

Burngreave Messenger



Issue 113 • August 2014 • Free to everyone in Burngreave

www.burngreavemessenger.org

Voice of the Burngreave Community

Burngreave welcomes the Tour

The massive Tour de France event led to a special two-day Abbeyfield Festival this year.

A weekend of perfect weather brought Burngreave's residents out to Abbeyfield Park on Saturday 5th July for the community stage and stalls of the festival, then again on Sunday. Festival-goers could also watch the race from the large screen in the Park. Thousands gathered on the Tour route through Burngreave, creating an amazing atmosphere. Local groups provided refreshments for spectators.



Photos: Patrick Amber, Priya Blackham, Seema Ghazal, Philip Ireson, Graham Jones and Mhari-Anne Lowrie



More photos on our website: www.burngreavemessenger.org



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20 TH SEPTEMBER
BURNGREAVE CEMETERY CHAPEL
MELROSE RD, SHEFFIELD
5.30 PM

CHEAP THRILLS
ZERO BUDGET FILM FESTIVAL
4TH BLOCKBUSTING YEAR

FREE
7.30 pm

WWW.ZEROBUDGETFILMFEST.COM

Councillor Surgeries

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

No surgeries in August.

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

16th September: 12pm-1pm,
Norwood & Bishopholme TARA, Talib Hussain

18th September: 2pm-3pm,
Pakistan Advice Centre, Ibrar Hussain

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



**Thursday 7th
- Sunday 10th
August**

**7-11 Kids Club &
Coffee and Cake
for grown ups**
Thursday, Friday
& Saturday
10.30am - 12pm
Fun, Games,
Stories & Crafts

St Peter's Church,
Lyons Close, S4 7EP

**GOD
LOVES
ELLESMERE**

Contact Rev. Toby Bassford on 07740 363 970
godlovesellesmere@gmail.com

**Family Fun &
Community BBQ**
Saturday
2.30pm-5.30pm
Bouncy Castle,
BBQ Food
(including Halal),
Games, Face
Painting, Stalls

**Kids up to age 11
& Parents**
Sunday
4pm-5.30pm
Fun, Crafts,
Games & Singing
Includes a meal

**messy
church**



Burngreave Cemetery Chapel

**Guided Walk
featuring the War Memorials**

Sunday 10th August

Starting off at the Chapel at 11am

(An informal talk will be given inside the Chapel in the event of inclement weather)

Free parking in front of the Chapel inside the Cemetery

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult

For more information:

Contact: chris.burngreave@blueyonder.co.uk

Or visit the website at

www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk

Complaints on Brunswick

Story: Lisa Swift

After many complaints from residents of Brunswick Road, Spital Lane and Verdon Street about drug dealing, drug taking and anti-social behaviour, Sheffield Council Housing and South Yorkshire Police organised a joint public meeting on 4th June.

Residents brought complaints about people repeatedly breaking into stairwells and communal area of flats to take drugs. One resident said he had made 50 calls to the 101 hotline to report incidents but he had not had a response from the police.

Neighbours from Verdon Street complained of reporting people hanging around in cars many times since January. They had to pay to replace locks on communal doors that had been broken five times.

One resident on Brunswick Road said they struggled to get past people sitting on the stairs in their block. The door lock had not been fixed for a month and there had been people sleeping on the stairs.

"We are living in fear. It's a daily problem. I'm not looking forward to going home. I ring 101 but I see no improvement."

Residents from Bressingham were also concerned that, if the temporary camera at the back of the Vestry Hall was moved, problems would return there. "We had to

put up with problems for six years. We don't want that to happen again."

Some concern was expressed about young people hanging around behind the old housing office. One resident said she had spoken to them and they just wanted something positive to do. People agreed that something positive was needed, as well as police action on criminal activity.

The police explained they prioritise calls. Often, serious incidents or emergency calls mean they can't respond to every call made to 101. Arrests can only be made if drugs are found on a person. However, they also said the more calls they receive, the more time they give to the issue. It was important to keep reporting, even if people felt they had done it before.

In July, the Messenger asked the police to comment on how they had responded to the issues raised in the meeting. Sgt Dean Furniss from the Safer Neighbourhood Team said,

"We have increased our police presence in these areas and, as part of patrols, our officers identify areas of concern - insecure buildings, for example - and refer this on for action."

"We conduct regular patrols and hold fortnightly meetings, offering residents an opportunity to come and discuss any concerns they may have. We are committed to working with the local community to make Burngreave a safer place to live and work."

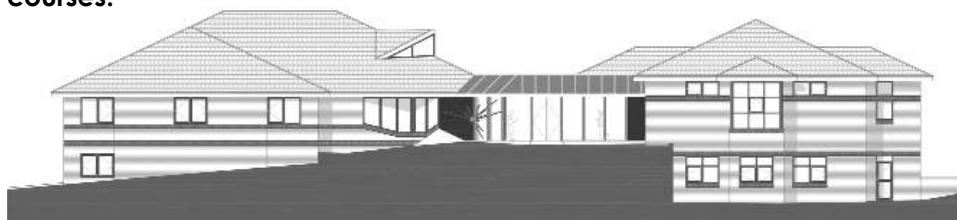
"We would encourage anyone with concerns to report suspicious activity or behaviour to us on 101."

To find out about the new regular police drop-ins, ask at the Housing Office in Sorby House.

College plan for old library and housing office

Story: Lisa Swift

Sheffield College have applied for planning permission to convert the old library and housing office on Spital Hill into classrooms for teaching further education courses.



The proposals include making a covered link corridor, which will contain the main entrance and connect the two buildings together. The site will also be fenced off, meaning access through the site will no longer be possible.

Plans are available to comment on at the Council's online planning applications website by entering the reference number 14/01834/FUL in the search: publicaccess.sheffield.gov.uk/online-applications



15 years of the Messenger

The very first Messenger was produced fifteen years ago, in July 1999. In that issue, we reported on new plans to improve Spital Hill. Fifteen years later, we report on the opening of the new area around Spital Hill. Sometimes it takes that long. Working in a community is something for the long-term.



The Messenger has a good track record and regularly gets compliments for its quality and its role in the community. Lots of people contribute. But we still need more people to help us, particularly with raising funds for the project.

Messenger Info

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This issue's team: Priya Blackham, Rohan Francis, Saleema Imam, Douglas Johnson, Graham Jones, Jamie Marriott, John Mellor, Lisa Swift.
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Ellesmere Green opening event

Story: Graham Jones
Photos: Anwar Suliman

After months of work, the new Ellesmere Green was formally opened on 22nd June.

It is much improved with areas of seating and plants and with fantastic mosaic art designed by children from Pye Bank, St. Catherine's and Firs Hill Schools.

It was a lively and colourful day with a street market, stalls, circus acts, an artist and live music from local communities. Local councillors and even the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Peter Rippon, and the Lady Mayoress, Susan Rippon, were present.

The Knit and Natter group, which meets weekly at the 'Ashram' on Spital Hill,



supported Amanda Wells on the day with the Yarn Bombing Project, which decorated the trees around Ellesmere Green with knitted objects. The event also ties in with the 6th Anniversary of Knit and Natter. For more information contact Val Ellis at the Primary Mental Health Care Project on 0114 276 2644.

There is a new noticeboard for the Burngreave Tenants and Residents Association (TARA) where you can find about their activities and news.

There are new litter bins too and throughout the event, the message was



given out not to drop litter and even to pick up other people's litter.

The new Ellesmere Green will provide an attractive focus and draw more people to the many nearby independent shops and eating places.



Firth Park Fun Day

Story & photos: Seema Ghazal (Fire picture Anwar Suliman)

The annual Firth Park Fun Day returned on Sunday 29th June and brought loads of fun activities.

People were running a variety of different stalls selling food, clothes and bags. A young group of Roma-Slovak girls put on quite a performance and an enthusiastic group of dancers gave an outstanding break-dancing routine. There were a lot of fun-fair rides for the little ones and sporting competitions for older

young people, as well as a pirate... who turned out to be a magician.

With 'Le Tour de France' just around the corner, there were lots of competitions and prizes. On one stall, you could design your own Tour De France t-shirt. If your shirt got selected, you could be in with a chance of winning your own bike! And with the World Cup going on, you could have a game of football on the inflatable football pitch.

The South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue team came along and showed us all what happens when you pour water over a chip pan. This left the whole of Firth Park shocked and astonished by the results. Nearby were our local Scouts, who were also experimenting by launching a rocket. They did it all by using household items: water, empty plastic bottles and a hand pump.



Normandy Veterans return

Story & photos: John Mellor

Local members of the Normandy Veterans Association recently joined two parades at the war memorial in Barker's Pool to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy in June 1944.

The first was held on 6th June, the actual day of the anniversary, for a small group of veterans who had not been able to travel to France for the commemorations in Normandy. Members of the public stopped to watch the parade and greeted the veterans afterwards, expressing their pride for the bravery they had shown and



thanking them for what they had done 70 years ago.

The second event, a much larger group in the presence of the Lord Mayor, was held on 11th June, by which time the veterans had returned from France.

Veteran Gordon Drabble reported on his visit to France, saying,

"The 70th anniversary events in France proved to be a memorable and moving reminder of what happened on the Normandy beaches 70 years ago, especially visits to the war cemeteries where so many of our comrades are buried. We never forget them. The importance of these events was acknowledged by the presence of the Queen and other members of the royal family, together with the heads of state from 18 other countries."

"This will probably be the last major commemoration of this kind, as most Normandy veterans are now over 90 years of age."

Two other veterans, Charlie Hill and Douglas Parker, who were among the first to land on D-Day, had a particularly memorable visit. They said,

"The Prince of Wales had especially asked to meet veterans who had been the first to land on the Normandy beaches on 6th June 1944. Prince Charles listened to the accounts of our experiences on that day and was clearly moved by what we were able to tell him of the desperate situation the first landing parties faced and the heavy casualties inflicted on D-Day. It is always a moving experience to go back to Normandy and the memories are just as vivid even after 70 years, particularly of our fallen comrades whose graves we visited."



Adult Learning Awards

Story: Smaira Sadique | Photo: Paul Adams

The Adult Learners' Week Awards were held at the Town Hall on 19th June and were once again organised by Sheffield City Council's Lifelong Learning, Skills and Communities department.

The ceremony is particularly important because it celebrates more than just academic success. Learners from around the city were awarded certificates for their achievements, efforts, commitment, attendance and willingness to learn, despite barriers.

Certificates were presented to learners from Byron Wood for achievements in ESOL and ICT. Rizwana Rehman from Byron Wood was nominated for her commitment to learning over the past two years. Schola Cashdan and her Level 1 ESOL class at Firs Hill all won an award after being nominated for their hard work teaching and learning. Kath Hobson said:

"These ladies have studied tirelessly and committed to attending all their classes over the last few years. Many of them started at much lower levels and have worked their way up through exams. Many of them had very little confidence when they started learning and now they hold fundraising events, write articles for the Burngreave Messenger, volunteer to sell popcorn and sit and listen to children reading in school."

Rashida Hassanali received recognition for being a pioneering force behind Adult Learning in Burngreave. She was presented



with a certificate for 'outstanding achievement in learning'. She spent approximately 10 years as the Extended Services Lead in the Firvale Family of Schools, setting up learning environments and encouraging adults to become learners.

Bibi (ESOL Entry 1 - Byron Wood Primary School)

I am a student at Byron Wood. I enjoy going to ESOL classes. I went to the Adult Learners Award Ceremony at Sheffield Town Hall on 19th June with my teachers, Caroline Norman and Paul Adams. I went there with my children and friends from my class as well as Smaira and Kaltun from school. We all got a bus together to town. I was very nervous because there were so many people inside. It is a very nice building and my son liked it very much. I was very happy to receive an award for the first time.

I walked home with my teacher and friends. We talked and laughed about many things. I felt very happy.

Patrick Duggan

Born 20.2.1938 - Died 16.6.2014

Story: Vin Machin

Pat attended St Catherine's School and he went on to further education at the technical college in Sheffield. He joined the Gas Board as an apprentice and later achieved the position of an engineer.

Throughout his time there, he made many friends and remained in contact with them. The weekly walks which they arranged together provided treasured memories for Patrick.

Having known Patrick for many many years, firstly as a cub at the age of eight, and then as a scout and scout leader, we had many happy hours together, and I will always and forever treasure those memories.



Patrick completed his national service in the army, and during that time he never forgot his links with the scouting community. On his return from national service he became a very active member of St Catherine's Scout Group and Acting Assistant District Commissioner for the Don District Scouting Association.

During his time in scouting he was well respected by everybody and his enthusiasm knew no bounds. Very many children have been guided in life by his knowledge and ability to help other people. These children have now grown up and some have families of their own. Some people still kept in touch and they have never lost their respect for Patrick, and the treasured memories which they have, will last forever.

Scouting has sadly lost a remarkable and exceptional man who devoted his life to helping others to become respectable citizens of society.

"I venture into this world but once, any good therefore I can do or any kindness thereof let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

These words above could well be a fitting epitaph to Patrick Duggan.

Myra Davis

Story: Graham Jones

Photo: Sam Musarika

Myra Davis sadly passed away on 25th May 2014. She was a well known, loved and highly respected figure in Burngreave where she worked hard looking after those in need, who are often among the most vulnerable people in society. She combined ardent activism with an unstinting personal kindness.



She was the founder member of ASSIST (Asylum Seeker Support In the Short Term), the Committee to Defend Asylum Seekers (CDAS) and the Sheffield Conversation Club. She taught ESOL (English as a Second Language) in Burngreave for over a decade. A tribute from ASSIST said,

"Her determination that asylum seekers should not be left alone with the effects of destitution inspired others to contribute and to learn. Her house was home to many asylum seekers who found a real refuge with her. She fought tirelessly where she saw injustice and at the same time brought joy in living and a vision of a world where all would be respected."

Myra was the host to a succession of asylum seekers to her house. In her own words: "It's always a lot of fun, a lot of laughter. It fills my house with purpose and dreams of the future. But it's not like it's all from me, it's a two-way process that gives me tremendous satisfaction because those people who've stayed with me are so generous afterwards with their time and care, both to me and to others. I have gained so much from it! And yes, I think other people can, I know you can. It's a lovely thing to do."

Myra was also an active member of Sheffield Amnesty International whose secretary, Kitty Ross writes: "She sometimes attended two meetings on the same night which shows how dedicated she was. Myra brought many refugees and asylum seekers along to meetings, many of whom have become regular members of the group. She will be sadly missed by us all."

Rashida Hassanali, former Extended Services Coordinator, Fir Vale Family of Schools, said,

"Kath Hobson (Firs Hill School) and I always hesitated to take new learners to Myra's ESOL class after term started as she would never turn them away, despite having the biggest class and the biggest crèche in the whole of Sheffield! We knew we'd get into trouble for letting her take 'just one more'. Myra had a massive appeal with learners, being everybody's 'mum' or 'aunty' and for many she was the key person they turned to for advice and support on all sorts of matters. Myra taught hundreds of women over more than a decade in our family of schools and to her, each and every one had a special place in her enormous heart. Her classes were also famed for their end of year celebrations with vast quantities of food and animated conversations often between women who didn't share a language!"

A message from Firs Hill Entry 1 class:

"Myra was a very nice person, she helped us a lot. She would help anybody. She treated everyone as a friend. She understood what we meant. We started with Myra and she was very kind. She gave us a hug when she saw us. She was very patient and she helped us slowly, slowly. She was a good teacher. She loved and understood everybody."

Firs Hill ESOL Entry 2 class wrote:

"Myra was a very good and nice lady. We miss her very very much."

"She was a very good teacher, and I miss her."

"She was a very very kind and good teacher."

A message from Firs Hill Pre Entry Class:

"Myra always told Shamim to take her time and don't rush. She was always happy and such a good teacher. She was always laughing and made us feel special. We will miss you, Myra, but we know you have a place in heaven."

Myra will be missed by her huge 'family' in Sheffield but also leaves behind two children, four grandchildren and great-granddaughter, as well as her husband.

Schools raise thousands for the Library

Story: Lisa Swift

Burngreave children and families have raised thousands of pounds for Burngreave Library in June and July, showing just how important the library is to local parents and children.

Parents at Byron Wood Primary School raised a massive £1000 by regularly selling food, and their amazing funday also contributed to the fund. Parents handed over a cheque to members of the Save Burngreave Library Group, including Councillor Jackie Drayton, Margaret Hill and Margaret Williams from Burngreave TARA.



Parents Groups at Pye Bank School and Firs Hill School each contributed £500 to the fund. Pye Bank Parents have been raising money through the weekly sale of healthy snacks, popcorn and cheese toasties and a non-uniform day in school. St Catherine's have also been collecting and held a book sale in July.

Burngreave TARA are continuing to fundraise through a raffle of prizes including two tickets for Sheffield Wednesday match (season 14/15), a family ticket for Sheffield Sharks



Basketball (season 14/15), a family ice skating voucher and an autographed copy of Brazil by Michael Palin. Contact Margaret Williams on 07930 875 153 to buy a ticket.

If you would like to help the fundraising campaign or you would like to make a regular contribution, contact the Messenger on 242 0564, mail@burngreavemessenger.org or visit burngreavelibrary.wordpress.com

Parkwood Academy Community Summer Fair

Photo: Paul Howard



The annual Summer Fair at Parkwood Academy took place on Saturday 21st June. It was a brilliant sunny day and well over 1000 people turned out to support the event.

Highlights included performances by the City of Sheffield Pipe Band, the Romano Jilo Dance Group and Parkwood Academy Bands, as well as Parkwood's very own "Race for Life." Proceeds from the day, including the Race for Life, will go to Cancer Research UK, over £1000 have been raised.

As Parkwood Academy student, Shukri Mohamed, said,

"This year's Parkwood Summer Fair was a real day to remember!"

Parkwood Academy's community liaison manager, Paul Howard, added,

"It was a brilliant day! It was great to see people and families from all our local communities coming together to support the event!"



Big Toddle

Story & photos:
Priya Blackham

On the 1st July, toddlers, parents and staff from Owler Brook came together for a Barnardo's 'Big Toddle.'

The Barnardo's Big Toddle is a short sponsored walk for toddlers to raise money for the UK's most vulnerable under 5s.

This particular walk was from Owler Brook Nursery to Firth Park, where they then enjoyed many activities in the sun, before going back to Owler Brook. Not only did the Toddle aim to raise money for charity, it also encouraged families to walk to school and other local places.

The sunny afternoon provided the perfect atmosphere for a few fun filled hours. Once the group had arrived at the park, there was lots for the little ones to do, including hula-hooping, space-hopping, hurdling, playing with a parachute and even singing nursery rhymes with Jofi the Bear.



Earl Marshall Juniors FC

Preparations underway for the new season

Story: Mick Ashman

The World Cup may be over but the teams of local Pitsmoor and Burngreave-based football club, Earl Marshall Juniors, are training regularly as they prepare for the new season.



Promotion last season for the Under 11s means they will play their Under 12s Football in Division B. Manager Shane Bramhall said, "At the start of the season we had a small squad but the success is a testament to the kids' resolve and perseverance and also the coaching input from Patrick Turner. Our sequence of nine victories helped to turn the season around and ensured a well-earned runners-up finish."

The Under 12s consolidated their Division A status with some impressive performances and hard-fought victories against established teams. From September, as Under 13s, they will step up from 9-a-side to 11-a-side football but at a recent training session there was no doubting their fitness.

The youngest players, Earl Marshall Under 9s, played with tons of enthusiasm every week throughout their first season and can't wait to start again as Under 10s. Manager Garfield Walters joked that his young players are so keen they are asking him to arrange tournaments and friendlies so that they can play every week!

For the Under 13s, it was a tough season and despite a decent Cup run, they will drop down to Division B for next season's Under 14s campaign.

All four teams will be looking to develop their squads over the summer. If you would like more information on Earl Marshall Juniors - a football club that is proud to reflect the diversity of our local community - then please contact Shane Bramhall on 0781 8551110 (for Under 12s); Garfield Walters on 07462 918 029 (for Under 10s and Under 13s) or Saidi Msigiti on 07941 601 1483 (for Under 14s).

Young volunteers visit Poland

Story: Adam Hussain

Burngreave residents Adam Hussain and Sonam Nawaz joined volunteers from five different European countries in a visit Poland to find out about volunteering in the region.



The VOLARE programme offers young people the chance to visit partners in Europe to represent volunteering in their country.

Four lucky participants from Sheffield visited Sopot along with volunteers from Spain, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Poland and Doncaster! Sheffield Futures' Volunteering Admin Assistant, Elsie Harrison, joined volunteers Adam Hussain, Sonam Nawaz and Luke Hague in activities including making and presenting gifts at Sopot's Seniors Centre.

The group were given the chance to try team building exercises including canoeing, cycling, volleyball and games. During the week the Sheffield team visited a museum of 'solidarity', Oliwa Cathedral, in the old town of Gdansk and learnt about the history of Poland.

Volunteer Sonam Nawaz said: "VOLARE has been a great overall experience, and I have enjoyed my volunteering experiences which now range from gardening in Sheffield to making dumplings in Poland!"

"This project has been a brilliant opportunity to learn about different cultures and countries. Visiting the old city in Gdansk was a an eye opener with all its rich historical architecture," said Adam Hussain

Emily Marshall, Volunteer Manager at Sheffield Futures said: "This project is a great opportunity to enrich the lives of young people in South Yorkshire by learning more about volunteering abroad!"

Khaliq joins British diving squad

Story: St Catherine's School Council

Khaliq Miller is 10 years old. He was chosen out of 24 children across Sheffield to be in the British diving squad. His other interest is basketball. He also does gymnastics and diving twice a week.

How long have you been in the diving squad?

I've been in the diving squad for about a month now.



Do you enjoy diving?

Yes, it is very good and my progress is great.

When did you learn to swim?

I learnt to swim with school, I first started in Y2. Thanks to my head teacher

Mrs Rigby for this opportunity.

How often do you train in a week?

We train as a club twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4.30pm until 7pm.

Do you have to eat anything special to keep you fit and strong?

Well not exactly, but I like to eat healthily anyway.

Can you name any professional divers?

Off the top of my head - Tom Daley.

Would you recommend diving to other children?

Yes I would definitely recommend diving to others, it's so much fun and helps you overcome fears.



Whiteways Summer Mela

Story: Bisma, Daniyah, Zara, Heba and Sana, Y6 students

Parents, volunteers and staff at Whiteways Primary School hosted a summer mela which took place on our very own school grounds on Wednesday 25th June 2014, raising a staggering £499.92

People said they had a very good day at this festive event. Mr Atkinson and Mr Faben, who were running a bouncy castle exclaimed, "We have raised a vast amount of money and everything is going so well and according to our plans. Moreover, we hope everybody does well.

We also would like to raise as much money as possible for Children in Need."

Bug hunting activities were put on by River Stewardship Company in our special outdoor area, where children discovered interesting and rare insects such as a Harvestman, a type of spider, which was found by Akeel Majeed.

Other contributors to the Whiteways Mela were the local residents who helped donate money for charity. The effort was co-ordinated with the help of Usha



Blackham, parents and staff, and was supported by the School itself, and the Burngreave Messenger.

Whiteways and the team of local residents now hope the donations will save the lives of innocent children.



Owler Brook Summer Fayre

Story: Fatima and Hala | Photos: Lisa Swift

The Summer Fayre is one most exciting events of the year at Owler Brook Primary School.

This year it was held on the 26th June. There were lots of stalls, including hook-a-duck, splat-a-teacher, lots of community stalls and much more.

Each year the summer fayre has a theme, this year it was 'Around the world.' Every

year group got involved in designing a stall around a different country.

There was a wide range of food too. Ice cream, a doughnut van all the way from Huddersfield with fresh warm, sugared doughnuts and a wide variety of other foods from around the world. Year 2 had American muffins and American coke floats for sale on their stall.

Lots of parents and children enjoyed the wonderful day of fun and games.

"My mum, niece and sister-in-law said they all had an excellent time and were looking forward to next year's," said Mrs Simpson.

Family Picnic

The day after the summer fayre, another busy day -The Family Picnic!

Children have fun whilst eating with their parents outside in the sun. It's also nice to see lots of different parents chatting happily to each other. Music is played throughout the day with MC Nige entertaining the families. There were children performing acts and the picnic ended with a magical magician. "Although it was a little sunny and a little cloudy this did not spoil my day." Sarah class 10.

"What a fantastic family and community event, all our families getting together and sharing their food and celebrating their achievements of the last year." Mrs Thabet.

Looking after each other

Many people in the community are dealing with a range of issues in their lives, which often impact on their health and wellbeing.

Poor and overcrowded housing, a lack of income or unemployment, being an asylum seeker, experiencing domestic abuse or mental health issues, such as anxiety and stress, will all have a negative impact on physical and mental health.

Sheffield City's Council's new Community Wellbeing Programme, CWP (formerly Healthy Communities or HCP) has groups and activities in Burngreave and Fir Vale that are empowering hundreds of local residents to help themselves and others and tackling ill health.

Activities and groups, such as the **Pain Support Group**, **Diabetes Support Group**, **Women's Emotional Wellbeing Group** and **Health Experience course**, all aim to bring together people's experiences and knowledge, so that people are able to support each other. Many groups and activities have volunteers, who receive training and are able to enhance their skills whilst making new friends.

The Community Wellbeing Programme aims to build strong and resilient communities, boost residents' confidence in looking after their community and each other and build up 'social capital'. The CWP also aims to raise awareness of health and wellbeing issues and work with the community to combat these. This might be by helping people to better manage symptoms of diseases such as diabetes, supporting someone to be a little more physically active, or residents meeting to support each other and build friendships. CWP activities to support this have included, **Domestic Abuse Awareness training**, support for **International Women's Day** and the **Introduction to Community Development and Health** course.

Working together

Improving wellbeing and health in Burngreave has been a collective effort. The CWP has worked with organisations such as: SOAR, Burngreave TARA, Pakistan Advice and Community Association, Burngreave Children's Centre, Sheffield Mind, Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust, Somali Mental Health (Maan), VIDA (the domestic abuse agency), SAGE Greenfingers, ZEST, St Cuthbert's Foodbank, NHS Sheffield, local primary schools.



Feeling Good on Verdon Street

Women celebrated the end of the first year of the Feeling Good on Verdon Street Project in June.

Women worked together to create a fantastic weekly drop-in. There have been healthy activities such as Somali dance, Zumba and badminton, as well as sewing, knitting, card-making, gardening and jewellery-making. The women have shared skills and supported each other.

The project included a healthy cook-and-eat session once a month at the Furnival, where the group shared recipes from around the world: Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Yemeni, Arabic, Lebanese, Mexican and Italian food. Somshun Nessa, SOAR Health Development Worker, was on



hand to give advice on making recipes healthier.

Volunteers for the project received training in first aid, child protection and food hygiene. Some went on to take part in the Introduction to Community Development and Health Course and team building. They also supported the annual International Women's Day event at Verdon Recreation Centre.

To make Feeling Good on Verdon Street happen Burngreave Tenants and Residents Association worked with the Community Wellbeing Programme, NHS Sheffield and Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust. It was funded by the People's Health Trust. Burngreave TARA are in discussion with the People's Health Trust to continue the project for a further 2 years. Look out for posters and information in September.

Successful projects improve wellbeing

Among the many important projects from the Community Wellbeing Programme (CWP), the Pain Support Group and Women's exercise have been particularly successful.

Pain Support Group

The Pain Support group at Sorby House has been very well attended, with women referred from local surgeries and others who have self-referred. The group is supported by Page Hall Practice Champions Glynis, Naseem and Nasra. This has been a great opportunity for people who suffer from long-term pain to get together with like-minded people, sharing tips on how each manages their own pain. Discussions are around pacing yourself, relaxation and stress relief. The participants enjoy gentle massages and relaxation during the session.

Due to the demand for this course, the group is now fortnightly. Future dates:

Tuesdays, 12.30-2.30pm

- 5th & 19th August
- 2nd, 16th & 30th September
- 14th & 28th October

Women-Only Exercise

The ladies-only exercise sessions at Verdon Recreation Centre have gone really well and have been popular in the community. The sessions were free and were held for 6 weeks on a Monday afternoon. Every week we varied the class to keep it fresh and fun by doing different types of activities, such as Aerobics, circuits, floor work on mats, resistance bands, Zumba and weights. If anyone wanted to weigh themselves to check their progress each week, they could. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and, as a bonus, all lost some weight! Two ladies managed to lose 5kg each and the sessions gave them the motivation to carry on exercising.

One of the women said, "We have loved coming to this friendly group and have had so much fun as Shahina is a great instructor and makes the class fun! The hour goes really quick and we feel exhilarated and full of energy when we have finished!"

For more information about CWP health activities contact Somshun Nessa on 07960 084 119



Byron Wood Family Fun Day

Story: Niaz, parent at Byron Wood School

On 16th June Byron Wood Primary School held its annual Family Fun Day. This is the first time I have helped to sell food at the Fun Day, I made pakoras for the families.

I enjoyed my experience and learnt about food safety and handling money. My children enjoyed themselves too. The older ones came from Firth Park and Fir Vale to join in the fun. There was a lot to do and buy on the day, like ice lollies, clothes, candy floss, food and cakes.

Some children had their faces painted and others played hook-a-duck and threw wet sponges at Mr Hall. My younger children played on the bouncy castle.

It was a very busy day and I was tired afterwards. I went home and rested for a little while. Next year I am looking forward to cooking lots of Pakoras and selling them because they are everyone's favourite.

Playground welcomes the Tour

Story & photos: Graham Jones

On 5th July while the Tour de France was breezing through Yorkshire, the Pitsmoor Adventure Playground was running its own time trials for the under fives. Medals were awarded. It was all part of the Adventure Playground's buzzing Fun Day.

After weeks of preparation, it was an action packed event: there were sack, three-legged and egg and spoon races, parachute games, den building, and a grand opening of the sandpit. Various ball games, table tennis and pool were being played, and children were just enjoying themselves. Prizes had been donated by 'Help a Hallam Child', food and cakes had been donated by Tesco and there were copious supplies of fruit snacks to keep the energy levels up.

But apart from its prowess at sporting activities, the playground is known for its arty and creative activities. There were the giant t-shirts, yards of bunting, made with help from Patrick Amber, and a colourful Pitsmoor mosaic which was being completed that day supervised by Barbara and Pete.

But most spectacularly, one wall of the building is now covered in an amazing painting reflecting a multinational welcoming of the Tour de France. The project was completed with the help of My Life Project, Ellesmere Youth Project and Christchurch Pitsmoor.

Amidst all this excitement, it was fitting that a Certificate of Achievement be presented to the Playground as part of Adult Learners' Week in recognition of its commitment to learning. The playground manager Patrick Meleady and his hard working team certainly deserve a distinction for their commitment and sheer energy.



A special bunch of flowers was presented to Saleema Imam for her hard work and support.

The Playground welcomes 8-14 year olds (under 8s must be accompanied by an adult), and its opening times during term time are: **Wednesday 3.15pm - 6.15pm, Friday 3.15pm - 6.15pm and Saturday 12pm - 3.00pm**



Arbrar Rafiq who goes to Firshill School told me that he had been interviewed at the playground by Mick Lunney of BBC Radio Sheffield about the wall painting. He said that he thought it would never happen to him and that he felt so proud. He owed it all to the playground team.

Throughout the summer the playground will be open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 12.30 - 3.30pm (except 7th and 28th August).



summer activities

Youth Clubs

Verdon Street Youth Club - Multi-sports and Arts & Crafts

Boys/Girls 8-16 years

Wednesdays 4.30-6pm July 30th, August 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

Thursdays 4.30-6pm July 31st, August 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

Verdon Recreation Centre

Contact: Aislinn Adams **07432 805 847**

Earl Marshall Youth Centre

8-17 years **Mon** 1-3pm July 28th, August 4th, 11th, 18th

13-17 years **Mon** 6-8pm July 21st, 28th, August 4th, 11th, 18th

Girls **Tues** 3.30-5.30pm July 22nd, 29th, August 5th, 12th, 19th

13-17 years **Weds** 6-8pm July 23rd, 30th, August 6th, 13th, 20th

8-12 years **Thurs** 6-8pm July 24th, 31st, August 7th, 14th, 21st

8-17 years **Fri** 1-3pm July 25th, August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd

8-12 years **Fri** 3.15-5.15pm July 25th, August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd

13-17 years **Fri** 6-8pm July 25th, August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd

Earl Marshall Youth Centre, Owler Lane

Contact: the Community Youth Team **0114 201 8600**

Earl Marshall Young Adults

Mondays 8-10.30pm July 21st, 28th, August 4th, 11th

Wednesdays 8-10.30pm July 23rd, 30th, August 6th

Fridays 8-10.30pm July 25th, August 1st, 8th

Earl Marshall Youth Centre, Owler Lane

Contact: the Community Youth Team **0114 201 8600**

All Saints Youth Centre

8-12 years **Tuesdays** 3.15-5.15pm July 22nd, August 5th, 12th, 19th

13-17 years **Tuesdays** 6-8pm July 22nd, August 5th, 12th, 19th

mixed ages **Wednesdays** 1-3pm July 23rd, August 6th, 13th, 20th

13-17 years **Thursdays** 6-8pm July 31st, August 7th, 14th

All Saints Youth Centre, 7 Lyons Close

Contact: the Community Youth Team **0114 201 8600**

Osgathorpe Pavilion Youth Club

13-17 years **Mondays** 6-8pm July 21st, August 4th, 11th, 18th

Osgathorpe Pavilion, Osgathorpe Park

Contact: the Community Youth Team **0114 201 8600**

Scouts

76th Sheffield (St Peter's Ellesmere) Scout Group

£8 per month - first month FREE.

(Possible help with cost for families on low incomes)

Beavers Boys/Girls 6 & 7 years **every Tuesday** 6-7.15pm

Cubs Boys/Girls 8-10½ years **every Wednesday** 6.30-8.00pm

Scouts Boys/Girls 10½-14 years **every Friday** 7-9pm

Explorers Boys/Girls 14-18 years **every Monday** 7-9pm

Cornerstone Building – corner of Grimesthorpe and Carwood Roads

Contact: Nico Hall **07941 480 380**

Scouts take part in activities as diverse as kayaking, abseiling, expeditions overseas, photography, climbing and zorbing. As a Scout you can learn survival skills, first aid, or even computer programming. There's something for every young person. It's a great way to have fun, make friends, get outdoors, express your creativity and experience the wider world.

Fundays & Family Activities

St Peter's Family Fun & Community BBQ

All the family **Saturday** 2.30-5.30pm August 9th

St Peter's Church, Ellesmere

Contact: Rev. Toby Bassford **07740 363 970**

Free, but there will be stalls with things for sale.

Messy Church – includes a meal

Children under 11 years and parents

Sunday 4-5.30pm August 10th

St Peter's Church, Ellesmere

Contact: Rev. Toby Bassford **07740 363 970**

Kids Club with Coffee and Cake for Grown Ups

Children under 11 years and parents

Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10.30am-12 noon

August 7th, 8th and 9th

St Peter's Church, Ellesmere

Contact: Rev. Toby Bassford **07740 363 970**

Caribbean Sports Club Family Funday

All the family

£1 entry (under 16's FREE)

Sunday 12-8pm August 10th

Sheffield Caribbean Sports Club, Ecclesfield common, S35 9WL

Contact: Angela **07565 550 358**

Caribbean Sports Club annual Family Funday. Activities include: junior and adult football tournament, boxing demonstration at 1pm, dance performances, face painting, glitter tattoos, bouncy castle, food stalls, music, rounders, kids & adults 60m sprint dash and much more.

Playschemes

Fir Vale Summer Scheme

6-13 years

£10 per day

Monday - Friday 9.30am-3.30pm

August 4th - 15th, weekdays

Fir Vale Pre-school, Fir Vale Centre, Earl Marshall Road

Contact: Gill or Leila for more information **0114 303 0147**

Activities include: Cine World, Bowling, Ice Skating, Baking, Arts & Crafts.

Watoto Summer Play Scheme

3-8 years

£3.30 per hr

9am-3pm July 21st - 31st, weekdays

Watoto Pre-School, 139 Catherine Road

Contact: Sharon at Watoto to book a place **0114 275 1817**

lunch included

Confidence and Self-esteem

Confidence, Motivation & Self-esteem course

Teenagers and young adults (14+ years)

Tuesdays 6-7.30pm

SADACCA, 48 Wicker

Contact: Emma for more information **07919 882 964**

Improving confidence, motivation and self-esteem. Youth Can Achieve is offering a six week course in conjunction with SADACCA to help you improve your confidence and achieve your goals.

All activities and events are **FREE** and **OPEN TO ALL** unless otherwise stated

Produced by the Burngreave Messenger on behalf of Burngreave Youth Network

Adventure Play

Pitsmoor Adventure Playground - Play, Arts and Sports

8-14 years (under 8s welcome with an adult)

Open Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays

(except 7th and 28th August)

12.30-3.30pm

Throughout the summer holidays

Pitsmoor Adventure Playground, Melrose Road

With outdoor play, arts & crafts, sports, dance and den-making.

Outdoor & Walking

Walk And Play - parents and children

0-5 years Mondays 9.30-11.30am

July 21st, 28th, August 4th, 11th, 18th, September 1st

Meet at Byron Wood Primary School, Earldom Road

6-10 years Wednesdays 9.30-11.30am

July 23rd, 30th, August 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

Meet at Firs Hill School, Orphanage Road

Contact: Activity Sheffield **0114 273 4266**

An easy walk for parents and children to play in the park with fun and games and a chance for everyone to sit down and socialise.

Gardening 5-18 years

Thursdays 1-3pm July 24th, 31st, August 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
Wensley Community Centre

Contact: Shamila at Owler Brook **0114 243 8611 (option 1)**

Nature activities

with Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust

Kids in Crabtree 5-14 years

Thursday 10.30am-12.30pm July 31st

Meet at Crabtree Ponds nature reserve, Crabtree Close

Kids in Salmon Pastures 5-14 years

Friday 10.30am-12.30pm August 1st

Meet at Wicker Arches

Contact: Sarah Sidgwick at Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust

0114 263 4335

Fun in the wild. Nature activities including Den Building and Pond Dipping.
Booking essential. Please email: nature.reserves@wildsheffield.com

Sports

Cycling 5-18 years

Tuesdays 1-3pm July 22nd, 29th, August 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th
Owler Brook Primary School

Contact: Shamila at Owler Brook **0114 243 8611 (option 1)**
Bikes will be provided, but they are limited. Bring your own if you have one.

Earl Marshall Street Games Multi-Sports 14+ years

Saturdays throughout the summer 2.30-3.30pm

Earl Marshall Youth Club, Owler Lane

Contact: Activity Sheffield **0114 273 4266**

All Saints Street Games Multi-Sports 14+ years

Saturdays throughout the summer 4-5pm

All Saints Youth Centre, 7 Lyons Close

Contact: Activity Sheffield **0114 273 4266**

Pilsung Taekwondo £2.50 (5-18 years) / £3.50 (18+ years)

Tuesdays 6-8pm

Fridays 6.30-8pm

Verdon Recreation Centre

For more information call: **07595 888 048**

Arts & Reading

Arts & Crafts 5-18 years

Wednesdays 1-3pm

July 23rd, 30th, August 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

Wensley Community Centre

Contact: Shamila at Owler Brook **0114 243 8611 (option 1)**

Burngreave Library summer reading challenge All ages

Mythical Maze reading challenge during the summer

Burngreave Library - Contact: Janet or Sue **0114 203 9002**

Read six books and conquer the maze. Win stickers and prizes along the way and get a certificate and medal when you finish.

Mythical Maze Library Activities All ages

Mondays and Wednesdays 2-4pm

July 28th - August 27th (not 25th August Bank Holiday)

Burngreave Library, Sorby House, Spital Hill

Contact: Lisa at the Burngreave Messenger **0114 242 0564**

Activities based around the summer reading challenge theme of the Mythical Maze including arts & crafts activities and creative writing.

George & Brian

Play it again George!

by Edgar Lowman



Litter enforcement in Page Hall

Story: Rohan Francis

The Council has put up a number of anti-littering signs in Page Hall, warning people they could be fined £75 for dropping rubbish in the street.

The signs are part of a Council initiative to enforce litter rules in the area. The rules allow Police Officers and local authority 'Litter Enforcement Officers' to issue Fixed Penalty Notices to anyone over the age of 18 who is observed dropping litter in a public area. Under 18s can also be fined at the discretion of the officer involved.

When issuing a fine, an officer will take down a person's name and address but money cannot be demanded 'on the spot' in the street for any littering offence.

Council rules also allow further action to be taken in court against people who don't pay a litter fine. A maximum penalty of £2,500, plus costs, could be charged.

Council enforces landlord licensing

Story: Rohan Francis

Sheffield Council has begun to take action against landlords who have failed to complete their Selective Licensing applications in Page Hall.

Selective Licensing was introduced in the area at the end of April. All private landlords leasing residential property within the licensing area are required to have a licence, costing from £725 for the five years in which the scheme is expected to run.

The Council has stated that all licence applications must include both paperwork and the full fee. Currently, the Council has received complete applications for 229 properties in Page Hall. 9 properties remain unlicensed due to incomplete payment and the landlords of a further 75 properties will be pursued for more information or an application. To date, one landlord has received a fine for not applying for a licence and another is due in court.

Landlords in the area have continued to express concern that licensing has failed to improve the local housing market, with many properties now selling to outside investors for low prices at auction, some as low as £35,000.

St Cuthbert's new community centre

Story: Priya Blackham

Photo: Saskia Baker

On Wednesday 2nd July, St Cuthbert's Church had an open day to exhibit their new facilities to the local community. St. Cuthbert's now offers an extended, fully accessible community building which includes a meeting room, a community kitchen, 500 square metres of community space, a play garden and even a sound system in the church.

A special dedication ceremony was held on 25th June with the Bishop of Sheffield, the Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft, and special guests including local councillors.

As a result of the newly upgraded building, St Cuthbert's is a perfect venue for a diverse range of events, such as training, conferences, youth work, faith-based gatherings and many more events.

St. Cuthbert's also has their very own foodbank store, which was open for the public to go and see on Wednesday 9th July.

For booking enquiries or for further information contact:

Linda Elms on: 0114 245 0775 or email adkinelms@live.com

Louise Collins: 0114 261 1605 or email louise.collins@sheffield.anglican.org



Consultation on new houses at Earl Marshal

Story: Lisa Swift

Plans for new housing on Earl Marshal Road is in the pre-planning stage, so now is a good time to have your say on what you think the new housing development should be like.

The site was previously Council flats which were knocked down in 2007 and it has been empty ever since. Sheffield Housing Company is now planning to build houses and possibly flats for private ownership.

The development could affect the pedestrian route to the shops from Earl Marshal Road. If you live nearby, it's worth having your say, even if you are not interested in the new housing.

**Consultation drop-in event:
Thursday 14th August, 3-7pm,
Pakistan Advice Community
Association, 127 Page Hall Road.**

BME network meeting in Burngreave

Story: Lisa Swift

Following funding cuts, volunteers from the BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) Network organised a public meeting at the Vestry Hall, in June, to discuss ongoing issues of inequality in Sheffield.

Ronnie Lewin and Mubarak Hassan led the meeting, explaining that although the Network had lost most of its funding, they wanted people to get involved in regular public meetings and to help to continue to raise issues of inequality with organisations like Sheffield City Council.

Young people, youth justice, education and jobs were high on the agenda. Ronnie revealed a shocking statistic that over 50% of BME young people in Sheffield are unemployed. Volunteers had recently raised these concerns at a Cabinet meeting, and the group intends to keep highlighting the serious inequalities in Sheffield.

Mubarak spoke about health inequalities, pointing out that life span is over 10 years less in Burngreave than in the other side of the city,

"We know from the Fairness Commission that people from BME communities do not get a diagnosis early enough and this affects how effective treatments can be. At one GP a Somali woman was told to come back the next day when an interpreter was



available, so she was not getting the same service as others when she needed it."

Comments from the audience included:

"We can't wait for things to change. We need to do things ourselves and get things done."

"We have to come together. We shouldn't be threatened by funding, we need to act."

"There are many communities missing from this meeting, we need representatives from all communities."

"We have made a massive contribution to this city but we are being pushed back to the 1960s."

"We need to keep talking, and keep doing what we are doing and we can become a social and political movement."

The BME Network plan to hold regular public meetings. For more information visit www.sbmen.co.uk

Ski village damage continues

Story: Graham Jones
Photo: Neil Schofield

Since the Ski Village on Parkwood Springs closed, the site has been ravaged by vandalism, plundering, tipping and a succession of fires.

The Friends of Parkwood Springs opposed a planning application from the leaseholder, Pullen Development (Selby) Ltd, to fill a large area of land on the Ski Village site to a depth of 5 or 6 feet, by using demolition waste from the Ski Village as well as from other sites. They were concerned that plans to build housing would be the only reason anyone would need to level the site.

The Friends of Parkwood Springs pressed the Council for urgent enforcement action to get the site cleared up and stop further deterioration. Councillor Ibrar Hussain raised the issue at the Council's Planning Board at the end of June.

The planning application was refused but the Friends of Parkwood Springs have complained that, despite the refusal of permission, a colossal thirty lorry loads of



building waste have been brought onto the site and tipped there.

The Council has now served enforcement notices, both under planning law and under leasehold law, requiring the leaseholder to tidy up the site. The planning enforcement notice was served on 24th May, requiring the land to be cleared up within 8 weeks. However, Pullen Developments has lodged an appeal, which is due to be heard in Court on September 2nd.

There was a meeting of The Friends of Parkwood Springs on 1st July where members expressed their strong feelings about this dumping and possible house building. If you share the Friends group's concerns about Parkwood Springs, you can contact your local Councillor, or write to the Head of Planning, David Caulfield, at the Town Hall (David.Caulfield@sheffield.gov.uk)

Snowsport petition

Snowsport for Sheffield (SfS) is a group campaigning to re-establish snow sports facilities in Sheffield. Earlier this year, their working committee started a business proposal to develop the site as a multi-sport freestyle training facility. The group says it already has commercial interest from the snowsports surfacing company, Snowflex. It is also looking to incorporate additional outdoor sports at the Village, including mountain biking. The group are seeking a lease on the property. It has received messages of support from Team GB skier Katie Summerhayes, the Machon brothers, BBC Ski Sunday presenter Ed Leigh and keep-fit guru Mr Motivator.

SfS intends to "create a platform for the next generation of Olympic hopefuls by encouraging talent and making snowsports accessible to all and to cement Sheffield's place as the 'City of Sport', by working in partnership with existing facilities to create a Centre of Excellence."

They believe this will provide a sustainable positive effect on the local community and economy.

Snowsport has an online petition: www.ipetitions.com/petition/snow-sport-for-sheffield



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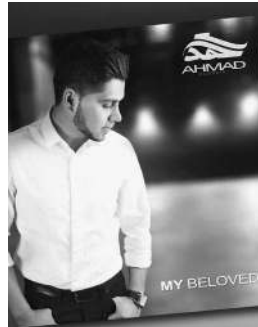
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Inspirational Nasheed singer launches new album

Story: Aaliyah Khan

Internationally renowned and Fir Vale's very own Ahmad Hussain has announced the date for the release of his hugely anticipated follow-up album 'My Beloved'. The album is a tribute to his beloved mother as she was sadly diagnosed with cancer early last year.



The album consists of 13 songs in multiple languages, and the production of the album involved many musicians from countries around the world and from continents such as Asia, Africa and Europe.

Ahmad is also set to release another music video entitled 'Muhammad' (PBUH) which was shot on location in New York by a talented director from the USA. This follows on from his hugely successful videos 'My Beloved' and 'Ya Taiba', which has received more than a million views on You Tube.

'My Beloved' was launched on 20 June and will be available at stores and online through iTunes.

Robert Smith's new EP

Story: Douglas Johnson

Local musician - and sometime Messenger reporter - Rob Smith has launched a new EP, with the prospect of a full album later in the year.



The 5-track EP, entitled The Donation, is a positive and uplifting take on Rob's discovery about his early life in children's homes and the lives of his ancestors captured as slaves.

Rob's favourite track is Self Harmer, he says, "because of its meaningful lyrical construction that will relate to so many people suffering silently. For me, becoming a self-harmer relates to so many negative things we do either to ourselves or to others, with an end result that is the same."

The EP was produced by Pitsmoor's Jody Wildgoose, who had recently worked with Reverend and the Makers. Self Harmer has since been re-engineered in a reggae version by Errol Brown, formerly Bob Marley's sound engineer.

The Donation is available to download at www.badsignproductions.co.uk

Longley awards

Story: Rob Barker

On the 24th of June, media students and teachers at Longley Park Sixth Form College celebrated the success of their courses with a Hollywood style awards show.

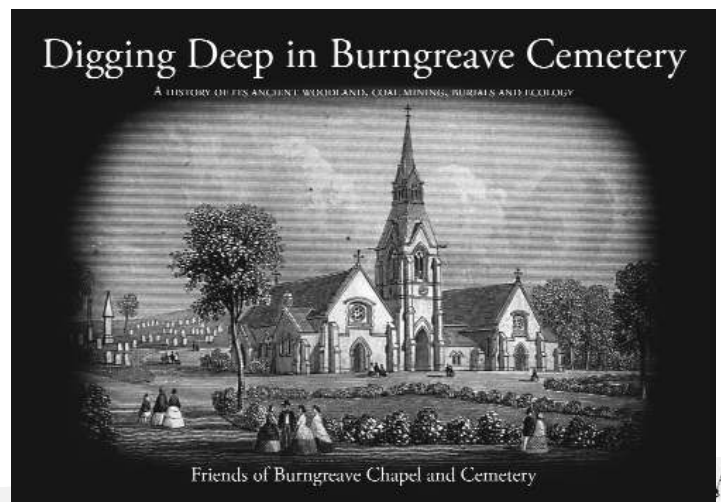


James Oliver Presenting the Student of the Year award to Maxine Sibanda

The 'Freeze Frame' awards formed the opening VIP night of the college's Creative Show, which showcases student's work including Art and Design and Photography. Pleased with the success of the show, event organiser Tim Pass said, "The awards celebrate the incredibly high standard of media students' work at the college and recognise achievements in Video Production and Graphic Design as well as written and research work."

The media department at Longley Park has benefitted from substantial financial investment in recent years that Tim feels places the college at the cutting edge of media education provision in the region. The award show was accompanied by the premiere of a gritty documentary made by the college's second year students on the subject of food banks. "It's the best student film I've ever seen," said Matt Rowan Maw (producer of the film).

The Creative Show and Freeze Frame awards are held at Longley Park Sixth Form College every year in late June and are open to the public.



Cemetery book launch

Story: Saleema Imam

A new book about Burngreave Cemetery and its history of mining links with the community was launched at the Vestry Hall on Saturday 21st June.

Copies of 'Digging Deep in the Cemetery' will be available any Sunday between 11am and 3pm at the Chapel in Burngreave Cemetery.

Raising awareness of autism

Story & photos: Seema Ghazal

On 14th June a group of mothers held an event at Verdon Recreation Centre giving helpful information and support on autism. Burngreave BME Autism Support Group meets up once a week at Verdon Street to offer support and advice to parents of children with autism.

We spoke to two group members, Sarah Osman and Segal Ali. Sarah mentioned that without the group mothers didn't know where to go or who to turn to. The event was intended to give mothers a bit of time to socialise and for their children to mix with other children.

Autism is a disability which will affect a person for their whole life. Autistic people can have difficulty with communicating, social interaction and social imagination. People with autism may find it difficult to understand facial expressions or recognise whether someone is feeling unhappy. Children with autism can have delayed speech development, and may have trouble with their sleeping patterns and difficulties with behaviour. Children may need specialist support, the group can help parents find out what services are available and who to contact.

Sarah and Segal were aware of the many challenges parents and children will face after being diagnosed with autism. Sarah said, "There are specialist schools in Sheffield for children living with



autism; sometimes it is very difficult for a parent to find a place. There is support out there, and we have been through the process many parents will face and we can help them find a way through it."

Segal told us what the event has been about.

"Today is about awareness, we hope it will help people to recognise the signs of autism so they can get support. Parents are also sharing and giving their own experiences for other parents to relate to. We are also raising money for the group so we can run workshops and other activities."

To find out more about Burngreave BME Autism Support Group contact 07940 465 865 or 07947 169 627.

SAGE Greenfingers brings theatre to Grimesthorpe

Story: Diana Tottle, SAGE Greenfingers | Photos: Anwar Suliman



For the third year in a row the travelling theatre company, Mikron, asked the Burngreave charities SAGE Greenfingers, Green City Action and Grimesthorpe Allotments Association if they would support a performance of their latest play.

They've got a reputation for bringing together great audiences of people who might not ordinarily get out to the theatre.

This year was no exception. About 150 people crowded together in the evening sunshine on June 24th to see 'Till the cows come home' - a play tracking the trials of an idealistic social entrepreneur as he sets up an ice cream business using fair trade



products from all over the world. It was a lively and thought provoking production.

Seven SAGE Greenfingers' members were spotted chortling alongside other Burngreave residents, children and allotment enthusiasts from across Sheffield. SAGE staff and volunteers sold tea and cakes, supplemented by smoothies and soup made by Green City Action. The performers were thrilled at the size and broad mix of the audience. We're pretty sure Mikron will be seeking a return invitation next year!

This year marks 10 years since SAGE established its site at Grimesthorpe. The Mikron visit is one amongst many that we are holding to celebrate our achievements.

Look at our website to see details of our Open Day on 19th August which will include art and craft activity and a short address by local MP David Blunkett. Please get in touch any time if interested in being referred or volunteering with us: www.sagesheffield.org.uk.



Staying active at Verdon Rec

Story & photo: Lisa Swift

For over 20 years, the Senior Citizens group have been meeting at Verdon Recreation Centre. Local resident, Delia Chadwick, keeps the friendly group for over-50s going every Wednesday and is hoping new members will join.

"We have a good number of consistent members but we would like to encourage new people to come and get involved."

Each week the group enjoy gentle exercise with professional sports coach Nicky Darker from Activity Sheffield. He is an excellent judge of what the group can cope with and, although many of the exercises are done sitting down, the sessions get the heart pumping and limbs stretched.

After exercise, the group enjoy tea and coffee and a good chat. There is also an annual meal out and a trip to the pantomime. One member, Margaret, told the Messenger,

"It helps me a lot. It's good to do something with other people because I am on my own. I enjoy having a cup of tea and a chocolate biscuit with everyone. I still come even when I'm having a bad day because it gets me out of the house."

"It's good, it's good company with lovely people. I enjoy the exercise too," Betsy said. "We all enjoy it!" Joyce added.

Owen attends every week but had one suggestion for a change, "We could do with a few more men, I can't win an argument with all these women!" No one argued with that.

Verdon Street Senior Citizen's Group is every Wednesday, 1.30-3pm, at Verdon Recreation Centre and costs £2. Just come along or contact Activity Sheffield for more information on 273 4266.

New project at HOPE Community Allotment

Story: Sarah Emberson

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) have recently got funding from The Health Lottery to improve health inequalities.



A partnership with the HOPE Community Allotment Project on the High Wincobank site has led to an agreement to work on one of their plots for 18 months. They aim to establish a volunteer group and improve the plot and of course get local people growing food.

TCV are making it more accessible for people with disabilities and generally improving it. TCV have lots of plants growing, the shed is moving, a patio will be built, a new lock-up is arriving, new compost bays have been built and they are now harvesting food.

The TCV long-term volunteer group have done a lot of work and continue to do so. They are slowly building a new volunteer group of local people. TCV aim to leave a self-sustaining group to continue growing food on the plot.



TCV have also started working in partnership with Community Action Halfway Home to form the Grow Your Mind Allotment Group, where regular well-being sessions will be combined with gardening on Wednesdays to cover mental health awareness, mindfulness, creative writing and more. These sessions are open to everybody and are free.

TCV welcome volunteers who would like to help maintain the allotment, learn to grow food, meet new people, improve their health or just get involved. Please contact Sarah for further details on 0114 290 1255 or 07740 899583, or s.emberson@tcv.org.uk

100 Black Men Walk for Health Group anniversary

Story & photo: Maxwell Ayamba

The 100 Black Men Walk for Health Group celebrated its 10th anniversary on June 7th 2014 at Sheffield Hallam University.

The main speaker was Professor Solomon Tesfaye, a specialist in diabetes. He indicated that, for the first time in the history of mankind, non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and heart disease have become significant globally.

The Professor noted that diabetes is now responsible for 3.2 million deaths each year and has overtaken HIV/Aids. He said



the only way to tackle diabetes is through change in lifestyle. Exercise is one of the best methods.

The group's most recent walk attracted 17 people. If you would like to be involved too, contact Maxwell Ayamba on 07791 614 433. The group is open to anyone but particularly encourages BME men to get walking.

Volunteers clean Page Hall

Story: & photos: Lisa Swift

Another successful clean-up took place in Page Hall on 30th June.



The Page Hall litter pick has been a regular activity by local volunteers supported by Pakistan Advice and Community Association for some time. In June, PACA volunteers were joined by Owlter Brook students, the police, Council officers and local residents. There was a really positive atmosphere. Volunteer advice worker at PACA, Zeeshan Khan, said,

"We are working with all the community to create brotherhood. We want to keep the streets clean and we also want to create peace in the community. It's important to spread this message during Ramadan too. As one of the volunteers at PACA, I help people with letters, forms and access to the internet. We are there for the whole community."



This special clean-up took place ahead of plans to enforce litter fines of £75 in the area (see story on page 14).

The new Inspector for Page Hall's own police team, Chris Lewis, told the Messenger, "The community has got involved in litter-picks many times before but, 48 hours later, it's back the way it was. We want some sustainability so we are doing this event today: leaflets have been distributed and we will be enforcing fines with immediate effect. New litterbins are also on the way."

Gulnaz Hussain from PACA said, "The community are strongly involved and we hope the fines will stop the litter. That's what people want."

Development worker Miroslav Sandor said, "We have been cleaning the streets once a month - it's a good idea but we would be happy if more people from different communities would come and get involved. People should love where they live. We have been educating people about the fines. I think it is a good idea but I am concerned that it also includes cigarette ends. This will be very difficult for people."

Pye Bank teams clean up

Story & photos: Lisa Swift



The streets around Pye Bank School were spotless on Saturday 12th July, after a two-hour litter-pick by pupils, parents and staff.

The five teams gathered around 75 bags of rubbish from the Verdon Street and Andover Street area. It was a hot day and some parents were fasting for Ramadan but this did not stop everyone working hard. Karen Stanley, Business Support Manager at Pye Bank, led the organising of the event. She said, "We want people to see us doing this and see that it's worth it, to see how nice it is to have a clean environment. We hope people will help keep it clean."

Joanne Grayson, one of the parents on the litter-pick, said, "A group of mums has just finished the family learning course, Eco Monsters, where we learned what a terrible impact litter has on the environment. We are now starting a social enterprise to raise awareness. We are asking people to bring aluminium cans into school: these can be sold and, with the money, we hope to install two new bins outside school."



Embroidered Postcards of the Great War

Story: Albert Jackson

The members of Burngreave Community Cemetery Chapel have used the theme of Embroidered Postcards to recognise the Centenary of the Great War, 1914 -1918, in an exhibition at the Cemetery.

Many citizens heeded the call to arms and the Cemetery itself has many graves and memorials to the brave men of the area who volunteered to serve their country and who perished in the task. Many others returned to a world that had changed beyond recognition.

“Sweetheart” postcards connected the soldier with his loved ones while away from home in an unknown place and they are a perfect way to represent the social condition of the times.

The exhibition contains many examples of the artwork, and includes displays



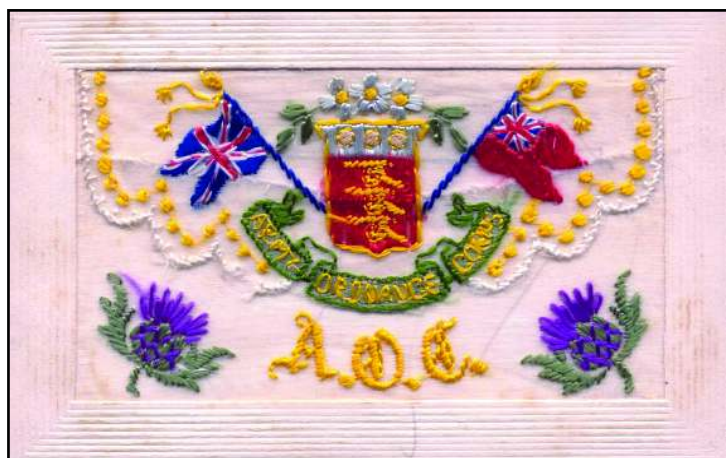
about the conditions attached to their origin. It reflects the emotion, sentiment, passion and optimism felt by both the sender and the recipient.

The exhibition is accompanied by a booklet, which documents the fascinating developments in manufacturing and design of the postcards in Europe, with thanks to Dr Collins for his permission to reproduce facts, photographs and data from his research and his book, ‘An Illustrated History of the Embroidered

Silk Postcard.

As an ongoing display, the group would welcome any feedback or information regarding its content, including photographs, letters and reminiscences. They will be treated with the greatest respect.

See advert below for details of the exhibition and page 2 for information about a guided walk of the Cemetery on 10th August.



Embroidered Postcards of WWI in Burngreave Mortuary Chapel

A display of sweetheart postcards and other artwork associated with World War I

Friday 8th August 2014
7pm – 10pm

Saturday 9th August 2014
10am - 12pm and 4pm – 6pm

Sunday 10th August 2014
11am – 4pm

Burngreave Cemetery, Melrose Road, Sheffield S3 9DN

Contact: chris.burngreave@blueyonder.co.uk

Visit: www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk



Well dressing celebrates Tour

Story: Saleema Imam | Photo: Patrick Amber

This year's annual well dressing in Burngreave Cemetery had a topical 'Tour de France' theme. Several local community volunteers helped make a colourful floral creation to decorate the site of the well, near to the Melrose Road entrance to the cemetery.

(The Well dressing was unfortunately vandalised, but here it can be seen in its full glory.)

Volunteering for Islamic Relief

Story: Aishah Baroo

Local resident, Ghazala Aslam, has been an Islamic Relief Volunteer for the past three years.

She has always had an interest in volunteering and has been involved with charitable initiatives at the Hallamshire Hospital and with her work colleagues for Children In Need, before finding out about Islamic Relief.

Islamic Relief is a charitable organisation dedicated to the alleviation of human suffering. They are one of the members of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), alongside other leading charities such as Christian Aid, Oxfam and Save the Children. The charity is not about



preaching Islamic beliefs but strongly believes in expressing faith and sincerity through action. Like the other charities, they largely rely on volunteers and donations to secure funds for their work.

Ghazala has been involved with several successful fundraising campaigns with Islamic Relief in Sheffield raising money for poverty-stricken countries and disaster zones.

Events have been held in Burngreave at the Masjid Umar Mosque on Barnsley

Road and the Fatimah Centre on Brunswick Road. In the month of Ramadan last year they also launched a #Cakes4Syria Campaign in which they sold 405 cakes, adding £4050 to the fund for Syria. Their volunteers have also shown great dedication and commitment to the cause and Ghazala and others have climbed Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in the UK, and participated in a sponsored walk of 55km from Manchester to Penistone to secure funds for Syria.

She spoke highly of her experience with Islamic Relief, saying,

"They are helping people in various situations such as Haiti after the earthquake or more recently in Syria. They are also transparent, and tell people that 10% of the money they use is for running the charity".

To find out more about Islamic Relief or to get more involved visit www.islamic-relief.com

Bees killed

Dear Messenger,

I was wondering if you would do a short story on some honey bees the Council has killed. Bees are so very important to wildlife and already endangered. The Council chose to kill a whole colony that had landed on Stockton Close, even though local bee-keepers take them away for free.



The bees had landed to feast on something spilt on the pavement. Children started to kick them so, in defence, they stung some children. One child had about 17 stings, leading to a trip to hospital. The Council could have called local bee-keepers who take them away for free but claimed, for safety reasons, they had to poison them. My argument was that having them taken away by bee-keepers would have been better.

The poison and dead bees were left on the street for birds to eat and cats to wander through, so that's not safe. Only after a rant on social media did a lady who works for the Council offer to inform her manager and only then someone came to clean the street the day after. It's sad because honey bees are so important and already numbers are low. For them to be poisoned, with no other effort made is sad, as the damage caused to wildlife and nature will be shocking if they are wiped out. According to the social media, the council didn't care much and, when asked if schools would be informed to educate the children and parents on how important they are, I was told that parents need to educate children themselves.

Annie, local resident

The British Bee Keepers Association website lists local bee-keepers who can come and collect honey bee swarms for free. It also helps you check what type of bee you have seen. Bee-keepers will only collect honey bees.

Find out more at: www.bbka.org.uk

Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year

Story: Saleema Imam

Messenger volunteer and local resident, Douglas Johnson, recently won an award for his work with Sheffield Law Centre in Social Welfare law, one of 11 categories in the annual awards.

Previously working as a neighbourhood advice volunteer, Douglas joined Sheffield Law Centre in 2007 and eventually became Equality Rights Supervisor.

Short-listed from nominations around the country, Douglas's recent legal aid work such as enabling concessionary bus and rail travel to South Yorkshire's disabled people to be re-instated, helped to earn the award.

Though delighted to have won, he said "It reflects a lot of the invaluable work that Law Centres do which makes a difference to peoples lives, but any one of the people nominated deserved an award."

Sky News' Anna Jones, compère of the award ceremony, said "Douglas is described as the epitome of what a legal aid lawyer should be: knowledgeable, tenacious, strategic and committed to obtaining justice for vulnerable people."

Sheffield Law Centre has now merged with other advice services in Sheffield. For advice, ring 205 5055 or visit www.advicesheffield.org.uk





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