



Residents save 72 bus

Story: Louise Johnson

In the August issue of the Burngreave Messenger we reported on the threatened termination of the 72 bus service. The 72 bus provides a service from the city centre, through Burngreave and up to Shirecliffe.

About 20 residents from Shirecliffe who would be affected attended a council meeting on Tuesday 17th September at the Town Hall, to voice their opinions and ask questions.

Keith Donston, along with other Shirecliffe residents who took a petition to the Town Hall, was asked what would happen if the 72 bus was cancelled. He told us, "We would see a lot of elders on the estate housebound for weeks during the winter. Also the schools in the area would suffer massively in regard to transporting pupils to school and back."

One issue raised by the residents at the meeting was the quality of the consultation. Keith Donston, speaking on behalf of residents, said:

"We have not been consulted properly. You've spent millions on a new school and a children's centre, but now there's no bus to get to them. 18 months ago we had the 33, which was 3 per hour; it was replaced with the 1-an-hour 72, now you want to take that."

David Young from the SYPTE (South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive) said:



"The discussion about the number 72 is ongoing. So the current proposal is to give an infrequent bus service one last chance for one year. People must use it for it to continue after that. If the partnership agreement is agreed today, it will be reinstated and we will have to agree success criteria."

There was much dispute from the residents at the dramatic meeting and people were angry that Councillors would not give a straight answer or allow more questions. Eventually the residents were asked to sit down or leave. They left.

It has since been confirmed that the 72 will continue for at least a year, though the route is likely to be shorter.

Impressive GCSE results

Story: Emily Haimeed

Students across Sheffield celebrated their GCSE results in August, with schools attended by pupils from Burngreave being particularly proud of the excellent results achieved this year.

Parkwood Academy saw an overall 47% of students achieving 5+ A*-C grades, (including English and Maths), a 17% improvement from last year's results. Over 1 in 3 students celebrated receiving three A* or A grades and every student attained an A*-C grade in their chosen language, which is a specialism of the school. Mike Westerdale, Principal at Parkwood Academy, said: "We've had a fantastic year here at Parkwood Academy



and I am delighted with the students' results. The growth in the number of students achieving five or more A*-C GCSE grades, including English and Maths, is a credit to the teaching and learning from both the students and staff throughout the year. Everyone has worked extremely hard."

Firth Park Community Arts College celebrated its best ever results, with 44% of pupils gaining 5+ A*-C GCSE grades (including English and Maths), a great improvement from last year's 26%. An



overall 69% of pupils received 5+ A*-C grades. Headteacher Chris Keen said: "The improvement in one year is outstanding – nearly 69 per cent improvement on last year. This has been a team effort attributed to hard work, determination and belief."

Fir Vale School saw 38% of pupils leave Year 11 with 5+ A*-C grades, including English and Maths. Head Teacher Breffni Martin said, "Our added value progress remains one of the highest of any school in Sheffield."

Attention all patients of:

Burngreave Surgery
5 Burngreave Road
Sheffield
S3 9DA
Tel: 08451 242 528

Herries Road Surgery
450 Herries Road
Sheffield
S5 8TP
Tel: 08451 243 331

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

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

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

Burngreave Surgery
Wednesdays 10th & 24th October
Tuesday 16th October
Time 8.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

Herries Road Surgery
Tuesdays 9th and 23rd October
Time 10.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

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

Childcare vacancies at Firvale Pre-School AVAILABLE NOW!

FREE 15 hours childcare for children
aged 3yrs – 4yrs old



For more details contact:
Firvale Pre-School, Firvale Centre, 2nd Floor
Earl Marshal Road, Sheffield, S4 8LA
Telephone: 0114 303 0147
Email: firvalepreschool@hotmail.co.uk



Green City Action

Telephone: (0114) 244 0353
enquiries@greencityaction.org.uk



The School for Vegetables

Learn To Grow:
starting this autumn 2012

FREE short courses for beginners in vegetable gardening at our lovely plot at Grimesthorpe Allotments in Burngreave.

**Starting Wednesday 3rd October
for 4 weeks**

- Soil preparation, weeds and pests
- Autumn sowing

Wednesday mornings 9.30- 12.00

**For more information and a
registration form contact us
on 0114 244 0353**



LOTTERY FUNDED

Tool Bank

**NEW TIME: Thursday 11am-2pm
and Saturday 10am-12 noon**

The Tool Bank has a comprehensive collection of DIY tools, gardening tools and equipment available for loan.

We can show you how to use tools and we can give you free advice on DIY projects.

The Tool Bank has items for decorating, car repair, cycle maintenance, gardening, building, cleaning and DIY tools of all kinds.

A separate set of tools is available to community groups to use for cleanups and environmental projects. The equipment consists of spades, forks, rakes and wheelbarrows.

The Tool Bank is based at Abbeyfield Park House.

**For more information please contact Green City
Action on 0114 244 0353 or
enquiries@greencityaction.org.uk**



www.greencityaction.org.uk. Registered Charity 1095725

Petition to repair Abbeyfield's roof

Story: Tim Neal

Friends of Abbeyfield Park are petitioning the Council about the poor state of Abbeyfield Park House.

The roof is in a very poor state of repair, having been patched over many years. Evidence of leaks are increasingly visible inside. The Council faces spending restrictions and has a number of unoccupied Council buildings but, with winter coming, there is a real risk of serious damage to the Grade II listed building.

The Friends of Abbeyfield Park (FOAP) called an emergency meeting on 13th September. It was attended by 16 residents, including all three local Councillors, and agreed a petition asking the Council to carry out the necessary repairs to the roof of Abbeyfield Park House to keep it open and in community use.

The House has been in the possession of the Council since 1909, from housing Firth Park Grammar School to offering premises to local services. Today the House accommodates Green City Action, the Tool Bank and School for Vegetables, The Messenger and the meditation group. It also has a community room for use by local groups.

The continued occupation of the House helps keep Abbeyfield Park safe and secure. It is obvious the Park itself, used by many children and adults locally, would be badly affected if the House were to close.

FOAP has had many offers of support and a number of local residents have agreed to help out. A meeting in early October will explore routes to sustainability for the House. If it is not maintained, there is a risk it would go the way of Osborne House - the thought of it being boarded up and falling into ruin is unacceptable.

Volunteers will be asking for signatures over the coming months. To sign the online petition please visit:

<https://sheffield.moderngov.co.uk/>

Sign the paper petition at Abbeyfield Park House, or Burngreave Library (note the library is closed 1st - 12th October)

To find out more or get involved, please visit abbeyfieldpark.wordpress.com, email abbeyfieldpark@gmail.com, follow @abbeyfieldhouse on Twitter or visit FriendsOfAbbeyfieldPark on Facebook.

Save Abbeyfield House



Water damaged ceiling at Abbeyfield Park House

Burngreave Messenger AGM

Come and join us for our annual review of what we've done in the last year and share a bit of food with us. We'll be having a bring-and-share buffet meal.

**Thursday 8th November
6-8pm Abbeyfield House**

Agenda items:

- The report of the year
- Annual accounts
- Election of directors and auditors

All welcome! Please do come along if you have any interest in the Messenger's work.

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This issue's team: , Rohan Francis, Saleema Imam, Douglas Johnson, Jamie Marriott, John Mellor, Tim Neal, Lisa Swift, **Proofing and editing:** Fran Belbin, Gaynor Carr, Carrie Hedderwick, Muneebah Waheed

PFI street repairs

The Council has revealed the timetable for Burngreave's streets to be repaired under the £2 billion PFI contract. The first streets to be done are in Shiregreen.

Burngreave Rd, Spital Hill and Owler Lane are due to be repaired in April to June 2013 and Page Hall will see improvements in 2014 but Barnsley Rd will not be worked on until 2016. Before then, all the roads on the town side of Burngreave Rd will be completed (2015) but the rest of Burngreave will have to wait until 2017.

Street-by-street detail is available on an online map – see our website: www.burngreavemessenger.org

Roger Sheldon 1940 - 2012

Story: Lisa Swift



Roger and Anne enjoying one of many days out together in the Peak District.

Chair of Wensley Tenants and Residents Association, Roger Sheldon, died in August after a short illness. Roger had served as Chair of the TARA since 1997, but this was only a part of the public service he had given throughout his life.

Roger was born in the Northern General Hospital in July 1940, and grew up on Woodside, which was then terraced housing. After various jobs he became a

porter for British Railways at the age of 18. He went on to be a driver, specialising in transporting glass, and was involved in delivering the glazing for the Arts Tower when it was built in the 1960s. He became a Trade Union representative for the National Union of Railwaymen and was branch secretary in the 1980s.

His wife of 49 years, Anne, spoke to the Messenger about his life and the many ways he had helped people: "He helped a lot of people. He knew all about employment law and travelled all over to support people at disciplinarys and appeals."

Roger took early retirement in 1986, after an accident at work, but his service to the public did not stop. He served in the Magistrates Court as a JP (Justice of the Peace) for 24 years, retiring when he turned 70. He was also a governor at Whiteways School. Anne told us,

"People were always asking him to help or get involved, and he did. He would do anything for anyone, helping people with paperwork and forms."

Roger and Anne moved to the Wensley estate in 1976 when it was first built, and both supported the TARA for many years, helping to restart the group in 1995.

Roger will be sadly missed by his family and many residents on the Wensley estate.



Love Lopham

'Love Where You Live' was the message around Lopham Street on 31st August.

Volunteers from Burngreave Tenants and Residents Association (TARA) and Sheffield Homes staff did a thorough litter-pick around the area, followed by a buffet provided by the TARA.

The Lopham area has suffered with issues of fly tipping and rubbish problems for many years. The Love Where You Live campaign includes information for residents about how best to get rid of rubbish and how to report problems. It is

hoped that this awareness raising, followed by the clean up day, will encourage everyone to look after the area.

Burngreave TARA recently organised a trip to Cleethorpes and, following requests from tenants and residents, will be off to Blackpool Illuminations next.

The TARA now have the following activities for local residents:

- **Basic IT** classes at Burngreave Vestry Hall, Wednesdays 1 – 3pm
- **Sewing class** at Welcome Centre Mondays 1 – 3pm
- **Photography** sessions at Burngreave Vestry Hall in October
- **Aerobics for women** at Verdon Recreation Centre, Thursdays 9.30 – 10.30am, £2
- **Zumba for kids** at Verdon Recreation Centre, Tuesdays 4.30-5.15pm, £1

To find out more, contact Burngreave TARA on 07983 921 653 Mon-Fri 10am to 2pm or email burngreavetara@gmail.com

Wensley Tenants and Residents Association

Annual General Meeting and Activity Day

Wednesday 31st October

Starts 12.30pm

Activities for all the family

Free lunch and raffle

Bouncy castle

Free spring bulbs

Come along and support your local TARA!

Carwood TARA General Meeting

Wednesday 10th October

6.30pm at
Carwood Meeting Room,
12 Carwood Grove

Sheffield Homes in attendance.

All welcome, light refreshments

We would like to thank everybody who helped on our recent Love Where You Live community litter picks. We shall be having more of these, a great way for neighbours to come together and take pride in our estate!

FREE Computer Club with Heeley Development Trust, every Tuesday 4-6 pm, Carwood TARA Office 10 Carwood Grove

Trip to Lincoln Christmas Market. Tickets on sale soon, from TARA office, Sunday 9th December £8 adults £5 children.

FREE Children's Halloween Party, Saturday 3rd November, 2-4 pm, community room, fancy dress and pumpkin competitions (children must be accompanied)

Please watch for flyers and our noticeboards for regular updates of our activities!

More people needed to help! Please get in touch if you think you can help with any of these activities or anything else to keep your TARA going!
carwoodtara@gmail.com

20 years service at Ellesmere Post Office

Story: John Mellor



Kamalbir Nandra (Kamal) who, along with his wife Dalbir (Bobby) has been running the Ellesmere Post Office since 1992, has decided it is time to have a change.

During the last 20 years they have given friendly and efficient service to a wide variety of people from the local area and they will be greatly missed by all their regular customers.

Kamalbir told me:

"This is a very busy post office, being the only one which serves the local community. It has been a demanding job but we have enjoyed working in Burngreave. Being able to speak Urdu, Punjabi and some Somali has been a great help in this situation. There have been a lot of changes in the Spital Hill area since we first came here in 1992, particularly in the ownership of local shops. There have been many improvements and the area feels much safer now."

Kamalbir trained as a medical doctor in India, working in general practice and ICU in New Delhi. He came to the UK in 1981, living first in London and then in Rotherham where he ran a corner shop for a few years as his medical qualifications from India didn't allow him to practice as a doctor here. In his spare time he is also an accomplished violinist and singer who both writes and plays his own music. In his early twenties he won the Indian equivalent of the Young Musician of the Year award and has since played with the Bournemouth Philharmonic Orchestra and at the Shaftesbury Theatre in London for a season.

I asked Kamalbir what plans he and his wife had for the future:

"We shall first take some time to have a good rest after the last 20 years. The decision to leave here has been taken quite recently so we need time to think about future activities. In the meantime I shall have more time to enjoy my music, which hasn't always been possible with the demands of running a post office."

Kamal and Bobby wanted to give a vote of thanks to all their customers and I'm sure all the customers of Ellesmere Post Office will want to join the Burngreave Messenger in wishing them every happiness and success in their future life.

Have your say on library services

Story: Lydia Flanagan

Sheffield City Council is looking to make changes to the city's libraries due to spending cuts. The Messenger visited Burngreave Library to get views on the idea of changing library services.

The Council is consulting on a number of potential changes that will reduce costs, and some of these are already being used in other cities. When the Council decides which changes to make, it will affect all libraries, including Burngreave.

Opening times

It would save the Council money to close libraries in quieter periods and it costs more to open on an evening or weekend. To consider changing opening times, the Council are asking which are the most popular times for using library services.

"We use the library when exams come up for revising and when we're bored. It's a quiet, homely, local library close to home - the Central Library is too far! We can come after school on a Monday because it's open till late so we have time to go



home first and still have plenty of time."
Hamda Abdi, Hamda Deria and Diana Mohammed

New fees

One example of changes to fees is internet use, which is currently free in libraries. However, if that was to change, it may be as it is in Manchester, where the internet is free for the first hour for library members and £1.50 on top for the second hour. For non-library members, it would be £1.50 per hour. To consider charging fees, they would first look at demand and affordability of charging for internet services.

"I only have access to the internet at the library. If they started charging for services, it would be difficult."

Ali Bashir

Sharing the building

Community Hubs are buildings that may be shared with another organisation, providing the community with services and resources and rooms to hold events. This would be a good way of sharing the costs. However, sharing space does limit the amount of resources so it could mean a smaller variety of books.

"We visit the library 2 or 3 times a week and use it for the kids to get books, films and CDs. When they were younger, we took them to the baby activities for something to do and it was a chance to meet people new to the area. You can't predict what services people will need in the future. Nothing's the same as having a library in walking distance."

Nancy Kerr

For more info, or to fill in a survey, visit www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries.

Paper copies of surveys can be found in your local library. For more info and other survey formats, call 0114 273 4567.

Burngreave Library is closed 1st - 12th October to fit self-issue machines.

Domestic abuse and wellbeing

Domestic abuse or violence can happen to anyone. It often happens more than once and tends to get worse over time.

Support is available for those who are experiencing abuse, not just to help in a crisis, but also to help with the long term impact on emotional health.

What is domestic abuse?

Domestic abuse is physical, sexual, psychological or financial abuse that takes place in an intimate or family relationship. Abuse is not just physical, it is often part of a pattern of bullying and controlling behaviour.

Impact on emotional health

People experiencing domestic abuse often suffer long term impacts on their emotional wellbeing and self esteem. There is a strong link between domestic abuse and mental distress, which can include depression, post traumatic stress, self-harm and substance misuse. Other pressures such as feeling isolated, a lack of employment or access to education and insecure immigration status can also affect mental health and wellbeing.

What are the signs of domestic abuse?

Verbal abuse: shouting, mocking, accusing or name calling.

Pressure tactics: threatening to withhold money, disconnecting the phone, lying to your friends and family.

Breaking trust: lying, being jealous, having other relationships, breaking promises, taking money without asking.

Isolation: monitoring or blocking your phone calls, telling you where you can and cannot go, preventing you from seeing friends and relatives.

Harassment: following you, checking up on you, opening your mail, repeatedly checking to see who has phoned you, embarrassing you in public.

Threats: using physical size to intimidate, destroying your possessions, breaking things, threatening to kill or harm you and the children.

Sexual abuse and violence: using force, making you perform sexual acts or have sex when you don't want to.

Physical violence: punching, slapping, biting, kicking, pulling hair, pushing, burning, strangling.

Denial: saying the abuse doesn't happen, blaming you, begging for forgiveness, saying it will never happen again.

Nazia's story

When we first got married it was alright. The abuse really started when we had our first baby. He wanted a boy and was annoyed when it was a girl. He wouldn't help me at all and blamed me if I couldn't manage. He was out all the time and if he was home, he sat on the computer blocking me and the kids out or he picked fights saying I was lazy, worthless, that he was ashamed of me.

What he wanted ruled in the house. Once when he came home my daughter had a friend for tea and he hit the roof. He used to tell his friends how useless I was and I felt they believed him.

Money was a big issue. He only paid the mortgage and wouldn't give me any other money but he expected all his dinners and his washing done. Once I used his phone and he was screaming at me saying he'd ring the police and have me done for theft.

I couldn't trust him at all. I knew he was texting other women. If I asked him about it he'd get angry, saying it was an 'invasion of privacy'.

He ran me right down. I couldn't fight back. I couldn't sleep or eat. I was diagnosed with a stress condition and he didn't like it and would say 'there's nothing wrong with you'. I doubted myself, thinking I was overreacting but I felt awful all the time. I was suicidal and on anti-depressants. My Health Visitor put me in touch with Burngreave Domestic Abuse Project and the Support Worker helped me to understand that I was living with emotional abuse. In the end me and the kids had to leave, taking all our stuff on the bus to a new place.

I feel much better now and I'm having counselling to try and build myself back up. I'm better off financially. My two girls are doing really well at school and we're all much happier.

Based on true events, courtesy of the Sheffield Domestic Abuse Partnership. The name has been changed.

Women's Wellbeing Course

Starts: Tuesday 6th November, 10am – 12pm for 6 weeks

This course is a starting point for women who would like to improve their emotional and physical wellbeing. It is a safe space to share your experiences without being judged.

- Practical sessions include: Cooking, Zumba, Tai Chi & Relaxation exercises
- Discuss issues around culture, relationships and family.
- Topics will include: wellbeing, forced & arranged marriage, food & mood, relaxation

Urdu & Arabic speaking interpreter and FREE CRECHE, please request this when you book a place. Women 16 years old and above can attend. To book a place please contact Sheffield Mind: dawn@sheffieldmind.co.uk Tel: (0114) 2584489



Sheffield Mind and Body Project

Domestic Abuse Awareness training

With Vida. For men and women working in Sheffield

Tuesday 9th October, Verdon Street Recreation Centre

Contact Somshun Nessa, Community Development Worker for Burngreave HCP: Somshun.nessa@soarcommunity.org.uk, Tel 07960 084119

For more info on vida courses see www.vidasheffield.org.uk or call 0114 275 0101.

vida
life without abuse
formerly
Sheffield Domestic Abuse Forum



Helpline and support

Sheffield Domestic Abuse Partnership offers a range of support services. Call the Helpline on:

0808 808 2241

or visit www.sheffdap.org.uk
Open 10am - 4pm Monday-Friday
10-7pm on Wednesdays A Punjabi, Urdu and Mirpuri speaker is available on Wednesdays from 10am-1pm.
In an emergency ring 999.

Shahina's chairobics

Story & photo: Rohan Francis



Fitness, fun and friendship are all to be found at Shahina Hanif's weekly exercise classes in Firth Park and at the Pakistan Advice and Community Association in Fir Vale.

The classes in Firth Park Pavilion are aimed at helping women of all ages improve their general health through gentle exercise and movement.

Started 6 years ago, the Sheffield Town Trust's contribution means women only have to pay £1 each to take part in a session. This pays for an experienced instructor, which for the past 3 years, has been Shahina's job.

The Messenger talked to Shahina and some of the members of her Firth Park exercise group. She told us the classes were open to women of all ages and any fitness level.

"The activities can be designed to suit your health and fitness level. There's always a lighter option for beginners. I can teach everything from Aerobics and Chairobics to Zumba."

"Women have seen real health benefits from coming to the sessions. They have helped lower their blood pressure, reduce diabetic problems and relieve aches and pains."

Group members, Shelagh Waugh and Maggie Hoyles, explained the Friends of Firth Park let them use their community room. They agreed that, "the sessions were very sociable and friendly."

Jackie Stanley said, "I've come to this class because there's nothing else in Firth Park in the daytime. We follow Shahina because she's such a good teacher. We always feel good afterwards."

Another class member told us, "I sit down to do my activities, but it's still good exercise."

Finally, Shahina's mum, Shamim Azam, who started going to classes in 2002, said, "We started getting together at our English Class (ESOL). This started as Chairobics and built up from there." She added, "We didn't use to do anything. We used to have aches and pains. Now, I feel so fresh afterwards and my doctor is very happy that I am exercising. I'm also very proud of my daughter."

For more information about the classes, telephone Shahina on 07909 598 018.

 <p>ZUMBA[®] fitness</p> <p>WITH SHAHINA</p>	<p>Ladies only class!</p> <p>Every Monday 5:15-6:15pm</p> <p>At Pakistan Advice Centre</p> <p>Cost £3 (or £10 for 4 classes)</p> <p>Everyone welcome!</p> <p>For more information call 07909 598 018</p>
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What is Shisha?

Story: Emma Msigiti

The water pipe is used for smoking tobacco, and is known under various names including shisha, hookah and hubble-bubble pipe.

Used in the Middle East and parts of Africa and Asia for hundreds of years, in recent years, it has seen an upsurge in popularity. Shisha lounges have become popular places to socialise with friends, particularly amongst young people, with some parents believing it to be a safe activity.

In my role as Burngreave's stop-smoking worker, I have spoken to people who regularly smoke shisha. Many have been totally unaware of any health risks associated with it. A common misconception is that water will filter out any toxins. The shisha tobacco used is often flavoured with fruit or sugar syrup which gives the illusion it is less harmful.

In reality, the smoke contains high levels of toxic compounds, including carbon monoxide, heavy metals and cancer-causing



chemicals. This not only affects the smoker, but also those around them who inhale second-hand smoke.

The truth about Shisha!

In a shisha session of 60 minutes, a smoker can inhale as much smoke as from 100 cigarettes

Even after it has passed through water, the smoke contains high levels of toxic chemicals including carbon monoxide, heavy metals and cancer-causing chemicals.

Many of these chemicals are known to cause mouth and lung cancers, heart disease, respiratory and other diseases

Young children, pregnant women and the foetus are particularly vulnerable when exposed to second-hand smoke from shisha, if used in the home environment.

Sharing the mouth-piece can risk the spread of diseases like tuberculosis and hepatitis.

Any form of tobacco use poses a risk to health. If you want help to stop using tobacco, or would like any further information then please contact Emma Msigiti, Burngreave Community Stop Smoking Worker by texting QUIT to 07847 893 134 or leaving a message at The Furnival on 0114 272 7497.

New worker in Fir Vale

Story: Rohan Francis | Photo Miroslav Sandor

A new community development worker for Roma Slovak and Polish residents has been appointed to address the needs of local people. The Messenger went to speak to the new recruit, Miroslav Sandor, at his base in the Pakistan Advice and Community Association (PACA).



A local resident of 9 years, Miroslav told us that he began volunteering some time ago. Since starting his new job on the 1st June, he has already worked with the Police, on the introduction of the Section 30 Order, with the Admissions Service, who deal with children missing from school and he organised the voluntary street cleaning, which currently operates 3 days a week.

He explained how he was helping the Roma Slovak and Polish residents who come to PACA for advice, "They often have nothing when they come to the UK. I help by answering questions about the basics such as schools, sports, health sessions and housing."

Miroslav pointed out some of the challenges faced by local people, "There are very few jobs around. People need help to find good jobs. We have trained 8 Roma advocates who volunteer at PACA helping people, as language can be a barrier."

In response to concerns raised in the last PACT meeting, (Partners And Communities Together), Miroslav told us, "Some people have had a few problems and misunderstandings with the Roma, often because the new arrivals don't understand about living in the UK and how they should do things. They are learning and want to fit in. We have set up volunteer street cleaning teams to sweep up everyone's litter and make the place look better. They



don't want to stay at home all the time. Voluntary work gives them experience to help them find a job. Attitudes are changing. If we work together and talk to each other it will be better."

I asked Miroslav for his reaction to the recent Section 30 Order. "I didn't know about previous Section 30 Orders because nobody told us. This time, we organised a meeting at PACA about the Order to explain what will happen, and to warn residents about the 9pm curfew. I think people feel safe now and agree that it's the right thing to do."

Finally, I asked Miroslav what he would like to see improved locally, "Roma people love music. I would like to get some funding for a community centre so the Roma, and everyone in Page Hall, can meet to make music. I would like to show the community what we can do! We have a space for meetings at PACA but would like to expand upstairs so we can get everyone together. We use another space for worship, but it's too small. I am talking to PACA about putting on cooking sessions, health activities and maybe opening a gym for the whole community."

Miroslav Sandor can be contacted at PACA, 127 Page Hall Road, S4 8GU Tel: 261 9130

Recycling centre dispute

Story: Fran Belbin

Council cuts to household waste services are starting to take effect across the city. Black bins are now being emptied just once a fortnight and residents are already feeling the impact as waste starts to accumulate.

Meanwhile the Shirecliffe household waste recycling centre has been affected by strikes in the face of a reduction in opening hours to weekends only. The Longley Avenue West site has remained open during the strikes, but staffed by managers. When Burngreave resident Chris took a trip to the tip:

"There were queues when I arrived and there seemed to be a few disagreements going on about how to manage the work."

Since privatisation, Veolia have subcontracted the sites to SOVA Recycling, who have reduced pay and cut working hours. The GMB argue that Veolia and SOVA are making a profit from recycling at the expense of staff and users of the service. The staff have now suspended the strike to try and help SOVA win more work so the site can stay open. The Council have apologised for the inconvenience and blame the problems on massive government cuts.

Details of waste collections and recycling services can be found on the Council website at www.sheffield.gov.uk/waste.

Page Hall Section 30 Order

Story: Rohan Francis

South Yorkshire Police introduced a new Section 30 Dispersal Order in areas of Page Hall and Fir Vale in August.

The Section 30 Order allows the Police to move on groups of 2 or more people present in a public place and likely to be causing problems and, if they are under 16, to take them home after 9pm.

Inspector Simon Leake, from the North East, Safer Neighbourhood Team, said the action was introduced as a response to "concerns raised by residents about a recent rise in anti-social behaviour and low-level crime".

This is not the first time the area has been subject to a Section 30 Order. Past orders have been criticised for not dealing with the underlying issues. However, alternative measures such as housing regeneration, young people's activities and cohesion projects have been reduced or ceased altogether due to recent funding cutbacks.

Even the Police have recognised the limitations of another Section 30 Order. Simon Leake has said, "The local police team are working in partnership to provide long-term solutions." This Section 30 will bring more services into Page Hall and Fir Vale. A 'Tasking Group' has been meeting to bring together the Police, Fire Service, Private Sector Housing, health and environmental services, to focus on the area. Currently, they are supporting health projects, raising awareness of fire and electrical safety, rubbish and waste disposal and maintaining standards for private tenants.

It is hoped this work will have a longer term impact.

Digging success at last!

Story: Diana Tottle

Over 25 people who came to the Annual SAGE Greenfingers Open Day on 18th September were delighted to hear that SAGE has secured a lottery grant so it can start offering sessions for free again from early in the New Year.

SAGE is one of the Burngreave projects that expanded significantly during the New Deal era and established regular sessions of horticultural therapy and art activity on Grimesthorpe allotments. The end of New Deal and advent of recession



forced it to cut back drastically to one therapeutic session per week last January. But this grant, of just under £200,000, will enable the project to start

running 2 more free sessions from January onwards, increase staff hours again and create two new part time posts. Director Diana Tottle hopes that this will provide a period of long-awaited stability, so the organisation can build for the long term.

As part of this revival, SAGE wants to recruit a volunteer community health champion to support our work with refugees and asylum-seekers over the next six months. The role is part of a city-wide initiative, offering training opportunities and links with the wider health promotion network.

Please phone and ask for Janet if you are interested - 274 3651 or enquiries@sagesheffield.org.uk.

International flavour at men's breakfast

Story & photo: John Mellor

Nearly forty men from several countries enjoyed a delicious cooked breakfast at the Rock Christian Centre in Carlisle Street, near Spital Hill, on 15th September.

Countries represented included: Ghana, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Nigeria, the Philippines, Zambia and Zimbabwe, as well as the UK. The "Rock" is well known for the quality and variety (not to mention the quantity!) of the food provided by its members and this occasion was no exception. It provided an informal venue for those who came to meet old and new friends and talk about issues which were important to them.

After the breakfast we were treated to an inspiring talk by Tony Winter, founder and co-ordinator of the Street Pastors team in Manchester. Coming from a chaotic family background and being involved in drugs and violent crime from an early age, Tony's life was turned around by an experience he had whilst on remand in



prison at the age of 32. A judge told him: "I was going to give you six years, but I believe you've met with God and I'll make it two!"

Tony's work was particularly relevant to his audience, several of whom are involved with Street Pastors teams in Burngreave and Sheffield city centre. Volunteers from several local churches walk round the area every Friday evening, building relationships with residents and businesses and helping anyone whom may have a problem or be in difficulty. Feedback from members of the public indicate that the presence of Street Pastors is greatly appreciated.

The next meal at the Rock is an International Harvest Feast on 13th October at 7.00pm. All welcome!

Sharing Iftar meal

Story & photo: Rohan Francis

On 3rd August, Dr Abdelaziz, Manager of the Fatima Community Centre at 105 Brunswick Road, welcomed local residents to a special Iftar or fast-breaking meal and tour around their recently renovated building.

The Messenger joined a group of visitors, including members of a Christian church, young people from neighbouring homes and veterans of the old Irish Centre, who remembered using this very building for weddings and parties in their youth.

Dr Abdelaziz gave an entertaining introduction with information about the

holy month of Ramadan. He explained the importance of fasting, both as an act of personal discipline and a way of gaining insight into the plight of the starving or hungry. Sharing food with the wider community, as at this iftar, is also a way of showing collective generosity - a key belief of the Muslim faith.

Our host told us about the plans for the building's development, including further improvements to the prayer halls and facilities for funeral services, midnight prayers and religious celebrations. The centre also plans to provide language skills, a toddler group, accommodation for Islamic scholars and support for new Muslims.

We were then invited to join in the fast-breaking meal - a specially prepared feast of many wonderful and varied dishes,



including dates, warm breads, pakoras, curries, sweets, cakes and fruit. The night finished with a tour of the building and a chance to observe the congregation in prayer.

For more information contact: 07707 045 973 or fatimacentre1433ah@gmail.com



Sun, sea and sand

A large group of young people aged 8-19 set off from Earl Marshall Youth Club and enjoyed a sunny seaside day at Cleethorpes in August.

It was part of Sheffield Futures' summer of Positive Activities. Sheffield Futures Youth Work Apprentices, Community Youth Teams staff and Hinde House School supported the day out. Tesco at Spital Hill gave nearly 70 packed lunches for the trip.

Sheffield Futures' Manager, Tamar Wharam, said, "We want to say a massive thank you for Tesco's kind donation. It was nice to see young people just being young people and enjoying the basics, such as swimming in the sea. We look forward to the chance of arranging another trip in the near future as the young people ask "where are we going next?" all the time."



St Peter's summer fun day

Photos: Dorothy Gilbert

St Peter's Church held another successful fun day on 14th July

Among the attractions were cake stalls, Rainbow's End bric-a-brac, information for all three local Tenants and Residents Associations and Bucking Bronco. It was certainly fun for all the family.



Busy summer

Ellesmere Youth Project (EYP) had a busy summer, despite many young people being away for Ramadan. We ran trips and activities in various venues and for a variety of groups of young people.

Our AGM was held on 22nd August and well attended by young people and adults - helped by the fact of a bouncy castle assault course! We continue to work at All Saints youth centre and Vestry Hall, plus developing two girls groups, alongside Sheffield Futures and YCA.



Danielle sets sail

Story: John Mellor

Danielle Sharp has been employed as a Youth Development Worker with Ellesmere Youth Project (EYP) since 2007 but is now leaving to travel the world.



She had trained as an accountant in Hull before getting into youth work. Jenny Tibbles, EYP Project Coordinator, said:

"Danielle has made a huge contribution and will be greatly missed, particularly by several of the young people, who are still with the project after she started work with them 5 years ago."

I asked Danielle about her impressions of Burngreave. She said:

"Before I came here, people from outside the area said Burngreave was a terrible place! They couldn't have been more wrong. I have found the sense of community and the friendliness between people from different backgrounds to be quite amazing. I've made many friends among the staff and the young people I've worked with. We've had lots of fun as well as the more serious and challenging times."

Her adventures now include sailing across the Atlantic. She says, "Now is the time to do it as I probably won't get this opportunity again ... but you'll probably see me in Burngreave in the future."

Wonderful Summer at Watoto



Celebrating Jamaica's 50 Years Independence

A fun day was held as children, parents and staff celebrated Jamaica's 50 Years of Independence.

Children created their own artwork using the national Jamaican colours. Reggae music and traditional Jamaican food such as salt fish and ackee, dumplings, plantain, rice, peas and chicken was enjoyed by all.

Eid Celebration

The end of Ramadan was marked by a celebration at Watoto Preschool.

Children, parents and staff experienced and enjoyed a wide range of foods, storytelling, music and dance from different Muslim communities.



Caps, Gowns and lots of Smiles

Graduation celebration took place at Watoto Pre-School in July to mark our children's transitions to primary school. Parents, staff and members of the local community attended the event. 20 children graduated this year. "I always love this time of year and watching the kids sing their favourite songs and receive their diplomas," said Watoto Pre-School Trustee, Terry Garvey



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Brighter adventures

Story: Lisa Swift | Photos: Rohan Francis

Pitsmoor Adventure Playground has had a lick of paint this summer, from the National Citizens Service (NCS).

Volunteers from NCS repainted the castle with colourful characters and held an event on 13th September to celebrate. Playworker Zaqer told us:

"It was a really great day, the volunteers finished off the painting and then there were cakes, drinks and biscuits for everyone. It created a really good vibe for the day and there were a lot of children and families on the playground."

The Messenger wanted to know what the kids thought of it all,

"I like the rocket, and the strong brave hero" Kavell
"It's better than before, I like the superhero." Sarfraz
"It's funny, I like the climbing part." Vladimir



Pitsmoor Adventure Playground opens

Term time: Tuesday – Friday 3-8pm, Saturday 12-6pm.

October half term: Tuesday – Saturday 12-6pm and will include Halloween activities.



Wensley Street Fun Day

Story & photo: Michael Hill

The weather came good for the local people of the Wensley Estate in Page Hall, as the programme of summer holiday activities came to a close.

The project - developed by Arches Housing, Owler Brook School, Wensley TARA, Whiteways School and Sheffield International Venues - provided a range of events to engage the community in more healthy and positive activities and bring the community together.

Over £9,000 from the Lottery provided a range of summer activities, including art-and-craft sessions, Zumba, Boxercise, board games, swimming lessons and ice-skating. On Saturday 15th September, all the activities were brought together for a big Fun Day for the community to enjoy. PTC Sports kicked off the event with some football and cricket. The bouncy castle, face painting and henna gained regular queues.

The refreshments turned out to be very valuable, considering the weather, and, at the end, people pulled together for a litter pick to leave the area as it was found. One child described it as 'one last big party' of the summer.

Riverlution festival

Story: Saleema Imam | Photo: Nicholaus Hall



The Sheffield Riverlution Festival started at Kelham Island with a glorious sunny day on 22nd September.

Stalls, riverside walks and kayaking taster sessions, traditional crafts and family fun, a BBQ and a sculpture being created before your very eyes from salvaged supermarket trolleys were just a few of the activities on offer.

A much colder, cloudy Sunday saw the Kayak and raft race start from Kelham Island and take the action down the river to Nursery Street and the new Pocket Park. On the way boats were attacked with flour bombs bought 4 for £1 by excited spectators. There were prizes for the winning raft, the best dressed raft and the one covered in the most flour! The pocket park was officially opened by the Lord Mayor.

Environmental and food stalls lined Nursery Street, music from a variety of groups entertained the crowds and the activities ended with a spectacular pyrotechnic display and lantern parade at 8pm, though the action carried on till late in the Riverside and Harlequin Pubs.

Riverlution carries on with fringe events around Sheffield's waterways until 30th September – World Rivers Day. Go online for more information: www.riverlution.org.uk



Fir Vale Food Festival

Story: Rashida Hassanali & Smaira Sadique
Photos: Smaira Sadique

The first food event of its kind in the Fir Vale community was held at the School to celebrate Harvest Festival and Eid-ul-Fitr together.

Fir Vale's Community & School Partnership (CASP) developed the food festival idea with St Cuthbert's Church, the Eden project, Tradebase, LEAF and Green City Action. For a nominal 50p, 170 people had a feast of vegetable curry, gulaš (goulash), iced buns, 'left-over' wraps and fruit & vegetable kebabs. It was a gastronomic success, helped by the generosity of families in the local community, together with donations of vegetables and fruit grown by local food-growing projects.



Volunteers cheerfully gave up their Saturday, 22nd September, to cook and serve. Colleagues from health projects, Veolia and Green City Action provided delicious fruit smoothies, explained about composting, reminded people about the changes in bin services and talked of the pleasure and benefits of 'growing your own.'

Young Slovakian students made goulash,

while the CASP group made a mouth-watering vegetable curry. Liz Flowers, Kath Hobson and the Eden project made delicious cupcakes for everyone to decorate. Louise Collins from St Cuthbert's made vegetable wraps.

David Blunkett MP attended to support and congratulate everyone on a successful event.

The atmosphere was warm and friendly and feedback was positive: "the food was lovely," "I learned how to make chapattis," "I enjoyed decorating my own cake," "I know more about composting now."

All the raw food waste and much of our refuse from the day was recycled. All the surplus dry produce was given to St Cuthbert's to support their food bank. The perishable items were donated to the Cathedral's Homelessness Project.



Rainbow celebrations

Story: Saleema Imam
Photos: Richard Hanson & John Mellor

It's here again! Building on last year's success, volunteers from Rainbow's End once more served up a fashion collection worthy of the West End at Christ Church.

Manager Yvonne offered a free evening of family entertainment to around 100 Burngreave residents. This included a performance

by magician Steve Macbeth (who also, apparently, made the secret millionaire disappear!), tasty food and the presentation of certificates to volunteers completing training or for long service.

"We are celebrating", says Yvonne, "the bountiful support from Burngreave people, which has enabled Rainbow's End to disperse well over £3k in money, household goods, furniture and clothes to those in need over the last 3 years. In addition we have given grants to the Knit and Natter group, St Peter's coffee morning and the Vestry Hall's Allcomers Group, plus sponsoring Greenfingers' fund-raising run."



Donations of all types of goods are still needed. Clothes - in good condition or only fit for rags - are welcome. Payments are received from the 'ragman' for items taken for recycling.

The management are still looking for local premises to purchase with the money donated by benefactor Simrin Choudrie but a new crisis has now arisen, as the funding for the manager's post has come to an end.

Rainbow's End provides not only a source of affordable clothes and household goods but also a meeting point for the community and a place of support and friendship for many refugees and asylum seekers struggling to get by.



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0114 272 7497



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Images courtesy of nosmokingday.org.uk

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Puppet making at the chapel

Story: Friends of Burngreave Chapel & Cemetery

Sunday 1st September saw the first of the puppet workshops at the Burngreave Cemetery Chapel. Lanterns and puppets were on show, to inspire us to create new fantastic things for the Apple Day on the 14th of October.

Local artist Patrick Amber was on hand to help people realise their ideas the crazier the better. Adults and children enjoyed themselves making new friends while creating lanterns from willow and tissue paper, ready to be lit by LEDs or torches.

Free workshops are running every Sunday 1-3pm, leading up to Apple Day, which starts at 11am on 14th October.



Materials are provided and there is no need to book, just come along and have a go. The puppets can be made of whatever you like! Everybody is welcome



although children will need help from their adults.

Apple Day will hold a plant and seed swap, apple-tasting, making juice, and apple-bobbing. You'll have the chance to taste local varieties, do the Fair-trade Treasure Hunt, see inside the mysterious and beautiful chapel building and end with a puppet and lantern show at dusk.

For more information visit: www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk

Burngreave's Zero Budget Film Festival

Story: Frankie Currie

The doors to the chapel opened at 7pm and we had a queue already waiting.

And it was worth the wait, standing room only for an enthusiastic audience of Pitsmoorians, it was amazing,

Martin Currie, organiser of Cheap Thrills Film Festival, said "Another successful show, many thanks to our kind audience and all our movie makers, the quality of the zero budget productions was excellent this year."

A lot of work was put into turning the disused cemetery chapel into a cinema, cleaning up, sweeping, wiping, washing



and bringing more seating in. We thought we'd overdone it with the 12 foot screen, but it looked great. Our usherettes gave away popcorn and sweets, our jury voted on the films, and the winners were:

Tim the Tiny Horse, by Ellie Ragdale.

The Test, a fantastic tense drama by Wales High School.

The Burngreave Moon Mission, a documentary about our local astronauts by Steve Pool.

Hebron Voices, showing life under occupation, by our local activist, Deacon Dave.

Food with Frankie, winner of the audience prize, where he mixed anchovies into everything and was sick TWICE!

What could possibly make it any better? Apart from anchovies - nowt!

To see the movies, and for more information go to www.zerobudgetfilmfest.com

Creative Writing group

- *Would you like to develop and share your creative writing?*
- *Would you like more stimulus to further your writing of short stories, poetry, novels, plays or autobiography?*
- *Would you like to join a friendly group of local writers of all ages from many communities, to work together to improve their writing skills in a supportive context?*
- *Would you like to create a local community press which would publish the work of local writers?*

If yes then please contact us to register your place. Places are limited.

Contact either Abtissam at 256 0933 or Chris at 236 7484 for details of meetings and venue.

The coordinator is the local author, ex-university professor and headteacher Chris Searle, who will introduce writing by local and international writers from Faiz and Darwish to Joan Riley and Nawal el Saadawi.



Great start for Earl Marshall Juniors

Story & photo: Mick Ashman

The junior soccer teams of Earl Marshall JFC have enjoyed a great start to the new season.

The Under-12s have won their opening four games and currently sit second in the table. Manager Saidi Msigiti said he can already sense the team are ready to move up to the top level, "Our three new signings have slotted in perfectly and strengthened the squad and the boys have told me that they are determined to push for promotion this season."

The Under-11 team adapted quickly to nine-a-side football on a bigger pitch and



they too were impressive in their opening games. After two convincing wins at home, they travelled to Millmoor knowing a win would see them at the top of the table. They took the lead after Javelle Clarke took possession at the

halfway line before running towards goal and placing the ball beyond the keeper. Millmoor levelled just before half-time and there was a real sense of disappointment when Millmoor claimed the match with a goal in stoppage time.

A week after a narrow 3-2 defeat, the Under-10s put in a fine team display to secure an emphatic 5-0 win at the expense of Manton Athletic, with Daniel Bramhall bagging a hat-trick. They are in a tough Division but manager Tony Herrington is pleased with their progress. "The boys give 100% in training; they listen and are keen to learn. They show great team spirit and that all bodes well for a very good season".

For 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.

Caribbean sports day

Story: Angela Barrows
Photos: Anwar Suliman

On 12th August, the Caribbean Sports Club held its annual sports day – with the highlight England v Jamaica football match.

A massive 800 children and adults turned up. The Earl Marshall Juniors Football Club brought under 9's and under 10's teams, for matches against a Nottingham Junior Club.



With an Olympic sports theme, the organisers provided activities for adults and young people to try out, with the aim of encouraging participation in sport. As well as football, there was a Usain Bolt 50m dash, mini golf, badminton and rounders.

The Lord Mayor was in attendance and the Lady Mayoress kicked off the women's Jamaica v England rounders with a good hit of the ball, sending the players scurrying! In the main event, England successfully regained the football title from Jamaica!



Charity cycle ride

Paul Howard, Community Liaison Manager at Parkwood Academy, completes Land's End to John O'Groats Charity Cycle Ride

Having battled my way through wind and rain and the occasional, fleeting flash of sunshine, I finally completed my charity cycle marathon from Land's End to John O'Groats on 28th August. Like many other people, my brother is suffering from the effects of Parkinson's Disease and this cycle trip has been a personal challenge, firstly to give what support I can to Parkinson's UK who help fund vital research into the disease and secondly to see what, at 61, I still have left in my locker!

It is a trip that my brother and I have talked about for years and I thought it was about time for some action! Fundraising has been brilliant and with Gift Aid we have already raised approximately £2500. If you would like to donate, please visit my website www.justgiving.com/paulhowardlejog2012. Please accept my thanks on behalf of Parkinson's UK.



St James' Church Centenary

Story: Barry Swift

In 1898 the Presbyterian Church of England decided to start a new congregation in Ellesmere Road to serve the growing number of Scottish people working and living in north Sheffield. Within a short while the growing number of members needed new premises and they bought a piece of land at the corner of Scott Road and Abbeyfield Road.

Ambitions ran high as the architect's painting of the proposed buildings (which now hangs in the hall) shows. Plans included a large traditional church with a spire, a hall for the Sunday School and a house for the minister, but as a first stage the hall was completed in 1911 at a cost of £3,040. This is the building which is still in use and has always been multi-purpose, as finance was never found to complete the plans. The land alongside the hall, where they intended to put the church, remained empty until 1994, when Arches Housing bought it to build flats.

Our Christian tradition has been maintained throughout by holding



services for worship each Sunday, although the form of worship has moved from being very formal preaching to being more relaxed and collaborative now. Church membership reached a peak of 145 in 1950.

In the 1950s St James' was greatly enriched by the arrival of immigrants from Jamaica, as many felt themselves at home in the church and have since then been immersed in the life there. We are privileged to have members from four countries in our current membership of 21 and sharing views across race and faith has added much to our life together.

The activities in St James' have also changed over the last century reflecting the changing outlook and needs of the congregation and our local community. In

the 1950s, before the main entertainment in the home was the TV, churches provided a focal point for both children and adults and, each evening in the week, St James' ran clubs and organisations, including Girl Guides, Boys Brigade, Dramatic Society, Choir and Badminton. They were much in demand and well attended by families in the Scott Road area.

Times change and society no longer has need of such activities but the congregation still tries to look outwards and seeks ways to meet the needs of those around us. Today these include the lunch club for the elderly, who otherwise spend much of their time isolated in their own homes, and the parent & toddler group, providing a meeting place for young parents and helping the toddlers to socialise. We keep the building warm and comfortable and hope this is reflected in the welcome we show to our neighbours.

To celebrate the centenary of our building we are having an "Open Church" on Saturday, 20 October 2012 and hope to see many people who have been associated with St James' over the years. Doors will be open from 11.00 am to 4.00pm. and there will be light refreshments. We shall have displays of photographs and other memorabilia which we hope will bring back good memories for you.

So if you were christened or married in St James', came to the Sunday School or a youth organisation, have visited an autumn sale or dropped in to a coffee morning – please come again on **20th October** – we shall love to see you.





Ice cream at the East House

Story & photos: John Mellor

After completing extensive refurbishment of the premises himself, Algali Saeed has recently opened what used to be the East House pub as an ice cream and coffee shop. He will shortly be adding burgers, kebabs, chicken, chips, pizzas and other items to the menu.



Algali arrived in the UK in 2004 from Sudan where he was a farmer. He now lives in Rotherham and worked as a warehouse operative before deciding to set up his own business on Spital Hill. His wife, Sarah, who is a native of Rotherham, helps him at the shop in her spare time. They have named the café after their 3-year-old daughter, Mena.

Algali's work on the premises has greatly improved the outlook from the café. Sitting at the table by the large window gives a panoramic view towards the Wicker Arches and the city centre – and the ice cream, made in the New Forest, is delicious!

Swift Pharmacy

Story & photo: Rohan Francis

After months of renovation work, Sajid Razaq and his team of local professionals have transformed a corner shop next to Burngreave Vestry Hall into a new community pharmacy, offering late night opening hours, 7 days a week.

Director Sajid, lives locally and went to Earl Marshal School (now Firvale). There he studied hard and earned a place at university where he completed a Master's in Pharmacy. Fellow director and pharmacist, Shakeel Bashir, lived in the Burngreave area for over 25 years. Their determination and effort has begun to pay off, with this most recent store adding to the 3 pharmacies they already operate.

Sajid explained what it took to set up the business, "We had to do a lot of work on the building to make it suitable for stocking and selling medicines. Then all our plans had to be passed by the General Pharmaceutical Council and registered with the Sheffield Primary Care Trust to get permission to operate."

Sajid identified a need in Burngreave for a pharmacy that can provide for the many languages spoken locally. Manager, Ahmed Yusef, told us "Many people have difficulty reading the information on their medicines. As we are a very multicultural



team, we can help them by translating the details into a language they understand. For many people, especially the elderly, this is very reassuring."

Sajid has drawn most of his staff from the local area. The team also includes: pharmacy student, Hamza Yorachi; apprentice pharmacy technician, Junaid Mahmood and business graduate Shaadiya Hussein. Together, the pharmacy is fluent in English, Arabic, Urdu, Punjabi, Somali and Luganda.

Swift Pharmacy is open 7 days, Monday to Saturday 8am-11pm and Sunday 10am-8pm. See the advert on page 14.

Al-Esayi tableware

Story & photos: Rohan Francis

Local businessman Mohamed Saleh has recently opened a new store at 7 Ellesmere Road selling Middle Eastern tableware.



The new venture began when Mr Saleh sold his grocery business of 10 years and started an online store.

He decided it would be a good idea for customers to be able to inspect some of the products he was selling on his website. As he previously operated the Red Sea Food Store he thought it made sense to stay in the area and moved across the road into an existing retail shop unit.



The new store boasts a wide range of unusual items, from delicate ceramic coffee cups to ornate gilded Mabkhara, a type of decorative incense burner. Mohamed Saleh's business specialises in table and kitchenware, but the website also sells clothes, jewellery and accessories. The shop also doubles as a travel agent, which means it is possible to buy a set of bowls made in Saudi Arabia and book a flight to the same destination in one visit!

For more details contact the shop on: 07892 759 898 or visit the website: www.esayi.co.uk

Council tax bill rises

Story: Douglas Johnson

Anyone in Burngreave who gets council tax benefit is to pay more from April, under new proposals.

The Government is scrapping the benefit and making the Council come up with a new scheme with 10% less money. The Council faces a cut of £4.6 million or more as a result.

The Council's plan is to make people in low-paid work or on benefits pay more. Pensioners will be protected but all other households face a flat-rate increase of £3.76 a week or £2.82 for single people. Paying a flat rate of tax, regardless of income, was a feature of the much-hated poll tax brought in by Margaret Thatcher. Many believe it was why she eventually resigned.

As discounts and exemptions will not be affected, it is important to claim these – especially if residents have had full council tax benefit until now. Council tax bills can be reduced if any resident is under 18, an apprentice, a student or student nurse, a prisoner, a carer or in hospital or a care home, severely mentally impaired or living in a granny flat or an adapted property.

To clam these, visit www.sheffield.gov.uk/council-tax or phone 273 6633

Dementia Centre still threatened with closure

Story: Lisa Swift

In October the Council will consider steps towards closure of Norbury Dementia Resource Centre on Barnsley Road.

Objections were made by carers and health workers in March when the proposals to close the city's three dementia day centres were included in the Council's budget.

The Council have included questions about dementia care in the Social Care consultation, which will go to Council's Cabinet on 17th October. At this meeting Councillors will decide whether to consult on closing the resource centres. If so, there will then be 6 weeks of formal consultation before the final decision is made.

Spital Hill entrance shuts overnight

Story: Rohan Francis

Tesco's Spital Hill entrance has been closing between 12 midnight and 6 in the morning after shoplifting incidents forced the store to shut one of its two main entrances overnight.



Shoppers can still exit through the doors, but will have to enter through the Spital Hill carpark entrance or Saville Street.

Tesco's store manager has stated that the closure will be trialled for a few months.

Cooks Wood Road update

Story: Douglas Johnson

Residents affected by an unauthorised scrapyard on Cooks Wood Road took their case to a planning committee and the Council has agreed enforcement action.



Council officers had investigated and agreed the land needed planning permission before it could be used for storing damaged cars. As well as the unsightly fence and gates residents could be affected by noise nuisance. The Committee agreed planning officers could take enforcement action to remove the cars and stop use of the site as a business. However, they could do nothing about the trees that had been removed.

The Council also agreed they should investigate the right of way through to Pinfold Lane, which had always been used as a footpath.

Rt Hon David Blunkett MP

Immigration and asylum ADVICE SURGERIES

If you are having difficulty with your immigration or asylum claim, David Blunkett MP will be holding an advice surgery to specifically deal with these matters on:

**Thursday 1st November 2012
3.00pm - 4.30pm**

The advice surgery will be held at:

**Pitsmoor Citizens Advice Bureau,
30 Spital Hill, S4 7LG**

ADVICE SURGERIES

David Blunkett MP will be holding advice surgeries between **10.30am and 12.00pm** on:

**Saturday 13th October
Saturday 10th November
Saturday 8th December
Saturday 12th January**

The advice surgeries will be held at:

**Firth Park Advice Centre,
9 Stubbin Lane, S5 6QG**



**For any queries, please contact
David Sturrock on 020 7219 2435**

Raising issues with the Council

If you have an issue in your area, attending one of the local Council meetings could help you find a solution. Local residents raise many issues with the Council such as:

- There have been four incidences of lead theft on my street. What are the police doing about this?
- Will last winter's snow warden scheme be extended as this has been useful for the elderly and disabled people?
- Why are bowling charges having to be paid up front instead of when a match is played?
- Could you tell me the schedule for street cleaning?
- Are Councillors aware that there is overcrowding on bus routes in the area?

Come along to one of the following meetings. You can find out:

- What services are doing to resolve a particular issue
- What is happening locally
- How to resolve a problem
- Get Councillors support and involve other residents in solving a problem



Burngreave Area Ward Meeting

Do you have a local or a policing issue? Come along to the Burngreave Area Ward meeting where you can raise any questions and hear what the Assembly is doing

Thursday 11th October, 6-8pm

Vestry Hall, 2 Burngreave Road, S3 9DD (NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE)

Agenda items include:

- Consultation on Parking Proposals near the Northern General Hospital
- Update on Ellesmere Green Proposals
- Your questions for the Police or your local Councillors.

Meet the Cabinet and North East Community Assembly meeting

Do you have a general question about issues in Sheffield? Come along to a special Meet the Cabinet event - Sheffield City Council's Cabinet will be available to answer your questions.

Wednesday 31 October 6-9pm

Meet the Cabinet 6-7.30pm followed by the NE Community Assembly meeting
Shirecliffe Community Centre, 349 Shirecliffe Road, S5 8XJ.

Questions can be submitted up to 7 days before the meeting. If time is available you can ask your question on the night (you are invited to share a sandwich with your local Councillors and the Cabinet members from 5.30pm)

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

FREE bulbs for your community group

The North East Community Assembly has ordered spring bulbs to give out to local community groups. If you know of an area that would look colourful next spring with daffodils and crocuses do contact us as soon as possible. We can arrange for your group to have help to plant the bulbs.



Jackie Drayton Ibrar Hussain Talib Hussain

Councillor Surgery Dates

Your local councillors share surgeries on a rota basis.

13th October: Talib Hussain,
11am–12pm Burngreave Library,
12.15pm–1pm Firshill TARA

16th October: Ibrar Hussain,
11am–12pm Shirecliffe Community Centre,
12.15pm–1pm Norwood and Bishopholme TARA

18th October: Jackie Drayton,
2pm–3pm Pakistan Advice Centre

27th October: Talib Hussain,
11am–12pm Burngreave Library

10th November: Ibrar Hussain,
11am–12pm Burngreave Library,
12.15pm–1pm Firshill TARA

15th November: Jackie Drayton,
2pm–3pm Pakistan Advice Centre

20th November: Talib Hussain,
11am–12pm Shirecliffe Community Centre,
12.15pm–1pm Norwood and Bishopholme TARA

24th November: Jackie Drayton,
11am–12pm Burngreave Library

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



Young Leaders

Story: Janet Lawson

Two Fir Vale students (Y11) have been selected to join Sheffield Academy of Young Leaders in recognition of their commitment and contribution as volunteers with the School Sport Partnership in our local area.

Ummesalama Hassanali and Xantha Palmer now have the opportunity to volunteer at major sporting events, work with community sports clubs and be able

to take advantage of free training.

This is all great news and supports the future careers of these young people.

"It's an amazing opportunity to improve leadership skills. Working with younger students in the primary schools to help accelerate their sporting activities is very rewarding," said Ummesalama.

Xantha says, *"Being part of the young community encouraging health and fitness is giving us the foundation to build a good background for our academic future."*

Friends of Verdon Recreation Centre

Story: Tom Hughes

On the 17th July and the 11th September, Activity Sheffield invited community groups, members of the community and members of the public to a meeting to look into the possibility of setting up a 'Friends of Verdon Recreation Centre'.

The aim of the group is to enable people and groups to share ideas, raise issues, become the focus of the community, share resources and good practice and overall be a voice for the community and Verdon users.



Both meetings were well attended, with over 20 people attending across the two meetings. There is a strong agreement that this would help take Verdon Recreation Centre on to the next level. Activity Sheffield staff gave their thoughts, took and answered questions and listened to the concerns of those in attendance.

The next step in the formation of a group is to form a committee that will steer the group over the coming weeks, months and years and have a hugely positive impact on the centre. Some individuals have expressed an interest at being involved and this will be followed up in the near future.

If you are keen to be involved, pop into the centre and speak with Nicky Darker, or alternatively contact Tom Hughes on the details provided;

Telephone: 07837 174 217 - Email: Tom.hughes@sheffield.gov.uk

Olympic volunteer

Local resident Clare Burnell was among the many volunteers at this summer's Olympic Games, working as a member of the Olympic Park events services team.

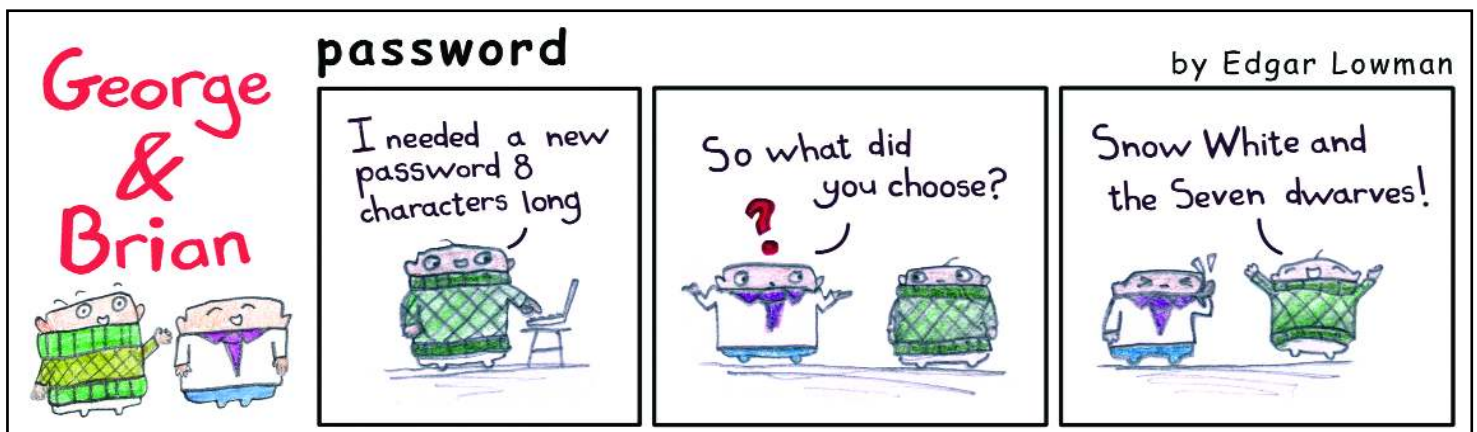
Clare told the Messenger, "I had a great time, it was exciting but hard work."



Pitsmoor Home Fire Girls: COFFEE MORNING

Thursday October 18th, 10.30am
At Pitsmoor Methodist Church,
Burngreave Road

We are having a talk at this month's Coffee Morning on the theme of 'My Dyslexic Faith.' The talk will last approximately 40 minutes and the remainder of the morning will be spent as usual having a good old gossip. Please come along!



Dear Messenger...



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

Making Tracks?

Dear Messenger,

Further to your article 'Making Tracks at Parkwood' in the last edition of the Burngreave Messenger.

Not everyone is so enamoured by or welcome these developments on Parkwood. We, the residents and walkers, have had to put up with trucks roaring about the paths with little or no regard to the fact that people and their dogs are walking there. The mess they have made of what was such a beautiful area has left many of us distressed and upset at the carelessness of tearing up rare wildflowers, trees and plants and the disturbance to the wildlife is nothing short of environmental vandalism. We had reassurances that every precaution had been taken to ensure this did not happen but what was an oasis in the heart of an urban area has been ripped apart.

Bikers have already started using the site, even though it is not completed, with no regard whatsoever for the people walking. They are cutting across the paths at speeds which would cause serious damage to pedestrians and animals should they hit one; which be assured it won't be long before that does happen. Only yesterday a member of my family and a neighbour were almost knocked down and had to grab their dogs before they went into the path of the riders. This is going on well into the night. You can't sit outside in your garden in peace because of the noise.

Cooks Wood Road Resident (name and address supplied)

NB – Motor-cycling is illegal on Parkwood Springs and the police can confiscate motorbikes.



Sin Bins

Dear Messenger,

On Earl Marshall Road is a stone wall. My daughter saw a van pull into the kerb and unload this van full of rubbish over this wall. She phoned Veolia and they collected it. With this new rule of fortnightly rubbish collections, the bins will be very full.

So I suggest we rename Sheffield "Hamlyn", as it will need all Veolia's Pied Pipers to remove the rubbish and the rats that will have a birthday, breeding and eating.

Sylvia Reaney

Northern General parking problems

Dear Messenger

I wish to express my views regarding the article 'Northern General parking plans' in the August issue of the Burngreave Messenger.



Firstly may I strongly object to the proposal for Norwood Road and Drive of limited waiting. This is a poor solution to the problems residents have in parking their personal cars. We need to have some form of parking policy which will not inconvenience the residents any more.

It was late 2006 that the Hospital introduced excessive parking fees for staff, patients, and hospital visitors. There was no consideration of the consequences of this action. The day after the charges were introduced there was chaos. Norwood Road was parked up on both sides with many residents' drives blocked. On October 6th, the road became totally blocked with buses, cars (including a police car) and trade vehicles, all being unable to move – the road was gridlocked.

As a result, bus services along Norwood Road were suspended and emergency measures were brought in to stop parking along the left hand side of the road (driving towards the hospital). Unfortunately parking on the right hand side of the road was still allowed. The road is still parked, mostly by hospital staff from 7.30am until after 5pm. Other problems for residents include trades-people unable to park for deliveries and visitors and friends unable to visit.

For over three years, the residents of Norwood Road campaigned to find a solution to this problem. There were regular meetings with the Councillors, Hospital and police. I gave three presentations to different Council Sub Committees, explaining the problems. At one of these presentations I illustrated with slides the bad parking, the road congestion and other problems Norwood Road was faced with every day. After each meeting with the Council, it was agreed our problem needed attention. After much consultation with the residents of Norwood Road, several surveys and consultation on the best solution for Norwood Road, it was agreed to have Residents' Parking on the right hand side of the road. This would only cover a short distance – from houses 96 to 136 – and would cover houses with small drives. At a final meeting with three councillors, the council official in charge of setting up parking systems and our Norwood residents we considered that our proposals had been accepted. There would be a period of time to set it up. We have heard nothing since!

To come up with a solution to the parking problems on Norwood Road and ignore the huge amount of work done previously on this problem is not acceptable. Further consultation and an examination of previous work is essential. I have documentation over two inches thick on the work done to solve the problem of hospital parking. There is little doubt that the residents of Norwood Road, along with the information gathered by our previous association, needs much more consultation before any solution is agreed upon.

Yours faithfully, D.T. Middleton

NB – The NGH management are introducing a new scheme of parking charges on 1st October. The issue of parking will be discussed again at the Burngreave ward meeting on 11th October – see page 20

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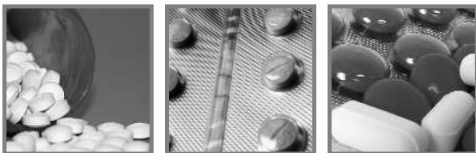
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