

Burngreave Messenger



Issue 71 • August 2007 • Free to everyone in Burngreave

www.burngreavemessenger.org

Voice of the Burngreave Community

**ABBAYFIELD PARK
MULTICULTURAL
FESTIVAL**

**DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS,
THE FESTIVAL HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO:**

SUNDAY 2ND SEPT 2007 1PM – 6PM

Check website for updates www.greencityaction.org.uk Information line: 0114 2440353



Wicker under water



Photo: Adrian Wynn

On 25th June 2007 heavy rain caused what some are calling a once in a 100 years event.

The River Don engulfed Nursery Street pouring down into the Wicker and all surrounding streets before flowing fast through the Wicker Arches into Savile Street, cutting Burngreave off from the rest of the city.

The last time the Wicker was lost to the River Don was 1864, when 240 people died following the collapse of the Dale Dyke dam.

Two lives were tragically lost in Sheffield during this year's flood, including Burngreave resident Peter Harding.

Inside this issue

We report on pages 4 and 5 how people and businesses have been affected. Most people in Burngreave escaped damage to their homes, though Bolsover Road residents were not so lucky.

Festival postponed

Abbeyfield Festival organisers took the decision to call off the event due to a waterlogged field near the children's playground - in the past it was a boating lake! The festival has now been postponed to Sunday 2nd September.

**FIRVALE
FESTIVAL**
SEPT 9 1-5.30PM
FIRVALE SCHOOL
FREE ENTRY



**Metz n Trix
Jamboree Arts
& many more**



Check website for details
www.greencityaction.org.uk
information line: 0114 2440353
registered charity number: 1095725

Black Women's Resource Centre
Children's Project



2 Full-Time Qualified Early Years Practitioners

- **Candidates must have NVQ Level 3 in Childcare or equivalent with Endorsements**
- **Salary £13,000**
- **37hrs per week**

Established for 11 years, BWRC (Black Women's Resource Centre) requires two enthusiastic and dynamic people to take up these full time posts in our busy nursery.

BWRC is located on Burngreave Road but we will be moving to a newly refurbished location at the former Burngreave Young Children's Centre in the Autumn term 2007. Our nursery provides quality early years education & childcare to a diverse group of children and families.

These posts offer an excellent opportunity for people with the relevant knowledge, experience and qualifications to play a key role in the provision of services for children and their families.

As we are a diverse and representative organisation we are not particularly under-represented but would welcome men and disabled employees as we endeavour to support all employees. Both the DDA 1995 and SDA 1975 apply.

For an application pack or informal enquiries please call Sharon or Lillian on 0114 275 1817

Closing date: Wednesday 8th August 2007

Diploma in Public Service Interpreting 2007-08



Due to continued success, CLS is pleased to announce that our next Diploma in Public Service Interpreting (DPSI) course will start in October 2007.

ARE YOU

- Fluent in English and at least one other language?
- Interested to develop your translation and interpretation skills?
- Willing to obtain a nationally recognised professional qualification validated by the Chartered Institute of Linguists to build your career in translation?

THEN WHY NOT

Join our next DPSI course (October 07 – June 08 with 3 hours weekly sessions).

HOW?

Come to our Open and Enrolment Days at CLS, 12 Burngreave Road (Buses: 7, 20, 20A, 29, 33, 75, 76, 83, 88, 97,98, 265, B1, B2, D1), on:

Tuesday 21st August 2007 at 11.00am-1.30pm
Wednesday 5th September 2007 at 1.00pm-3.30pm

Where tutors and organisers will answer any questions about:

- Course content, qualifications, assessment, languages, applications and cost/fee.
- Possibilities of sponsorships and translation/interpretation work opportunities through CLS.
- Many more.

For further information, please contact:

Mr. Malik, CLS Ltd., 12 Burngreave Road, Sheffield S3 9DD.
Telephone: 0114 276 5442 Mobile: 07753 331 616
Email: cls.ltd@btconnect.com

Write Horizons

Do you sometimes have lots of thoughts going round in your head that you can't sort out?

Do you wish you could say how you really feel?

Writing can be a way of expressing your emotions on paper where it can feel safe and secure and it can help you learn about yourself.

Forget what you learned at school about grammar and spelling, they don't matter when writing for yourself.

Therapeutic Writing can help reduce stress, get rid of worries and enhance well being.

If you would like to try this very informal way of writing come along on:

Mondays 1.30-3.30pm
At the Meeting Place,
259 Pitsmoor Road.

No experience necessary and it's free!

**For more information call:
Patsy at Pitsmoor Surgery
Telephone: 276 2644**

Leave a message, I will return your call.



TRAVEL AND TRY IT 2007!

- ***Would you like to make your life more interesting and improve your social circle?***
- ***Do you feel isolated and unable to visit local places on your own?***
- ***Do you wish you could meet other people in a friendly atmosphere?***
- ***Would you like to try new activities but feel too worried to go alone?***
- ***Do you live in the Burngreave New Deal area?***

THEN JOIN THE "TRAVEL AND TRY IT GROUP"

Meeting in a group can give us more confidence to explore our city and experience new activities e.g. theatres, art galleries, bowling, Ponds Forge, etc. We also spend time together trying different activities such as creative writing, art and crafts, or maybe you have your own suggestions.

The *Travel and Try it group* provides the opportunity to taste a range of the good things Sheffield has to offer.

We meet on Fridays 1pm-3pm at 30 Minna Road (off Burngreave Road).

For more information call Patsy at Pitsmoor Surgery on (0114) 276 2644, or leave a message and your call will be returned.

Funded by BNDfC. Help is available for the cost of the outings.



Gower Arms closed

On 31st May the Council's licensing board revoked the Gower Arms' license and an appeal has been adjourned until September. Although the pub could be allowed to open during the appeal, the police have asked for it to remain closed because they believe there is risk of a 'serious disorder incident'.

Strict licensing conditions were imposed on the pub in January this year, including an order to upgrade the CCTV system, ban children, enforce a stringent search policy, employ weekend security staff and stop people congregating outside.

Sergeant Simon Leake from the Burngreave Safer Neighbourhood policing team said that these conditions had been breached. A series of incidents were reported at the license review including failures to search people, and drugs recovered from four men in the pub.

Landlord Vernon Solomon said he could not take responsibility for his customers' activities, and that he asked the security agency not to send doormen who failed to search people. He felt that he had complied with all the conditions and spent thousands upgrading the CCTV, rewiring, improving toilets and employing doormen. He told the Messenger,



"The police claim they have seen known gun men going into the pub, that they shot Gerald Smith years ago. I found out that those men are in prison and when asked if they would provide photos so I could bar them, they said it was a mistake."

"They also said there had been an incident when 9 gun shots were fired, but we looked everywhere, in and around the pub, but we could find no evidence of empty shells or bullet holes."

Sergeant Leake said, "The community wants us to take action against drugs and antisocial behaviour. This is not personal against Mr Solomon, we are already targeting other premises with the aim of reducing crime."

With a further hearing as we go to press and an appeal in September, it's uncertain how long the Gower will be closed or if it will open again.

Students raise refugee awareness

A host of special events took place in Refugee Week (16th – 22nd June) at Fir Vale School as students aimed to raise awareness across the city of refugee issues, as well as promoting understanding about the reasons why people seek sanctuary.

Students worked with the British Red Cross to fill collection bags for Red Cross shops in Sheffield and Doncaster. They filled the bags with clothes, bedding, toys, books, games, CDs, DVDs and other items to sell to raise money for the organisation.

Qais Aryan, a refugee from Afghanistan, was guest speaker at the school, talking about his experiences from having his education interrupted in Afghanistan, to fleeing the country and living illegally in Iran before arriving in England. Year 10 students listened to his story and then wrote a biography of his life for their English project.

Refugee Week was also the theme for producing pieces of creative writing,

making banners and flags in Art lessons, and making and tasting food from different cultures in Food Technology, as well as various projects in Mathematics, Drama and Business Studies.



Washed out

The rain continued to fall in July forcing the postponement of the much anticipated Abbeyfield Festival. But it wasn't the only wash-out.

After seven years of the ten year New Deal for Communities programme, this should be the time for the Burngreave community to look back on achievements, and plan for the final three years. But there's to be no election - not enough local residents put themselves forward for a place on the Partnership Board. Does this mean residents are not bothered what New Deal does any more? Or do residents feel the power lies elsewhere? Or maybe we still feel powerless to change what big organisations do?

Website

During the flooding we regularly added news as the stories developed. We need your help to keep it up to date. If you have any news, or an interesting story, send it to us and we can add it to the site. If you need some help to get going you can find guidelines for writing in the 'get involved' section on our website www.burngreavemessenger.org/

Messenger Info

Editorial meetings: 6.30 pm at Abbeyfield Park House
Next meeting: Wed, 15th August

All welcome.

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Burngreave Messenger Ltd

Abbeyfield Park House
Abbeyfield Road
Sheffield S4 7AT

(0114) 242 0564

messenger@burngreave.net

www.burngreavemessenger.org

The Burngreave Messenger is a community newspaper, funded by New Deal, with editorial independence. All content is copyright Burngreave Messenger Ltd or its voluntary contributors, not to be reproduced without permission. 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: Irshad Akbar, Lesley Boulton, Ian Clifford, Camille Daughma, Rohan Francis, Andrew Green, Naheem Hanif, Abid Hussain, Saleema Imam, Douglas Johnson, Jamie Marriott, Derrick Okrah, Lisa Swift.

Wicker floods

Photos: **Lesley Boulton** (Top, lower middle.
Next page top)
Adrian Wynn (upper middle, bottom)

Businesses left reeling

Story: Irshad Akbar

As Sheffield returns to normality, businesses around the Wicker are still cleaning up and it could be months before they are trading normally again. Some may not reopen.

For some it is just a case of cleaning up and starting afresh. For others the devastation is colossal. Restaurants and takeaways on the Wicker have been badly affected and there is widespread anger that so little help has been provided.

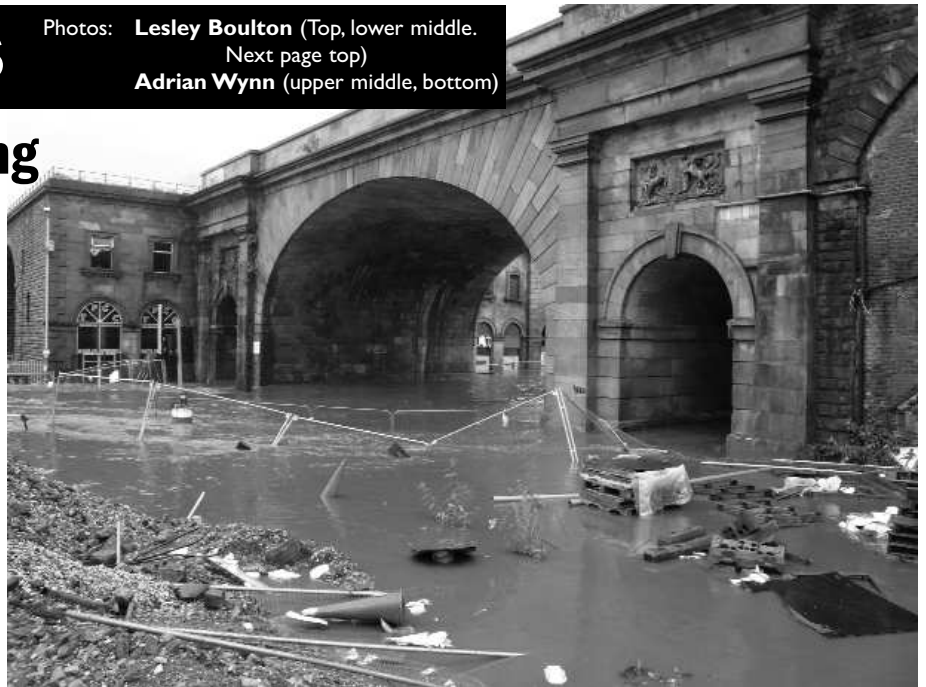
One owner, who did not want to be named, said that he had approached the council on the day after the flood to see what help was available for disposing of contaminated foodstuff. The council's response was that it had to be removed that evening and if it was not, they could impose penalties. He felt the council were very unhelpful and he had to make alternative arrangements that cost him a lot of time and money. Similar stories were heard from other restaurant owners.

The whole of the ground floor of the South Yorkshire Afro Caribbean Enterprise Centre (SYAC) was inundated. Tom Brookes, the centre manager, said that "Digital Print" had recently acquired state of the art equipment costing £500,000. All the equipment and stock has been ruined. He could not see how they could start up again. Another businessman said he had just collected a delivery of stock for one of his clients. It was all ruined.

Yorkshire Forward is investing up to £1 million to help businesses affected by flooding. A small business recovery scheme has been set up to provide up to £2,500 per company for immediate recovery needs. Small businesses will need to fill in a one page form to apply. Larger companies (employing over 250 people) will be assessed on a case by case basis to assess their specific needs.

Sheffield Business Floodline (0800 915 6913) will be open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday until further notice for advice and assistance for businesses.

The Chamber of Commerce has organised a meeting on the 31st July 2007, from 3pm to 6pm at the Victoria Hotel for all businesses affected by the flood. Additional information is on: www.scci.org.uk.



Wicker Pharmacy stays open

Story: Lesley Boulton

It was a close run thing but the Wicker Pharmacy stayed true to its 52 year history of opening every day. With only 2 minutes warning, staff managed to keep the business going by transferring upstairs and manning their mobile phones. Taking in stranded passers by, they stayed at their posts until eventually being rescued by the fire service at 8pm that evening by boat.

Mr Martin Bennett, the owner of the Pharmacy and the Wicker Mobility Shop next door, said "initial estimates of damage could run to £70-80,000 not including major work that will be needed to refurbish the Mobility Shop".

Surprised by the speed and direction of the flood, Mr Bennett suspects that "the extensive building developments around the river may have affected the flood plain." He praised the emergency services and the swiftness of their response.



SYAC Nursery

Story: Camille Daughma

There were 14 children in the building at the time and the water began seeping under the door very quickly. Within 15 minutes, staff members were wading through knee high water with children on their shoulders. Half an hour later the water was waist high. The flooding destroyed everything from child development records to equipment and toys.



The usual SYAC evacuation point was SADACCA, but with SADACCA under water they evacuated to the Royal Victoria Hotel. Cut off on the other side of the Wicker, police reassured worried parents that their children were safe.

With a plan for temporary premises at the Work Station on Paternoster Row, the Nursery is waiting for OFSTED to inspect the building and pass it as fit for use. Burngreave Children's Centre has also taken some of the children.

For parents who need further information Caroline can be contacted on 07899 823 874.

Station Foyer

Although still waiting for a health inspection, the Foyer should open again in a few weeks. Residents were evacuated to a hostel, where ESOL classes will continue to be held. Other training sessions will continue at Volsolve House and Jobnet on West St. The Burngreave Drugs Project has also helped with the use of their training room.

The Great Flood

Story: Kim Streets – SGM

In March 1864 the Dale Dyke dam collapsed and the Wicker was flooded. A painting in the City's collections shows horses and people being swept along the Wicker in a scene sadly similar to those witnessed recently.

That painting is one of thousands of items that were flooded at Kelham Island Museum last month. Staff managed to

SADACCA

Story: Camille Daughma

SADACCA was severely hit by the floods. Staff members were shocked at how quickly things changed.

It was lucky there were no children in the building, as usually on Mondays there are study support classes. Within 45 minutes the water was 3-4 feet deep at the front of the building.

Helicopters flew over head, sirens could be heard everywhere. At one point the Police tried taking SADACCA occupants to safety in a dinghy but the current was so fast they advised that staying in the building was the safest option.

The SADACCA Day Care Centre was the worst hit part of the building and lost everything. The total cost of damage is not yet known and cleaning up is still going on. Activities continue as usual in the main building.

For further information please contact Mr R Bennett on 273 1975.

save most of the collections but the museum will be closed while refitting and conservation takes place.

The disaster will have a massive impact on the lives of those affected for years to come. Weston Park Museum has a display about the 1864 Dale Dyke dam disaster and would like to gather material for a similar display about recent events which will become an important part of the history of the City. If you can contribute objects found in the aftermath of the flood please contact clara.thomson@sheffieldgalleries.org.uk on 0114 278 2644.

Evacuation on Bolsover Road

Story: Lisa Swift & Pakistan Advice Centre

Rain fell continuously on 15th June, overwhelming the drains and flooding cellars. As the electricity was switched off, over 100 residents were evacuated from water contaminated with sewage. For those who couldn't get to family or friends, there was Fir Vale School and later Longley Day Centre for an overnight stay. The Pakistan Advice Centre (PAC) was amongst support services on hand to help.

But, within days, more rain fell, flooding Bolsover Road for a second time. A Polish couple who had lived in the street for 60 years said:

"There were three feet of water in the cellar. Our insurance company told us to get someone in to dry it out with electric fans. In all the years we've been here it has never happened before. The drains need to be cleaned properly."

Further up the street, Muhammad Kamran explained what happened to him:

"The water was covering the gas and electricity meters. We were 2 days without power and British Gas and Yorkshire Electric really messed me about. I paid £200 to an electrician for a certificate they said I had to get and they never asked to see it. They eventually just came and replaced the meter. My taxi was also damaged in the street by the water and I'm having to rent one at the minute."

Irene Playford explained they had five feet in their cellar:

"We were evacuated the first time with three minutes to get out. The second time no-one said anything. The only person we saw was from the PAC. The water was spouting out of the drains in the street like a shower. We've not had it as bad as some; at least we're not like those poor souls who lost everything."

The Council told the Messenger they cleared the street drain after the first flood. They are now investigating a covered stream which runs under some of the gardens on the street.

For floods advice contact Humanitarian Advice Centre, 0800 915 6912. For help filling in forms and other support contact Pakistan Advice Centre, 261 9130.

More information on flood support and donations on page 20.

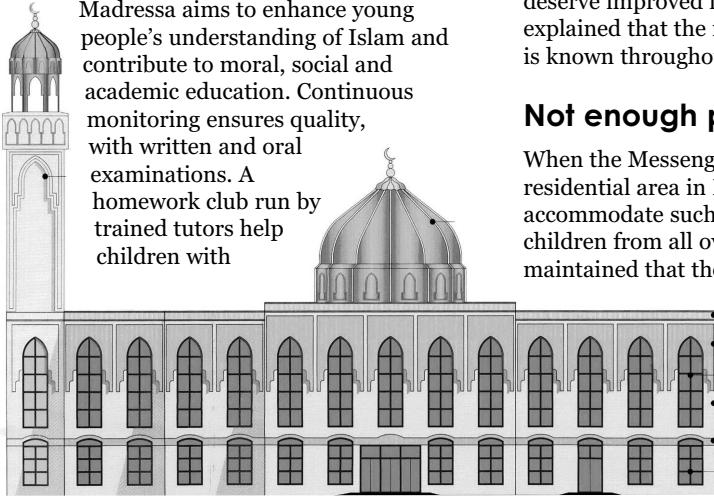


Debate over mosque plans

Story: Ian Clifford

The Council has received hundreds of comments for and against the planning proposal to demolish and rebuild a new Mosque on Barnsley Road. The Messenger visited the Mosque to find out more.

Imam Soheb Desai said: “The Masjid-E-Umar Islamic School or Madressa aims to enhance young people’s understanding of Islam and contribute to moral, social and academic education. Continuous monitoring ensures quality, with written and oral examinations. A homework club run by trained tutors help children with



homework and to prepare for SATs and GCSE exams. The quality of education can be evidenced by the number of young people attending the Madressa.”

Reputation for quality

It was clear that a range of backgrounds, including Pakistani and Somali, are represented among the over 700 young people who attend the Madressa. Mosque elder Rashid Ahmed and Madressa teacher Raheel Baig said, “As you can see, the hall is packed and some classes are taught in Portacabins. Whilst the facilities are adequate and effective, there is room for improvement. The young people deserve improved facilities”. Rashid explained that the reputation for quality is known throughout the city.

Not enough places for all

When the Messenger asked whether a residential area in Burngreave should accommodate such a large facility for children from all over Sheffield, Rashid maintained that the vast majority of children and young people attending are from Burngreave. While enquiries are received from outside the area, due to the current facilities, the

Madressa is unable to offer places to all.

Rashid and Raheel acknowledged that the Madressa did create parking and traffic problems: “There is a genuine traffic issue, but the issue is only between 7.00 and 7.15pm. It is no different to schools. However, to alleviate the problem, we have volunteers who act as traffic marshals. Our aim is to educate parents and encourage them to share cars or walk the children to the Mosque. Parking in front of people’s drives is unacceptable and this has been raised on many occasions with parents and members of the congregation. We plan to allocate drop-off and pick-up areas and a system of parking permits for local residents.”

Rashid and Raheel denied that undue pressure had been brought to bear on those opposing the plan. “These are malicious rumours” said Rashid. Raheel added “I have been involved in discussions with residents to address their concerns. Some of those who oppose the plans still use the Mosque and their children attend the Madressa. If they were placed under undue pressure, they would not be attending the Mosque”.

Rashid and Raheel said the new Mosque would be constructed from the best quality materials to form a landmark that Burngreave would be proud of.

Residents say...

Story: Andrew Green

The Messenger asked people living close to the Mosque what they thought about the planned rebuilding. Nearly all are practising Muslims. No one objected to a Mosque being sited where it is now.

Traffic problems

Everyone recognises that traffic congestion and parking are problems. Up to 700 children attend the Madressa. Mr and Mrs Chapman, of Osgathorpe Crescent, said that parents collecting them by car block the streets and driveways. Accidental damage is caused as a result. This was confirmed by residents of Osgathorpe Road. “I’m a prisoner in my own home,” one told us. Dr Khan, who lives close to the mosque and is disabled, said that his clearly marked space had been blocked. These residents fear that the problem will get worse if the Madressa is enlarged and improved. But others living on Osgathorpe Road and Devon Road said the problem was only for a short time

each day and people would “just have to live with it.”

The Masjid’s Design and Access Statement submitted in support of the application says that most users of the Mosque and Madressa will arrive on foot. Some residents contested this, saying people came from all over Sheffield.

Another resident said that the new facility “will bring the Muslim community closer together.” But others thought the proposal was divisive. The Design & Access Statement says the Madressa will have facilities available for the whole community, but objectors were sceptical that non-Muslims would be welcome in the proposed building.

Benefits for children

People living in Osgathorpe Road and Devon Road were enthusiastic about the benefits of the Madressa. “It will be the best thing that will happen in this community,” one said. “There is not enough room at present.” “A good learning place for kids,” said another. “It will reduce the drug problem.” “It’s a good Mosque which teaches us a lot about our religion,” said a third.

Dr Khan, who is a governor at Fir Vale School, contested claims that the Madressa will benefit pupils. He believes that by attending for several hours after school, children are unable to do their homework and are suffering academically as a result.

A dominant building

Mr and Mrs Chapman said that the area of Victorian villas and open spaces had been designated an area of special interest. The Islamic architecture proposed would not be in keeping with the rest of the area. The Design & Access Statement agrees. The intention is for a ‘dominant effect’, with a minaret on the corner of Barnsley Road ‘to emphasise the importance of the building.’

Consultation

Residents who object to the proposal felt their voices had not been heard. At a public meeting they had said what they thought but felt it had not been reported to the Planning Department. Some thought there had been pressure on local Muslims to say they agreed with the proposal. But everyone we spoke to, who supported the proposal, seemed to have done so willingly

More comments from residents and information about the planning application can be found on the Council’s website at: www.sheffield.gov.uk. Follow links for planning applications on-line, planning reference: 07/01306/FUL

Council consults on school expansions

To cope with an increased number of children in the area, the Council is proposing the expansion of four schools in Burngreave and Fir Vale - St Catherine's, Pye Bank, Owlter Brook and Whiteways. Meetings took place throughout June to give parents the opportunity to have their say on the plans.

St Catherine's



By Mrs Grace Love

St Catherine's RC Primary School has always nurtured a small-community environment. It is a faith school with a Catholic ethos but teaches all its pupils appreciation and tolerance of other faiths.

One of the options is to expand St Catherine's from a 1-form entry to 2-form entry. I attended one of the meetings organised at St. Catherine's School as I want to know how this will impact on my three children's education. The meeting proved lively and I was not entirely disappointed.

The meeting was headed by Tricia Slater from the Education Department and attended by School Governors, Father MacNee from the Diocese, headteacher Mrs Rigby and about 25 parents - rather a small group and not ethnically representational, I thought.

Tricia Slater said the government recommends primary schools to support a 2-form entry. Parents raised many valid concerns. Two large portacabins have been placed in the playing field and parents were concerned as to where and how the school would meet the expansion without further compromising playing space. Mr Tony Wolmesley, who has two children at the school, had made enquiries into the recommended space for children and found the expansion would fall short of this.

Another parent, Ms Sarah Kassim, has a child in Reception and stated she wanted her child to come to St Catherine's, even though she isn't a Catholic. Her views were echoed by an Asian mum, indicating the importance of religion to some families. Mrs Dawn Kelly expressed reservations that the school's ethos would be diluted over time with the falling Catholic population. The Diocese assured her this would not happen anytime soon.

I asked Ms Slater why the old Pye Bank School would not be a viable option but was told it was neither suitable as a building nor in its location. The expansion would definitely cause parking issues on already chock-a-block roads. Ingrid Gillson-Taylor whispered beside me, "I can't see local residents being very happy".

I think it's a definite case of "watch this space!"

Owlter Brook and Whiteways

Story: Camille Daughma

In Fir Vale, the schools are arranged differently. Owlter Brook is a 3-form entry infant school and Whiteways is a junior school, also with 3 forms in each year group. The proposal is to turn each school into a primary school for children from 4 to 11. Each school would have 2 forms per year group.

Parents generally felt happy about the decisions, with the strongest support from those with children in both schools. Parents had the impression they will have more choice of school. However, there are concerns as to where the children will be placed while construction is underway.

Whiteways

At Whiteways, Principal Mrs Carter said that most parents were interested in knowing how the transition will take place. She felt that working collaboratively would strengthen links between both schools. She noted that in the past they have had to turn away children who end up going to schools outside the area.

She felt it was an exciting time for change and would create interesting opportunities for staff. It was also positive in that it increased nursery provision.

Owlter Brook

The hope is that traffic between the two schools will reduce as more parents become able to walk children to one school or the other. At Owlter Brook, headteacher Val Rose confirmed a fairly favourable reaction amongst parents. She too noted that travelling between two schools was difficult for parents with a child in each.

She said she has encouraged parents to ask questions and has requested translation of papers to enable parents to fully understand what is being proposed. Parents are already asking questions: What will it look like? How will it affect play space? What kind of disruption to learning will occur during building work?

The Sure Start building on the compound will remain, becoming a designated children's centre by next April, and the activities that happen there will continue as at present.

New Head for Pye Bank

Governors at Pye Bank Church of England Primary School have announced in the last couple of weeks the appointment of a new Headteacher. Paul Hopkinson will take up the position in September.

Paul is currently head at Ecclesall C of E School and has many years experience of teaching in and leading a variety of schools in Sheffield, including Walkley and Sharrow. New Chair of Governors Rev Martyn Snow commented "The Governors are very excited to announce this key appointment. The school has been through a difficult year but we are confident that Paul will be able to build on the work of Rita Storr to ensure a school where our children get the best possible education. We wish Rita well in her retirement and we want to publicly thank her for her years of hard work and dedication to this community."

Billy Sharp comes home

Story and photo: Brent Moya

Twenty-four months after moving to Scunthorpe, Billy Sharp has sealed his return to Sheffield United. I caught up with the free scoring forward to hear about his future plans and growing up in Burngreave.

Sharp was brought up in Burngreave and attended Byron Wood Primary School and Ecclesfield Comprehensive. "My happiest memory is playing football on Edgar Street. Alan Shearer was my childhood idol," reminisced Sharp.

As a youngster he played for Under 8 Middlewood Rovers before attending the Rotherham United School of Excellence, before signing for Sheffield United as a School boy in 2002, progressing through the academy.

He made 2 appearances for the first team but was sold to Scunthorpe for £100k in 2005. Billy soon became a fans' favourite at Glanford Park, netting 24 times during his first season with the League One outfit.

Sharp led his team to promotion into the Coca Cola Championship with a 31 goal haul during 2006/07. In all he scored 56 goals in 95 games during his 2 seasons with the Iron. His goal scoring exploits led to predictable interest from a number of clubs who made their interest known at the season's end.

Whilst the prospect of working under his former charge Brian Laws was appealing,

the chance of a dream return to his boy-hood club proved too tempting "I grew up at Sheffield United and want to be a hero for them," said Sharp.

Ultimately it was The Blades who stole a march on their rivals by re-signing the lifelong Blades fan for a fee of around £2 million. Sharp will wear the number 24 shirt next season.

His experience is impressive for such a young player, scoring his first hat-trick while on loan at Rushden & Diamonds in 2005 and winning promotion with Scunthorpe last season are his career highs. "I haven't had any lows yet - touch wood!" he quipped.

Looking ahead to the steel city derby later on in the season, Billy said "It's the first fixture I looked for - United will obviously win!" adding, "We've a great chance of winning promotion having kept a strong squad from last year".

He recently attended a presentation night for Earl Marshall Juniors F.C. "It's nice to put something back into the community and see a smile on kids faces."

"My ambition is to play at the highest level (The Premiership), I owe it all to my mum and dad - they have been my biggest influence."



He has this advice for young players keen to follow in his footsteps; "Work as hard as you can, keep your feet on the ground and most importantly enjoy playing football."

Earl Marshall Juniors FC Under 7s
Require outfield players and urgently need goal keepers for next season.

For more information contact Mark on 07776 457 732. If you would like to sponsor the team please get in touch.

Pitsmoor Credit Union merger

Story: Annie Blindell

For more than 10 years, Pitsmoor Credit Union's volunteer directors have worked hard to build a local credit union for local people. It has been successful and new people have joined, but a recent funding bid to the Lottery has failed, and without this funding the Pitsmoor office will close.

Joining with Sheffield Credit Union

Following a vote by members at a Special General Meeting on July 3rd, Pitsmoor Credit Union (PCU) is likely to join the citywide Sheffield Credit Union (SCU).

Once the merger has been finally agreed, the PCU office at Christ Church will close at the end of September and all business transferred to the SCU office on the Gallery in Sheffield market. Letters will be sent out to all members explaining the changes.

Collection points will continue

Pitsmoor Credit Union will then become a branch of SCU. PCU volunteers will carry on running the Firshill School Junior Savers Club and the collection points at Christ Church lunch club, Firshill TARA and the Rock and Hallcar pubs.

Change over to start in October

Welcome help with the transition has come from Burngreave New Deal for Communities (BNDfC). A grant from their Small Grants Fund will enable PCU to employ a part-time worker to support the new Pitsmoor branch, organise the re-training of volunteers and oversee the transfer of members' accounts to the SCU office. After October a mobile phone number will be advertised in the Messenger so that there is a ready contact point for local volunteers and members, as well as information about SCU services for all Burngreave residents.

For more information phone the PCU office on 0114 273 8555.

A year in office

Story: Derrick Okrah

Burngreave resident Jackie Drayton has just finish serving her term as Lord Mayor and is enjoying quality time with family. Jackie kindly showed the Messenger into her beautiful and magnificent garden, before telling us about her year as Sheffield's Ambassador.

Jackie is a wonderful woman with a passion for humanitarian needs. When asked what it was like being a Lord Mayor, she said:

"It was really an honour to be called upon to serve the people of Sheffield. It's like fostering a child; you have to make sure you do everything to the best of your ability for that child within that short period of time. You also have to be ready to give the child up, and now I've handed Sheffield on to the next Mayor."

Meeting and greeting

During her year in office, Jackie attended to more than 1500 appointments. In the nine weeks before Christmas Jackie didn't take one day off. Her ambassador role included giving speeches about Sheffield's history, opening events and visits in and outside Sheffield.

"I tried to fit in any requests to visit or open an event. Every appointment was important - it might have been my fifth of the day, but I had to remember that it was their first and I had to give it my best."

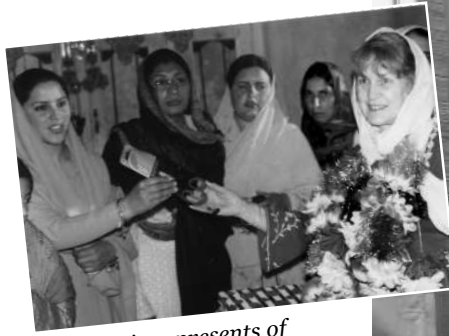
Supporting Kashmir

The Lord Mayor chooses charities to support during the year. Jackie's charities were the Cavendish Cancer Care Centre, a local domestic abuse project and the Kashmir Earthquake Relief Fund appeal to rebuild a Girls College, after the earthquake which resulted in the deaths of more than 10,000 people in the town. In the Girls College alone 288 pupils and teachers died.

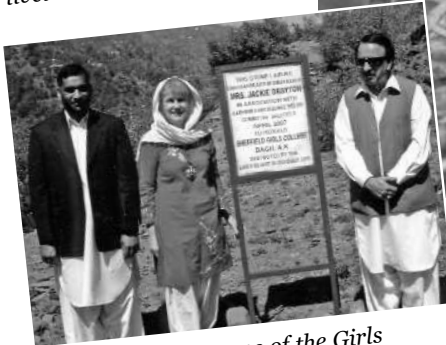
When asked about why she chose the Kashmir charity she said:

"The people of Kashmir were left with nothing to hold on to, their food, properties, families were all devastated on that day. I felt I had to do something on behalf of the people of Sheffield for these people."

In April Jackie visited Kashmir and laid the foundation stone for the Girls College. She was welcomed like a "queen", she



Jackie gives presents of Sheffield scissors to Kashmiri women taking part in sewing workshops, which could provide them with a livelihood as dressmakers.



Laying the first stone of the Girls College in Bagh, Kashmir.



Jackie's dad, Frank Cooper, washed all the money from the city fountains, traditionally given to the Lord Mayor's charities. With a bit of Cillit Bang and a lot of patience, £800 was donated in a sparkling condition.

and the delegation she was part of were escorted by armed police wherever they went. Jackie was amazed to find people still learning from books at the side of the road and taking exams in temporary buildings, sitting on plastic chairs and leaning on cardboard.

"We could see the potential of the proposed new building straight away. The College only has girls for part of the day so the building would be empty half the time. It's possible boys may use the college as well or that a community library can be set up for everyone."

Charitable tradition

Jackie explained how this was not the first time Sheffield had helped another country in their time of need. During her Mayorship she visited Serre in France where the Sheffield City Battalion or the 'Pals' fought and died in 1916. The town was badly damaged by the fierce fighting of the first world.

"In 1929 the Lord Mayor raised money from the people of Sheffield to build the memorial in the village of Serre to the men of the City Battalion; they also built several homes and a school, which are still standing."

When asked whether she would remember anyone in particular Jackie said she would always remember everyone she met and the fun and laughs they shared together.

"I realised that there are many ordinary people doing extraordinary things."

However, one of Jackie's best memories was of meeting Britain's first astronaut, Sheffield born Helen Sharman, who spent 8 days on the Mir Space station in May 1991 as part of the Soviet space mission project Juno.

Jackie will continue to support her charities, especially the school building she began in Kashmir.

"I will be going to Kashmir every year to see the progress of the building and I'm actively involved with the two other charities as well as giving time to my councillor work."

The Kashmir Earthquake Relief Fund has raised £42,000 so far. It is estimated that the College will cost over £300,000 to build. To donate, contact Kashmir Education Trust on 244 9910, or at Abbeyfield Park House, Sheffield S4 7AT.



Home

A Quilting Journey

There have been number of highly successful courses that have been funded and run in Burngreave that are not focused only on academic achievement or building language and maths skills. The 'Bag and Cushion' and 'Islamic Textile Art' courses highlighted a growing demand for practical skills with an opportunity to explore and develop creative passion and expression within our community. In response Nikky Wilson, Burngreave Voices Project and Rashida Hassanali organised courses taught by local artists.



The Quilting Course Ladies



Louise Patchworking

Courses based at Firshill and St. Catherine's schools have been oversubscribed (up to 30+ persons per course) and consistently well attended throughout. These numbers prove that people want such courses.

A 12-week Quilting course,

on the subject of 'Home' created a large quilted wall hanging that has documented the broad range of women with different skill levels, language, backgrounds and ethnicities sharing, laughing, teaching and learning from and with each other. For some participants it was a first in sewing and quilting. The quilt was on display at the end of the Burngreave Voices Project. It is a celebration of essential life skills, not just centred on positive social interaction or feel good factors, though these were an enjoyable and integral part of the course. A booklet, 'Home – A Quilting Journey' has been produced with personal

contributions from each participant with images of individual panels and the quilt. (View on-line at www.burngreavemessenger.org). The 'Home' quilt is, ironically, awaiting a permanent home in the community. Maybe the Vestry Hall would be a good place since it celebrates 16 multicultural women's individual learning and views on the importance of home?

"Every thought had my children in them, so I decided to use my children in the quilt"
Asma Khursid

"I grew up in Yorkshire next to a park, so I was surrounded by green. Burngreave is such a green place. I chose the changing seasons my quilt" Joan Williams.

Following the Quilting course there have been workshops during family learning and adult learners weeks, including Amulet Purse Making, Making Gifts from your Children's Art, recycled Card Making and recently a ten week Hand Embroidery course that is to finish with an exhibition which documents 'Burngreave – Past, Present and Future'. Each session has encouraged written and oral skills, research, self-sufficiency, technical progress and confidence, in addition to forging deep friendships and community links.

Learners from these creative courses have continued working on their own. Louise Haine has gone on to make log cabin patchwork cushions for wedding gifts, and a cross stitched anniversary gift. Others are making their own celebration cards and built on confidences and skills with quilted items like Saphina Ahmed, or embellished clothing, or crochet. Another learner, Angie Cordell, enrolled on a two year textiles course at Hillsborough College following the Quilting course.

This is success to be celebrated. Funding such creative-based non-academic courses should continue with investment in local people who are thirsty to learn and have much to contribute. The participants have proved, they thrive on good, solid teaching and encouragement and proper access to tools and materials.

On-going drop in creative sessions run at St James' Community Hall, Scott Road on each Monday morning. Contact Sarah Fowler on 07905 128396.



Shabana & Abida's Piece



Rashida Planning

Anne Smithies (Course Tutor & Artist)

Your voice

Story: Zahra Hussain

Have you heard of the "BYC"?

If you haven't before, it stands for Burngreave Youth Council - young people elected to represent the views of other young people in Burngreave.

We want to know what issues are affecting you, how we can help resolve them and how we can work together to bring the issue to the attention of those people who CAN make a difference.

Whether it's the dirty bus you go to school on, exam stress, litter in your area, or the lack of 'chill out' spaces, we want to know! Even if it's something small, bring it to our attention and we'll see what we can do together.

It's time WE, the young people, had a say as to what happens in OUR community. So don't miss out, you can either email us, burngreavestreetworx@sheffieldfutures.org.uk.

Or call us on 275 4842.



Above: Streetworx Streetjam 3rd June on Ellsemere Green.



Left: Zamb Bibi & Zahra Hussain, Councillors for Burngreave Youth Council.

YOUR Voice YOUR Choice!!

Story: Zamb Bibi

I was once like you, I felt like I didn't have a say and if I had seen this article a few years ago, I probably would have stopped reading it after the first seven words, because I wouldn't have believed any of it. Although, now I am a Youth

Council representative, and am proud of the high status this opportunity has given me within this community.

Many people hold back because of their race, but at Burngreave Youth Council that is not the case. Here you can be black, white, yellow, mixed or even green. So why waste this opportunity? Go on, give it a go.

Longley Sixth Form Creative Show 2007

Story: Carrie Hedderwick
Photos: Freddie Everett

'Imagination is superior to knowledge' – a statement by Einstein used on one exhibit at the Creative Show, which also aptly described the flourishing of ideas in this wonderful exhibition of students' work at Longley Park Sixth Form College.

The show covered works of Art and Design, Textiles, Product Design, Music, Photography, Media, Dance and Performance, and expressed not only optimism, fun, and quirky visions of life, but also anxieties and concerns about current problems.

The diversity of approaches to a subject was very refreshing. I was impressed by two David Hockney style views of Ladybower and the Humber Bridge; images of a girls' football team and also a

pleasingly non- star-studded portrayal of local football, demonstrating 'commitment and determination'. There were superimposed shots of babies nestling in flowerheads, alongside a representation of an ignored child bunched up under a table overhearing parents fighting.; there were clever distorted photos of break-dancers, images of Sheffield – a welding workshop, the new railway station in photos and 3D models.

Paintings included striking large-scale human heads, a wildly colourful domestic interior and big, bold abstract canvases. A conceptual art exhibit showed the everyday and the exotic – the Royal Mail uniformed postman on his daily rounds, but later breaking out into women's underwear. There were also interesting

textile exhibits – patterns, materials – the dress made from newspaper and wall paper.

Congratulations - this show was impressive!



Youth Clubs

All Saints Centre Lyons Close
Open Access Youth Club (13-19yrs)
Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10am-5pm
Tuesdays and Fridays 6.30pm-10pm
Contact Courtney Sterling 256 2940

Earl Marshall Connexions Centre
Open Access Youth Club (13-19yrs)
Mondays 23rd July - 6th August 6pm-9pm
Fridays 27th July - 10th August 6pm-9pm

Games, Sport, Multi Media, Arts and Crafts (13-19yrs)
Mondays 11am-3pm until 13th August
Contact Elaine Virgo on 243 9871

Verdon Recreation Centre
Open Access Youth Club (13-19yrs)
Wednesdays 25th July - 15th August 6.30pm-9.30pm
Contact Courtney Sterling on 256 2940

Junior Club - Multi Sports, Arts and Crafts (8-14yrs) 20p
Tuesdays and Thursdays 4.30pm-6pm (except 23rd August)
Contact Michala Spacey on 07909 936 381

Multi Games and Sport (8+yrs)
Mondays 2pm-4pm
Contact Verdon Recreation Centre on 249 1626

The Hangout Youth Drop In (11+yrs)
Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6th - 22nd August
7pm-9pm
Welcome Centre, Nottingham Street
Contact Hendrick Kalver on 07771 590 034

Wensley Community Centre
Arts and Crafts (8-13yrs)
Mondays 4pm-5.30pm

Chill Out Zone (13-19yrs)
Mondays 6pm-8pm

Multi Games (8-13yrs)
Wednesdays 4.30pm-5.30pm
Contact Imran Ali on 07768 888 716

Outdoor Activities (13-19yrs)
Wednesday 15th August 1pm-3pm
Contact Elaine Virgo on 243 9871

Osgathorpe Pavilion Osgathorpe Park
Multi Games (boys 13-19yrs)
Tuesdays and Thursdays 1pm-4.30pm
Contact Imran Ali on 07768 888 716

Open Access Youth Club (13-19yrs)
Mondays 23rd July - 13th August 6.30pm-9.30pm

Pitsmoor Adventure Playground
Melrose Road
Fun Activities, Arts and Crafts (8-14yrs)
Tuesday to Saturday 10.30am-6pm
Under 8's must be accompanied by someone 12+yrs
Under 5's must be accompanied by someone 18+yrs
Contact Pitsmoor Adventure Playground on 203 9394

Football

Football session (boys 8-19yrs)
Fridays 7pm-9pm
Fir Vale Sports Centre
Contact Imran Ali on 07768 888 716

Football session (13-19yrs)
Thursdays 7.30pm-8.30pm
Fir Vale Sports Centre
Contact Elaine Virgo on 243 9871

5 Day Football Fever Camp
with Sheffield United (5-12yrs)
Advanced Bookings Only
£60 for all 5 days or £15 per day
Contact SUFC Academy on 08704 447 091

Pay and Play Football Sessions (5-14yrs) £3
Mondays and Wednesdays 4.30pm-6pm
Contact SUFC Academy on 08704 447 091

Fun Football Coaching
Sundays 2pm-4pm (under 14s) 4pm-6pm (over 14s)
SUFC Academy
Contact Football Unites Racism Divides on 255 3156

Fun Football Coaching Sessions 30p
Fridays 4pm-5pm (girls 8+yrs) and 4pm-6pm (boys 8+ yrs)
SUFC Academy
Fridays 6pm-8pm Fir Vale Sports Centre (14+yrs)
Also One Day Fun Football sessions around Burngreave
Contact Steve Richardson on 07810 685 519

Football Tournament Wednesday 15th August
Contact Zain Abdulla on 272 3628

England Vs Jamaica Fun Day
Food, entertainment, sport and much more
Sunday 29th July 11am-9pm
Petre Street
Contact Michael Redhead on 07880 823 522

Trips

Family Day Trips from Verdon Recreation Centre

Cannon Hall Friday 3rd August

Chester Zoo Friday 17th August

Scarborough Friday 31st August
Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult
Contact 249 1626 for details only - not for bookings

Trips with Streetworx (13-19yrs)

Drayton Manor Park (girls) Monday 30th July

Centertainment Cinema Tuesday 31st July

Drayton Manor Park Thursday 2nd August

Derbyshire - Outdoor Pursuits, Thursday 9th August

Trafford Centre shopping trip, Tuesday 14th August
contact Zain Abdulla on 272 3628

Jeevan Disability Project August Trips
(Asian Young Women 13-25yrs)
For details contact Shahnaz Hussain on 07919 446 851



Dance, Music and Art

Bollywood and Street Dance (girls 13-19yrs)

Tuesdays 31st July - 21st August 1pm-5pm

Earl Marshall Connexions Centre

Contact Elaine Virgo on 243 9871

Hip Hop and Street Dance (girls 13-19yrs)

Wednesdays 25th July - 8th August 1pm-3pm

Wensley Community Centre

Contact Elaine Virgo on 243 9871

Cheerleading (girls 8+yrs) £1

Wednesdays 2pm-4pm

Verdon Recreation Centre

Contact Michala Spacey on 07909 936 381

Spray Can Art (boys 13-19yrs)

Dress and Accessory Making (girls 13-19yrs)

Saturdays 5-10pm

All Saints Centre, Lyons Street

Contact Diane Haimeed 261 1439

Dance and music organised by Streetworx, Verdon Street

Break Dancing Monday 6th & 13th August 2pm-6pm

DJ Workshop Sunday 5th & 12th August 1pm-3pm

Contact Zain Abdulla on 272 3628

Workshops and Training

Summer Drop In for Young People (16-19yrs)

Thursdays 2pm-4pm at Burngreave Streetworx, Verdon Street

Mondays 12noon-2.30pm at Earl Marshall Connexions Centre

Contact Lyn Cork on 201 2822

Level 1 Award in Sport Leadership (14-16yrs)

Tuesdays 11am-3pm

Verdon Recreation Centre

Places are limited so please book in advance before 31st July

Contact Michala Spacey on 07909 936 381

Burngreave Junior Warden Scheme (6-11 yrs)

Workshops on environmental issues and community health and safety

Wednesdays 1pm-4pm

Contact Jayne Clarke or Dave Lees 293 0000

Places are limited so please book in advance before 25th July

Junior Basic First Aid (13yrs+)

Wednesday 8th August 1pm - 4 pm

Verdon Recreation Centre

Contact Zain Abdulla on 272 3628

more
inside

booklets available from
Verdon Recreation Centre
or contact Zain Abdulla
on 272 3628

Saturday 21st July - Sunday 2nd September
No events on Bank Holiday Monday 27th August
All activities are Free and Open Access unless otherwise stated

Other Sports

Fun Cricket Coaching (8-16yrs) £1

Mondays and Wednesdays 6pm-7pm

Fir Vale Sports Centre

Contact Michala Spacey on 07909 936 381

Trampolining Sessions

Wednesdays 6pm-8pm (8+yrs) £1 per hour

Fir Vale Sports Centre

Mondays 4.45pm-5.45pm (5-14yrs) £1

Verdon Recreation Centre

Under 8's must be accompanied by an adult

Contact Michala Spacey on 07909 936 381

Skiing, Go-karting, Horse Riding

August activities for young women

Contact Shahnaz Hussain 07919 446 851

Sports activities organised by Streetworx (13-19yrs)

Quad Biking or 4x4 Driving

Wednesday 1st August, South Tees

Rock Climbing Tuesday 7th August

Horse Riding Thursday 16th August, Clowne

Bike Riding Monday 20th August, Rother Valley

Water Sports Tuesday 21st August, Underbank Reservoir

contact Zain Abdulla on 272 3628

Table Tennis

Wednesdays 12noon-2pm

Verdon Recreation Centre

Call Verdon Recreation Centre on 249 1626

Grass Sledging

Wednesday 1st August 1pm-3pm (8-14yrs)

Parkwood Springs, Shirecliffe Road

Call the North Ranger Team on 240 3578





Bombay Mix

Story: Louise Johnson

On Thursday the 21st of June, 'Bombay Mix' - a bright, colourful event - took place at the Crucible theatre. Many people took part in a performance of dance, music, art and drama created by children from different Sheffield schools.

Me and other pupils from Pye Bank school performed "The Tiger Skin Rug". An aging tiger hid itself deep within the palace disguised as a tiger skin rug so it could eat lots of delicious food. In the end the tiger gained its royal status by saving the raja from thieves.

My brother's class (Y4) made the tiger and I made it move on stage. All the parents and children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It's a shame it only happens once a year.



Scouts brighten up Ellesmere

Story: Jim Gilbert

Ellesmere residents were delighted to see colourful beds of flowers in the shape of a yellow 'fleur de lys' and a blue and white number 100 appear on Carwood Road. 76th Sheffield Scouts planted the flower beds to celebrate 100 years of Scouting.

Scout Nathan Ball said, "We did it to show that young people do care about the environment". Scout Louise Ashforth Billard, aged 12, added that she enjoyed the challenge, but it had been hard work planting for three hours. She thought it looked really beautiful and hoped it wouldn't be vandalized. Green City Action helped, giving advice, ordering 900 plants, making the templates, preparing the beds and planting up.

Anyone aged 10½ to 13 can join the Scouts. Adult helpers are always needed. Contact Jim Gilbert Tel: 246 0057.

Burngreave has Bin Inspired!

Local artists and volunteers braved the rain on 2nd July to deliver bin art stickers to selected streets in Burngreave.

The Bin Inspired! project created by local artists Cassie Limb and Zoe Smith, enabled residents of 5 local roads to receive a state of the art bin sticker designed by children from Byron Wood School and community groups.

Cassie said, "We hope it will become a talking point and increase the amount our local community recycles. The feedback we got from residents was amazing. They were very supportive and impressed at how great the bins looked. One resident said they really brightened his morning walk to work".

If you missed out, the Bin Inspired! volunteers will be out again on the next blue bin collection day on 30th July. Put out your bin and a sticker will get attached for you. To get more information, contact Cassie (079050 014 781) or Zoe (07904 030 928), or email artworks@burngreave.net.

Record Breaking Firs Hill

Sixty children from Firs Hill School took part in a Guinness Book World Record Breaking Walking Bus.



On Wednesday 13th June over 80,000 children nationwide, walked a route in this UK world record attempt set up by road safety charity Brake. Brake aim to prevent death and injury on our roads through education of all road users and by campaigning for Government improvements to road safety. "On average thirty children are seriously injured or killed on Sheffield's roads every year", said Gaby Spinks, the local walking bus coordinator. Burngreave Community Wardens, parent volunteers and staff from Firs Hill and St Catherine's schools helped out.

Photo: copyright Little Red Light

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"I improved my IT skills and knowledge and felt confident about looking for work. ICT4life helped me secure a volunteer position as an Administrations Officer and I have since moved onto paid employment."

"I have been able to help my children with their homework and computer skills. I have a lot more self worth and feel better about myself as I feel I have much more to offer."

ICT4life and learndirect has turned Nicola Montgomerie's life around - see what it can do for you!

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Come along to an **OPEN DAY** on **Saturday 11th August** between 12 and 6pm @ the Pavilion Building (in Osgathorpe Park) 2 find out more!

thebigboost
getting young people's ideas off the ground



Contact:

Abid Hussain
07856 377 558

Imran Ali
07768 888 716

Haseena, Naurin,
Zahra: **256 0243**

Email:
taster_programme
@hotmail.co.uk

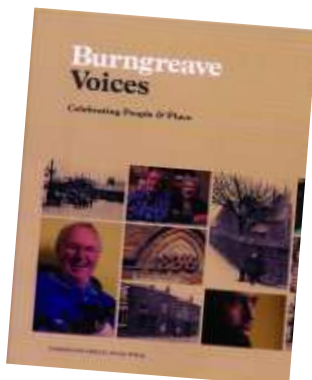
Burngreave Voices

Free copies of the Burngreave Voices book are now available from Burngreave Library for all Burngreave residents.

The 128 page book is full of photos, old and new, of the Burngreave area and people who have lived here.

You'll find stories and memories from residents and a celebration of the history of Burngreave and Pitsmoor.

To get your copy call in at Burngreave Library 203 9002.



Do you need help making your business more successful?

Are you looking for help and advice to start your own business?

Have you got ideas about making a difference in your community?

Then come and talk to us!

The **Burngreave Business Support team** is here to help you, your business or your enterprise idea grow and prosper. We are a dedicated resource that is committed to helping individuals and businesses in Burngreave.

We can offer you a variety of help and advice that includes dedicated advice and information on:

Marketing • Finance • Legal Issues
Skills Analysis • Funding • Business Planning

We even have grants to help get you going!

To find out how the **Burngreave Business Support team** can help you or your business, please contact:

Business Support Team,
Forum House, 35 Spital Hill, Sheffield, S4 7LD.

Telephone: **(0114) 292 0462**

E-mail: **businesssupport@bndfc.co.uk**



New life in Carwood TARA

Carwood TARA (Tenants and Residents Association) under went a revitalisation in Autumn 2006, when local residents Gwen Askham-Clark, Dave Fisher, Valerie Henry, and Wynn March decided to get together to tackle some of the problems on the estate. Since then more members have joined and things are starting to happen.

The first AGM

Story: Michelle Wood

Carwood TARA's first AGM on 13th June at St Peter's Church hall was chaired by Dave Fisher, a new committee was voted in and the accounts read.

Rob Bullock spoke about the work Green City Action were doing to brighten up the estate. Hanging baskets have been distributed, with the help of Carwood TARA at the cost of £4. This has proved very popular and has been an excellent way of encouraging neighbours to compete for the best looking gardens. GCA are also tidying gardens for the over 75's. Contact 244 0353 for this.

Cllr Hussain commented that Area K has a pot of £20,000 which can be applied for to do work on the estate.

Gladys, from AKTARA (Area K Tenants and Residents Association), explained the benefits to Carwood becoming a member and having a stronger say on issues. The AGM voted to join.

Andy Shallice, the Council's Area Coordinator, spoke about Sheffield Street Champions. TARA member Gwen Askham-Clark has registered to become the eyes and ears of the Carwood estate and report any environmental problems.

Increase in rats

With the recent mild winters, rats are able to breed for longer, and reports are up by 2000 per year compared to three years ago.

Residents of Wensley and Page Hall organised a public meeting following a population explosion in woods near Hinde House Lane. The Council is taking action on the problem. Ellesmere Green has always had difficulties, as regular bird feeding has encouraged rats to set up home there. Sightings in Abbeyfield Park, Osgthorpe Park and

"What's it like to be a Street Champion?"

Story: Lisa Swift

The Messenger spoke to Gwen about what the task involved:



"I go round the estate once a week. I make a note of any problems - litter, overgrown grass, trees or hedges and any problems in the public areas. The main problem is keeping on top of the greenery. Sometimes you report things and nothing happens. You just have to keep telling them. It does work."

"We all need to work on it - litter is a real problem, if the Council weren't dealing with litter they could be looking after other things. And we can all do our bit by looking after our gardens."

If you spot a problems you can report it to Carwood TARA at their drop in sessions, Tuesdays 4.30pm till 7pm.

Trip to the Seaside - the TARA are organising a coach trip to Cleethorpes on 19th August. Adults £2.50, no more than two children go free per adult. Book now.

For more information contact the office on the ground floor flat opposite the shop, 22 Carwood Green. Or telephone Wynn, 243 0766 or Gwen, 243 3192

gardens across Burngreave are also on the increase.

Residents can help keep the population down by doing the following:

- Only feed birds using bird feeders
- Cover up water butts and remove standing water
- Repair any broken drain covers
- Get rid of garden rubbish quickly
- Clean up after your pets
- Put your compost bid on a hard base

For free rat treatment contact the Council on 203 7410 or 203 7411.

Ground rent sales

Story: Lisa Swift

Concerns about the sale of land under Cookwood Road homes sparked a public meeting in June, organised by residents and the Messenger. It was attended by over 40 people from Cookwood Road, Shirecliffe Lane and Rutland Road.

Since the Council sold the land under their houses in November 2005 they have struggled to find their new landlords. Ground rent is only about £5 per year - but not being able to pay it made residents anxious. One resident told the meeting:

"When I bought my house 30 years ago I was told by my solicitor, 'whatever happens, make sure you pay the ground rent'. But what if we can't find the new landlord or they don't cash the cheque?"

Cookwood Road resident, Graham Dixon, explained that the Council had given him the wrong address for the new landlords, but he'd finally tracked them down and his cheque had been cashed..

Shirecliffe Lane residents said they had never received notification that their land had been sold. It had since been sold again and the owner is unknown.

Some fears were allayed by another resident, Douglas Johnson who, reading from government advice, said:

"Your landlord must notify you of an address... where you can serve notices. So long as they fail to do this, any rent... falling due are treated by statute as not payable and do not become payable until they give you this information. [A new landlord] must tell you in writing and give you his name and address before the next rent demand is due or within two months... If he fails to do so, it is a criminal offence."

But paying the rent was only part of resident's the worries: 'What happens when you come to sell the house?' and 'Want if you want to do work, that need permission from the landlord?'. There were fears about how the new landlords intended to get their money back on their £20,000 investment.

The majority of residents wished to buy their freehold. Several had approached the Council to purchase it, but felt they were put off or told it wasn't possible.

It was agreed to raise the issue with the Council and the Councillors.

Vacancy for Assistant Caretaker

An Assistant Caretaker is required to manage the cleaning at St. Catherine's Catholic Primary School.



27.5 hours per week (Monday to Friday for 5.5 hours per day) for 41 weeks of the year.

The salary is Scale 1 Point 7 (£6.04 per hour, pay rise pending).

We are looking for someone who can work every day (Monday to Friday) for 5.5 hours. Ideally, that would be 3.30pm to 9.00pm. Alternatively, the hours could be split between early morning and afternoon, for example 6.30am to 8.30am, and then 3.30pm to 7.00pm.

You must be able to work well as part of a team and maintain high levels of cleanliness in classroom, corridors and other areas.

The successful candidate will be required to complete a Criminal Records Disclosure form in line with Section 115 of The Police Act 1997.

The closing date for applications is 14th September

Interviews will be held on 4th October.

If you would like more information, or you would like to arrange a visit, please telephone Liz Smith, School Manager on (0114) 242 1177, or email enquiries@st-catherines.sheffield.sch.uk

School starts back after the holidays on Monday 3rd September.

Burngreave Domestic Abuse Project need a female

Part-time Support Worker

Who speaks Urdu/Punjabi, to work primarily with Asian women and children affected by domestic abuse, offering comprehensive advice, support and advocacy service in the project area.

Salary Point 29: £23,187 pro rata for 17.5 hrs

Post funded for 1 year initially subject to further funding

Advertised in accordance with the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 Sec.7(2)(e) and the Race Relation Act Sec 5

For an application pack you must send an A4 self addressed envelope with 48p stamps to: BDAP, PO Box 3574, Sheffield S3 9WX.

Closing date: Wednesday 22nd August 2007

BDAP is an equal opportunities employer and is particularly keen to encourage applications from local women with community language skills.

DEVON GARDENS

The restoration of the gardens starts soon.
The proposed improvements are:

- **Better footpaths and a new entrance off Osgathorpe Crescent**
- **New seats around the gardens, a litter bin and a dog waste bin**
- **Refurbishment and repairs to railings**
- **An information board about the history & wildlife of the gardens**
- **A new shrub bed**

If you would like to find out more about the project or would like to get involved please come along to a community meeting on:

Monday 23rd July at 6.30pm at Osgathorpe Pavilion

We hope you can join us to give your views. Everyone welcome!



Sheffield
City Council



Burngreave Ramblers Walking Dates: July - September 2007

Sun 22nd and Sat 28th July, Sat 11th and Sat 25th August,
Sun 2nd, Sat 8th, Sat 22nd September

For more information contact David - 242 3870, or Jill - 243 8867
Or visit www.burngreavemessenger.org/community/ramblers



Green City Action

Green City Enterprises Starts Work

June was a very good month, despite the downpours, as Green City Enterprises started trading. The enterprise is a joint venture between Green City Action and Southey and Owlerton Area Regen and offers soft and hard landscaping services, gardening and grounds maintenance on a commercial basis. As a social enterprise any dividends are ploughed back into the community and its green spaces. So if you are looking for somebody to quote you for that garden revamp then give us a ring for a competitive quote.

Stewards Wanted

Interested in a Modern Apprenticeship? We are keen to offer to the right individual the opportunity to join our stewards as an apprentice. The contract will be for 12 months, 37 hours per week including a comprehensive training package and a salary of £10,000 per annum. Interested? Then contact us for an application pack. Closing date for applications is 12 noon on Friday 17th August.

Ella Road Mural

In August Green City Action will be working with local artist Shaun Tummins to paint a new mural on the play area and community garden being developed on Ella Road. We would welcome young people from this area getting involved. So if you fancy making a splash in the summer ring Rob at GCA on 244 0353.

Training Opportunities

Would you like to help make our green spaces better? Would you like to access training to help move towards employment working on green spaces? Then ring us and volunteer today, we can help by providing opportunities to gain that all important experience and qualifications asked for on job applications. Ask for Garry on 2440353.

Deliver it **green...**

Community Representatives elections

Latest news!

By the close of nominations on Wednesday 6th June, Electoral Reform Services (ERS), the company running our elections, had received six nominations. BNDfC had six places for Community Representatives on the Partnership Board. We have been advised by ERS that

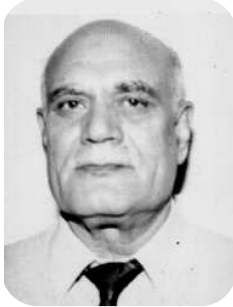
in this instance the six nominations can be accepted on to the Board 'unopposed'. This means that ERS will not be sending you a voting slip as we do not have to go to ballot.

ERS will formally announce the results at the BNDfC Public Meeting at 11:00am on Saturday 28th July at Verdon Recreation Centre.

Please come along to the Public Meeting to meet the successful nominees and hear about all that is happening in the BNDfC area. The nominees may already be known to you as they have been living and working in Burngreave for some years. Their personal statements below may serve as a reminder to you.

Muhammad Iqbal

I have been actively involved in ensuring the effective delivery of the New Deal Programme from the beginning.



During the last six years of participating in the programme I have developed a comprehensive understanding and experience of how the programme works, and have always made every effort, to the best of my ability, to ensure that it operates in the best interests of everyone living and working in Burngreave.

"I wish to see Burngreave transformed into a new and vibrant community."

The driving force behind my commitment and efforts has been the wish to see Burngreave transformed into a new and vibrant community.

It is an honour to be given the responsibility of serving the residents of Burngreave, and I hope that the residents will place their trust in me to serve for a further term.

Drew Dallen

I am an artist, social worker and global citizen. I have worked with young people all my life, they are our future. I've been involved with community developments and many social projects on a voluntary basis. I moved to Burngreave 15 years ago as a refugee from London! I withdrew from the community stage when New Deal came and have watched a once strong community be systematically destroyed.

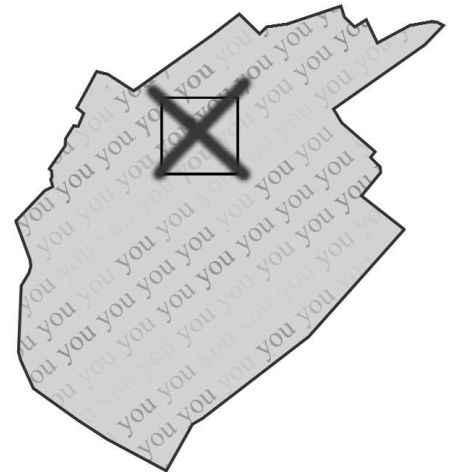


"I wish to think global and act local."

I am a spiritual man attempting to understand the divides of religion ethnicity, nationality, gender etc. We are all brothers and sisters and connected. We are all rich or poor but if the planet dies the poor will suffer most and die first.

I wish to think global and act local. We neglect our youth and mistreat asylum seekers. I am very concerned that there doesn't seem to be a plan for our destroyed community once BNDfC finish in three years. They go, we're left with it.

As a result of there being no election, this candidate has withdrawn. To see full letter of resignation please go to www.burngreavemessenger.org



Talib Hussain

I have lived in Burngreave since 1994 and believe that people of Burngreave deserve better.

"I believe we should all work together for a better Burngreave."

My ambition is to see Burngreave a place where people are with good education, health provision, good environment and safer Burngreave.

I believe we should all work together for a better Burngreave. I will work with all the members of the New Deal Board and listen to local people to see what is their priorities. I am a local person and believe what I do for people should always be the very best.

A New Deal for Burngreave



Richard Ben Morris

I believe a major concern for people in Burngreave is affordable housing. I think it is disgraceful that on the Woodside Estate and other areas where council homes have been demolished, the land is to be handed to private developers in return for only about 7% affordable rented housing.

I intend to pursue this issue and to explore all possibilities to increase the amount of affordable rented housing in the Burngreave area so that our children have somewhere to live. Being able to pay £100,000 – plus for a home should not be a requirement for living in the new, regenerated Burngreave.

I have been campaigning on this issue for several years and I am a member of Respect. I have a son aged 18 and a daughter aged 13, and I want them to be able to get a place to live when they are older.



“I’d like to see the amount of affordable rented housing in the Burngreave area increased so that our children have somewhere to live.”

Chris Sissons

I have lived in Burngreave for over 14 years and have been familiar with the area since I attended the Study Year at the Urban Theology Unit on Abbeyfield Road in 1981-2.

For over 20 years I have been a Community Development Worker on Tyneside, Teeside and then in Netherthorpe, Attercliffe, Rotherham and Maltby. During that time I specialised in Community Economic Development and Community Planning. In the late 1990s I was one of the founder members of Burngreave Community Action Forum.

Currently, I work for the Methodist Church of Great Britain, as manager of its grant making to local neighbourhoods.

I am committed to participative ways of working and will seek a partnership approach to involvement of all local interest groups in management Burngreave’s community assets as BNDfC withdraws.



“I am committed to participative ways of working.”

Dorrett Buckley-Greaves

I have lived in the Burngreave area for over fifty years and have experience of its large deprivation over the years so I would like to continue to give my efforts and support in its developments.

The residents of the area who have nominated me think that my experiences and knowledge make me a suitable candidate to represent them.



“I would like to continue to give my efforts and support in developments.”

If you would like to talk to anyone further about the election process contact:

**Alison Reid,
Communication
Manager.**

**Telephone:
0114 279 6932.**

Come and find out about the major changes happening in Burngreave

Burngreave Community Action Forum and
Burngreave New Deal for Communities Partnership

Would like to invite you to a: **Public Meeting**

At Verdon Street Recreation Centre Saturday 28th July at 11.00am

- Talk with them about what is important to you as a resident of Burngreave
- Meet the new Board Members of Burngreave New Deal for Communities Partnership
- Meet some of the projects making a difference in Burngreave
- Enjoy a hot buffet

All welcome!





The most important role of the Area Panel is to make sure that the Council and other organisations such as the police and NHS provide services that respond to what local people want and need. The Area Panel has recently updated its annual plan which looks at what needs improvement and how this can happen.

The priorities for this year

More good quality childcare and school places

Children are the future – and therefore it's important to have available good quality childcare for very young children; and sufficient places with good primary schools. If parents and carers want to get paid employment, local high quality childcare is essential – and where there isn't enough, this has to be provided.

Better shopping and affordable housing

To attract people to the area and to keep the wealth local, flourishing shops and services are needed in the district centres; and there has to be enough affordable housing.

Improving health and environment

Regeneration money has done a lot but there are still some issues that need to be addressed: for example, why some people suffer with poor health, what some older people need or what support is there for people with problematic mental health.

The Street Champions' work is happening this year – and then we'll see if we can roll it out to more areas.

We also want to look at how to improve relationships both within and between communities.



How can things happen?

The Panel will try and achieve this in two ways. First, the Panel can use its direct control over resources to make some things happen. For example, the Panel got £220,000 this year from the government's Neighbourhood Renewal Fund to support particular local initiatives. This money is used:

- to staff and run Fir Vale youth entitlement programme for children;
- to help staff the Burngreave community forester's post;
- to help Green City Action employ their festivals worker post;
- for the 'bring out your rubbish' days;
- for the floral displays around Ellesmere Green and at Page Hall;
- for the Community Chest fund

The Panel also gets £10,000 a year for "modest highways" schemes – like bollards, dropped curbs, and handrails.

Secondly, the Panel can influence both Council services and other public sector agencies – about how they work in Burngreave. We have been working with

the Northern General Hospital to explore how they can make a positive contribution to the area as well as reducing some of the possible problems such as car parking.

How will you know what's happening?

The Area Panel provides you with an opportunity to be kept informed about how these issues are being handled and resolved. At each Area Panel public meeting, one or more of these issues will be considered. It's your opportunity to hear the view of the Council and what's being done locally, to ask questions or have your say.

For the next meeting and other information, look at the Area Panel website: www.sheffield.gov.uk/in-your-area/area-action/burngreave-area-action.

Flood

Many people in the Burngreave area were affected by the flooding, to their homes, their businesses and even the loss of loved ones. Advice for people affected is available from the Humanitarian Assistance Centre on 0800 915 6912.

Support and help is still needed. Donations of cash/cheques to

- SYFC Flood Disaster Relief Fund and send to SYCF; Clay Street; S9 2PF;
- or via Yorkshire Bank a/c no: 21890701 sort code: 05-08-03;
- or via the website www.justgiving.com/southyorkshirefloodrelief website which lists all the donations from all over the country....

Radio Sheffield Action Desk is taking offers of help and assistance. The website and contact details are 267 5444 or www.bbc.co.uk/southyorkshire.

Councillors' Surgery Dates

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



Councillors' surgeries are on the second and fourth Saturday mornings of each month. **There will be no surgeries in August.**

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

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

Next Area Panel Meeting

Thursday 4th October, 2pm–4pm at Roe Lane Community Centre. For more information see the the Area Panel website: www.sheffield.gov.uk/in-your-area/area-action/burngreave-area-action.



Javed Akhtar 1962-2007

Story: Irshad Akbar

It is with sadness and regret that after a long illness Javed Akhtar passed away at the Northern General Hospital on Sunday 3rd June 2007 aged 45.

Javed was diagnosed with a form of blood cancer in 1994; however this did not deter Javed from becoming a key member of the Burngreave community and a successful businessman. Javed never let his illness cause discomfort to family and friends he was always cheerful and will be remembered for his wit, bravery and honesty.

Javed emigrated from Pakistan in 1976 aged 15 years of age. He attended a local school and on leaving school he obtained employment at a local wood factory as an apprentice wood machinist. However, Javed was not content as, from

a very young age he had a yearning for cars. Within a few months, Javed obtained employment as an apprentice motor mechanic at a local Toyota dealership. During this time he attended a local college and obtained a range of qualifications.

Javed was adventurous and entrepreneurial and always wanted to run his own business. In 1980 he left the comfort zone of full time employment, and with his brother Muhammad Iqbal, opened a mobile tuning and auto electrical business. This was a pioneering initiative as it was one of the first mobile tuning businesses in the area. Javed quickly acquired a reputation for his craftsmanship and problem-solving techniques. He would leave no stone unturned and no job was too big or too small. His clients gradually built up and he quickly realised that he needed to expand and acquire premises so that he

could achieve his ambition of running a successful garage.

Javed purchased the "Signpost" garage on Kilton Hill in 1990. Over the next 15 years he expanded the business to such an extent that he had customers requesting his services throughout the region. Javed was well known for his honesty and integrity and over the years he built his business on trust and dedication. He would never let a problem get the better of him and he was often known to be working at his garage until late at night because a customer wanted his vehicle the next day. Javed's reputation and his technical ability were well known and before long established dealerships were contacting him for advice and assistance.

Javed was a keen sportsman, an active weight lifter and a keep fit fanatic. He participated in many sporting events throughout the city.

Javed was a friend to many a stranger. He would not turn anybody away. He will be remembered for his honesty, integrity, straight forwardness and as someone who would not hide his feelings.

Javed will be missed by the whole community and his family. Our condolences go to Javed's wife and four young children.

A message from family and friends:
"Javed rest in peace and may Allah grant you a place in Jannat -ul-Firdus. Ameen".

The end of slavery?

Story: Angelina Abel

As a child of Africa raised in a European country, I can't avoid reflecting about my ancestors' reality and wonder how the most barbaric and bloody episode of black history came to an end.

On the 14th of June 2007, a public meeting was held in SADACCA entitled "200 years since the Abolition of the Slave Trade - Who really ended slavery?"

Weyman Bennett inspiringly revealed to us some of the facts behind one of the darkest times of history. His speech focused on the fact that slavery is a socio-economic system where slaves were deprived of any rights and entitled only to never-ending duties and both physical and emotional suffering. It did not end thanks to the good will of slave owners, but was triggered by the French Revolution!

By 1789 the French motto "Liberté, Fraternité, Egalité" echoed all over the world and eventually reached San Domingo, a former French colony, now known as Haiti.

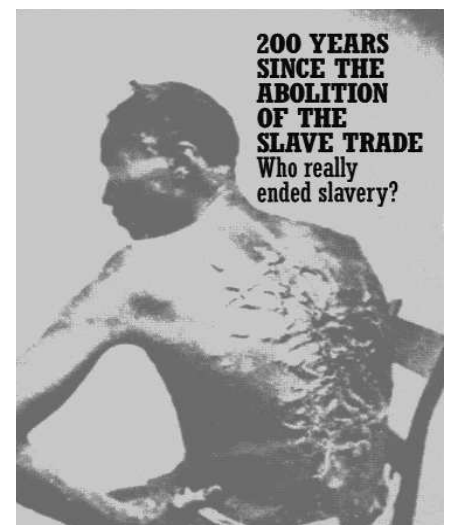
In 1791 François Dominique Toussaint emerged as a key black leader and it was under his guidance that slaves united. Several parts of San Domingo were recovered, modern armies defeated and slavery was officially abolished in Haiti.

But 200 years on, do we feel that slavery has now ended? Opinions varied and feelings rose regarding the state of Africa today.

"Africa is not free, we're still victims. Our leaders are not chosen by us but by imperialists in Europe."

"In England we can go out and get a job, but Africa is still being exploited and that's how the economy in Europe is strengthened."

Throughout history, we have persevered as fighters against the belief that some races are superior to others. We cannot



let ignorant feelings and attitudes of those who are racist unquestionably rule us.

Events like this create an awareness of how strong we can be if we unite against unfairness. The most important thing is to realise that we are linked as a whole no matter where in the world we live.

Dear Messenger...



Write to: Abbeyfield Park House, Abbeyfield Road, Sheffield S4 7AT

Donation to the chapel

Dear Messenger,

On behalf of the Friends of Burngreave Chapel & Cemetery, please give a big, big "Thank You" to John and Elizabeth Barns who have given us a donation of £400 towards the restoration of this fine building. They have worked hard to raise this money and we are truly grateful.

Yours sincerely,
Cassie Limb (Chair)
Christine Steers (Sec.)



ESOL

Dear Messenger,

Why has the Government cut back on so much education/ESOL. In some ways there is some justification for this, but they are stopping people accessing courses.

Not everyone can or wants to go to University, nor can people always afford to pay £100 for college courses. The Open University can be a very long and expensive course. This is not suitable for all people.

I am a housewife living with a partner we are not entitled to any benefits nor have we ever claimed any. So all study courses have to be paid in full. There have been some free courses in the past. Some courses have charged a small fee, i.e. craft courses and some health courses. Many of these were very well attended.

So why can't a provider fund any courses in Burngreave/Fir Vale? Not everyone wants to do hair beauty or henna, some of us want more intellectual or academic courses. Even child care and computing are now fee paying courses. Can any funding provider help? Or shall we just crawl under a stone and hide?

Hopeful,
Yasmin Khan

"HOLD ON THERE IS HOPE"

A Crusade of Hope

Where: Burngreave Seventh Day Adventist Church, Andover Street, S3 9EF

When: 28th July - 4th August 2007

Time: 7.00 - 9.00pm

Programme: Gospel music, inspirational singing, health spot, special prayers and inspirational speaker.

Sunday 29th July: community fundraising day for Blue Bell Children's hospice.

There will be a Bouncy Castle, Games, Car Wash and Food etc...

Contact: Pastor Rashford Hewitt, 07931 732 490

Tunnel

Dear Sir / Madam

After reading your article in the June issue of Burngreave Messenger, on the Fiery Jack Tunnel, it brought back memories of the war years.

As a teenager, the tunnel was used as an Air Raid shelter by the people who lived in the vicinity of Champ Hill, as it was called by the local people. It was classed as the safest place to be in an air raid, after the Blitz on Sheffield in December 1940. It was said that the bombs would never go through those rocks on top!

The tunnel was used to transfer wagons from the old LMS Goods Yard, to the LNER Goods Yard at Bridgehouses. At the time, my father was the Checking Clerk at the LNER end of the tunnel and had a cabin there. He worked two turns, days and nights. When he was on nights, I went to work with him and slept in the cabin at the end, the reason being, if we had an air raid in the night, my mother only had to look after herself and my sister getting down to the tunnel, as we lived in Verdon Street at the time.

We had a blanket as a ground sheet to lay on, which was placed at the side of the track. We had plenty of company as a lot of our neighbours used the tunnel also.

Years later, I ended up on the engine that shunted the wagons at the tunnel's LNER end, following in my father's footsteps on the railway.

The tunnel was never used as a rifle club. The club was in the Arches at the bottom of the long hill in to Bridgehouses Goods Yard and was LNER Horse Stable.

Mr. L. Middleton (address provided)

More letters and poems on our website:
www.burngreavemessenger.org

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For more information:

Telephone Kevin Sharpe or Dennis Tester on 0114 273 5134

Visit <http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/privaterentedproject> or www.sheffield.gov.uk/rls

Email prp@sheffield.gov.uk



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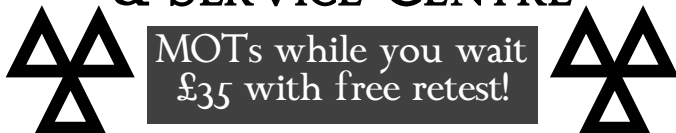
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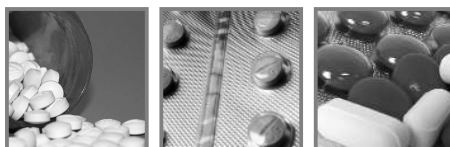
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Sunday Starting 10.30am-1.00pm
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