

Voice of the Burngreave Community

# Firvale School “outstanding”

Firvale School has become one of just two schools in the City receiving an “outstanding” OFSTED inspection report. Headteacher Mrs Lesley Bowes said, “this wonderful outcome provides a launch pad for the next stage in the school’s development.”

Year 7 pupil Emily Haimeed, reporting for the *Messenger*, writes:

*“Firvale secondary school is a good school in many ways, it’s fun because of the many facilities and help that is provided. I like lessons because they are always exciting and you are always guaranteed to learn something new. The teachers at our school are very friendly, and make lessons interesting.*

*The school is very organised, for example when pupils are asked to change lesson the whole process runs very smoothly! All the staff are very helpful and polite and everyone is made to feel welcome. The motto Fir Vale has is ‘making dreams a reality’ and teachers try and make that possible in every way.*

*I feel that the school is working me to my highest potential and I also feel that I will one day succeed my dream of being a lawyer by having the opportunity to go to a school like Firvale.*

*When I am at school I feel comfortable because I am part of a friendly community. I do not worry about being bullied and I know that teachers are always there to talk to if I have a problem.”*

The OFSTED report says: “Students’ achievement is outstanding when set against their starting points ... The care, guidance and support provided for all pupils are outstanding. The quality of academic and pastoral guidance is impressive and all staff are involved in supporting and guiding students so that they can achieve their potential.”



Headteacher Lesley Bowes with her pupils.

*“The school is achieving in a way it is set out to do.”*  
Ben Thompson, 13.

*“The school is achieving its target of making dreams a reality.”*  
Asad Ali, 12.

*“I like the multi-cultural environment of the school.”*  
Emma Seaton, 16.

*“School is fantastic.”*  
Kiran Din, 15.

*“Friendly environment and it is easy to make friends.”*  
Jefin Jacob, 16.

## The Burngreave Enterprise Event & Business Awards 2007

Have you got a business idea?  
Do you want to start a business?  
Do you want your business to be more successful?

Verdon Recreation Centre  
14th March 2007, 4–8pm



### Events will include...

Business Awards  
Support agency stands  
Advice and guidance  
Grants information

### Workshops/seminars

Start-up advice  
Grants for business  
Grants for social enterprises  
Grants for community groups  
Self-employed builders

# Burngreave Enterprise Event & Business Awards 2007

Verdon Street Centre, 4 - 8pm Wednesday, March 14th 2007



Lord Mayor Jackie Drayton talks to businessmen at last year's event.

The Burngreave Enterprise Event and Business Awards returns next month in what promises to be the year's biggest business event in Burngreave.

The event takes place at the Verdon Street Centre on March 14th and will include exhibitions from Business Support agencies, advice and guidance for businesses and feature presentations for business students.

Workshops and seminars will cover: starting up a new business, grant funding (for businesses, social entrepreneurs and community groups) and self-employment for builders. The day concludes with the 2007 Burngreave Business Awards.

The widely acclaimed Awards and Enterprise Event are recognised as the flagship of business activity in Burngreave. Organisations involved will receive direct business benefits and high media profile; the Awards are a fantastic opportunity to celebrate commercial success with fellow businesses in the area.

The award categories are: Business Start Up, Marketing Excellence, Community Impact, Training & Development, Customer Service, Young Business Woman of the Year and Young Businessman of the Year.

## Programme on the day:

4.00 pm: Exhibitions open  
4.15pm - 6.30pm: Workshops  
7.00pm: Burngreave Business Awards

For more information contact the Burngreave Business Support Team on: (0114) 292 0462 or email: [businesssupport@bndfc.co.uk](mailto:businesssupport@bndfc.co.uk)

The Burngreave Business Awards are sponsored by:



Page sponsored by the Burngreave Business Forum

## Award winner cleans up



Lee Furness collects one of his Burngreave Business Awards.

Serial entrepreneur and Burngreave resident Lee Furness knows the value of winning awards; and the Burngreave Business Awards in particular. Lee is Director of Time for You, a corporate and domestic cleaning company that employs around 80 people from the Burngreave and Fitzmoor area.

Lee entered the first Burngreave Business Awards in 2005. He was surprised to be short listed and delighted when he was named winner of the HSBC Start Up Award. Winning that award inspired him to enter a national award with his franchise company - he won that one too!

In 2006 Lee repeated his feat by winning the Marketing Excellence Award, which he says changed his business. "I have the Awards on all my promotional material, even in the Yellow Pages. The majority of my new customers tell me that knowing I am an award winner made them choose me instead of my competitors."

Lee intends to enter for this year's Awards and take full advantage of the help and advice on offer at this year's Enterprise Event on the 14th March.

## Nominations for the 2007 Burngreave Business Awards

Do you know someone who deserves recognition? Would you like to enter yourself? Then call the Business Support Team on 0114 292 0462 for more information.

Please note the deadline for application is Thursday, 16th February 2007.

# Messenger website

Our website is up and running bringing you news, event, jobs and features. It's the place to go for all the local info.

## Burngreave/Canklow Crusaders at the top

The Under 18s team were topped of the league over Christmas, and made a strong start to the Hawley cup. The Crusaders battled with the referee, the mud and the Sheffield United Blades to win their latest cup round, showing gritty determination. Coach Steve Richardson brings you the all the details of the game at



[www.burngreavemessenger.org/january-2007/crusaders-update/](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org/january-2007/crusaders-update/)

## Carwood estate gets green boiler

Carwood estate were treated to a new 'biomass' or wood burning boiler in November. Not only is it reliable enough to provide heat and hot water to the whole estate on demand, its better for the environment. The full report and including info about Biomass are at



[www.burngreavemessenger.org/archives/december-2006/carwood-green-heating/](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org/archives/december-2006/carwood-green-heating/)

## Skinnerthorpe makes the news

Planned demolitions at Skinnerthorpe made channel Five news as part of a short documentary by filmmaker Julia Armstrong. Women living on Skinnerthorpe were interviewed, showing the real affects of regeneration plans on local people. You can find a link to the film on our website.



## Can you help with the website?

We need help:

- Adding news stories
- Getting each issue on line
- Completing the archive of *Messengers*

We can give you training in adding content which is easy to do and doesn't need any special knowledge of updating websites.

We also need your help with news and stories – if you have something to tell people get in touch and we can get it online.

## Staff team for new project

As the *Messenger* starts a new project, we welcome Anne Grange, who joins the staff team to manage the project and help secure future funding.

Above, left to right: Anne Grange (Manager); Lisa Swift (Assistant Editor); Jamie Marriott (Website Developer); Annie Blindell (Finance Manager) and Naheem Hanif (Advertising Manager).



## The Editorial

### In this issue:

**Housing News** – Page 4 & 5, Redwall Developments get the go ahead to build on the controversial site at Grimsthorpe and Sheffield Council Cabinet Member Chris Weldon discusses mixed communities and new housing issues.

**Steam Train over the Arches** – Page 10, Looking forward to the arrival of the 'Green Arrow' in Burngreave.

**Burngreave Graduates** – Page 12 & 13, This years new graduates in full colour.

**Party Pictures** – Page 14 & 15, Pye Bank celebrate the end of the year and local children have a party on ice.

**Mojo Club** – Page 21, Reliving the memories of the famous Burngreave music club.

**Ellesmere Youth Project** – Page 15, Funding cuts mean 'important youth worker' is lost.

## Messenger Info

**Meetings: 6.30pm at Abbeyfield Park House**

**Editorial: Wed, 14th February**

**All welcome.**

**Copy deadline: 14th March**

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

**(0114) 242 0564**

**[messenger@burngreave.net](mailto:messenger@burngreave.net)**

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

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.

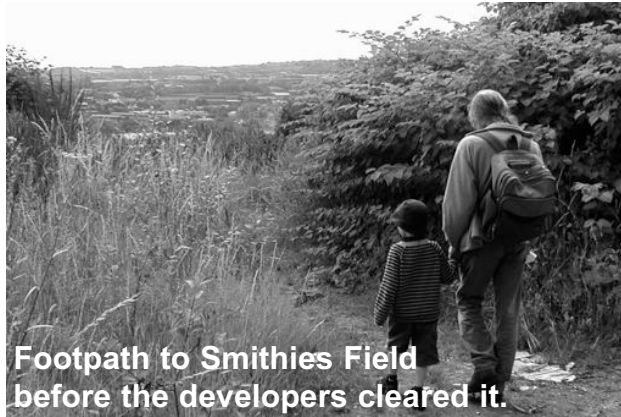
This month's team: Asma Ali, Richard Belbin, Ian Clifford, Rohan Francis, Anne Grange, Naheem Hanif, Saleema Imam, Douglas Johnson, Jamie Marriott, Brent Moya, Derrick Okrah, Lisa Swift, Nikky Wilson.

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# Redwall get go ahead

**The Council's decision to deny planning permission to Redwall Developments for part of Grimesthorpe Road has been overturned in a public inquiry.**

Redwall Developments cleared the land in summer 2005 before applying for outline planning permission to build flats. Residents then witnessed large amounts of building rubble and topsoil being dumped on the land. The area had been home to bats, owls, foxes and numerous birds and a rare Holly Blue butterfly had been sighted there. Sheffield City Council



Footpath to Smithies Field before the developers cleared it.

turned down the application and Redwall appealed against the decision at a public inquiry that took place between 28th November and 1st December 2006.

Redwall's solicitors argued the site was a brown-field site with no amenity or wildlife interest and that this was the case before clearance; also that housing was desperately needed in the area.

Two planning officers and three local residents spoke against the development, citing its importance as a green-field site with local amenity value in visual terms and relevance to the adjoining Area of Natural History Interest known as Smithies Field or Wood Hill. It was argued that there are already extensive areas of previously developed land within the City and considerable amounts of housing currently under construction or planned for, within Burngreave.

## Rubbish tipped

After the opening statements, local residents were not given an opportunity to cross-examine Redwall's solicitors. It appears that, whatever amenity and conservation value a site may have, once it has been bulldozed a developer is free to make applications for development based on the land after demolition and destruction.

The rubbish tipped on the site has now been moved by Redwall to an area against the trees that borders the Area of Natural History Interest/Smithies Field. Although a tree preservation order was issued on the site after initial clearance, most of the trees were already felled and other trees near the public footpath were cut back after this.

The character of our 'country lane' and associated open space looks set to deteriorate further. It seems that unless they are designated as public parks then they are easy pickings for developers to ruin.

by Jim Bruce

The Council denied that the outcome of the inquiry set a precedent for developers to destroy green spaces in order to ensure planning permission is granted. Les Sturch, head of the Council's planning department said they would continue to be tough on developers who cut down trees with preservation orders. He said:

**"The Council will monitor the site to check on what is happening on it and it is open to local residents to contact us if they have any concerns over any work carried out on the site so we can check if there has been a breach of planning control. There is no right of appeal against a Planning Inspector's decision, either by the Council or third parties. The decision can be challenged by Judicial Review but only if the Inspector is considered to have erred in law, not just because the Council or residents disagree with the decision."**

If you are concerned about anything that is happening on the site contact the planning department on 273 4215. Tree preservation orders are in place, and full planning permission must be granted before any building work can start.

# Striving for

## Weldon Defends Mixed Communities

**In recent months the *Messenger* has reported concerns from local residents at the lack of affordable housing in Burngreave. We asked Chris Weldon, Cabinet member for housing, whether the Council was regenerating Burngreave by moving poor people out of the area and moving higher income people in?**

**"I think we've nailed that myth. It's about listening to the aspirations of local residents, which means, yes, having an element of Council Housing, but also meeting people's aspirations to get their first foothold on the property ladder. By building houses where residents buy a share we are making sure houses stay affordable when they're passed on. We know that regeneration is futile unless local people benefit, which is why we're insisting that developers use local labour for the construction of the new housing."**

Councillor Weldon also promised quality services, such as schools, for "mixed communities" pilot areas.

**"Educational attainment is critical. Where there are schools which are not hitting the required levels of attainment and measures that need to be taken, then those measures will be taken."**

Addressing the concerns of the residents of Skinnerthorpe regarding their rehousing following demolition, Councillor Weldon denied that there would be a gap between demolition and rehousing and stressed that new housing at Earl Marshal and Wensley is earmarked for those whose houses are being demolished. However, Councillor Weldon was less clear about the details of how it would work, simply stating, "I am absolutely confident that peoples' aspirations will be met."

The *Messenger* asked Councillor Weldon about the valuations for Skinnerthorpe. The Council originally planned for £50,000 per house but actual valuations are running at £65,000-£80,000. Councillor Weldon confirmed: "everyone will get a fair price for their home" with Senior Housing Officer Dave Shepherd adding, "We're committed to covering the cost of this project. The money will be found."

by Ian Clifford

## New Deal asks for money back

**New Deal have asked for their £1 million investment in Woodside back after the Council would not commit to building enough affordable homes.**

New Deal Chief Executive, John Clark, told the New Housing Project Group in January that the Council had consistently promised 20% of Woodside would be affordable homes, but now it had been reduced to 15%. Council officers stated this reduction was in part due to New Deal's withdrawal, but John Clark said:

**"It's a red herring; we have been told New Deal's money will not guarantee an increase from 15%. So we have to invest the money elsewhere and lobby for the Council to increase the number of affordable homes along with everyone else."**

The Council claim they cannot increase the numbers of affordable homes, because they have to use the money from the sale of the land at Woodside to fund other commitments across the city, such as the Decent Homes improvements to Council Housing.

### Now or never

The project group were told they and other residents could lobbying the Council to increase the number of affordable homes, but it would have to be done in the next few months.

John Clark later told the *Messenger*:

**"New Deal will be writing formally to the Councillors. We will be asking the Council to keep its promise of 20% affordable homes. The Council can choose to take the loss on the sale of the land to make this happen."**

Residents can find out more about new housing plans at the Burngreave Community Action Forum quarterly meeting on 24th February (details below). You can now also join the New Housing Project Group, the next meeting is Tuesday 27th February at Verdon Recreation Centre, 6-8pm.

### Burngreave Community Action Forum Meeting

**10:30am, Saturday 24th February 2007**

**At the Welcome Centre, Nottingham Street. Discussing plans for new housing in the Burngreave Ward.**

**There will be a presentation by Sheffield City Council.**

**Crèche facilities • Interpreters • Free lunch**

**Call (0114) 272 8008 for more details. All welcome to this meeting.**



## What does it all mean?

### Mixed communities

"Mixed communities" means building housing estates where there are a mixture of houses and flats, and a mixture of rented and owner-occupied homes. It shouldn't be possible to tell from the outside whether a house is rented or owned.

The Council is clearing council owned properties to make way for new homes, built by private developers. Rented or shared properties are to be managed by Housing Associations.

### Affordability

"Affordable housing" means housing where rents or sale prices are less than full market prices. It can be social housing (e.g. council or housing association rents) or housing to rent or buy privately at less than the market level.

What is affordable will depend on local incomes and house prices.

Sheffield City Council's policy is that affordable housing is "that which is

accessible to people whose incomes are insufficient to enable them to afford adequate housing locally on the open market."

### Shared ownership

Sharing the ownership of a house is a new idea. You can buy part of the house and get a mortgage to help if need be. But the other part is owned by a Housing Association, and you may have to pay rent on this. The idea is that people with lower incomes can get onto the property ladder.

### Where will the new homes be?

**Earldom Road and Catherine Road** – an Arches Development .

23 already built, 8 for rent, 15 for shared ownership.

**Wensley** – a South Yorkshire Housing Association Development.

22 have received planning permission – 7 will be for rent, 8 for shared

ownership, 7 for outright sale.

**Earl Marshal and Skinnerthorpe**

63 planned - Although Earl Marshal flats are almost empty, Skinnerthorpe is years away from demolition. 10 of these will be affordable.

**Woodside**

200 or more could be built here. 36 of these will be affordable.

**Ellesmere**

50 planned on the site of the now demolished old people's home. Possibly 8 affordable homes.

**Catherine Street**

50 planned - Possibly 8 affordable homes.

**Approximate total new homes 400, of which 100 will be classed as affordable. This replaces approximately 800 demolished homes, around 600 of which were Council rented properties.**

# Learning English – at a price!

**In a shock announcement, the government's Learning & Skills Council has proposed to withdraw the existing entitlement to free classes for adults who need to learn English as a Second Language (ESOL).**

From August free ESOL classes will only be available to people on means-tested benefits and tax credits. Asylum seekers will have their entitlement to free English lessons cut. Other courses could also become unaffordable for asylum seekers.

The *Messenger* spoke to Abdullah Al-Yafeai, who presently benefits from free classes:

***"This loss of funding will have a terrible impact upon asylum seekers. From next year their prospects will be very poor. The Government say they want an integrated society, but this will leave people isolated. Without funding, classes simply cannot be provided."***

Abdullah came to Britain from the Yemen six months ago, and soon started an English course at the Yemeni Centre on Earl Marshal Road. Abdullah has a Bachelor of Science degree from India, and can study on his own, but others need more support:

***"Women will be amongst the worst affected. It is not only the learning aspect. Without these classes many people will be home alone all day, which is very bad for people, leading maybe to illness and depression. Learning helps people to integrate and be active in society."***

***"This is a terribly unjust decision, for asylum seekers; wider society and the country as a whole. What they do for us here at the YCA is good for the learner and for society. If you don't know English, you can't communicate. It is as if they wanted asylum seekers to be isolated."***



## Opposition

Dozens of organisations, including the Children's Society, the Refugee Council and national trades unions attended a conference to launch a national campaign against the cuts and over 100 MPs have put their name to a parliamentary motion condemning the proposals. A lobby of parliament is being organised for February 28th. The college lecturers union has also opposed the plan, with NATFHE leader, Paul Mackney, pointing out that women and black and ethnic minority groups are most likely to be affected.

In Burngreave, the Forum's Adult Learning Group has voted to support the national campaign; to raise the matter with the Area Panel and to link with others opposed to the cuts in ESOL. To get involved, phone the BCAF office on 272 8008.

by Tony Tingle & Richard Belbin

# Stateless and Homeless at Christmas

**On 28th November 2006 two men were removed from the, soon to be demolished, flats on Catherine Road. Through an interpreter, the men said:**

***"Just after 9:00am we heard a banging at the door. We were still asleep at that time and the banging woke us up. The front door was smashed open with some sort of heavy ramming device. 5 or 6 builders entered. They all wore builders' hard hats and fluorescent jackets. They said we had to get out. They started shouting loudly at us. They began to throw our possessions about, things like our small camping stove. The men then started to smash the glass in the windows. The broken glass covered me. Then one of the men grabbed my arm and started to pull me towards the door. We were told to take our personal possessions out of the flat. I took some things but couldn't carry all I wanted to take."***

## Inquiry

Sheffield Homes owned the site, but the demolition was due to be carried out by contractors Redwall Developments, under contract to Arches Houses. Redwall deny forcibly removing the men and the incident is now the subject



of an inquiry by Sheffield City Council, due to report in February.

But why did two men choose to live in unheated flats which were due to be demolished in the middle of winter? The men are Kurdish asylum seekers who, like many asylum seekers in Sheffield, are destitute. They have no income; no accommodation and are not allowed to work or claim any benefits.

As the *Messenger* reported in December 2005, the Home Office sent letters to

Iraqi Kurdish asylum seekers claiming there was now a "safe route of return" to northern Iraq. The letters went on to say that unless Iraqi Kurdish asylum seekers agreed "voluntarily" to return to "safe" Iraq they would "be required to leave (their) accommodation and will not be entitled to any other form of support". This threat was followed by forced deportations to Iraq.

## Is Iraq Safe Now?

Iraqi Kurds still face serious dangers if they return home: persecution from the main Kurdish parties following the civil war of the 1990's; repression by the corrupt Kurdish Government and the ethnic violence which has engulfed the whole of Iraq following the US/UK occupation. Ari Moustafa from the Kurdish Community Centre, described the situation in Kirkuk, an Iraqi city with a large Kurdish population: "Every Kurdish house in Kirkuk has a sign on it saying: 'leave now'".

The two Kurdish men came to this country to find somewhere safe to stay, but they continue to be denied this right.

by Stuart Crosthwaite

# Dangerous, derelict house

**A family in Burngreave is at risk due to the dangers caused by a derelict house next door, it has emerged.**

The resident, who did not wish to be named, lives with her husband and five children and tried to solve the problem by talking to the owner on several occasions. When this failed she repeatedly contacted Sheffield City Council yet nothing has been done. She explained, "There hasn't been anyone living there for many years."



Despite phoning and writing to the Council for 5 years, the house remains empty and is now dangerous, with render falling from the outside walls. "They keep saying that they will get back to us or that it's private property so they can't intervene. We've got kids, what about their safety?" She argued.

**"We're scared of letting them out to play because of all the rubbish lying around, it's so dangerous. The house is also an eyesore. Other people are dumping rubbish like it's a tip."**

## Rubbish

To make matters worse, a pipe in the derelict house recently burst: "Our houses are joined so it leaked all the way through to our kitchen walls." In January the resident and one of her children were nearly hit by shards of glass as the high winds caused a cracked window to shatter glass everywhere. The house has also become infested with rats and mice attracted to the rubbish.

## Syringes

Syringes have also been found on the premises, causing serious concern. "We're paying £900 a year in council tax. This should not be happening." The family has become very distressed. "I shouldn't have to put up with this, they are reducing the value of our house, I can't believe we're being ignored like this."

The family is demanding immediate action be taken by the Council to secure the house and prevent her children from being harmed. She was clearly very upset by what has happened.

by Brent Moya

The *Messenger* contacted the Council who provided this statement from Linda Eshelby of Private Sector Housing.

**"The Council's Private Sector Housing Team has been working with this landlord for some time to address the disrepair of**



**this property. It is now being dealt with by the specialised Empty Property Team, who can instigate legal action, including a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) if necessary. Before a court will let us have a CPO the Council has to demonstrate that it has exhausted all other options."**

When the *Messenger* asked about allegations of immediate danger that had not been addressed, the Council replied:

**"People contacting a newspaper isn't going to make a legal process go any quicker. The length of time a CPO can take can vary from a few months to a couple of years depending upon the complexity of the case."**

**"Officers visited the property on the 12th of January within one hour of the neighbour contacting us. They were satisfied that there was no danger caused by broken glass and it was secure. They also reported the rubbish to Environmental Services who will arrange for its removal."**

The resident told us the Council had visited and promised to secure the windows, but as *The Messenger* goes to press this has yet to happen.

## Events at Verdon Recreation Centre

**8th February** – Advocacy Training Health Day, 9.30–3.30pm. Chair aerobics, health walk, information, refreshments and more.

**1st March** – First Aid, one day course in the basic first aid certificate, 9.30pm–4pm.

**8th March** – International Women's Day, an annual event with activities for women including chair aerobics, reflexology, food, information stalls and more. For more information contact Norah Brown on 271 6978.

*For more information about Verdon Recreation Centre call 249 1626.*

## Cinemas remembered

Do you remember the old cinemas of Burngreave? The *Messenger* has received a fascinating article from Mrs Reaney of Fir Vale, which we hope to use in the next edition of the *Messenger* with any old photographs we can bring together. Do you remember:

- The Wicker Picture House
- The Coliseum, Spital Hill
- The Sunbeam, Fir Vale
- The Victory Cinema, Page Hall
- The Roxy Cinema and Ballroom, Page Hall
- The Victory Cinema, Page Hall
- The Paragon Cinema, Firth Park
- The Forum Cinema, later Essoldo, Herries Road



If you have any photographs or memories of these old cinemas, please send them to the *Messenger*, Abbeyfield Park House, Sheffield S4 7AT.

## Gower update

**The Gower - the pub in the centre of Burngreave - remains open. In November's issue, we reported on new conditions the police wanted to see in place to address their concerns. Sheffield City Council's licensing board met on January 9th to review the licence and decided the pub can still open as long as certain conditions were met.**



Customers can now expect to see regular door staff and, shortly, new CCTV will be installed. The *Messenger* spoke to Linda Flemming, supervisor at the pub.

***"We've had to brick up the toilet window, and fasten the lids on the toilet cisterns down - it looks like a prison. No drinks are allowed outside and we can't put tables on the pavement. It's not fair, people have always sat outside."***

Two door staff will be on duty on Friday and Saturday nights to search people who enter, and CCTV must be installed outside. Landlord Vernon Solomon told the *Messenger*:

***"There are no cameras yet, we're waiting to hear if we've got a grant for the new CCTV. No children are allowed at the moment but that should be reviewed in the next 3 months. We're hoping all the conditions will be reviewed and downgraded."***

'Man & Van' household removals. Small or big.  
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for a quote.

## Campaign for low-paid

**Following the successful Pension Credit take-up campaign last year, local advice agencies have got together to launch a take-up campaign for low-paid workers in Burngreave.**

If your answers to any of the questions below makes you think you might be missing out, then support to get what you are entitled to will be available soon:

- If you're age 22 or over, are you getting at least £5.35 an hour?
- If you're 18 are you getting at least £4.45 an hour?
- If you're 16, are you getting £3.30 an hour?
- Do you have paid holidays?
- Do you have a contract of employment?

## Normanton Inn

**The newly-licensed Normanton Inn, on Earldom Road, has been completely revamped with deluxe furnishing in the lounge and bar/pool room facilities.**

"As well as the new décor to the lounge and bar area we've had both toilets refurbished," explains Kay Wragg, the Normanton Inn's licensee, who took on the pub just over a year ago and has turned it into a busy place that welcomes all the community.

The Normanton Inn also plays host to many nights of games and activities. "We have dominoes and crib all initiated into the Burngreave league, they play on a Tuesday," adds Kay. "We also have three pool teams on a Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday evening and darts and some times cards on Sunday afternoon." Kay also added smiling. "All local people are welcome here of course, and what we endeavour to provide is a warm homely and friendly atmosphere."

The Wednesday pool team won the league, months before the end of the season, having established an unbeatable lead. Team member Dennis Hindmarsh also won the singles title.

The Normanton Inn is open from 5pm till 12 midnight Monday to Thursday, 5pm till 1am on Friday, and 12 noon until 1am on both Saturday and Sunday. It serves a large selection of draught beers as well as the usual spirits and soft drinks. You can contact the pub on 272 4824.



- Could you be getting working tax credit?
- Could you be getting Child tax credit?

Pitsmoor Citizens Advice Bureau; Pakistan Advice Centre; Sheffield Advice Link, Yemeni Welfare & Advice Centre and Northern Refugee Centre will all be involved in the campaign, which will run from 26th February to 5th April. Watch out for posters in local shops and leaflets provided through schools.

**WATCH OUT!  
GET TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE ENTITLED TO!**

Campaign telephone number: 0845 120 2968  
(available from 26th February)



# Sports for Somaliland



*From left to right: The chairman of Democracy Network for Somaliland (DNS) Mr. Mohamed A. Issa, Rt Hon Richard Caborn MP and Cllr. Ibrar Hussain.*

**The chairman of Democracy Network for Somaliland (DNS), Mr. Mohamed A. Issa, recently met Richard Caborn MP, Minister for Sport, and Councillor Ibrar Hussain at Richard Caborn's office in Sheffield.**

Discussion included the situation in Somalia generally and particularly the status of Somaliland and its achievements in terms of peace, stability and democracy.

Somaliland is the north-west part of Somalia. Most Somali people in Sheffield are from Somaliland and many seek independence for the area.

The meeting was constructive, with a common understanding of all points discussed. Mohamed Issa explained the importance of engaging young people in Somaliland with sports to keep them from joining the violence and fighting going on in the rest of Somalia and asked the MP how he, as the minister for sport in Britain, can help Somaliland to improve its sports facilities.

Richard Caborn MP welcomed the idea and promised to work closely with the Democracy Network for Somaliland and to make enquiries with the Secretary of State for International Development, Hilary Benn.

## A dream come true

**Once again a diverse group of people came together to celebrate the life and work of Dr Martin Luther King and discuss issues around racism. The Welcome Centre on Nottingham Street was transformed for the event with informative and artistic displays about the 1960's civil rights struggle in the USA.**

This year's theme 'Equality' was introduced by Dorothy Wilson and Dave Havard. Activities included singing, poetry, a bring and share supper, videos, dance and quotes from Martin Luther King speeches. Particularly appreciated were the 'Second Step Caribbean Women's group' who sang Dr. King's favourite song 'Steal Away' and the 'Ellesmere Youth Project' who sang a song they had written to challenge racism. Later, discussion groups let people talk freely about racism and whether Dr. King's dream had come true in Burngreave.

The evening finished on a reflective note when Mrs. Carmen Franklin read from a speech Dr King made just days before he was assassinated. In the speech he reflected on how he would like to be remembered after his death.



The event coincided with the Martin Luther King Holiday in the USA. It is hoped to have another celebration next year. However, new ideas and people are needed! To have a say in what next years theme will be and what events could take place please contact Nick Edmondson on 07725 569 380.

by Jeff Kirby

*"When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"*

*Martin Luther King, August 28th 1963*

# Developing a health community

**One of our own, Patrick Edwards, has received an UnLtd grant to start a business as a fitness instructor. As a community writer, I believe this is something we should all welcome.**



Health issues have become one of the government's number one priorities, from the complete change of school meals to many NHS-funded fitness centres. The people of Bungereave are not left out in this race to keep our community healthy, as Patrick intends to run his fitness services right here:

*"This is as an opportunity to restore the image of our community by making this accessible to anyone who wants to improve on their well-being. My background is in community development and health. I have attended various courses to learn how to teach, motivate and support people in my community and also in the Health and Fitness field"*

Patrick has worked as part of a G.P referral gym. Keeping fit himself is not a problem with football coaching for the Multicultural Wanderers and refereeing every week. He also eats well and goes to the gym. Why is it important for people in Bungereave to keep fit?

*"In most deprived areas like our own, people die earlier than in more affluent areas," said Patrick, "the onset of health-related disease is far greater in deprived areas (most notably CHD,*

*Strokes, Obesity and Diabetes). The average life expectancy at birth in Bungereave is around 72 years compared to 77 years for Sheffield generally."*

Only 35% of people in Sheffield are active enough to avoid health risks. 50% of the City's adult population is overweight and 1 in 6 adults are obese. Only 25% of women meet the minimum weekly levels of activity and over 40% are completely sedentary. 61% of people over 60 are sedentary and only 13% of those achieve minimum weekly levels of activity (Active Bungereave and Your Sheffield Feb 2006). This is worrying not just for the people of Bungereave but Sheffield and the nation as a whole.

Patrick is based at Bungereave Community Action Forum, 12 Bungereave Road, and is offering a free 30 minute consultation and, for the first 6 months, sessions will be at a discount rate. Early sessions will include blood pressure; lung function and BMI (body mass index) tests. Sessions are mainly evenings, weekends and most days: "this is about suiting individual needs."

*"Please be more aware and responsible for your health. Eat well and exercise a bit, if not a lot. If you need any help and advice, don't hesitate to stop by. I would be glad to help"*

by Derrick Okrah



**Community Health Instructor**  
Patrick Edwards  
**Personal Fitness Training**  
Nutrition and Wellbeing Advice

Office: 0114 2502710      Mobile: 07747 831856

12 Bungereave Road, Sheffield S3 9DD

Qualified Personal Trainers (Dipolma FI/ST)      UnLtd\*

www.predwards.co.uk      info@predwards.co.uk



## Steam Train Over the Wicker

**For the first time in many years a real steam train will pass over the Wicker Arches.**

On Saturday, 3rd March, the "Green Arrow" will complete a full-day tour from London, passing through the former Victoria Station and over the Wicker Arches.

After leaving King's Cross, the train will head up through the Midlands and come into Sheffield via Retford. At Woodbourn junction, it will split off onto the historic line to Manchester, which takes it over the Wicker Arches at about 4.30pm.

Victoria Station was once Sheffield's main passenger station -before the newer Midland

main line was built – and what is now the Royal Victoria Holiday Inn was the massive hotel needed to service it. Straight over the Wicker Arches was Bridgehouses Station (now a building site for the new ring road) – this station was a massive complex for bringing goods into Sheffield.

The train will only go as far as Deepcar, and then a Diesel engine will take over for the return to London.

We hope someone will be able to capture this event for the next *Messenger*, so get your cameras out.

by Douglas Johnson

# Picture Perfect

**The photography of Burngreave resident Kamida Khan will feature in an exhibition showcasing some of the best creative and cultural businesses and talent from Sheffield's black and minority ethnic community.**

Kamida told us she first took an interest in photography about three years ago. "I carried out a short neighbourhood photography course, including dark room printing and digital imaging and then through Creative Burngreave I was mentored by professional photographer Richard Hanson who gave me support and encouragement to turn my passion into a career."

Kamida described the rewarding nature of her work, saying, "Photography is an art for me; it gives me both pleasure and satisfaction to produce the perfect picture."

Kamida has been building a portfolio of Asian bridal shots and taking images for Illusionz Hair and Beauty under the title Khoobsurat Photography. Feedback has been very positive and her work has been advertised in Asian Bridal magazine, the Messenger and the front cover of the Colour of Health magazine.

She has recently completed an OCN level 3 in photography at Norton College in Sheffield and based on her current success hopes to study for a degree later this year.

*For more information about Khoobsurat Photography or to discuss a commission call Kamida on 07790 423 952 or email [khoobsurat-photography@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:khoobsurat-photography@hotmail.co.uk)*

*Khoobsurat  
photography*



Kamida Khan's photographs can be seen alongside the work of two other Burngreave residents, furniture designer Ronnie Lewin and artists Panni Poh Yoke Loh.

The exhibition is being shown at The Workstation on Paternoster Row, near the Showroom Cinema and runs until the 7th February.

Admission is free and the opening times are:  
Monday – Friday, 9am – 7pm.

For more information telephone Fiona Oliver on (0114) 275 2622

# Burngreave graduates 2006

## Nahid Aziz

Nahid now has a BA Hons in Social Work with Diploma, but it's easier said than done when you have a small child and a baby on the way.

"I went to Sheffield Hallam when my daughter was a year and a half. It was a full time course and I was working part-time as well. It wasn't easy, but I had lots of support from my husband – I really couldn't have done it without him."



During the final stages of the course Nahid became pregnant with her son, but essays, exams and a dissertation still had to be done.

"Sometimes I thought I wouldn't be able to carry on, but I did and it's worth it. Social Work is a really good degree; most graduates get a job straight away because of the placement you have to do. They offered me a job even before I had my results, and now I'm working in Mental Health Services."

Nahid's son was born on Christmas day and is doing well. Congratulations to Nahid and her family.

by Lisa Swift

## Arafat Al-Shawesh

Arafat was born and raised in Yemen but has lived in Burngreave for the past 4 years. He is married with 2 children and thoroughly enjoys living in Burngreave. He recently completed his MBA in Business & Administration from the University of Derby.



He decided to complete his Masters as he thoroughly enjoyed studying his undergraduate degree, also in Business and Administration, which he completed in Yemen. However, it was not easy to complete a graduate course for someone coming from abroad. Arafat said: "Although Business is my favourite subject, the course was difficult, but I persevered and took it as a challenge"

Arafat currently works as a Project worker for the 'Streetworx Project', an organisation that plans events and develops strategies for young people.

He also runs his own businesses – importing perfumes, clothing and other accessories from Yemen and recently opened an internet café in Page Hall.

When asked if he would recommend academic study to others, he replied:

**"Absolutely – because knowledge is power and wealth"**

by Naheem Hanif

## Grace Love

Grace has lived in Burngreave for 10 years with her husband and three young children. After many years working in the health service as a nurse, she felt it was time to give herself a new challenge, the result: an honours degree (B Med Sci) from Sheffield University in Clinical Practice.



Grace says, "I was practising as a nurse and I wanted to improve my knowledge base and so improve my quality of care for patients. But I also wanted to be a role model for my children and show them the value of University education."

Grace has three children, aged 11, 9 and 7. Holding down a full-time job made it a struggle to balance work and home life, with degree-level studies on top. "The dissertation was really hard," she adds.

It was hard work over the years of study but Grace is now proud to say she's got a degree. "It's made me see things from a different viewpoint now. I've become more resourceful."

After 20 years work in the NHS, Grace now feels there is more to life than just work and can face the future with a broader outlook on life.

by Douglas Johnson

Sheffield's two Universities provide a range of access courses and other programmes for adults and school-age pupils.

For more information, ring Julie at Sheffield University on 222 1249 or for guidance relating to opportunities at Sheffield Hallam University, ring 225 3813.

## Suzanne Hutt

Suzanne graduated this year with a BSc (Hons) Degree in Occupational Therapy from the Sheffield Hallam University.



She left school in Doncaster with two 'O' levels and then spent several years working as a plasterer in Sheffield and bringing up her son Tom. When she returned to education it was both to challenge herself and to satisfy her thirst for knowledge. She was inspired to start a course by her sister, who had recently graduated and her son who encouraged her to take on her reservations about education and give it a try.

In 2000, Suzanne then aged 36, enrolled on a Science Access course at Castle College. She went on to win an Adult Learners Award and successfully applied to study for a degree in Occupational Therapy at Sheffield Hallam University.

Suzanne said her degree was a very challenging experience, particularly the personal development and discipline that was required to complete the academic study. She also learnt, in her final year, that she had mild dyslexia, which made many aspects of the course very demanding.

"I liken the work to training for a marathon; you have to build up your strength and stamina in order to prepare for the race. You have to work in the same way with your mind" she said.

Suzanne is now using her newly acquired skills and some old ones in teaching work at South Yorkshire Women's Development Trust, based in Burngreave, and at Dearne Valley College as a lecturer in plastering and tiling.

When asked if she would recommend doing a degree Suzanne said, "Yes, it's exhilarating achieving a goal that you have worked hard to reach in a subject that matters to you."

Suzanne's son Tom has just begun a one year job contract and training placement, as a classroom assistant at Whiteways Junior School in Burngreave.

He hopes to progress into further teaching or youth work.

by Rohan Francis



## Yasmin & Sajid Razaq

My brother, Sajid Razaq and I, were the last of five children in our family to graduate. My parents are very proud. Even though we have lived in Fir Vale and went to Owler Brook Nursery Infant School, Whiteways Junior School and Earl Marshal School (now Firvale) we still worked hard, were encouraged by our parents and achieved our ambitions with great honour.

Sajid spent a lot longer at university studying Pharmacy, then went on to do a Masters degree in Pharmacy at De Montfort University in Leicester.

I graduated from Sheffield Hallam University with a BA (Hons) in Early Years Education with QTS, at present I am supply teaching across schools in Sheffield and in January I intend to teach at Beck Primary School. Teaching is something



I always aspired to, knowing that I will make a difference to children's lives and be a positive role model.

I won't hesitate to say that studying at University was hard work and even though I didn't find a job straight away, studying at University and becoming a teacher was the best decision I made in my entire life, no regrets at all.

Work hard and stay focussed and you too will achieve your goals!

by Yasmin Razaq

# End of Year Party



Children at Pye Bank School enjoyed a wonderful end of year party, thanks to the hard work of parents and staff. Children's entertainer, "Sparky Marky" did a wonderful job entertaining the children with magic shows; balloon animals and party games galore. The behaviour of

all the children was brilliant and they were all treated to a goodie bag at the end.

The idea for the party originally came from parents Lisa Horsfield, Amanda Payne, Deborah Allison and Paulette Lewis, who got the support of headteacher, Rita Storr and then secured a BNDFC small grant to fund food, crèche and the entertainer. Letters sent to parents resulted in 130 children booked to attend and 50 parents volunteering to provide food or help supervise on the day.

A big thank you to Lisa, Debbie, Amanda and Paulette for all your hard work and all those parents who contributed food and help on the day!

by Derek Moxam



# Somali learners celebrate

The Association of Sheffield Community Language Schools (ASCLS), recently welcomed Maria Yusuf Bostock, the author of a new Somali language learning book, to meet young language learners from Burngreave's Somali Language School.

The event took place at Verdon Street Recreation Centre where Maria was greeted by over 60 local children, their parents and tutors, as well as members of the community who had assisted her over the years. Each young learner was eager to receive their own signed copy of the book that will help them enjoy their learning.

A language cassette accompanies the book and this was developed with the help of the author's son, Marcus, who recorded Sheffield children speaking.

The Somali curriculum pack is proving popular within mainstream schools such as Fir Vale School, Hindle House School, Silverdale School and two local primary schools, as well as within community-based classes.



ASCLS would like to thank members of the Somali community, children and adults, for helping with the production of the book and language tape.

Burngreave's Somali Language School is run by Somali Education Breakthrough and is based at 190 Verdon Street. Sessions are held on Saturday mornings. To find out more please, telephone 275 9010.

by Jane O'Brien

# Verdon Street ice rink

**A Portable Ice Rink with Snow Machine and DJ was organised in December to reward children and young people from across Burngreave and Fir Vale for positive activities and for good behaviour throughout the year.**

The event was organised jointly between Activity Sheffield projects. Michala Spacey, Burngreave Sports Development Project co-ordinator, said, "The event went fantastically and all the children loved it. Everyone was so well behaved for the whole day."

Aislinn Adams from Verdon Junior Club said, "All the children really enjoyed it. It was so much fun." Garfield Walters from Pye Bank Primary School said, "We hope it will encourage them to continue their positive behaviour".



*"I enjoyed it. It was the best thing in my life."*

Luqman – Firshill School.

*"I enjoyed it because I learned how to ice skate."*

Shareen – Pye Bank School.

*"I enjoyed it. Now I can do loads of tricks. This was my first time ice skating."*

Whiteways Pupil

*"I enjoyed the ice rink because it was fun and I fell over 5 times; it was funny."*

St Catherine's Pupil.

*"I like it because it is safe."*

Pye Bank School Pupil.

# End of an era for Ellesmere Youth Project

**Ellesmere Youth Project, which has been providing quality youth work in the Carwood and Ellesmere area for 10 years, have announced that, due to lack of funding, they are having to make their senior youth worker redundant.**

Lorraine Blake started working with the Project as a volunteer and has been employed for the last 5 years. Her work with young people has provided them with a trusted adult they can relate to. She has also had a major role in developing the young people's dance and singing skills, which have been showcased at events such as Abbeyfield Park Festival; Sheffield Black History Month and Martin Luther King Day Celebrations.

The Project's funding through Church Urban Fund and New Deal has come to an end and a bid to the Lottery Young People's Fund was unsuccessful. Project Co-ordinator Jenny Tibbles said: "We are committed to providing long-term, quality work with young people in the area, but many funders will fund for 3 years at the most; meaning that we are constantly having to apply for funding, at the same time as developing work with young people."

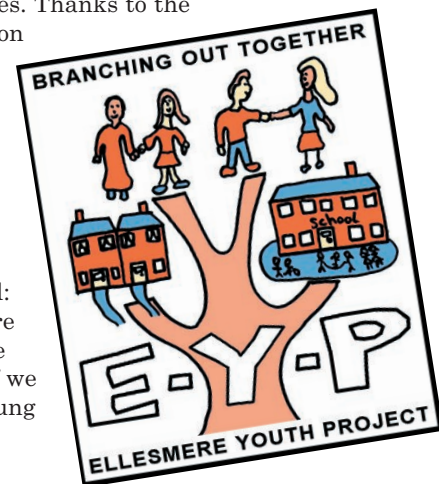
Ellesmere Youth Project started in 1997 from St Peter's Church in Ellesmere, sending youth workers onto the streets and building relationships with young people not involved

with existing youth activities. Thanks to the commitment, faith and vision of local people, the project grew from being volunteer run to becoming a registered charity and employing local people as youth workers and co-ordinator.

Chris Bristow, trustee, said: "Yet again, young people are the ones who suffer. We are creating a shallow future if we are not able to invest in young people."

All involved with Ellesmere Youth Project would like to thank Lorraine for all her hard work and commitment over the years. We wish her every success for the future.

Ellesmere Youth Project has funding until the end of the summer 2007 and is waiting for the outcome of three funding bids. Anyone interested in helping as a volunteer youth worker; with funding or management, please contact Jenny on 243 5854 or 07886 777 068.



# The Rise of the Crescent

Burngreave author, Mohamed Younis, has just published a second book, "The Rise of the Crescent". Publishers Book-Surge, a branch of Amazon, state:

*"This is a provocative study from Muslim sociologist Mohamed Younis, which investigates the history and the future of this powerful religious culture. In The Rise of the Crescent, Younis puts the Muslim world into the context of politics, religion, psychology, philosophy and poetry, providing a comprehensive look at a way of life that is often mysterious and sometimes threatening to the non-Muslim world."*

For more information, contact the author at younis46@hotmail.com. The Rise of the Crescent is available for sale online at Amazon.com, Borders.com, and through additional wholesale and retail channels worldwide.

# Matloub's travels

**Travellers; sponsorship and support are required for a trip along the route of the Silk Road, retracing the steps of 14th century Islamic journalist, Ibn Battuta.**

This trip of life-time plans to reach China overland via North Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia. The return journey may include a small Hajj-Umra pilgrimage in Mecca/Medina.

Ibn Battuta, was born in Tangier, Morocco in 1304, and completed studies in Law before setting out on his first, and most important journey in 1325. He went for the Hajj, to Makkah, stopping over in North Africa, Egypt, Palestine and Syria. After Hajj, he toured Iraq and Persia then took a sea voyage to what is now Tanzania.

In the early 1330s, Ibn Battuta set out for India via Constantinople (Istanbul); then Transoxania and Khurasan, in what are now Iran and Afghanistan, finally arriving at the banks of the river Indus. He then became a judge in the court of the Sultan of Delhi and later

led an Indian diplomatic mission to the court of the Mongol Emperor of China.

In early 1356 the ruler of Morocco, commissioned a record of Ibn Battuta's travels in the form of a rihla or book of travels. The rihla provided sensitive and sympathetic reporting of the peoples Ibn Battuta came across and entertained thousands. A more recent account, "Travels of Ibn Battuta" by H. A. Gibb, is also worth reading

The trip is planned for summer of 2008. We need commercial sponsorship and 6-9 travellers covering skills such as vehicle maintenance, photojournalism and medical skills. For more information, phone 07974 246 042.



Ibn Battuta

by Matloub Husyan-Ali-Khan

## SHEBEEN

is seeking to appoint a...



**Co-ordinator  
£24,292 •**

Full time post but part time considered •  
8% pension contribution •

**SHEBEEN** (Sheffield Black & Ethnic Minority Environmental Network) promotes BME engagement in environmental activity in and beyond Sheffield. With 2 years funds in place, a new office base and excellent partnerships locally and nationally we are seeking to appoint someone with vision, management, fundraising and community development skills to lead the project into a new phase.

- Are you committed to increasing the diversity of the UK's environmental sector?
- Do you combine vision and drive with a willingness to roll up your sleeves and get stuck in?

**Closing date: 19th Feb 2007**

Application packs available from SHEBEEN

Email: james@shebeen.org.uk  
Telephone: (0114) 272 2030



LOTTERY FUNDED

## Mystery Shopper Opportunities in Burngreave



**Mystery shopping is about using residents to assess and report back on their experiences of using services and organisations. This empowers residents to work hand in hand with those providing or managing the services to deliver the best possible services.**

BNDfC want to train residents to be mystery shoppers to ensure local people are receiving a high quality service from those services and organisations currently being funded by New Deal.

**If you live in the New Deal area and are over 16 years of age, you can be involved.**

**Mystery shopping is a great way to develop new skills and you will be helping to improve the services for everyone in the Burngreave area.**

It will also give you the opportunity to meet other local people wanting to do the same. After the first 8 training sessions you will receive **£20 per session** for the next 8 sessions.

We can also help you with child care and can meet other costs, such as bus fares.

### Further information

Please contact: Farid Abdulla on: 07917 014 313, or email faridabdulla@bndfc.co.uk or Anab Awil on (0114) 292 0464.



# Ella road



**This small area on Ella Road is the last remaining of three local playgrounds constructed in the '70's, when new housing was built in the vicinity. The other two are long gone and the rusting remains of the play equipment at Ella Road was removed years ago.**

After years of complaints, from children and adults alike, Green City Action (GCA) have taken on the task of making the playground usable again. The cobbled hump has been removed and part of the area is now asphalted and is heavily used by local youngsters for football. The rest is now cordoned off and awaiting renovation by GCA.

On Saturday the 13th January a number of adults and children attended the latest of a series of consultation events at the playground itself and filled in questionnaires or drew pictures of what they would like to see in the future.

## Some suggestions:

- A communal Zen garden with a gravel play area and raised flower beds.
- Priority for children and young people.
- Comfortable seating.
- Willow tunnels and bushes to hide in.
- Brick walls painted with scenery by potential young users.

A neighbour across the road, felt that it would be preferable for area to be totally asphalted for general play rather than planted up, as existing rose and shrub beds nearby are vandalized and not being maintained very well, almost non-productive.

Green City Action's Rob Bullock, said that it would be essential for local residents to maintain the playground once it had been refurbished as their project funding was time limited and there would be no paid staff to look after the playground in future.

Playground equipment is being researched by GCA currently, though at present funding to provide it would have to be sought by residents, if required. (starting price for a climbing frame around £10,000!)

by Saleema Imam



# Green City Action

*Do you want to improve and care for the green spaces in the Burngreave New Deal area?*

*Can you work together in partnership with others to deliver high quality green spaces?*

*Will you accept a challenge to deliver high quality green spaces for the benefit of our community?*

If you just answered yes to these three questions and really fancy a hands on job, then why not apply to become a Green City Steward.

£14,000 per annum + 5% pension contribution, 37 hours per week.

**Deadline:  
12 noon, Wednesday 28th February**

Send off for an application pack to:

Green City Action,  
Abbeyfield Park House,  
Sheffield S4 7AT.

Telephone 244 0353, or e-mail  
enquiries@greencityaction.org.uk

## Elderly Residents Gardening Service

We are pleased to announce the launch of our elderly residents gardening service. Starting in March we will be allocating some of our Green City Stewards time to helping elderly people look after their gardens. If you are over 65 years old and in need of some assistance managing your garden then contact us on 2440353, we guarantee to respond to your call within 7 working days.

For the rest of the residents in the BNDfC area we have a free gardening advice and consultancy service. So if you currently possess a jungle or wasteland that you would like to transform, you too can ring 2440353 and we will respond within 7 working days. We may not get to everybody at once so please be patient, we will come out and see you all

Deliver it **green...**

## BNDfC public meeting

**Saturday 10th February**

**Come along and find out about progress being made and help shape services and projects that are being delivered in Burngreave.**

Verdon Street Recreation Centre, 11:00am–1:30pm

Refreshments will be served.

## Small Grants Administrator

- 37 hours per week
- Salary range £13,714 – £15,707

Applications from residents of the Burngreave area are particularly welcome for this post.

BNDfC need a Small Grants Administrator to provide day to day support to our Burngreave Small Grants Project. Duties will include producing letters and reports on a computer, meeting and greeting visitors, and general office duties as required.

*If you:*

- Have experience of working in an office environment, using Microsoft Office to produce letters, spreadsheets and databases
- Have excellent communication skills both in person and on the telephone
- Can work as part of a team as well as being able to work with minimum supervision

*we would like to hear from you.*

For further information and an application pack please contact Roy Sinclair at BNDfC on 0114 279 6937.

Closing date for application:  
12.00 Noon, Friday 23rd February 2007

Interviews to be held on  
Friday 9th March 2007

## Information Shop: *Drop-in sessions*

### Health Information

**Every Monday 11am–2pm**

Come and join the healthy eating sessions; find out about the regular health walks or just pick up an information leaflet (available in many community languages). You will also be able to discuss your health concerns and needs with Community Development & Health Workers Fatima Musa and Norah Brown

Fatima and Norah will be able to support your group in organising your own health events.

The sessions are friendly, informal and fun. Come along and have a chat.

For more information contact: Norah Brown, Community Development and Health Worker. Ivy Lodge Clinic, 234 Rutland Road, Sheffield S3. Tel: 0114 2716978 or 07970287390

### Modern Apprenticeships for All

**Every Tuesday 1pm–3pm**

Apprenticeships for All provides employment and training opportunities to residents of Burngreave, aged 16 – 60, who are looking for work. We have a wide range of Apprenticeship employment opportunities, covering many different areas of work (e.g. administration & IT, construction, catering, printing, plus many more).

The Apprenticeship programme includes work experience or an employment opportunity, and the option to study towards a vocational qualification. All employment opportunities and training will be directly relevant to the Apprentice's chosen area of work.

Contact details: M. Jhangir Ali (Project Co-ordinator) Spartan House, 20 Carlisle Street, Sheffield S4 7LJ. Telephone: 0114 272 2743 Fax: 0114 272 2745. Email: burngreavea4a@hotmail.co.uk

Opening Times:  
9am–5pm, Monday to Friday

### Small Grants Fund

**Every Wednesday 2:00pm–4:00pm**

If you have an idea for an activity or event that will benefit the local community call in

to discuss your idea with Chris Dignam, Small Grants Co-ordinator. No appointment necessary. Grants of up to £5,000 are available, although larger projects may be considered.

For an informal discussion call Chris on 292 0460

### Emotional Health and Wellbeing

**Every Wednesday 2:30pm–4:00pm**

The emotional wellbeing outreach service is a confidential service for Yemeni men and Pakistani women living in Burngreave. If you fall in to either of those groups and sometimes suffer from low moods; are scared or confused; have difficulty sleeping or eating and feel unable to cope with day to day life call in on Wednesday afternoon for a chat.

Contact details: North day Service, 259 Pitsmoor Road, Sheffield S3 9AQ. Telephone: 0114 226 2669

### Burngreave Literacy Campaign

**Every Thursday & Friday 2.00pm until 4.00pm**

Learners from the campaign on hand to supporting residents to improve literacy and recruiting and supporting adults to participate in learning, while undertaking training to improve their own skills and increase their long term employment prospects.

Contact details: Forum House, 35 Spital Hill, Sheffield, S4 7LD

Tel: 0114 279 4960  
Email: info@burngreavelearning.org  
Website: <http://learning.burngreave.net/>

### Burngreave Advocacy Now

**Every Friday 2.30pm–4.00pm**

Burngreave Advocacy Now is a free, independent, generic, culturally appropriate community advocacy, whether that is help reading letters or someone to go with you to appointments.

For more information you can contact Fouzia Ali at:  
Floor 3, SADACCA, 48 Wicker, Sheffield, S3 8JB.  
Telephone 0114 275 0249  
Email: admin@advocacynow.org.uk

# A New Deal for Burngreave



## BNDfC enters Year 7 of programme

**It is hard to believe that Burngreave New Deal for Communities (BNDfC) was established 6 years ago in April 2001, following the award of £52m over 10 years, 2001-2011, by the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit, a Department of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.**

The change in the area in those six years has been dramatic, the community has become more diverse as Burngreave has embraced new arrivals from Africa, Iraq, Eastern Europe and other parts of the world.

Services in the area have improved and become responsive to local needs resulting in crime levels in Burngreave dropping below the rest of the city; the number of children in the area leaving school with better qualifications increasing year on year; and the quality and cleanliness of open space in Burngreave at an all time high.

### Major Works

Major works have been undertaken, which has meant some inconvenience, but has resulted in the development of new housing and significant improvement to roads and buildings in the area. As we move into Year 7 of the Burngreave New Deal for Communities programme we will see the benefits of the improvements to the road system in and around Spital Hill and the transformation of Sorby House and Vestry Hall being completed in late summer 2007.

However this will also signal the beginning of further developments in the area as plans to redevelop Ellesmere Green and the street scene on Spital Hill, along with the introduction of a new supermarket, are unveiled.

People across Sheffield, South Yorkshire and nationally have recognised that Burngreave is delivering its vision; a place where people want to live and work. Lessons learnt here are being implemented in other areas.

### Quality of life

More importantly, people who live in Burngreave have recognised that things have changed. In a recent survey 91% of people who live in the area said Burngreave is a friendly place to live; 82% of people feel they have a good quality of life; 65% of people think Burngreave New Deal for Communities has made a difference and 33% of people feel they can influence what happens in the area.

In a place like Burngreave, which has suffered from a lack of investment for over a generation, there is always more to be done. In 2007 we will see continued investment in our young people, in services that keep people safe, in making our neighbourhoods cleaner and greener, in improving the quality of housing in the area and in ensuring good quality learning and employment opportunities are available for local people.

The Burngreave New Deal for Communities programme has a Partnership Board who is responsible for ensuring these priorities are delivered and in 2007 five of the resident places on the Partnership Board will be filled through local elections.

This is an opportunity for local people to become involved in shaping the future of Burngreave. There are still many challenges to be faced and many opportunities to be seized, not least the development of a succession strategy for the area that builds on and sustains the legacy of the New Deal for Communities programme.

We are all a part of that future...

**John Clark,**  
Chief Executive



### Diary Dates

#### Residents Forum events

**Physical Environment & Safety**  
Thursday 22nd February  
Stall at the Women's Information Centre.

Call Val Wragg, BNDfC administrator on 279 6934 for further details

#### Children & Young People

Thursday 22nd February  
All saints Youth Club  
6.00pm–7.30pm

Subject for discussion is Youth provision in Burngreave.

### BNDfC Board Meeting

**Wednesday 28th March**

Pitsmoor Methodist Church  
5.30pm–8.30pm.

Partnership Board meetings are business meetings held in public so that business items are discussed in an open forum.

If you wish to attend a Residents Forum event or Partnership Board meeting check the BNDfC website to confirm venue and time, or call us on 279 6932.

### Grants Bonanza

**Do you need money to help your new business or community project?**

We have up to £25,000 available, come and talk to us.

The next grants bonanza event will be on February 15th 4–7pm at Forum House on Spital Hill.

Look out for details of other events on 17th May, 11th September and 15th November.

**If you have any comments please write or telephone:**

**Alison Reid**  
Communication Manager

BNDfC, 1st Floor,  
Speedicut Works,  
Harleston Street,  
Sheffield S4 7QB.

[alisonreid@bndfc.co.uk](mailto:alisonreid@bndfc.co.uk)  
(0114) 279 6932



contact: 276 9134

# Burngreave Area Panel

## “...that little bit extra”

Many of the 200 people who packed the Town Hall reception rooms for the fourth Annual Burngreave New Years honours event felt it was the best ever, with a wealth of talent and commitment represented by the nominees for 2007.

This year the emphasis was on youth with nominees including Burngreave Young People’s Group; the 186th Rainbows, Brownies and Guides; school administrator Jackie, from Whiteways; special needs teacher Christine, from Firshill Primary and Abtisam, Diane and Amin who all work with young people from their base at the Fir Vale Centre.

A special mention should be made for ‘volunteers’. **Winnie Bentley** is still a ‘Christchurch’ girl and the inspiration and force behind the successful campaign to get the bowling green re-laid in Abbeyfield Park. Winnie says “Pitsmoor’s on the up – and there’s nowhere else to live for me”.



1970s. Six years ago, Carwood had become run down but Gwen developed her confidence through involvement in the opportunities New Deal provided such as bulb planting and tenants association activity.



**Rob Smith** needs no introduction to Messenger readers, but the Panel wanted to honour his contribution over the last seven years as a writer and reporter. Rob hasn’t always agreed with everything the Council has done in Burngreave; and Council staff have occasionally been frustrated with his take on things. But undeniably, Rob has brought to public attention people and issues that no one else seemed bothered about. Let’s hope Rob returns to a paid role soon.

**Halwo Hassan** lived in Bolton, Lancashire and Buroa, Northern Somalia, before she lived on Catherine Road. Since 1999 when her eldest enrolled at Parkwood High, then Herries School, Halwo has been helping combat racism, resolve conflict and make sure the school is a ‘Burngreave community school’. Halwo was nominated by the school, where she is a governor, and the Somali study support project where she is a regular volunteer.



**Gwen Askham-Clark** moved to Carwood estate from a tiny house on Rushby Street with no bath and no hot water in the



The full list of the Area Panel New Year’s Honours awards go to:

- Inderjit Bhogal**  
Inter-faith collaboration

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- Grace Vincent**  
New Roots café / Burngreave Ashram

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- Gwen Askham-Clark**  
Carwood estate

---

- Halwo Hassan**  
Somali parents and Parkwood School

---

- Winifred Bentley**  
Abbeyfield Park bowling green

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- Gladys Newbolt**  
Wensley estate

---

- Tony Hall**  
New Deal partnership board

---

- Burngreave Young People’s Group**  
186th Rainbows; Brownies; Guides

---

- Friends of Osgathorpe Park**

---

- Basharat Hussain**  
Kashmir Curry House

---

- Tim Shortland**  
Burngreave Forester

---

- Christine Grainger**  
Firshill School

---

- Jackie Edley**  
Whiteways School

---

- Abtisam Mohammed**  
Yemeni women

---

- Diane Haimeed**  
Burngreave Study Support

---

- Amin Kassim**  
Somali/Yemeni young people

### Free fridge removal service

Veolia (ex-Onyx) provides a free fridge/freezer disposal service. Ring 273 4567 and choose option one. Give your name and address. Place the fridge/freezer on your property – but where they can get to it. Take out glass shelf and tape up the door.

## 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.

- 10th February: Steve Jones, 11am–12 noon Burngreave Library and 12.15–1.00pm: Firshill TARA
- 24th February: Ibrar Hussain, 11am–12 noon Burngreave Library
- 10th March: Ibrar Hussain, 11am–12 noon Burngreave Library and 12.15–1.00pm: Firshill TARA
- 24th March: Steve Jones, 11am–12 noon Burngreave Library

## Next Area Panel Meeting

Thursday 22nd February at 6pm in Burngreave Library (main lending room). Items to include – a retail development by Spital Hill; proposed designs for Ellesmere Green; and what’s happening at Burngreave Library... A big focus on Spital Hill!

# Big names at the King Mojo Club

**Did you know that Burngreave has seen its share of stardom perform at the King Mojo Club back in the 60's? For just three years, from 1964 to 1967 the club on Pitsmoor Road became a thriving scene of modern music and a place where an amazing array of famous names performed.**

Many Burngreave locals know the story of how Peter Stringfellow, London night club owner, started his career in this neighbourhood. To find out more about the club and hear about the bands that played there, I went to meet Ted and Leroy Walcott and Joseph Brown at a house on Burngreave Road. Joseph started off:

**"We were just teenagers at a time when teenagers were first discovering their freedom! And we loved music so we started going to the club every week, from the day it opened to the day it closed. It was just up the road and it was quite something! People used to come from all over – Lincoln, even London! And everyone came for the music. There was just a coffee bar – no alcohol sold there. When it started it cost two shillings and sixpence to get in! The décor wasn't much – all black paint inside but the music was fantastic!"**

The club was based in an ordinary house that had formerly been Dey's School of Dancing. The ballroom had a sprung floor ("Great for the twist!" said Leroy, "as it was covered in that slippery white stuff dancers put on their shoes!") When asked what bands they had seen there, all three reeled off a list of names that blows the mind: Ike and Tina Turner, Stevie Wonder, The Who ("They were a loud lot!"), Rod Stewart, Jimmy Cliff, Elton John, Joe Cocker, John Mayall's Blues Breakers, Geno Washington, Jimi Hendrix...and so many more. In fact it was forty years ago this January that Jimi Hendrix played in the Mojo!



*The King Mojo club, a thriving scene of modern music from 1964 to 1967 on Pitsmoor Road.*

*It once stood opposite Firshill Close but was demolished in the '80s.*



*The Pitiful Souls, back in 1966, one of many groups who played the King Mojo club.*

A lot of the British bands were up and coming at the time, not yet famous," said Ted, "although there were famous names too, mostly the American bands that were already established. That place really took off as a club!"

"And it was the start of our musical career too," said Leroy. "We had just formed a band in '66 called The Pitiful Souls and asked Pete if we could practice at the Mojo. He agreed and one day, when we still only knew six songs, he heard us and said, "Right, you're on for an all nighter!" That set us off on a musical career that took us touring in Europe, the Middle East and Japan. We did that for fifteen years and two of our

band members settled in Japan, marrying there."

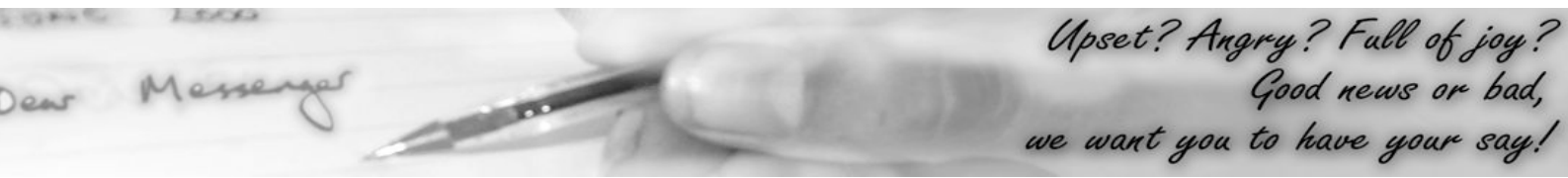
For the Mojo, however, the end was in sight. Complaints from neighbours of noise and drug taking resulted in the club being closed down in 1967. Peter Stringfellow and his brother Geoff started up a new club in the city centre but it lacked the atmosphere of the Mojo and so they moved on to Leeds and then London. The house became a bingo club and was finally demolished in the 80's, its place now occupied by a block of modern housing. But the memory still lives on of how the Mojo brought excitement to the music scene of Pitsmoor and the whole of Sheffield. It's hard to imagine some of the really great names in the music world playing here...but they really did!

A big thank you to Ted, Leroy and Joseph for talking to me about the Mojo Club!

**by Nikky Wilson.**

*If you want to read more about the Mojo and the bands that played there, try 'Memories of Sheffield's King Mojo Club' by Dave Manvell and John Firminger: there's a copy in Burngreave Library.*

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



*Upset? Angry? Full of joy?  
Good news or bad,  
we want you to have your say!*

## Islam came to liberate and not to oppress!

Dear Messenger,

I am writing in response to issues raised by readers with regards to the veil in reply to my letter in the November issue.

One of the strongest points was that of Muslim women reversing the struggles of the Suffragettes. An element of ignorance of Islam is detected here. Muslim women cannot be accused of jeopardizing the rights of women. One of the main fundamental principles of Islam is and was to emancipate women from the oppression experienced by them in Pre-Islamic Arabia. Islam and our Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) came at a time when women were considered no more than chattel, where female infanticide was at its peak. However, it was Islam that gave women the right to LIVE, to own property, to inherit, to own businesses and express their views politically.

This was over 1400 years ago, around 600 A.D. If the Suffragettes fought in the late 1800's and early 1900's - what on earth would have been the state and position of women in 600 A.D.? Islam came to liberate and not to oppress. In short, Muslim women have been able to show their face 'metaphorically' for centuries, as for literally, that is a personal choice. It is a different matter that some cultures do not allow women to have that status, but that has nothing to do with Islam, as the proverb goes: 'judge a religion by its book not by its people!'

Another argument was that in European culture, people cover their faces to engage in illegal activity. I think it is quite easy to differentiate between a criminal violently donned in a balaclava and a woman dressed modestly in her Islamic dress - the former look giving out messages of aggression and brutality and the latter of peace and obedience.

I agree the heart is more important than what is on the outside, however, for the benefit of ourselves and for the rest of society, the clothing is a means of reflecting that light. Someone who has a very pious and pure nature yet dresses in a way that contradicts this will not be given the correct respect in the society. But modest dress gives out strong vibes enabling others to decipher a person's inner character.

No one should have to remove religious symbols in fear of offending others. I strongly opposed British Airways for dismissing a member of staff for wearing a cross. My message is 'Live and Let Live.' I think it is very considerate of Mr Youdan to announce

that he avoids eating in the presence of fasting Muslims. If we all began to show such respect for one another's religions and cultures there would be no need for this argument today.

We are living in an era where religion is slipping rapidly through our fingers like sand, taking with it ethics and morals and leaving behind an insipid secular society. Let us unite and hold on strongly to the grains of sand we have remaining in our hands.

As the reader 'AM' so rightly asks in her letter, if a woman was to remove the veil would she suddenly become accepted in mainstream society? Would her headscarf not become the next target? Let us not allow the politicians to dictate to us how we should dress. At this rate we will be left one day with no choice of wardrobe and we'll be dressed in uniform to please our higher authorities!!

Umm A'tika

## Messenger Abolishes Christmas!

Dear Editorial Collective

The December issue of the Burngreave Messenger, covering as it does the period of the Christmas and New Year festivals, is startling in its lack of any editorial mention whatever of either of these events, or of the sense of anticipation and excitement which leads up to them. New Year is of major cultural importance to all Scots, and Christmas is of major cultural and religious significance to very many people living in this borough, albeit we are not required to be Christian – though many are – or Scottish in order to eagerly anticipate and participate in these ancient festivals. The decision to "abolish" them is perverse.

It is not credible to believe that the total lack of coverage of these events, the complete failure to acknowledge their existence, is a mistake. This is a decision consciously made by the editorial collective or by an authority at the back of it. If the latter then we are entitled to ask how much editorial autonomy the collective has. How much responsibility does it owe to the community it addresses? Who is the piper playing this particular tune?

A Happy albeit belated New Year to all readers

D. Harrop

Ed: If you have information about Christmas or other events, please send it in and we will happily publish it.

## 'Ethnicity & Substance use'

Wednesday 21st March 2007, 10am – 4pm

A community conference to explore issues around ethnicity and substance misuse, harm reduction and family support.

**Workshops • Keynote speaker • Speeches  
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Venue: Verdon Street Recreation Centre,  
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## Would you like to take part in tree planting in Burngreave?



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**March 24th:** The Lord Mayor will plant a tree of heaven at Burngreave Rec. with the newly forming group the *Friends of Burngreave Recreation Ground.*

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Or contact Daniel Massey or Dennis Tester on 273 5134 or 273 4680  
Email: [prp@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:prp@sheffield.gov.uk)

Website: [www.sheffield.gov.uk/privaterentedproject](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/privaterentedproject) (Working with landlords in Burngreave, Pitsmoor, Fir Vale, Darnall, Attercliffe and Tinsley)

[www.sheffield.gov.uk/rls](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/rls) (Responsible Landlord Scheme)

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Stress Management Consultant, Certified Hypnotherapist.

Tel/Fax: 0114 273 0976 or Mobile: 0779 110 6885  
[stressolutions@aol.com](mailto:stressolutions@aol.com)

## Improve your health and your environment!

Get out into the fresh air and get active by taking part in gardening and nature conservation activities in Burngreave's parks and green spaces. Sessions last between two and four hours and are free. Women Only sessions are available.

By taking part in the BTCV Green Gym you can improve your health and fitness, reduce the risk of coronary heart disease, make new friends and feel more positive about life. You can also make a real difference to your local environment.

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## Burngreave Voices Our Stories Celebrated

Invite you to our website launch and a  
celebration of our achievements!

**Saturday 17th March**  
11.00am–4.00pm

**Verdon Street Recreation Centre**

We will be launching the Burngreave Voices website  
at this event. Exhibitions, drama, a showing of  
'The Corner Shop' video for Weston Park Museum  
and sound bites from the oral history project to listen  
to. Lunch and refreshments available during the day.  
Open to everyone – come and add a story to our  
website on the day!

For more information please contact Nikky Wilson  
on (0114) 276 1900, or call into Burngreave Library.

