

# Burngreave Messenger

**Voice of the Burngreave Community**

We hope all our readers enjoy this Summer's festivals and fun

## Community in shock after shooting

**The recent death of a young man from the Pakistani community has shocked and in many ways shook up the people of Burngreave.**

Ibrahim Ilyas, who was only 20, was shot at 6pm, Saturday 3rd June, on Abbeyfield Road. Two hours earlier residents witnessed a large group of young Asian men arguing. The police dispersed the fight but later shots were fired into the car Ibrahim was in with friends, and he was killed. Four young men were arrested the next day, and Mohammed Ali, aged 24 of Osgathorpe Road, was charged with his murder.

All members of the different communities of Burngreave share the grief of Ibrahim's family. Many issues and questions have risen from this tragic incident. For some people it's quite simply a shock to their system – a young Pakistani man shot dead on a Saturday afternoon in broad daylight makes one wonder: 'what next?'

An estimated 1,000 people attended the funeral, over a half of these being young people from all over Sheffield. Many commented on the strength of the sermon from the Imam, Maulana Shoaib Desai, who spoke very strongly, setting out the actions needed to be taken in order for young Pakistani



*Floral tributes were placed at the entrance to Osgathorpe Park for Ibrahim. Messages included:*

*'A Precious Life Lost.' 'I will never forget you.' 'Brother, forever in our hearts. Sadly Missed.' 'My little brother, Ibby. You will stay in my heart 4eva.'*

Muslim people to feel empowered; warning of the perils of drug dealing and calling on parents to encourage young people to take up education and training.

*Story coverage by members of the editorial team including: Asma Ali, Sonia Bartley, Ian Clifford, Naheem Hanif and Lisa Swift*

*Further coverage and comment on page 5...*

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#### Abbeyfield Festival Preview 12-13

Site map for the Multicultural Festival, with all the low-down on the local and national acts showcased.



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# Ellesmere Club closes

**The Ellesmere Out of School Project is to be closed at the end of this school year, it has been announced.**

The club has been providing after school activities based at Byron Wood School for over eight years, with the support of its voluntary management committee. It is due to close on 20th July.

The decision came after confirmation that New Deal will not continue funding for the project. I went to speak to club co-ordinator Alice Johnson about the closure.

*"The club just wasn't sustainable anymore. Obviously, the cutting of funding was a last straw, but there were other problems too. There wasn't enough money, along side the funding, going into the club."*

*"I'm hoping that after the club closes there maybe a new club, perhaps run by the school or someone else in the community. The club is a place for children to socialise in, it would be a real shame if that was lost."*

The club has gone through many changes over the years, in both staff and location. I asked Alice of her memories of the club.

*"I came here about five years ago after I finished my university course. I have so many happy memories of the club, as do all the staff who work here, we're really going to miss it. But over the past year the club has been in slow decline, we felt it was the right time to close the club."*

So, in celebration, the Adventure Playground have allowed the club to throw a huge party on Wednesday 19th July, 3-8pm.

*"We want anyone who's ever attended, worked here or anyone who has really had anything to do with the club to come. It will be sad to see the club go, but at least we can end on a good note."*

by Tom Sadler

## Allotment devastation

**From 21st to 28th June Grimesthorpe allotments were subjected to an avalanche of vandalism.**

Numerous sheds were broken into, some set fire to and greenhouses smashed. I watched as a plot holder of twenty years kicked through the smoldering remains of his greenhouse and surveyed his scorched vegetable crops. He'd been growing a vine in his greenhouse for fifteen years. You can rebuild a shed or greenhouse, but you can't put that back.



The GreenFingers plots where I work had also been hit. The arson attack on our shed was put out by the fire brigade before it could do too much damage. A big 'thank you' to whoever rang them that morning.

The GreenFingers plots are a sanctuary for the people with mental health problems who garden there – a place where they can take a bit of time and space for themselves, forget their troubles and enjoy a little bit of country in the city. I think that feeling is shared by all the allotment gardeners. It's heartbreaking to see people sifting through the ashes and broken glass. This pointless destruction is a violation of that sanctuary.

The police have promised to patrol the area. If you witness anyone vandalising the allotments, you can call 999 or to report damage, call the new police number: 101.

by Helen Warburton

## The Editorial

Reacting to the recent tragic shooting many in the Pakistani community have pointed to a gap between generations as young people struggle to combine a western atmosphere they experience outside the home with the traditional ways in which their parents live, leading too easily to isolation.

A speaker at a recent Burngreave Community Action Forum meeting stressed that this is a problem for all of our community and we must not leave one community to deal with difficult issues in isolation. If at least some good is to come from this tragic incident, and we are to avoid this happening again, we must make sure that our young people, young women as well as young men, are provided with the trust and support they need to take their place in the adult world.



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

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### Messenger Info

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**All welcome.**  
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**Burngreave Messenger Ltd**  
Abbeyfield Park House  
Abbeyfield Road  
Sheffield S4 7AT  
(0114) 242 0564  
[messenger@burngreave.net](mailto:messenger@burngreave.net)  
[www.burngreavemessenger.org.uk](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org.uk)

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: Asma Ali, Sonia Bartley, Clare Burnell, Ian Clifford, Camille Daughma, Rohan Francis, Naheem Hanif, Saleema Imam, Jamie Marriott, Tom Sadler, Rob Smith, Lisa Swift and Paul Taylor.

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# Corrections

In the June issue, the Messenger printed an article for the late Peter Barker. We made several errors, which were very distressing for his family. We would like to apologise for the errors and the distress caused. We hope the following amendments will go some way to putting the matter right.

## Peter Barker 1935–2006



Pete Barker was a skilled carpenter, joiner and shop-fitter, although he reached retirement age over five years ago, he continued to work for J Lee & Sons on Rutland Road and was there every morning at around 6.45am.

Although not the founder of the Burngreave darts, dominoes and cribbage

League, which started just after the 2nd World War, Pete was involved with the running of the league from the mid 1960s, he joined the league around 1961. Pete played for many of the Burngreave teams but not all of them.

After 48 years of entering, Pete won the Dominoes Trophy along with his 'doubles' partner, Norman, who collected the trophy, with Pete's wife Pamela.

## Monte Carlo Pizza

Last issue we printed the wrong photo with our feature about Monte Carlo Pizza on Spital Hill. The photo we included was of Wickernet. So here's a picture of the Monte Carlo. They serve hot drinks, fresh sandwiches, juices and pizza. They also have a pool table and television, and it's open till 11pm every night.



# High expectations

**Open only two years, Longley Park Sixth Form College's first intake of students are soon to graduate. 'The Creative Show 2006' displays the accomplishments of its young local artists.**

Longley Park offers courses in Art and Design; Textiles; Graphics; Photography and 3D Design. The works show maturity and independence which Tania Hussey-yeo (Deputy Director) puts down to the lack of a Longley Park "house-style" which allows "each student to have a personal voice". This is apparent in the diverse responses to a brief called 'image + text'. One striking work by Philipa Roddis uses images of rock climbers set against bright backgrounds with quotations from both Hemingway and Aristotle. The statement 'we are what we repeatedly do' could well apply to the repeated success of each student in creating a range of imaginative and stylish works.



As many students are progressing onto further courses and degrees it is clear they have developed a 'lifelong passion'. This is certainly true of Sarah Hussain – a Burngreave resident who wants to be a fashion designer or an architect. Sarah is most proud of the artwork she has titled 'looks can be deceiving' (pictured above) because it took so much time and includes such detail. Sarah speaks with enthusiasm about the painting – inspired by the work of Chuck Close – which focuses on close-up slices of a face and uses aspects of distortion to question the viewer.



Both © Hannah George

Such enthusiasm points to the continuing success of Longley Park: last year the students created five interactive sculptural artworks for 'Visual Dialogues' including 'A Different Perspective', a mirrored room in which people are invited to pose, exploring the relationships between two- and three-dimensional forms and body image. Shown as part of the Tate touring exhibition 'Human Figures' at the Millennium Galleries these works were so successful that they have been invited back this year.

Tania Hussey-yeo bases their success on the combination of the teachers' 'high expectations' and the students' own attitude: "They are so proud to be here and have risen to do their best". She also recognises the positive influence of the 'lively, interesting, diverse' area from which Longley Park's students are drawn.

by Hannah George



# Community in shock after shooting

**The death of Ibrahim Ilyas has shocked and frightened many residents and left many asking: 'how could this have happened?' and 'where do we go from here?'**

The *Messenger* spoke to a prominent member of the Pakistani community, who voiced the shock of his community: "I came across women who were just shaking, such was the reaction of absolute shock".

He spoke of the lack of facilities, including play and leisure facilities in Burngreave and the need to further engage the Pakistani community in the regeneration of the area. He spoke of the lessons for the community:

**"As adults, what we have sewn, now we reap."**

He said that the Pakistani community had spent too long worrying about divisions based on which mosque people attended; which form of Islam they practiced or which part of Pakistan they were from. While he felt the community didn't suffer from material poverty; he commented on the number of children playing in the streets:

**"We need more love in our homes and we need to give our children more responsibility. For too long, we, as adults have not encouraged our children to progress with education, we've just said: 'Go and find work and earn some money'. It's time to start trusting and engaging our young people."**

The *Messenger* also spoke to a local youth worker who suggested rivalry between local gangs of youth and their involvement in the dealing of drugs as the cause, but stressed that residents should not fear for their individual safety as it has nothing to do with innocent members of the community.

The youth worker stated that while there is considerable work being done with Pakistani youngsters there is still a need for further provision. Merely having a few snooker sessions or day trips doesn't mean young people's needs are being met.

## Resident reaction

The *Messenger* spoke to local residents. A woman from Firvale said:

**"This is a wake-up call for some young men to realise that if they stay in these activities the same thing might happen to**

**them – there's been a lot of serious thinking going on round here in the last few weeks."**

A woman from the Pakistani community said:

**"Some mothers are decreasing their hours of work so they're around the teenage boys more, to try and make sure that they avoid what happened to lbby."**

**"What are the police doing round here? We've passed on information but nothing ever seems to be done; one or two are arrested but the level of drug dealing seems to be increasing."**

## Police response

Asked to respond to residents comments that visible drug dealing in the Abbeyfield Road and Scott Road area has got worse in the last five years, but that nothing has been done, Inspector Jon Ekwubiri, of Burngreave Safer Neighbourhoods Team told the *Messenger*:

**"It is being reported to us, but not as much as it could be. We need details of what is happening so we can act. This has been a traumatic event for many residents. If residents want to talk to us about anything they can call our office on 296 4437."**

Recorded crime figures show that violent crime has more than doubled in the area in the last five years and recent unrelated gun incidents on Melrose Road and Verdon Street have left some residents concerned that violent crime is still a problem in Burngreave. The Inspector said:

**"The incident on Abbeyfield Road was near enough a one off, sadly someone has died and this we deeply regret, but Burngreave is still one of the better places to live in England. We have had an unusually high number of incidents in June, but there's no comparison to five years ago when the number of incidents was continuously high, and on a weekly basis."**

**"I don't see violent crime or gun crime going up on the ground. To me it shows that people are more comfortable reporting these kinds**

**of crimes to us. It's important to realise that it is easy to get hold of a gun nowadays, particularly replicas, so keeping abreast of gun crime is not easy."**

## Looking for solutions

At the July Burngreave Community Action Forum quarterly meeting, residents expressed their sympathy with the grieving family. Noting that six months ago figures showed Burngreave to be the safest place in the City, many wondered what had gone wrong. While recognising that there are no easy solutions, residents suggested engaging young people at a younger age and better policing of drug crime as a start.

Dear *Messenger*,

I am writing about the recent incidents in the area, which led to the death of a young Asian man, Ibrahim Ilyas.

I have worked in the area previously for over seven years and I am still in touch with what happens locally. I often read about the New Deal police team and crime levels being reduced and then hear of tragic news about young people being victims of gun and knife crimes. Why is this still happening? We have had five years of New Deal monies, and yes houses on a surface level may look better. Flowers on lamp posts may make the area look pretty. But how about focusing our attention on the young people in the area and making sure their short lives are not ended abruptly by crime. It seems all wrong; we focus our energies on what looks good and achieving targets but don't address the root of the problem.

Why do we still have so many young people not achieving in our local schools? Why do we still have young people not gaining employment in good-quality jobs with salaries to sustain them to divert them from other activities? Why do we still have to read about young people being victims of crime? Where is the youth service and detached street work, which is so desperately needed?

Why do we read about young Muslim men being arrested for terrorist crimes that they did not commit and have to face humiliation, and fear just because of their colour and religion?

When are statutory and other organisations going to wake up and see what is happening to our young people who are competing with so many pressures in society?

When are we going to address the root causes to end the cycle of deprivation that so many families and communities still face?

What is the purpose of regeneration monies if you can't help young people who are our future; make a better future for themselves? I hope someone out there is looking into all these issues, otherwise we will continue to see young people and families lives being disintegrated.

I'd like to finish with a quote from Malcolm X, which is still relevant today:

**"We black men have a hard enough time in our own struggle for justice, and already have enough enemies as it is, to make the drastic mistake of attacking each other and adding more weight to an already unbearable load."**

Peace, Chetna Patel

# Burngreave Children's Centre a success

**The Burngreave Children's Centre on Spital Street has been open since September 2005 and provides support for under-5s and their parents.**

The Centre, built with support from New Deal, is part of the Government's Sure Start initiative. Sure Start aims to achieve better outcomes for children and parents by increasing the availability of childcare and family support; improving the health and development of young children and supporting parents both as parents and in achieving employment.

The centre began providing nursery care in March, having passed its OFSTED inspection. It has proved to be a huge success with children already on waiting lists for a place.

"The reason the centre is such a success is that there are different services



*Scene from this year's achievement day.*

available under one roof such as nursery, health, family support and parental involvement", said Sonia Graham, Deputy Programme Manager at the Burngreave Children's Centre.

"For example, the family support team run a successful positive parenting programme and the centre provides a holistic child-centred family approach supporting the cultural diversity of the

area." She added.

The centre held an Achievement Day on 30th June to reward parents who have excelled while attending the centre. The Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Arthur Dunworth, attended, along with Dawn Walton from the Chief Executive's Directorate and members of the local community.

Parents were presented with a certificate in recognition of their hard work and personal achievements.

The nursery operates between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday and other services operate 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.

For information about the nursery, or any of the other services that the children's centre offers, please call 252 5220.

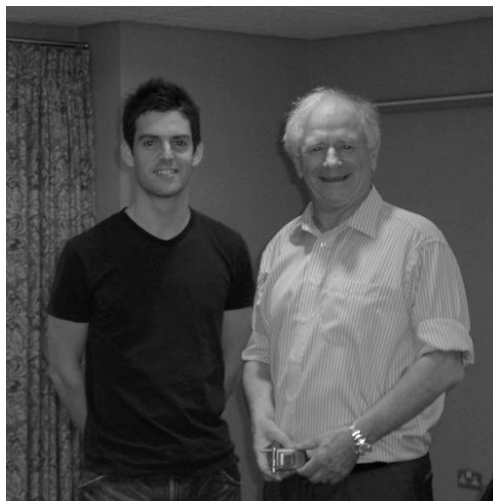
**by Claire Berry**

## Johnny Ball reveals all

**St Catherine's Primary School recently had a celebrity visit from TV star Johnny Ball as part of the Creative Partnerships Project which helps teachers make lesson time more interesting and entertaining.**

Headteacher Fiona Rigby said: "If we can get a little bit more of Johnny's passion and enthusiasm into every lesson we will improve on what is already a fabulous school. Happier, more relaxed teachers with the confidence to be more creative will lead to happy, relaxed and fun-filled learners."

Johnny is pictured with Mr Jonathan Lear who has just won the National Teacher of the Year award for the North of England, a personal triumph as well as a major coup for the school. Mr Lear, who's led the way in developing Creativity Schemes for the school and who invited Johnny, one of his childhood heroes, said of the show: "I hope it helps teachers think of themselves as performers resulting in children that are more enthusiastic and motivated in their learning."



about gravity interesting. Macaul and Amy from Y6 thought the teachers could gain lots of ideas from Johnny in making learning more fun. We interviewed Johnny to find out more.

**Q: Can you tell us about what you do and the projects you are involved in?**

A: I travel around schools and universities lecturing about maths and science, I was invited to this school to speak to the children and to hopefully give the teachers some insight in how to be more creative in lesson time.

**Q: How will this benefit the children and teachers?**

A: Both teachers and children will hopefully enjoy school more, the children will focus more if the teacher's delivery is more entertaining.

**Q: Why did you decide to become a TV presenter?**

A: I used to be a comedian before I became a TV presenter. I enjoyed being myself and I enjoyed maths and I couldn't be myself when I was a comedian, so television gave me a window of opportunity to be myself and enjoy myself.

All in all Johnny's visit was a huge success. All of the children and staff enjoyed his presentation and feel that St Catherine's will benefit greatly from his visit.

**by Daniel Collins & Frances Thurston (Y6)**

# Refugee Week Event

**Burngreave celebrated Refugee Week with an exhilarating event on Ellesmere Green on Saturday 24th June.**

Following a welcome by Aisha Special K, the sound of multi-ethnic music rang out from the New Deal mobile stage, from 2–6pm.

Performers included – the Slovakian and Kurdish Communities, the African Drum and Dance Group, Sonia Bartley, Adam and a boxing exhibition by members of Brendan Ingle's Gym.

Dancers in national dress drew onlookers in to join them. The aroma of curry donated by the Kashmir Curry Centre tempted everyone into the food tent, where Jamaican rum cake vied with other donated delicacies to part you from your money.

Many Burngreave and city-wide groups took part to raise awareness of the



issues surrounding asylum seekers and refugees, including New Deal Engagement team, Streetforce, Refugee Housing, and North Sheffield Primary Care Trust. Funds raised at the event will go to ASSIST, to help destitute asylum seekers.

A bystander told me, "It's very important to welcome refugees, they have fled from such difficult circumstances; it's great to be able to offer them something better."

Another said, "All of us have been



Both © Ophelia Clarke

strangers at some time and have been given the gift of welcome. Burngreave is one of the few places in South Yorkshire which is proud to welcome people."

The event was initiated by Burngreave Community Action Forum working group for Refugees and Asylum Seekers, who's next meeting is on 18th July, 3-5pm at 12-14 Burngreave Road. For more information call 272 8008.

**by Saleema Imam**

## Different pasts, shared futures

**On Friday 23rd June the students of Fir Vale School assembled in the sunshine to celebrate the final day of Refugee Week.**

Headteacher Mrs Lesley Bowes reminded them that the definition of 'refugee' is much broader than is commonly thought. It means 'one who seeks sanctuary', and she pointed out how easily this definition might fit each of us – in time of emotional need, as well as need of physical shelter.

All week the whole school participated in raising awareness of refugees and asylum seekers. In English classes students interviewed refugees and wrote reports and poems, led by Mr Arrian, himself a refugee who has been given permission to stay following a local campaign in support of his application.

Sixteen Year 10 art students who are mainly from Yemen, Pakistan, Somalia and India have made etchings inspired by their own cultures, helped by local artist Neil Woodall. History students studied the Arab/Israeli conflict, and Year 7 students produced a drama about refugees.

A Red Cross stall in the school's reception area, was staffed by students, which advised other students on how to re-establish contact with relatives in other parts of the world, in the hope of connecting families torn apart by conflict.



"We want to celebrate our mix of cultures," one student told the *Messenger*. "We see it as an advantage." He wants to see Refugee Week celebrated everywhere, with everyone wearing a 'refugee ribbon'.

This is the fifth year that Fir Vale School has celebrated refugee week. Tabassum Janjua, the school's refugee and asylum seeker co-ordinator, said she would like to see more joint working with other schools, assisted by advance planning by the local education authority.

At the final concert, students and guests were treated to a well-prepared display of dance, music and song. Brave Year 5 students from Owler Brook School looked ecstatic as they danced for the much older children. The Year 7 choir performed *'We are the World'*, followed by more musical entertainment from the Year 8 Steel Pan Group and the Year 10 Drum Group. A Somali song by Soliman Mohammed was much appreciated by the school and parents from Somalia. Finally, John Lennon's *'Imagine'* was played and students released white balloons to the sky, whooping and cheering in celebration of the fantastic performance and successful week.

**by Hannah George  
& Andrew Green**

# Target Cactus Club

**The Cactus Club nightclub, on Earsham Street, opened in February 2005, with hopes of being a community venue and successful club.**

However, since opening, the management have complained about the high number of visits they receive from the police, and the large numbers in which they arrive. While police figures claim crime has risen 367 percent on Earsham Street since the Cactus club opened. Rob Smith of The *Messenger* investigates...

On the evening of 25th March, refugee support organisation, ASSIST, held a fundraiser at the Cactus Club. Prominent local community activist, Jeff Kirby, explains what happened.

***"The club proprietor, Castel Fanty, was explaining the undue attention the club had been receiving from local police and licensing officers. Four uniformed officers had been to check the club license earlier that evening. At around 2am, Mr Fanty told me they'd received a phone call from the police, who were on their way following a report of a stabbing incident."***

When the police arrived, Jeff joined Mr Fanty at the main door to reassure the officers nothing untoward was taking place inside the club. "The officer claimed they would have to look inside the premises anyway," Jeff told me.

By this time fifteen officers had arrived, in three vans along with an armed response vehicle. The officers claimed they'd viewed CCTV footage showing that a person had pressed the alert button and then entered the Cactus Club. Mr Fanty disputed that claim and placed his arm across the entrance because he did not want the police charging in, ruining the great atmosphere inside the club. He received an assurance that only two officers would enter to search the premises, and they were allowed in. Mr Fanty positioned his arm in a gesture to reinforce this promise. However, a third officer walked into Mr. Fanty as he lowered his arm to allow him entry, and further officers pushed inside.

"My experience of this incident and hearing about other police visits from Mr Fanty makes me think the police are paying undue attention to the Cactus Club," said Jeff. He also believes that this incident has been used to raise recent objections to a 6am licence at the Club.

I went to the club in order to find out what's been happening and was shown a record of visits by the police to check the club was complying with its licence.

**Feb 2005:** Seven visits by between three and six officers.

**Mar:** Five visits, one with six officers, two on the same night.

**May:** Three visits in one week, two of these were on the same night, one of them with six officers.

**Aug-Oct:** Seven visits, two with four officers.

**Dec:** Four visits, one with five officers.

**Feb 2006:** Three visits, one with six officers.

**Mar:** Seven visits, three of these were on the same night, one of these with fifteen officers at the ASSIST event.

**Apr-May:** Three visits, one with five officers.

The *Messenger* asked Inspector John Ekwubiri of Burngreave Safer Neighbourhoods Team, if he could explain the undue attention the club receives.

***"To my knowledge the Cactus Club receives no more visits than the Afro-Caribbean club on Spital Hill or the Gower Arms. The Cactus Club regularly fails to comply with the conditions of its licence and accordingly receives a maximum of two visits per week."***

***"With regard to the ASSIST event, although people outside may well have said nothing untoward had happened or taken place inside, we must act on those initial reports. Now I'm aware that not all the officers that responded entered the club, but under no circumstances would we advocate just two officers entering what is a large nightclub venue, after such a report has been filed. From records in my possession I can confirm the report took place. We take false reporting very seriously, however, I am satisfied that this was not a malicious report."***

***"It is a fact that crime has risen 367 percent and although not every incident reported does relate to the Cactus Club, the patrons of the club are a contributory factor. Crimes in respect of public order have been more prominent. The club have to accept some responsibility for the immediate area of the premises in respect of people that have attended the club. There have been approximately six reported serious incidents since the club has been licensed. Some incidents where people have sustained injuries consistent with being stabbed."***

I went to speak to other local club and pub proprietors to see how their treatment compared to the Cactus

Club. Linda Fleming licensee of the Gower Arms told the *Messenger* she gets visits from the licensing police.

***"Well to be honest it was once a week every Friday. I thought I was being singled out then. But they haven't been around for a while. But that just means, they maybe mounting up to something I guess."***

Marge, the manageress of the New Glass Bucket formerly known as the Afro-Caribbean Club on Spital Hill, said that once she'd shown their yearly licensing paper work in order, they didn't come back to check again. "But!" Marge added, "Licensing police officers do carry out spot checks on this club and pay unannounced regular monthly visits."

Lenny Brown, proprietor of the Thirties+ Club, on Carlisle Street/ Gower Street told the *Messenger*, "The licence police did come when we first opened but as our paperwork was in order and since then, they let us run." Lenny did add, "Although the police did make a check for under age drinkers, that was over a year ago." I asked Lenny why he felt the Cactus Club was getting so many police visits.

***"Ten years ago running an unlicensed black, club or blues establishment in Sheffield was not a problem. When the Cactus Club was an unlicensed premises they had their fair share of issues, but since then, and now licensed, the Cactus is the best club in this area. Everyone is searched and I feel safe in there, because security is carried out properly."***

The Cactus Club management told the *Messenger*:

***"Our concern is when policing has been and is required for certain events, its not being made available. That is until, something does occur and they place the blame directly on the club. Again ignoring the fact, requests for some form of policing during certain promotional events have been made weeks in advance."***

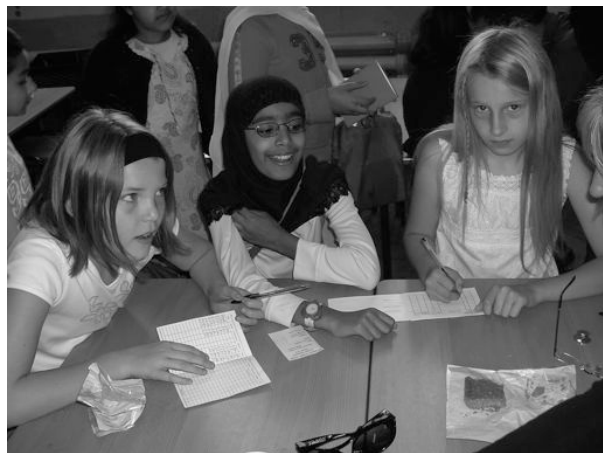
When we spoke to Mr Fanty he denied that stabbings had ever taken place in the club, even when it was unlicensed. The club's management told the *Messenger* they would, and always will, welcome any form of police presence outside the club as a deterrent against all unruly elements attracted to certain promotions they hold.

**by Rob Smith**



# Young Savers

**Pitsmoor Credit Union (PCU) has seen around sixty young people at Firs Hill School join its Young Savers scheme, since its launch in April.**



The Credit Union is traditionally aimed at adults, providing a community-friendly way of saving and borrowing money without incurring high street banking charges.

Young Savers has many potential benefits the children help out taking deposits and recording transactions and responsible saving is encouraged –supported by the maths curriculum. Headteacher, Dina Martin commented: “It is important for children to understand the importance of saving. We are encouraging a real life skill they will need to manage their lives.”

Credit Union accounts are in line with Muslim banking as no interest is paid on savings – at the end of each year, any profit made by the Credit Union is shared among its members. If people choose not to take this dividend, it can be put back into the Credit Union to help support its work, or donated elsewhere. The fees charged on loans just cover the administration costs.

If you want to join Pitsmoor Credit Union or want more information about Firs Hill Young Savers, contact Brendan Adams at PCU on 273 8555 or call in at one of the local collection points listed below:

Hallcar Tavern, Carwood Estate: Mon 8–9pm  
 Firshill TARA, 11 Firshill Glade: Tue 11am–12 noon  
 The Rock public house, Rock Street: Tue 8–9pm  
 Welcome Centre, Nottingham Street: Thu 11am–12 noon

**by Rashida Hassanali**

**186th Sheffield Rainbows, Brownies and Guides**

**Fundraising event**

**Summer Family Fun Day**  
**Saturday 15th July, 1–5pm**

**At Roe Lane Social Centre on Firshill Crescent, S4**

**Something for all ages**

**And whilst you are here why not try one of our  
 cream teas with fresh strawberries  
 or our other refreshments!**

## Playground sold

The Sutherland Road playground was auctioned for £110,000 in May. Affectionately known as ‘Wembley’ by residents who played there in the 1960s and ’70s, the playground became derelict as surrounding homes were demolished and replaced by industrial development.



The land was sold to a developer and its future is not yet known. Due to the land’s charitable status, the money from the sale must be invested with the Charity Commission, who will decide how the money can be spent. The Council told the Messenger it will most likely be spent on equipment for playgrounds in Sheffield, not necessarily in Burngreave.

If you think the money should be invested in Burngreave’s play facilities contact the Council’s Area Panel on 276 9134.

## Better Buses

Councillors approved the ‘Better Buses’ scheme at a planning board meeting on 13th June. It includes measures to create a bus lane along Burngreave Road, traffic lit junctions, one-way systems and road closures on adjoining roads, all aimed at giving priority to bus traffic towards town.



The plans have caused much controversy among residents and businesses and some remain unhappy with the scheme despite amendments made by the Council’s planning team.

The Council has decided to go ahead with the plan with the exception of the proposed opening of Catherine Street. This road will now remain closed after concerns were raised by some residents about drivers ignoring one-way rules and ‘rat-running’. Work is due to begin in the autumn.

For more information call the information line on 0845 30 343.

## Stanley Tools

Stanley Tools, the red brick 1930s style premises, formerly belonging to the tool manufacturer and a highly-visible local landmark on Rutland Road, is the subject of a recent planning application to convert the site to residential use.



The proposal sets out to retain the original building, on the main road, and the later 1960s office building behind, for conversion into 140 flats and two office spaces. The remainder of the site will be demolished to create space for a proposed 38 terraced town houses and a new link road cutting across Woodside Park from Pitsmoor Road onto Woodside Lane.

The developers claim the scheme will provide a mix of housing for both families and single people in line with the aims of the Masterplan for Woodside. If the application is successful and the conversion is carried out it will be the first such scheme of its type in Burngreave. Having a number of industrial buildings within its boundaries and considering the trend for loft-style developments currently underway in Sheffield, this may be just the beginning.

More details of the proposals can be found on the Council’s planning website at <http://planning.sheffield.gov.uk/publicaccess/> (Application reference number 06/01925/FUL). The closing date for comments on the plans is 10th July.

All © Rohan Francis

# The Pub Guide



## The Crown Inn

**Situated on the corner of Forncett Street and Harleston Street (off Carlisle Street), The Crown recently reopened under new management. Landlady, Deana Christian, has worked in the pub trade for quite a number of years and decided to take on The Crown because of her love for the area. "I've always lived in Pitsmoor," she told me, "and I just wanted to come back here and build up my own set of regulars."**



The bar area has been refurbished to create a homely and friendly atmosphere. "A traditional pub is what I aimed for," said Deana. The back room (parlour style) can be used for eating or drinking, and upstairs is a games room. Tuesday and Thursday nights are games nights with darts, dominoes and crib. "We've got all the old teams but I want to set up some new teams, so all newcomers welcome!" said Deana. She is also keen to set up a pool team and is getting the pool room ready.

Deana serves hot meals and sandwiches weekday lunch times with meat and potato pie on Thursdays and roast pork with Yorkshire pudding on Fridays. "Every bit home cooked they are. Not even a frozen chip!" says Deana.

Beers on offer include Tetley, Stones, Magnet and John Smiths, a range of lagers and draught Guinness. "I've tried to expand the range of what was on offer before to attract new custom. I also want to make this a family friendly pub – children are allowed in until 9pm each night and I'm planning to make a play area and garden out the back."

It's hard work getting a pub up and running again and building up a strong clientele but Deana has high hopes for the future. She used to run the youth club at All Saints before she went into the pub trade and looks forward to meeting some of her former 'kids' as adult customers in her pub. I'm sure she gives everyone else just as warm a welcome.

by Nikky Wilson

## Opening hours

Sun–Thu: 11am–12 midnight • Fri & Sat: 11am–1.30am  
Tel: 272 4804

# Healthy haven

**A new enterprise on Spital Hill offers health, hair and beauty and community to women of the area. Dispensing with the conventional 'shop floor', Saf Saf is a homely haven providing everything women need to look good and get healthy.**

Saf Saf is staffed by women from five cultures (experienced in all types of skin and hair). Owner Safiya, hopes to: "motivate every single female, women of all cultures – to try and make their lives different".



Its discreet, secure location offers a salon; a cafeteria with comfy seats; a gym; a sewing room (containing five machines) and a massage room – all decorated in soft, feminine colours. The gym has treadmills, bikes, cross-trainers and dumbbells for a full workout. Blinds on all windows mean Muslim women can remove headscarfs to exercise, have their hair done and relax with friends.

One woman commented on Saf Saf's friendly, professional atmosphere and her success with the gym: "I used to be a member at all different places and didn't go but here I can come any day and I feel more confident as it's women only".

The cafeteria offers a range of healthy sandwiches and snacks. Here women can talk about ideas for healthy living to staff members or chat with friends. A counsellor is available for those with more serious issues to discuss.

In the future Safiya (pictured right) hopes to provide focus groups for young women around education; arranged marriage and ways in which women can work to improve life in the area for themselves and their families. She hopes that the community which uses Saf Saf will "create a network, not only a focus group helping each other, but also empowering women in their own projects".



Saf Saf is located above the Mangla on Spital Hill, but access is from the back of the shops off Spital Lane. Open Monday to Saturday 10am–6pm, Phone 273 0248.

Saf Saf's salon is funded by UnLtd, a grant for entrepreneurs.

by Hannah George





# Healthy eating with Laila

**A new cookbook, *Healthy Eating the Middle-Eastern Way with Laila Wragg*, aims to cater for the growing interest in healthy multicultural food.**

Laila, a Palestinian who was raised in Jordan and has lived in Britain for over 35 years, working extensively in education during her time here, Laila says the book is based on what she has been taught throughout

her life "It's a collection of my experience," she said. Laila promotes healthy eating but at the same time aims to get the most out of food, "I used to eat lots of vegetarian dishes when I look back they were all healthily-made meals."

To make her food healthier, Laila takes these very simple steps, "I reduce the oil, fat and protein contents while using fresh produce only". Cooking from the age of six, Laila's enthusiasm was fired by she learning to cook from mother and grandmother while in Jordan, "Sometimes my mother would ask me to finish the dish myself," said Laila.

Laila received such interest in the cooking she did for friends that she decided to move into teaching cookery. In one cookery class there were once nine different nationalities of students in the same group, something Laila is particularly proud of. "My courses are in great demand from men and women of all backgrounds, I would like to share the pleasures of middle-eastern food with everyone."



The most important piece of advice Laila adheres to is the presentation of food. She went on to say: "We eat with our eyes, so presentation, in terms of colour and image is essential."

Asked what it is that enticed her to teach, Laila replied: "I'm just committed to doing something that will benefit others – I want to influence the younger generation through their mothers and fathers."

Laila also insists that culture plays a big part in influencing people and bringing something new to society: "We should be proud of our culture, it's the most important thing in our lives and enables us to become acknowledged by others." For this reason she says that this book is not only aimed at Arabs but people of all backgrounds and for easy, tasty, timeless, freshness and presentation.

Having now retired from teaching, Laila is very focused on writing her cookbooks and plans to come back with *Volume 2*. She joked, "This is only the taster, I'm coming back for more!"

Inspired by her students who, she says, not only learned how to cook but also to cook healthily, Laila sent this message to thank all those who helped make her first cook book a success: "I would like to thanks all my students, assistants, staff at The Furnival and all the other people I know who've helped me with writing this book."

Friends gathered, including the Lord Mayor, Jackie Drayton, on 27th June to launch the book. *Healthy Eating the Middle-Eastern Way*, which was funded with a small grant from BNDfC, will be on show for purchase at the Abbeyfield Festival on 9th July. For more information contact Laila on 284 5128.

**by Brent Moya**

## Stuffed fish

Most fish bought these days come already prepared but if not, you will need to wash and de-scale the fish.

Remove the stomach but leave the head as this is the traditional way of cooking stuffed fish.

An alternative method of cooking this dish is over a barbeque or under a grill.

### Ingredients

- 1kg any preferred fish (salmon or sea bass are particularly nice)
- 1 onion large
- 4 cloves garlic
- 4 tomatoes fresh
- ½ bunch parsley
- Juice of 1 whole lemon
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ tsp cumin
- 1 tsp mixed spices
- ½ tsp cinnamon
- 3 tbsps breadcrumbs



### Method

Clean inside of the fish well making sure you have an empty cavity.

Finely chop the onion, garlic, tomatoes and parsley and lightly mix with the breadcrumbs.

Add half of the lemon juice, salt, spices, and the cinnamon making sure that you don't over mix the ingredients.

With the remainder of the lemon juice, rub it on the inside and outside of the fish.

With your fingers stuff the mixture inside the fish and seal back together with cocktail sticks.

Before wrapping the fish in tin foil brush with olive oil to stop it from sticking and place on baking tray.

Put in a pre-heated oven for 30 minutes on gas mark 5 or 200°C.

Remove the tin foil and cook for a further fifteen minutes to crisp skin.

Decorate with lemon and serve.

# Abbeyfield Park Multicultural Festival

## Sunday 9th July 2006

Local acts will join national names performing across four stages at the Abbeyfield Multicultural Festival on Sunday 9th July.

### Main stage **G**

Young people from Streetvibes Crew and the Ellesmere Youth Project are thrilled to be on the main stage. Creative Burngreave will be presenting an end of project showcase, featuring many of the participants on the project course. Local reggae band Riddimption will be building up the late afternoon vibe, showing why they have become one of the most popular acts in Sheffield over the last two years.

Manake and Jinx, among UK's top bhangra acts present a full live stage showcase. Both have had huge club hits and national radio play coverage and are among the biggest on the Asian music scene right now. They will perform on the day with *dhol* players and spice dancers, making this showcase something not to be missed.

Hugely successful international festival-touring act Zion Train return as headliners, this year joined by superstar special guest vocalist and Jamaican legend Tippa Irie.

### Performance Stage **K**

Over on the performance stage local company Jamboree will be hosting a special performance of their Wardrobe of Delights show, featuring Cohen and the Shatners Bassoon Band, followed by Glastonbury favourites Poke in the afternoon. Headlining the Wardrobe of Delights show we have Bison, arguably one of the best bands in Sheffield and set to produce a performance to remember.

### Local Heroes **I**

Over on the Local Heroes stage on the New Deal bus will be a variety of the up and coming acts from the local area. These acts could well be performing on the main stage next year.

### Tea Dance tent **H**

The final piece to the local performance jigsaw is the new Tea Tent Stage situated by the side of the bowling green. This area will feature relaxing classics for the older patrons of the community. Come and try one of Betty's famous teas and a slice of cake in between a twirl on the dance floor.



### Shaping the Future

Would you be interested in having a say on what type of events Green City Action could run? Do you care about our parks and green spaces and would like to help us change them? If so ring Garry on 244 0353 or call in at the GCA tent at the festivals and let us know, we have all kinds of ways that residents can contribute to make Burngreave cleaner, greener and safer.



# Islamic treasures inspire N

**A new ceramic sculpture is being installed at this year's Abbeyfield Park Festival as part of the Islamic Art inspired project called Pillars of Light Alive.**

Sheffield Galleries & Museums Trust (SMGT), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, worked with people from across Burngreave to create the three-metre wide sculpture. Inspired by visits to the recent exhibition at Millennium Galleries, Palace and Mosque: Islamic Treasures of the Middle East from V&A, a number of residents worked with celebrated ceramic artist, Brian Holland, to create the work of art.



*ESOL student, Ashraf Mehmood, played a key role in designing the tiles.*

a circular sculpture, and will be installed in Abbeyfield Park in one of the circular grass roundabouts. Burngreave Building

The groups all attend ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes at Bryon Wood School and Firshill Community Primary school and their teachers used the visits and the ceramic workshops as a practical way to enhance the groups' English language skills. Aameena Blake-Ali, ESOL tutor at Bryon Wood Primary School said: "The ladies absolutely loved it. It was a completely new experience for them."

Participants made sketches and used these as inspiration to design tiles. The tiles were then joined together to make

Company built the wall and foundations using materials that are in keeping with the heritage of the park.

The Lord Mayor, Jackie Drayton, will be helping to install a key piece of the sculpture at Abbeyfield Festival. Saskia Baker of Friends of Abbeyfield Park said:

**"We are really looking forward to seeing the Abbeyfield Park ceramic sculpture at the festival. It's great to see the park coming to life and being used in so many different ways."**

For further information contact Rebecca Lee, Hub Fundraising and Development Manager on 278 2675 or email Sally Travis, Project Co-ordinator on [sallyltravis@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sallyltravis@yahoo.co.uk). Both will be on hand at the festival to answer any questions about the work.



*Burngreave residents put the finishing touches to the Islamic art inspired tiles.*

**by Claire Will, SMGT**



# Bowling tournament final O

**It's been the first season for Abbeyfield Park's bowling green, following a refurbishment that took several years. Dedicated members of the bowling club, have been enjoying practice sessions and matches since April.**

But in June the immaculate crown green was invaded by a host of amateurs, in the first intra-Burngreave Bowling tournament. The great and good pitted their newly-found skills against each other, in matches that featured the local councillors, members of the New Deal Partnership, Firshill TARA, the Community Wardens, Friends of Abbeyfield Park, Green City Action, and our very own *Messenger Pigeons*.

While some took it more seriously than others, it's not thought



anyone cheated. But with a place in the final at Abbeyfield festival at stake, many put in minutes of practice to ensure their victory. One participant said:

**"This is loads of fun, I'm really getting the hang of it now. I hope we get to beat New Deal in the next round."**

For many it was their first taste of competitive bowling, but with any luck it won't be their last. Activity Sheffield are hoping to start new teams with residents and community groups across Burngreave. If you'd like to take part contact Activity Sheffield's

Michala Spacey on 273 5719.

Abbeyfield's professional teams are also looking for players, particularly the Women's Team, if you'd like to take part contact Garry at Green City Action on 244 0353.



# Raising the Rec

**Hidden away between the Adventure Playground and Byron Wood School is the little-known Burngreave Recreation Ground. Sitting high above neighbouring housing, overlooking the City to the south and Don Valley to the east, the Rec' and its surrounding woodland have recently begun to reveal themselves to nearby residents as work begins to clear up and renovate the area.**



*The Lord Mayor, Jackie Drayton, opened the event and discussed the plans with Breeze Architect's Neil Black and Parks and Countryside's Amie Rowland.*

The Rec' is a curious combination of football pitch and wildlife haven. Specimen trees such as rauli (a Chilean Beech tree, which is rare in the UK), birch, pine, hawthorn, willow and cherry surround the site and provide homes for nesting birds, insects and snails. The once carefully planned paths and grand steps are overgrown and fear of encounters with shady characters make it under used.



**Visualisation by Breeze Architects viewed from Burngreave Street.**

But with the help of bagpipes, a kazoo maker, jugglers and Betty and Saleema's tea, local residents were lured up the hillside, in early June, to view proposals to breathe new life into the space. These proposals have been developed through partnership working between the local community, Parks and Countryside and Breeze Landscape Architects.

The event saw the unveiling of visualisations by Breeze showing improved access to the woods, renovated play areas, restored paths and steps, an upgraded football pitch and terracing of the embankment on Burngreave Street.

The newly-cleared embankment helped people see what a difference even a small amount of work can make. Much of what the plans suggest is about increasing visibility so everyone can feel safe when enjoying the Rec.

Funding to continue the improvements, which it is hoped will begin next year, is being sought by the Parks and Countryside Service, supported by the newly-formed Rec Friends Group. If you would like to get involved their next meeting will be on 13th September, 6.30pm at the Burngreave Cemetery Chapel.

For more information contact Amie Rowland, Parks and Countryside Service, on 273 6952.

**by Rohan Francis**



**Parks, swings, football  
More people, trees  
Tidy away rubbish please  
Yes to sheep!**

**New plans are good  
Please in your  
maintenance leave as  
many wild flowers and  
encourage more to grow**

**Excellent - can't wait for it to happen.  
It's a fantastic area and needs  
celebrating and developing**

**This is a good idea, I and my family  
would use it.**

*On the same day Green City Action helped put hanging baskets together for Burngreave Bank residents, whose homes border the Rec. Residents helped each other put up the baskets on the front of each house. It's hoped improvements can be made to one side of Burngreave Bank where houses were demolished 30 years ago. Residents were keen to keep the natural planting, but turning points for cars with wild flowers and tree planting could be the future, fitting in well with the plans for the Rec.*





# Memories of Carnival

**With the Abbeyfield Multicultural Festival upon us, memories of another festival have been evoked. Leroy Wenham, carnival fan and Area Manager from Sheffield Futures came to talk to me about the African Caribbean fortnight that took place in Sheffield every September for over a decade. Although it had a city-wide focus, many of the events were initiated in Burngreave, especially the carnival.**

“It all started in 1979 when I came from Leeds to work at The Sheffield Caribbean Workshop” said Leroy. “It seemed to me that there was a cultural void in Sheffield at that time. There were no black plays or exhibitions in the city and few opportunities to show off black talent to local audiences. With this in mind, and the idea of sharing our culture with the wider community, I set up a committee and between us we drew up a programme of ten events, lasting over a fortnight. And so it became the “African Caribbean Fortnight”. We had a motto – captivating the city – that’s what we aimed to do! Lots of community groups drove the programme and organised events. We organised workshops in schools on Caribbean themes and we did lots of community events: a fashion show, a health day, a sports day, an Africa day, a talent show with a Caribbean carnival to start or finish off the fortnight.”

“The carnival was only part of it but it’s what many people remember. We’d set a theme each year and design and make costumes with local groups. Some years we would start the procession from Caborn’s Corner on Spital Hill and we’d process through the city to Sharrow. Then the following year we’d start in Sharrow and finish up in Osgathorpe Park. My favourite costume was the praying mantis. I designed it myself and we took the Leeds carnival by storm when we paraded it there.”

“Organising the festival was not an easy task. Of course there was never enough money: in the first year we got a bit of sponsorship from South Yorkshire County Council and £200 from the Arts Council. When we exhausted those funds, we ended up dipping into our own pockets – we were so keen to make things happen! And we borrowed from other carnivals: costumes, people, ideas. As we became more established, we managed to find other sponsors but money was always a headache! The other problem was simply that people’s expectations grew each year. We kept on needing more helpers but what people wanted was to watch a spectacle, not to take part in it as volunteers. Clearly we were having an impact – people loved the fun and spectacle of it all – but it was hard work! Finally, in 1994, we decided to call it a day. But by then the idea had evolved and was picked up and developed by others.”

Panni Loh, former organiser of the Abbeyfield Multicultural Festival, described how she got her inspiration from the carnival in Burngreave. “We were living on Abbeyfield Road when the carnival passed down our street one year. My daughters were just two and four years old and we rushed into the front garden to watch the procession. It was very exciting as Caribbean women wearing tall headdresses danced just feet away from us! Some years later, realising that there were hardly any local public events, I organised a Chinese Lion Dance to reawaken the area. From this, the idea of a festival that embraced many cultures began to grow, resulting in the Abbeyfield Festival as it is now.”

“Thinking back on what we achieved then,” Leroy added, “we started something that has taken on a new form. And I’m also



proud of the fact that we brought nationally-recognised artists to Sheffield for the festival fortnight. So we succeeded in bringing African Caribbean culture and heritage to a wider audience – that was quite something back in the 80s!”

Thanks to Leroy Wenham and Panni Loh for sharing their stories of the carnival in Burngreave and evolution to Multicultural Festival.

**by Nikky Wilson  
photos by Leroy Wenham**

*Burngreave Voices: Our Stories Celebrated is a Sheffield Galleries and Museums Trust project in partnership with Sheffield Libraries and Information Service. It is generously supported by Sheffield City Council and Burngreave New Deal for Communities Partnership.*

# Footballer coaches locals

**Former Yemeni national team goalkeeper, Tareq Rubban added sporting glamour at the final match of the current Arab league tournament.**

The football star, revered by many young people from the Arab community offered his coaching skills to the youngsters of Burngreave and Fir Vale.



The contest, which consisted of six teams from the wider Arab community, took place at the Fir Vale sport centre in late June.

The event was organised by the Arab Youth Club, a project within the Yemeni Education and Relief Organisation (YERO) aimed at bringing young people together and nurturing their talents.

Project Manager at YERO, Abdo

Naqeeb said: "It was a fantastic evening of football that brought together many youngsters."

YERO was set up in 1999 and offers learning, training and translation services. It also offers training in English and IT skills and offers various short courses. If you would like more information contact Miss Afaf Hassani on 276 0421.

by Naheem Hanif

## Men's Health Day

**"Our male population has the highest early death rate and most of us are walking around uneducated, about food, diet, exercise nutrition and healthy lifestyles," said Patrick Edwards at the Men's Health Day at Verdon Street Rec on Saturday 16th June.**



Health issues that affect men include Heart disease, and failure, stroke, lupus, testicular cancer, cancer, high blood pressure, sickle cell, kidney failure, drug and alcohol abuse and mental illness, but men are often unaware of the risks and what they can do to avoid health problems.

The Men's Health Day aimed to address this with blood pressure checks; height and weight checks; healthy food; drug awareness and diets

information, in addition to sports and football, while Glen Rhodes and his boxing team provided a small display of boxing followed by Lethal Latif and his young team of kick boxers.

While the turnout from male residents was poor at around 30, professionals and voluntary sector worked closely as a team. The kids that turned out had a good time and the "S3 Brazil" team won the under 16s football final. The awarding of medals and memorabilia took place after the raffle-draw and prize giving. "All in it was a good day," added Rafiq Saleh of Burngreave Sports Network.

People need to mark their diaries for Men's Health day next June 2007 and do so in hope we all stay healthy and make it there in one love and peace.

by Rob Smith

**Multi Cultural Wanderers Football Club**

Require players to form brand new teams to play in

**Millenium League**

**U11's & U13's**

Training takes place at

**The Ponderosa** and

**Firvale sports Centre**

**Tuesday's and Friday's**

**5pm to 6:30pm**

BSN NOYPO

Contact Chris 2726286 or Rafiq 2419100  
(Players must not be registered with any other team)

## Burngreave Drug Project

**The Burngreave Drug Project works to offer the highest quality of service to the community of Burngreave in a holistic and culturally-sensitive way.**

We aim to tackle problematic substance misuse in Burngreave, seeking to reduce the harm that drugs cause to the community, individuals and their families. We are committed to working in a way that benefits the whole community to promote healthier living and offer more choices to each community member.

People in Burngreave have a lot of anxieties and worries around drug and alcohol use in their area and we aim to provide EVERY community member with free confidential, non-judgemental support and information should they need or want it.

Anyone can write or call us anonymously for any information around drugs and alcohol or if they want to discuss their personal situations we are a listening ear. All the work we do is based in the community, people's own homes or in an environment where they feel safest.

**Burngreave Drug Project**  
Unit 2d, Waverley House, 10 Joiner Street S3 8GW. Tel: 226 2970.



# A Midsummer Night's Dream

**Performed by Mixmatch Productions, in association with Norton College, presented by Green City Action, Theatre in the Park on Saturday 3rd June.**

We gathered in Abbeyfield Park in the summer sunshine to watch a performance of the much-loved play of summer magic and madness. Picnics were spread and glasses of wine filled, and children giggled with anticipation at this family event.

We were taken into the court of Duke Theseus in ancient Athens. The clever military theme was a refreshing modern touch. Marc Whalley did a powerful portrayal of the Duke, whilst Addie Richardson played equally powerfully against him as Agea, mother of Hermia, a brave detour from the original male casting, but effective.

Titania, proud Queen of the fairies, was brilliantly portrayed by Gill Langley, playing against Marc Whalley, who was doubling as the wonderfully arrogant Oberon, King of the fairies.

Full use was made of the trees in the park, with delightful post-apocalyptic



fairies abounding, and this – coupled with misty smoke, and ethereal music mixed with deep rock beats – created a magical atmosphere.

The star of the show was undoubtedly 'Nick' Bottom, played by Lee Fisher. He had the audience roaring with laughter with his bold injections of Northern humour, very much in the style of Vic Reeves, plus contemporary phrases like 'I've gotta go' and 'Deal or no deal's on'.

A fantastic performance by Kim Scopes as the cheeky goblin Puck, another female casting, with excellent use of movement and dance by Kim, gave a



real feel of being in the presence of something not quite earthly.

We had a good laugh at the starched, overbearing Miss Quince, played by Kate Burns, another successful female casting in a contemporary theme, and she led her band of misfit actors with such telling exasperation!

The lovers Hermia (Joelle Sellars), Lysander (John Kubon), Demetrius (Glen Scholey), and Helena (Steph White) all played well, making full use of the space for chase and fight scenes.

This was natural theatre, and as the light faded, fairy lights twinkled in the trees and the audience was left feeling that they may really have stumbled into a midsummer dream as a little magic was brought into Burngreave.

**by Michelle Cook**

## The Wardrobe of Delights

**A good crowd turned up at Abbeyfield Park for the Wardrobe of Delights and the tent was full as the cabaret got underway.**

Our hosts for the evening were two cleaning ladies who found themselves perplexed at the appearance of a string of extraordinary characters emerging from a wardrobe on the stage. A seductive manipulation of a feather duster while suspended from twin ropes followed by a muscular trapeze act drew admiring applause. Cabaret humour par excellence brought smiles and blushes.

A refreshing drink during the interval was interrupted by a flying egg or two propelled by unknown performers. The Botox Twins brought punch and judicious humour to the second half but I am afraid I was forced to retire from the tent at this point as my young daughter fled in some terror from the stand up comedian – a pity as I could hear raucous laughter, but she did peek in as a green man from outer space did battle on stage. The show ended and I returned to applaud a memorable evening. "All in the best taste" I mused, as a final egg flew overhead.



The *Messenger* received a complaint about the performance from a resident about the sexual content of the play, which they felt was unsuitable for young children and families in the audience.

In response, organisers Green City Action (GCA) told us:

**"We acknowledge that a small part of the content of the Wardrobe of Delights caused offense to several people who attended. GCA had previously vetted the full production and removed the content we**

**thought unsuitable, unfortunately it was some of the replacement content, booked by the production company, that caused the problem. Even though this was beyond our control we will make sure that adequate warning is provided in future if material is likely to offend.**

**"We would like to thank the many people that expressed their appreciation of what they described as an otherwise excellent night and that the old adage you cannot please everybody seems to ring true."**

If you were at the play and have a view, we would love to hear from you, contact the *Messenger* on 242 0564.

**by Tim Neal**

## Report Back

### Partnership Board, Wednesday 31st May

#### BCAT Project

A discussion was held around the Bungereave Community Action Trust (BCAT) Organisational Development project. Members of the Board reiterated the requirements for BCAT to comply with the conditions they had identified to improve the effectiveness of the organisation.

The Chair added the Board want to support the project and look forward to the full project proposal from BCAT at the June Partnership Board meeting. The Board voted unanimously to:

- Agree not to approve the BCAT Organisational Development project as it currently stands
- Agree to approve an extension to the project to 30th June and
- Agree to no further project proposals relating to the BCAT Organisational Development project will be received by the BNDfC Partnership Board beyond 30th June

#### Community Engagement

Mushall Khan, Programme Director, updated members on the outcome of discussions at the Community Engagement Board Focus meeting.

A discussion was held regarding community engagement and the Board

look forward to receiving the full report in August.

The Chair added that the Board will be starting their discussions on BNDfC's succession strategy at the next Board away day, a key element of those discussions will be the views and involvement of the wider community.

#### Streetworx project

Sheffield Futures and the shadow Youth Council were welcomed to the meeting and Vernon Collimore and Zaine Abdulla gave a presentation about the Streetworx project. A full discussion was held around the importance of the inclusion of young people in the decision making process. Two seats on the BNDfC Partnership Board are designated for young people and the Board looked forward to the seats being filled.

John Evans, Chief Executive of Sheffield Futures, is new to the post, and is getting out and about to see what is happening on the ground, how services are delivered and engaged in supporting young people. John made a commitment to report back to the Board every six months on progress.

After discussion of all the issues raised the Board agreed to continue working

with Sheffield Futures on the condition that:

- 1 Phase 1 objectives are complete
- 2 Commitment is given by Sheffield Futures Chief Executive to report back to the Partnership Board on a bi-annual basis.

The Board also agreed to receive a final report from Sheffield Futures in June 2006 for decision and endorsement and to cultivate Option 3, of the report (splitting the project with shared responsibility between BNDfC & Sheffield Futures) should objectives not be achieved.

#### Board updates

Board members were updated on progress regarding the re-organisation of BNDfC structures in line with the revised priorities identified by the Board through a series of away days in 2005.

They also discussed progress of the Transformational Projects contained within the Advancing Together Agreement between BNDfC and Sheffield City Council.

Date of next Board meeting  
5.30–7.30pm 28th June at Forum House, Spital Hill.

**Burngreave New Deal for Communities is a 10-year £52m regeneration programme established to tackle the issues of deprivation in the Burngreave area, a vibrant multicultural community situated close to Sheffield city centre. This is an exciting time within our programme, as we are now halfway through our ten-year vision to regenerate Burngreave, now strongly focussing on sustainability and exit strategy we are looking for key individuals to help transform the area. If you are passionate about people, enjoy a challenge, can operate effectively in a diverse and complex political environment, and can meet the criteria for the role, we want to see you.**

#### Regeneration Manager Salary £27,313–35,771

As a Regeneration Manager you will be responsible for the priority area of 'Community Strength and Wellbeing' delivering sustainable regeneration projects in this diverse area. You will need to have lots of enthusiasm and energy along with the necessary skills to deliver the outcomes in our ten-year Delivery Plan. Working with local people and partners from all sectors you will need to demonstrate:

- knowledge and understanding of community development in a diverse multicultural area
- the ability to develop effective relationships with local residents, public, private and voluntary sector organisations
- project development and delivery skills in a regeneration context
- the ability to deliver outcomes within agreed timescales and on budget
- a comprehensive understanding of social inclusion, neighbourhood renewal, national and local regeneration initiatives and funding streams
- the ability to work across traditional boundaries to encourage service providers to be more sensitive to local needs and work with all parties to tackle complex issues and bring about lasting improvements to the area.

**Interview/Assessments to be held: 18 August 2006**

## Re-organisation and New Blood

After a series of away days in 2005 the BNDfC Partnership Board agreed the New Deal programme should move away from prescribed themes to a set of priorities that reflected the future challenges and opportunities facing the programme in Burngreave. These included a change of priorities resulting from what has been achieved so far and the changing context locally, regionally and nationally eg imminent delivery of the Transformational projects, Full Service Districts, Mixed Communities.

There was recognition that community resources were stretched by the number of meetings held in the area. The meetings often duplicated areas of discussion, people in attendance and, due to their narrow focus, limit the opportunity to consider the wider impact of decisions.

The regularity of meetings also takes up a considerable amount of staff resources in preparing papers that would be better spent managing project performance, developing the Focus and Strategy Groups and engaging residents and Board members through more effective and interesting means than at present.

The existing Theme structure was never implemented consistently across all of the theme areas and has resulted in different practices in different themes which make it difficult for residents, staff and Board members to participate effectively in more than one

theme area. As a result of these issues the Board agreed to the re-organisation of the programme to four priority areas from seven Theme areas. The new priority areas being:

- Community Strength
- Children and Young People
- Housing, Environment and Crime
- Skills and Employment

The Board also decided for the meetings to be held bi-monthly and to revise the Project Approval Process to reflect the changing emphasis to shaping delivery from project approval.

Initially, we are looking for an expression of interest from those who feel they may have something to contribute to the priority areas of the programme. If you want to know more contact Alison, at the address below.

### New meeting dates

*(venues will be advertised)*

#### Partnership Board

26 July  
27 September

#### Strategy Group

##### July

11 Children & Young People  
13 Community Strength & Wellbeing

##### September

05 Employment & Skills  
07 Physical Environment & Safety  
12 Children & Young People  
14 Community Strength & Wellbeing

#### Resident Forum

##### August

01 Employment & Skills  
03 Physical environment & safety  
08 Children & Young People  
10 Community Strength & Wellbeing

## Public Meeting

**Monday 10th July 6-8pm**  
**Forum House, Spital Hill**



Meet your community representatives on the BNDfC Partnership Board and discuss your concerns in an open forum. Main meeting starts at 6.45pm.

There will also be the opportunity to discuss your ideas with the Small Grants team and meet with some successful applicants.

For any further information call **279 6932**.

### Small Grants Co-ordinator

**Salary £20,514-24,616**

As the Small Grants Co-ordinator you will manage the delivery of the Small Grants Fund. Advising and assisting local people to apply for grants, you will need the following:

- the knowledge to recruit, train and support volunteers for the small grants panel
- the ability to appraise grant applications and act as adviser to the small grants panel
- the ability to manage the financial monitoring of grant payments and claims
- the ability to undertake monitoring, support and verification visits to ensure compliance

**Interview/Assessment to be held 14 August 2006**

**Closing date for BOTH posts: 2.00pm 31 July 2006**

**If you are interested, have the relevant skills and want to know more, contact Roy Sinclair on 279 6937 or alternatively request a recruitment pack via our email address [enquiries@bndfc.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@bndfc.co.uk).**

**Applications from Burngreave residents are particularly welcomed.**



### Contact

**Alison Reid**  
Communication Manager

BNDfC  
1st Floor  
Speedicut Works  
Harlestone Street  
Sheffield  
S4 7QB

[alisonreid@bndfc.co.uk](mailto:alisonreid@bndfc.co.uk)



contact: 276 9134

## Burngreave Area Panel

# Working for the Council

The Council has a long-standing commitment to encourage people from working-class neighbourhoods to apply for jobs – and especially from those who are less visible in the workforce (like disabled people and the black and minority ethnic communities). So how does this look for people in Burngreave?

One way of checking how successful local regeneration programmes might be is to see whether more local residents have moved into work.

This week (Wednesday 21st June) there are 60 jobs advertised on the Council's website ([www.sheffield.gov.uk](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk) – click on jobs on top right). They range from trainee horticulturist; librarian; environmental health technician; cook; night care assistant; fitness co-ordinator; receptionist at Sheaf Training; architects – to drivers and passenger escorts. Council jobs are also advertised in The Star, other newspapers and their vacancy bulletin. Residents who don't have access to these resources can receive weekly, Council vacancy lists by post from the local jobs agency on Spital Hill.

Kevin Greaves lives in Burngreave and works as a driver for Transport Services; why does the work suit him?

*"It gets me out of the house and I love driving. It entails starting at the yard at Staniforth Road at seven, Tinsley to Shiregreen to Burngreave to Broomhall to Sharrow and on to Silverdale; and then back in the afternoon. Picking up children who are physically disabled and*



*then dropping them off after school. I love it; getting on with the kids – it's very rewarding".*

Janet Cleary lives off Scott Road and has worked as a passenger escort for nearly three years.

*"I used to be a dinner lady but I thought I could do much more for children with special needs than standing in a playground. The hours suit me much better. Every day's different – you never get up thinking 'Oh – work'; I really enjoy the time with the children and the driver, playing pretend games on the bus with the children, making them laugh. If you want to do this job, I think you have*

*to enjoy children, and want to be able to help them. You need patience – so it's not necessarily everyone's cup of tea."*

Janet starts just before 8am and is dropped off in town by 9.30am. She leaves home again at about 2pm and returns at 4.30pm – "I get real satisfaction from this job."

Drivers are paid £6.55p an hour for 20 hours – term time only. Escorts are paid £6.02p an hour for a minimum 10 hours per week. You'll have to complete a medical, a driving assessment and a CRB check (working with children). If you apply now – via 203 7758 – you could be starting in September/October.

There are some good examples of local residents getting jobs with the Council and other major employers. Sheffield Homes have successfully employed local residents as new customer services staff. Transport & Commercial Services employs about 200 drivers and 200 escorts who transport children from home to school – like Kevin and Janet.

The Council is looking at how to promote itself as one of the major local employers and also the many benefits it offers – flexible working, a good pension scheme and a commitment to personal and professional development. One of the ways we'll be doing this is with an exhibition vehicle at the Abbeyfield Festival – displaying current job vacancies and offering advice on the types of jobs that the Council has and how to apply for them. Another approach is through using the Council's influence with construction companies; last year Construction JobMatch took on more people from Burngreave than any other neighbourhood.

## Councillors' Surgery Dates

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



8th July: Ibrar Hussain, 11am–12 noon Burngreave Library and 12.15–1.00pm: Firshill TARA

22nd July: Steve Jones, 11am–12 noon Burngreave Library

August: no surgeries

9th September: Steve Jones, 11am–12 noon Burngreave Library and 12.15–1.00pm: Firshill TARA

## Next Area Panel Meeting

Thursday 27th July, 6–8pm, at Fir Vale School. With progress reports from Masterplan project groups for Skinnerthorpe Road; Page Hall; Earl Marshall flats; Catherine Street and Spital Hill. Campaign launched by the leadership of the Council 'Your Council – have your say!' All the local councillors will be present.



# Celebrating our heritage

**"I wanted to join the Multiple-Heritage Service because I wanted people to understand my background and help other children not be ashamed of who they are."**

That was the view of young committee member Danny Brand, who is part of, arguably Sheffield's youngest Management Committee – the Sheffield Multiple-Heritage Service (SMHS).

SMHS was set up to address the issues and problems faced by mixed-race children. Although many mixed-race children draw strength from having two cultures, many also suffer low self-esteem; emotional and identity problems. Some children feel they 'don't belong anywhere' and suffer prejudice from both white and black communities.

Although many mixed-race children do well at school, as a group, their school achievement is lower than any other group and they have higher rates of exclusion than any other group. In Burngreave, mixed-race pupils do particularly poorly. They are also more likely than other groups to end up in care, involved in drugs or in trouble with the police.

Now some of Burngreave's mixed-race children are helping to manage the programme, to support and raise the confidence of multiple-heritage children.

The up-beat and positive youngsters explained that being involved with the management committee will help them increase their self-confidence, be happy and feel better about themselves.



*Members of Sheffield Multiple Heritage Service Management Committee (L-R): Lauren Bonnik, Fabian Monahan, Elise Windith, Chekere Williams and Danny Brand*

The management committee also helps to organise and decide on activities and events for other mixed-race children that have used the service.

Mado Khan, the SMHS Manager said:

**"Multiple-heritage children are the fastest growing group of all children in Sheffield. It is envisaged that they will account for nearly 25% of the children's population in Sheffield by 2010. They have issues that are particular to them as they come from, sometimes more heritage than two."**

**"Young people on our management committee are good role models and are able to talk about issues that affect them and their peers. They are the voice of multiple-heritage children in Sheffield. It is extremely important for them to be involved in order to raise issues that affect them. They are an integral part of this service and as such we value their input and the enthusiasm and commitment that they have."**

For more information about the Multiple Heritage Service, or to get

involved with the young people's management committee, please ring Mado Khan on 293 0329.

SMHS have produced a child-friendly book called *'Celebrating our Rootz'*. The book talks about black and Asian people in this country, why they came here and the positive contribution they have made. It is suitable for all ages but was written particularly for primary school age. The book only costs £3.00. For more information, or to order, please call 273 5446.

by Naheem Hanif

## In the mix

**I'm not black**

**And I'm not white  
I'm a very funny type  
My dad is black  
My mum is white**

**I try to be both races**

**But which one shall I pick  
I guess I'll have to  
understand that  
I'm in the mix**

**It's hard to be mix-race**

**How shall I act?  
My friends are different colours  
White, Asian and black**

**But now I understand**

**That bein' mix-race isn't so bad  
You can just be yourself  
Cos' you're the only one  
And when you think about it.  
Mix-race is kind of fun!**

**I mean, you've got more than one  
culture**

**And it's really good to be,  
Just individual  
The individual me**

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## Burngreave Community Learning Campaign

### Learning Assistants Needed

#### – Earn While You Learn!

(Burngreave, Firvale and Firhill area)

Are you 18 years of age or over, living in the Burngreave ward?

Are you enthusiastic about helping other people in Burngreave to improve their basic skills?

Are you keen to improve your own qualifications and earn £216 for a 35-hour week?

**If your answer to these questions is YES, then why not find out more?**

For an application pack:

Ring **BCLC** on **(0114) 279 4960** or write to:  
**BCLC, Forum House, 35 Spital Hill, Sheffield S4 7LD**

Or come to the BCLC marquee at Abbeyfield Park Multicultural Festival on Sunday 9th July.

Closing date for applications: **12 noon Monday 17th July**



Children's Centre

### Experienced Admin, Finance & Monitoring Officer

Fixed-term contract until September 2007

Salary: £15,000 • Hours: 37 per week

This is an excellent opportunity to join a thriving community enterprise. We provide a high-quality service for children and parent/carers in Burngreave.

The successful candidate will be responsible for managing all the administrative activities of the children's centre and must have the ability to use their own initiative, be well organised and be able to meet strict deadlines. Working experience of IT is essential.

Applicants should have proven skills in managing financial and monitoring systems, Microsoft Excel and Word.

Previous experience of managing the administration of a small organisation will be an advantage.

Previous candidates are welcome to re-apply.

**Closing Date: Friday 28th July 06**

For an application pack and informal enquiries

Please call **Sharon Brown** on **(0114) 275 1817**.

BWRC is supported by:

Sheffield City Council • Early Years Education & Childcare Service  
Burngreave New Deal for Communities  
New Opportunities Fund • Sheffield South Yorkshire Key Fund

## Community Education Co-ordinator

Grade 8 – £26,928–29,010

Fixed-term contract initially until August 2007

Hours: 18.5 hours

Weeks per year: 52

The purpose of this post is to assist the headteacher and governors to develop learning activities for adults and young people from the Burngreave New Deal for Communities area using the facilities of the school.

This is an opportunity for a committed and enthusiastic individual who wants to be part of the transformation of Burngreave to increase the numbers of people involved in learning. You will work in school to organise programmes of study for parents and other family members and link with other initiatives in the area such as the Burngreave Community Learning Campaign and other adult learning providers.

This is a partnership project involving Firth Park and Burngreave New Deal for Communities.

We welcome applications from under-represented groups and from those people living in the Burngreave New Deal for Communities area.

*Informal Enquires:*

*Mo Laycock*

*Firth Park Community Arts College – (0114) 257 6238*

*Application forms and further details are available from Firth Park Community Arts College.*



**Closing date: 21 July**

**Interview: week commencing 14 August**

## Free Community Activities Now Available

(funding from BNDfC Small Grants Fund)

### Ladies' Keep Fit

Mondays 6.30–7.30pm at St Peter's Cornerstone (corner of Carwood Road/Grimesthlope Road)

### Chairobics

Tuesdays 11.45am–12.30pm at St Peter's Church Hall, Lyons Street

### Coach trip

Blackpool on 28th October

*For further details contact **John** on **243 6305***

### Mama East African Women's Group

#### Annual General Meeting

Saturday 15th July 2006

91 Spital Hill

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[pipedream\\_823@hotmail.com](mailto:pipedream_823@hotmail.com)

### Office space for immediate rental

Burngreave Community Action Trust, 12 Burngreave Road  
For further information please contact Paul Haine  
**(0114) 250 2715** or Kate Thompson **(0114) 250 2710**.

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Email: [prp@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:prp@sheffield.gov.uk)

Or drop in: every Wednesday afternoon, 2-4pm,  
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### Projects information

To find out more about BNDfC projects, visit:

[www.bndfc.co.uk/projects/](http://www.bndfc.co.uk/projects/)

### Events Calendar

For events in Burngreave, visit:

[www.bndfc.co.uk/events/](http://www.bndfc.co.uk/events/)

### Promote your event for FREE

Got an event to promote? Then submit the details to our website at

[www.bndfc.co.uk/events/add-an-event/](http://www.bndfc.co.uk/events/add-an-event/)



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- Personal Safety

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for more information?**

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**Date:**  
**Saturday July 15th 2006**  
**10am - 1pm**

For more information please contact:

Panni Poh Yoke Loh,  
Community Education Co-ordinator  
Firth Park Community College,  
Fircroft Avenue,  
Firth Park, Sheffield S5 0SD  
Tel: 0114 257 4022



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