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Burngreave Messenger



Issue 79 • December 2008 • Free to everyone in Burngreave

www.burngreavemessenger.org

Seasons Greetings

Voice of the Burngreave Community

Fir Vale's got talent

Story: Kalsoom Ilyas Quotes: Raqia Begum

On 18th October Fir Vale School hosted the Fir Vale Festival, which brought the whole community together. It drew out all the different talents we have in Fir Vale. It was organised by Green City Action and Fir Vale's School Council members: Kalsoom Ilyas, Kalim Ayub, Raveena Hussain, Sanna Ali, Tahleel Khan, Abid Hussain, Shahzadga Khan and Michael Hall.

The whole idea of this event was to get young people involved. A chance for them to see what happens behind the scenes. The team were excited to share their ideas to make this event successful. The response we got back from the community was huge – more than 300 people attended!

The festival included a competition called "Fir Vale got Talent" where 12 contestants were chosen after having two sessions of auditions, competing for the grand prize of £100. The atmosphere was phenomenal, it was exciting and emotions were running high.

"I feel so excited, yet I'm so nervous."
Kiran (performer)

"That was great, I felt so pressured at first, but then I heard the audience's response; it made me less nervous."
Sammy (performer)

It brought the community together, where young people played a big role. The huge amount of support we received on the day was great. The event was absolutely ecstatic, it was booming with all the music. We had many acts, from Bollywood dancing to break dancing. We also had singers and dancers, we had a circus act and some Slovakian music.

"The day was great, I had a lot of fun, the performances were brilliant, especially the Bollywood dancing."
(Student at Fir Vale School)



- 1st position**
Asad Ali - £100
- 2nd position**
Saneera Khalid - £50
- 3rd position**
Dina Khalid - £25

However, all the contestants received a prize. The event was supported by Burngreave Community Action Forum Guests: Dare devil – circus act, MC Nige

and acapella group from Africa. Umudmo Wesivwe. We hope we can get this festival running again with the support of the community next year and we will try to make it bigger and better.

Thanks to the judges: Elaine Virgo, Jenny Tibbles, Leroy Betts, Steve Gayle, Tahleel Khan, Shahzadga Khan.

Photos: Eshalan Hussain & Sherin I Rahn, Fir Vale School photography club

Burngreave Community Action Forum (BCAF)

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Or visit www.sheffield.gov.uk/private-tenants-project or www.sheffield.gov.uk/lets
Or email prp@sheffield.gov.uk

Dear one and all at Burngreave Messenger,

I am a member of a Friday knitting group that is held at New Roots Café 86 Spital Hill. We are a friendly informal group who gather from 1 to 3pm on a Friday to knit and natter.

We are on the lookout for a knitting pattern for a tortoise. As one of our members has just put her live one to bed for the winter, a cuddly one to love will be a nice substitute until spring comes around again. A pattern for one tortoise to make from cloth would do.

Any donations of wool and needles would also be gratefully accepted. The café is open from 12 - 3pm week days.

Thanks for a brilliant mag.

Look forward to hearing from you soon.

Carol R Kallerid

Why spend Christmas alone? Come and spend it with friends.

Free Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings at
Seventh Day Adventist Church, Andover Street
Thursday 25th December, 2pm.

Diverted traffic?

Following road works on Nottingham Street and Pilgrim Street workers left behind their traffic diversion signs.

Local resident Ivy Brown got so fed up with walking round the abandoned road signs that littered the paths near Christ Church that she called Streetforce... three times!

"They've been there for a month, but there's no work going on. They're just on the paths - bollards, sand bags and diversion signs. When are they going to shift them?" Said Ivy.

Despite a night time visit from the Streetforce team, some signs remained. Following a call from the Messenger a friendly member of the Streetforce team told us,

"I really thought it had all been sorted by our night team. Sorry about that, we'll get on to it this week. We're not sure who the signs belong to at the moment."

All the signs have now gone, thanks to Ivy's persistence.



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Dear Messenger...



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

Dear Burgrave Messenger,

The family of Kyle Dyson would like you to print this letter to say how proud they are of him.

Kyle attended Fir Vale Secondary School, where he was recognised as being gifted and talented. This year he achieved 13 A-Cs in his GCSE exams. As his mum I would like to congratulate Kyle for achieving such high grades, especially in Maths and English, where he got Bs. All his family would like to say he's done us proud.

We wish him every success in the plumbing trade, which he is now studying at Castle College.

Mandy Marshall

Dear Messenger,

Reading the article in the October edition of the Messenger about a day trip to Cleethorpes brought back very fond memories of such trips that I was young. In the late 1940s and early 1950s many trips were run by working mens' clubs all around Sheffield.

Pitsmoor Club was one of the trips I looked forward to as well as the Sheffield Transport Trip which used dozens of single decker Sheffield Transport buses to cart 100s of kids to Cleethorpes. We always referred to these buses as being "Charabancs". They used to set off from Pond Street and parked in a huge car park at the side of the Cleethorpes railway station on arrival. We had to remember the number of the bus we came on and be back at the car park by 5pm.

Spending money for the day was usually 5/- (50p) from parents and relatives, with 2/6d (25p) thrown in by the organisers along with a book of tickets which gave us free rides on the fun fair amusements. Wonderland, a small funfair, was the target on arrival. I think this has now gone and been replaced by a market. It would seem nothing has changed as far as the modern trip went. I could quite easily have been reading a report of one of our trips.

Gordon Lawton, Renmark South Australia

PS I have included a photo of a bunch of a sampling of children going to Cleethorpes with Sheffield Transport in August 1949. My sister and I are in the middle front row.



We welcome your letters but please include contact details as we cannot print anonymous letters. We also reserve the right to edit letters.

Dear Messenger,

As I read the words of Khadijah Ilyas, mother of Ibrahim, Messenger issue 78, my whole body filled with dread. Why? Because I have a son, the thought of losing him fills me with such sorrow, but the thought of losing him through gun or knife crime - well it doesn't bear thinking about, but think about it we must.

Soldiers... Martyrs!! Do these young people know what that really means? Oh of course they do because they know everything... they think, except the pain of losing a child. I say 'child' because no matter how old they are they will still be the child of their parents. This is a pain thank God I do not know, and I pray I never will.

My heart goes out to parents like Khadijah.

Tarek's father wrote that he was living in one world while Tarek was living in another with his friend, what friends, now will they feel they have to shoot or knife another parents child to get even!!

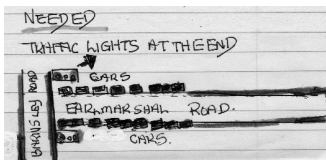
Where does it end?

As Khadijah said just walk away please, walk away from the drugs, walk away from the knife, walk away from the gun. Do not become the dead child of another mother or father.

Name and address supplied

Dear Messenger,

I cannot attend your meetings, but am always interested in the Burgrave Messenger and news and letters, so with your indulgence I write down a few issues for your review.



First, no more bollards - as many of us see it, they are not a safety measure but a hazard and they are continually getting knocked, e.g. Barnsley Road down into Fir Vale.

Traffic on Earl Marshall Road has yet another hazard due to cars on the yellow lines at the junction with Barnsley Rd. Not only that but if any ambulances, police cars or fire engines wanted to come down Earl Marshall Road they would be unable to do so.

Same applies to Whiteways, up to the school. This is a nightmare when cars race up the hill to get there before school turns out. You are left room for only one car to get through. This results in lines of traffic building up, the parents pick children up in their cars blocking the narrow entrance, resulting in being sat there for at least twenty minutes.

Back to all the narrowing of the roads and the hazards of all the small bumps - if we had a heavy fall of snow the bumps would not be seen, and could turn a car over.

This brings me to a logical answer: no bollards, but stop-caution lights are much safer in all respects. Lights at the Barnsley Road end of Earl Marshall Rd would be a boon to its residents and others.

That's all for now
Mrs SJ Reaney

Petition for a better Cemetery

Coupe Road resident, John Dugland presented over 400 signatures to Full Council in November, protesting about the poor maintenance of Burgrave Cemetery. As one of the first public cemeteries, its 27 acres are home to many important habitats. Addressing councillors, he said:

"The cemetery is at risk of being destroyed by so-called maintenance people who don't have the first idea of what they are doing.

"The valuable nesting areas provide cover for songbirds for whilst the holly bushes provide areas for blue butterflies - all these areas are at risk as many sites have been chopped and left, damaging valuable birds eggs during the summer months.

"Bereaved relatives have signed a petition to express worries regarding the state of grave areas; many have written to the council but had not a reply. I would like to appeal to the council to acknowledge that Burgrave cemetery is of historical importance and use it to the many young brave men who gave their lives in World War 1 and 2 who are buried there."

Northern General emergency traffic measures

Since the Northern General Hospital started charging its staff to park in September 2006, residents have complained about the parking chaos on their streets.

Now the Council plans to try new parking restrictions to help ease the problem for residents who have been plagued by blocked roads, driveways and limited access for emergency vehicles and deliveries for more than two years.

On 4th November the Council's scrutiny board heard that the hospital's planned multi-story car park could be two years away at the earliest, so they have recommended that an "Experimental Traffic regulation order" be put in place.

The proposals include double yellow lines and single yellow lines (no parking Mon-Sat 8am-6.30pm) and maximum waiting



John has asked the Council to arrange a meeting with the grave owners to discuss their concerns and what work is planned for the site. Following the petition, John received a letter from Martin Green, Senior Bereavement Services Manager:

"I admit there have been residual cuttings waiting to be chipped or shredded. These will be cleared as part of our programme of winter work. The ground-leveling project has been put on hold pending further discussions with the Probation Service on meeting the expectations of cemetery visitors. I believe we can arrive at the best solution for the Cemetery both as a historical burial ground and an important community resource."

A full response from Bereavement Services can be found on our website.

times for parts of the following roads:

Norwood Road, Drive and Place, Crabtree Road, Close, Crescent, Lane and Place, Goddard Hall Road, Hampton Road, Cannon Hall Road, Fir Vale Road, Coningsby Road, Hampton Road, Blyde Road, Herries Road, Longley Hall Road, Yearwood Grange Drive and Fairbank Road.

At the Area Panel meeting in November, resident Christine Black said, "They've now put yellow lines on the street. I'd just like to say thanks for what's been done. Now I can get to my home and we can get ambulances to the old people's home again." Other residents expressed concern that the changes would just move the problem to their street.

The Council will be talking to residents about the scheme before and after its done, to make sure the right restrictions are added and to get feedback on what effect it has had.

If you have comments, contact Brian Hey at Traffic Regulations on 273 6086, brian.hey@sheffield.gov.uk

The Editorial

We need volunteers to help run the Messenger. It's a crucial time for the newspaper, and if you'd like to help us keep it going we'd love to hear from you. To get involved contact the office on 242 0564.

Writing for the Messenger

Monday mornings: 8th, 15th January
December and 5th, 12th January.

The course is designed to give you the skills and confidence to be able to:

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Contact the Messenger to book a place on 242 0564.

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This month's team: Farhan Ahmed, Ian Clifford, Michelle Cook, Kirstin Daly, Rohan Francis, Caroline Harris, Douglas Johnson, Jamie Marriott, Lisa Swift.

Art-work at Nottingham Cliff

Story: Douglas Johnson

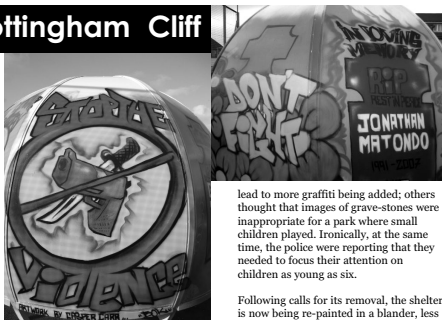
In twelve months since the shooting of Jonathan Matondo on Nottingham Rec, there have been community meetings, council meetings, extra police patrols, and a gang strategy. And everyone agreed something should be done in the Park.

Improvements to Nottingham Rec included a new shelter, paid for by the area panel and arranged by the Parks Department in conjunction with Green City Action, the Youth Council and young people in the area.

The Youth Views

Streetworkx and the Young Advisors engaged a number of young people's views and Casper Carr, a local artist and experienced youth worker, was commissioned to create their design. The Young Advisors said,

"The project's main focus was to brighten up the park and produce meaningful art on the subject of gun and knife crime. It was designed this way as we felt it would be a daily reminder to all young people of some of the consequences of our actions and that carrying guns and knives is not a playground game."



As the artist said, "The spray-can art project in Burngreave was the young people's thoughts on the past events and how they would like to remember their friends and family members who have passed away. The project has proved that there are some very intelligent young people in Burngreave who want to make a change for the greater good."

Wider Community Views

Sadly, that wasn't how it ended. It soon became the focus of criticism. Some people thought the style of the art would

lead to more graffiti being added; others thought that images of grave-stones were inappropriate for a park where small children played. Ironically, at the same time, the police were reporting that they needed to focus their attention on children as young as six.

Following calls for its removal, the shelter is now being re-painted in a bland, less controversial design.

Disappointment

It seems that, as soon as the authorities took the decision to give young people a voice, they didn't like what they heard. Youth Council members said, "This artwork was one example of how our voices could be heard, only for us to be told to shut up. This wasn't glamourisation; this was a cry for us to stay, look - we are putting our friends' names on memorials when we should be putting them on birthday and Christmas cards."



Muslim graves in Burngreave Cemetery

Story: Ian Clifford
Photos: Christine Steers

We may think that multicultural Burngreave is a fairly recent thing, but a collection of graves of Muslim people in Burngreave cemetery dating from 70 to 80 years ago shows how long Burngreave has been a mixed community.

Death certificates for these people, obtained by the Messenger, shows people working in the steel industry and living in very harsh conditions indeed. The four graves are in the circle near the Scott Road entrance of the cemetery.

Sultan Mohomed

Sultan Mohomed, died 16th July 1923, is described on his grave as an "Indian Mohammedan" where it also states "killed at work at Beighton Colliery". The death certificate gives the place of death as the Royal Infirmary and describes the cause of death as follows:

"Fracture of the skull accidentally sustained on the same date at Beighton Colliery in the township of Aston falling from a traction rope of an aerial tramway as he was moving along such rope by his hands for the purpose of releasing a car."

Souriya Khan

Perhaps saddest of all is the grave of Souriya Khan, who died 30th July 1929, aged 9 months, described as "beloved daughter of Ayaht and Hilda Khan". The death certificate describes the cause of

death as convulsions and tuberculosis meningitis, a serious infection of the brain caused by TB which was much more common at that time. A marriage certificate obtained by a member of the chapel group showed the mother's maiden name as Hilda Davies, indicating an early mixed marriage. Souriya's death certificate describes her father, her spell, Ayaht, as a steelworks labourer and states sadly: "H M Khan Mother Present at the death 98 Darnall Road, Sheffield".



Ali Amidulla

The grave of Ali Amidulla states that he died suddenly at the age of 37 on 12th March 1931. The death certificate obtained by the Messenger states the full name as Gasalie Amidulla of 7 Ravencrest Road, Manor with the occupation of Steel Works Boiler Fireman. The place of death is described as Brown Baylees Steel Works.

The cause of death is described as "Natural causes" related to atheroma, or swelling, of the artery walls. You wonder if some industrial chemical or fumes or just the strain of working physically very hard in extreme heat contributed to his collapse and death.

Muslims in Britain

The arrival in Britain of large numbers of Indian, Arab and Somali Muslims at the turn of the century was due to their role in the British merchant navy. From as early as 1750 they were recruited as what was known as "lascars" to do the toughest jobs on ships, as firman and stokers, shovelling coal into ships' engines. By 1855 there were perhaps 10,000 lascars on British merchant ships, mostly black and mostly Muslim, being from Aden, in what is now Yemen, and Somalia and India (including from the areas later to become part of Pakistan). By the start of the First World War, there were over 50,000 lascars, over 30,000 of which were classed as foreign.

Many of these lascars seamen were discharged from ships and stranded in Europe, others perhaps settled out of choice and communities of Muslims grew in British ports: Cardiff, Newport, Barry, Liverpool, Tyneside, London and Glasgow. These new communities found work in the ports, particularly during the First World War when demand for labour increased to replace British workers called up for military service.

First World War

With the end of the First World War, however, the situation changed dramatically. Disruption by the war and a wider economic slowdown led to a sharp decline in the older export industries. British sailors returned from the war and demanded their old jobs back, eventually leading to a series of laws excluding 'aliens' from various jobs.

Muslim workers would then have drifted away from port towns, inland, seeking new opportunities. It is known that Brown Baylees steel works in Sheffield, in particular, had a deliberate policy of targeting Yemeni and Indian workers for recruitment, where they were given some of the toughest jobs.

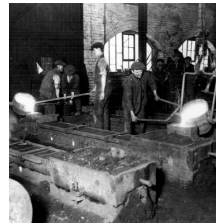


Photo: Copyright Local Studies Library

A voice for young people

Story Farhan Ahmed and Hasseena Hussain

The Youth Council Burngreave would like more young people to take the opportunity to join this month. The main purpose of this group is to represent other youths in the area for positive change.

Previous activities in the last two years have included

- A two day residential, which was a chance for Youth Councilors and youngsters from the community to interact and share ideas. With activities such as abseiling and rock climbing as well as drawing together an agenda for the Youth Council.
- One of our biggest achievements as Youth Councilors was saving the Pavilion youth centre from closure.
- Burngreave Youth Council also have the responsibility of helping with funding boards and expressing their views on vital decisions that may affect the local community.
- At the BCAF quarterly forum in May we organised and planned a protest to show the public how our views were not heard.

Contact us to have a chance to take part in the future changes in Burngreave for young people like you.

Join us!

Youth Council
Burngreave

Join Now!

ALL YOU NEED TO DO:

To join contact present YCB members by either:

- Call: 272 36 28.
- E-mail: realya@hotmail.co.uk.
- Letter: 204 Verdon Street, S9 3QS.

We will arrange a time to speak, face to face to give you an insight into our work, this should be enough for you to consider becoming a member.

YCB resumes: December 19th

advisors



Stopping the violence

It's over a year since Jonathan Matondo died at Nottingham Cliff; and less than six months since Tarek Chaiboub died in Spital Hill. It's no contradiction to insist that Burngreave has less crime than other parts of what is generally a safe city. But that is of little concern to those families who have lost sons or fathers, and parents who worry about their children, or young people who fret about their friends.

Since the Burngreave Bounces Back march in March of this year, local Council staff and others have been trying to make sure that there is a break to the violence, especially associated with gang culture. Some of these initiatives are in place; some are being set up. Some secure no extra money; some depend on getting wages, or equipment, or improving rooms and buildings. Young people and families should be able to access the following support, now and in the future.

Mentors

Sheffield Futures are working hard to create a group of skilled, sympathetic, committed adults who could act as 'mentors'. It has had astonishing results elsewhere. As have 'street pastors' who would do night-time patrols on the local streets - something that Seventh Day Adventist Church are trying to get set up.

Life changing projects

The Area Panel has set aside money to pay for two groups of youth to attend a five day LIFE course with the Fire Service. This hugely successful initiative - a five-day course for young people who have fallen foul of the law or are involved in antisocial behaviour, bullying or truancy - has already turned around the lives of many young people across South Yorkshire and won sponsorship

from several local agencies. And there's some money set aside for car building (if that's what's needed); and performance arts - available to all 19 and under in Burngreave.

Support to achieve in school

In Burngreave youth and careers workers are working very hard - particularly at a time when jobs and opportunities are getting less - to make sure that all those who leave school have a clear and constructive position either at college, in training or in a decent job. It is more likely that gang involvement will be an attraction for young people who are not obviously fixed up. Similarly, to avoid young people leaving school without realising your potential at GCSE, study support projects, secondary schools Inclusion staff and youth workers are working to make sure individual students get the maximum help in Y10 and Y11. Likewise, there's got to be opportunities for those young people who shine outside of the school setting - at music, at sport or at artistic endeavour - being recognised for their talent, which gives anyone's self-confidence a boost.

Dangers of guns and knives

We've also got to convince young people that guns lead to violence and possibly death. The police hold whole day sessions for Y9 students called 'Point 7' which bring boys and girls close up to replica and real guns, and the realities of life around guns. It can be a life-changing moment. The 'Targeted Youth Support Team' are all trained to deliver a training programme called 'Be Safe' which goes through all the implications of carrying weapons; why there is no such thing as a 'safe place to stay'; why carrying weapons might result in you being the victim of an attack.

Targeted youth support

Some young people on the fringe of gang involvement haven't had the opportunity of meaningful contact with an adult who isn't their parent, their teacher, their Youth Offending Team or probation person. The Targeted Youth Support Team are different. Their dealings with young people and families are voluntary; it doesn't arise from a court case. It happens because someone is worried about where things are going - the young person themselves, youth workers, school staff, parents. The staff and the young person sit down and agree what might be helpful - more assistance with studying; circuit training; regular talks. After a few months, the staff and the youth take stock - is this worthwhile? is it a help? what else is needed? Up to now, 50 young people have been involved - less than half from Burngreave and Pitsmoor.

The police have explained very clearly - on TV, in the papers, in court - what they're doing about 'gang related crime' in Burngreave. But they are not always best placed to do the work that prevents young people ending up there - that is the skill and dedication and effort of local voluntary projects, youth offending staff, youth workers, and schools staff, as well as mosques, churches and youth projects.

The Council team dealing with gangs (Targeted Youth Support Team) can be contacted on 283 5927. Talk to them if you want to. Confidentiality assured. It's working for all our benefit.

Next Area Panel meeting

New Year's Honours Awards
23rd January 2009
6pm, at the Town Hall

Councillors' surgeries are on the second and fourth Saturday mornings of each month.

- 13th December: Steve Jones, 11am-12 noon Burngreave Library and 12.15-1.00pm Firshill TARA
- 16th December: Ibrar Hussain, 11am-12 noon Shirecliffe Centre and 12.15-12.45pm Norwood/Bishopholme TARA
- 27th December: There will be no Surgery today
- 10th January: Jackie Drayton, 11am-12 noon Burngreave Library and 12.15-1.00pm Firshill TARA
- 20th January: Jackie Drayton, 11am-12 noon Shirecliffe Centre and 12.15-12.45pm Norwood/Bishopholme TARA
- 24th January: Ibrar Hussain, 11am-12 noon Burngreave Library



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

No conviction

Story by members of the editorial team

A year on from the death of Jonathan Matondo in October 2007, Burngreave resident Negus Nelson was acquitted of his murder after two trials. He was the only person to be charged, despite police claims that more than one person was responsible for the killing. Where does this leave the investigation?

The Messenger spoke to Detective Superintendent Martyn Bates, in charge of the case. He is content that they have a reasonably clear picture of what happened on the night of October 17 2007 including why and how the incident took place; the chain of events leading up to the murder of Jonathan and who was involved.

"Presently, no one has been eliminated from the investigation and there are no new names. However, in the view of the

police there are a number of people - including friends of Jonathan and people who are on the periphery of gang activity - who are in position to give evidence. If this evidence were provided it should lead to a conviction but unfortunately there has been a lack of cooperation with the investigation. The case will remain open and it is hoped that in time, if and when circumstances change, those people will do the right thing and provide the necessary evidence that will ensure the people responsible for Jonathan's death are charged and convicted."

He said the Police are still optimistic that ultimately the case will be resolved. But the fact that no-one has been charged raises questions about the effectiveness of the police investigation; which obviously relies on evidence from young people in a difficult, and possibly dangerous, situation.

In the months before Jonathan's death, there were 68 gang related incidents involving non-fatal shootings and stabbings, many of them came to light

because of the investigation. With further incidents since then, including the murder of Tarek Chaiboub in July for which no one has yet been charged, it is unclear how young people can feel safe to speak out.

Parents meeting:

Gangs and your family

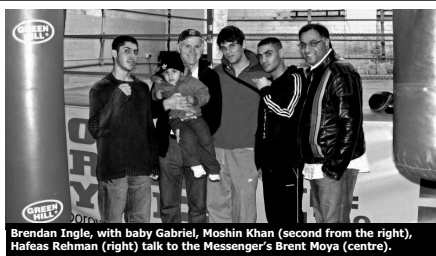
- Why young people join gangs
- Signs of gang involvement
- Support for those involved with gangs

Speaker:

Inspector Paul McCurry, Tackling Gangs Project

6.00pm Tuesday 9th December at the Vestry Hall

Organised by Yemeni Community Association with South Yorkshire Police and supported by BNDIC.



Brendan Ingle, with baby Gabriel, Moshin Khan (second from the right), Hafes Rehman (right) talk to the Messenger's Brent Moya (centre).

Determined to be a success

Story: Brent Moya

Brendan Ingle is well known to many having finished his professional career with a record of 17 wins and 12 losses. Ingle is currently a boxing manager and trainer at his Gym in Wincobank.

He has a plethora of success stories as a manager having coached some of Boxing's elite with the likes of Prince Naseem, Herol "Bombor" Graham and Clinton Woods all having passed under his stewardship.

Moshin Khan, who grew up in Burngreave, is one of his current prodigies and has been boxing since age 11 with the full support of his family. He moved to Brendans gym at the age of 15. Now 18 and weighing in at 60kg he has competed in 4 amateur fights, winning 3 and losing 1. Away from boxing he studies Science, Psychology and Phonetics at College and plans to attend University in the near future.

Moshin and his family endured heartache in 2006 when his cousin, Shamawaz Ali, was stabbed to death in Birmingham. "It affected me big time" he recalled.

"He was like a brother to me and had always wanted me to do well in life, when something like that happens it

makes you determined to go out and make a success of yourself. Life isn't forever so you have to take the opportunities that present themselves to you."

Training with Brendan helped keep Moshin on the straight and narrow, something he is very grateful for. "Brendan has been great; he teaches you so much about life and how to deal with the situations you encounter. He's a great motivator who has been to the top and seen it all so when he talks you have to listen."

The recent increase in gun and knife crime has been a cause for concern among local residents and is something that Brendan Ingle would like to see stopped. "All the way from here at Wincobank to Burngreave people are getting shot and for what cause? People need to put down their weapons and focus on breaking down the barriers so our community can come together as one" he stressed.

Moshin was recently involved with a fundraising event at the Pakistan Muslim Centre (PMC) and says he is keen to do more work within the community. "The event was in aid of Sheffield Children's Hospital and turned out to be a success" he added. The event was organised by Hafes Rehman, Chairman of the Sheffield Tadi Trad Association (STTA).

Moshin's poem, dedicated to his cousin, can be found on our website: www.burngreavemessenger.org

BIGTM

MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

LOCAL BUSINESS HELPS SMOKERS TO QUIT

Burngreave-based couple, Mary and Mayank Bramhbhatt, have recently launched NOBACC0, a unique mouth fresher which fights tobacco addiction, to help smokers across the UK to quit their habit for good!

The original blend of Indian herbs which are used to produce NOBACC0 took Maryank's close friend, Dr Chetan Mehta, ten years to develop and since its launch in India in 2004 it has helped thousands of individuals to stop smoking.

Mary and Mayank have brought the product to the UK, and with the help of BIG - Make it Your Business, NOBACC0 is now available

JEFF HALL DRIVING SCHOOL

Jeff Hall moved to Burngreave two years ago and didn't know anyone in the area. He began working part time as a driving instructor and soon built up an excellent reputation in the neighbourhood. He became well known as a patient instructor who communicated well with members of the community and his students all had very respectable pass rates.

He approached BIG - Make it Your Business for advice and set about the challenge of transforming himself from a part-time self-employed driving instructor, to the head of a driving school with full time employees.

BIG helped Jeff source funding, put together marketing and publicity, design signage, start up a website and plan his business model for the Jeff Hall Driving School.

As Jeff was setting up his own driving school

If you are interested in setting up a business or would like further information on any aspect of the BIG project, contact the team on (0114) 213 6310, or visit us at www.thebigwebsite.org.uk

www.thebigwebsite.org.uk



in 30 independent health stores across the North of England. Since its launch, the couple have already employed Adam Hill, an agent with 19 years experience in the health food industry, and wish the sole rights to re-launch the product to the UK, Europe and the Middle East, they expect to employ at least two more agents by the end of the year.

Mary comments: "NOBACC0 is the first product available through our company Peacock Trading (UK) Ltd and since our initial contact with BIG in 2007, our business has taken on a life of its own. We have had help with business plans, funding, and even training courses for us to attend so we were able to learn more about topics such as advertising and book-keeping.

"The team at BIG have also helped us to focus on launching NOBACC0 to the UK market and introduced us to our first agent who shared our vision and has worked closely with us to get the product into health stores across the North of England. We were even given help to build our own website and make the product available online. The support from BIG has played an important part in setting up our company and we are very excited about the future."

To find out more about NOBACC0 or to try it for yourself visit www.nobacc0.co.uk.

For more information about BIG - Make it Your Business, visit www.thebigwebsite.org.uk or call (0114) 213 6310.



he noticed that he taught less women than men. Jeff saw a business opportunity and decided to fill the gap in the market by recruiting female instructors. Jeff recently employed his first full-time female driving instructor and has his own where learner drivers can get their driving theory skills up to scratch, Jeff said:

"Business has been going very well, Farid and BIG provided invaluable help and support."

To book a lesson call Jeff on 07846 426 903.

PLANNING A SUCCESS: HOW TO PLAN YOUR NEW BUSINESS

The Wicker: Albion House
9:30am-4:00pm
1st, 3rd, 9th and 10th December

Call to book on (0114) 213 6310

SORBY HOUSE: THE BUSINESS BUILDING FOR BURNGREAVE

Sorby House is a new carbon neutral building that recently opened at 42 Spital Hill.

We are offering office space for new business start ups, existing businesses and voluntary and community groups.

High specification IT is available as well as a friendly fully serviced reception area.

Call (0114) 213 6310 for more information.

A New Deal for Burngreave

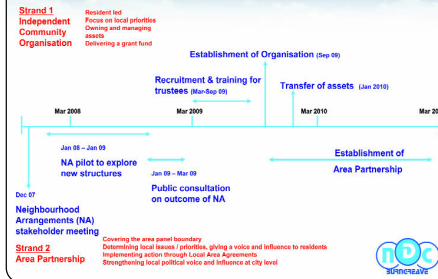
Legacy not history

Partnership Board are investing a lot of time and energy on developing the succession arrangements for New Deal. The essence of our plans so far are that we will have a new company to manage NDC buildings to generate funds for local community benefit and a neighbourhood partnership that will agree how to invest those funds.

Guidance on what sort of company will be acceptable to Government is expected on 4 December and whilst we await that information we've already made some headway on talking about ideas for the future and seeking legal and financial advice on possible options.

To make sure that we've tested all options Partnership Board will be visiting the Hull NDC, who are a year ahead of Burngreave, to see what approach they've taken to managing the end of the NDC programme.

Succession Strategy Timeline



Later in the month a group of residents and Board Members will be checking out Shoreditch to see how they're handling the same situation.

Then, over the next couple of months BNDfC will be working with BCAF and the Area Panel to gather your views on what you think will be right for Burngreave.

New rules on spend

In the last edition of The Messenger, we reported back on some of the difficult decisions The Burngreave New Deal for Communities Partnership Board has had to make about funding for projects in the first two years of the programme, prompted by a reduction in allocations to all 39 NDC programmes.

As part of a continuing budget reconciliation exercise the Department for Communities and Local Government have just issued new financial guidance to all NDCs. The implications for our local partnership are:

- Any projects which have not yet been approved by the Accountable Body and/or Government Office are unlikely to be approved. This will affect our plans for Spital Hill, the Adventure Playground and possibly our Study Support project.

- We had planned to spend less revenue this year and balance it out with more next year but we are now being told if we do not spend to our allocations each year we could lose any underspend. So, for 2008/9, we are going to have to try and bring forward revenue expenditure from future years and we will be talking to projects about this in the coming weeks to make sure we don't lose any money.
- DCLG will now be monitoring all NDCs on a quarterly basis, the implication being a reduction in local freedoms to manage programmes. The Board will be writing to raise concerns at the principles of undermining of the principles of community leadership.

These changes clearly indicate we are going to be going through a period of more change at New Deal and we will work hard to minimise impact on projects themselves and keep everyone informed of changes as we're notified of them.

Small Grants scheme

If you've seen our website you'll realise we've asked for no further applications for the current round of small grants. This is a consequence of our own success in getting so many people to come forward that we can't handle the volume!

We're also going to be taking a couple of weeks to review current guidance on applications so watch the website for any changes.

We fully expect to run another round early in the New Year.

FREE office furniture and equipment

BNDfC have various office furniture and equipment that is surplus to requirements and is free to voluntary and community groups in the Burngreave New Deal area. If you are interested please contact Roy Sinclair on 279 6937 to arrange to come and view the items.



Programme review

As Burngrave New Deal for Communities enters its final 30 months of operation, the Board has been taking a serious look at its financial position. The need to do this was partly provoked by a notification from the Department of Communities and Local Government, our funders, that because of national shortfalls on the New Deal programme, they would be taking £881,000 from Burngrave over the final two years of the programme, a fact we reported in the last edition of the Messenger. The review was also necessary though as part of good programme management.

So, at the September meetings of the Partnership Board detailed financial and performance information was provided to

show the current level of planned expenditure compared to funding available. Because planned spending was higher than the money available, the Board had had to make some difficult decisions about how to make the two balance. The Board is going to continue to look for additional funding to plug some of the gap but some reductions have been necessary to bring spending more in line with money available.

The principles behind the following reductions were always:-

- Every attempt has been made to focus reductions on BNDFC managed projects and minimise impact on external projects.
- Where external projects have been affected, recommendations have been based on a parity of treatment and.
- Good housekeeping measures have been strengthened.

For information the reductions agreed were:-

- Further reduce the staff team
- Reduce costs on IT and telephone provision
- Reduce Partnership Board Members allowances
- All projects running in 2009-2011 will have their funding reduced by 10%
- Study Support project will only be funded until July 2009
- Look at transferring the Information Vehicle to another community user before the end of our programme
- Buy cheaper display cabinets for the Vestry Hall
- Look to save money by sub letting Harlestone Street and moving staff team to Forum House

The Board also agreed a number of measures to reduce demand on NDC funds which were to

- Incur no further costs on community elections
- Not progress the Community Development and Greenspace Commissioning Frameworks
- No longer require individual projects to undertake end of project evaluations but contribute to a programme level evaluation which will bring in some economies of scale
- No longer carry forward unspent on the Small Grants Scheme

The Board will meet again in February 2009 to see how effective the above decisions have been in reducing our funding gap and to determine whether any other remedial action is required.

commitment to the Burngrave area.

The completed proformas were considered by the Executive Sub Group on 21 August and it was agreed that Kelvin Pine would be recommended to Board for ratification as the new community representative on the BNDFC Partnership Board.

At their meeting in September the Partnership Board were unanimous in their decision to accept Kelvin Pine as the tenth community representative on the Board. Welcome Kelvin.



New Board Member

The Burngrave New Deal for Communities (BNDFC) Articles of Association (para 3.9) allows the use of co-optation as a method to fill Board vacancies.

In light of one community representative vacancy existing, an article was placed in the Burngrave Messenger asking anyone who was interested in becoming a Board member to register their interest with BNDFC. This process brought forward seven individuals.

All seven individuals were asked to complete a proforma to describe their experience relevant to Board membership and to illustrate their

07771 754515

beauty|beneath ladies hair salon

Story & Photos: Kirstin Daly

Beauty Beneath ladies hair salon, on Hinde House Lane in Fir Vale, opened at the end of October and is run by Afshan Islam. The salon is soon to expand with beauticians using the upstairs room, thereby giving women one environment for all their beauty requirements.

Afshan pursued her creative ambition from the age of 17, cutting family and friend's hair without yet having any formal training. Before opening Beauty Beneath, Afshan was a PE teacher at High Storrs School, but once she had young children to care for she decided on a change of direction. This direction was a one year fast track hairdressing course at Castle College, from which she qualified with a Level 2 NVQ in June of this year. Afshan is now attending a Creative Director's course at Castle College in order to achieve Level 3 NVQ and progress from Senior Stylist to Creative Stylist. This course includes photography, creative cutting, catwalk styles and colour correction.

Afshan found, and has adequately filled, a niche market with Beauty Beneath, providing a comfortable concealed environment for Muslim women, but the salon is not exclusive; all women are welcome. She told me:

"It is very difficult for Muslim women to arrange hairdressing appointments in other hair salons as they need to find a day and time when there will be no male customers or stylists present."

Afshan views her responsibility to her customers as providing a safe and secure environment in which women can remove their veils and scarfs. Not only is her salon safe and comfortable, but it's also a very stylish and pleasant place to be in. Her décor is vibrant and bold, including her own paintings as well as a small custom made sofa, and counter displaying the salon logo. There is also a custom made basin, which is much larger than usual as many of Afshan's customers have very long and thick hair.

Afshan's customers have so far been very pleased, both with the salon's unique environment and her professional service.

Concealed window for full female privacy
Professional and creative cutting, colouring and styling
Beauty therapy treatments
Bridal packages
Party hair and make-up
Henna art

Opening times
 Tues 4pm-8pm, Weds 10am-6pm,
 Thurs 10am-6pm, Fri 3pm-9pm,
 Sat 12pm-6pm, Sun 12pm-6pm.
 (Closed Mondays)

10 Hinde House Lane,
 Sheffield, S4 6GX
 Tel: 07771 754 515
www.beautybeneathsalon.co.uk

SING THROUGH THE WINTER

Are you feeling isolated?
 Would you like to try something new?
 Here's an opportunity to join a friendly, informal women's group

The group will run for 10 weeks and will focus on the positive mental health benefits of singing together

When: Tuesday 1-3pm
Starting: Tuesday 13th January for 10 weeks
At: Vestry Hall, Burngrave

We would love to hear from you if you are interested and would like more information.

Phone
 Helen (266 1943) or
 Kate (242 5565)

Please leave a message and we will get back to you

This project is being organised in partnership with SAGE Greenfingers via New Deal funding.

Burngrave Cultural Industries Challenge (BICIC)

launches the

Burngrave Electric Challenge

Gala Saturday Dec 13

12.00-4.00p.m. Kutamba Kids! Challenge
 digital arts, dance, drums- feel the heat!
 6.00p.m. The Lost African Chord workshop

7.30p.m. Kutamba youth in concert
 8.00p.m. SOSA-XAI
 Sounds of Southern Africa in concert
 9.00p.m. Latin Sounds with Son Para Todos

Tickets: Free day time activities for young people
 Evening show 7.30p.m. £6.00 (£5.00 cncs).
 £2.50 children available in advance

SEMA @The "V" Space Vestry Hall
 Vestry Offices, 2 Burngrave Road, Sheffield S3 9DD
 tel: 0114 2133803
 email: arts@sema.org.uk

Join our cultural challenge for 2009

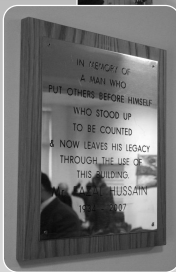
Hundreds gather for centre opening

Story: Lisa Harrison
Photos: Rohan Francis

The Pakistan Advice and Community Association opened its new premises on Page Hall Road on 30th October. In a well-attended ceremony, around 280 members of the local community met in the centre's new community space.

They saw the refurbishment works had completely transformed the interior and those who remembered the building in its former guise as the Fir Park Hotel were amazed at the new layout, reminiscing about the building as it was before.

In attendance were Leader of the Council Paul Scriven, who spoke about equality of



Bradford to attend the opening.

A moving tribute took place to mark the life and work of Fazel Hussain, who had

been the centre's founding member. A plaque in the new building celebrates his achievements for the community.

Centre staff and volunteers were on hand throughout the day to welcome visitors and tell them about the different projects and services on offer. The work at the new centre will consolidate all the existing projects under one roof, as well as build on the successes of Pakistan Advice and Community Association for the future.



Young advocates in Beijing

Two youth council members from Burngreave went on a life-changing trip to Beijing in September. They joined a global conference of 100 disabled and able-bodied young people from 20 countries, plus 100 youngsters from China, all aged between 18 and 25 years old. The five day seminar at the 2008 Paralympic Games was to help promote disability sport.

Story: Uzma Bibi and Naurin Fatima (Youth Council) Streetwork Project



After a long 24 hours of travelling it felt so good to finally arrive in China to be greeted by our Chinese counterparts of the Young Advocates Programme (YAP). After a day of shopping and bonding between delegates, the workshops began with the "100 words workshop" which was all about improving our level of confidence whilst communicating in front of a large crowd. We were given vocal exercises on how to project our voice clearly and adequately whilst making presentations.

Getting to know people

During the week we were paired with people from different walks of life which gave us an amazing opportunity to get to know people from different parts of the world. The mix of able-bodied and people with disabilities gave us the chance to get to know people with physical disabilities. In our group a Chinese Young Advocate astounded us by playing the piano with his feet. He told us that whatever we could do with our hands he does with his feet.

After hearing this it made us look at people with disabilities in a completely different light and we realised how unintentionally our behaviour could be perceived as patronising.

At the end of the workshops all the various groups performed and our workshop performed a drama which includes half the members acting in a play and the other half playing musical instruments. Other performances included ballet, a mini-Paralympics and a digital photography slideshow.

Strength and ability

The highlight of the visit was the Paralympics opening ceremony and seeing disabled athletes from all over the world perform. The sheer strength and ability of all the athletes highlighted the main theme of these workshops that regardless of disabilities everyone is equal.

Throughout the week speeches by those affected by physical disabilities showed how they make the best use of their abilities and use their energy in a positive way. A theatre performance by actors with disabilities involved amazing elements of dance, singing and comedy.

Finally, during a visit to the British Embassy Sir Sebastian Coe gave us ideas for promoting sport and disabilities on our return to the UK.

After a fantastic week of workshops it was sad to say goodbye but we will always remember the friends, knowledge and the experience we gained from our visit to China.

Firvale Pumpkin of the Year

Story: Brent Moya

Sunday 26th October saw the Firvale Pumpkin of the Year Championship take place. The event, officiated by Barry Ashmore and Kevin Cooper, took place at Wincobank allotments.

The day belonged to Oliver Henshaw, age 10, of Fir Vale who had endured heartache one week earlier when he won the same competition at Thorpe

Helsby but was unable to collect first place as he wasn't from the area.

After beating off competition from several older contestants he stood proudly with his trophy alongside his father David and grandparents Tony and Rita Spillings. With his pumpkin weighing in at 112lbs, an estate Oliver described the win as "the best moment of my life" and pledged to compete again next year.

His father said, "This has given my lad the incentive to carry on with something he enjoys as well as keeping him off the streets and out of harm's way".



Carwood Halloween Party

Story: Michelle Cook
Photo: Marc Charlton

Wicked witches, ghouls and spoons gathered at the Carwood Community Room on Halloween.

A good time was had by all as Carwood Tenants' and Residents'

Association (TARA) hosted a fancy dress party for local children. Councillor Ibrar Hussain judged the fancy dress and pumpkin decorating competitions, and Carwood TARA gave away £60 of Meadowhall vouchers to the lucky winners, as well as preparing tasty snacks for the spooky crowd.

Earlier that day, the TARA had held a jumble sale at the same venue as part of their continuing efforts to raise money for children's activities, such as trips, for those living on the estate. Carwood TARA would like to thank Councillor Hussain, the local Area Panel Community Chest Fund and Sheffield Homes for their support in funding and organising the day.



Green City Action

www.greencityaction.org.uk
Telephone: (0114) 244 0353

Green Carwood

Over the last few months Green City Action's 'Deliver it Green' project has been working to improve the green environment around the Carwood estate. The team have helped supply hanging baskets, replaced the rotten benches in Carwood Green and the 'Bir Ring' and with local children and volunteers have prepared ground and planted 1000 crocus and 500 daffodil bulbs. We have also been helping Ellesmere Youth Project to set into the paving on the green.



In the next couple of months we will continue to work with the Tenants' and Residents' Association to:

- Finish tidying the shrub beds to eradicate weeds and set tree saplings.
- Plant new shrubs and perennial flowers to improve the beds.
- Install and plant up two raised beds on Carwood Green.
- Grass over old shrub bed at the top of Carwood Road and plant four new trees.
- Plant two new trees in tree pockets on Carwood Green and the 'Bull Ring'.

Mission accomplished

We have also recently completed the autumn round of works on the gardens of our elderly residents. The team put in some fantastic shifts with over 80 gardens receiving some much needed care and attention from the stewards with the demand for the scheme increasing.

Tool Bank open:
Wednesday 1pm - 4pm
Saturday 10am - 12noon

Deliver it green...

The Unstoppable Volunteer

Story: Nikky Wilson

Sylvia Pennington is a woman with a mission, or to be more precise, several missions. She has lived in Burngreave since the 1940's, worked and raised a family here, had more than her fair share of personal tragedy to face but has remained cheerful and committed to helping other people around her.

Coping with adversity

Born in Sheffield in 1934, Sylvia first moved to Burngreave at the age of 11, to a home on Clun Street. When she got married, she moved out of the area for several years but ended up moving back to a family house on Torbay Road where she has spent the past 47 years. Filled with photographs of her children and grandchildren, this is truly her home although she described her reaction when her husband first took her to see it. "Well we had two small children then," she said laughingly. "And the front of the house was so steep, I just looked at it and couldn't imagine getting a pram up and down all the steps. But I coped in the end, and my son was born here too." And that really sums Sylvia up – someone who deals with adverse situations, usually with a smile. When asked what makes Burngreave home for her, Sylvia tells me about her life:

"Burngreave gave me my roots. I'm used to it and I've got lots of memories from this area. I've grown up here, lost two husbands here and raised my children here so I couldn't live anywhere else. My first husband died of a heart attack when he was only 37 and so I had to bring the children up on my own, they were 3/8 and 3/5. It wasn't easy but I just got on and did it. I was on my own for ten years, until I married Frank then he died, that's 25 years ago now."

Kashmir Earthquake fund

Story: Maxine Bowler

On Monday 10th November members of the Kashmir Earthquake Relief Fund were delighted to receive cheques for £12,150 from Councillor Jackie Dryden. This brings the total she has raised as part of the Lord Mayors appeal to £22,161 for the Sheffield Girls College in Bagh. This was a welcome boost to the fund for the college which is currently under



Sylvia (right) with her daughter and granddaughter at Limsfield School

"My kids have been my life. I raised them on discipline with love and they've turned out fine. Same for my grandchildren - I let them know what I think but they seem to love me for it."

Working hard for others

Ill health forced Sylvia into retirement from her work as a cleaner. However it didn't stop her from doing other things;

"I thought, 'Come on Sylvia! You've got to do some! If you stand still, you'll get depressed!'"

So her first volunteer post was as an Appropriate Adult, acting as a guarantee for young people who get into trouble with the police and befriending them. Then she moved on to helping children with their reading at Byron Wood School. Her involvement with St Peter's Church led to her becoming a lay parish evangelist and then a hospital chaplain, visiting patients at the Northern General Hospital, even as her own health deteriorated. When the local bus service that took her there was withdrawn, she still didn't 'retire' but switched her attention to Limsfield School where she again helps children with their reading. "I make them laugh, so at least they enjoy

it," she told me. "I'm a proper Yorkshire lass and I like to tease the students and the teachers, even the head teacher! So they all know me – a bit of humour helps a lot."

Campaigning for B1 and B2

Sylvia's become well known for her campaigning locally. She's passionate about having a decent bus service in the area, one that has given her the freedom to do all her various voluntary jobs. In particular she's anxious to get the B1 and B2 bus service restored in the area: "I've had to give up some of my volunteering because the service has stopped and for many people parking round the hospital is a problem. And it was a direct bus to Meadowhall!"

As an advocate for Burngreave, Sylvia is keen to let people know that the area is a good place to live. "I want things to be right here," she told me, and she's prepared to make an effort towards that. As a woman with a strong mind, plenty of enthusiasm and common sense, Sylvia continues to make a big contribution to people around her and provides inspiration to all of us to keep going. Congratulations, Sylvia, for all your hard work over many years!



New Deal – the end in sight

Story: Lisa Swift

In September, Burngreave New Deal for Communities announced it would be cutting existing and planned projects. The programme was over-committed by £2.6million, meaning more spending was planned than covered by Government funding. On top of this the Government made an extra cut of over £880,000, resulting in a possible overspend of £3.4 million.



Community groups feel the pinch

The result is a 10% cut to all projects from April. Only a few of these are run by community-based groups which will feel the cuts hardest. Pitsmoor CAB Home-visiting project, SAGE Greenfingers and the Messenger have asked for New Deal to waive the cuts which would save the programme just £5,800. Diana Tottle of SAGE Greenfingers said:

"We feel that community projects in general, and SAGE Greenfingers in particular, will be disproportionately affected by such a cut. As a project we have blossomed in the last 6 years, made possible through New Deal support. However New Deal is now dealing a blow that could jeopardise the future of a project. The £2,700 saved from us seems paltry in comparison with the £881,000 they have to save overall."

New Deal said the cuts must still be made, but if the financial position changed the board "... will do all they can to reinstate funding."

No money for new projects

Some projects will not happen at all – New Government rules will prevent New Deal starting new projects. This means Pitsmoor Adventure Playground's new building and plans for Ellersmere Green cannot have New Deal funding. It's hoped

this ruling won't affect the Study Support project which had been promised extra money to extend that project until July next year.

Saleh Alnoud, Chair of YCA, which manages the Study Support project, said: "The Study Support project has had a huge impact and we've seen it really change young people's lives. It would be a tragedy if the project ended now, right in the middle of an academic year."

Festivals and parties under pressure

Green City Action will also see no more money for events and green spaces next year from New Deal. Manager Garry Smith said:

"I can't see any money being available for Abbeyfield Festival next year but that does not mean that the community will not have a festival. It needs to go back to the community. If we are able to make a profit on other events in the city next year, we'll put money into it – but we need organisations to support the event. With the green space work we will have achieved everything we said we would do this year. The funding from New Deal ends in May, but we'll be looking for grants funding to do bigger green space projects."

Cutbacks to New Deal's own spending will make it difficult to continue the Bonfire Night and Festive Parties. They've also proposed further staff cuts, leaving only one regeneration manager from April, alongside other administrative savings.



"We'll struggle to fund Abbeyfield festival next year, but we are working with partners such as Sure Start and Sheffield Futures to keep the Festive Party going, and we are doing our best to make sure the Bonfire event continues. The sea-side trip is unlikely to continue, though," said New Deal Executive Manager, Ann Allen.

Sustainable buildings

The Vestry Hall, Sorby House and Forum House are all owned and subsidised by New Deal. The plan is for these buildings to be sustainable, and Sorby House must make a profit to subsidise the Vestry Hall long-term. Although Sorby House management say lettings are on target, it's not a good climate for renting offices. New Deal will to continue subsidising these projects in the coming year, as they can't afford to let them fall.



Ann Allen told the Messenger, "New Deal's reserves are being used to support the cuts assets at the moment. We are looking at how to reduce costs and increase income. With the Vestry Hall we have had fantastic success in getting learning providers to use the building, including Sheffield College and Life Long Learning and Skills. We have pared back the staff team as far as it will go now, but we may be able to make further savings by sharing the management of all our assets together."

What will the future hold?

Some projects will continue. Burngreave Opportunities, supporting people into work, has received funding from elsewhere, and has a good chance of getting mainstream funding.

From April a smaller number of projects will continue to be funded by New Deal. Family Advocacy, Apprenticeships for All, Burngreave Advocacy now, Supporting Advice, Home-visiting project, Burngreave Health Shop, Burngreave Community Action Forum, SAGE Greenfingers, the Messenger, Streetwork, Activity Sheffield and possibly study support, will be the only remaining projects from April 2009.

Ann Allen said: "What's important now is for New Deal and its projects to show the Government that we have a grip on the situation. We have to prove we have our finances under control, and be able to provide the right information as soon as it's asked for. There have been issues with the management of the programme and I we have to get it right if we want to be in a position to lobby the government for more money."

Realising the Dream

On the 20th January 2009, Barack Obama will be inaugurated as the first black president of the USA.

Preparations are under way to celebrate **Martin Luther King Jr Day** in the light of this historic occasion. The event will trace the threads that stretch from Luther King to Obama, and how this relates to Burngreave, as well as reflecting on the desire for change and a better world that his victory embodies.

Join us in an evening of performance, art and discussion:

Monday 19th January 7pm, the Welcome Centre, Nottingham Street.

All are welcome.

To get involved, or for more information, contact Nick on 07725 559 380 or nickedmondson@phonecoop.coop

The next preparation meeting for the event will be on Thursday 11th December 7pm, at the Welcome Centre, Nottingham Street.

St Catherine's Living Library



Story: Charley Fitton, Nicole Smith & Amber Williams. St Catherine's School Council

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School recently held a living library in our school hall, which was a great success. We had lots of visitors to the library to meet with our 'living' books. We were very lucky to have some great books such as Bishop John Rawsthorne, Inderjit Bhogal, Rashida Hassanali, Saleema Imam and Dina Martin.

First people had to choose a book – they could read through a synopsis that the living book had written to find out a bit more before choosing. People then got to ask the questions of their book and could

sit back and enjoy listening. It was a really good way of finding out about the story of people's lives.

Our visitors really enjoyed the day and one said "I enjoyed finding information about other people's history."

"The living library was great fun because we got to interview people and know a bit about their life like Saleema. She went to China while the Beijing games were on." Iqra Ahmed

"I like the interview because it was exciting and my favourite was Inderjit Bhogal because he was very interesting and he used to go to school with Lenny Henry." Kasam Hussain

Creative Outpost in the Chapel

Story & photo: Ben Richards

If you happened to be strolling through Burngreave Cemetery on Friday 10th of October, you may have stumbled across a very positive and eclectic group of people. 'Creative Outpost' is a multi-talented group of volunteers who are motivated by the revival of Burngreave's Chapel and Cemetery. They see it being used in diverse and electrifying ways.

It was "a day of events in the exploration and fusion of creative spaces." There was live music performed by international Indian violinist Kamalbir Nandra, international touring blues guitarist and vocalist Tom Rodwell, and Damian Horner-Paumsa on tabla, as well as local artists Susan Gent, Patrick Amber, Cassie Limb, Jennifer Booth and Alice Farrington.

The artists transformed the vaulted ceilings and pious walls of the chapel into a festival of multi-media sounds and visuals. Amber's robotic automation towered over the public, whilst Gent's exploration of art and taxidermy caused a few interesting reactions!



Everyone who witnessed the event spoke positively about the efforts and impact that 'Creative Outpost' was making on the local community. "I am very happy that the cemetery is being put to good use," was the view of Mohammed Siddiqi of Catherine Road. Ultimately the ethos behind 'Creative Outpost' is to re-use and re-cycle urban spaces for positive expression.

The overall impression I had of the event was a great opportunity for local people and artists to meet and discuss issues surrounding art and the environment. Events of this nature can only help connect the community of Burngreave, increase awareness of environmental and social issues and allow people to witness something out of the ordinary.

Companions Club closes

Story: Carrie Hedderwick

The Sheffield Companions Club on Barnsley Road finally closed in October. The ground floor area has now opened as a wholesale and retail Halal butchers.

Club member Bob Bridges explained to the Messenger why the ex-servicemen's club has closed:

"There wasn't enough people using it, we just weren't getting the business. It's a real shame, it's 45 years of history gone!"

New life for the function room

Several local people have approached the owner about use of the function room on the first floor. It is an adaptable community venue suitable for all kinds of uses – performances, celebrations events, exhibitions, classes and children's activities.

Local residents want to keep the function room in use but need to form a management group. Are you

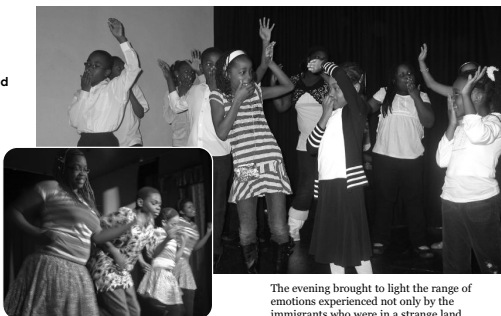
Walk good

Story & photos: Camille Daughma

Walk good is a Jamaican phrase which simply means 'having a good journey'. One of the most memorable journeys taken by Jamaicans over sixty years ago was that on the "Windrush" ship in 1948.

The Empire Windrush voyage disembarked in Tilbury on the 22nd June 1948. It carried 102 passengers from Jamaica. This marked an important landmark in British history. It was the beginning of the restoration of war ravaged Britain and a new way of life for Jamaican immigrants. These were the first group of West Indian immigrants. Faced with exclusion and discrimination, they found their own way of adjusting. Survival was not an option it was a necessity.

As part of the commemoration of Black History Month, on the 26th October Destination Arts and the SADACCA Study Support Children tried to recapture the



thoughts and experiences of migrants. They demonstrated their interpretation of what they experienced through skills, poetry and songs, bringing out the fears, aspirations, feelings of being lost, cold and homesick all muddled together.

The evening brought to light the range of emotions experienced not only by the immigrants who were in a strange land but also those they left behind.

The program culminated with an enthusiastic performance from the Siyaya African group bringing a well spent evening to a close on a high note.

Dreams to Reality

Story & photo: Fran Belbin

When 12-year-old Kier Hodson dreamed up a "50 word saga" for a school competition, he never imagined it would end up in print!

Kier, a Y8 pupil, said he was inspired by two of his dreams: "in one of them, I was in a boat and really enjoyed the trip; in the other one, I hated the boat trip and that became the twist in the piece." Now his work has been selected to be published in the New Year. Kier is still surprised by his success - "I was never the creative type! I feel quite good about it!"



The Dream Boat

It is a sunny day and the Dream Boat rides the waves. There are five people on the Dream Boat. They all have lots of fun. They want to come into the docks, but the Dream Boat says no and goes faster. The people get really scared. The nightmare boat.

Inspirational Films

Story: Susannah Diamond

Over 30 people came to the Vestry Hall on October 14th to participate in Transition Sheffield's 3x3 Film Festival.

The Transition Towns movement aims to build local community resilience in the face of global climate change and declining energy reserves.

Three film nights took place in the Vestry Hall, highlighting the issues of pollution and resource depletion, and the films were followed by discussions about a better life in Burngreave beyond oil. A range of reactions were evident, for example:

"I'm shocked - I didn't realise how quickly we're using the oil";
"I've been thinking of growing vegetables; I feel motivated now to make a start";

"I hope the community spirit in Burngreave will strengthen as we all address the challenges together".

For more about Transition Town events in Sheffield see www.transitionssheffield.org.uk.



Children's Centre Gold Award



L-R, Freya Naylor (3) Sharon Curtis and Milan Curtis (3) proudly display their Pathways to Quality plaque.

Ellesmere Children's Centre is the first community based childcare centre in Sheffield to achieve the Gold Standard for quality of service. Centre Manager, Sharon Curtis said: "We have been providing childcare services in Burngreave for ten years and always focus on providing the very best service possible."

Lib Dem cuts for Burngreave

The area panel meeting of 9th October 2008, at St Catherine's School on Roe Lane, was unusual in having a Lib-Dem councillor present: Councillor David Baker had come to present the plans for the new regime of community assemblies. It was not well-received.

Members of the public and local councillors made clear that Burngreave Area Panel had "been carefully built up over a long time" and praised area officers "diligent work to break down barriers." None of the public present supported the plans and were unconvinced when David Baker's assistant claimed that a change in staff from 6 to 4 was not a cut.

Although this was a "consultation", Councillor Baker made it clear the community assembly boundaries were "not negotiable".

Masterplan in trouble

The Council's 2005 masterplan for regenerating housing in Burngreave and Fir Vale included demolition and rebuilding of homes on Woodside, Ellesmere, Catherine St, Skinnerthorpe Road and Earl Marshal. There were also plans to demolish and rebuild shops in Fir Vale.

But in October, they announced they no longer plan to demolish shops on Ower Lane, nor four houses at the bottom of Barnsley Road.

A lack of interest from private developers has delayed plans for rebuilding on the other sites, leading to anger and concern from residents of Skinnerthorpe, who were waiting for new homes on Earl Marshal.

More on our website at: www.burngreavemessenger.org

Tesco to start next year

In a presentation for the Area Panel in November, Tesco revealed that building on the Spital Hill store could start in October 2009, with the store open around the beginning of 2011.

It will take 12-18 months to build the store, but they are still in discussion with the Council about the final design of the buildings in the development, which will include a superstore and offices to let. Under the approved plans Carlisle Street will be permanently blocked to traffic, and Caborn's Corner next to the East house will be landscaped for pedestrian access.

Verdon Race walkers

Story: Kerry Bailey (Activity Sheffield)



Following the success of the Race for Life in June, local walkers continued training and Activily Sheffield organised a walk at Wentworth Castle in Barnsley.

The group trained hard and on Sunday 21st September, in glorious weather, seven ladies, five over 50, and three staff took part in the 10km (6 miles). Everyone finished within their target time including one lady aged 74.

The walk raised about £400 for Cancer Research and is looking forward to the next walk. New members, male and female, are welcome. Training every Wednesday 1.15pm - 2.15pm at Verdon Recreation Centre. Contact Aislinn Adams - 2491626 or Kerry Bailey - 273 4266.

Parkwood Academy result

Story: Ian Clifford

Parents have voted by over 2 to 1 in favour of Parkwood School becoming an Academy, but on a low turnout.

Returns from the Electoral Reform Services showed that 199 parents voted yes (70.5% of the vote), while 83 voted no - 29.4%. The turnout was 23.9%.

Parents of Parkwood pupils and those with pupils at feeder primary schools (including Pye Bank) were given a vote on the Academy proposal by the Liberal-Democrat administration.

Tom turns ninety

Story: Nikky Wilson • Portrait: Carl Rose

Tom Gould, celebrates his 90th birthday on the 14th December. Born in 1918 on Botham Street, off Grimesthorpe Road, Tom is one of the oldest residents on the Firhill estate. At Grimesthorpe School he remembers football and cricket as his regular passions. "We used to go to the playing fields by tram every Monday afternoon and I'd borrow the teacher's football boots - I loved it!" he said.

Having left school at 14, Tom first took a job as a window cleaner before starting work at Sanderson Newbould's tool factory in 1933. Apart from during the war, he remained there until his retirement in 1983 - 50 years service!

"I did every job in the hack saw machine shop. I started off marking and punching hacksaw blades until I got called up for war service in 1938. When I got back in 1945, women had taken over my job and the only thing left for me was tempering followed by a stint of hardening. There wasn't much in the way of promotion then but I did used to be in charge of the women in my department on the twilight shift at the factory."

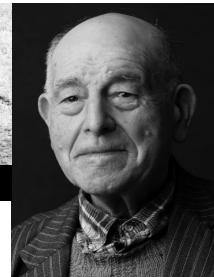
Of his war time experiences, Tom said: "I got sent to France in 1940 with the Duke of Wellington regiment, supposedly to



POW camp in Poznan Tom is pictured back right.

help on the front line. But we were captured by the Germans at St Valery and then marched to Poland to the POW camp at Poznan. We did all sorts of jobs there - digging drains, shovelling snow, working on the railways and forestry. The guards were mainly quite reasonable except when the SS came around, they really scared us. At the end of the war, they released us because the Russians were coming and we returned to France. We stopped in Brussels where the Canadian army fed us steak! After the bread and soup at the camp, that was something to remember!"

After the war, Tom returned to Grimesthorpe and his job at Sanderson Newbould. He joined the safety committee when work-place health and safety were just beginning to be recognised. He also joined the fishing committee, took up rambling and resumed his interest in football, playing



for the factory team.

In 1972, following demolition, Tom moved to the newly built Firhill estate, along with neighbours from Grimesthorpe. "It was lovely! We all knew each other and used to socialise together."

Tom's philosophy has been 'never ask anyone to do something you wouldn't do yourself' and he remains firmly independent - first in the queue for the mobile library, always cheerful, he is still an enthusiastic member of the Firhill Local History Society.

Congratulations, Tom, as you reach your 90th birthday.

St Catherine's reopening

Story & photo: Caroline Harris

On Sunday 12th October, a beautiful sunny morning, St Catherine's Church re-opened after major refurbishments. The congregation moved in a long procession from Pitsmoor Methodist Church, led by Father Albert and Bishop John.

The church looks magnificent and has been carefully restored whilst still maintaining original traditional features. On this splendid occasion, the church was full to capacity. Father Don's return for the day was welcomed by a congregation of many nationalities and people of all ages.

After the service, hot food was provided at Pitsmoor Methodist Church, which had kindly allowed the use of their church during the restoration work.

History of St Catherine's Church

The parish of St Catherine began in 1876 with a church and school in Andover Street to cater following the expansion of the city in the wake of the industrial revolution. By the very early part of the 1900s, the original church had been replaced by another and the school expanded. In 1926, the replacement church was superseded by the present one on Burngreave Road. It was, and still is, a focal point of the area. By the late 1930s, the



parish population was in excess of 3500 and very often there was standing room only at many of the services.

Following the Second World War, there was a gradual re-housing of the population and later in the 1970s, further redevelopment of the area brought about a serious reduction in the parish population. The number of parishioners fell to some 600. However, in the past few years, the population is steadily on the increase, with up to 40% or more of the parishioners of a foreign nationality.

Watoto opening

Watoto Pre-School Nurturing Children's Strengths, Dreams & Aspirations

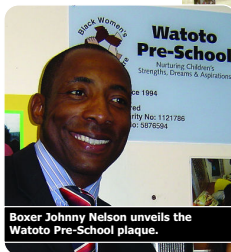
Story & Photos: Taibah Khan

This event celebrated the official opening of the new Watoto Pre-School centre by the boxer Johnny Nelson.

The Pre-School, situated on Catherine Road, is named 'Watoto' after an African word meaning 'All children'. Sharon Brown, the manager, and her colleagues said they wanted to choose a name which incorporated the diversity of the local community and everyone. The children who currently attend the oversubscribed pre-school are from different ethnicities, as are the staff.

When I entered the pre-school, I was given a tour of the centre by Janette Brown, a committee member, who showed me all the excellent facilities which include a baby area, a 2-to-3 year olds' area (where it was currently nap time), the 3-year-and-above area, where the children were tidying up, and also the herb garden where the children had been gardening. This led on to the spacious playground with everything a child could want to have fun!

The official opening ceremony included a welcome song by the children from the Pre-school. Then Dorothy Wilson, the chair of the Black Women's Resource



Boxer Johnny Nelson unveils the Watoto Pre-School plaque.



Centre, talked about how the idea of the Pre-school came about and how the whole group had "come a long way".

Brian Taylor of the CYPD said "love, care and determination has come together to create this centre."

A speech from Johnny Nelson highlighted the importance of education and especially how pre-school education "makes a difference in a child's life." After this he unveiled the plaque with Sharon Brown.

During the opening event I met Norma Euter, a parent who has been involved with the Pre-school from the start. She said that over the years she has been really impressed and happy with the service she received from the Pre-school staff". She also said,

"My son Anthony has had a positive foundation to start his school career." The staff at the Pre-school run a transition scheme ensuring that the children who leave the Pre-school then enter full-time school with the best possible start.

Norma's daughters both attend the Pre-school now and she is really happy with the help the Pre-school provides her youngest, Josephine, who has Down's Syndrome. "The staff respond to Josephine's development needs to complement what I do at home," said Norma.

The Pre-School has some great facilities backed up by a great team, if you are interested in sending your child to the Watoto Pre-School or in any volunteering opportunities contact Sharon Brown on 275 1817.

Byron Wood celebrates Eid

Story: Rubina Perveen

On Friday 10th October the whole school gathered to watch a short role play by year 5 and year 4 pupils. The play demonstrated how Muslims celebrate Eid.

The festival begins when the first sight of the new moon is seen in the sky. Muslims in most countries rely on an official sighting, rather than looking at the sky themselves.

The pupils at Byron Wood demonstrated this by role play. At the end of the assembly, a gathering of parents enjoyed all the traditional foods which are normally enjoyed on the occasion of an Eid day!



Story: Saira Mustafa YS

Byron Wood Primary School held a special assembly because it had recently been Eid. There was food and dancing and parents also came along, we all loved it. One parent said: "We all really enjoyed

it, the dancing was incredible."

We also had a little help in this from some brilliant students of Fir Vale Secondary School. And we all would like to thank the one and only Mr Esam, Miss Mohamed and Miss Sadique.



"He who plants a tree plants hope"

Story: Douglas Johnson

It wasn't a promising day - Saturday 8th November on Nottingham Rec was wet and overcast - but people gathered to carry out improvements to their park.

With Leonie Kapadia, Burngrave's new Community Forester, the group planted three new trees in the park - an Indian Bean Tree, which should come out with

splendid flowers in the spring, and two different eucalyptus varieties.

Also present were Young Advisors and Streetwork, to emphasise their stance against gun and knife crime, Green City Action and Rock Christian Centre members, along with Councillor Jackie Dreyton and a lot of children. This good mix of people all got a hot dinner afterwards, courtesy of the Young Advisors' motto and rice.

At another tree-planting on Tuesday 14th November at Burngrave Rec, Leonie had help from Byron Wood School's Fresh Start Group.



Byron Wood pupils at Burngrave Rec

Leonie said:

"Our green-fingered students back-filled soil around the tree roots and learnt about the nutrients needed to ensure healthy root growth - in volcanic rock-dust. They mulched the trees to keep the weeds down, and finished by ensuring the strapping support was well and truly screwed onto the tree-stakes. Not only did our students demonstrate their understanding of the need for oxygen producing trees, they also showed their skills using tools, and their dedication to getting the job done! Thanks to each one of you for working so hard for your area - we will all appreciate your work when the trees are blossoming in Spring."

New second hand shop

Story: Michelle Cook • Photo: Richard Hanson

A new charity shop, Rainbow's End Burngrave, is opening in Sorby House in the old Ladbrokes shop on Spital Hill. It will soon be a registered charity and is run by a group of local people.

After an Opening Event on 6th December, opening times will be Mon-Sat 10.30am-4.00pm and Fridays 12.00-6.00pm, depending on the availability of volunteers.

Volunteers are welcome from all sections of the community, whatever their experience, and will receive training to skill people up to support Burngrave's local economy.

The 8-strong management group has spent a year preparing a feasibility study and business plan with small grant support from New Deal and business support from BIG and Nottingham Enterprise who are managing Sorby House. Members have also raised money from activities such as car boot sales.

Rainbow's End Burngrave is a non-profit organisation and all proceeds will be used to support local people and community activities. Vice Chair, Yvonne, said, "Our ethos is based on the idea of a Community shop, run by local people for the local people, representative of the diversity of Burngrave."

The Management Committee want to provide a range of quality affordable second hand goods and, as users of charity shops



themselves, they understand what people want. They hope to have a diverse range of goods, reflecting our mixed community.

Already they have lots of support and interest from local people. Carwood TARA have donated unsold goods from their recent jumble sale and other goods have been given by many individuals.

Anyone interested in volunteering, please contact Yvonne Hayes 07954 149 297. To donate goods, contact Janet or Morag on 243 3137.