



Spital Hill shop improvements

Story: Anwar Suliman & Amy Palmer

Since the Messenger's last print edition in October the council's contractor M3 has begun the Spital Hill improvement scheme, intended to revitalise the appearance of the shop fronts.

On speaking to the business owners we found a lot of discontented shopkeepers unhappy with the quality, the extent and the inconvenience of the work.

Quality concerns

Ahmed at Al Sultan complained: "I'm not very happy with the service or the job." Al Sultan's agreement of work with the council was to paint their shop front but, after a month of scaffolding on their shop, disturbing both tenants and customers, no painting had been done and the scaffolding was removed. Ahmed was then told there was not enough money to paint his shop despite scaffolding being erected on buildings on the other side of the green. Queen Sheba Café were also told there was no money to paint their shop as had been agreed.



Gamal Suliman of Aden Corner complained that his shop has been painted against his wishes and now he will have to spend time and money repainting it regularly to keep it looking

smart. Leaky guttering, that was meant to be replaced, has been taped over and the tape painted to match the downpipe instead. "I had leaks coming into my shop," Mr Suliman explained.

Council response

A Sheffield City Council spokesperson said:

"I can confirm that there is sufficient funding to carry out the work scheduled for the Spital Hill shop front scheme.

"We have made individual visits to each shop owner and tailored the work schedule to each shop within the approved criteria and we will look into any individual complaints as they arise. Unfortunately a shop was painted in error in the first phase of the work and we have apologised for this.

"The contact number for enquiries from shopkeepers remains the same as advertised and all complaints have either been resolved or are being dealt with."

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Spital Hill in knots

Story: Amy Palmer | Photo: Mike Johnson

In our last print issue in October, we reported that the sculptures that form part of the Spital Hill improvements were to be installed by the end of the month. The eagle-eyed among you may have noticed they still aren't there.

Sculptor Mike Johnson has completed the giant steel and mosaic knots, having spent longer on them than expected, as he wanted them to be more impressive. One knot is three and a half metres high, big enough to walk through. The ground is currently being prepared for their installation outside the Vestry Hall, a former marriage venue, and at Caborn's Corner, often the meeting point for trade union marches, as the sculptures represent unity and a coming together of many threads to make something stronger.

Mike describes his work as "a feat of engineering, made by hand" in recognition of Sheffield workmanship and craftsmanship. The installation of the sculptures is now finally, as Mike hopes, "only weeks away."



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For more information contact Sarah Emberson
0114 290 1255 / 07740 899583



Or e-mail
s.emberson@tcv.org.uk
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Free refreshments provided.
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Contact Saskia or Hazel
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Burngreave Cemetery Chapel

Spring and Summer events

Family Bat Walk with Robert Croxton
Saturday 18th April, 8pm

Blessing of the cemetery
Sunday 19th April, 12 noon

Art installation
Starts Sunday 19th April at 11am (ongoing till July)

Introduction to Permaculture
Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd May at 10am

Mosaic workshops
Every Sunday 12th June - 2nd September, 12 noon - 3pm

Well dressing. Come and have a go!
Friday 3rd, Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th July

Call 07950 299 073 for full details or to book.
The Friends of Burngreave Cemetery meet every Sunday in the Chapel 11am – 3pm to help visitors locate particular graves.
www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk

Return of the Messenger

Story: Fran Belbin | Photo: Graham Jones

As you can see, the Burngreave Messenger is back!

We said in October that the funding for the project had run out. However, we have managed to raise funds to produce the first two issues in 2015, and are working to secure longer term funding for the future. We have not been able to replace all our staff but have appointed a part-time project co-ordinator, Amy Palmer, who is working on the production of these issues.

We would like to thank all those who have contributed their time and money to keeping the Messenger going. This includes the Kathleen Hannay Memorial Trust for their donation, our local councillors for our distribution costs, and the many other organisations and individual residents who have shown their support through attending planning meetings, making donations and by volunteering to produce this issue.

Our next issue will be in June, please get in touch if you would like to contribute in some way! There are lots of ways you can help:

Volunteer

We rely on volunteers to research and write stories, take photographs, proof and edit our written content, keep our website



Amy Palmer, project co-ordinator

up to date, and to take decisions via our editorial committee and management committee. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at mail@burngreavemessenger.org or leave a message on 0114 242 0564.

Donate

You can donate at www.burngreavemessenger.org/donate or via post to **Burngreave Messenger, Abbeyfield Park House, Abbeyfield Road, Sheffield S4 7AT.**

Feedback

We want to know what you think of the Messenger, and so do our funders!

Please complete our short readers' survey below. Paper copies of the survey can be handed in or posted to the Messenger at the address above or it can be completed at www.burngreavemessenger.org/survey. Or just phone or email us, we'd love to hear from you!



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The Burngreave Messenger is a community newspaper with editorial independence, which has received funding from local residents, our advertisers and grant-making bodies.

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This issue's team:

Fran Belbin, Richard Belbin, Carrie Hedderwick, Saleema Imam, Douglas Johnson, Graham Jones, Edgar Lowman, Jamie Marriott, John Mellor, Amy Palmer, Hendrika Stephens, Anwar Suliman.

Messenger readers' survey

Would you like to continue to receive the Burngreave Messenger?

Yes No Don't know

If yes, please tell us why (tick all that apply):

- It helps me find out about local news
- It helps me find out about new activities, services and opportunities in Burngreave
- It helps me find out about different groups and communities that live in Burngreave
- It is produced by local volunteers
- It is free
- It gives positive news about the Burngreave area

- It helps us build a sense of community
- It is easy to read
- It looks attractive

Any other comments:

Please return this survey to **Burngreave Messenger, Abbeyfield Park House, Abbeyfield Road, Sheffield S4 7AT** or complete it online at www.burngreavemessenger.org/survey



A busy year at Crabtree Ponds

Story: Graham Jones | Photo: Anwar Suliman

Crabtree Ponds are designated as a Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve. On 12th January a meeting took place for local people to discuss future plans for the reserve with Rob Miller and Sarah Sidgwick from the Trust.

These plans include the installation of new railings (designed with local schools and youth groups), updated interpretation features, and the creation of a wildflower meadow area at the site's entrance. Future plans will include the construction of a new boardwalk around the main pond, some tree felling and clearing.

There has been some tree damage during winter storms. Japanese knotweed appears to be under control but concerns were expressed about the spread of ivy over the site. School holiday events are planned for children and young people. Small mammal, fungi, butterfly and moth surveys will take place later in the year.

Of course, the regular maintenance on the first Monday of every month will continue. All volunteers are very welcome to come and help.

You can find Crabtree Ponds Nature Reserve just off Barnsley Road, opposite Osgathorpe Road. It is a beautiful place to visit and a haven for wildlife; so whatever the season there is always something interesting to discover.

For more information contact nature.reserves@wildsheffield.com Phone 0114 263 4335 or visit the website www.wildsheffield.com/reserves/crabtree-ponds



Feeling good and eating well on Verdon Street

Story: Aislinn Adams

Burngreave TARA continues to offer 'feeling good' activities for women at Verdon Recreation Centre during term-time.

Badminton sessions take place on Wednesdays from 9.30 - 10.30am, at a cost of just £1, followed by a free Zumba exercise class between 10.30 and 11.30am. A coffee morning runs alongside these sessions between 10.00am and 12 noon.

You can taste and experience cooked dishes from around the world - Yemeni, Lebanese, Mexican, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Italian - at monthly Cook & Eat sessions (see dates below). These sessions aim to build confidence in the kitchen, preparing new recipes, learning new skills and how to cook more healthily, as well as being an opportunity to meet new friends. Come and join us!

**Thursday 26th March 2015
Thursday 30th April 2015
Thursday 21st May 2015
Thursday 25th June 2015
Thursday 7th July 2015
Thursday 16th July 2015**

Time: 11.30am - 1.30pm

For more information call Aislinn on 07432 805 847.



Out and about

Story: Amy Palmer | Photos: Kath Hobson

Local woman Kate Thomas is a volunteer who has set up an 'Out and About' course to help groups of women learn how to get around the city, and to give them the confidence to explore outside of the local area. Kate has been running courses for many years now, and says, "I like introducing people to new places and I like meeting people."

Previously the groups, which have close connections with local schools, have been based at a different school each week, but this year they have a new base at

Abbeyfield Park House. From here Kate and a group of women venture out to popular spots in the city, such as Heeley City Farm, Weston Park Museum, and Endcliffe Park. Sometimes they venture further afield; they have been to Rotherham to go to the markets, and for the past two Christmases have visited Chatsworth House to see the decorations. Some sessions are classroom based and trips vary to take account of the weather.

Sessions run on Tuesdays from 9.30am to 12pm, starting off at Abbeyfield Park House. There is no charge - you just need to bring your bus fare.

For more information, contact your school's Family Learning organiser or call Kate on 07794 854 104



Spital Hill shop improvements

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The Messenger also contacted M3 for a response and was issued with a statement that explains they are only responsible for carrying out the schedule of work provided by the council. They point out that:

"The final sign off for the project and completion of making good all defects is not due to be carried out until the contractual completion date, summer 2015."



Meanwhile at Togheer Café Mr Ibrahim points out that his windows have still only been half replaced and the rest boarded up. He says the contractors have changed the colour of his door without consulting him, and that he now has to repaint it himself.

The Council states that the work should be complete by May. Anyone with continuing issues regarding the improvement scheme should contact Housing and Regeneration Services on 0114 273 5531.



Derwent's 'tickled pink'

Story & photo: Philip Ireson

The Queen is visiting Sheffield Cathedral on Maundy Thursday, 2nd April 2015, and we were delighted to find out that our very own Derwent Levick is going to be one of the recipients recognised by the Queen with an award of Maundy money.

This is an ancient ceremony in which the monarch gives out specially minted money to 178 individuals over the age of seventy who have been of service to the Diocese. This year 89 men and 89 women will each receive 89 Maundy coins (one for each year the Queen has lived).

Christ Church has many reasons to be grateful to Derwent and Jennie for the many tasks they have quietly and humbly performed in the church over the past 25 years. Derwent says that he and his wife Jennie are 'tickled pink' at being selected for the honour, and has written this in his letter back to the palace.

Derwent worked in a steel making firm in Sheffield before moving to become a tomato grower in Guernsey. He then returned to Sheffield where he has been a Reader at Christ Church, Pitsmoor, for 25 years.

Derwent explains the work he is being honoured for in the church as "a Cathedral guide and welcomer, lesson reader, and steward" and he also sits on the committee of the Friends of the Cathedral. "I help the Seniors Action Team and also help once a month with the evening meal for the Archer Project, working with the homeless."

Origins of Royal Maundy

Story: John Mellor

The origins of Royal Maundy go back a long way in history. King John was the first monarch recorded as giving alms to the poor at a Maundy service in 1210.

The word maundy itself derives from the Latin *mandatum*, or 'command', and relates to Jesus' command to his disciples at the Last Supper to 'love one another'. Jesus also washed the feet of his disciples before the meal, a duty usually performed by a servant.

This act of humility is symbolised in the Maundy ceremony by the Lord High Almoner wearing a towel around his waist.

Royal Maundy is also the only occasion on which the Queen travels to make awards rather than the recipients having to travel to Buckingham Palace.

Selective license update

Story: Douglas Johnson & Carrie Hedderwick

Sheffield City Council has released figures about its selective licensing scheme in Page Hall.

Any landlord now has to apply for a licence to let houses in a defined area. A license costs £750 and is required for each of the 350 rented houses in the area.

The council has now received 255 applications and approved 225. It has had 85 requests for exemption and has approved 51.

The council is bringing prosecutions in 15 cases.



Green shoots in the local economy

Story & photo: Graham Jones

Burngreave resident, Martin Obodo, is a man with a vision. He is working hard to develop an inspired local 'Aquapon' project which has a clear focus on benefits for the community and the environment in Burngreave. His basic aim is for local people to tend vegetable boxes and then share the produce with others.

He believes that this should spin off many community benefits including a fresh food supply, reconnecting local people with nature, learning various skills and knowledge about a wide range of fruit and vegetables, an increased sense of belonging to the community and opportunities for people from diverse ethnicities and backgrounds to come together.

Martin has always been a keen gardener and since childhood has felt close to nature. While he was growing up in Sheffield, Martin's neighbours were all gardeners and shared their produce. He says,

"All my neighbours did it and, as a result, everyone knew each other, we had something which can be called a community. I am hoping to restore this old way of doing things, a lesson from my past that I want to provide for the future generations."

Martin works full time as an IT engineer at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. In his spare time he volunteers at Holly Hagg permaculture project and has another aquaponic smallholding in Walkley. Martin says:

"The inspiration for my project is a man named Will Allen. He has a farm called 'Growing Power' and he is an inspiration to me."

Martin is seeking participants in Burngreave and Pitsmoor to volunteer in his community gardening project. "I need people to help maintain raised beds, feed plants on a regular basis and help to install future growing systems.

"Participants will learn basic gardening, joinery, soil management, bio-diversity management and how to engage with people from diverse backgrounds and walks of life."

"We will give a portion of our produce to the New Roots charity shop. In helping our project you can be ensured that you are aiding charitable causes. Our project is working with New Roots who have a large network of activists and volunteers."

The project is currently funded through a crowd funding campaign, which raised £90 in £1 pledges. This is a non-profit enterprise and any profit will go straight into more growing systems for future members of the enterprise.

For more details on how you can be involved in Martin's project, email info@aquaponproject.com or for more general information visit www.aquaponproject.com.

Burngreave Foodbank feeds 5,000

Story: Andrew Birtwhistle, Burngreave Foodbank Manager

On 23rd December 2014 Burngreave Foodbank fed our 5,000th customer since opening in June 2012. There was no fanfare or gold-plated tin of food because we didn't know the date until we checked later!

People are referred to us using our special red vouchers which are held by about 100 different local agencies, including Citizens Advice, social workers, health visitors and various support organisations. 34,000 kg of food went to those 5,000, which would have kept them going for a few days while they were sorting things out. We also offer tea, coffee and biscuits while food is



packed, and a bit of time to chat.

You may have seen us collecting food at Savile Street Tesco, and we hope to be collecting there again in the future. We also have a permanent food collection point near customer services.

5,000 may be a sad milestone to pass, but it does give us the opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped us by donating food and in other ways - we really are grateful - and so are the people who have received it. Thank you!

www.burngreave.foodbank.org.uk

Wensley TARA

Story: Wilf Griffiths

The Wensley TARA are planning to hold many events at the end of March/beginning of April to keep people busy in the Easter holidays.

We will be holding a jumble sale at the community centre with all items provided by Rainbow's End on Spital Hill, and a coffee morning and raffle with prizes donated by local shops.

We are also carrying out a garden project with Firshill School over Easter. For more information look out for the next newsletter, that will include details of the next General Meeting of Wensley TARA at the community centre.

Main items on the agenda will be the election of new committee members and updates on all reports.



How the site at Holtwood Road looks now

Community garden coming to Burngreave

Story: Sarah Emberson

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) are creating many community-based projects. They are now looking for volunteers to help at the Pitsmoor Scout Hut on Holtwood Road with a community garden with fruit trees and a space for growing food.

This garden will then be handed over to the community and the groups that use the Scout Hut kitchen will be able to use the organic vegetables. The first two work days at the Scout Hut were in March.

TCV have been running a community allotment at the High Wincobank allotments, off Windmill Lane. Our volunteers have greatly benefitted from the time spent outdoors and have been working together towards better mental and physical health. They have also had the opportunity to take home produce they

have grown themselves. They are having an open day at the allotment on Friday 27th March, so why not come along and find out more?

You can make new friends and get some exercise. You can learn how to grow healthy fruit and vegetables and become involved in your local community.

The allotment group runs on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Contact us and find out how you can begin volunteering on the allotment or at one of our other local projects.

Contact Sarah Emberson on:

- Telephone: 07740 899 583 or 0114 290 1255,
- E-mail: s.emberson@tcv.org.uk
- Like our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/TCVAllotment

It is thanks to funding from the Health Lottery and South Yorkshire Community Foundation that this TCV project can take place.



How the site might look one day

SAGE springs into a new phase with Big Lottery win

Story: Diana Tottle



Local mental health charity, SAGE Greenfingers, is bouncing out of a long period of funding uncertainty with two large grants secured at the end of 2014.

A grant of £498,639 over five years from the Big Lottery will support adults with a wide range of mental health problems via horticultural therapy and arts activities, along with a further grant of £69,572 over three years from the Lloyds Bank Foundation.

As well as supporting groups on Grimesthorpe allotments this will enable SAGE to offer training and advice to other organisations wanting to set up similar projects. Also, for those not attracted by gardening, SAGE plans to restart singing workshops for women that have previously proved so successful.

Director Diana Tottle comments, “2014 was our 10th anniversary on Grimesthorpe allotments! Without these funds we might have been forced to close at the worst time of year but instead we will be running groups throughout 2015 and many a season to follow.”

SAGE runs horticultural therapy sessions four times a week (including one women-only session) on Grimesthorpe allotments. Encouraging people to get out into the fresh air, meet with others, eat fresh food grown by themselves, helps boost confidence and self-esteem.

Current member Rita comments, “Before I come here I used to cry. I was worried. I didn’t open my windows and curtains. But now I feel better.” Another member, Julie, added, “Instead of watching telly, I come here! Telly’s boring. Come out and have a laugh!”

Contact for further details

Diana Tottle, Director, SAGE Greenfingers

Telephone: 0114 274 3651

Mobile: 07851 724 803

Email: diana@sagesheffield.org.uk

www.sagesheffield.org.uk

Funding renewed for Wellbeing Programme

The Sheffield City Council programme has received another year's funding until April 2016, so we can continue funding Health Development Worker Somshun Nessa and the activities and groups she has established.

Our major aims include: tackling loneliness and isolation and building up the strengths, skills and confidence of local people. Over the next year we want to strengthen links with other local organisations, such as PACA (Pakistan Advice and Community Association), YCA (Yemeni Community Association) and LEAF (Local Enterprises Around Food). We hope to put on more of the existing health groups and establish activities for men, such as cook and eats, and physical activity sessions.



Chronic pain support group

The chronic pain group has been well attended with women from local surgeries and self-referrals. The group is supported by Somshun and Page Hall Practice Champions Glynnis and Nasra. This has been a great opportunity for people who suffer from chronic pain to get together and share tips on managing pain, discuss pacing, relaxation and stress relief. We now fund a professional masseuse to come monthly for personalised massages.



Our ladies say:

"Lynn really empathises with our pain and understands what we are going through."

"I feel like I can really relax here with people who understand what I am going through."

"I have never missed a session and always look forward to the next one."

Come along to our free Pain Support Group, make some new friends and learn new tips on how to manage your pain.

Sessions at Sorby House

- Tuesdays 12.30 - 2.30pm
- Fortnightly on 7th April, 21st April, 5th May, 19th May, 2nd June, 16th June and 30th June

New sessions at St Cuthbert's Church

- Tuesdays 12.30 - 2.30pm
- 14th April, 12th May and 16th June

We look forward to seeing you there!

For all activities contact:

Somshun Nessa
Telephone: 0114 213 2591
Email: somshun.nessa@soarcommunity.org.uk

Women only exercise session

Due to the popularity of this session, we are continuing classes up until the start of Ramadan. Activities are tailored to participants' fitness levels. Our tutor has previously done activities such as aerobics, circuits, floor work on mats, resistance bands, Zumba, and weights.

Almost all the participants have lost weight. Some participants have low self-esteem and have been socially isolated for a long time. With help from the Burngreave Health Trainers they have managed to break the cycle of isolation while getting fit.



Our ladies say:

"Shahina really tailors the session for everyone individual, I was scared before I came but now I take things at my own pace."

"I never knew exercise could be this much fun."

"The hour goes really quick and we feel exhilarated and full of energy when we have finished!"

"It's great that it is free. Nothing is free nowadays so I am going to make the most of it."

Sessions are Mondays 1.30 - 2.30pm. Doors close for security at 1:30pm so please arrive for 1.20pm.

Women's Wellbeing event

ملتقى ترفيهي للنساء

Dobra jakosc zycia – spotkanie tylko dla kobiet

Tuesday 31 March 10am – 3pm

The Clock Tower, Firth Park

Pop in for some relaxing 'me time'. Includes free beauty treatments, stalls and information about local services, activities & speakers from local organisations.

مجانا

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Advice on where you can get support for emotional health and wellbeing issues.

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All ladies and children welcome.

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Free lunch included!

**For further information
please call Marisa Leiva
on 0114 244 0401.**

Women only support group

This group is for women who have suffered or suffering from domestic abuse to come and talk to like-minded people, forget about the past and have fun.

In previous sessions we have baked cakes and cookies, discussed stress and anxiety and made stress balls and lavender bags in partnership with the Together Women Project.

The group has decided that in future sessions we will explore confidence building, healthy cooking and looking at training opportunities.

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

Next sessions

- Monday 10:00am - 12:00pm
- 13th April, 27th April, 11th May, 1st June, 15th June, 29th June and 13th July
- St Cuthbert's Church, Barnsley Road opposite Northern General Hospital.

Building mutual respect

Story: Edgar Lowman

The Messenger visited the Ellesmere Youth Project (EYP) to see its good work in action. The group promotes acceptance amongst social groups, confidence in young children and mutual respect.

I went down to Fir Vale School to see two Sunday sessions run by Imran Ali, a youth worker in the area. As they started a game of football, I spoke to him about the Ellesmere Youth Project's conflict resolution work. He explained that its aim was "to build good relationships with young people" and then use these relationships to demonstrate essential life values such as respect and discipline. During my visit, I observed two different age groups taking part in the activities.

In these sessions, EYP promotes discipline, self-respect and respect for others. Imran described the approach towards respect and discipline, towards self and others, as 'tough but not aggressive'. In the club, young people are encouraged to refrain from using bad language and there is zero tolerance of bullying.

Imran also emphasised the fact that EYP aims to inspire tolerance on issues such as religion. He underscored that dealing with diverse communities such as Burngreave means that sometimes cultures become the subject of conflict and that in such circumstances EYP promotes tolerance; that it is no bad thing to have differences of opinion, culture or religion. He encourages young people to accept that such differences are not a basis for judging others or oneself. Mutual respect is at the core of EYP's



conflict resolution project and its work with young people in the Burngreave and Fir Vale areas of Sheffield.

Imran explained that Sonam Nawaz, EYP's female conflict resolution worker, is currently working with the Pitsmoor Adventure Playground to set up a similar group with young people from a Roma-Slovakian background. Eventually EYP will organise activities bringing together young people from different backgrounds as it continues to promote values of mutual and unconditional respect for difference.

EYP set up this project in response to conflicts that have been reported in the area and aims to create positive change through its work in the area.

If you would like to contact Ellesmere Youth Project call 0114 213 3120

Community, communication, and dementia

Story & Photos:
Nick Edmondson

The Dementia? Welcome! Café welcomes people with dementia and their carers. It offers friendship and activities. The café's message is, "You are welcome and valued. You are interesting and good company."



Trained volunteers visit local care homes and care home open days. The café seeks more involvement with the care homes in Burngreave. Communication is an important theme: games, songs, painting pictures and looking at photos are practical alternatives when a person can't speak.

Results of research among carers and people with memory problems have been translated into a theatre production, 'Inside Out of Mind', changing attitudes and practice among carers.

The café is making a bid to Comic Relief this year, for channelling local resources, effort and enthusiasm into new work on communication.

**If you have any ideas or queries, contact Nick Edmondson: nickedmondson@phonecoop.coop
Telephone: 0772 556 9380**

Green Commission meets in Vestry Hall

Story & photo: Saleema Imam

A public meeting of the Sheffield Green Commission took place in Burngreave Vestry Hall on Thursday 12th February.



The Green Commission is creating a plan for a sustainable future for Sheffield. It will consider issues like green infrastructure, fuel poverty, health and climate change. The Commission is seeking assistance from the public, businesses and organisations to collect evidence and will then produce a final report with recommendations.

The evening was co-hosted by the Sheffield Climate Alliance and was filmed by Transition Chesterfield. It was opened with singing by children from the Woodcraft Folk and by the Sheffield Socialist Choir.

After the three main speakers, the Climate Alliance took over proceedings with a discussion exercise among those present, feeding their ideas back to the Green Commission.

For more information or to have your say, visit www.sheffield.gov.uk/greencommission, or contact Green Commission c/o Sheffield Commission Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH.

Email: greencommission@sheffield.gov.uk

Pitsmoor Adventure Playground

Story & photos: Aislinn Adams, Fran Belbin & Patrick Meleady

It's been all go at Pitsmoor Adventure Playground in the last few months, with lots happening for young people to get involved with.

Fire safety - free smoke alarms for local homes

The team have been working hard with South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue to devise a range of fire safety awareness events and road shows, including a visit from a working fire engine. Young people have been learning to respect fire, and got lots of practice over the winter in lighting, managing and putting out campfires. They also learned how to prevent fires in the home, and the importance of knowing your escape route and smoke alarms.

Playground staff are working with the fire service to ensure local people have access to fire safety equipment and checks. Patrick Meleady, Playground Manager, said:

"We have a fantastic team of people on hand that speak community languages and are willing to support you with securing free smoke alarms and home fire safety checks. Pitsmoor Adventure Playground staff are happy to arrange the home visits and will accompany the Fire Service throughout the home visits if required."

School holiday events

February half-term included Pancake Day, where children had the chance to practise their flipping skills, as well as Chinese New Year. The kids had made lots of decorations for the Year of the Ram, and welcomed Chinese Lion Dancers to the playground. Local artist Patrick Amber was also on site during half-term helping children to plant, weave and tie together willow rods to form a living dome and tunnel that should take root and grow into a leafy place to play over the summer.

The playground will be open and putting on more events between 12.30 and 3.30pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays during the Easter holidays. Details about opening times and more are on our website, <https://pitsmooradventureplayground.wordpress.com/>.

Fund-raising

The playground is now being managed by local residents through a charity, who are busy raising funds to develop the site. Everybody misses the big slide, which had to be removed for safety reasons, so the Slide Appeal aims to raise £5000 for a new,



massive slide! The trustees and kids were excited to receive a £500 donation from Arches Housing. Housing officer Andrea Golding said, "We are delighted to be contributing towards the new slide which will expand the activities the playground offer."

A contribution has also been made from ward funds, and the children themselves have been working hard by bag packing at Tesco on Savile Street to raise donations. Volunteer Jay Green raised £170 by having squishy tomatoes thrown at him! Other planned activities include a sponsored half marathon by local parent Chris Taylor. At the time of writing about £4000 has been raised towards the slide, so we hope to see it on site before too long!

Future of the playground

The playground trustees will sign the lease for the playground before the end of March, which means they will take on the full running costs of the site. Yanina Koszaliniski, Chair of the charity, said:

"Taking on full responsibility for the site will bring new possibilities. With the commitment of our users, volunteers, staff and supporters we intend to develop the playground to provide even more play opportunities for young people in our neighbourhood."

To arrange a fire safety home visit, to donate or suggest a fund-raising activity for the playground please contact Patrick or Fran, 0114 273 7121, or email info@pitsmooradventure.org

'Outstanding' Owler Brook

Story: Muneebah Waheed

After an Ofsted inspection in December 2014, Owler Brook Primary Brook has received an 'outstanding' report for Early Years Provision, with an overall inspection rating of 'good'.



This is a fantastic achievement since the previous inspection, which noted that school 'required improvement'. Ofsted reported that pupils are having a 'flying start to their education' due to 'outstanding provision' in early years.

The report also commended the 'strong leadership' of the senior school staff. It was also noted that teaching throughout the school is 'improving strongly', with the curriculum 'well planned, purposeful and effective'.



All in all, this is a brilliant achievement for Owler Brook Primary, congratulations to everyone for their hard work!

'Superb progress'

Ellesmere Children's Centre has achieved an 'outstanding' Ofsted inspection.

Ofsted put the community nursery in the top performing 4% of children's centres of its type in England.

Centre Manager Sharon Curtis says:

"To be awarded 'outstanding' across all areas is totally amazing. The inspectors said some wonderful things in their latest report; for example all children, including the two-year-olds, are making superb progress in their learning and development; and our children are developing excellent social skills in preparation for their later move into school.

"They also put a strong emphasis on how committed the staff team is to working with families and keeping them informed of children's progress."



Byron Wood Bugle

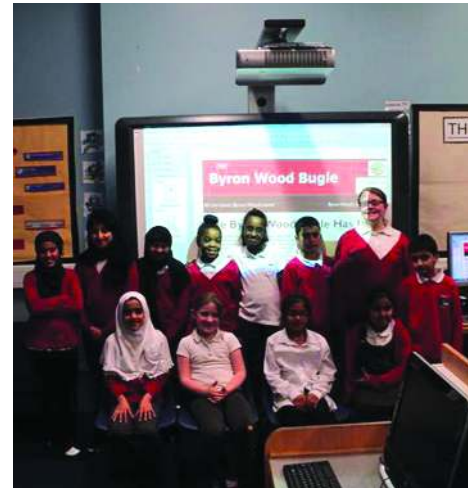
Story: Mr Williamson

The Byron Wood Bugle is Byron Wood's very own newspaper. The Bugle will be available every half term.

Each edition will be crammed with news, action, information, sport and important events that have happened at Byron Wood School.

The children learn many skills in making the newspaper. The completed newspaper is the result of hard work, teamwork and collaboration. Miss Shaibi said that the newspaper will give the children more reason and motivation to write.

The newspaper team will be supported and overseen by Mrs Francis, Miss Shaibi, Mr Cassin and Mr Williamson. But the role of the adults will be solely to support and guide the children. The newspaper is a newspaper by the children, for the children and of the children.



George & Brian

lump of clay

Brian, someone left this lump of clay in my room!



Oh, that's odd
Yeah...



I don't know what to make of it



by Edgar Lowman



Bert pictured on the left while visiting Normandy

Bert Holmshaw, Normandy veteran

Story: John Mellor

Bert Holmshaw spent his early childhood years in the Burngreave area and Bert's sister, Macyl Holmshaw, who died of diphtheria at the age of six, is buried in Burngreave Cemetery.

Bert went on to become a Driver Mechanic with the 7th Field Artillery in the 3rd British Infantry Division. He landed on Sword beach on the morning of 6th June 1944 (D-Day) just after the infantry cleared the beaches for the invasion of France. Due to bad weather on the previous day the invasion had to be postponed by 24 hours and their Tank Landing Ship had to wait off the Isle of Wight overnight in very rough seas. Bert's truck carrying tools and spares for the guns and also towing a trailer full of artillery ammunition, was on the top open deck of the landing ship.

Bert recalls:

"Our Tank Landing Ship (L.S.T. 302) beached just before 10 am on D-Day after crossing the English Channel, dropping its ramp and starting to unload the lower deck of guns, tanks and other heavy equipment. During the unloading we were attacked by two enemy fighter-bombers with machine guns and bombs. During the attack I dived for cover under the vehicle, completely forgetting about the load of live ammunition in the trailer!"

"When it came for the turn of the top deck vehicles to unload it was found that the lift which was to lower the top deck vehicle cargo to the lower deck had been made inoperative by the bombing. This made it now impossible to disembark and it seemed that we would have to return without unloading. However after some time another Tank Landing Ship, which had unloaded, and our ship were backed off into deeper water and tied up side by side and two makeshift planks placed between the two ships to allow our vehicles to be driven onto the top deck of the undamaged ship. Due to the position of my vehicle I was the first to attempt the crossing, a very dodgy operation.

Whilst there were no more air attacks there was gunfire from the shore and shells were hitting the surrounding water whilst this hazardous operation was taking place. It was an experience I would not care to repeat! However, I made it and my truck and trailer were lowered down to sea level on the other ship's lift and I drove off the ramp into about 3 feet of water.

"On landing on the beach shells seemed to be just raining down and there did not seem to be any part of the beach free from exploding shells. Dead bodies seen bobbing about in the sea earlier were now also washed up on the shoreline by the rising tide and the beach itself was littered with burning trucks and more bodies. Amongst all this chaos I saw the Beachmaster directing us to the beach exit which I had not seen, but luckily I made it without being hit.

"One incident I can remember was, on leaving the beach, I saw my first French inhabitant, an elderly man dancing along the road by the side of my vehicle, throwing his arms in the air and shouting 'Good! Good! Good!' I can remember my front passenger saying that he would not like to be in his shoes if we got pushed back. We did not get pushed back and I often think of this old chap who, unlike some others, did not wait to see the outcome of the invasion before declaring his support for us.

"On driving a short distance inland I was reunited with the rest of my regiment, receiving an unusually warm welcome - the speed with which the ammunition in my trailer disappeared explained why! For myself, I was very glad to get rid of the load which had originally been seen as just a hindrance to the manoeuvrability of the truck. But since the attack on the ship and the crossing of the beach, it was now regarded as much more dangerous."

These incidents were just the beginning of Bert's war experiences as his regiment continued through Belgium and Holland, taking part in Operation Market Garden as ground troops at Arnhem and the taking of Bremen at the very end of the war in Europe.

Local history - the next chapter

Story & photo: Saleema Imam

Burngreave's local history group meets monthly in St Catherine's School on Firhill Crescent.

Local historian Suzanne Bingham uses illustrated talks to introduce discussions on topics as various as Victorian sewers, local cinemas and transport in past times. In summer we venture out to places such as the Mining Museum, the Emergency Services Museum and Sheffield City Archives.

Members of the group write articles for the Burngreave Messenger and are in the final stages of producing a sequel to our book 'Pitsmoor - a peek into the past'. The new book has the provisional title 'Burngreave: as the 20th century unfolds' and includes sections on the Zeppelin raid, D-Day, the Vestry Hall, Crabtree, Bill Pettigrew, Brownies and Guides, the Co-operative and Margaret Dufty.

We expect this to be in print by the summer, so look out for it.

New members are always welcome and our next meeting is on April 17th at 10.00 am when Stephen Johnson from the Central Library local history department will talk about royal visitors to Sheffield.



Memories of Pitsmoor

Story: Dr Aileen Adams writes from
Cambridge

189 Grimesthorpe Road, the doctor's surgery.

My father Dr Joseph Adams was born in Northern Ireland, qualified in medicine in 1917 and went straight into the army, being awarded the Military Cross for his service in the trenches.

On leaving the army he worked for a while in Wigan, Lancashire, where he met my mother and soon after they married.

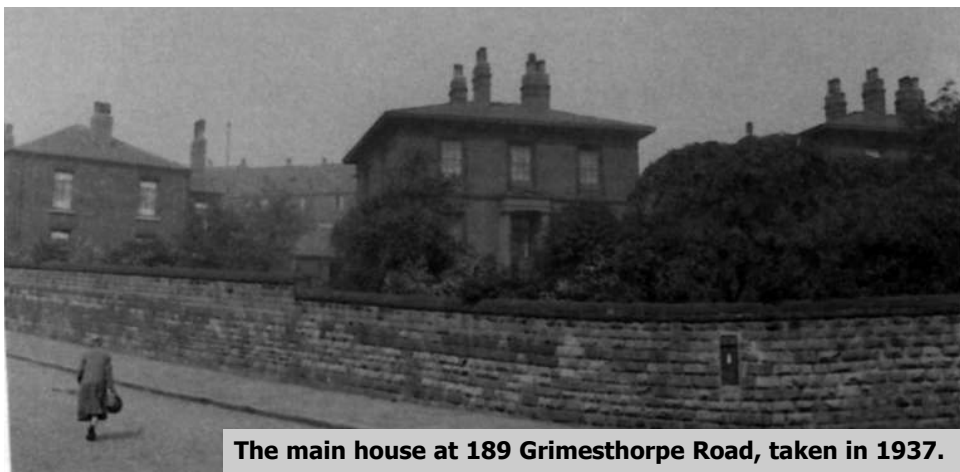


Above: Aileen's father Dr Joseph Adams, MC, MB, BCh (1894-1985), probably taken in the 1950s or 1960s.

Between the wars

In 1921 he settled into general practice in Sheffield at 189 Grimesthorpe Road. This Victorian house was both residence and surgery. He owned number 191 as well, an identical house that he rented out. I was born in 1923 and had a younger brother and sister.

We had a splendid view across the valley over the steel works which belched out smoke that covered everywhere with black soot - when you had been playing in the garden your hands were black. This was before the anti-pollution regulations. When they tapped a furnace to pour molten steel the whole valley lit up with a wonderful red and yellow glow. We were surrounded by what were known as 'back-to-back' houses, where workers from the steel factories lived. They had communal back yards and shared toilets. These were



The main house at 189 Grimesthorpe Road, taken in 1937.



The front door and part of the garden, taken in 1937.



Aileen's brother John, a friend, her grandmother Mrs Munro and her mother Mrs Agnes Adams.

all swept away some years after World War Two and replaced with the present housing estate. A modern church replaced the Victorian Parish church with its tall steeple.

World War Two

The GPs in Pitsmoor came from Scotland or Ireland, the Pringles lived in Owler Lane, the Mackinnons and Starks in Burngreave Road. We played in the streets or in the little park in Scott Road, or romped along Grimesthorpe Road where there were men who kept pigeons, which we loved to see.

Then the war came. I was 17 and had decided to follow my father's example and become a doctor. Some parents evacuated their children away from the big cities for fear of air raids, but mine decided we would stay together, so I lived at home and went to the University. Sheffield was bombed several times, they missed the steel works and bombed the city centre instead and our district was also damaged. We slept in our cellars so we didn't have to get up and rush there whenever the air-raid sirens sounded. One morning we found all the windows broken though the house was undamaged.

Another morning we were hastily evacuated over the back fence because of an unexploded bomb outside our front gate. Sheffield did not have many raids although there was a lot of damage and

many casualties. I remember after one raid I went next morning as usual to the University and saw immense damage along the Wicker, with over-turned trams and debris everywhere. Walking back home in the pitch dark of the blackout in December, when your only light was a torch dimmed with a handkerchief over it, was not too easy.

Post war years

Some time after the war my parents moved to the other side of the city, though 189 remained the practice till my father's retirement, when Dr Tyson took it over. When I visited in the 1990s the house was used as a Methodist Mission, but some years later it was pulled down and replaced with the present care home. The garden remains much as I remember it and number 191 is still there.



The same site as it is now (photo by Graham Jones).

The building opposite our house was the Church of the Latter-day Saints (Mormons) in my time. When I visited in 2003 the Mormon Church had become a Sikh temple. Now it is not in use.

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- My Education
- Next Steps
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Tel: Louise Ritchie on 0114 222 8121





Sheffield Association for the Voluntary Teaching of English

Good news for Page Hall

Story: PACA and the mediation project
Photo: Peter Ljasevits

As part of their work in Page Hall, PACA (Pakistan Advice and Community Association) have undertaken a community mediation project bringing together diverse members of the community to look at a positive future for Page Hall.

The project helped individuals discuss how they felt about the area and what ideas they felt might be beneficial with a view to creating tools for mediation within the local area. Cohesion is a big part of PACA's role in the community and a key emphasis of the project has been to combat the negativity about Page Hall with the idea that positive solutions can



be found to tackle some of the challenges that the area and its community currently face.

As part of the project PACA organised its first cross community mediation visit, identifying a number of similar areas where recent events have caused unease and tension. The group decided on visiting Eastwood in Rotherham. Eastwood Village is a community that has many similarities to Page Hall in the way that the change in community dynamics has impacted upon the area. Taking away

a serious message about 'partnership', the group were told how everyone is involved, from local residents supporting litter picks and the development of new events in Eastwood, to the police and the extension of their work by officers who also run football clubs in the area, similar to work undertaken in Page Hall.

A community lunch was held on 24th January as part of this project, with local Roma singer Marek Pacan providing entertainment. The event was a great success with about 50 people joining in to share soup and play bingo, including Councillor Harry Harpham. The project group were delighted to see so many local people from across the community come together and with this positive response can see potential for more events and work that will aid community cohesion and be good news for Page Hall.

Plans are now afoot for further community events to be held at PACA including a car boot and table top sale.

Pitsmoor Road Neighbourhood Watch

Story: Frances Ireson, Group Co-ordinator

Pitsmoor Road Neighbourhood Watch group met on Monday 9th February.

At this meeting our local PCSO Helen Nicholls gave us an update and PCSO Andy Brierley was able give us a wider picture across North Sheffield.

They encouraged us to report incidents on 101 and also online to 'Fix My Street' where posts from other neighbours can be seen. This is especially useful to help the council deal with litter and fly tipping. We hope to work with Pye Bank School in future to organise litter picks in the area.

It is important that crimes and all incidents that cause a nuisance are reported to 101. The details are then forwarded to the appropriate police team and also to the relevant council department or agencies. Your information will then be used to build an overall picture and take action.

The group will meet next at 7-9pm on Monday 20th April in the Welcome Centre. For more information please ring 0114 272 5240 or email Frances Ireson at office@christchurchpitsmoor.com.



TEDx comes to Pitsmoor

TEDxPitsmoor is looking for speakers with ideas worth sharing! A group of residents in Pitsmoor has been granted an official licence to hold a TEDx event, an evening of inspirational ten minute talks, on 27th June at Christ Church.

TED talks began in 1984 at a conference on Technology, Entertainment and Design, and aim to make great ideas accessible over a worldwide network, shared by some of the most influential and powerful people on the planet. TEDx events are run independently by communities around the world.

Organiser Martin Currie says:

"TED Talks is a prestigious event, and many eyes will be on TEDxPitsmoor. We need your help to stage an extraordinary event. Go to the website and sign up to talk. This is a golden opportunity to get your voice heard. Speak up Pitsmoor!"

Anyone with an idea they think other people should know about and a strong Pitsmoor connection is invited to apply to become a speaker. Successful applicants will receive advice on how to make their message as powerful as possible, with expert coaching and support.

Views of all denominations are welcome, as are performances and demonstrations. The organisers want a real mix, so trivial or serious, whimsical or earth shattering, as long as it isn't a sales pitch, doesn't attack others and isn't dull, get in touch!

The application form is online at <http://m80398.wix.com/tedxpitsmoor>, or contact the Facebook group TEDxPitsmoor.



Road changes concern cyclists

Story: Amy Palmer | Photo: Douglas Johnson

The council have announced that the roadworks now taking place at the bottom of Rock Street are part of the Bridgehouses traffic management scheme, which is designed to improve journey times for buses and improve traffic flow on the ring road.

Works are ongoing to provide a bus lane to access Nursery Street, providing more room for cars and other vehicles. This is part of a

wider programme of work which is funded through the 'Sheffield Better Bus Area' scheme and is designed to ease the congestion of traffic entering the city centre from the north east.

Councillor Leigh Bramall said: "We are determined to keep traffic moving and have prioritised the key locations across the city that will make a difference to improving bus journey times and the reliability of public transport."

However, like many other keen cyclists, Mick Nott from the Sheffield Cycle Forum is against the road layout changes, arguing that they will make the current cycling situation in the area worse. He told us:

"We have done about six hours of surveys and there are as many people cycling on the footways as on the road or using a combination of footway and road, often with a great deal of invention and craft! The sure sign of a traffic scheme unsuited to cyclists is one where cyclists are on the pavements."

The Sheffield Cycle Forum has previously written a detailed response to the plans, now underway, which can be found at www.cyclesheffield.org.uk/2014/10/06/10677/.

The response illustrates the perceived dangers of the changes being made and it proposes alternative solutions that would encourage greener travel.

For more information on the disruption please contact: transport@sheffield.gov.uk

The future of Stanley Fields

Story & photos: Douglas Johnson

Plans have come up again for new housing to be built on the greenfield site known as Stanley Fields, but not including 'affordable' homes.



Housing will be built on the green next to Pitsmoor Road.

The grassy site - between Pitsmoor Road and the disused Stanley Tools factory on Rutland Road - was once covered with hundreds of terraced and back-to-back homes, but these were demolished in the 1950s and 60s. On the other side of Pitsmoor Road the Woodside estate was built in the 1960s, with a careful decision to leave clear open space between residential and industrial areas.

The new approach is to allocate the greenfield area for housing. Housing developers will be invited to express interest in building on the end closest to the city centre. The area next to Wood Fold, where people often play football, is to be kept as open space.



The site of the former Pye Bank flats will remain as open space.

The steep slope between Pitsmoor Road and Pye Bank Road, where many Burngreave residents used to live in the former 'toast rack' blocks, is also to be kept as open space, probably because it is not profitable to build on such a steep slope. However, the flat areas in front of the old Pye Bank School (Andover Drive and Gray Street) are set aside for housing, as are sites further down Fox Street.

When the council cleared the Woodside estate in 2004 and demolished hundreds of family homes, it hoped a private property developer would be attracted to such a large prime site to build "affordable and aspirational housing". The scheme, known as the Burngreave Masterplan, was described as a "dynamic development framework that will guide investment over the next decade".

It didn't happen of course. The council could not find property developers to meet the terms required. The question is whether any developer will come forward now that affordable housing is no longer required. The affordable homes that Burngreave needs are not attractive to developers, so it remains to be seen whether the new plans will come into effect.

St Peter's
Lyons Close

St Cuthbert's
opposite
Northern General

Christ Church
Pitsmoor Road

Mothing Sunday 15th March

Family services

St Cuthbert's at 10.00am
St Peter's at 10.30am
Christ Church 11.00am

19th March St Cuthbert's Day

Celebration 7.30pm

Maundy Thursday 2nd April **Services**

Christ Church 6.00pm
St Cuthbert's 7.30pm

Good Friday 3rd April 10.30am

Walk of Witness (old Firth Park Library) 10.30am
St Peter's walk to Christ Church 1.45pm
Good Friday service 3.00pm

Easter Sunday 5th April

St Cuthbert's 6.30 and 10am
St Peter's and Christ Church 10.30am

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Upwell Street Surgery, 93 Upwell Street S4 8AN

Wicker Pharmacy, 55-59 Wicker S3 8HT

Page Hall Medical Centre, 101 Owlter Lane

(Advisers in practices can support registered patients)

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



This sculpture was constructed from oak and slate by local furniture maker Robert Almond and is based on a flower press, reflecting Ruskin's fascination with natural history. Kate and Steve will fill the press with drawings, texts and ideas collected amongst people in Burngreave during the project.

Celebrating John Ruskin

Photo: Steve Pool

Over the next two years Abbeyfield Park House will host a programme including an artist placement and workshops about the Victorian thinker and artist John Ruskin.

Artists Kate Genever and Steve Pool have successfully applied for funding to produce new work about Ruskin, who encouraged people to see clearly, think imaginatively and act boldly. In 1871 he established the Guild of St George to help create better places for people to live and work. He went on to create a pioneering collection of visual art, natural history specimens and manuscripts to inspire and educate nineteenth century metal workers in Sheffield.

The Ruskin Collection, originally displayed in a small museum at Walkley, is now stored and displayed in Sheffield

at the Millennium Gallery. An opportunity to go behind the scenes at the museum and see the collection will also be part of the programme.

Local artist, Steve, told the Messenger:

"People seem really interested in Ruskin and his romantic views of nature, but he was very political, he wanted to see a better society where people lived and worked together and connected."

"Many of the problems Ruskin encountered in Sheffield 150 years ago are still with us today - poverty, lack of social mobility and, as we approach global collapse, an understanding of what it is to care for the world."

The work is in partnership with the city wide project 'Ruskin in Sheffield'
www.ruskininsheffield.com/ **Kate and Steve would like to hear from anybody interested in Ruskin who might like to get involved - email Steve at spsheff@aol.com.**

"There is no wealth but life."
John Ruskin

The Messenger online

International Women's Day is an annual highlight each March. Unfortunately this issue of the Burngreave Messenger will be rolling off the press as the celebrations happen.

Fortunately, between editions of the Burngreave Messenger, you can keep up to date with all local events and news by visiting our website. You can even subscribe to a free daily update of what's on and what's happening:

www.burngreavemessenger.org

Or you can follow us on Twitter @TheBMessenger

And don't miss **The Burngreave Messenger Facebook page.**

Don't forget we want to hear all about your forthcoming events and local news too! See our contact details below.

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Next deadline:
5th May, for publication on 1st June.

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

Toddler group

Story: Frances Ireson

The toddler group at the Welcome Centre continues to meet every Wednesday during term-time in the Welcome Centre on Nottingham Street, from 9.30 to 11.30 am (doors open from 9 am for those who have older ones to drop off at school).

In the last few months we have had a visit from a dental nurse to show the children the importance of healthy foods and cleaning their teeth and held a Christmas party. Sadly one of our volunteers and one or two of the children have moved on, but it has been lovely to see some new mums coming along.

We will also be celebrating the gift of £350 from Pre-School Alliance to help fund our group.

The group is fully equipped with toys, books and games suitable for babies and pre-school children. The group aims to help mums and dads learn to support each other and share parenting skills, helping their children develop to their full potential. The group is friendly, accessible and welcoming to all.

Burglary at St Peter's

Story: John Mellor

Early in February a burglary took place at St Peter's Church, Ellesmere. Thieves gained entry by smashing a window at the back of the church with a brick.

PA equipment, valued at over £600, was stolen from the building. Investigation of the crime is now in the hands of the police.

If you have any information please contact the police on 101 and give the incident number 207 for 3rd February, 2015.



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

Your Local Area

Register to vote

On Thursday 7th May, you will have the opportunity to help elect a new government and a new council - but only if you have registered to vote. Changes last year made everyone responsible for their own registration. Areas like Burngreave risk losing out through people not registering.

**YOUR
VOTE
COUNTS.
REGISTER
NOW.**

Many residents will already be registered but, if not, you can do so quickly and easily via the government website - www.gov.uk/register-to-vote - or by using the reminder form sent out by the Council. If you don't have a National Insurance number, you can still register. You do not have to be a UK citizen. You can register if you have Irish, EU or Commonwealth citizenship. EU citizens can vote in local elections but not parliamentary ones.

Students (or anyone with two homes) can register both here and at a 'home' address outside Sheffield. You can only vote for an MP in one place but you can vote for each council where you are registered.

You can keep your name off the 'open register' (which is on open sale, for example to direct mail companies and debt collection agencies) by ticking the appropriate box on the form. You can also ask to keep your name hidden from the electoral register if you are at risk of violence or similar. If you wish to use this option, you must discuss it with electoral services on 0114 273 4093.

Registering to vote does not mean you have to vote at the election on 7th May. Being registered can help you in other ways too, such as proving your credit history.

Register today, so you can vote on 7th May.

Councillor Surgeries

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



17th March: 12pm-1pm,
Norwood & Bishopholme TARA



19th March: 2pm-3pm,
Pakistan Advice Centre

11th April: 11am-12pm,
Burngreave Library



21st April: 12pm-1pm,
Norwood & Bishopholme TARA

23rd April: 2pm-3pm,
Pakistan Advice Centre

9th May: 11am-12pm, Burngreave Library

19th May: 12pm-1pm,
Norwood & Bishopholme TARA

21st May: 2pm-3pm, Pakistan Advice Centre

13th June: 11am-12pm, Burngreave Library

16th June: 12pm-1pm,
Norwood & Bishopholme TARA

18th June: 2pm-3pm, Pakistan Advice Centre

Contact details

Cllr Jackie Drayton
jackie.drayton@sheffield.gov.uk
 Tel: 0114 243 5388

Cllr Ibrar Hussain
ibrar.hussain@sheffield.gov.uk
 Tel: 07866 571 750

Cllr Talib Hussain
talib.hussain@sheffield.gov.uk
 Tel: 0114 273 5588

Cook and Speak

Story: Carrie Hedderwick
 Photo: Zafarine Iqbal

Calling all women! These sessions, involving varied activities take place at St Cuthbert's, Barnsley Road, Fir Vale on Wednesdays from 10.30am to 1.30pm.

I went to a cooking session. We ate well using the FoodCycle Scheme. FoodCycle is a national scheme which aims to build communities by combining volunteers, surplus food and spare kitchen spaces to create tasty, nutritious meals for people at risk of food poverty and social isolation.

FoodCycle overlaps with another scheme 'TimeBuilders' whose members get involved in a varied range of projects including art, yoga, photo-editing, beauty treatments, playing an instrument and



basic IT. For every hour that volunteers and members work on these projects they earn a 'time credit' that they can spend on play. The organisers in Sheffield of TimeBuilders work out of St Mary's Church on Bramall Lane. They have negotiated deals with theatres, Sheffield United, coach companies, cinemas, and leisure centres. An hour of work is equal to an hour of play.

The Cook and Speak project originated in an English as Second Language (ESOL) course where it became apparent that many people find it unnatural to learn a language text book style. People learn

language more easily by interacting and working alongside others. I spoke to Nadia and Zafarine, very enthusiastic and dedicated workers on the project, who explained that their aim is to encourage and support local women who will then feel confident to run sessions themselves.

The themes for the next few weeks:

- **18th March** - Bake Off & Skill Swapper
- **25th March** - Café & Gup Shup
- **15th April** - Meal for £1.00
- **22nd April** - Café & Beyond Beauty Days
- **29th April** - Bake Off & Skill Swapper

Go, take a friend, see what you think. Everybody can share their talents.

Contact
nadia@stmarys-church.co.uk or
zafarine.iqbal@timebuilders.org.uk

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