



Pauline's Olympic effort

Story: Lydia Flanagan | Photo: Anwar Suliman

Pauline Agatha Neita has just finished the 2012 London Marathon, one of the seven charity runs she plans to take part in to celebrate the Olympic year.

Back in 2003, the Messenger reported on local resident Pauline finishing her first charity race, the 5K in Birmingham, at the age of 40. Nine years later, Pauline is still running many charity races with her sisters Kathleen and Annette, including Sport Relief, Race for Life, Sheffield Half Marathon, the Great North Run, Yorkshire Run and the festive Santa Jog.

Pauline's motivation for running comes from her pleasure in taking part. The atmosphere created by supporters, which she describes as 'phenomenal', is enough to keep her running the 26.2 miles to the finish line! 26.2 miles may sound a little daunting and just a time challenge for the super fit, but as Pauline said, "it's all about fun, not finishing first!" She'd encourage anyone to take part in any charity run and as she's demonstrated, you may never turn back.

"If I was at school and the teacher said to me 'would you like to do a marathon'? I would have said 'no'. I'm a sporty



person, but me do a London marathon? I would have been thinking in terms of how far, not thinking how fun it's going to be!"

Once Pauline starts, she aims to finish and did so by running at her own pace, jogging and power walking. There was no intense training either, just a lot of walking and Zumba once a week.

"It keeps me fit and I'm achieving my goal when I complete the race. Once I start I aim to finish"

As part of running the London marathon, there's a compulsory target, which changes according to the charity, however the lowest target can still be a mighty £1500 which can put people off. But the thrilling atmosphere, the sense of achievement in finishing a marathon and raising a significant amount of money for charity, is well worth all the effort.

Pauline's fundraising came from family, friends, people in the local area and schools. Though she met her target, it was a lot of work. The charity she was running for was Interactive Disability Equality in Sport, which helps disabled people get more involved in sports and enables them to have a more active lifestyle. She's not put off by fundraising though. She'd do it all again but perhaps not every year, as she'd wish to, unless there was a generous sponsor. Pauline would like to thank everyone who has sponsored her over the years.

**Abbeyfield Park
Multicultural Festival
Sunday 8th July
1 - 6pm**

**music, stalls, food, activities,
sport, dance and much more!**



**For stall and stage bookings, contact:
abbeyfield.festival@gmail.com 07743 006 121**

Vacancy at the Messenger

The Burngreave Messenger has a vacancy for an Office and Distribution Administrator.

The main duties are to maintain the office admin systems, to monitor funding outputs and to organise the distribution of each issue with our team of distributors, who are mainly young people.

- **Hours: 16 hours per week**
- **Salary: £19,621 pro rata**

The Messenger is a small team and we are looking for someone who is able to use their initiative and work flexibly.

The closing date is 12 noon on Thursday 14th June 2012. We expect interviews to be held on Wednesday 20th June.

For an application pack:

Please look on our website: www.burngreavemessenger.org

Or email: mail@burngreavemessenger.org

Or phone: **0114 242 0564**

The post-holder will be required to undergo a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Check.



LOTTERY FUNDED



Funded by the National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund

Burngreave Community Action Forum Annual General Meeting



This year's focus will be on ways to carry the forum forward.

Saturday 23rd June 11am

Pitsmoor Methodist Church, Burngreave Road S3 9DG.

Free lunch and refreshments provided.
The meeting will include:

- Presentation of accounts
- Report on BCAF's work
- Election of directors and auditors

From previous public meetings, it is clear that local people would like a forum as a place to raise issues and try and tackle them, especially in these difficult times. A new committee is needed as the majority of the existing committee are resigning at this AGM.

The forum has funds, support of local councillors and can function. It just needs enough people to make it work.

This is YOUR local forum, please come to the AGM or get in touch beforehand if you think you can help.
Many thanks

Email enquiries@bcaf.org.uk

JOB: Roma Community Worker

Full time post

£23,000 per annum pro-rata

The closing deadline for this post is 1st June 2012

This position is to recruit and support the development of a Roma community self-organisation for the city.

The person we are looking for will develop a collective Roma voice that will articulate the needs and aspirations of the community and will develop ways to address them by developing partnership working; this will be carried out alongside other local authorities in respect of the Roma population.

You must also be fluent in speaking and understanding Roma language.

This post is funded until 31st March 2013, for further information and an application form please contact:

**Pakistan Advice & Community Association,
127 Page Hall Road, Sheffield S4 8GU**

E-mail: pacfirvale@aol.com

We are working to achieve equal opportunities.

'Goings on' in Burngreave Cemetery!



Sunday 3rd June

11.30am. Ken Wild leads a guided walk as part of the Sheffield environment weeks events.

**Thursday, Friday & Saturday
12th, 13th & 14th July**

Ever hankered after creating a well dressing?
Fancy 'puddling' clay or petalling?
Come and join us in the chapel and find out how.
All welcome.

Sunday 15th July

12 noon. Launch of the completed well dressing by local Councillor Jackie Drayton, followed by a guided tour of the cemetery and a 'Big Picnic'.

Full details of both events on the Friends of Burngreave Cemetery and Chapels website:

www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk

Image courtesy of Sheffield Local Studies Library



Two festivals in Abbeyfield Park

Story: Lisa Swift | Photo Cecelia Vincent

A summer festival in Abbeyfield Park has been a fixture for over a decade. This year there will be two.

After concern that the Abbeyfield Park Multicultural Festival would not take place, a date has now been set for Sunday 8th July.

New to the park this year is Sumfest UK, which will be an Urban Music festival on Sunday 29th July.

Sumfest organisers looked at a range of venues from Don Valley to Devonshire Green, before settling on Abbeyfield. The stage will be the main attraction with sound system and a range of urban music artists. There will also be stalls,

activities for children and fairground rides.

The Multicultural Festival will keep a focus on community, with local acts, stalls and children's activities. Time is short and they are calling for local people's support to book stalls, stage performances and to volunteer on the day.

Abbeyfield Park Multicultural Festival, Sunday 8th July
abbeyfield.festival@gmail.com or
 phone 07743 006 121

Sumfest UK Urban Music Festival, Sunday 29th July
sumfestuk@hotmail.com or phone
 07554 899 622



Police cordon off Burngreave Road after stabbing

Burngreave Road was cordoned off for several hours on Friday 20th April, after a young man was stabbed. The Police told the Messenger,

“Officers are currently investigating a wounding, which occurred around 6.20pm on Friday 20 April 2012 in the Rock Street and Burngreave Road area of

Sheffield. As a result, of the incident an 18-year-old man sustained a stab wound to his leg and chest.”

Police stated that the young man's injuries were “not believed to be life threatening” and they believe it was a targeted attack. As the Messenger goes to press the police had not made any arrests.

Anyone with any information about the incident or who believes they may have witnessed the incident are urged to contact South Yorkshire Police on 101 quoting incident number 931 of Friday 20 April 2012. Alternatively, people can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Retrial for Spital Hill shooting

Abdi Omar, of Lopham Street, will face a retrial after a jury failed to reach a verdict on his case at Sheffield Crown Court.

Abdi is accused of murdering Deeq Ali in October last year at a party on Spital Hill. The date of the new trial is yet to be announced.



The Messenger has reached its 100th issue.

This is a big achievement for any community newspaper. The Messenger has been very lucky with financial support from New Deal in the early days but even more fortunate in the people who have contributed to it.

Hundreds of local residents have contributed their time to the Messenger in the last 100 editions. On average 30 people contribute or volunteer each issue and around 100 different people each year, as well as the people interviewed and local advertisers. Reaching 100 is something we can all be really proud of.

To celebrate, Burngreave Local History group have looked back at newspapers 100 years ago, and their local coverage see pages 8 and 9. George and Brian also celebrate on page 14.

Messenger Info

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This issue's team: Fran Belbin, Michelle Cook, Rohan Francis, Saleema Imam, Douglas Johnson, Jamie Marriott, John Mellor, Tim Neal, Liz Searle, Rob Smith, Lisa Swift, Vivien Urwoldi.
Proofing and editing: Gaynor Carr, Carrie Hedderwick, Robert Shaw.

Dates for your diary

Meet the artist Coffee Morning

Burngreave Library
Saturday 11th June at 11am

John Lintern's paintings Sepia Trees, arrangements in colour and other works will be available to view in the library from Monday 21st May.

Summer Fair

Firth Park Community Arts College,
Fircroft Avenue

Saturday 16th June, 11am – 4pm,

Free entry. Music & Performances, Bouncy Castles, Curries, Big Prizes, GAMES, Competitions, cakes and stalls.

For more information, or to book a stall, please contact Gordon, Gaby or Debra on 0114 2574027.

Walk round Parkwood Springs and Roe Wood

Thursday June 21st, 10.40am

See fine views and explore some lovely woodland. Takes 1.5 to 2 hours. prompt start at 10.40am by the statue at the entrance to Parkwood Springs on Shirecliffe Road/ Cooks Wood Road.

Friends of Parkwood Springs AGM

St Catherines School,
Firshill Crescent

Wednesday June 27th, 7-9pm

Friends Group meeting to hear about what is happening on Parkwood Springs, and contribute your views. Also the Annual General Meeting of the Group, to elect the committee for the next year. New committee members welcome.

Jubilee Events:

30th May - 21st June. See page 14

Burngreave Cemetery events:
Sunday 3rd June, 12th-15th July. See page 2

Ellesmere Centre Multicultural event: Friday 8th June. See page 10

Crescent Community Centre AGM:
28th June. See page 22

Ellesmere Green consultation:
7th & 12th July. See page 10

Abbeyfield Park Multicultural Festival: 8th July. See page 1

Keep track of events on the Events section of the Burngreave Messenger website:

www.burngreavemessenger.org/events

Hucklow praised by OFSTED

Hucklow Primary School received a 'Good' OFSTED rating in March, with 'much that is outstanding' with the teaching.

The report praised the behaviour of the children and the support the school receives from parents, which it describes as 'overwhelming'. It states that pupils feel safe and bullying is almost 'non-existent'. OFSTED were also impressed by the progress children made with their

learning while at Hucklow, stating that "attainment levels are rising, including in reading, and have done so over a sustained period."

OFSTED also said 'the school is well led and managed at all levels'. Headteacher, Susan Arnold, praised the partnership that had led the school to success:

"The reason the school is so successful is because the senior leadership team have focused on making improvements and developed a partnership between parents, children and the school. I am really proud of all the people involved in the school. It's a real joint effort in making our school successful."

Sing Up Gold Award!

Byron Wood have reason to sing - they have just been awarded a national award, the Sing Up Gold Award.

Last year the school was awarded its Sing Up silver awards. The Sing Up adjudicator commented on the school's commitment to singing:

"Wow! What a strong application you have submitted for the Gold Sing Up Award and there is no doubt whatsoever that you really deserve to be called a Singing School. Singing seems to be everywhere and part of everything at Byron Wood Primary School! It was good to see so many teachers and staff who are happy to lead and join in with singing in school. I feel that you have so



Robiann, Nada and Aksa Y5, with Byron Wood's Sing Up Gold Award Certificate

much to share with other schools and would urge you to consider applying for the Sing Up Platinum Award."

This summer terms sees the school's choir performing at Sheffield Children's Festival, in a massed Sheffield Choir and visiting choir from Cuba. And at the end of term, the Year 5's and 6's will be putting on a production of Hagbane's Doom.

Family Food & Film event

Story: Rashida Hassanali

Fir Vale's thriving parents group CASP (Community & School Partnership) once again provided delicious food and entertainment for the local community on a rainy Sunday afternoon in April.

With popcorn, candyfloss, and drinks available in the Theatre, there was a real 'cinema' feel to the event.

Over 150 people came along to enjoy a free film, which was chosen by the audience from a selection on the day. As each film name was called out, the audience cheered for their favourite... Puss In Boots won!



The parents group raised useful funds for their future work and families had an inexpensive night at the cinema!

Everyone was very positive and CASP will definitely consider doing this sort of event again. To get involved in our next event come along to the next CASP meeting on Tuesday 3rd July, 9.30-10.30am at Fir Vale School, or contact Rashida Hassanali 07535 484 372.



Activity Sheffield staff changes

Story: Douglas Johnson | Photo: Lisa Swift

Burngreave residents went to the Full Council meeting at Sheffield Town Hall on 4th April to tell councillors they valued staff at Verdon Recreation Centre and Pitsmoor Adventure Playground.

Activity Sheffield was changing the staff structure to create higher-paid posts. This means fewer posts for the experienced staff already working there. Staff at both centres – and Highfields Adventure Playground in Sharrow – faced losing their jobs and didn't know what the future held.

Verdon Recreation Centre

Parents and Friends of Pye Bank School brought a petition signed by 510 parents, young people and centre users. Zabada

Hussain, extended services co-ordinator at the school, addressed the councillors to explain Verdon Recreation Centre is an important venue in Burngreave. Aislinn Adams, the development worker, makes the centre accessible to users of all ages. She pointed out it takes years to build up trust with young people in the area. Zabada called on councillors to confirm if there would be changes to jobs.

Adventure Playground

Lisa Swift spoke on behalf of 149 young people from Pitsmoor Adventure Playground, who had signed a petition drawn up by 10 and 11 year-olds (Javien Allen, Millie Higgins, Skye Dawson-Hydes and Chanel Dawson). They felt it was not fair the staff were to be replaced with other staff.

Asafa Hussain and Saima Hussain asked questions from the public gallery about why staff were being replaced and why the community had not been consulted.

Councillor Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, the Cabinet member for Business, Growth

and Jobs, stated, "we know how important the centres are to the children, which is why they weren't cut in the Council's budget."

She promised to meet the petitioners, saying, "my job is to make sure the service is provided to the community and the children."

At the meeting, Paul Billington, the Council's Director of Culture and Environment, stated there had been no budget cuts or reductions in the level of staffing overall and that the opening hours at both centres would remain the same. He told parents:

"We're aiming to increase usage at both centres. Verdon Recreation Centre and Pitsmoor Adventure Playground are relatively expensive compared with the number of people using them. The Council is constantly reviewing all its services in the light of reducing budgets. It's important that everything is done to increase footfall at these important sites."

Activity Sheffield has also promised not to put charges up for use of Verdon Recreation Centre. Their focus will be to increase the number of people benefiting from them. They have promised to work with local groups and residents to make this happen.

Meanwhile, some of the staff affected have successfully re-applied for jobs with Activity Sheffield. At the Adventure Playground, one experienced member of staff has gone. Other posts remain unfilled in the new structure.



Fundraising at Verdon Rec

Mothers of Burngreave Network held a successful fundraising event on 13th April at Verdon Recreation Centre.

Children and their mothers attended along with a number of invited guests. Everyone was able to enjoy food, henna, face painting and dancing. All this was provided by volunteers from the group, who raised around £300 on the day. The money will go towards more activities at the Centre, where the members of the group are developing a programme of activities for mothers and their children.

Youth centres affected by changes to youth services

Story: Lisa Swift

After changes to staff at Sheffield Futures, young people have lost out again at local youth centres.

Two youth club sessions at Verdon Recreation Centre have ended, while other sessions have reduced from three to two hours. All Saints now has 2 evening sessions, Earlmarshal has 4 sessions, and Osgathorpe pavilion just 1. Youth workers are also committed to supporting the Vestry Hall 2 sessions a week.

Sheffield's Youth Services have received cuts of over £5million in the last 2 years. A restructure to create Community Youth Teams, has also meant big changes. Youth workers are now part of a team that includes Youth Prevention workers, Police officers and health workers.

Sheffield Futures have also ended contracts with youth workers who only worked for them for a few hours a week, creating instead jobs of at least 16 hours per week. This has resulted in many youth workers leaving the service and Sheffield Futures have not been able to recruit to all the vacancies available.

Champion Muheeb turns professional

Story: Rob Smith

On their arrival at the Messenger office, Elias and Muheeb Fazeldin, father and son, began a revelation of personal achievements, along with their ideology of promoting Burngreave in the arena of professional championship boxing.

Living in the Denholme area of Burngreave and of British Yemeni origin, Elias, a visibly proud father, begins by explaining:

"When Muheeb was 3 years old, we saw him using a skill they called slip-flip, while also using some very strange foot stances when he was play fighting."

Elias was told his son should be taken to boxing lessons but he as a father decided against it.

"I did not like boxing, you see. But it was when we came to live in Sheffield back in 2000, to keep him out of trouble, I took him to a karate club at Concord Sports Centre. He was 8 and did it until he was 13, becoming a brown belt in karate."

Muheeb agreed, smiling while exuding a calm air of confidence.

"My dad liked me doing karate and it helped my hyperactive behaviour," he laughs, "I was always fighting, you see, and getting into trouble. I started hanging out around the back of the Vestry Hall. There I met a local boxer called Richard Towers. He encouraged me, as well as others, to join a local boxing club instead of just hanging around."

With his unique style and skills, Muheeb was quickly noted by both Brendan Ingle and his son Dominic, winning more than 18 of his amateur fights.

"To begin with, I weighed 17 stone and began training it down to



55 kilos, making me a bantam or super Bantam weight," explains Muheeb. "Brendan, Dominic and the other trainers began teaching me how to control my footwork skills before moving me onto the bag and then into the ring."

It was in November 2006, aged 15, that Muheeb fought and won his first amateur fight. As he progressed, his coaches in the Ingle team recognised his very unorthodox style. "They started calling it the Ingle breed," Muheeb says proudly.

Holding the title of Yorkshire region ABA champion for the last 3 years, his trainers are about to propel Muheeb Fazeldin into the limelight. He explains that, now turning professional, he has been regularly sparring with the Ingles' club's top fighters, such as Kel Brooks and Junior Witter.

"I want to be known as a positive role model for my generation here in Sheffield's inner city and my mission is to bring a world championship boxing title right back here, to Burngreave."

Muheeb Fazeldin is asking for sponsorship from any local businesses seeking an opportunity to promote themselves through the future career of this local up and coming boxing champion. Contact Muheeb on 07833 321 191 for more information.

Earl Marshall Juniors – Season Review

Story: Mick Ashman

There was mixed fortune this season for local Pitsmoor and Burngreave-based football club, Earl Marshall Juniors. The Club celebrated the players' achievements at two memorable presentation nights on the 11th and 12th May.

The Under 9s enjoyed a second fantastic season. With new players joining the squad over the campaign, manager Anjam Aslam saw his team secure a fourth place finish after some terrific performances. They will play in Division B as Under 10s from September when they will no doubt be a force to be reckoned with!

An unexpected defeat on the last day of the season saw the Under 10s just miss



out on promotion to Division A. They intend to strengthen the squad over the summer and already look well placed to secure a top three finish next season.

The Under 11s team took their time to adapt to eleven a-side football played on a bigger pitch but enjoyed an impressive sequence of wins in the new year that pushed them into contention for promotion to Division A. Unfortunately they drew their last two games but are well placed to continue where they left off next season.

For the two older teams, things didn't go so well. The Under 15s lost some key players to academies linked to local professional clubs. A solid defence and excellent goalkeeping led to a good start but the team was troubled with injuries later in the season. It was also tough for the Under 16s. Despite some heavy defeats, the team spirit remained very good. Players who left were quickly replaced. Performances improved steadily over the season and they secured two well-earned victories.

There was a memorable end to another year of football when, for the third successive season, manager Garfield Walters was able to celebrate winning the divisional fair play award with his Earl Marshall team.

All the teams will hold trials for new players in early June. 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 Mick Ashman on 07843 731430.

From the Streets

Story: Liz Searle

Kim Streets, the new Chief Executive of Museums Sheffield, lives in Burngreave. I went to meet her and find out what it's like working in Sheffield's arts and heritage.

"I started twenty-one years ago," Kim explains, "During my time here I've been involved in lots of exciting projects. I had good opportunities and made the most of them, and this post seemed like the next logical step."

Comments from people around the city, and on the Museums Sheffield website following Kim's appointment, show the huge amount of support for her in this new role. One quote stands out:

"There's nobody better for the job or to build on Nick Dodd's achievements. Many of us in Sheffield know how much you have worked out of your role especially as regards Sheffield Castle artifacts. You are a Sheffielder and know what MS and particularly Weston Park means to us." (Ron Clayton)

Times are tough financially, but Kim is confident that Museums Sheffield will weather the massive restructure which will see forty people leaving. "It's very



hard," she states, "because people have really given it their all - it's a labour of love for everyone."

After completing a history degree at Sheffield Hallam University, Kim volunteered at Kelham Island Museum and worked on heritage research at Globe Works. Her first post was Assistant Keeper of Social History - collections of people's stories and items that say something about their lives.

"One of my favourite projects was an exhibition called High Rise. Working with the residents of Park Hill, an artist

called Tim Smith collected their stories and opinions about where they lived."

Kim worked on the book Burngreave Voices which told the stories of many local residents. Living in the heart of the area since 1992, she describes how welcoming it is for newcomers.

"People here are very friendly, and living here gives people from all over the world the freedom to settle and put down new roots. It definitely feels like home. It's also very beautiful - I love the cemetery and parks, and buildings like the old chip shop and the Tollgate house."

Kim enthuses about the excitement of people telling their own stories and how she hopes more Sheffield people will get involved in the museums' collections.

"When the museum first opened in the 1870s there was no other way for Sheffield people to see things from the past or other countries. The collections belong to the people of Sheffield, and the arts give us something to be proud of, an identity".

At the moment, you can see Andy Warhol's late self-portraits at the Graves Gallery, artist Paul Morrison's show at the Millennium Galleries, and an exhibition from the V&A Museum of Childhood called 'Magic Worlds' at Weston Park.

Soap Star in Firvale

Story: John Mellor

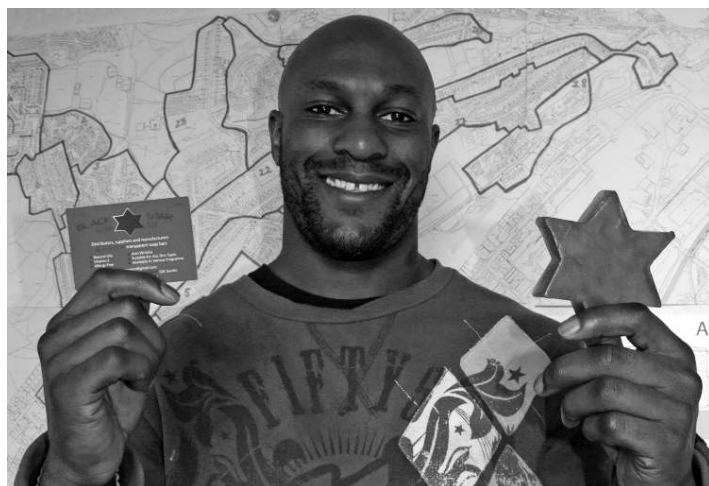
A highly motivated 26-year old has broken out of the cycle of temporary contracts and unemployment by setting up his own soap making business, working from home.

Nigerian-born Uche-chi Zabdi-el came to the UK with his parents when he was 5 years old. His father was in the Merchant Navy and the family settled in Liverpool where Zabdi-el was educated, obtaining A-levels in Maths and IT. Finding employment at that time was not easy and he had no alternative but to take up temporary contracts in marketing with T K Maxx, first in Liverpool, then in Cardiff. After moving to Page Hall, Sheffield in 2006 he worked in telesales with Voice Marketing.

Zabdi-el told me:

"When this contract came to an end I was unemployed for 6 months. Talking to an advisor at the CAB I mentioned to him that one of my hobbies, from schooldays, was soap-making. He said, 'Why not try setting this up as a self-employed business?' This idea led me to contact a lady in Scotland who had set up a similar business, after redundancy, and was able to give me the help and advice I needed. I order all the materials on line and carry out the process at home. I produce star-shaped, black, transparent tablets of soap which is the unique selling point."

He kindly provided a sample for me to try and it certainly feels good to use. The name of the company is the 'Black Star Soap Co'



and after only a few months, it is already having considerable success in finding new outlets, both on-line and in the retail sector. The 'stars' are available in a range of different fragrances and are advertised as 'anti-wrinkle' and suitable for all skin types.

He hopes that his success will inspire others of his age to launch out in the business world. Zabdi-el says,

"Its repetition that leads to belief, and once that belief becomes a deep conviction, things begin to happen."

Black Star Soap Co
Contact details: blackstarsoapco@gmail.com
Mobile: 07796 587 840

Whitsuntide 1912

Story: Christina White

100 years ago Spring Bank Holiday was then known as Whitsuntide, one of the best and brightest of the Bank Holidays. Whitsuntide is a Christian festival which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's disciples.

Like most bank holidays the weather forecast was not promising but in Sheffield it was hopeful that the rain would hold off for the main event of the weekend on Monday 27th May. This was when children from all over the City marched in processions to the nearest park for the May singing. Whitsuntide, like Christmas, was known as the children's holiday, a tradition started by the Sunday schools in the early 1800's.

It was also a tradition that children had new clothes to wear for the Whitsuntide holiday. For some children in the poorest parts of the City this would be the only occasion when they had anything new. Many children would have hand me downs or second hand clothes.

In Burngreave and Fir Vale there were many wealthy people and they would be shopping for their children's clothes at some of the smartest shops in town. Due to the development of the manufacturing trade, clothes were cheaper and more stylish than they were five years previously.



From the Daily Telegraph May 1912:

A child can be prettily dressed for five or six shillings. The hat may cost 2 shillings and a summer cotton dress 3 or 4 shillings

On the morning of 27th May 1912 children in Burngreave and Firvale would congregate at their local churches. Muriel Hearn who lived at 30 Minna Road would be particularly excited for she was the May Queen for the Burngreave Congregational Church, Pitsmoor Road. Muriel was 16 and she led the church procession to Firth Park. Muriel's sister Dorothy was the May Queen in 1922 and we have a picture of her in all her finery.

Each Church would have its own May Queen who would walk with her attendants behind the church banner, then came the other children dressed in their new best clothes and often carrying garlands of flowers. Adults followed behind the children. Many churches hired a band for the occasion.

The Catholic children in the area assembled at St Catherine's School on



Andover Street. They marched to the City centre where they joined children from all the other Catholic churches. Then they walked to Norfolk Park where the largest crowd of the day assembled.

From the Daily Telegraph May 1912:

Brilliant Roman Catholic Procession

Banners of various hues stretched back as far as the eye could see. Brass bands played marches and between the gaily bedecked cars marched children in all manner of attractive costumes.

The tradition of the May Queen, Whit Singing and new clothes started to decline in the 1970s.

Pitsmoor – A peek into the past

Story: Saleema Imam

Over the past few years you will have read lots of local history articles in the Messenger, many by members of Burngreave Local History Group.

The local history group was started by the Messenger, and is supported by well known local historian, Suzanne Bingham. Based initially at the Vestry Hall, the class gave local residents the skills to do their own research using websites, the Sheffield Archives and the Local Studies Library. Later the class moved to St Catherine's School where we looked at Victorian themes of interest in the area.

Book launch

The idea occurred to put some of our research into a book about the area in the 1800s. The resulting book - *Pitsmoor a peek into the past* - will be launched on

June 16th at Burngreave Library from 11am - 2pm. All welcome!

The book covers a variety of interests and areas:

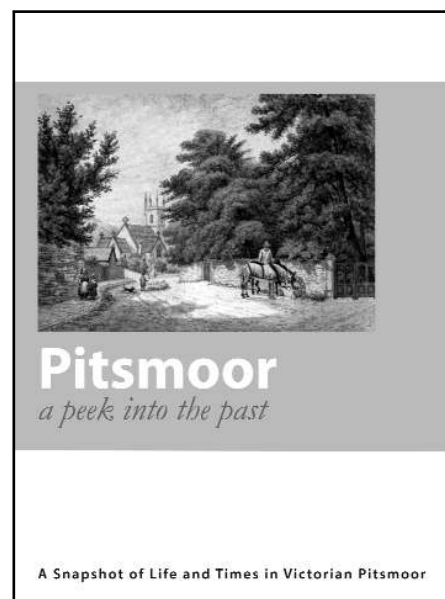
Notable Pitsmoor characters - such as cricketer George Ullyett, Harry Brierley the inventor of Stainless steel and J A Marson – the Pitsmoor millionaire

Properties - like Abbeyfield Park House, Roe Lane Towers and the Teacher's Orphanage

Census information - about Pye Bank, Ellesmere and Grimesthorpe Road and others

Schools, churches and the cemetery

With maps and many accompanying photographs and pictures (in both black and white and colour), there's something to interest everyone.



Pitsmoor - A peek into the past, costs £7 and you can get your copy at Burngreave Library or the Chapel in Burngreave Cemetery on Sundays. If you would like to join the Burngreave Local History Group contact the Messenger, 242 0564 email mail@burngreavemessenger.org.

The award winning
Ellesmere Children's Centre
Multicultural Event 2012
Friday 8th June 4pm to 8pm

Please join us and
show your support
for our community
event.



This year's event will be a food
tasting extravaganza with cuisine
from around the world for you to
try and enjoy.

Highlights

- Food from around the world
- Bouncy Castle
- Fun for all the family
- Stalls with local and exotic crafts
- Make up, massage, jewellery, cards, books and cakes.
- Resident Artist.



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www.ellesmere-family-centre.co.uk

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**Ellesmere
Green...**

The Council has recently approved funding to upgrade Ellesmere Green.

This is a very exciting opportunity and we need your opinions about the work to be done as funding is limited. Construction is planned to start in Spring 2013.

Consultation for the improvements to the Green with local residents and businesses will run from Monday, 2 July until Friday, 27 July 2012.

You are invited to attend two events about the future of Ellesmere Green. You can also give your views online.

For more information contact:
Lucia Lorente: 0114 273 6673 or
e-mail: lucia.lorente@sheffield.gov.uk

DP11822

Please come to one of the following two events, have a look at the proposed improvements and give us your views.

Saturday 7 July 2012, Vestry Hall (Ellesmere Green) 11am until 3pm

Come to the Green to look at the proposals and also for some entertainment, including free face painting and a bouncy castle!

Thursday 12 July 2012, New Roots Café (Spital Hill) 12 noon until 7pm

Look at the proposals, discuss them with us and have a free cup of tea.

At these events, you can also find out about other proposals to improve local services in Burngreave.

If you can't attend either of these events – don't worry.

From Monday 2 July to Friday 27 July you will be able to fill in a questionnaire online at

www.sheffield.gov.uk/ellesmere and there will be a display about the proposals at Sorby House and New Roots.

*...your views
wanted*



The Peace Child

Story: Tamikka Reid and Rabiya Bahadar

On Tuesday the 27th and Wednesday the 28th of March 2012, the Byron Wood Year 3's and Year 4's performed an outstanding production of 'The Peace Child'.

The story was about two opposing tribes, with different lifestyles and traditions, the 'Sotongis' and the 'Wannakeekes'. It was set in the land of Mambica. The two tribes were separated by an enormous river.

One day a western TV crew came and decided to build a bridge over the river when they realised that another tribe was on the other side. They wanted to film them together. Not only were the Wannakeekes and Sotongis furious but they were at war. Only a gift, most precious to mankind, would bring peace between them and their land. So when the Wannakeekes' Chief's child was born, they gave it to the Sotongis as a gift of peace. At the end, both tribes came together as one.



Spring Bank Activities

Monday 4th - Sunday 10th June (All activities are **FREE** unless otherwise stated)



Outdoor Activities

Grass Sledging at Osgathorpe park

Family activity

Thursday 7th 10am-12pm

Sledge the slopes! Meet on the slope below the playground.

Contact the North Ranger Team on 240 3578

Den Building

Pitsmoor adventure playground

Family activity

Thursday 7th 1:30-3:30pm

Make your own den - can it pass the Ranger shake test?

Contact the North Ranger Team on 240 3578



Here There Be Dragon(flies)

Crabtree Ponds, Crabtree Close

Friday 8th 1-3pm

Join us by the pond for an afternoon of craft activities, and make your very own dragonfly, as deadly or beautiful as you want.

Contact Sheffield Wildlife Trust on 263 4335

Exciting free environmental activities

Crabtree Ponds, Crabtree Close

8-13 years

Thursday 7th 2-4pm

Activities will include pond dipping.

To book contact Sheffield Wildlife Trust on 263 4335 or email: mail@wildsheffield.com



Youth Clubs

Earl Marshall Youth Centre

Wednesday 6th

11am-1pm (8-12 years)

1:30-3:30pm and 6-8pm (13-19 years)

Thursday 7th

11am-1:30pm and 6-8pm (8-12 years)

1:30-3:30pm (13-19 years)

Friday 8th

11am-1pm (8-12 years)

1:30-3:30pm and 6-8pm (13-19 years)

Vestry Hall

Wednesday 6th 6-8pm

Sunday 10th 4-6pm

All Saints Youth Centre

Wednesday 6th 1-3pm (13-19 years)

Thursday 7th 6-8pm

Street Teams in Firvale

Wednesday 6th 6-9pm

Osgathorpe Pavilion

Thursday 7th 6-8pm

Contact Joanne Holt or Tamar Wharam at

Sheffield Futures on 201 8600 or email:

enquiries@sheffieldfutures.org.uk

www.getconnectedsheffield.com



Sports and Play

Multi-Sports Camp £1.00

Verdon Recreation Centre

8-16 years

Friday 8th 2:30-5:30pm

Contact Activity Sheffield on 273 4266

Multi-Sports at Verdon Recreation Centre

8-16 years

Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th 4-6pm

Contact Activity Sheffield on 273 4266

Pitsmoor Adventure Playground

8-13 years

(under 8s welcome with an adult)

Wednesday 6th - Saturday 9th 12noon-6pm

Contact the Playground on 203 9394

PTC Sports presenting Multi Sports Activities

Wincobank Park, Wensley Street (opposite

Owler Brook School)

All ages welcome - under 8s to be

accompanied by an adult

Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th 2-4pm



Health day

Story: Lisa Swift

Pakistan Advice and Community Association hosted two successful health days in May. Many residents from the local community attended to find out about important health information.

Speaking to Chris McCartney, a health improvement worker, she explained how important it was to get the message about cancer to local people. She is currently



focusing on lung, bowel and breast cancer because these are the biggest killers.

"People living in the local area are less likely to go to their doctors with symptoms but the later cancer is found, the harder it is to treat successfully. One

of the messages today is about lung cancer. If people have been coughing for more than 3 weeks, they should go and tell their doctor straight away and get it checked out."

Residents could get information about cancer screening alongside other health checks. Testing was also available for TB and Hepatitis.

Preventing illness is also an important issue and eating healthy food is one of the best ways to do that. Health Trainer Beki Dorely, was preparing fruit smoothies for people to try, so residents could get new ideas about eating five fruit and vegetables a day:

"People really love them; you can make them from frozen fruit, which are easier to keep. Eating 5-a-day can help prevent really serious illness like diabetes, cancer and heart disease, alongside keeping active."

Gulnaz Hussain, from the Pakistan Advice Centre, explained why it was so important to have health days in Fir Vale:

"There are many health inequalities in this area. People are dying younger here than in other parts of the city. We are supporting the local community and many new arrivals to get access to important health checks and the right health information."

Breast cancer awareness

Story: Kath Hobson

On Friday 4th May two volunteers from Breast Cancer Care came to Firs Hill School coffee morning to give lots of important information about breast cancer.

Cath and Pat have both had breast cancer and are survivors. Their stories were both heart warming and heart wrenching.



The topics they covered our sessions were: What breast awareness is and why it is important; Identifying the range of things that can be normal in our breasts; Knowing what changes to look and feel for; Gaining confidence in knowing what to do next; Importance of the breast screening programme and known risk factors.

The workshop was very interactive, everyone learnt so much from the session and realised there is so much we still don't know. We watched a film of women's stories and had a nice chat afterwards about misconceptions and old wives tales and got to ask loads of questions.

If you would like to book a session for your group, contact michelle.silk@breastcancercare.org.uk.



Grand Opening of MUGA at Owler Brook

Story: Rashida Hassanali

Uriah Rennie cut the ribbon on Thurs 4th May 2012 to the brand new multi use games area (MUGA) at Owler Brook Primary School. Men of all ages (fathers, uncles, cousins and brothers) supported children in five a side football matches – the league was umpired by Uriah and by Chair of Governors, Ian Annis.

The headteacher, building supervisor and Interserve contractors all played their part in mixed teams with only the children allowed to score goals. After a series of competitive and highly entertaining matches the clear winners were the 'A' Team.

Parkwood Academy new building



Parkwood Academy's new building is open. Costing £20 million, the state of the art facility replaces the 1930s building, originally home to Herries School. Reporting for the Messenger, Parkwood students explain the difference it has made.

Story: Ellie Hardy, Hafsa Deria, Emma Banda, Adele Clamp & Kawthar Omar

On the 19th April 2012, Parkwood Academy moved into a lovely, fabulous and spacious new building. Everybody was so excited (even the people who weren't that keen on school!)

The old building was all dark and gloomy and didn't look that nice from the outside or the inside. It was crowded in the corridors and there was chewing gum all over, especially under the tables and chairs. That was not the best environment for us but now, in the new building, there is no bubble gum under tables and the chairs are all nice and clean! Plus the atmosphere is much happier and the natural light gives us all a joyful feeling.

On the first day, everybody was ecstatic about moving into a better environment. Ellie Hardy, a pupil at the Academy, said,

"The old building was a very small place and sometimes I couldn't really concentrate because of the noise from other classrooms. In the new building we have a lot more space to work."

On the first day, everybody queued outside the academy desperate to get in and explore. The drama room is also great. It's two times bigger than the other one and has long, black curtains to block the sunlight out when we are performing. We love our new academy building!

Engage learners earn certificates

12 Engage learners celebrated the completion of their course that was running at St. Catherine's and Whiteways schools.

All 12 learners collected their well-earned certificates during a small ceremony for them held at the Crescent Community Centre. All the ladies enjoyed the course and worked really well together. Well done all of you!



Learning Somali tradition

Story: Clarete Zvoushe

Each Saturday Somali girls aged between 7 to 18 years from across Sheffield meet at Verdon Recreation Centre to learn traditional Somali dance.

I met the women who volunteer to teach them dance, sing and play the instruments, passing on their knowledge to the next generation. They told me



"The dancing helps the girls learn and know more about their background and it's a good exercise because they enjoy it a lot and they do not realise they are also exercising. We teach them different variations of dance and different themes, which have different meanings."

The women explained that it is also a time for girls to bond with their mothers because mothers come along with their daughters. It is a good social experience and a chance to speak and learn the Somali language. The girls are now able to perform at weddings, international days and celebrations, such as Eid. The group recently performed at Verdon Recreation Centre to celebrate the end of term, this year focusing on Somaliland colours. At last year's celebrations they wore the blue colours of Somalia.

The Somali Dance sessions are part of the positive activities for young people in Sheffield. They are delivered by the IT-CSSS study support and funded by the Council. Somali Dance Sessions are well attended, both girls and their mothers enjoy attending Somali Dance sessions every Saturday between 1pm to 3pm during term time.



Jubilee Events 2012

Big Jubilee Lunch

Pye Bank Primary School, Andover Street.
Wednesday 30th May 3-5pm
 Come and join Parents and Friends of Pye Bank to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, with food, BBQ, bouncy castle, face painting, Henna and more.

Queen's Jubilee Street Party

Carwood Green near Carwood TARA office
Saturday 2nd June 1-5pm
 Children's activities, free games and food. Please bring food, or a contribution to the activities. Organised by Carwood TARA. If you would like to help, contact the TARA at their Carwood Green office.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Garden Party

Christchurch Vicarage, 257 Pitsmoor Road
Bank Holiday Monday 4th June 2-4pm
 Cakes, plants, children's stalls, games, tea and refreshments. Proceeds go towards Angela's trip to help a project in Venezuela and the launch of the Welcome Centre improvement fund.

Jubilee Garden Party

Pitsmoor Methodist Church, Burngreave Road
Monday 4th June 2-4pm
 Pitsmoor Methodist Church welcomes all to their Jubilee Garden Party. There will be games, quizzes, children's races and afternoon tea. In case of wet weather the activities will be held in the lower hall.

Jubilee celebrations in Page Hall

Organised by Eden Fir Vale.
Page Hall Litter Pick
Saturday 2nd June 2-4pm
 Let's love our area and our neighbours by tidying the place up!
 Meet at the tree on Popple Street or look out for people in the Page Hall area. Equipment provided – just come and join in!

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Big Lunch!

Popple Street, Page Hall
Sunday 3rd June 12-4pm
 Music, food, friends and activities for kids!
 Join us by the tree on Popple Street. Bring yourselves and some food to share if you can!

Diamond Jubilee Celebration event

Busk Meadow Park, Shirecliffe Road
Saturday 9th June 11am-4pm
 Funday with stalls, children's rides, competitions, information and much more. Jointly organised by Shirecliffe Forum, Shirecliffe TARA and Parkwood Academy. Contact: 231 3601 or 231 0221

Indoor Jubilee Street Party

Crescent Community Centre, Firhill Crescent
£2.50 per person
Thursday 21st June 12noon-2pm
 Community Café presents an Indoor Jubilee Street Party at Crescent Community Centre. Admission by ticket only, phone 303 0381

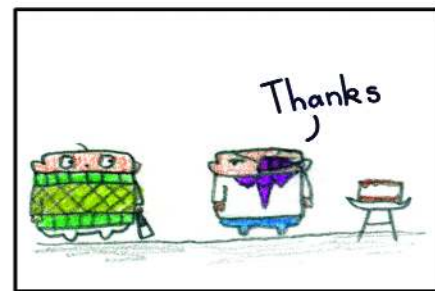
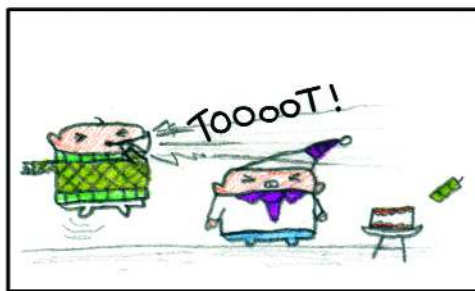
Keep track of local events by looking on the Events section of the Burngreave Messenger website:
www.burngreavemessenger.org/events

George & Brian



Happy Birthday!

by Edgar Lowman



Face Britain

Story: Rashida Hassanali

Mona Hassan and Sahra Elmi, Y10 students at Fir Vale, were part of a select national Youth Forum in 2011, working with the Prince's Foundation for Children & the Arts, to shape a special art project to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the 2012 Olympics.

The two students inspired and



encouraged younger pupils in the Fir Vale family of schools (Owler Brook and St Catherines) to create a self-portrait

using a variety of methods (paints, collage, prints).

Thousands of children from across Great Britain have taken part in this project and the end result will be a montage of Her Majesty created from the images, projected across the front of Buckingham Palace to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. In addition, our students were part of a world record-breaking attempt for the greatest number of contributors to a single art installation – this record has been smashed! Well done girls!

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Cemetery & Chapel: Past and Future

Story: Liz Searle

When I arrive at Burngreave Chapel on a sunny April Sunday, there is a lively and welcoming feel. The Friends are there to show people around the building and cemetery and one visitor is getting help to find his great-grandmother's grave.

People come from all over to find out about relatives who are resting here. Thanks to the Friends' hard work transcribing the burial records, they can find information with help from the well-informed volunteers. Family history research is a huge part of what the group does but, as I found out, there is a lot more besides!

The Past

Formed in 2000, the Friends of Burngreave Chapel and Cemetery keep the building in good condition and

support visitors who are looking into their past. Affable chairman Ken Wild says he got involved because he had come to find his family plot. "I found my grandmother - and more of her family I didn't know about," he told me, showing me round the beautiful cemetery on an informal version of his regular tour. The next one is 3rd June - don't miss out!

In the chapel itself is a wonderful display of the history of Pitsmoor.

The Future

The group has become a limited company and aims to get charitable status to allow them to receive funding for vital work such as mending the roof and doors of the right-hand chapel. The left-hand building is regularly used for bike workshops, circus shows and art exhibitions, as well as the Sunday Friends' meetings but the group also wants to bring the second chapel back into public use.

Local artist Patrick Amber said, "at the Interactive Art Festival in March, a girl came with her mum after seeing it advertised in the Messenger. She got involved straight away and made a big, bright daffodil using willow, paper and



paint. She'd never done anything like it before and thoroughly enjoyed it."

The Friends are looking for new people to get involved in any capacity. If you are interested in the buildings and cemetery, family history, art, community or just want to come down for a chat you are very welcome! Sundays 11am-3pm in summer, 12-2pm in winter.

www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk



Diggers and Dreamers at Grimesthorpe

Story & photo: Tim Neal

On Wednesday 16th May Grimesthorpe Allotments hosted the Micron Theatre Company's new touring show, *Losing the Plot*. Written by Deborah McAndrew, the play tells the story of allotment folk, a group of "diggers and dreamers" who find themselves involved in a comical struggle to save their site, Thistledale Allotments, from Council development plans.

With great creativity, the actors set up stage at the top of the allotment site. An audience of over 100 people gathered, fortunate enough to watch them perform

under a blue sky with Sheffield visible in the distance. A highlight of the show saw the history of the allotment movement dramatised in music and song. The performances were entertaining and energetic and the company clearly in sympathy with an independence of spirit typical of allotment sites.

SAGE Greenfingers are to be congratulated for having the foresight to invite them and Green City Action for helping organise food and drinks. Grimesthorpe Allotments were very fortunate to host this event and they hope to find other occasions to gather so many people together under such grand Sheffield skies.

Free meal at Burngreave Ashram every Wednesday

Story: Vivien Urwodhi

Burngreave Ashram and New Roots are providing free vegetarian meals for anyone who would like to sit and chat while enjoying some delicious food.

The meals are normally every Wednesday evening from 6pm. The New Roots shop and café sell fair-trade, organic and wholefood products and fresh fruit. The aim is to promote ethical issues, highlight issues of justice and peace and provide a rich, common table for human togetherness.

New Roots at 80-86 Spital Hill provides volunteering opportunities and accommodation for its members and volunteers, and support for homeless people, refugees and asylum-seekers.

Spring Clean at Wensley

Facing downpours of rain, Wensley Tenants and Residents Association managed a spectacular clean up of the Wensley Estate in April.

Workers from Sheffield Homes, the NEET Team and the Safer Neighbourhood Team, braved the miserable weather to do the annual deep clean, with support from the TARA who laid on refreshments and a wonderful lunch.

Gladys Newbolt, the TARA Secretary, said



"Everyone was wet through. We still managed to sweep out the stairs with the help of the PCSOs. And the NEET Team worked really hard filling several truck loads of rubbish and cuttings. I would like to thank everyone who helped on the day for their efforts."

New services at Carwood TARA

Carwood Tenants and Residents Association have launched a new advocacy service from their office on Carwood Green.

On Tuesday mornings each week, volunteer members of the TARA are available to help residents with problems they might have, including services from Sheffield Homes or the Council, understanding letters and bills or finding the right information.

Also starting in April on Monday evenings, a new conversation club for residents to build confidence in speaking English. This joins the successful computer class on Tuesday evenings.

New opening times

Monday 4pm - 6pm
(conversation club)

Tuesday 10.30am - 1pm (advocacy)

Tuesday 4 - 6pm (computer class)

Thursday 10.30am - 1pm
(TARA committee meetings)

Carwood TARA are also organising a Jubilee Street Party on 2nd July, 1-5pm, see page 14 for more info.

Our first General Meeting

Story: Clarete Zvoushe

It has been six months since we set up the Burngreave Tenants and Residents Association (TARA). We held our first general meeting on 18th April at the Vestry Hall.

We had a lot of responses to our first newsletter promoting the meeting, but the weather was not so good and 22 people attended, including Sheffield Homes and councillor Talib Hussain.

We explained what the TARA had done so far, and how we had spent the Levy money getting the newsletter out, buying things like stationery, providing catering for the meeting and funding the coming trip to Mablethorpe in June. Margaret Hill explained in detail about the budget and the balanced books were there to see. Mohammad Bashe translated in Somali throughout the meeting.



People said they would like more children's activities and, most popular, more trips! Suggestions were Flamingo Land, London, Liverpool and Yorkshire Wildlife Park. They also said they would like us to produce a list of parent and toddler groups and activities, provide courses, bingo sessions and singing sessions especially in Somali and Arabic.

At the end of the meeting there was food and a raffle and five people won £5 vouchers which were donated by Tesco. Thanks to everyone who attended.

In June: Beginners IT Course, Thursdays 12.45-3pm in Burngreave. For more info, or to book contact the TARA on 07983 921 653.

Family pet shot dead in Pitsmoor

Story John Mellor



A much-loved family pet was cruelly put to death on 5th May 2012 by a shot from an air rifle.

The 14 year-old cat was shot on Saturday, 5th May between 9am and 10.30am by an airgun or pellet gun.

Does any reader of the Burngreave Messenger know who might have been using airguns on that morning? The shooting occurred somewhere in the vicinity of Pitsmoor Road, Roe Lane and Orphanage Road. The cat doesn't wander very far from that area.

Hobbes was always a friendly and trusting cat. The shot passed through the back of his neck and the vets were unable to save his life.

The death of this longstanding family friend was a devastating blow for the family, who were in floods of tears.

The family said:

"If you have any information that may lead to the identity of the culprit, please contact the police on 101 so that no other families in the Burngreave area will face the trauma of suddenly losing a longstanding family friend in such a horrible way."

The police incident number is 738 of 5th May 2012.

BME carers conference

Story: Michelle Cook

Carers and professionals enjoyed an informative and fun day at the Roshni conference for carers in the BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) community at SADACCA on Saturday 24th April, celebrating 20 years in Sheffield.

Roshni is a local citywide organisation, they offer a variety of services to support women young and old within the South Asian community. Roshni means "light" in Urdu and Hindi

The day's focus was on carers. They offer both emotional and practical help, for both elderly and young people. including trying to overcome the stigma of mental illness.

Dalveer Kaur, BME policy development officer from Carers UK said research has shown that carers in the UK saved the Treasury an estimated £119 billion in

2007, a figure which rises year on year. Mainly due to carers giving 24 hour care seven days a week for a weekly Carer's Allowance of £53, a quarter of a million people juggle work and care, missing out on £750 million in wages.

BME carers often face specific challenges including:

- Stigma, particularly around mental illness and HIV
- Language and literacy, which impedes knowledge of entitlements
- Lack of culturally appropriate services
- Misconceptions, eg. they all have extended families who will do the caring

Nita Devabhai from the Afiya Trust, spoke about their *Living On The Margins* campaign, highlighting that there has been £3 billion cuts in funding in London alone

Through national conferences and training for carers they aim to achieve a stronger voice for carers

People spoke of their own personal experiences of being a carer.



The three workshops were lively discussions and people had the opportunity to share experiences and information. They were:

- Making self-directed support work for BME carers
- Hidden carers, how to find them
- BME communities' access to mainstream services

There was an excellent networking lunch and the day proved a very valuable gathering

Roshni Carers Support Service can be contacted on 0114 2508 898, carers@roshnisheffield.org.uk

Fairness in Burngreave

Story: Douglas Johnson

Sheffield's Fairness Commission – which met at Sorby House on 9th May – was set up to look at the harmful impact of the gap between the richest and poorest and to see what can be done in Sheffield.

Its job is to look at inequality in society – how much richer the richest are compared with the poorest. In Burngreave, 40% of households get Housing Benefit but in Fulwood, only 5% do. A lot of academic research shows that looking at this gap tells us more about social deprivation than by just looking at average levels of poverty. It is something that affects wealthy people as well as poorer ones.

These ideas were brought together in a book called "The Spirit Level: Why Equality is Better for Everyone" by two professors – Kate Pickett and Richard Wilkinson.

Professor Wilkinson himself was the main speaker at the Fairness Commission and he showed how the inequality gap relates to poor health, crime levels, life

expectancy, illiteracy etc. He suggested the Commission should call for a "living wage" (minimum £7.20 an hour) for the lowest paid and also to publish the pay differences between the highest and lowest paid in organisations. Before the main meeting, he led a discussion hosted by the Sheffield Equality Group, which meets regularly to discuss and campaign on equality issues.

The Dean of Sheffield was the second speaker and spoke of the church's work on poverty. He said that people on low incomes spend an average £1300 extra a year on the goods they buy. He was a controversial choice because of his action against the Occupy movement, which campaigned for action on the very wealthy.

The Commission has to publish its report by September.

Professor Wilkinson called for the meetings to be better publicised because it is a topic that he felt more people should be engaged with.

There will be an open discussion at Sorby House on 12th June (3-5pm) where the topic will be women's issues.

More info:

www.sheffield.gov.uk/fairnesscommission
<http://sheffieldequality.wordpress.com/>
www.equalitytrust.org.uk

Free home insulation

Story: Saleema Imam

Sheffield's free insulation scheme, aimed to combat both fuel poverty and climate change, has reached parts of Burngreave.

It offers a package of free loft and cavity wall insulation to private owners and tenants in the city. It was launched in 2009 and recognised that good insulation has a big impact on tackling climate change. **Carillion Energy Services is the only contractor the Council is using to install the insulation.**

Carillion staff are visiting households to tell occupiers about the scheme. However, if no-one is in and they don't respond to a calling card, they could miss out on the scheme. Carillion are keen to install the insulation but need to make contact with householders first. Social housing tenants are not eligible, as they should have the "Decent Homes" scheme instead.

To sign up for the scheme contact the Council on 0808 915 9096 (freephone) or 203 9202 8am - 6pm, Monday - Friday, or e-mail insulation@sheffield.gov.uk. More information is on www.sheffield.gov.uk/freeinsulation.

Ripples Echo through Firth Park

Story: Muneebah Waheed

On the 7th May 2012, many people braved the cold and the drizzling rain to celebrate the official opening of the wetland park in Firth Park.

The 'Ripples in the Pond' project has transformed the old boating lake into an environmentally friendly zone, allowing everyone to enjoy themselves whilst admiring the new features of the park and appreciating the natural wonders the park emphasises.

Councillor Joan Barton officially opened the park by planting a weeping willow tree and unveiling a plaque for the park. The official opening of the park was also attended by Lord Mayor



Sylvia Dunkley and MP David Blunkett.

The event also included arts and crafts for kids, such as painting plant pots and planting their own sunflowers, whilst others enjoyed music from the band Son Para Todos and Maypole Dancing performed by the kids at Brushes Busy Kids Club.



Interfaith picnic Earth Day

Story & photo: Vivien Urwodhi

A picnic took place in the Parkwood Forest Garden on Sunday 22nd April at 12 noon, where interfaith group members gathered for a tour around the garden.

Tim Shortland, Forestry Manager, introduced some species of trees and shrubs. He spoke about the benefits of those trees that had been planted. Some had vertical wooden supports to protect them from toppling in bad weather. Some of the tallest trees in the garden had to be pruned to keep them in order.

The trees planted include: white mulberry, 3 varieties of apple, 2 varieties of pear, cherry, alder, plum and gage and shrub species such as: sea buckthorn, eleagnus, goji berry, saskatoon and various other berries and currants. These trees and shrubs provide food for humans, animals, and insects.

The Sheffield Interfaith Group and Community Forestry team are coming together to further develop and manage the garden. They are completing works such as canopy removal, weeding, clearing the pond and dead trees to open out the view and help the productivity of the garden.

During the picnic day it rained for some time, but fortunately all the attendees came prepared for muddy ground and puddles. Everyone brought some food to share in the green garden which sparked with conversation before they rushed to take part in the inter-faith Walk, which started at 2 o'clock.

Interfaith walk

Story & photo: Vivien Urwodhi

The annual interfaith walk on Sunday the 22nd April came again into Burngreave to celebrate the unity of different faiths in the area.



It began at Al Rahman mosque with the introduction and support of Abdool Gooljar, the president of the Islamic society of Britain (South Yorkshire). He spoke out about the mosque and thanked the crowd standing there as a mark of harmony they shared with each other. They then headed off to other places of worship up the hill along Burngreave Road.

Rev John Vincent talked about some of the churches, and other faiths, which were not in view as we were walking along. We prayed silently to send peace and unity to be with them around the Burngreave area and across the worldwide faiths.

About 20 people took part in the walk before stopping to treat our stomachs with some hot, vegetarian samosas and drinks, which were served by some of the Islamic community members, organised by Abdool Gooljar.

It ended at St Cuthbert's church, where everyone congratulated each other with a hand shake for making it happen.

Ellesmere Green improvements

At the Burngreave ward meeting on 14th June, you will get the chance to hear about the improvements to Ellesmere Green and Spital Hill.

An officer from the City Centre Development team will explain about the improvements and there will be the opportunity to discuss the proposals with your local Councillors.

In July the Council will hold further consultation on Ellesmere Green. See page 10 of the Messenger for details.

Also at the ward meeting you can hear what the North East Community



Assembly and the Police are doing in your area. You will be able to bring your questions to your Local Councillors and Police Officers/PCSOs. Tea/coffee will be available.

Burngreave Ward Meeting

(including Pitsmoor, Burngreave, Page Hall, Fir Vale, Shirecliffe, Firshill)

- Thursday 14th June 6-8pm
- Pitsmoor Methodist Church, 131 Burngreave Road, S3 9DG

Come along and have your say!

The next public business meeting of the North East Community Assembly

- Wednesday 11th July 6-8pm
- Shirecliffe Community Centre, 349 Shirecliffe Road, S5 8XJ

You are invited to share a sandwich with your local Councillors from 5.30pm.

Community First - new funding round

Funding is available from Community First for the financial year 2012/13 and applications are invited from all local groups and organisations (maximum funding is £2,500). **Closing date is Friday 15th June.** If you need help completing an electronic form you can come to the Cyber Café, Fir Vale School on Monday 11th June from 4 - 6pm.

More information is available on the website www.burngreavecommunityfirst.com

Hurry... Short closing date for Kids Can Do

If your group can provide activities for 8-13 year olds then funding is available through 'Kids Can Do'. **The closing date is Monday 11th June** and more information is available on www.sheffield.gov.uk/northeast

Firth Park Festival

Come along and meet the Community Assembly Team at the Firth Park Festival – Sunday 24 June from 12 noon to 5pm – one of the largest community festivals in your area – over 3000 people attended last year. The festival will be packed with entertainment for all the family with lots of free activities.

If you would like a community stall at the event please contact the committee by e-mail firthparkfestival@gmail.com 07814719126 or visit the web site



<http://firthparkfestival.blogspot.com>. If you would like to help at the festival or entertain on the day come to the next meeting in the Pavilion at Firth Park (next to the Bowling Green) on Tuesday 12 June at 9.30am.



Jackie Drayton Ibrar Hussain Talib Hussain

Councillor Surgery Dates

Your local councillors share surgeries on a rota basis.

9th June: Ibrar Hussain, 11am–12pm
Burngreave Library, 12.15pm–1pm
Firshill TARA

19th June: Talib Hussain, 11am–12pm
Shirecliffe Community Centre, 12.15pm–1pm
Norwood and Bishopholme TARA

21st June: Ibrar Hussain, 2pm–3pm
Pakistan Advice Centre

23rd June: Jackie Drayton, 11am–12pm
Burngreave Library

14th July: Talib Hussain, 11am–12pm
Burngreave Library, 12.15pm–1pm
Firshill TARA

17th July: Ibrar Hussain, 11am–12pm
Shirecliffe Community Centre, 12.15pm–1pm
Norwood and Bishopholme TARA

19th July: Jackie Drayton, 2pm–3pm
Pakistan Advice Centre

28th July: Talib Hussain, 11am–12pm
Burngreave Library

jackie.drayton@sheffield.gov.uk

ibrar.hussain@sheffield.gov.uk

talib.hussain@sheffield.gov.uk

Contact us on 203 7562, email communityassemblynortheast@sheffield.gov.uk, or write to: Firth Park Library, 443 Firth Park Road, Sheffield, S5 6QQ.
Blog – www.sheffield.gov.uk/northeastnews
Website – www.sheffield.gov.uk/northeast

Mandla Sibanda

1974 to 2012



Story: Philip Weiss

Mandla Nkosi Sibanda passed away in the early hours of 26th March 2012 having collapsed near his home at Crabtree nature reserve, it is thought from hypothermia, but the exact causes are yet to be determined.

Mandla was born in Lupane, Zimbabwe, and arrived in Sheffield in 1993 with Sunduza Dance theatre, basing himself in the heart of Burngreave.

He will be remembered as musical director for SOSA-XA! Sounds of Southern Africa Choir. As well as leading the group for 12 years, performing regularly at Abbeyfield Festival amongst other events, he also led Kutamba Kids! for several years in Burngreave.

He gave children in over 180 schools a positive image of Africa through workshops in digital arts, dance and a variety of arts projects. He was an outstanding story teller capturing the imagination of children through highly animated performances. In 2011 he helped to lead the Singing for Change project through SEMEA (Southern E-Media Education and Art) which linked communities in Burngreave and Bulawayo. He had just begun to support a new "Dancing for Change" project supported by BBC performing Arts through SEMEA.

Mandla believed in bringing communities of all faiths and backgrounds together. He did this through a natural charismatic personality, by modestly sharing his talents and bringing great joy and energy to everyone with whom he worked. He leaves behind a wife and four young children and he will be sadly missed by all who had contact with him.

A memorial trust is being set up in his name. Please email arts@semea.org.uk for details or tel 243 7899

Mohammed

Yousaf 1941-2012

Story: Gulafshan Iqbal (granddaughter)

Born in a village on the outskirts of Peshawar, Pakistan, Mohammed Yousaf lost his dad at the age of 4 and he was brought up by his elder brother.

Mohammed was educated to the 10th standard (equivalent to GCSE) in English, which was quite rare at the time. At the age of 20 he got the opportunity to come to England and work in the steel industry, working for 10 years at Forgemasters in Attercliffe. He lived on Baltic Road, before moving to Goddard Hall Road in the 1970s, and then to Abbeyfield Road in 1997.

As he was educated and spoke English he became a forklift truck driver. He was made redundant in 1971, as the steel factories began to outsource work. With his English and driving skills, he was able to pass his taxi test in 1971, driving a black cab until 2001 before driving a private hire cab until 2011, with City cabs.

Mohammed had a difficult time, like many people from an Asian background, settling into Britain. He wasn't accepted at first, but his English helped him make many friends in the area.

He was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer on 10th May 2011, before that he



had been completely healthy, regularly exercising at the Hilton Hotel gym. He had a cough for many years, which he thought was due to smoking, but after feeling pains in his chest he insisted that the doctors look into it further, and they found advanced cancer. He had radiotherapy and chemotherapy, at Weston Park Clinic, which reduced the tumour. In March he was readmitted to Northern General and diagnosed with a brain cancer. Many of the nurses who treated him at Northern General recognised him, because he had picked them up from work in his cab. Passing on the 2nd April at 7.45pm, he was surrounded by all his loved ones. He is now resting at Southey Green Cemetery.

He was such a cheerful, joyous, charismatic person that he lightened the place up, and that's why so many people still remember him and miss him.

He left a wife, brother, nine children and many grandchildren who miss him dearly. May he rest in peace.

Tribute to Diane Parton

We were very sad lately to hear of the passing away of Diane Parton (known as Diane Johnson) a friend and colleague who served the community at the Earl Marshall youth club.

Diane was a great youth club team leader, she had a fantastic rapport with the young people and a very bubbly personality. She was a great role model, always ready to listen and find solutions for young people.

We had a small get-together on 28th March at Earl Marshall Youth club, attended by a few friends and colleagues and, from Diane's family, Marcus Parton and Nicola Ramsey. It was a great get-together and opportunity to share memories and say thanks, especially so at the Youth club, where Diane used to work.



To her colleagues she was an exceptional boss, always approachable and fair, an intelligent individual and a supportive team leader. We, the community, appreciated all the work she did for the young people and the safe environment she provided for young mums and their children to develop their lives for the better. Thank you, you will be missed.

Nazrine Ali, Perveen Khan, Nassim D, Shirley C, Pravin Ali, Nsrine F, Saira N

Changes at Burngreave Community Radio

Following the loss of the FM licence in September 2011, Burngreave Community Radio (BCR) has been planning for the future.

In July, the station will call itself Steel City Radio (SCR), and will be applying for an FM licence in March 2013. In the meantime, the station will continue over the internet and through mobile phones. Aisha Special K told the Messenger:

"I was in shock when we lost the licence last year. When the BCR company closed, we didn't realise it would prevent us holding the licence. We have a good relationship with OFCOM, so we are confident we can gain a new license."

Aisha felt the change in name will make it easier for more people to be involved, but it will keep a focus on playing Urban music.

There are still a number of steps to go through. The new station will launch at SumFest UK on 29th July. A company will need to be formed before the licence can be applied for in March 2013.

In the meantime, BCR is offering 4-week media training courses. To find out more, contact the station on 213 2360, 07554 899 622 or email bcr103.1fm@hotmail.com



Cheap Thrills - The Return

Story: Martin Currie

The team behind last year's highly successful 'Cheap Thrills' Burngreave film festival have decided to 'push the boat out again and go for broke'.

Steve said, "The French have Cannes, in America they have Sundance, we felt that Burngreave deserved its own festival where local talent can shine. Cheap Thrills may not have the money or the stars but it is cheap."

Martin, Steve and Peter will be running two one-day filmmaking workshops. The submission of films is free and the festival will include as many as possible. The team would like each film to be no longer than 5 minutes and if it's boring or looks expensive, they may not show it.

There will be two screenings in Burngreave cemetery building on September 15th. The deadline for submissions is September 10th. For more information, please check out our new website www.zerobudgetfilmfest.com

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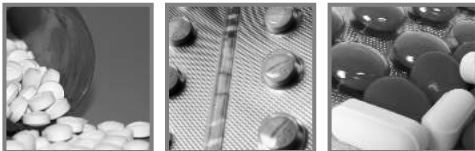


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