 7AT, <http://www.shefinfo.org.uk/parkwood/>, email parkwoodaction@fsmail.net

Parkwood Concerned Tenants, Residents and Businesses Group, 276 2353, <http://mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk/pctrbg>, email paul@paulantcliffe.wanadoo.co.uk.

by Andrew Green

"The doctor will see you now..."

As we reported last month, survey results showed some people in Burngreave were having difficulties getting to see their GP. We spoke to the local surgeries and some recognised the problem and have been spending time re-organising their systems and introducing new services.



Pitsmoor Surgery recognised that some patients were finding it harder to book appointments and have spent a lot of time over the last three months trying to improve the situation.

All the surgeries should always arrange appropriate treatment or advice when you contact them, even if you don't have an appointment. If you contact any of the surgeries outside working hours your call will be forwarded to an 'out of hours' services who deal with emergencies. You can also get advice about health problems and how to use the NHS from the NHS Direct helpline 0845 4647 or website, www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk/.

Anyone who is 'ordinarily resident' in the UK has a right to register with a GP and to get treatment from the surgery, including immediately necessary treatment in an emergency. Surgeries can refuse to register people, but if they do, they must give you 'reasonable grounds' in writing. If you're having difficulty registering with a GP you can contact the North Sheffield Primary Care Trust (NSPCT) on 226 4031 and they must find you a GP. All the local GPs told the *Messenger* they were open for new patients at the moment.

Andy Buck, Chief Executive of the NSPCT told us he was heartened to hear the same survey showed people had a lot of trust in local GPs and hospitals and the PCT viewed the surgeries in Burngreave as being high quality. "It's pleasing that three-quarters of people found access to GPs fairly or very easy and all the surgeries are working hard and meeting the national targets, ensuring people can be seen at short notice or by booking in advance."

by Mark Lankshear

Local surgeries

All the surgeries encourage people to book appointments by phone and most keep some aside for urgent 'same day' problems. Several of them run systems for phone consultations and now offer a variety of alternatives to seeing a GP, like nurse practitioners or health care assistants. Surgeries all produce a 'Practice Leaflet' explaining details of their services that you can pick up from their reception.

Pitsmoor Surgery
151 Burngreave Road
0845 122 2231

Open 8.30am–6.00pm weekdays except Thursday (8.30am–12 noon)
Saturday 8.30am–12 noon (*emergencies only*)

Sheffield Medical Centre
21 Spital Street
0845 121 5399

Open 8.30am–6.00pm weekdays except Thursday (8.30am–1.00pm)

Page Hall Medical Centre
101 Owler Lane
0844 415 7999

Open 8.15am–12.30pm and 1.30–6.00pm weekdays except Thursday (*morning only*)

Burngreave Surgery
5 Burngreave Road
0845 124 2528

Open 8.30–10.00am and 4.00–5.30pm weekdays except Thursday (*morning only*)
Saturday 9.30–10am

Melrose Surgery
120A Burngreave Road
0845 121 1552

Open 8.30am–12.30pm and 3.30–6.00pm weekdays except Thursday (*morning only*)

El-Nisah women's group

Over 80 women attended El-Nisah women's group Health Day in June.

The event was to raise the health awareness of those who have language difficulties; to give them a chance to discuss any kind of issues in confidence, with an interpreter if needed. The women enjoyed the stalls and workshops, which were available from the Children's Information Centre, the NHS, who provided blood pressure tests and New Deal health support workers who provided information on cervical screening. There were speakers on the day providing Arabic language support,

helping women understand different aspects of health-related issues.

Cultural celebration

On 4th June a performance was brought together by the El-Nisah women's group, Burngreave After School Study Support Project and the Yemeni Community Association at the Library Theatre.

The performance took the audience on a journey through the real-life experiences a young girl adapting to the move from Yemen to the UK with her mother and sister, to join their father

who had been working in the Sheffield steel industry for over 17 years.

The people who took part in the event were all females ranging from the age of 10–30 years old. Everyone had been rehearsing very hard for months before and enjoyed taking part. The only disappointment was the poor attendance by agencies. Many felt insulted by this and some remarked they would not attend events organised by those agencies who were invited.

For more information about El-Nisah contact Waella or Samia on 256 0933.

by Nadeen Abdulla

Firshill in bloom

Firshill Neighbourhood Watch ran a ‘**Firshill in bloom**’ gardening competition and judging was completed last week. The two judges, **Martyn Parker from the horticultural department of Sheaf Training, and Christopher Bull from SUFC Academy groundstaff, were impressed by the effort local gardeners had made.**

The overall winner was Mrs Betty Bower of Firshill Crescent, for her garden’s variety of colour and her obvious hard work.

The winner in the small garden category was Mr Ben Keddey, also of Firshill Crescent, and the best balcony was agreed to be that of Mrs M Fisher of Firshill Rise.

The Neighbourhood Watch would like to thank everyone who entered and hope more people will enter next year. Prizes will be awarded at Roe Lane Community Centre on 10th October at 6.30pm.

**by Tony Raftery
2nd prize –
small garden category**



Mrs Betty Bower



Mr Ben Keddey



Mrs M Fisher

Finally, a shelter from the elements

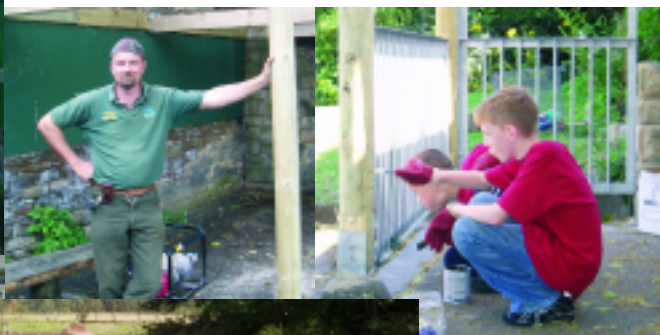


Abbeyfield Park finally has the shelter that it’s been trying to get put up for over a year.

The project has been dogged with problems – the unexpected need for planning permission for both the structure and the heritage status wall, has resulted in spiralling costs. But it’s here now. The major building work was done by the Green Watch and Burngreave Rangers with help from local young people and paid for by Green Watch Rangers, Burngreave Green Environment Programme, Friends of Abbeyfield Park and Green City Action. All that stands in the way of completion is a £600 bill to rebuild parts of the heritage wall at the sides – everyone hopes the Council will cough up.

Well done to Henk Littlewood for persisting with the project.

by Gaby Spinks



Urban Music

The Cactus Club hosted three nights of urban music, rap and break dancing in August. The events were organised by Urban Music, who started out of a desire for all types of street music to have a positive influence on youngsters.

There are quite a few courses young people can attend, but no facility for them to expand their practice. Who better to find a possible solution than a youngster? Bhavesh Patel, 17-year-old promoter for Urban Music, has arranged the three events – the general feedback was simply ‘more, more, more!’

Edward Oggleston, manager of Urban Music, was keen to emphasise that he and Bhavesh are equal directors. He said: “Bhavesh has the potential to be a community leader within Burngreave”.

Urban Music is presently at foundation stage but the ultimate goal is to lift the profile of Burngreave as it has a lot going for



Both © Camille Daughma



it. They want to allow young people to develop their skills within the music industry. Its priority is to put on regular events so people can come out and enjoy themselves. When asked what is the future for Urban Music the reply was, “Change children’s role models in order to clean up Burngreave”.

The event was supported by Red Tape Studios, Burngreave Community Action Trust and Burngreave New Deal for Communities.

by Camille Daughma

Dressed for success

Triggered by the recent discovery of an ancient well shaft, the art of well dressing has arrived in Burngreave. The Friends of Burngreave Cemetery, helped by Firshill Afterschool Arts Club, created a display from petals and flower heads on a puddled clay board, which celebrated water, the source of life.



The well shaft suddenly appeared in January and is older than the cemetery itself, dating back to the time when the area was still Burngreave Wood, used as a source of charcoal for smelting iron. Maps of the time show the woods cut through with footpaths joining small mining works, wells and bell pits.

Well dressing is a tradition unique to Derbyshire and the Peak District and, although shrouded in mystery, is thought to have its origins in Celtic rituals, “Saying thank you for the water, worshipping the water goddess sort of thing,” Saleema Imam explained, one of the team who had spent the previous evening creating the dressing.



Lord Mayor Roger Davison launched the event, praising the superb example of this ancient art, and the way local children had been involved. Albert Jackson, local historian, took the group on a tour of some of the many historic graves and the final resting places of famous Sheffielders before the morning ended at an exhibition in the increasingly busy chapel.

The Friends of Burngreave Cemetery run regular events in the chapel and hope they will be able to raise the funds needed to restore both the chapels and the well to form a feature to be celebrated for years to come. They were keen to acknowledge the support they’d received from Bereavement Services and from Burngreave Voices.

by Mark Lankshear



Football



Ladies

To join a ladies football team supported by the Burngreave Sports Project and the Burngreave Sports Network. We need ladies of all ages (14+) and abilities to come along and join the Ladies football team at Firs Hill Sports and Arts Facility. It's a great way to have fun, meet new people and get fit.

Training times

Wednesday, 5–6pm at Firs Hill Sports and Arts Facility (behind Firs Hill Community Primary School on Orphanage Road).

Girls

To join Pitsmoor Girls Football Under 12s team, you need to be in school Years 6 or 7 but anyone can come to training and it doesn't matter how good you are, just come along and have fun and make some new friends. If we get enough girls in each age group we can have more teams for younger/older girls.

Training times

Tuesday and Friday, 5–6pm at Pitsmoor Adventure Playground on Melrose Road.

If you are interested and want more information please contact Burngreave Sports Project on 273 5719 or the Project Co-ordinator, Michala Spacey on 0790 993 6381.

Tournaments

BSN under 18, 16 and under 14 football tournaments got off to a great start with teams from all over the city especially Burngreave. Altogether there were ten teams out there competing against each other.



BSN Under 18 teams: Somali Dream Team, B12, Pitsmoor Rangers

BSN Under 16 teams: Outlaws, Arabic School, Yemeni Eagles

BSN Under 14 teams: Arab Youth Group, Arabic School, Flying Donkey, Pitsmoor Warriors

For more information about Burngreave Sports Network, contact 241 9100 or 0791 740 3299.

BSN Summer Soccer School

BSN thought it was time that local young people developed their talent, ball dribbling skills and increase their understanding of the football game. So BSN organised training for local young people over the summer period, provided by SWFC-qualified coaches. The Camp ran for five days from 8th–14th August and was completely free of charge. BSN is already looking to organise the next soccer camp after October half-term.



All Saints' Soccer School

All Saints' Soccer School is still running on Mondays, 4.15–5:30pm, Monday and Wednesday. Monday: Years 1, 2, 3 and 4; Wednesday Years 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Free Courses

The Burngreave Sports Project is putting on two workshops run by Sports Coach UK that are vital for all sports coaches and assistants or anyone working with young people. Both of these workshops are three hours long (6–9pm) and are nationally-recognised qualifications. The first, **Good Practice and Child Protection**, is on **3rd October**, and the second, **Equity in your coaching**, is on **10th October**.

They will be run from **Verdon Recreation Centre** and will be **free of charge** to all, with childcare available on request. Places will be **limited**.

For more information or to book a place please contact the **Burngreave Sports Project** on **273 5719** or the Project Co-ordinator **Michala Spacey** on **0790 993 6381**.

Sports Leaders UK are also running a **Sports Leadership Award (Level 1)** course for young people aged 14–16. The course takes place on the following dates:

Sat, 17th & 24th September, 1st October (10am–4pm)
Mon, 19th & 26th September (6–8pm)

The award is a nationally-recognised award and helps young people 14–16 develop their leadership skills. It's a fun course where candidates learn through doing, rather than through written work.

Places on this course will be **limited** and you must attend **all** the dates to achieve the award. For more information or to book a place please contact the **Burngreave Sports Project** on **273 5719** or **Rebecca Norton** on **0790 993 6244**.

Firth Park Community Arts College Adult Education Classes

Enroll on the first night, all courses are **free, ongoing** and start week commencing **19th September** unless otherwise stated.

Mondays

- 6.00–8.30pm **Community Sports Leadership**
26th Sep, 10 weeks. Accredited course to take you forward into voluntary or paid work.
- 6.00–7.00pm **Keep Fit**

Tuesdays

- 6.00–8.00pm **Woodwork** – 5 weeks
- 5.00–6.30pm **Pottery**
- 6.00–8.00pm **Painting and Drawing for All**
Free if on benefits – 10 weeks
- 6.00–8.00pm **Textiles/Fabric painting/Batik** – 27th Sep
- 6.00–8.00pm **Computers for All**
Free if on benefits – 10 weeks
- 6.00–7.30pm **Healthy Eating** – 4 weeks, accredited course
- 4.30–6.30pm **Confidence Building for Women**
Free if on benefits – 4th Oct, 10 weeks
- 5.00–6.00pm **Yoga**
- 7.30–9.00pm **Badminton Club** – small charge

Wednesdays

- 5.00–7.00pm **Cookery**

For more information contact

Panni Poh Yoke Loh
Community Education Co-ordinator
Firth Park Community College,
Fircroft Avenue, Firth Park, Sheffield S5 0SD
tel: 0114 257 4027



Artist Training Programme



12th–16th September 2005

The Artist Training Programme (ATP) is designed to support practising artists in any art form area, so if you use your talents and personality to enable others to be creative in any way shape or form – then our Artist Training Programme is for you!

The Artist Training Programme is an OCN-accredited course in Building a Personal Portfolio, which is an OCN 1 credit at level 3. Successful completers receive a £50 bursary and free Criminal Records Bureau check. The ATP is free to artists living/working in the Burngreave area. (ATP is open to artists living/working outside Burngreave at a subsidised cost of £50.00)

Contact: **Lungani Sibanda**
Creative Burngreave
Sheffield Arts Education, The Workstation,
Paternoster Row, Sheffield S1 2BX
tel: (0114) 249 3182



Cultural Mentoring Celebrating Dignity in Diversity

An 8-week OCN Level 3 Course

8 September–29 December 2005

(No sessions in October)

A course for workers and volunteers with level 3 qualification (or equivalent) looking for further professional development, wishing to increase their understanding of identity, diversity, culture, prejudice and how young children perceive difference, promoting racial equality and valuing diversity through project activities and play.

For further information contact:

Kate Thompson at
Burngreave Community Action Trust
12–14 Burngreave Road, Sheffield S3 9DD
tel: 272 8008



Development Education
Centre (South Yorkshire)

Relax, Breathe and find your Voice!

Singing together can help reduce stress, make you feel calmer and more relaxed, build your self-confidence and enhance your well-being. If you feel this could be for you, come along to a new group meeting on **Wednesday** mornings for **10 weeks** beginning on **September 21st** from **10.30am–12.30pm** at **St James Church** (corner of Scott Road and Abbeyfield Road).

Everyone welcome
– no experience necessary.

For more information, ring

Kate on 242 5565 or
Patsy on 276 2644



Dads' Photography Sawirka abaha la baraayo

صور الاباء

make your photos
go farther...

...from family snaps
to arty shots



Polaroid, disposable, digital and SLR

On Thursdays in September
(1st–29th) 6.30–9.00pm
Burngreave CC, 19 Spital Street.

...and a location shoot on
Sat 3rd Sept 10.30am–1.30pm.

No experience required.

Phone 0786 677 9623 for details.

For dads with children under 5
in Burngreave & Fir Vale

SureStart

the children's charity



Calling all women...

If you have skills that you would like to share with other local women then this could be the opportunity for you.

BNDfC are setting up a Women's Skills Bank Register and want as many local women as possible to sign up.

Do you need help in the home or garden, are good on computers, bake cakes or are you a plumber or electrician? If so, this is your chance to meet other women to talk about what you could do together or for each other. Add your name to the register now.

For further information please contact Carol Anderson, at BNDfC on 292 0460.

Sure Start Event

Sure Start is hosting a special opening ceremony for their new Children's Centre on Spital Street.

When fully up and running, the Burngreave Children's Centre will provide a range of services for local people including a nursery, antenatal clinic and family support services.

The celebratory event, which BNDfC will have an information stall at, is taking place on Saturday 24 September so if you want to find out more make sure you don't miss it! See the advert in this *Messenger* for further details.

© Carl Rose

Burngreave Grant Panel Members Needed!

Would you like to take the first steps towards helping your community, learning committee skills and making important decision about how money is spent?

The Burngreave Grant Fund gives a range of grants from a few hundred pounds up to several thousand pounds. A number of Grants have been provided to fund summer activities recently, including the funding of the Burngreave Cup (*pictured*).

We are looking for up to four Burngreave residents to join the panel. The commitment involved is around two or three afternoons or evenings a month. Training will be provided and expenses paid.

For more information on becoming a member of the Grant Fund Panel, please contact:

Grant Officer – Ased Saddiq – 292 2905

Grants Admin – Chris Dignam – 292 2906

The next round of the Burngreave Grant Fund will be in October. Details will be in the next *Burngreave Messenger*, or phone the numbers above to be sent an application pack when they become available.



Partnership Board Meeting – Wednesday, 27 July 2005

What was discussed

Burngreave green environment project (phase 2)

Three proposals to continue the work undertaken on parks and green spaces.

Supporting business Project (phase2)

Continuing to support and develop the Burngreave Business Forum and extend the project to provide grants and training for local people to start a new enterprise.

Sorby House

The proposal for Sorby House to be developed as a Resource Centre providing Community/Commercial facilities in light of recent discussions about the location of a supermarket in the area through the Burngreave and Firvale Masterplanning process.

What we decided

Not to approve the project in the sum of £1.3m but to commission individual pieces of work on the parks in the area. Also to work with the local provider Green City Action to improve neighbourhood green spaces in collaboration with local residents.

To approve the project in the sum of £375,315 subject to an independent evaluation being completed by December 2005.

The Partnership Board remain committed to the current proposal for Sorby House which arose out of consultation with the local community and it is crucial that this flagship development goes ahead within the timescales identified.

A New Deal for Burngreave



Spreading the WWWord...

BNDfC is encouraging local people to surf the net with the launch of its new look website.

At the last public meeting held on Ellesmere Green at the end of May, BNDfC gave local people the chance to have a look and try it out for themselves.

Here, we give you a bit of detail about how the website was put together, what it offers and why www.bndfc.co.uk should be your home page!

Eloise Clarke, BNDfC Communications Officer, said:

"The website is a source of information for the Burngreave community and not just a promotional item for BNDfC. The site is now up and running proving to be a vital resource for the local community but the website construction is only one year into its two year project life.

"We are now busy training all of the people who will add content to the site to ensure it is kept up-to-date and can continue to be maintained long after the life of New Deal. Each project that is funded by BNDfC will have a page within the website."

Taking charge of designing the website was Jamie Marriot from the *Messenger*. As he explains it has been a really interesting project to work on. Says Jamie:

"The priority throughout was to encourage the Burngreave community to get involved.

"To do this we have developed an events section where local people can fill in a form with details of an event they are holding and submit it to be posted on the website. Similarly, we have a directory where businesses and organisations can put their details on the site.

"A message board also allows people to post their views on any topic they wish. For people who want to find out more about BNDfC, they can download all the minutes from board meeting and theme meetings so there are a whole host of ways to play an active role in your community!"

Ian Clifford, BNDfC's Overarching theme manager, said:

"BNDfC have purchased a content management system which allows people who aren't website experts to put stuff on. BNDfC staff, and now people from projects, are being trained to upload content onto the site – I've even had a go myself!"

"The site is also in Somali, Urdu and Arabic, so users of those languages can put content in these languages onto the site. In addition, while many more flashy websites aren't accessible by blind users, the BNDfC site is fully compliant with all the protocols for use by blind and disabled users but that's not to say that we haven't got some flashy interactive stuff on our website too – check it out!"

If you don't have access to a computer don't forget to call into the BNDfC Information Shop on Spital Hill where there are computers available for your use.



Aisha Special K, Burngreave resident and BNDfC board member, launches the new BNDfC website at the public meeting held in May.



...make bndfc.co.uk your home page

Theme Meetings

Everyone is welcome at the following theme meetings:

Employment & Enterprise:
7 September, Ellesmere Children's Centre, 1.30–3.30pm

Health: 5 September, St Peter's Church Hall, Lyons Street, 5.30–7.30pm

Over-arching: 13 September, The Furnival, Verdon Street, 6–8pm

Education: 14 September, St Peter's Church Hall, Lyons Street, 6–8pm

Crime: 20 September, Pitsmoor Methodist Church, 6–8pm

Environment: 22 September, Pitsmoor Methodist Church, 6–8pm

Housing: 8 September, BCAT meeting room, 6–8pm

© ID8



contact: 276 9134

Burngreave Area Panel

What's happening to Burngreave children?

The biggest spend of the Council in Burngreave is on education. It is one area of provision that can have life-changing effects. In July the Area Panel councillors assembled information about the educational progress of local children. So what does the data tell us?

There are more school age children living in Burngreave in 2005 than there were in 2002. Fewer of the children are white; more are of black/minority ethnic heritage. Children move in and out of Burngreave, but white children move more often than black/minority children. The educational ability of children staying in Burngreave at age 11 was slightly higher than those children who moved.

5 The teachers' assessments of children at age 5 (the foundation stage) are quite low, and for black/minority children it's lower than for black/minority children in the city. This could reflect the nature of pre-school provision in the past for young children; will SureStart and voluntary provision start to alter this?

7 At age 7, Burngreave pupils have lower attainment than elsewhere in the city. Most worryingly, the trend until 2004 was widening between Burngreave and the rest of the city. However, there is some evidence that black/minority ethnic children are improving at this age; last year, their results were better than white children's results.

11 By the age of 11, the evidence seems to be quite different. The gap between local children's

performance and the rest of the city is narrowing. Burngreave pupils of Pakistani heritage have better results than their peers in Darnall or Sharrow. The girls are more successful than boys, and this difference is similar in Burngreave to that of the rest of the city.

As children move to secondary schools, more are choosing local schools. Since 2003 over half of all children from the four local junior schools have gone to Fir Vale. Parkwood has traditionally been the catchment school for Pye Bank and now has increasing numbers of pupils from other local primaries.

14 Students are assessed half way through secondary school. The results in Burngreave still lag behind the rest of the city, but again the gap is narrowing. Black/minority ethnic girls are doing much better than boys; the 'gap' in performance between white girls and boys is much less than for Asian, African and African-Caribbean/dual heritage students.

16 By 16, the gap between girls and boys is even greater. However, Burngreave performance is much more similar to the rest of the city than at any earlier age. And the trend over the last three years is for continuing progress. Black/minority ethnic students – especially girls – performed much better than their peers in Darnall or Sharrow. White students' performance fluctuates from year to year; minority ethnic achievement appears to be strengthening. Interestingly, the student support programmes in Burngreave have traditionally been open to minority ethnic students.

Of real interest is that last year, the GCSE results of Burngreave students educated in schools on the other side of town were no better than the results of students who attended the local secondaries. There should be more information from this year's results to see if this is consolidated.

A-level results in 2004 were lower for both white and minority ethnic students. This might reflect the fact that students attending Sheffield College are entered for fewer exams than those attending the 6th forms on the other side of town. It will be good to know how Longley Park 6th Form College might alter this.

Statistics can illustrate what's happened, but they can't explain why. So the second stage of this process is to test out why things are happening and how improvements can be made; I'll report back on this later in the year.

Gullies

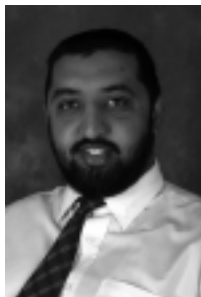
The Head of Streetforce has said that all road side grids and drains in the New Deal area of Burngreave will have been cleaned by 12th August. Particular grids on Barnsley Road have also been cleaned.

Parking

Finally, Parking Services staff have put well over 1,000 leaflets on cars parked unlawfully in both Burngreave and Fir Vale areas. There has only been one dispute to date. Leafleting will stop, and enforcement action will start in September. What do yellow lines mean? Can you park on pavements? If you're parking, make sure you know the answers!

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.



- 1st September, 6.00–7.00pm, Shirecliffe Forum (Jackie Drayton)
- 10th September, 11.00am–12.00 noon, Burngreave Library (Ibrar Hussain)
- 10th September, 12.15–1.00pm, Firhill TARA (Ibrar Hussain)
- 13th September, 5.30–6.00pm, Wensley TARA (Steve Jones)
- 15th September, 12.30–1.30pm, Firvale Forum (Jackie Drayton)
- 24th September, 11.00am–12.00 noon, Burngreave Library (Ibrar Hussain)

Next Area Panel Meeting

- Thursday 29th September, 6.30pm, Earl Marshal Youth Centre, Owler Lane. On the agenda: young people and facelift schemes.

jobnet

Looking
for a **job?**

Do you want to work towards making YOUR community stronger?
Would you like to work in a community organisation?

If so, look no further - we currently have vacancies for
Community Regeneration Apprentices through the Intermediate
Labour Market (ILM) programme

Are you resident in Sheffield, aged 18 – 64, have not worked for
6 months or longer? Then this is your opportunity to have:

- Waged employment for up to one year
- Supported on the job training
- Support offered to ensure that you are better off

If you are interested please contact your local Jobnet or ask for
Sheryl or Suzanne at Jobnet City Centre on

0114 201 2840



This programme acknowledges the contribution of the European Social Fund



**Aged 16–18?
Looking for work?**

*Join Sheffield City Council's
Apprenticeship Programme!*

Sheffield City Council has excellent
Apprenticeship Vacancies available in the
following areas:

- Administration and IT
- Care of the older person
- Horticulture
- IT Technicians (computer maintenance)
- Painting and Decorating

***This is a great opportunity to gain
work experience and get a career
with one of Sheffield's largest employers.***

Ring **FREephone 0800 138 4045**
to find out more!



Burngreave Sports Network Project



1 part-time Community-based Sports Development Worker

18.5 hours per week

up to £16,000 per annum (pro rata)

(Fixed term until May 2007)

To capacity build the Burngreave Sports Network and assist
them with delivering sporting events and a consultation event.

The successful applicants will have:

- Knowledge of funding regimes, partnership working and developing planning
- The ability to facilitate meetings
- Good organisation skills
- The ability to work with a range of people from a variety of backgrounds and to be sensitive to multicultural issues

Knowledge of community sports development is desirable but more
important is the ability of the successful applicant to grow the Sports
Network into a strong community group representative of Burngreave.

We are seeking an innovative and committed female worker to develop
this part of the Sports Network Service as women are significantly
underrepresented in this area.

This post is restricted, using GOQ 7(2)(e) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975
Appointment is subject to satisfactory references and relevant CRB check.

For an informal discussion, please contact

Patrick Edwards on 250 2717

For an application pack and job description, please
contact **Kate Thompson on 272 8008**

Burngreave Community Action Trust Ltd
12-14 Burngreave Road, Sheffield S3 9DD

Closing date: 12 noon

Friday 16th September 2005



Children's Information Service

**INFORMATION ASSISTANT
(ARABIC OR SOMALI LANGUAGE SKILLS)**
16 hours pw, £14,364 pro rata

To work within our Enquiry Team - having specific responsibility
for enquiries from Arabic or Somali speakers.

Qualities needed:

- excellent spoken and written English
- fluent Arabic or Somali
- accuracy
- competence to learn information skills
- ability to deal with the public
- IT skills

Closing date:

12 noon on Monday 12th September 2005

For an application pack:
phone **0114 249 4940**

or write to **Children's Information Service**
11 Leopold Street, Sheffield S1 2GY
or email **cis@sheffielddcis.f9.co.uk**





Dear Messenger

I am sure you are aware that since the boundary changes, the whole of Shirecliffe is now part of the Burngreave Ward. Over the past six years you have published articles which are pertinent and of great interest to the residents of the whole of Shirecliffe. For example, June's issue concerning the helicopter site, the Keepmoat builder's compound and Parkwood Landfill!

Incidentally, the 'Welcome to Shirecliffe' sign is located in the wrong place. It should be just before the helicopter site, and a complaint to this effect has been lodged with the Area Panel.

The true purpose of my letter is to request that the whole of Shirecliffe is circulated and a copy of your excellent newsheet is delivered to each dwelling, or a copy upon request, and of course I am requesting one please!

Yours sincerely, G Sewerin

Unfortunately the Messenger doesn't have enough funding to deliver to Shirecliffe. However we will continue to report on stories that affect the area and we have arranged to give twenty copies to the Shirecliffe TARA every month. We can also leave copies in other public places, such as shops. To suggest a place for us to deliver to, contact the Messenger on 242 0564.

Dear Messenger

It was with interest that I read your recent article on the criteria for property improvements in Pitsmoor. My house is situated at the top of Pitsmoor Road, close to the traffic lights, shops, post office, pubs and businesses, enjoying a regular bus service and the benefits of main road pollution, passing foot traffic and general noise and disruption throughout the 24 hour period.

Despite these factors, our area, which must be all of a mile long and accommodating a large number of houses in a variety of states of disrepair, windows out and roofs collapsing, has **never** been selected for upgrade or improvement.

Pitsmoor Road ticks all of the developer's boxes – it's on a bus route, from 0500 to 2300 the 47/48 service passes our door, no money has previously been invested. Improvements are all around us, including Firshill Road/Burnwood, which last saw a car when the choice of colours was limited to black!

Oddly enough, houses further up, which face onto Barnsley Road, and do not have cars, other than for parking, have also been improved. Is there something that you are not telling us about Pitsmoor Road?

I have tried on a number of occasions to get a definitive answer about our fate, but all I get are platitudes and the ever present excuse that no money has been allocated 'this year'. Having heard this old chestnut since 1986, I am extremely worried about the Council's finances!

If I sound grumpy, then I am. I pay my taxes like a good 'un, work hard to keep my house in order, and get brassed off when I get excuse after excuse. Pitsmoor Road is the gateway to town, you all use it in some form, and it's about time that we got a better deal along this little area of Old Sheffield.

With thanks, JC of Pitsmoor Road

The next Area Panel meeting will look at the facelift criteria, for details see page 16.

Dear Messenger

After three years delivering mail in the Rutland Road and surrounding district I have 'warmed' to the area and the people, although it hasn't been without some unusual experiences.

Within the first month of starting work in the area, I noticed several prostitutes. This was something I had never encountered before and one of them would accost me as I went about my deliveries. However some of the older ones were quite amicable and conducted themselves in a 'respectable' way. They seemed to disappear as time went on. One woman I saw told me that she no longer engaged in the business at all, not I imagine through a guilt or conscience but rather that she simply 'retired' from it.

Another experience I had was early on Tuesday morning (the mail is always light on Tuesdays) walking down Rising Street into Fox Street, I was confronted by armed marksmen. I left by the way I had come in response to the frantic waving of one of the men to make myself scarce. The following day I found out nothing had actually happened, but the armed unit had to be there as the man they subsequently arrested had a gun.

As to my favourite part of the delivery, it certainly isn't the Nottingham Cliffe, Andover Street, Pye Bank Road (what's left of it!) area, although there are a number of friendly people who live there who offer me refreshments from time to time.

I like Wood Fold, which is a quaint, almost out-of-the-way, little lane that leads down from Rutland Road onto Pitsmoor Road. One then encounters a few fine old houses that have stood the test of time admirably.

There are all kinds of people who live in the area, such as doctors, musicians, translators and all manner of other distinguished professions, to the extent that the area is on a par with any other respectable area in the city. Would I want to live here? Yes, I probably would, judging by what I have observed on a daily basis, although my period of scrutiny is always by force of circumstance confined to the mornings and so I cannot account for what occurs in the afternoon and evenings.

I would be happy to keep on delivering here until I retire, which won't be for quite a while yet. Hopefully, my length of service will be a good bargaining tool in staying put in any subsequent reselection of duties. But that cannot be for certain. Perhaps the duty itself will be dissolved, as happened to my previous one. Who knows? I hope not to finish up too far away.

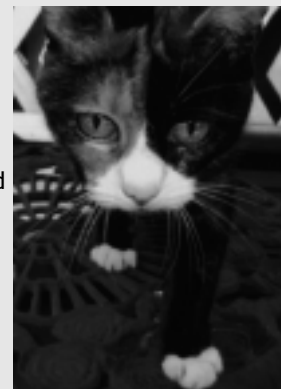
Christopher Wibberley, Gleadless

Lost Cat

Have You Seen Me?

My name is Lottie, I'm a small Tortoise shell cat with ginger ears and a glittery red collar. My owners are really missing me as I've been lost for a week now from Scott Road – will you help me find my way home? I may be trapped in your shed or cellar (or eating you out of house & home!)

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

I'm trying to trace a family friend — **Sonny** — who lived two doors up from the off licence on Burngreave Road during 1961-62. I believe he was from the West Indies. Does anyone remember him? If you can help, tel/txt Jackie on 0776 226 2899 or email ja01413838@blueyonder.co.uk.

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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

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: 10th and 24th September

...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

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Phone David (242 3870) or
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Burngreave Cup

The rain might have been bouncing down, but nobody cared about being forced into the SUFC Academy's indoor facilities. The BNDfC bus was pumping a blend of dance, hip hop, reggae, and eastern beats into the arena and the event kicked off into its familiar festival flavour.



© Carl Rose

Eleven teams began the tournament, some familiar from last year; Sheffield Prowlers, Dream Team, Spectrum Stars, Nacro, and also many new contenders; Algerian Fox, Chesterfield, Soldiers of Allah, Yemen Utd, Galeed Giants, United Nations and Somaliland. On 13th August the challenge went on for league positions. The final on 20th August was contested between Yemeni Utd and Nacro. United had most of the play throughout, but Nacro defended well and the game concluded as a 0-0 draw. So tournament was to be decided on penalties with Nacro pronounced Burngreave Cup Winners for 2005.



© David Ainscough

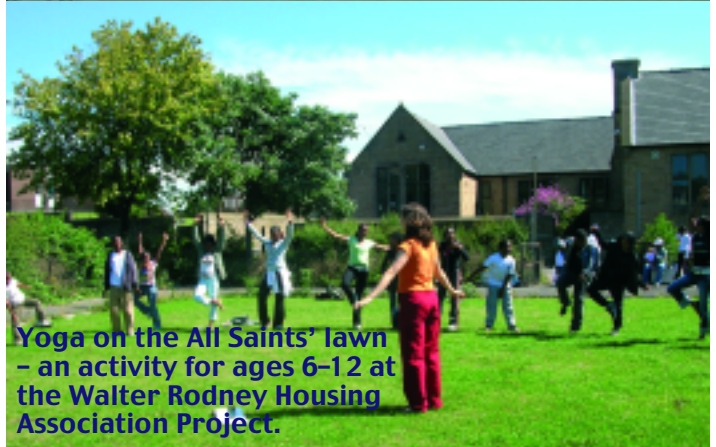
Organised by BSN and BCAT, with funding from BNDfC this tournament deserves a much bigger audience. The enthusiasm and atmosphere created by the multicultural mix of players taking part, make it unfortunate that more people don't get the chance to see what is taking place.

by David Ainscough

Summer fun



Beach and blue sky – the BNDfC family trip to Skegness on 23rd July.



Yoga on the All Saints' lawn – an activity for ages 6-12 at the Walter Rodney Housing Association Project.



Making hanging baskets at Firvale Connexions, with Wensley residents.

BSN
Burngreave Sports Network

Petre Street Bonfire
Saturday 5th November

Any organisation wanting to be part of this event, please contact Patrick Edwards of Burngreave Sports Network on 0774 783 1856

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