

Burngreave Messenger



Issue 114 • October 2014 • Free to everyone in Burngreave

www.burngreavemessenger.org

Voice of the Burngreave Community

Council rejects Burngreave Library plan

Sheffield City Council have rejected a plan by local residents to keep Burngreave Library open and staffed.

The Council wrote to the Save Burngreave Library Group on 17th September saying the plan they had submitted in July had not been approved, just 10 days before the plan was due to start.

As the situation stands, Burngreave Library staff have been assigned to other jobs in the library service. Users of Burngreave Library held a celebration event in August to thank them for their huge contribution to the area.

The Council said they wish to work with the group, and that they would keep the library open. Cabinet member Councillor Mazher Iqbal, said:

"I am hopeful that further plans can be developed. I'd like local people to know



that we will continue running Burngreave Library for an extended period, to allow longer term arrangements to be agreed. This means the service will not be disrupted and I'd urge everyone to visit the library to see what's on offer."

A spokesperson for the Library Group said,

"We have been discussing our plan with the Council for over 8 months and at the last moment they have rejected it. It's not acceptable. We have the support of local residents for our plan, and we have raised over £12,000 through residents

contributions and pledges of funding on the basis that we pay for professional staff time from the Council. We believe this is the only plan that will work and we want the Council to reconsider it."

Councillor Jackie Drayton has been supporting the group to develop and negotiate the library plan, and said,

"Burngreave's plan was very different to what other libraries had proposed and we are disappointed that it was not judged in its own right. The group still want to work in partnership with the Council to help ensure that Burngreave Library stays open with professional library staff supported by volunteers. Local residents worked very hard to raise money and I will be requesting the plan is reconsidered as soon as possible."

Save Burngreave Library Group is holding a public meeting on 16th October 4pm at the Vestry Hall.

Messenger funding comes to an end

Story: Burngreave Messenger Trustees - Fran Belbin, Michelle Cook, Tim Neal, Douglas Johnson, Abtisam Mohammed and Richard Belbin

After 15 brilliant years and so much contribution from so many people, the Messenger's current funding has come to an end and there will be no December edition.

The Burngreave Messenger's National Lottery funding comes to an end in October. After this edition, the three paid staff - Lisa Swift, Julia Shergold and Jamie Marriott - will sadly be made redundant. However, this is not the end of the Messenger project. We want it to continue in some form. But it all depends on what the community wants to do.

Can you help?

We want to think afresh how we can work as volunteers and how we can continue the work of a community organisation from our base in Abbeyfield Park House. In the long run, we want to find more funding. In the meantime, a lot can be done with the resources we still have. Burngreave is now a different place from what it was in 1999 when the Messenger started. But it is still an area that needs its community newspaper.

We now want to find out how you can help to keep the project going. We need people to help organise the project. Can you or



your business help with money? Can you offer some time? Do you have any other skills which could help?

Please contact us at the office on 0114 242 0564 or at mail@burngreavemessenger.org.

The Messenger trustees will hold an Annual General Meeting at 11am on Saturday 15th November, at Abbeyfield Park House. We invite you to come and help decide the future of the Messenger - with lunch of course.

Finally, the management committee want to thank all the volunteers, partners, distributors and advertisers who have all made the Messenger what it is. We especially want to thank staff past and present for everything they have put into it.



Whiteways Primary School

The heart of our learning community.

Get involved with the Governing Body

The constitution of the Governing Body is changing. We would like to involve individuals who understand our local community and also have particular skills to support the school and make sure that all our children achieve their potential.

If you are interested in finding out more about this rewarding role and have financial skills or experience in Health and Social Care or Higher Education, please contact Sue Ransom, Chair of Governors on sransom@whiteways.sheffield.sch.uk

Burngreave Work Club

Burngreave Work Club offers support to the local community in finding employment and training.

The following support is available:

CV'S • JOB SEARCH • INTERVIEWS • TRAINING

Contact Qadeer, Tammy or Zaheer: **0114 213 2307**

Or drop in at Burngreave Works, SORBY HOUSE,
42 Spital Hill, Sheffield, S4 7LG

Current available jobs:

MAIL SORTERS • WAREHOUSING • CLEANING • CARE WORK



Quality education and play
for each individual child

JOBS: 2 Early Years Practitioners

Full-time posts. 38 weeks per year (term time only)

Pay £10,000 – £14,000 per year

(dependant on experience and qualifications)

We are seeking to appoint two enthusiastic and dynamic Early Years Practitioners.

We are particularly looking for staff that have the skills, experience and knowledge to be able to provide high quality early years education and childcare for our children.

Candidates must have:

- An NVQ Level 3 / 4 qualification or above
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- Excellent verbal and written skills
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Although not a requirement applications from speakers of Arabic, Urdu or Somali would be most welcomed.

Position is subject to enhanced CRB clearance.

Closing date **Friday 10th October 2014**

For an application pack contact Katie on 0114 275 1817 or Email: info@watotopreschool.co.uk.

Visit our web page: www.watotopreschool.co.uk

Seasonal flu vaccinations

For patients of **Burngreave Surgery**
and **Herries Road Surgery**

Dr Mooney and Dr Hobden would like to invite you to attend for a seasonal **flu vaccination**.

We are holding **drop-in clinics** at both surgeries on the following days:

Herries Road Surgery

Monday 29th September

Monday 6th October

10.00 am - 12.30 pm

450 Herries Road
Sheffield, S5 8TP

Tel: 0114 232 6590

Burngreave Surgery

Wednesday 1st October

Wednesday 8th October

8.30 am - 11.30 am

5 Burngreave Road
Sheffield, S3 9DA

Tel: 0114 272 5619

If you are over the age of 65 or have one of the following - **asthma, COPD, diabetes, chronic liver or kidney disease, heart disease, stroke/TIA**, if you have a **weakened immune system** or are a **carer** or are **currently pregnant** you need to **book your flu vaccination now**.

If you are unable to attend one of the above sessions, please ring your receptionist on the number above to make an appointment in one of our nurse-led flu clinics.



Burngreave Cemetery Chapel

Autumn activities

Apple Antics

Sunday 5th October 12noon-3pm

All things apple: juicing, information, refreshments.
Seed/plant swap, book sale, postcard exhibition.

Mushroom Walk

Monday 27th October. Starts 1pm

Half term family walk with Michael Sentans SCC
biodiversity officer.

Artist in Residence Victoria Smith

Sunday 2nd November (until Christmas) 12noon-2pm

'All Souls Day' art exhibition.

Crafty Christmas

Sunday 23rd November 12noon-2pm

Make a Christmas wreath, cards or a candle holder.

All activities in the left hand chapel which is open every Sunday 12noon-2pm. Children always welcome but must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk

Shirecliffe 20mph zone

Story: Douglas Johnson

20mph speed limits could be introduced in Shirecliffe by March to help prevent deaths on residential roads.

The plans affect the streets from Standish, along Longley Avenue West to Penrith Rd and around the Norwood and Bishopsholme estate. The speed limit on Shirecliffe Road itself will not be affected.

The plan is to reduce the standard maximum speed limit from 30mph to 20mph. There are many fewer car accidents at lower speeds and they are a lot less dangerous at slow speeds when they do happen.

The Council plan is to roll out the improved zones over time. Shirecliffe has been chosen for this phase because of the number of accidents in the area.

There will be new speed signs and road markings. The aim is that the speed limit will work for most people as they get used to it, the same way the 30mph speed limit does.



Winter gritting cuts

Story: Douglas Johnson

As autumn approaches, the Council is already planning next year's budget cuts and this will mean fewer streets being gritted in times of snow and ice.

The council is giving priority for gritting to bus routes, roads with schools, doctors' surgeries, care homes 'or other critical public facilities'. It is also giving priority to steep roads with over 3000 cars a day, and to roads leading towards Manchester Road. The cuts will reduce the length of

gritted roads from 720 to 610 miles.

The Council carried out a consultation which received 1,133 responses, almost all of them online. One result was that the Council agreed to keep gritting Johnson Street, just off Nursery Street, because the church is a public facility.

However, the Council decided to stop gritting Spital Street, Verdon Street and Carlisle Street. This was because these streets had also lost their M20 bus service so it was no longer a bus route.

After the Messenger contacted the Council, it has now decided to keep gritting Spital Street. It will also keep gritting part of Lyons Street where the buses run.



House building to begin on Catherine Street

Story: Rohan Francis

Construction of 16 new homes is expected to begin at the end of September on vacant land at Catherine Street.

Building contractor Jack Lunn Ltd has been appointed to build the scheme by locally based social housing provider Arches Housing.

The mix of 2, 3 and 4 bed properties are hoped to be completed by mid-summer 2015, when they will be available for families to rent through the Council's Choice Based Lettings system.



Burngreave Messenger AGM

To decide the future of the Messenger

**Saturday 15th November 2014
11am, followed by lunch**

Abbeyfield Park House

All welcome!

The Messenger's funding has finally run out - but the Messenger is not closing.

What then is the future? Will we publish on the website? Will we work on funding to restart the project in the future? Will we start a new approach with volunteers? What other changes will we have to make? These questions will be addressed at the Messenger AGM on 15th November.

Keep an eye on the website for updates.

Messenger Info

NO ISSUE IN DECEMBER

Keep an eye on our website for any news of future issues.

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This issue's team: Rohan Francis, Saleema Imam, Douglas Johnson, Jamie Marriott, John Mellor, Lisa Swift.

Proofing and editing: Kate Atkinson, Fran Belbin, Richard Belbin Gaynor Carr, Carrie Hedderwick, Tim Neal, Robert Shaw, Julia Shergold, John Steers, Muneebah Waheed.



Gaza fundraiser

Story & photos: Sabrina Ahmed

The community of Burngreave united with one another on Sunday 31st August in the Vestry Hall, for an event which aimed to raise money for people in Gaza. The fundraiser was in aid of restoring the orphanage 'UNRWA' after the tragedies which befell Gaza, Palestine in recent months.

Event organisers the Yemeni Community Association warmly welcomed the attendees, rising to the challenge of hosting an event purely based on the support and kind donations of the public.

Hannan Mohamed, a member of the organising team stated, "It's busier than we thought, we are immensely overwhelmed" with the result of over 500 women and children contributing to the offerings for the less fortunate in Gaza.



The colours of the Palestinian flag were signified through every aspect: clothes, cupcakes and the popular craze of loom bands. Everything was red, white and green. Over 40 volunteers worked free of charge to raise donations for the cause, in areas such as hairdressing, face painting, henna art, facials and food.

Um Khalid, a member of the general public spoke to us: "I made khobz (Yemeni bread), I made my children aware of the cause and they helped me to prepare it. I teach my children so they'll grow up continuing to help the less privileged." The hard work of these ordinary women paid off with an extraordinary total of £8600 raised with donations still continuously being made.



Another aim of the event was to raise awareness of the ongoing situation in Palestine. This goal was achieved via the incredible artwork displayed on the walls with their bold thought-provoking messages - 'It's not about politics, it's about humanity'.

Abtisam Mohamed, member of the organisational team told us, "It was a hugely successful day. We are humbled by the enormous generosity of everyone involved. 100% of the money made will go to Gaza."

Roma musical heritage film

Story: Rohan Francis | Photo: Gemma Thorpe

Two young men from Burngreave are the stars of a new film exploring the cultural and musical traditions of Sheffield's Roma community.

Mario Sandor and Marek Pacan came to the UK from Slovakia several years ago. They have both since worked as teaching assistants in local primary schools.

In the film, Mario describes how he was inspired to follow his dream of becoming a teacher by his own experience of education back in Slovakia, and by the supportive words of the English teacher he met in Sheffield. "You have two different schools for children in Slovakia - Roma and non-Roma. I went to the Roma school and the standard of education was very poor. My job now is to help primary school children with their language, but also to help their families - I am the bridge between the parents and the school."

Marek, who came to Sheffield after growing up in a small Slovakian village, tells a story of his dream to become a musician and to develop his singing skills. He talks about the opportunities he now has in Sheffield, which did not exist before he came to the UK, and his hope that he can be a role model for other Roma boys. During the film, Marek describes the importance of music to him and how valuable it can be to express true feelings. "Music is all about what I'm going through and the things that happen."



It's the same in the Roma culture. Roma songs are all about true stories. Music is in our blood."

The film is a collaboration between Sheffield Babel Songs, filmmaker Gemma Thorpe and the University of Sheffield, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

It was first shown in July at an event in Cardiff, and is to get its Sheffield premier at St Andrew's Church, Psalter Lane on Saturday 27th September, 4-8pm. Marek will also be performing songs from the film with Sheffield Babel Songs and the event will include choirs and groups from across Sheffield sharing their music, heritage and culture.

Mario and Marek's film can be viewed on Youtube:
youtu.be/_tY4VuERQZI



Readers rise to the challenge

Story: Lisa Swift | Photos: Rohan Francis

Burngreave Library was busy with children during the summer holidays. Many were encouraged to keep reading by the Library Service's Summer Reading Challenge. The Burngreave Messenger and Pitsmoor Adventure Playground also provided activities based on this year's reading theme, the Mythical Maze.

During the 6 week break, children created monsters and magical creatures and learned about mythologies. Over 20 primary and secondary school age children completed the challenge of reading at least 6 books during the holiday. They were presented with certificates and medals by library worker Janet Ring, at a special celebration event on 30th August.

Library users thank staff

The library celebration was also a chance to thank library workers Janet Ring, Mary Reid and Sue Taylor. After decades of service in Burngreave, Janet, Mary and Sue will be working in different libraries from October, because of cuts in the library service at Burngreave.

Library users presented flowers and a decorated cake and spoke about the huge contribution the staff had made to the local community. Parent and library user Marcia said, "I just wanted to thank you for the difference you have made to our community, and to me and my son personally. You have had a huge impact

on the lives of children who started reading here and have gone on to University and successful lives."

Another library user Dorothy said, "This library makes such a difference to local people's lives, adults as well as children. Many vulnerable adults need the library service and library staff more than ever."

Mary thanked everyone on behalf of staff, and said, "This is a fantastic library, and you have all been the best borrowers."

Fundraising continues for the library

Over 50 local residents attended a library fundraising Céilidh on 21st September on Holtwood Road.



Despite the Council's recent rejection of Burngreave Library's plan, local residents defiantly continued their fundraising efforts.

The Céilidh (a traditional Gaelic social gathering) included folk music played by local musicians Jess and Richard Arrowsmith, and calling by Jenny Reid. Everyone enjoyed dancing with regular breaks for cake and refreshments donated by local residents. Organiser Lucy Davis said, "We can't imagine Burngreave without a library, and local people are committed to helping in any way they can to save it. We hope this will be the first of many family events."

Language Futures at Byron Wood

Story: Smaila Sadique

The pupils of Byron Wood Primary School have been using a new approach to language learning with the help of a £10,000 grant from The Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Caroline Norman from Languages Sheffield and Smaila Sadique from Byron Wood have been working together to trial the Languages Futures approach with primary aged students for the first time since it was developed at Linton Village College in Cambridgeshire.

The approach typically engages students by enabling them to select a language that is meaningful to them, equipping them



with the skills and motivation to manage their own learning process.

Children from Byron Wood expressed interest in learning Somali, Arabic, Urdu, French and Mandarin Chinese at after school language clubs. As well as specific language clubs the school is offering two after school play clubs that incorporate students' own mother tongue. As part of the project, Byron Wood is supporting community language schools to deliver



good quality language provision for young mother tongue learners.

In the spring term we will be sharing our experiences and achievements with other schools in Sheffield.

For more information contact
smaila.sadique@byronwood.sheffield.sch.uk or
caroline@languages-sheffield.org.uk

Normandy Veterans' Association to disband

Story: John Mellor | Photo: Richard Hanson

Local Burngreave resident, Ken Riley (pictured), who is the chairman of the Sheffield branch of the Normandy Veterans' Association, tells me that the national association is to disband in November, although local groups, like the one in Sheffield, will be free to continue meeting informally for mutual support and social gatherings.



The Sheffield branch was formed in 1982 and one of its founding members, Gordon Drabble (the brother-in-law of Rev Don

Sparkes, a former vicar of Christ Church, Pitsmoor) is now the secretary. I asked him why it took so long after the Normandy landings in June 1944 for the NVA to be formed. He said:

"After members of the armed services were demobilised in 1945 they wanted to forget about the trauma of their battle experiences and get back as quickly as possible to a normal civilian life. They found it difficult to talk to their families and friends about the horrific experiences they had witnessed during the war years which had affected many of them both physically and mentally. It was a veteran from Grimsby in 1981 who had the idea of forming a local group in that town and in response to an advert in the local press 35 veterans turned up for a meeting. This soon expanded nationally until there were 102 branches in the UK. They provided comradeship and mutual support with many veterans being able to speak and write about their experiences of the war for the first time."

Some of these accounts have been published in recent editions of the Messenger and others are in the process of being prepared. The Sheffield branch now has 31 members, from a total of over 100 a decade or so ago. Those who remain are now 90 years of age or more, and this is the main reason for the official ending of the association. A commemoration and unveiling of a national monument is to take place shortly at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire with a member of the Royal Family present.



Oromo Association visit Scarborough

Story & photo: Badasso Safawo, Chair of Sheffield Oromo Community Association

On August 16th, Sheffield Oromo Community Association (representing Oromo people from Ethiopia, northern Kenya and Somalia) organised a visit to Scarborough for our members, young and old.

Our aim was to introduce community members to parts of the UK they wouldn't have seen before, and to help bond the group together.

The Sheffield Oromo community also plan to visit other Oromo communities in places like Leeds and Bradford, so that we can share our experiences and learn from each other, to help to build stronger associations and communities. Thanks to support from the Big Lottery Fund for supporting our activity.

Feeling Good again on Verdon Street

Story & photo: Lisa Swift

There will be lots of chances to feel good at Verdon Recreation Centre, after Burngreave Tenants and Residents Association secured a further 2 years funding for the health project, Feeling Good on Verdon Street.



With funding from the People's Health Trust, the project will again be holding a weekly drop in for women on a Wednesday, with the chance to meet new people and try new activities including exercise and crafts. Project worker Aislinn Adams said:

"We will be asking people what activities they would like to do and building the programme around what they want. We will also be able to offer training for volunteers who want to help out each week and develop their skills, which will be useful for getting employment and being more active in the community."

Fellow worker Shena Moore said,

"This is a social and supportive group. Women who need help with their English can come along and I will support them."

At the first session in September women enjoyed some energetic Zumba, badminton and knitting. New member of the group Gemma said,

"I've got four boys, one with special needs, and this is the only time I get for myself. Everyone is really friendly and welcoming. Zumba really helps me de-stress, and it means I can get fit without the cost of joining a gym."

Volunteer Diane said:

"It's loads of fun. This is a really friendly group. I'd encourage people to just come along and have fun."

The Feeling Good on Verdon Street project includes: Badminton Wednesdays 9.30am-10.30am £1, Drop-in for women with conversation, crafts and exercise Wednesdays 10am-12noon, Volunteering opportunities, Cook and Eat sessions once a month at the Furnival Thursdays, 11.30am - 1.30pm, 23rd October, 27th November, 18th December.

For more information contact Aislinn Adams on 07432 805 847 or email aislinn.adams@fiscali.co.uk

Fir Vale youth group holds conference

Story: An Nasiha Group

Fir Vale based voluntary youth group An Nasiha organised another successful youth conference, entitled You vs Dunya (the world).

The conference was successfully organised by Zia Khan, Hafiz Issarar Hussain, Adeeb Chaudry and a group of

committed volunteers who form Fir Vale based voluntary group An Nasiha (sincere guidance).

The aim of the event was to engage the local youth and give them advice that will help and support them through life's many challenges, such as drugs, violence and domestic problems which may occur in their lives.

The event was brilliantly hosted by Hafiz Issarar who is currently studying Islamic sciences in Nottinghamshire. Motivational and informative talks were delivered by Shaykh Waseem Ahmed and Shaykh Sadaqat Hussain (both are local scholars).



A very detailed and thought provoking speech was delivered by Imam Asim Hussain, who is also renowned for being one of the youngest Imams in the United Kingdom. Inspirational Nasheeds (songs of praise) were performed by local and internationally acclaimed artist Ahmad Hussain.

Somali Professionals Association

Story: Muna Abdi

The Somali Professionals Association (SPA) is running a series of business, education and health-related workshops over the next few months.



The SPA was set up by professionals living and working in the Burngreave area. The organisation was formed just over a year ago and has since gained over 100 members, who are graduates and professionals in fields such as health and social care, education, medicine and engineering. The SPA is a non-profit organisation, designed to enable professionals to mobilise their talents and skills by working collectively to meet the needs of the community.

The SPA is running the workshops in partnership with the Sheffield based social enterprise, AALFY, and supported by the JG Graves Charitable Trust. They have developed a unique programme focusing on business start-up and capacity building in the local community, targeted at unemployed people of all ages. The first session on 29th of September will be a fun and interactive workshop on branding, digital marketing and

advertising, focusing on developing a business identity. This will be delivered by AALFY with the support of a team from the Muslim Marketing Company. Other speakers include Angga Kara, a local Sheffield entrepreneur and motivational speaker. Angga has developed a successful fashion label (HANTU) in Burngreave and is now selling across the UK.

The first workshop will take place on 29th of September at the Vestry Hall in Burngreave, starting promptly at 1pm. To book onto the workshop and for further details about the Somali Professionals Association you can contact the team by emailing somaliprofessionals@gmail.com

You can also follow the Somali Professionals Association (SPA) on twitter: @sprof

Head shave for Ghana

Story: May Norwood

Some of you may have seen the Messenger article about 15 Fir Vale students going to build an orphanage in Ghana. If you didn't, then now you know!

I was one of those students. I spent 10 days in Ghana, and I have to say, it was one of the best experiences of my life. It was hard. We had to battle heat, mosquitos, and I got very, very ill.



Despite this, it was incredibly rewarding. I felt fulfilled in myself. We did something meaningful, and that gives you the sort of buzz that nothing else can quite match.

Having done something so amazing, I didn't want to just forget about it. I wanted to follow it up with something. I realised I could raise more money for the children in the orphanage! I decided to do a sponsored head shave. My friends and family were very supportive of the idea, and helped me set up a sponsorship page and get started. We also found we could donate the hair to charity as well. We chose to donate it to the Little Princess Trust, which is a charity that make wigs for children who've had chemotherapy.

Now I am here, enjoying the freedom of short hair, watching it grow, millimetre by millimetre, happy in the knowledge that I have raised an extra £220 for the wonderful children I met in Ghana.

Anne and Gladys retire

Story: Sabrina Ahmed



Anne Sheldon and Gladys Newbolt have retired from the Wensley Tenants and Residents Association (TARA). After many years spent devoted to the organisation they spoke to me about the highlights and memories of their years at the TARA.

Anne had been a member for over 20 years alongside her husband and chairman Roger Sheldon who sadly passed away 2 years ago. "My role throughout the years was 'treasurer' but I had attended committee meetings for 2 to 3 years in the 1980s". Unfortunately the TARA came to an end after this period, but the encouraging words of a friend led Anne to decide to take on the role in the TARA again, saving it from folding in the 1990s.

Gladys had been attending general meetings before becoming a member of the committee "I've now been secretary for 15 years". Wensley TARA is an organisation which attempts to improve life for the local community. Gladys explained why she joined the TARA, "I felt guilty, the TARA committee were doing something for me. I wanted to return something to the community. My eyes were opened to what the TARA does. I think that without the TARA the estate would be poorer". Anne similarly stated, "I have tried to make a difference to the community through the TARA."

Both Gladys and Anne have made a huge difference to the estate. They worked closely with organisations and services, for instance the council, the police and the local school. These relationships meant drastic changes could be made; changes which affect the lives of residents to this day. They campaigned for speed bumps

to be placed on the estate to avoid accidents on roads near the school which improved the safety of the area. In the early years of the estate, Anne campaigned for gas fires to be fitted in some homes, as the original radiators were inadequate. Anne also explained how they supported 'Decent Homes' improvements to take place, meaning new bathrooms and kitchens for the houses in the estate. Gladys explained how they got new railings fitted so residents could have their own garden space.

Anne and Gladys along with the TARA committee, made the appearance of the estate better by organising events such as 'spring clean' days which included litter picking and planting spring bulbs. They also aimed to help residents to become better citizens. "We received funding and put on football for 41 weeks, once a week and extra funding for summer holiday activities," Gladys described, "After this project the kids were able to form friendships with adults and police and saw them as people they could talk to." Anne and Gladys both agreed that these were the real rewards of the work, seeing children develop positive attitudes and seeing respect and positive relationships increase on the estate. I went on to ask Anne and Gladys if they feel the estate has improved because of the TARA. Gladys said: "I hope so." Anne added, "I think they have, maybe not 100%, but things are much better."

Due to Anne and Gladys' retirement a new committee are now responsible for the TARA. I asked how they felt handing over the duty and Gladys said, "I wish the new committee all the very best. TARA committees and officers are not paid. They are committed to helping the estate's tenants and residents. All I ask is that the tenants and residents of Wensley recognise the work that the TARA is doing and supports them by attending meetings or joining the committee. I also thank everyone that has supported us and helped Wensley."

New committee for Wensley TARA

Following the retirement of Gladys and Anne from the Wensley TARA committee, several residents have come forward to volunteer to keep the TARA going. Wilf Griffiths is the new secretary, Fatima Own is the chair, and Mark Hutchinson will be the Treasurer.

The group will be holding a general meeting on Monday 13th October, 5pm at Wensley Community Centre and they hope other local residents will come along to get involved and share their ideas. It's very important that residents attend the TARA public meetings, so that the TARA can continue. Look out for the TARA newsletter for more details or contact Wilf on 07878 429 144 or email wilf.griffiths@aol.com

New Carwood Committee

Story: Lisa Swift

In August Carwood Tenants and Residents Association formed a new committee of 6 local residents.

The group, who are all volunteers, are planning a range of activities and they hope other local residents will come along to support them and get involved.

Computer classes will start on 23rd October, and will be held every Thursday 1-3pm in Carwood meeting room. This class will be supported by Heeley Development Trust.

There will be a community litter pick on 29th October starting at 10.30am. Please come along and help make the estate tidy for everyone, there will be free refreshments.



To find out more about the TARA, to get involved or share your views, come along to the weekly coffee morning at the TARA office every Wednesday 10.30am - 12noon or attend their consultation day and party on Friday 3rd October from 2.30pm at Carwood meeting room. Or call the office on 327 3800.



Nottingham Rec barbecue

Story & photo: Philip Ireson

Ant Stevens, youth worker at Christ Church, organised a joint community event with young people from All Saints Church, Ecclesall, at the end of July. The team spent two days doing practical tasks, including litter-picking, and learning about Pitsmoor.

The highlight was the community party at Nottingham Rec. Over two hundred people of all ages and backgrounds enjoyed a barbecue, face-painting, bouncy castle and organised games.



Churches work together for the summer

Story: Beth Burras, St Philip's Red Team
Photos: John Mellor

7th-10th August were four days of fun, food and friendship. The venue was the beautiful St Peter's church at Ellesmere.



We started the weekend with kids clubs on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with around 50 children coming to play games, do crafts and learn about God. In the afternoons, a team of people in distinctive 'Red Team' t-shirts were out and about, washing people's cars and litter-picking around Scott Road.



Saturday afternoon saw the return of the annual Family Fun Day at St Peter's, with a bouncy castle and barbecue. We had an area where people could come and receive spiritual readings and encouraging messages from God. The sun shone for us and it was a great time with the whole community represented.



Sunday saw the launch of our afternoon 'Messy Church.' This is a fun church for all the family where children did a lot of messy crafts and heard a story before everyone came together to eat a meal. This will be continuing monthly at St Peter's on Sundays 28th September, 26th October, 23rd November and a Christmas special on 21st December. Children need to come with their parents or carers, please. The time is 4-5.30pm and all families are welcome to come and learn about Jesus in a fun and friendly environment, with some food and crafts thrown in!



Welcome Centre Toddler Group

Story & photos: Frances Ireson

The multicultural Toddler Group at The Welcome Centre is open again after the summer break for preschoolers 0-4 years old.



The cost is 50p per adult or child including refreshments. Although we run activities from 9.30-11.30am every Wednesday on Nottingham Street (opposite Rising Street), our doors are open from about 9am for parents to come straight from dropping older children at nursery or school.

Our aim is to provide stimulating activities for young minds to investigate,



construct and create. Toys and puzzles are rotated so there is different equipment out each week over the month and interesting crafts each week.

For parents, whether your child is two weeks, two months or two years old we offer time together to share needs, form friendships and learn from each other over a cup of tea or coffee.

Support to improve your health

My name is Somshun Nessa, I am based in Sorby House with my colleague Naheen; we are part of the SOAR Health Team. Our job is to work with the people of Burngreave, Pitsmoor and Page Hall areas.

I can help you improve your health and wellbeing by helping you access local activities, courses and services. I have also provided many services such as women only exercise, chronic pain support, diabetes support, domestic abuse support groups and courses.



If you are interested in any courses I provide (mentioned below) I can help you access them by accompanying you to the venue. If you want to book yourself on any courses the best way to contact me is

by text on my mobile 07960 084 119, leaving your name and details of what you are interested in. For those who have access to email please email me at somshun.nessa@soarcommunity.org.uk

If you feel there is a particular service missing in this area please feel free to share your ideas and thoughts with me. I can't promise to fulfil everyone's wishes, but I will try my very hardest.

I also welcome any organisations in the community to contact me to discuss any possible collaborative work. Together we can help unite people from all walks of life and help build a stronger community, by empowering people in our community to access services they need and want.



Pain Support Group

- Tuesdays 12.30 – 2.30pm
- 30th September, 14th and 28th October
- At Sorby House, Spital Hill

Socialise with likeminded people and gain new skills to self-manage pain. Includes workshops around pain management, relaxation, massage and meditation. Translators are available.

This is a fortnightly service, everyone is welcome. The sessions are delivered by Somshun Nessa and supported by Page Hall Practice Champions.

Women Only Support Group

- Next sessions: 12.00 – 2.00pm Tuesday 21st October and Tuesday 25th November
- At Sorby House, Spital Hill

We welcome you to join our safe, confidential and friendly environment.

This group we will be looking at practical ways to cope with stress and anger, and may include a safe and effective practical exercise. It will provide practical and emotional support for women going through any kind of abuse

This group is supported by Somshun Nessa and Page Hall Practice Champions Almas and Shafaz.

FREE refreshments available.



Cook and Eat sessions

- Thursdays, 11.30am – 1.30pm
- Monthly: 23rd October, 27th November, 18th December
- The Furnival, Verdon Street
- Free and open to all.

'What is Health?' course

- 8 week course, with creche
- Starts Tuesday 14th October
- 9.30am – 12.30pm
- St Cuthbert's Church, Fir Vale

By the end of the 8 weeks programme participants will be able to:

- Express their own view of health and wellbeing
- Relate how their moods, friends, family and finances can affect their health and wellbeing
- Relate how social contact, network and money affect communities
- Recognise their own skills and how they can set achievable goals
- Share experience, make friends and join in local activities

For all activities contact:

Somshun Nessa
Mobile - 07960 084 119
Email: somshun.nessa@soarcommunity.org.uk



Exercise groups at Verdon Recreation Centre

Zumba

- Tuesdays 6.30 – 7.30pm, £3

Women Only Exercise Course

- Mondays 1.30 – 2.30pm. Free

Contact Somshun to check that spaces are available.

Domestic Abuse Awareness training

- Monday 24th November
- 9.30am – 4.30pm
- Sorby House, 42 Spital Hill

To book contact Somshun Nessa.

For more information on courses delivered by Vida see www.vidasheffield.org.uk



To access support for domestic abuse:

Call the helpline on **0808 808 2241** or email help@sheffielddact.org.uk

In case of emergency or if you are a neighbour who overhears or witnesses a victim of domestic abuse ring 999 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Parkwood landfill closer to closure

Story: Douglas Johnson

The company that operates Parkwood landfill site stopped the tipping of "active waste" at the site from 1st August 2014.

Active waste that cannot be recycled will now be trucked to Viridor's "energy recovery facility" (or incinerator) in Cheshire - not to the one in Sheffield which is run by Veolia. Viridor will still accept inert material such as rubble at Parkwood.

The site is due to be fully closed by 2018 and restored by late 2020 but Viridor will continue to extract energy from the gas generated on the site for many years to come.

Viridor's planning application for the restoration plan for the landfill site has still not been submitted. The Friends of Parkwood Springs group understands that the delay is caused by the need for more work on the plans for drainage of surface water.

The Friends group will meet to discuss the latest plans on Tuesday 7th October, at 7pm at St Catherine's School.



Party in Devon Gardens

Story & photos: Aishah Baroo

On Saturday 13th September from 2-4pm, neighbours got together to attend the annual general meeting of the Friends of Devon Gardens.

The locals gathered together and brought refreshments for the event which included classic home-baked cakes, cupcakes and flapjack as well as traditional Asian specialities like samosas and pakoras. Representatives from Activity Sheffield also came along to provide sports activities and entertainment for the children.



The Friends of Devon Gardens is a group that has been together since 2007. They ensure that the park is maintained and looked after well so that everyone in the community can enjoy it. The annual meeting is a great way for neighbours to get to know each other and come together for a fun day out.

This year's meeting was extra-special as it was the last time the group leader Philip Jakob would be there. He is relocating abroad after he has received a job offer as Director of Music in a Catholic Church in Florida. The other group members all wish him luck and some of them left the following comment:

"We're really sad to see Philip go. He has been instrumental in keeping the group going and we wish him every success in Florida."



Crabtree Ponds

Story: Graham Jones

Crabtree Ponds is Burngreave's best kept secret and an important local green space. The local nature reserve around the ponds is managed by Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust.

Crabtree Ponds started life in the 19th century as an ornamental pond for Crabtree Lodge, since demolished. It is now a large area of standing water abundant with fish such as rudd, roach, perch, crucian carp, sticklebacks and even

eels. Hawker dragonflies, smooth and palmate newts, frogs and toads can also be found here.

Bats and birds

Pipistrelle, Daubenton's and Leisler's bats all flit over from the nearby Roe Woods to feed at the ponds. In the woods, where sycamore, poplar and ash predominate, bird boxes have encouraged nesting, with treecreepers, woodpeckers, wrens and several tits seen. There are a wide variety of invertebrates and fungi around the site.

Funding from Awards for All (£7,750) allowed the Wildlife Trust to replace the flights of steps, plant native shrubs and ground cover (hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, holly, oak), and native bulbs around entrances (bluebells, snowdrops, daffodils, wood anemones).

Volunteer work

The volunteer maintenance group have also done some experimental wetland planting, with yellow flag iris, cotton grass, water plantain, sweet galingale, spikerush and reed canary grass.

Other work done by the volunteers includes repair of the boardwalk, cutting

back vegetation and spraying Japanese Knotweed. In these ways, local volunteers have given their time and a huge amount of effort to keep Crabtree Ponds safe, tidy, enjoyable for local residents and of value to wildlife - their efforts are really appreciated! These maintenance days are open to anyone who wishes to come along and lend a hand and the volunteers are always happy to see new faces.

For more information about Crabtree Ponds, visit the Wildlife Trust website at www.wildsheffield.com.

Maintenance days are held on the first Monday of every month (9.30am - 12pm) - drop in whenever convenient. Tasks include litter-picking, habitat management, planting and infrastructure repair. Tools, gloves, hot drinks and biscuits are provided. All help is gratefully received.

The next Reserve Advisory Group meeting for Crabtree Ponds will be held at St. James's Church on Scott Road, on Monday 12th January 2015 at 6pm. For further information, please contact nature.reserves@wildsheffield.com or ring Sarah Sidgwick, Community Wildlife Ranger, on 0114 263 4335.



Jess and Jo wanted to raise awareness, as not many people have heard of the charity. It supports women diagnosed with cancer in pregnancy and within a year of birth: www.mummysstar.org

Jess responded, "You never think about this and how people get through it. It made me appreciate my life."

Playground manager, Patrick Meleady, said, "We want to profile the charity and support families. Jess and Jo both played at Pitsmoor Adventure as children, and wanted to shave their hair in the playground where they



Playground funday

Story: Saleema Imam & Sonam Nawaz
Photos: Sonam Nawaz

During a brilliant summer at Pitsmoor Adventure Playground Joanna Harrison and Jessica Lonsdale helped organise a funday, where they shaved their heads raising £540 for the Mummy's Star Charity.

When asked why, Jess said "I have a close friend who was diagnosed with cancer and was told she couldn't have children. Miraculously, she conceived and went on to have a baby."



grew up. We thought we'd provide a platform for Jo and Jess and facilitate the head shave."

Julius, one of the playground workers, helped to shave their hair and said "I thought it was a great idea. I feel bad for butchering their long hair, but it's for a beautiful cause."

Both young women felt nervous and excited saying "We will appreciate our hair when it grows back."

They will donate the money through www.justgiving.com/joandjessx

Pitsmoor Adventure Playground is open:
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 3.15 - 6.15pm. Saturday 12.30 - 3.30pm.
Holidays, same days 12.30 - 3.30pm.



Fire safety at the Playground

Story: Laura Watkins

Pitsmoor Adventure Playground staff have put together a programme of fire safety and fun with fire events. The Adventure Playground have secured a grant and formed a partnership with South Yorkshire Fire Service.

The events kick off on Saturday 27th September when the playground hosts a fire safety day, with visits from a working fire engine and staff from the South Yorkshire Fire Service. Members of the staff team have been perfecting their fire

lighting skills in preparation for the new programme of fire based events.

Every Friday there will be a campfire and activities about fire safety at the adventure playground - including how to light a fire safely, how to manage a fire, how to prevent fires, how to put out a fire, escape route planning for your home, fire safety at home, fire safety on Bonfire Night and the importance of having smoke alarms in your home.

The partnership with South Yorkshire Fire Service includes signing up for free smoke alarms to be installed in your home and advice from the firefighters.

Sponsored run for the Playground

Story: Chris Taylor

I'm running in the Great Yorkshire Run 10K race on the 28th of September to raise money towards equipment at the playground.



The local community took over the running of Pitsmoor Adventure Playground in 2014 to save this much-needed and much-loved resource from closure. A charitable organisation has been set up to raise funds for and manage the playground, previously managed by Sheffield City Council.

The playground needs investment in new play equipment to keep it interesting and inviting to local children. Please sponsor me if you can - it's the reason I took up running!

My sponsorship site is here: www.sponsorme.co.uk/christaylor/great-yorkshire-run-10k-2014.aspx

SADACCA International Community Cultural Day

One City, Many Cultures

Story & photos: Rob Siamtinta



Sheffield and District African Caribbean Community Association (SADACCA), with the support of community partners, held its annual International Community Cultural Day on 25th August, an opportunity to experience the diversity of cultures in Sheffield. It was attended by The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Councillor Peter Rippon.

Included were art and craft displays, traditional music, cultural food tasting, story-telling, drama and children's workshops & activities by various ethnic groups from the city including the Ethiopian Oromo Community, Hindu Samaj and Romano Jilo dancers, and the Umubama friendship group from the Congo.



International migration and globalisation has resulted in a rich culturally diverse community throughout the world. Sheffield, the fourth largest city in the UK embraces this. Appreciation of this cultural diversity gained through the mixture of rich heritage and practices as seen today may disappear if not continuously shared.

Fir Vale funday

Story & photos: Seema Ghazal

During the summer holidays the Yemeni Community Association had a family funday at Fir Vale Community Centre.



The main goal was to get children out of the house, especially with the weather being so warm. YCA volunteers helped by working at the stalls and managing the music. Most of the items that stall workers had brought were from home, but the bouncy castle had been rented for the children.



The stalls were everywhere, including indoors. There was a lot of face painting, candy floss, barbecue food and ice cold drinks. There was also a place for all the worn out parents to sit. There was a huge bouncy castle for the kids to enjoy.

Usha Blackham and Nadeen Al Shaibi organised the event with support from the team at the YCA. Money from the event will go towards future activities at the Community Centre. Volunteers also give their own money just to make sure it keeps on rolling.

During the holidays the YCA organised two seaside trips for family and friends. There are always families requesting more trips. In August most of the people that attended had asked for more events for their children.



George & Brian

hair-brained!

by Edgar Lowman

Brian I'm going to shave my hair for charity



But you only have one hair.



Yes, but he needs a trim





Pye Bank welcomes new headteacher

Story: Priya Blackham

Pye Bank Primary School welcomed new headteacher Mo Andrews in September, following the retirement of Paul Hopkinson in January.

In an interview with the Messenger, Mo spoke enthusiastically about joining the school:

"I've received an amazing welcome already from parents and I know interest in the school is high in the local community."

Mo has been a headteacher for 10 years. She was first appointed as a Head at a school in Barnsley in 2005 where she stayed for 5 years. She then came to work in Sheffield and was Head of Longley Primary School (now called Pathways Academy) for another 5 years.

Mo maintained her connection to the Burngreave area by being involved with Pye Bank as a School Improvement Partner. It was then Mo felt Pye Bank's "huge potential to be outstanding and its warmth" and when the post became available she felt as if the post was right for her.

At the end of last year Pye Bank's Year 6s achieved their best ever Key Stage 2 results, placing the school above the 'national floor standard'. Mo aims to ensure that all their students leave Pye Bank at the highest level they can, as well as ensuring that they have the appropriate skills and support to help them in terms of lifelong employability. The school aims to do this by ensuring the curriculum is engaging. Mo believes that "if children enjoy learning they do achieve really well."

Community and parent involvement is also another priority for Pye Bank. The school aims to maintain the high level of involvement in family learning, ESOL courses and coffee mornings. Mo emphasised the benefit of the coffee mornings, saying:

"At the coffee mornings you can talk to parents, which is good because we can have open and transparent relationships to find out what the parents want. It's the goodwill and relationship that is powerful here and by maintaining that we can serve the needs of the school."

Mo recognises that Pye Bank has an important part to play in the wider community, particularly around the development of Verdon Recreation Centre, which the school manages:

"It is an amazing facility and we want to work with the local community to develop it as a community hub. We will be looking to develop adult learning for parents and the whole community. We will also be holding our winter fair in the centre so the whole community can join in."

Mo Andrew's personal goal, in partnership with Samina Qureshi, the Deputy Headteacher, is for the school to be 'outstanding' in 2 years' time. She told us:

"This community deserves an 'outstanding' school, so that the children can move on into the future and achieve their goals, whether that's to make a positive contribution to their community or to go to university and meet other aspirations."

She hopes this can be done by Pye Bank supporting the parents to support the children.

Oasis Fir Vale opens



On Monday 8th September, a brand new building on Owler Lane - Oasis Academy Fir Vale - opened to provide primary education, including 60 places in reception and 52 nursery places.

Debra Ward, the Principal of Oasis Academy Fir Vale says:

"This is an incredibly exciting time for the students, staff and myself; one with which I am immensely proud to be involved. We will work towards strengthening relationships with parents and the local community at large, working to ensure every pupil's first experience of compulsory education is a positive and unforgettable one."

For more information on Oasis Academy Fir Vale please visit: www.oasisacademyfirvale.org

Family Learning at Firs Hill

Story & photos: Kath Hobson

An exciting six week family learning course called "Talking Together" started on Wednesday 17th September at Firs Hill Primary School.

The course is aimed at families with children in nursery and reception classes and will really help them to support their children in their speaking and listening. Pretend play and lots of talking and asking questions about what you are doing is really important in those early years and can often be created with items around your home for free!

There were ten ladies who were all mums or grandparents in the group, from five different nationalities. Everyone got on really well, doing small group activities together.

The tutor, Vicky Proctor, asked the women if they knew what a 'den' was? Only one out of the ten knew it was a home-made shelter which children build to play in. They then had the task of making a den and thinking of what they could do at home with their children. A few ideas they came up with were reading, having a picnic, singing, making a look-out and spending individual time with each child.



Wensley community funday

Story & photos: Muneebah Waheed

On September 13th, the annual community funday was in full swing. The event, hosted on the Wensley field, was packed with exciting activities, including rock climbing, parachute games and face painting.

Claire Shaw from Owler Brook School, one of the organisers of the event, spoke to the Messenger saying:

"A few years ago, we had an idea to set up an informal group of people from the local community. Our aim was to develop and run a variety of community activities to create a more harmonious, inclusive and active community. The group has grown and we have people representing the local schools, Eden project, the local police and local TARA groups."



"The group have helped to secure funding over the years that has provided a variety of life skill activities during school holidays. Activities like gardening in the local area, cycling lessons and swimming lessons and providing activities like art sessions and sports."

"Every September the group put on a community funday, just to say thank you for being a great community and letting us work with you. This year was yet another success, showing great community cohesion."

Whiteways ESOL visit Wentworth

Story: Whiteways ESOL group & Margaret Gibson, ESOL Tutor, Lifelong Learning & Skills

On 25th June I took a group of Whiteways School Adult ESOL learners to Wentworth Gardens and Farm for a morning.

All learners were given a quiz to complete to encourage them to use spoken English to ask questions and to find the answers. Everybody did very well and had a lovely time as illustrated in their writing that they did on return to class the following week. Here are some examples of what they said about the visit:

"I love the peacocks which come from India. The female was brown but the peacock was a very nice colour and his tail was lovely and amazing." Olfat Dawara, Entry 3

"First we saw lots of flowers, different colours. Next I went in another building and saw lots of fish in different colours and they were very nice." Mohammed Najib, Entry 3

"I really felt excited to see many different kinds of beautiful flowers and beautiful animals." Buddhi Rai, Entry 3

"When we got there it seemed like a wonderful place to visit. It's situated in a countryside village in South Yorkshire." Khamber Tamang, Entry 3

"It was one of my best days in the UK when my tutor asked us to visit one of the most attractive places in the north, it is Wentworth Garden Centre. The last and most enjoyable part of the visit in my opinion, was the visit to the historic garden where we wandered throughout the garden and I really enjoyed the charming Italian Gardens where I took a picture with the other learners." Ahmed Ahmed, Level 2

"It was the first time I've seen meerkats. They are grey in colour and the size of a cat. The body is slender and legs are long and thin. They were sitting there looking around, very lovely." Guizhen Yuan, Entry 3

"I saw a lot of flowers, many types and different colours. I like the roses, they had a really nice smell." Arwa Hookias, Entry 3

A good time was had by all and some learners said that they would be taking their family there over the summer holidays.

Eco friendly family learning

Story: Naseem, parent at Whiteways Primary School

A group of parents at Whiteways School have done an amazing Family Learning course called Eco Monster.

The course was about the impact that rubbish and litter have on the environment and what we can do about it. As part of the course we went outside into the surrounding area of the community and we were shocked at what we saw. We found a mattress, nappies, food containers, wrappers, food and glass



bottles which should be in the household bins but were on the street.

We involved our own children who attend Whiteways School. With them we tallied up all the rubbish found in the street. Our children were excited to be involved and then shocked to see the rubbish. The

surrounding affected areas were Whiteways Road and Earl Marshal Road near Skinnerthorpe Road.

The course taught us that rubbish can take many thousands of years to decompose and that means it can get into the food chain which affects us all. Together we learned that to change things we have to follow the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. In one of the classes we worked with a local company who recycle aluminium cans into new objects. They came into school and families were able to see the process and make things.

For the future, we need to see more bins in the surrounding area, and all over the wider city. People need to be educated to love their environment. After all we have to live here.


Yorkshire Smokefree
 South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

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0330 660 1166 free from mobiles
www.yorkshiresmokefree.nhs.uk

Drop in to see a trained stop smoking adviser at:

- Pitsmoor Surgery**, 151 Burngreave Road S3 9DL
- Swift Pharmacy**, 1 Gower Street S4 7HA
- Upwell Street Surgery**, 93 Upwell Street S4 8AN
- Wicker Pharmacy**, 55-59 Wicker S3 8HT
- Page Hall Medical Centre**, 101 Owl Lane (Advisers in practices can support registered patients)

Or call into the city centre drop in service at 39 Charles Street




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 #whatittakes
 
SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

messy church

A fresh way of doing church for all the family

When?
 Sunday 28th September, 26th October,
 23rd November, 21st December

Where?
 St Peter's Church, Ellesmere, S4 7EP

Time?
 4-5.30pm

What?
 Creative family church
 with arts and crafts, music and food!

All welcome to join us for our messy church gatherings.
 Children need to come with their parents/carers.



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Keep warm this winter and save money on your bills

Story: Rick Watson

As winter approaches, it's time to think about how to keep warm and cosy without huge energy bills. Whether you are a tenant, landlord, or home-owner, energy efficiency doesn't have to cost a fortune.

Sometimes the simplest and cheapest things are the most effective, like draught-proofing your doors and windows, and sealing round your skirting boards.



Open Homes in Burngreave

On Sunday October 19th, three houses in Burngreave are opening their doors to the public to give people the chance to see many ways to improve homes, and to talk to home-owners and tenants about their experiences of deciding what changes to make. This is an opportunity to visit a range of typical hard-to-heat Burngreave houses, and ask your own questions about the energy efficiency improvements that have been made.

The event is organised by Green Homes Sheffield, a free network set up to help you make your home warmer and more energy efficient. Call Rick on 07904 300 606 or see www.greenhomessheffield.net for information about how to book for this event or others around the city.

Get more help on cutting your bills

For more advice about saving energy and available funding, search for 'affordable energy' on the Sheffield City Council website: www.sheffield.gov.uk



Earl Marshal housing

Story: Rohan Francis | Photo: Sonam Nawaz

Local residents were eager to see the latest proposals for the Earl Marshal housing development when they were unveiled by Sheffield Housing Company at a well-attended consultation afternoon in August.

The plans include proposals to build 59 houses on empty land between Earl Marshal Road and Skinnerthorpe Road - next to the new Oasis Fir Vale Primary. The developers' drawings show a mixture of house sizes, with 12 two-bed, 22 three-bed, 19 four-bed, 4 five-bed and 2 six-bed properties. Of the 59 homes proposed, 53 will be for sale and 6 for 'affordable' rent.

Pedestrian through route

The houses are arranged around a central tree-lined avenue, with each having a rear garden and separate driveway. Sheffield Housing Company responded to earlier consultation by committing to retaining the pedestrian route from Earl Marshal Road to Skinnerthorpe Road, and the shops at Fir Vale.

This route will also connect a central public space inside the scheme and a 'community space' beside the junction with Skinnerthorpe Road. The use of this space is yet to be decided but the designers have suggested the area could be used as an environmental feature which would aid in absorbing rainfall from the wider site and take the burden off existing drains.

For more information on the Earl Marshal plans see the Council's web pages: www.sheffield.gov.uk/shc

Residents' meeting for the Scott Road area

Story: Gareth Coleman

On 10th September a group of Burngreave residents met to discuss problems that had been happening on our streets.

The meeting was very well attended with about 80 residents from Firview Gardens, Kirton, Blayton, Sturton, Cawston, Skipton, Pexton, Gayton, Osgathorpe and Ella Roads, Ellesmere Road North, College Close, De La Salle Drive, Malton Street and Scott Road; along with the three local councillors, Inspector Richard Burgess from South Yorkshire Police and local PCSOs. Three council officers from the Private Sector Housing team and

Neighbourhood Management and a representative from Amey the highways contractors also attended.

Residents had met three times before but this was the first time that so many official representatives were present. Brenda McGowan chaired the meeting and did a great job of making sure that everybody got a chance to speak. Many issues were discussed such as littering, noise, overcrowding and how concerned everyone was to keep our neighbourhood a friendly and peaceful corner of Sheffield.

We had asked the council representative to explain about selective licensing and he told us about how the scheme was introduced in Page Hall and how it works. We also heard from the Police about how they are tackling problems in our area. The representative from Amey explained about their contract with the council and how they prioritise areas.

The various official representatives all emphasised that phoning 101 was the way to both get problems attended to and also to raise issues to attract more resources. But we think that all the agencies should be doing more than just reacting to problems one by one.

Several residents spoke about how they had starting talking to their new neighbours and that this was the only way to get problems sorted out. Everyone agreed that racism has no place in Pitsmoor, and that our meetings are open to everyone.

We would like to invite all residents of the streets listed above to bring their ideas for how to make our neighbourhood better to our next meeting.

We are going to meet again on 29th October in St. Peter's Church on Ellesmere Road North at 6.30pm.



Summer activities in Burngreave Cemetery

Story: Saleema Imam | Photos: Christine Steers & Saleema Imam

The WW1 postcard exhibition was enjoyed by visitors during its three day opening and most of the display is still available to view on Sundays. As part of the WW1 event, we created a small well dressing inspired by one of the postcards.

Victoria Smith began her six-month term as our new artist-in-residence on the 1st July. Her focus is the beautiful carving on the gravestones in our Cemetery. She will be staging an exhibition of her work called "All Souls' Day" on Sunday 2nd November, which will be available to view until Christmas. For further information see the Artist-in-Residence section of the Friends of Burngreave Cemetery website or e-mail victoria@cartside1958.me.uk.

The bees continue to flourish and we recently extracted our first honey harvest. We also held a scything training day so that we can care for the new wild-flower meadow around the hives.

Mosaic workshops began in August, leading eventually to the creation of a sundial in the grass.

For more information, see www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk



Greenfingers 10th anniversary

Story: Diana Tottle

It's been 10 years since Burngreave New Deal for Communities provided the capital for SAGE Greenfingers to landscape 3 allotments in Grimesthorpe into a therapeutic space for adults struggling with mental health issues.

HOPE Allotment volunteers wanted

Story & photos: Sarah Emberson

The Conservation Volunteers community allotment project is getting nicely established now and we would love more volunteers to get involved.



Everybody is welcome - whether you want to learn how to grow organic vegetables, meet new people, share your skills and knowledge, get some exercise or just get involved in your local community.

The group meets every Wednesday from 10.30am till 1pm on the High Wincobank allotment site on Windmill Lane. There is also a pick-up from Firth Park Library at 10.15am.

There are regular sessions on Dealing with Anxiety, Creative Writing, Mindfulness and more! Come along and be part of something! We provide hot and cold drinks and biscuits, gloves, tools, seeds and support. Travel expenses can also be reimbursed.

For more information please contact Sarah on 0114 290 1255 or 07740 899583, s.emberson@tcv.org.uk, or go to www.facebook.com/tcvallotment

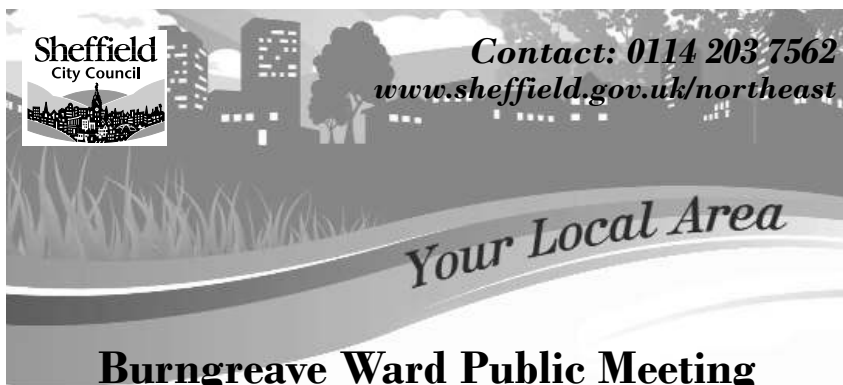
SAGE is running several celebrations this year but 19th August was a highlight. Over 70 people came to our annual Open Day to see our oasis of colour and tranquillity in the heart of Burngreave.

Local MP, David Blunkett, was the headline act. He spoke of his appreciation of gardening as a mental, physical and social activity. He shared the space with local comedienne, Madame Zucchini, who performed a spoof of Star Wars, ably assisted by a SAGE volunteer and several rather tired looking vegetables!

Via Look North and Radio Sheffield, it was a chance for some SAGE members to share with a much wider audience how valuable the project is to them. Tara talked of how the incentive of getting from home to the SAGE site has given her confidence to travel by bus more widely and to get stuck into her own garden. Kal spoke movingly of how a day's exercise, digging or hedge-cutting, stills the voices in his head more effectively than any medication and helps him get a good night's sleep.

If Burngreave residents want to meet SAGE members and staff, we are running an event for World Mental Health Day in the Winter Gardens on Friday 10th October. Pop down to press apples, weave willow and find out more about them.

Here's to another 10 years!



Contact: 0114 203 7562
www.sheffield.gov.uk/northeast

Burngreave Ward Public Meeting

Thursday 16th October 2014 6:00pm–8:00pm
Burngreave Vestry Hall, 2 Burngreave Road, Sheffield, S3 9DD

Agenda (Subject to change)

6.00pm - Welcome

Councillor Talib Hussain (Lead Ward Councillor)
(Housekeeping, Introductions of Ward Councillors)

6.10pm - Local Policing Team - Burngreave Update

Question and answer session

6.55pm- Streets Ahead Programme- Update

Michael Karl- AMEY
Question and answer session

7.25pm - Questions from the public

8.00pm - Meeting closes

Email: dave.aspinall@sheffield.gov.uk
Telephone: 0114 203 7562 or 07718 512 929

Councillor Surgeries

Local councillors, Jackie Drayton, Ibrar Hussain and Talib Hussain (top to bottom) share surgeries on a rota basis.



11th October: 11am-12pm,
Burngreave Library, Jackie Drayton



16th October: 2pm-3pm,
Pakistan Advice Centre, Talib Hussain

21st October: 12pm-1pm,
Norwood & Bishopholme TARA,
Ibrar Hussain



8th November: 11am-12pm,
Burngreave Library, Jackie Drayton

18th November: 12pm-1pm,
Norwood & Bishopholme TARA,
Ibrar Hussain

20th November: 2pm-3pm,
Pakistan Advice Centre, Talib Hussain

13th December: 11am-12pm,
Burngreave Library, Jackie Drayton

16th December: 12pm-1pm,
Norwood & Bishopholme TARA,
Ibrar Hussain

18th December: 2pm-3pm,
Pakistan Advice Centre, Talib Hussain

jackie.drayton@sheffield.gov.uk
ibrar.hussain@sheffield.gov.uk
talib.hussain@sheffield.gov.uk

What do you think our priorities should be?

Burngreave Ward Councillors would like to know what you feel the priorities are in the ward that together need to be tackled.

The current priorities are:

1. Community Support and Wellbeing

Including supporting community activity and engagement and securing a future for Burngreave library.

What other specific things do you think we should work together on in this theme?

2. Environment and Public Realm

Including work with AMEY around the Streets Ahead project and tackling littering and greenspace improvements.
What other specific things do you think we should work together on in this theme?

3. Cohesion and Safety

Including celebrating diversity and people getting on together, addressing anti-social behaviour and standards for private sector landlords in targeted areas.
What other specific things do you think



Photo: Anwar Suliman

we should work together on in this theme?

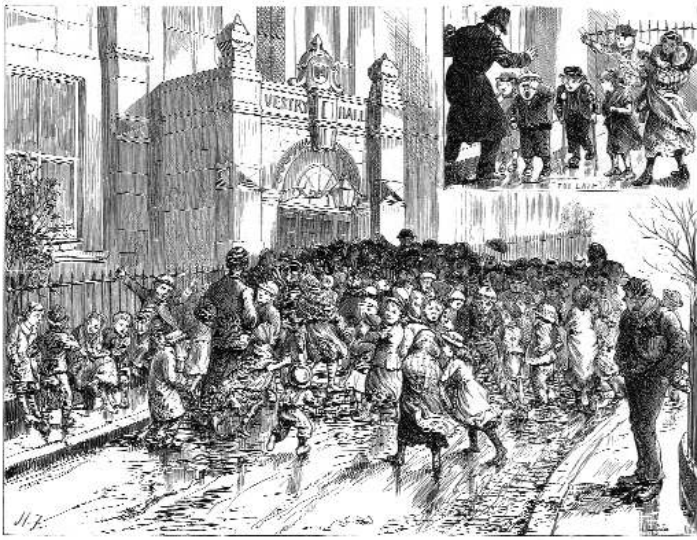
4. Children Young People and Families

Including provision of additional school places with new buildings and supporting adult learning.

What other specific things do you think we should work together on in this theme?

Let us know what you feel about the above by writing to the ward councillors using the Freepost address below. No stamp is required.

**North East Locality Team
(Ground Floor New Bank House)
c/o Corporate Mail Facility
FREEPOST NEA5527
Town Hall,
Sheffield City Council, S1 2ZZ**



"The Distress at Sheffield: Children waiting for soup at the Vestry Hall, Brightside" Illustrated London News, January 11th 1879

Vestry Hall: serving the community for 150 years

Story: Saleema Imam


On August 25th 1863 a meeting in Brightside Bierlow resolved to build Vestry Offices on Burngreave Road. These offices were duly built and opened in 1864, the year carved in stone over the main entrance. At that time the Vestry Hall would have been almost on the outskirts of Sheffield town much in contrast to its current inner city location.

Burngreave Vestry Hall has always held a central position in community life since its opening in 1864. Originally it had a caretaker's house, main hall, kitchen and other smaller meeting

rooms. Of the few things that were forbidden in the original lease, one was using the building for religious services, another as stabling for horses! Its use has varied over the years, from a registry, soup kitchen, learning centre, Sunday school, youth club, rehearsal and performance venue and for wedding receptions, councillor's surgeries, to the planned hosting of international figures such as Picasso (sadly cancelled).

Sheffield City Council (SCC) leased the building from the Duke of Norfolk but, not having adequate funds for maintenance, the Vestry began to fall into disrepair and in 1996, on the formation of the Burngreave Community Action Forum, SCC asked the local community to take over the responsibility for the building and raise funds for its repair. Soon after the roof began to leak so badly that the building was closed. A campaign to raise the large amounts needed for repair ended when the New Deal for Communities funding was received and the transformation began in 2007.

The old caretaker's house was incorporated into the building, a new floor was added under a raised roof with wheelchair access. A lift to all floors was added and the basement was transformed into computer rooms. Let's hope the Vestry Hall can now continue to serve the community's needs for the next 150 years.



Free Cookery Demonstrations

Brown & Polson have arranged for a series of Cookery Lectures by Miss J. Reay, Diplôme, Board of Education for Cookery, on

1. Soups & sauces	2. Pastry, piecrust & puddings
3. Savouries & sweets	4. Cakes & fancy bread
5. Invalid dishes	

5 Afternoon lectures at 3 p.m. Doors open at 2.30 p.m.
5 Evening lectures at 7.30 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Oct. 20th to 24th, 1913.

**Burngreave Vestry Hall,
Grimesthorpe Road, Sheffield.**

Ladies cordially invited to attend

Abbeyfield Park House sundial

Story & photo: John Mellor

Local residents who regularly walk through Abbeyfield Park may well have noticed that the sundial has recently been put back on the front of Abbeyfield House. This sundial was constructed by Steve Pool in 2001 with the aid of a grant obtained from the Peak Park Millennium Commission.

Steve told me: "There are actually two sundials, one for winter and one for summer use. The present one is designed for British Summer Time (BST) but when the clocks go back at the end of October it will be changed to one that operates on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). The original sundial was made of bronze and must have been stolen in the 1990s; there is a picture of it in a box of local Burngreave photos at the Burngreave Library."



The construction of a sundial requires considerable technical expertise. Steve says:

"I had to buy a set of mathematical tables giving cotangents to calculate the correct angles required for accuracy. The sundial has a horizontal dial and needed corrections for the fact that it does not

face due south. Sundials show 'local apparent time' which varies by plus/minus 10 minutes from clock time. Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) only came in with the advent of the railways. Before that, early clocks were supplied with a table so that an adjustment could be made to local apparent time for the synchronisation of railway timetables throughout the country."

If you check the time on the sundial with your watch as you walk past you will see that it's pretty accurate - that's provided the sun is shining, of course!

The original sundial was fitted in 1883 by Bernard Wake who owned Abbeyfield House at the time. He was also responsible for having the inscriptions engraved in the stonework above and below the sundial, presumably to give people something to think about as they walked past. The one at the top reads "My time is in Thy hands" and the one underneath is "Show me the light of Thy countenance" (quotations from Psalms 31 and 4, respectively).

Richard Hanson 1968–2014

Around 300 people packed the parish church, Christ Church Pitsmoor, last month for the funeral of Richard Hanson, who died on 14th August at the age of 45. He had been battling leukaemia for a year.



The service, led by Bishop Martyn Snow, paid tribute to Richard's involvement in the community and also his international work as a photographer. During a career in which he photographed Blair, Blunkett, Hague, Nelson Mandela, Mohammed Ali and the

Archbishop of Canterbury, Richard's work took him to over 40 countries and included assignments in the Haitian earthquake and Rwandan refugee crisis. Much of this was inspired by a commitment to global justice and a significant portion of his work involved recording the projects of the aid organization, Tearfund. Nationally, his work appeared in most of the quality press, and exhibitions such as his innovative 'Scars' project demonstrated his talent.

Richard may be better known to the Pitsmoor community through his work closer to home including the 'Our Spital Hill' images that greet you as you pass under the Wicker Arches and grace Spital Hill, as well as the work he did for The Messenger and his photographs at Pye Bank School. His work within the local community also included serving as a governor at Firs Hill School, organizing a youth club at Christ Church and his work with ASSIST, supporting destitute asylum seekers. He was an active member of Christ Church Pitsmoor.

Richard was once asked how he managed to make something like a dull shed look as good as it did in the Christmas card he produced last year. His response was ironically indicative of both his deep Christian belief and his skill at getting a photo: "I am always looking for the light... When I've got the light, I know I've got it".

He will be greatly missed by our community and by his wife Ingrid and children, Jess and Isaac.

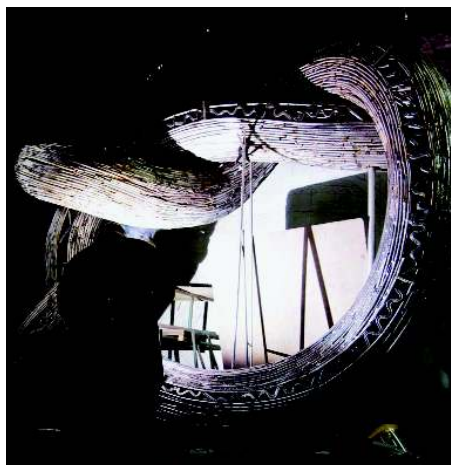
Spital Hill art

Story: Rohan Francis

Artworks commissioned to complement improvements to Spital Hill and Ellesmere Green are nearing completion with two new metal sculptures expected to be installed by the middle of October.

The sculptures, resembling gigantic knotted ropes or lengths of string, will occupy Caborn's Corner on Spital Hill (outside Tesco's), and the area next to Vestry Hall. Sculptor Michael Johnson is hoping to incorporate objects collected from local traders into the metal surfaces.

Photographic artworks, produced last year by Richard Hanson and illustrator Fabric Lenny and already a familiar sight along the length of Savile Street, have recently been installed across hoardings



on Spital Hill following the completion of pavement improvements.

The panels feature many recognisable faces, including local shopkeepers, hairdressers, mechanics and Burngreave librarian Janet Ring, who is pictured with her arms full of books facing the entrance to the library.



International Meal

The International Meal is held on the first Thursday of the month at the Welcome Centre, Christchurch, Pitsmoor. This year it has had a little extra support from Seedbed funding.

A wide variety of dishes have been produced from African sadza (maize meal) and meat dishes, to African and Iraqi fish dishes, salads, desserts, and soup; there was even one using a special technique for curing meat! The dishes have been really appreciated by the refugees and asylum seekers who attend the meal, as they are often more familiar tasting. Having this new range of dishes has also been a conversation point during the meals, with everyone sharing stories about cooking techniques in their own country.

Everyone has worked hard, often spending a full afternoon cooking prior to the evening event. Despite the commitment and effort involved, participants have all said that they enjoyed the experience. The funding has also provided a great opportunity for collaboration and social interaction. Usually the 'chef' has been assisted by friends and other asylum seekers, all of whom can then take some credit for the delicious food produced. People are always impressed by the lovely atmosphere in the kitchen.



Cheap Thrills 2014

Story & photo: Martin Currie

A big thank you to the enthusiastic crowd that filled Burngreave Cemetery Chapel for the 4th Cheap Thrills, Zero Budget Film Festival.

This year we were discovered by Californians, who submitted six powerful pieces. The prizes went to more local movies:

- **Best film**
A Fistful of Conkers by Liam Sanderson
- **Biggest audience reaction**
Bike challenge by Peter Applerock
- **Best young filmmaker**
Dominic with Gravy Hedgehog (don't ask)
- **Special Cheap Thrills Prize**
Salad Dodgers by Heather Derwick.

On a personal note, the festival took a lot out of me this year, and I thought this would be the last. But we had a great night, see you next year.

All the films will be available at
www.zerobudgetfilmfest.com



Can anything be done to counteract the latest spate of tree vandalism in our area?

Several trees in Burngreave cemetery have been ring barked or have had lower branches torn off. A rowan tree on the small green space between Firshill and St Catherine's primary schools has been hacked off at waist level.

Children in school are being taught to respect and care for nature. Seeing the mindless destruction pictured immediately outside their school is no example for these young minds.

Saleema Imam



Burngreave Local History Group

Burngreave Local History Group meets once a month at St Catherine's school. They look at the history of Burngreave and surrounding areas and enjoy a monthly talk from local historian, Suzanne Bingham. The group also get involved in writing about local history and have published 2 books. Participants make a donation to the group at the beginning of the year of about £2 per session.

To join the group contact the Burngreave Messenger
0114 242 0564, mail@burngreavemessenger.org

Do you want to learn English?

Do you want to learn about citizenship?

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- NOT an Asylum Seeker or Refugee,
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- NOT an EU citizen, then:

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0114 384 0400



New Neighbourhood Watch Group

Are you bothered by crime and unsociable behaviour?

If you live around Pitsmoor Road or Rutland Road you may be interested to know that you can help to tackle it through being part of a Neighbourhood Watch Group that is being formed.

A number of residents have already expressed interest and they are hoping that many more will be able to come to the first meeting:

At The Welcome Centre (by Burnbank bus stop on Nottingham Street, behind Christ Church)

From 7–9pm on Monday 20th October.

If you are interested or want to voice a concern, but cannot come to the meeting, please ring The Welcome Centre on 0114 272 5240 or email office@christchurchpitsmoor.com and leave a message for Frances Ireson who is the co-ordinator of the Pitsmoor Road Area Neighbourhood Watch Group.

Remember the 1940s night

Saturday 8th November from 7pm
Pitsmoor Methodist Church, 131 Burngreave Road

There will be food, singing and dancing. Come along in period clothing, though this is optional. Everybody welcome.

Contact Pam Eaton for further details on 0114 243 5333
Email: pam@bigredstar.net

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