



## Council to fill Sorby House

Story: Lisa Swift

**Sorby House will be filled with Council services by March 2014, including Burngreave Library, the Housing Office, Community Youth Teams and the Multi-Agency Support Team (MAST).**

Current tenants are being asked to move their offices onto one floor to make room for the Council, who will take up the remaining three floors. Reception will be changed to have more of a 'Council feel'.

20 local community groups and small businesses currently use Sorby House, ranging from children and young people's projects to employment support and accountants. Many are disappointed with the announcement and are angry that the Council has not consulted them.

Tammy Piercey from Burngreave Works said, "The first we heard was when we read it in the Star. The Council should have consulted us as it will affect the running of all our organisations."

Nkululeko Sibanda from Ellesmere Youth Project explained, "They are calling it a 'Community Hub', but it won't be that. We are very concerned about what it will mean to have all these services together. We have built up trust with young people and this could be affected if the building is seen as part of the Council."

Concern has also been expressed about



the cost of the building, while cuts continue to affect local organisations severely. The Council said the building generates about £170,000 income but still costs the Council £360,000 per year.

Councillor Bryan Lodge, Cabinet member for Finance and Resources, told the Messenger, "We need to reduce the number of buildings the Council runs. Moving services into Sorby House will ensure it is more sustainable and bring services together. We will be able to dispose of the Housing Office and the Library for rent or a capital receipt and allow regeneration."

Work on Sorby will begin in June, with most services moving in from March 2014.

### Library to move

The Library move will cost £40,000, but no savings will be made in running costs and the space will be smaller. The Messenger asked Library users what they thought of the plans:

*"I don't like the area around Sorby House. I don't like the road; it's very busy. It's not safe for kids and I don't like the atmosphere." Mrs Khan*

*"I've never been in there, but I want the library to be massive." Mrs Khan's daughter, Hafsa.*

*"It's already in the right place. It's accessible from the houses behind the library and there is no traffic." Abdi Abe*

*"The Library gives young people a place to chill out. I've been using it all my life. It's always been here. There are loads of men hanging about on Spital Hill. Here it's closer to the houses." Sofia Deria*

*"A lot of what happens at the library is for children. At Sorby it's more for adults. It's not safe; there are cars parked both sides and it's a busy bus route. We need more computers. If there's no more room, there's no point." Mrs Hussain*

*"I find it easier in here. I know where everything is. You'd be looking for things if it moved." "If they move to Sorby House, it will take a long time to build the library back." Mrs Hussain's children*

*"We are used to coming to this library. In my opinion it should stay. It's not safe for children; there are many cars near Sorby House." Fartum Nuuraani*

*"It could be a positive thing if there are more computers, more books, plants and a cafe." Lois Palframan*

What do you think? Contact us: 242 0564 [mail@burngreavemessenger.org](mailto:mail@burngreavemessenger.org)

**Abbeyfield Park  
Multicultural Festival  
Sunday 7th July  
1 - 6pm**



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

**For stall and stage bookings, contact:  
[abbeyfield.festival@gmail.com](mailto:abbeyfield.festival@gmail.com) 07794 314 933**

## Temporary Medical Receptionist/Administrator

- Location: Pitsmoor Surgery
- Salary: £6.44 - £8.51 per hour subject to experience / qualifications
- Duration: Temporary
- Start Date: End of July / early August

Due to maternity leave we are currently looking to recruit an enthusiastic and flexible person as a temporary Medical Receptionist / Administrator. The contract will be between 9 and 12 months depending on the return date of the current post holder, to work up to 30 hours per week, Monday to Saturday.

We are looking for a candidate who can demonstrate good interpersonal and communication skills. The post is varied and will include reception duties, data input, general office tasks and word processing / IT skills. The admin tasks will include scanning and editing of patient records.

The post requires flexibility to cover for staff holidays and illness.

**Closing Date: 30th June 2013**

*If you are interested in applying for this post please download an application form from our website: [www.pitsmoorsurgery.co.uk](http://www.pitsmoorsurgery.co.uk).*

*You can either email the application form with a covering letter to [karen.zaman1@nhs.net](mailto:karen.zaman1@nhs.net) or alternatively post to:*

**Karen Zaman, Assistant Practice Manager,  
Pitsmoor Surgery, 151 Burngreave Road,  
Sheffield, S3 9DL.**

## Enabler/Personal Assistant wanted For visually impaired person

15 hours per week (flexible)  
£7.00 per hour

### Duties include:

Sorting paperwork, running errands, light household maintenance, accessing leisure facilities, accessing IT, reading post, assistance with gardening, accompanying for walks in nature spots/woods and the occasional trip out of town.

Must be a driver with car (although driving everywhere is not necessary) and good knowledge of Sheffield. Must be a good communicator, flexible, punctual, reliable, and responsible. A non-judgemental attitude, open/alternative-minded approach IS ESSENTIAL; must be able to think outside the box!

Must be willing to take advice in line with ongoing training. Most importantly, you must demonstrate a view of people with impairments as equals, not subordinates needing 'care'!

**Please send CV and covering letter (word doc only) to [barriers2bridges@virginmedia.com](mailto:barriers2bridges@virginmedia.com)**

Or telephone 07854 986 573.

**Closing date: 1st July 2013**

## FED UP OF YOUR MONEY GOING UP IN SMOKE?

If you want to quit smoking and save money, contact

**Emma—  
Burngreave  
Community Stop  
Smoking  
Advisor—**

For free confidential support and information either call or Text

**QUIT to  
07847893134  
Alternatively you  
can leave a  
message at  
The Furnival  
0114 2727497**



THE FURNIVAL  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1092744

Image courtesy of nosmokingday.org.uk

## Dementia Awareness Session

For local Lunch Club and other community volunteers who may come across people with memory problems.

**Wednesday 12th June 2013  
1.30pm at the  
Furnival Community Centre  
199 Verdon Street, S3 9QQ**

### Aims of Session

1. Sharing our expertise and making connections
2. Learning more about dementia
3. Find out about simple things we can do to support people with dementia & understand how people can live well with dementia
4. Know where to go for further support and advice

### Light lunch provided

Please contact Nick Edmondson on  
07725 569 380 to book

Hosted by  
volunteers  
from the  
Dementia?  
Welcome! Café



# Road resurfacing starts in June

Repairs to the main streets in Burngreave will begin in June.

The schedule of road resurfacing is listed below. During these times, the whole road may be closed and traffic will be diverted. Most of the work will take place at night, between 7pm and 6am, however roads will remain open during the day.

## Letters to residents

For residents, there will be no on-street parking and limited access to properties during these hours. Residents will receive individual letters about two weeks before the closure and temporary road signs will go up about 5 days before the work starts.

The work will include installing new LED street lighting, drainage and new surfaces to pavements and roads.

## Burngreave Road

Burngreave Road will be closed between 24th and 31st July, with traffic diverted around Scott Road and Ellesmere Road, which may cause significant delays.



The work schedule is heavily dependent on the weather and can be affected by unforeseen circumstances, so the schedule may change at short notice. Look out for temporary signs on the roads for updated information.

**For a map of the works and further info can be found on the Council's website:**  
[www.sheffield.gov.uk/roads](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/roads)  
**or follow a link from the Messenger website.**  
**Contact Streets Ahead on 273 4567**

Resurfacing schedule	
<b>Owler Lane</b> Tuesday 25 – Wednesday 26 June	<b>Sutherland Street</b> Friday 12 July – Tuesday 16 July
<b>Rushby Street &amp; Owler Lane</b> Thursday 27 June – Wednesday 3 July	<b>Gower Street</b> Wednesday 17 July – Sunday 21 July
<b>Carlisle Street East</b> Thursday 4 July – Tuesday 9 July	<b>Spital Hill</b> Monday 22 July – Tuesday 23 July
<b>Carlisle Street</b> Wednesday 10 July – Thursday 11 July	<b>Burngreave Road</b> Wednesday 24 July – Wednesday 31 July

# Shooting on Rock Street

**South Yorkshire Police report that a firearm was fired at a property on Rock Street at around 11.15pm on Thursday 11th April.**

A 34-year-old sustained gunshot wounds and underwent surgery in hospital. On Friday 12th April, the police arrested six men in connection with the incident on suspicion of attempted murder and they have been released on police bail pending further enquiries.

Police are appealing for witnesses to come forward. Anyone with information should call 101, quoting incident number 1242 of Thursday 11th April, or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

The police are also investigating an incident on Sunday 28th April when a man from Chesterfield was threatened with a knife by four men on Rock Street. They took his car, a silver Vauxhall Astra.



## Thank you to our distributors

The Messenger editorial team would like to say a special thank you to our team of distributors who made sure you got your copy of the Messenger in February, despite having to brave the ice and snow. We could not produce the Messenger without their hard work and dedication.

## Compassion in hard times

In recent days, the country has been threatened with a rise in hatred and violence in the wake of the Woolwich murder.

Here in Burngreave, we know not everything is perfect but we hope this is an area where at least we know the importance of different communities living side by side and getting on with each other. Our biggest threat is the loss of compassion in a time of increasing poverty and cuts. More than ever, it's important we all stick together.

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# Roma Slovak teaching success

Story & photos: Rohan Francis

**A project which helps Roma Slovak children improve their achievement at local primary schools has taken on 5 trainee teaching assistants in order to expand the service.**

The project, which has been developed over the past 3 years by coordinator Zuzana Remperova and staff at Owlter Brook Primary School, places multilingual teaching assistants with children who have Roma or Slovakian as their first language.

## Specialist training

Recent recruits to the team at Owlter Brook started at the beginning of March this year. They all received training in working with children, safeguarding and specialist language skills such as Phonics.

The training has allowed the team to assist teaching staff across a number of local schools, including Byron Wood School, Firshill School, Greenlands Junior School in Darnall and Meynell Primary School in Southey Green.

## Local trainees

The Messenger spoke to the new team about their experience of working with the children in local schools.

Frankie Dirda, aged 19, explained that using a combination of languages enables him to help younger children who may only speak Roma or Slovakian at home.

This idea is shared by Nikola Lackova, aged 22 and Patrik Horvath, aged 19, who both speak Slovakian, Roma and English. They agreed that using familiar words helped children get a grasp of English. Patrik also explained that their language skills helped children with maths, basic skills and science.

Simona Dirdova, aged 18, added that children improve more quickly when they can get an understanding of a subject in their language. Simona, who also works at Meynell Primary School, helps with the after-school club and dance activities and would like to become a teacher.

The team also helps with wider issues and have become involved with assisting children's families. Patrik explained,

*"We help at parents' evenings and home visits. Parents sometimes need help with forms and letters from school."*



Top (left-right): Frankie, Nikola, Zuzana and Patrik. Above (left-right) Mario, Marek and Simona.

There are also opportunities for more creative methods of teaching such as story-telling, drawing, dance and music, which can help children with social skills and to learn about health and fitness.

Zuzana's team also includes Mario Sandor, aged 24, who began working at the school 2 years ago, and Marek Pacan, aged 19, who also works at Firshill Primary. Mario speaks 6 languages and says the team has helped boost achievement, improve language skills and attendance. He said:

*"I can help children learn faster by helping with the language. And we can make children feel more comfortable in school. We know a lot of people in the community so we can talk to families about what's happening in school."*

## Golden Zumba!

Marek was involved in advice work at the Pakistan Advice and Community Association before becoming a teaching assistant last September and runs the hugely popular 'Golden Zumba' session last thing on Fridays at Owlter Brook. He knows the value of the extra help he provides to the children. He said,

*"It's really hard for some children, as their parents don't speak English at home. When I first arrived in the UK, I didn't have an assistant to help me with the language. It was very hard for me but the experience means I know exactly what children need in this situation."*

The benefits of the project are evident in the vast improvement seen not just in Roma Slovak children's academic work but also in their increased attendance, behaviour and engagement with lessons.

Headteacher Sue Bridges told us, "The project has been greatly supported by Sheffield Local Authority. Plans are being proposed to develop the project with Sheaf Training and other schools."

The team has funding until August 2013 and it is hoped the project will continue next year. Zuzana told us why the project was so important:

*"We put the effort into the project because we wanted the Roma community to get engaged in their education. Since Roma workers arrived in the school, we've seen parents get more involved, from volunteering at lunch-time to helping with playwork. Once one parent is involved, more will follow."*

The trainees get support from the team at Owlter Brook as well as work experience at other schools. Zuzana told us that most of the new recruits had never worked before but their enthusiasm, connections with the local community and good relationships with young people, mean she is convinced "they have a good future". Sue Bridges added:

*"We are so pleased to have employed such positive role models. They are making a really positive contribution to our school."*

# Plans for Fir Vale Primary

Story: Rohan Francis | Image: Bond Bryan Architects

**Sheffield City Council have applied for planning permission to build a two-storey primary school building on land at Skinnerthorpe Road in Fir Vale.**

The Council plans to build two new schools in the city to cope with a rise in numbers of children. The other school will occupy the former Watermead School site off Herries Road.

The school is designed to accommodate 420 pupils with 2 forms of 30 children per year group. The building design will allow for community use of the library, multi-purpose hall and creative studios outside of school hours. The existing access to Skinnerthorpe Road from Barnsley Road will be blocked off for vehicles and pedestrians. A new entrance to Skinnerthorpe Road is planned, allowing pedestrians and vehicles to enter the site from Owlter Lane via Heathcote Street.

## New nursery

A nursery for 26 children was added to the proposals during the development of the design. We asked the Council to comment on why they needed to make an amendment to the plans when there are nursery places available at both Whiteways and Fir Vale Pre-School. Jayne Ludlam, the Council's Interim Executive Director for Children, Young People and Families told us:

*"We want to ensure when building a new school that additional capacity for all children is incorporated into the design."*

The planning application 13/01483/FUL is on the Council's website: <http://publicaccess.sheffield.gov.uk/online-applications/>

The Council expects a decision on the plans by 30th July 2013, with remaining properties on Skinnerthorpe Road cleared and building to begin in September. The school is expected to open in September 2014.



## School sponsor announced

Sheffield City Council have announced that Oasis Community Learning will run the new schools in Fir Vale and Shirecliffe.

Fir Vale Academy and Parkwood Academy applied to run the schools in their areas but neither was successful. Seven organisations expressed an interest in running the schools in January. The Council made a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Education, who then decided which one to accept. The Council said, "Oasis is a national organisation with a very strong track record in improving outcomes for pupils, supporting local regeneration, and a commitment to working in partnership."

Oasis Community Learning is part of the Oasis Trust, which is a Christian organisation with a turnover of £92 million. They run 28 academy schools in England including in London, Bristol, Oldham and Scunthorpe, just under half are Christian schools. Oasis have taken on 14 primary schools in the last 9 months, adding to the 12 secondary and 2 primary schools it already runs. Most of its secondary schools have seen significant improvements in their GCSE exam results in the last three years.

Councillor Jackie Drayton, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families said: "It is essential that all children have access to a great school. I'm looking forward to working with the Oasis Team to ensure they deliver this to the children and families in our two new schools and that they develop strong links with the local communities they will serve."

# Pye Bank School takes on Verdon

Story: Lisa Swift

**From June 1st Verdon Recreation Centre will be run by Pye Bank School, following budget cuts which resulted in Activity Sheffield cutting all staff support at the centre in April.**

As part of the Council's budget cuts Verdon Recreation Centre was to be handed over to the Council's Community Buildings Team. Pye Bank School offered to take on the building instead, providing a local contact point for bookings and support from the schools staff.

The school will be working with Friends of Verdon Recreation Centre to make sure the centre is well used by the community and that the rental income is reinvested into the centre.

Headteacher Paul Hopkinson said:



*"The Verdon Centre continues to be an excellent community resource and it helps everyone if the school can manage to support its running and development. Come and talk to us if you think you might use it."*

Users of the centre were sorry to see Aislinn Adams, the dedicated worker, leave the centre after 7 years. Aislinn's presence is already missed by many users of the centre.

To book the centre or find out more about what is happening at Verdon Rec, contact Pye Bank School on 276 0472. The school office is open 8.15am - 15.45pm, at others times you can leave a message.

## What's happening at Verdon Recreation Centre

**Activity Sheffield Multi sports:**  
Mondays 4 – 5.30pm and  
Fridays 4 – 6pm. Contact: 273 4266

**Ellesmere Youth Project**  
Open access youth club (8 – 16 years)  
Tuesdays 4 – 6pm. Contact: 213 3120

**Taekwondo**  
Tuesdays 6 – 8pm, Fridays 6.30 – 8pm  
Children and adults  
Ray Richards: 07801 036 246

**Zumba for women**  
Tuesdays 6.30 – 7.30pm  
Shahina: 07909 598 018

**Agewell over 50s group**  
Wednesdays 1.30 – 3.30pm

**Fitness training for men**  
Thursdays 6 – 7pm

**Mothers of Burngreave**  
Activities for mothers and children  
Thursdays 7.15 – 9pm, Fridays 8 – 9pm,  
Saturdays 5 – 7pm

**Sudanese support group**  
Saturdays 1-3pm (every 2 weeks)

# Residents lobby local councillors about cuts

Story & photos: Julia Shergold

**On Saturday 15th April around 20 local residents lobbied Councillor Jackie Drayton's surgery at Burngreave Library in protest at the huge cuts to local services.**



On Spital Hill passers-by signed petitions against the cuts, while protesters held placards reading “£8m for Thatcher’s funeral – nothing for our kids”, “Money for banks but not for playgrounds” along with the newly re-painted “Save our

Adventure Playground” banner.

The petition called for local councillors to vote against the cuts and defend the services that Burngreave needs. At the end of her surgery, Jackie Drayton came out to address the lobby. She was asked to sign the petition, to support the growing national organisation of Councillors Against The Cuts and to pledge to vote against cuts in the Council’s budget. There was a heated discussion about the effect of cuts on people’s lives.

Following the event Jackie Drayton, who is the cabinet member for Children and Young People as well as a local Councillor, told the Messenger:

*“The government cuts are causing considerable damage to public services in Sheffield which are affecting the poorest and most vulnerable in our city. As much as we oppose the cuts, as a Council we are legally obliged to provide a balanced*



*budget. If we refused to set a budget the government would send in non-elected civil servants to do it for us, without taking into account local priorities or them being accountable to local people.”*

Burngreave Against the Cuts intends to carry on fighting the cuts to local services and to campaign against the bedroom tax.

**Find out more about Burngreave Against the Cuts at [twitter.com/S3S4AgainstCuts](https://twitter.com/S3S4AgainstCuts), or Burngreave Against the Cuts on Facebook.**

# Angry meeting opposes Selective Licensing

Story: Ahmir Hussain

**A meeting was held at Pakistan Advice and Community Association on the 15th May to voice concerns about proposals for 'Selective Licensing', a landlord licensing scheme in Fir Vale.**

It was attended by over 60 members of the local community, many of them landlords, and by local Councillors Ibrar Hussain, Talib Hussain, Jackie Drayton and Cabinet Member for Homes and Regeneration, Harry Harpham.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide the Councillors with feedback on what the local community felt about the new proposals to introduce Selective Licensing in the area. It was clearly evident the majority, if not all, in attendance opposed this scheme, saying the community felt they were being stigmatised and penalised by the Council for its own failings.



Councillor Harry Harpham discussed the reasoning behind the Council’s decision to impose Selective Licensing and stated that it was due to anti-social behaviour, littering and overcrowding of properties believed to be caused by landlords. Many members of the community argued that, even though Fir Vale has a problem with anti-social behaviour, numbers of reported incidents are relatively low when compared to neighbouring areas and the issue with litter was a result of the change to fortnightly bin collections.

In relation to the overcrowding issue, one landlord spoke about the lack of support he received from the Council when he wished to evict some tenants from his property. He had let his home to one family and later discovered that they had allowed other families to move in and share the property. The landlord spoke

about how the Council supported the tenant and how he felt that the Council should be doing more to support private landlords.

A new action group consisting of landlords, residents and tenants has been set up to campaign against Selective Licensing and promote better strategies to resolve issues in the area without punishing the majority for the bad actions of a few individuals. To find out more about the action group, contact Ahsan Ashraf at [ahsan.ashraf2012@gmail.com](mailto:ahsan.ashraf2012@gmail.com)

The Council informed the Messenger that they expected consultation to begin in the summer months, Councillor Harpham told us:

*“Over the coming weeks the Council will be undertaking a full consultation process with all the community around Fir Vale regarding Selective Licensing and the possibility of its use, along with other measures we have at our disposal, as a means of tackling anti-social behaviour. Once that consultation process is completed, Council officers will draw up a report outlining the options available to us.”*

Consultation must run for a minimum of 10 weeks.

# District heating in Carwood

Story: Lisa Swift

**Carwood tenants met with the Council in April to complain about the district heating system which broke down in the cold weather and snow in March.**

Residents rang the Council repeatedly from Thursday 21st March but heating was only restored the following Tuesday. Mrs Abdulrazzaq, told the Messenger,

*"It started on Wednesday. It stopped working, then came back on. By Thursday it had stopped completely. We kept calling the Council and they said someone would come and work on it. I rang many times, and my neighbours, but nothing happened."*

Carwood resident, Nagat Abdullah said,

*"The Council gave us an electric heater but we were only allowed one. It cost a lot of money to run and the rest of the house was very cold. Everyone was happy to pay for the district heating when it was warm all the time. But after the new boilers were put in, it's not worked properly and we don't want to pay for it; it's very expensive."*

Carwood Tenants and Residents Association and the Messenger organised a meeting for residents to express their concerns to the Council and local Councillor Ibrar Hussain. More than 20 residents attended.

A local mother complained, "I have a 9 month old baby, and I have 6 children. One heater for a 3 bedroom house and no hot water - what are we supposed to do?" Methaq Ahali asked, "Why did you ignore us? Everyone was calling but no one came to fix it for days." Another resident said, "It's not just this time. In the last 3 years, it has been broken for a few days every 3 or 4 months. And it is always very cold at night."

Richard Hawson, Heating Manager for the Housing Service, told the meeting,

*"I can hear the depth of feeling on this issue, and I would like to apologise for what has happened. We tried a number of things to resolve the problems before we discovered it was a leaking pipe. The repair was delayed because of a damaged electrical cable near the leak."*

He went on to explain that the pipe work needs replacing but it was a long term project,

*"We have asked for Carwood to be prioritised for new pipework. In the meantime, we will fit a valve near the boiler house during the summer so that, if another leak does occur, we can isolate that part of the system."*

The Council also promised to investigate the heating at night. The Council 'sets back' all heating systems in the city to



18°C between 11pm and 6am. It is possible that on Carwood the boiler has been set too low. Residents who were affected by the heating breakdown will also be given 2 free weeks on their heating bill.

Michelle Cook, former Carwood TARA treasurer who chaired the meeting, said,

*"District heating is the top issue on our estate and has been for some time. The practice of turning down heating centrally at night will only end once metering is introduced and people have full control over their own heating. District heating costs around £18 per week, regardless of usage, and is not covered by housing benefit - quite expensive for a service which isn't working. We would like the major repair work and the introduction of metering to be brought forward to ensure tenants have value for money."*

A further meeting is planned with residents on 2nd July to update on progress.

# Concern about allotment costs

Story: Tim Neal

**Burngreave allotment holders attended a meeting at the Quaker Meeting House about the increase in rents, which will triple by 2014/5.**

Councillor Jack Scott explained the plan is to make allotments self-financing with no subsidy from the Council.

There are about 3000 separate allotments on 76 sites in Sheffield. About 1000 people are currently on waiting lists. The budgets allow £129,000 for staff, with £122,000 for premises (water repairs/fences/landscaping), supplies and services and a further £60,000 for infrastructure development.



However, many people commented they had little or no service at all from the Allotments Office. Grimesthorpe Allotments should have about £4,000 of the premises and services money. It was commented frequently that water pipes were not repaired, tracks not improved, hedges no longer cut.

## Pensioners

Particularly loud complaints came from pensioners who are doubly hit by the increases. Not only are rents due to triple by next year but the concession given to

those over 60 will be reduced from 50% to 25%, meaning that a pensioner claiming state pension would see their plot rents rise four-fold.

Great concern was expressed about those who were being driven off their plots due to rent increases. The Allotments Office had a record of only 28 people who had explicitly given up tenancies due to cost but many people suggested the number was higher and many more were in the pipeline. The great loss of knowledge and experience was to be regretted. Many people spoke of the emotional and physical investment in their plots.

There remains little interest in self-management for allotment sites but it was made clear that allotment-holders want greater clarity from the Allotments Office about what services are provided in return for these new and more costly rents. They also wanted more consideration of the concessions scheme.

# Charity cycle ride

Story: Lydia Flanagan | Photo: Lisa Swift

**Giulia Gigliobianco and her Dad, Cosimo, are challenging themselves to a Sheffield to London bike ride, in aid of the medical research charity, RAFT.**

Starting off from Giulia's Pitsmoor home on 24th May, the 300km (186 miles) journey stops in Loughborough, Northampton and Hemel Hempstead, arriving in London on 27th May.

Cosimo was injured in a motorcycling accident last year, which left him with metal plates in his knee and arm. Cosimo and his daughter enthusiastically decided



to celebrate his recovery with a great challenge that defies his injuries and raises money for a great cause. Giulia did her Master's degree project with RAFT (Restoration of Appearance and Function Trust), who have developed a treatment for deep wounds without the need for skin grafting.

The pair have some previous cycling experience: both Giulia and Cosimo have done 10-day bike rides in Europe. Cosimo has travelled from Milan to Padua, Milan to Assisi and to France on Catholic pilgrimages; Giulia has cycled from Strasbourg to Cologne in Germany with her Scout Group when she was younger. In preparation, Giulia joined a gym. "I've been doing some training," she said, "but I can't do steep hills! Hopefully when we get past Chesterfield it will be easier."

*Cosimo and Giulia's blog is at [sheffieldtolondon.wordpress.com](http://sheffieldtolondon.wordpress.com). You can even see the steel in his X-rays. Together they have exceeded their target of £500 through the charity donation site, JustGiving. Further donations can be made by going to [www.justgiving.com/giuliagiglio](http://www.justgiving.com/giuliagiglio)*



# Trade Base Allotment project

Story: Michelle Cook

**I went along to Windmill Lane allotments to find out about the Trade Base Community Allotment.**

Trade Base was set up in 1998 and launched in 1999 at the old Firth Park

Library, perhaps most well-known for the very successful recycling project which provided furniture, household goods, clothes, books and toys at affordable prices. Once funding ran out, the group looked for a small project. In 2004 they successfully secured funding to develop a community allotment project. The project now has no paid workers and is run by volunteers.

An open day was held in May to celebrate the completion of the new shed, attended by David Blunkett MP. The local Greggs Bakery donated £1000. When I arrived, people were gathering in the new shed but the first thing I noticed was the abundance of vegetables being produced.

The group has 4 large plots, which contain smaller plots. There are 2 poly tunnels. Climate Change funding provided an ecological compost toilet on the site. The project is key to providing gardening activities for people with

mental health problems and learning disabilities. One plot is solely raised beds for those with mobility problems.

Volunteers are always needed to help make the plots ready for use. Local people are welcome to join the group. All abilities are welcome, though some fit strong people would be appreciated.

Trevor and Peter both have a plot and enjoy working together. Trevor said they were currently growing broad beans, kale and potatoes. I also spoke to Paul and Mick, who said they enjoy gardening and also the trips and events.

The group meets Monday and Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm, Saturday 10am-1pm. There is a £1 charge to help pay the rent. All equipment and seeds are provided.

**Anyone interested in joining, helping out or with funding can contact Sheena on 0779 260 5138.**

# Let's get talking

Photo: PACA Digital Media Centre

**Mental health problems are common - but nearly nine out of ten people who experience them say they face discrimination.**

Pakistan Advice and Community Association (PACA) and Sheffield Mind were funded by Time to Change (England's biggest programme to challenge mental health stigma and discrimination) to work with a film maker and create short films with volunteers about mental health and the importance of talking about it.

The films will inspire people by showing that mental health problems are common



and people can recover from them. The project's aim is to get people talking about, and breaking down, the stigma around mental health.

Six volunteers can visit mosques, community groups or events to show the film and talk about mental health. The project will also need to recruit more volunteers. Other workers and

organisations are welcome to join the steering group and work with organisations such as MAAN (Somali Mental Health project), Sheffield Health & Social Care Foundation Trust Community Development Team and Sheffield Hallam University research students.

Filming is now over and the material is being pulled together for editing. The films will be ready for 6th July to show at Sharrow Festival and Abbeyfield Festival on 7th July.

*For more information, visit: [www.timetochange.co.uk](http://www.timetochange.co.uk) or the Sheffield mind website [www.sheffieldmind.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldmind.co.uk) For information about the project, contact Sheffield Mind on 258 4489 or PACA on 261 9130.*



# IRTH PARK FESTIVAL

Music  
Dancing  
Fairground  
Stalls  
Food



Games  
Circus skills  
Birds of Prey  
Fire Display  
Sports

## SATURDAY 29th June



Family fun day - Free entry for all  
11am - 4pm in the park

Bungee Run, Giant Slide, Live Bands, Classic Cars, Sporting Games, Kids Craft Activities, SOAR Healthy Living Tent... and SUNSHINE

All events and entertainment are subject to change or cancellation

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**A TASTE OF THE SUN WHEN IT'S DONE**

helping the needy  
**ELODIE ALL SAINTE**

Launch Event  
**15th June 2013**  
**10am - 4pm**



Verdon Recreation Centre, 206 Verdon Street, S3 9QJ

Please join us for a day of fun, exhibition, African dance and foods and find out more about what the organisation is doing.

**10.00am:** Guest Welcoming  
**11.00am:** Welcoming speech by the president of Elodie All Sainte  
**12noon:** Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres and foods and drinks exhibition  
**1.00pm:** Exhibition - Africa Special Drummer (Mozes)  
**2.00pm:** Exhibition - Akilas Musical Group (AMG)  
**3.00pm:** Exhibition - Adriel Kebi Animation (AKA)  
**3.40pm:** End of the ceremony

*Celebrating Day of the African Child.*

To find out more call Emmanuel Kei on 07897 138 745

You are invited to help us support Cancer Research UK.  
Please make a donation on the day.

## Second-hand smoke puts children at risk

Anyone can be affected by breathing in second hand smoke, but children are more vulnerable to the toxic effects of cigarette smoke as their lungs and immune systems are not fully developed. This puts them at a higher risk of developing conditions including bronchitis, pneumonia, meningitis, ear infections and asthma.



80% of second hand smoke is invisible. Opening a window or smoking in a separate room will not stop the smoke spreading around your home. The smoke will linger in the air long after the cigarette has been put out and will cling to everything in your home including carpets, curtains, bedding and furniture.

Smoking in cars is particularly dangerous as the chemicals from the smoke are even more concentrated due to the confined space and the passengers have no escape from the fumes!

### Make your home and car smoke free zones!

If you are a smoker but aren't ready to kick the habit, then why not think about making your home and car completely smoke free. The benefits are:

- Your children will be healthier.
- Risk of health problems are reduced for family, friends and pets.
- Your house is cleaner.
- You will reduce the risk of house fires.
- Asthmatics have better control of their condition.
- Children who grow up in a smoke free home are less likely to take up smoking themselves.
- You will find it easier to stop smoking and stay stopped.

You can pledge to make your home and car smokefree at [www.sheffieldstopsmoking.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldstopsmoking.org.uk) or you can contact Emma Msigiti - Burngreave Community Stop Smoking Worker on 07847 893 134

## Obesity and children

Evidence shows that obesity, infant mortality and poor health are strongly connected, and rates are higher in some black and minority ethnic (BME) groups. Recent studies have shown that obese children are more likely to have raised blood pressure, diabetes type 2, and high cholesterol and blood sugar levels. And the risk of children suffering from stroke and heart disease later in life is higher.

### What can you do?

There are many ways we can tackle obesity, but the simplest way is to keep your child active and encourage healthy eating in the family from a young age.

- Encourage your children to take part in activities that they find fun.
- Play active games indoors and outdoors like hide & seek, hopscotch or games you all enjoy as a family.
- Encourage your children to walk more to school and back or to the park or playground.
- Praise and encourage your children when they take part in an activity and give them positive feedback.
- Try and be a good role model.

## The right start

If your baby is approaching six months old you are probably starting to think about weaning them onto solid food. Weaning is the process babies go through when they move away from milk being their only food and start to eat solid food. It is important to wait until six months before you try your baby with solid food as your baby's digestive system will not cope with solid food before then.

### Signs that your baby is ready for solid food are

- They have reached six months old.
- They can stay in a sitting position and hold their head steady.
- They can co-ordinate their eyes, hands and mouth so they can look at food and pick it up by themselves.
- They can swallow food. Babies that are not ready for solids will push the food back out again!

### Getting started: Top tips!

- Wait for a time when your baby is happy and content. If they don't seem interested try again another time.
- Start small! Just offer small pieces or teaspoons of food once a day.



### How much should children eat?

We often get confused about how much we should feed our children and what the size of a portion is. Many of us are feeding our children almost adult portions. We should aim to feed our children 3 meals and 2 snacks a day.

### Healthy snack?

- Fresh fruit - chunks of melon, strawberries or grapes
- Dried fruit – pieces of mango, banana, pineapple, cranberries or raisins. Don't forget, a small handful is about the right amount for kids.
- A handful of dry reduced sugar cereal with a few raisins or sultanas.

For more information on this article please contact Somshun Nessa, Health Development Worker: 07960 084 119.

- Let your baby touch and hold food, and try putting it in their mouth.
- Make sure the food is not too hot.
- Don't add salt, sugar or stock cubes.
- If you are using a spoon wait for the baby to open their mouth, don't try and force the spoon in.
- Always stay with your baby to make sure they don't choke.
- SMILE! Make lots of eye contact and smile, your baby will see you are enjoying it and they will enjoy it too.

### First foods to try

Homemade food is best for babies as it can be made from simple ingredients with no added salt or sugar. Start with mashed or soft cooked vegetables like parsnip, yams, sweet potato, carrot and potato. You could try soft fruit like peach, strawberries, banana, melon and avocado. Baby cereals with breast milk or formula milk added are good also. Next you can try soft cooked meats like chicken and fish (check for bones!) as well as lentils, rice, pieces of chapatti, toast and pasta. Even though your baby is starting to eat solids it's still important they get milk.

For more information about weaning contact Lucy Street, Health Trainer on 07903 328 020.

# Respect, not restraint

Story: Lisa Swift

Local mental health campaign group, MAAT Probe Group, hosted an event at the Vestry Hall on 26th March, to share all they had learned from their successful work to change Control and Restrain in mental health care to a more humane technique called RESPECT. The event was attended by service users, and mental health professionals and organisations.

Following the research and awareness raising done by user-led MAAT Probe group, Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust have changed the way they work with mental health patients. Kim Parker explained that all staff in the organisation have had RESPECT training, which helps staff to work with patients with challenging behaviour without using holds that lead to pain and injury. She said,

*"This has been a huge change in our organisation. We have seen a significant downward trend in the use of 'seclusions' (when patients are isolated due to aggressive behaviour). We are continuing the training with new and agency staff, so every member of our staff is trained in RESPECT."*

The emphasis of RESPECT is on de-escalation. Staff have been trained to have the skills to prevent a situation on the ward becoming violent and aggressive by talking to patients in a way that does not create a 'them and us' power relationship. There has been a change in culture in Sheffield psychiatric wards by adopting the RESPECT values.



Members of the MAAT Probe Group, who hosted the event

Chairing the meeting, Paul Grey, from Inspire to Influence, said "I believe in my lifetime we will see an end to restraint. And this approach will be disseminated to the whole country."

One service user said, "I've been in mental health services since I was 8 years old. I was restrained when I was 15 years old; I don't want anyone else to experience that. I want to encourage everyone to keep progressing with this."

Robin Cox from MAAT Probe Group, who are supported by SACMHA on Andover Street, said,

*"We invited service users from Manchester, Nottingham, Leeds and Derby here today, they are the people who took part in the questionnaire that started off our campaign. We are now working with Mind to set up groups like ours in other parts of the county, so they can get things to change too."*

## Thinking of stopping smoking for Ramadan?

**Sheffield NHS Stop Smoking Service can help you**



**You may have considered quitting for Ramadan before but have not had the information or support to make a quit attempt. Let this be the year that you succeed!**

*It is a fact that stopping smoking is the best thing you can do not only for your own body's health, but because of the dangers of second hand smoke, for the health of your family too.*

Sheffield NHS Stop Smoking Service (South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust) is a FREE friendly and confidential service, helping over three thousand Sheffield smokers to quit last year. We pride ourselves on being an inclusive service and welcome members of all communities.

The service has trained advisers providing free advice and information such as tips for beating cravings and support to help you stay quit for good. This includes information on what medications are available and our advisers are usually able to give you a voucher for Nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) e.g. patches and gum, which means there is no need for a GP appointment. If you do not pay for your prescriptions your NRT is free.

There are advisers at various venues, including GP practices, Pharmacies, Dental Practices and Community Centres, and Burngreave has a Community Stop Smoking Adviser, Emma Msigiti at The Furnival (see advert on page 2 for more details).

We also run a drop in service at the *Quit Stop* in the City Centre, opposite Sheffield City Council First Point at Howden House, with Urdu, Punjabi and Arabic speakers working there most Thursdays.

If you require an interpreter in any other language or cannot get into the shop on Thursdays please contact us on our free-phone number 0800 068 4490.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Sheffield NHS Stop Smoking Service,  
39 Charles Street, Sheffield, S1 2HU.**

Telephone FREE on **0800 068 4490**

Visit [www.sheffieldstopsmoking.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldstopsmoking.org.uk)

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South West Yorkshire Partnership **NHS**  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Adventure Playground Family Fun Day

Story & photos: Erin Blythe

**Pitsmoor Adventure Playground showed its value to the community when it held a Family Fun Day on 20th April.**

Up to 200 people visited during the course of the day, many regulars but some who had never been before. A bouncy castle had been hired for the day, but all the regular equipment was in use too (except the big slide which is too dangerous) and MC Nige was demonstrating dance moves in the activity room.



My friends Danica (DD Dog) and Lottie (Carlotta) helped me to interview lots of kids and adults to see what they liked about the playground. Carter told us: "I like the bouncy castle and the zip wire." Anika and Saif liked the bouncy castle too, and thought new equipment could make it even better. Abbas said that "this is the best playground I like!" Asea had been busy making pancakes in the mud kitchen, she told us "I feel bad that the playground might close. I won't know what to do. Playing in the street is boring, this is a much more fun place and it's safer."



The day brought back fond memories for Sam: "I remember my grandma doing a sponsored walk to raise money for this playground years ago. I first came when I was about 10. I'm now in Stannington and it's the first time I've visited since I was a kid, but I've brought my 3 year old son and he's loving it! I used to volunteer here, I helped build the big slide with my dad. I'll be gutted if it closes."

Laura Watkins chairs the playground's users' group who are in discussions with the Council about the playground's opening hours. Until recently the playground was open for 25 hours each week, but now cuts to Activity Sheffield staffing mean it is only open for 9 hours. The users' group are trying to persuade the Council to provide more staff time, and work with others to put on additional activities.

Some of the equipment does need fixing, and the Council say it must be checked every day by a "competent person", which makes it difficult for volunteers to keep the playground open without Council support. As Ruth said, "I don't think it's fair to expect the community to run the playground when the Council can find the money to run services. This isn't very



expensive to run compared with a lot of facilities out there. There's not many free things around here for people, especially places where children can take part in this kind of risk-taking play, children will really lose out."

The fun day was awesome and I really hope the playground stays open. The kids we spoke to wanted more play facilities not less: Carter would like monkey bars, and Abbas really wants a ghost train! We had a great day, and everyone was very good at being interviewed.

*To find out about what's happening at the playground you can join the Facebook group Pitsmoor Adventure Playground Support, or email Users' Group: PitsmoorAdventure@yahoo.co.uk*

**Pitsmoor Adventure Playground is open Wednesdays and Fridays 3.30-6.30pm, Saturdays 12-3pm. In school holidays: Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays 12-3pm.**

***Come and be wild in the woods at the Playground. Starting 5th June, every Wednesday, 3.30 -6.30pm. With Woodlands and Sheffield Wildlife Trust***

***Play for Fun course with the Out of School Network (OSN). For parents, carers, childminders or playworkers. Mondays 10am to 12.30pm, 10th, 17th, 24th June and 1st July. Contact OSN on 0114 249 4941***

## George & Brian

## Exams

by Edgar Lowman

Yay! I have an exam today come rain or shine!

Why is that so good?

It's snowing outside!

## Byron Wood pupils at the Albert Hall

Story: Aksha Shahid & Robiann Brown

On 2nd April 2013 Robiann Brown and Aksha Shahid in Y6 at Byron Wood Primary School, went to Tudor Hall School in Oxfordshire, for they had won a place in the National Youth Choir of Great Britain.

They trained with an all girl choir, junior and senior and sang 6/7 hours daily, learning some songs from the 'Monteverdi Vesper' and from 'Spring Carols'.

After five days of training, the girls performed at the Royal Albert Hall on 14 April 2013. Aksha said, "I have never had such an experience in my entire life!"



Robiann said, "I have never been so proud of myself and I just want to say thank you to Mrs Stroud (Byron Wood's Performing Arts Teacher) for helping me to come so far. She is the best and I will always remember her in my mind for the rest of my life".

Aksha and Robiann are extremely proud of their achievements, as are all of the staff and children at Byron Wood, and they thank the people who have helped them succeed.



## Down in the woods at Pye Bank School

If you go down to the woods today...

In the wooded area, at the bottom of the playground, interesting things are happening. The Year 4 children are building a working Roman oven and kiln. They are using clay and the oven looks a

bit like a brown igloo. When it is finished they plan to bake bread and fire some pottery they make themselves. The project is part of their Cornerstones Topic learning on 'Gods and Gladiators'.

### Litter pick, come and join us!

On Saturday, 6th July Karen Stanley and Zabeda Hussain at Pye Bank CE Primary School are organising a community litter picking day.

We hope you will come and help us as we try to clear all the rubbish that has collected in the streets around the school. We will have support from the Council, from the Amey Company and all bags and equipment will be provided. The Burngreave Tenants and Residents Association are helping, along with the Burngreave Messenger and our friends from Christ Church Pitsmoor.

## Yorkshire cricket hero

Talented local schoolboy Inez Younis, from Hucklow Primary School, has been selected to play for the Yorkshire under 11's cricket team.

Inez is a very talented all rounder who is also currently playing for the Sheffield schools under 13's, and the South Yorkshire west district under 12's cricket teams.



## Fabulous Firshill Family Learning

"Family Learning" happens at Firshill School every Wednesday morning from 9.30-11.30am. There are courses running right through the year!

ALL parents are very welcome to come and learn how to support their child. It is an opportunity for families to learn together. Family Learning across Sheffield is FREE to everyone.

Parents can benefit by:

- Improving their own skills including literacy, numeracy, speaking and listening
- Participating in fun learning activities with their children
- Finding out more about how their children learn and how best to support them.



Learning how magnets work

Kitchen Fun - Using maths in recipes to make a delicious yogurt crunch



Finished caterpillar garden

15 women are just coming to the end of the Family Learning Science course and have really enjoyed it. Some came for the very first time and last week their children came in to join in their activities!

**The next Fabulous Family Learning course starts on Wednesday 12th June 9.30-11.30am, and is all about Reading. Don't miss it!**

## Parkwood Academy Summer Fair

Saturday 6th July 2013 11.30 - 3.30

Longley Avenue West, Shirecliffe

There will be table top sales, food, input from local service providers, performances and free childrens' rides. This year we

will also be co-hosting our very own "Walk for Life", with all proceeds going directly to Cancer Research.

**For more information please contact Paul Howard or Sue Powell at Parkwood Academy.**

**Telephone: 0114 231 0221**

**E-mail paul.howard@parkwoodacademy.org.uk**

# Muheeb wins his first professional fights!

Story: Nazrul Hussain

In the June 2012 issue we caught up with young boxer Muheeb Fazeldin who had just turned professional. Since then, he has won two professional fights and secured sponsorship from the Burngreave Building Company.

Now known as Muheeb 'Flashy' Fazeldin, because of his fast moves and quick feet, we met up with him to talk about how his professional career is going.

*"I fought Francis Groes at the Octagon Centre for my first fight, I won him on points we fought the full 6 rounds. The training was the hardest part but the fight was easy."*

Muheeb explained that if he hadn't trained as hard as he did and hadn't got the support he received he would not have won that fight. He trains 7 days a week and has sparred with champions like Kell Brook, Kid Galahad, Richard Towers and Manny More. He had to do a lot of dieting to prepare for his debut fight.



*"To me my team is the best around. Brendan Ingle is the brains behind the operation. I also get a lot of support from John and Dominic Ingle inside the ring. I also want to thank Burngreave Building Company for sponsoring me. They helped me out a lot, they buy my gear including my gloves and boots and they were there at the ringside supporting me. I also want to thank Dom and Ian for all the help and time they put in."*

Muheeb went on to tell us how supportive his family is, and his dad Elias Fazeldin also joined us for the interview.

*"He has been fighting for 5 years. His debut fight was the first one I went to and I was excited. I was very proud to see him win. He was really good - he was even dancing about in the ring. I also appreciate how much Brendan and his team have done for my son."*

Muheeb's second victory against Anwar Alfadli was on 17 May at Ponds Forge, part of the Big City, Lights Out boxing event.

*"I felt good, the training is going perfect and my fitness is good. I could have fought him twice in the same night. My gym is the best gym around - we call it the 'Champ Camp' and as long as I have got them no one is stopping me."*

We asked Muheeb what he has to say to the kids and people in Burngreave.

*"First of all I would like to thank everyone in Burngreave who has supported me by coming to my fights. Hopefully the kids will see what I'm doing and can look at me and say 'I want to be like him'. I want to be a role model and the kids in Burngreave have potential. I want to bring back a belt to Burngreave and make the people proud."*

# Essa's achievements recognised

Story: Nicole Chalmers

Rising athletics star, Essa Ahmed, has recently received recognition from the Young People's awards on the 25th February at Sheffield Hallam University. Attending the ceremony he received a special achievement award for sport as well as for the progress he has made in other areas.

This talented young man, who also competes in boxing and football, completed the 800 meters in a spectacular 1.59 minutes, gaining a new personal best at the North of England Indoor Championship and taking gold in the final. No longer competing in the under 15s but now in the under 17s, Essa is still at the top of his game.



We last interviewed Essa in April 2012 when he took gold at the Birmingham finals. Since this last interview Essa has increased his passion for the sport. He is now training two hours, four days a week, preparing for another competition in

Birmingham where he hopes to repeat his success. As well as athletics Essa is going to Portugal in June to play football with local team Tusaale United. It's a great achievement in the 3 years since Essa's family moved to Sheffield.

*"For the future my plans are to run, to make money but also to make my family happy and proud of what I achieve."*

Mulki Galal, English Language Development Teacher and mentor at Fir Vale School told us:

*"He is a talented young man with a lot of energy; he is someone who welcomes support and listens well, as well as being a positive role model to his peers and the Somali community."*

Mulki shone with pride as she talked about Essa's achievements. Fir Vale School wholeheartedly believes in him and his prospects for future success, and has supported him with the costs of athletics kit. Essa is also getting support from local resident, Muktar Mohammed, who has himself been an athletics champion and is a great role model.

# Spectacular season for Earl Marshall Juniors

Story: Mick Ashman

**Next year Earl Marshall Juniors will celebrate its fifteenth anniversary and, for the first time, it will have two teams competing in Division A, the top Division in the Sheffield and District Junior League, after the both Under 12s and Under 11s secured promotion.**



boys have been with the Club since they were Under 7s and I am so proud of what they have achieved.”

The Under 11s not only secured promotion to Division A but also finished as Division B Champions. They had a slow start to the season but, during November and December, they picked up 18 points out of a possible 21, ensuring that, at the half-way stage, they were firmly in contention for a top three finish. Manager Garfield Walters knew it would be a tough season, “Our first game of 2013 was a frustrating 2-1 defeat away to Ecclesall Rangers,” he said. “We were the better side on the day and it was a setback to lose narrowly to another team chasing promotion.”

Thankfully his team got back to their winning ways and another sequence of victories ensured they were top of the table with just one match remaining. In their final game, a win would have secured the title but it was a difficult game played in very windy conditions and they suffered a narrow defeat. The result meant that the Under11s fate was in the hands of other teams. As it turned out, the scores on the final day of the season went in their favour and they held on to their 2 point lead to claim the title.

Earl Marshall Under 10s are now in their third season together and have continued to progress, enjoying an excellent season.

“The coaching team is immensely proud of what we have achieved,” said Tony Herrington. “The top two teams in our division, Brampton Rovers and Chesterfield Town, were finalists in the Cup and so to finish fourth in what has been a very competitive league is a credit to the boys.” Next season, as Under 11s, they will be playing 9 a side football on a bigger pitch but Tony is in no doubt they are ready for the challenge.

All three teams will be holding their trials for new players in early June, with the first of these taking place on the lower pitches at Parkwood Springs (off Shirecliffe Road ) at 11am on Sunday 2nd June.



The local Pitsmoor and Burngreave-based football club celebrated a fantastic season of football success at their annual presentation night on 18th May. Two days later, the teams, coaches and supporters attended the League’s prestigious awards event at Barnsley Metrodome to receive their medals and trophies.

A sequence of impressive performances culminated in an emphatic 4-1 victory in their final game against fellow promotion hopefuls Wisewood. It was enough to see the Under 12s finish as Division B runners-up. After the game, manager Saidi Msigiti was full of praise for his squad, “They have shown a fantastic team spirit and every player has made a contribution to this success. Most of the



*If you would like more information on Earl Marshall Juniors – a football club that is proud to reflect the diversity of our local community – then please contact Shane Bramhall 0781 855 1110 (for Under 11s) or Mick Ashman on 07843 731 430 (for Under 12s and Under 13s).*



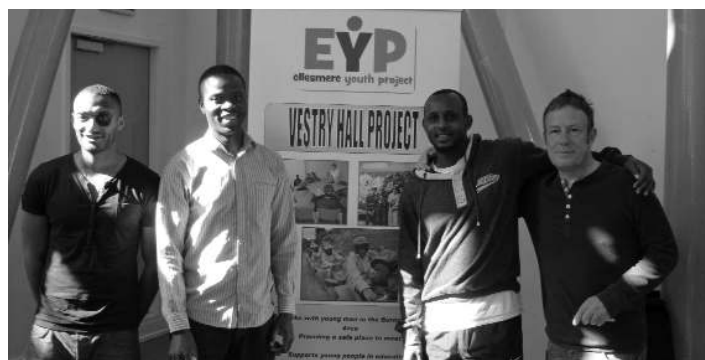
# Employment event for young people

Photo: John Mellor

**Ellesmere Youth Project and Burngreave Works organised an employment event at the Vestry Hall on 22nd May, to support young people to think about their futures.**

The event included information from The Source Meadowhall, Sheffield City Council apprenticeship service, Sheaf Training centre at Norwood Drive, First Point for Business featuring the Young Entrepreneurs Club and Burngreave Works.

Carl Kennedy from EYP told the Messenger, “The event was set



up to bring together young people from different parts of the area to reduce barriers and also to celebrate what we’ve achieved so far. And young people had asked us for more information about employment, so we worked with Burngreave Works to make that happen. It was a good day.”

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DP12346



# Last chance to claim Disability Living Allowance

Story: Chris Walker, Pitsmoor CAB

**10th June will be the last day for adults to claim Disability Living Allowance (DLA) before it is replaced with PIP – Personal Independence Payment.**

You can receive this benefit if you are under 65 and:

- need help to look after yourself
- need someone to keep an eye on you or protect you from harm
- cannot walk very far before you feel pain
- need guidance or support to go to unfamiliar places

DLA is paid at different levels depending on the person's difficulties - from £20 to £134 a week.

Pitsmoor CAB is worried that the new benefit is harder to get so it is better to claim DLA before 10th June. The £20 level for people who need help for around an hour a day or cannot manage to cook a standard meal is being scrapped and it will be harder to get benefit if you need someone to keep an eye on you.

Attendance Allowance for people over 65 and DLA for people under 16 will remain as they are.

If you think you might qualify for DLA, we advise you to claim before 10th June 2013. You can ring 0800 88 22 00 for a form. Providing you send the form back by the date on the form, it will be accepted. Or you can claim on line at [www.dwp.gov.uk/eservice](http://www.dwp.gov.uk/eservice)

Pitsmoor CAB can help with completing the forms or give information on the rules to help you fully explain the problems with walking or looking after yourself.

You can also ring Sheffield Adviceline on 0114 205 5055 for help.



## Knit and Natter

Story: Val Ellis

**The 'Knit and Natter' group, run by the Primary Mental Health Care Project and held at the Ashram on Spital Hill, celebrated their 5th anniversary in May.**

The group has flourished greatly in friendship and creativity over the years. Members like to share skills and tips with



each other. We also enjoy knitting for various charities which we have found very rewarding. Earlier this year the group knitted jumpers for babies of Malawi, who are born in such poverty they are wrapped in newspaper to keep warm. The group has also knitted a blanket for St Luke's Hospice.

We would also like to say thank you to the volunteers at the Ashram who make us so welcome.

**For more information contact Val Ellis on 0114 276 2644**

## Food for thought

Story: Andrew Birtwhistle

**Burngreave Foodbank went the extra mile when 'Phil the trolley' visited Burngreave as part of the nationwide 'Trolley Push' on 22nd April.**

The Lord Mayor, John Campbell, joined the Foodbank trolley pushers at the start of their journey at the Sheffield Town Hall. From there, the trolley was pushed to the Burngreave Foodbank, with trolley-pushers wearing wigs and onesies and collecting from the public.

Andrew Birtwhistle, Burngreave Foodbank Manager commented: 'We had a fantastic day and the reaction from the public was amazing! The demand for foodbanks is huge and still growing, but Burngreave residents were really supportive as always.'

The Foodbank provides three days of



nutritionally-balanced emergency food to people in crisis. Many Foodbank clients are working families who are struggling to make ends meet in the current economic climate.

All food given out is donated by local people. During the last 12 months, 346,992 people nationally - and 600 in Burngreave - have received food from Trussell Trust foodbanks, almost triple the number helped in 2011-12.

*For further details contact Andrew Birtwhistle at Burngreave Foodbank on 07932 903 276 or email - [andrew.birtwhistle@virginmedia.com](mailto:andrew.birtwhistle@virginmedia.com)*

## New community choir

The new Burngreave/Pitsmoor Community choir under the guidance of Janine Dyer meets in the Welcome Centre (Nottingham Street at the back of Christchurch) every Thursday at 7 pm. New members are very welcome to sing contemporary and gospel music. The choir is relaxed, fun and a great chance to improve your singing! Why not pop along for just £1 per session.

The choir is getting ready to do its first performance in July so watch out for adverts!



## 70th anniversary celebrations



Story: Patrick Duggan | Photos: Sharon Baker

**In April, St Catherine's 205th Scout Group celebrated its 70th anniversary at their HQ on Holtwood Road.**

As April arrived, Earnest Garnet Gordon, our cub leader, set to work. New signs were put up at our HQ and invitations were sent to as many "Old Boys" as possible. The floor was buffed, Garnet and his friends cleared up around the building and I cut the grass. Alan Whiffin, the current Group Scout Leader, was responsible for the food for the buffet, along with one or two of our lovely mums. Garnet trimmed up the HQ on a union flag theme. When the work was done, the old place looked very spruce indeed.

The evening of the 27th came and most of 100 invited guests turned up to reminisce



about days gone by. John Egan now lives in Wales, yet made the trip with his wife and brought wild Welsh garlic for the buffet and their mandolin and guitar to serenade us with. Tony Bryan came up from Berkhamsted; Brendan Hudson, now a doctor, came from Surrey and Martin Kenny and his wife came from Tyne and Wear. Paul Lipinski paid a flying visit. The Leaders and Scouts of the 76th St Peter's Ellesmere group also joined us.

Our group was up bright and early and on parade for the Sunday 9.15am mass at St Catherine's Church. After songs and prayers, some members - some now old enough to be grandfathers - renewed their Scouts' Promise. I would like to say a big thank you to the parents who scrubbed and polished their children for the occasion. They were a credit to everyone. Final thanks go to Club Leader Garnet Gordon and the Group Leadership Team. Roll on the 80th anniversary!



## Recognition for quality

**Watoto Pre-School, the early years education and childcare service, have been rewarded for the quality of their work.**

Following a comprehensive assessment, which included evaluating children's progression in learning, the environment, and partnerships with parents, staff and leadership team, they have been awarded the 'Sheffield Loves Learning Charter for

Quality Provision'. Sharon the manager said:

*"We are very proud that, in recognition of all that we do at Watoto, we have received this quality assurance award. We are constantly working to improve our service at Watoto. I think that this quote from the assessors' report sums up our qualities:*

*"Watoto Pre-School embraces the importance of provision of a high quality environment to support children's early learning, to allow them to flourish, to enjoy their learning and to achieve well"*.

## Mother Tongue Other Tongue

**Mother Tongue Other Tongue is a multilingual poetry competition, celebrating cultural diversity and the many languages currently spoken and studied.**

Local resident, Caroline Norman from Languages Sheffield, says, "Sheffield has a rich diversity of languages and our young people have amazing language skills, whether in a language spoken at home or a language learnt at school. Languages are so important for work, study and travel."



School students aged 7 to 18 are invited to submit an original or 'remembered' poem or song in their mother tongue and a short explanation in English. Or they can write a poem in a language they are learning at school. Adults in an ESOL class can also submit entries.

Student from Parkwood Academy were the first to enter the competition (pictured above). Jodie Bamforth from Parkwood Academy says,

*"The competition has provided students with a brilliant opportunity to explore and discuss their cultural identities and take pride in their multilingualism. It has promoted a real sense of pride and achievement."*

Winners will be invited to the national celebration in Manchester in November. The University of Sheffield will celebrate entries and winners at a special ceremony on 26 September, the European Day of Languages. An anthology of the poems will be available. A collection of the poems entered will also be displayed during the Off the Shelf Festival in October at venues across Sheffield. Prizes have been provided by Sheffield Hallam University. The top prize for each category will be a Kindle.

To enter, go to [www.languages-sheffield.org.uk](http://www.languages-sheffield.org.uk)

Contact Caroline Norman: 253 6705 or e-mail [mtot-yh@hotmail.com](mailto:mtot-yh@hotmail.com)

The closing date is Friday 12 July 2013



## Permaculture celebrated

Story: Saleema Imam

Permaculture Association UK celebrated its 30th birthday in and around Burngreave over the weekend of May 4th and 5th.

People who took part in the weekend were treated to guided tours of various permaculture gardens and allotments across the ward. Amongst these were SAGE Green fingers and the School for Veg allotments as well as Parkwood Springs Forest Garden. In Burngreave Cemetery Chapel speakers from several other local groups entertained everyone across the two days, and the weekend was rounded off with Patrick Amber's shadow puppet workshop and a thoroughly delicious chocolate birthday cake.

## Plant sale at Grimesthorpe

Story: Tim Neal | Photos: Ann Creasey

The sun almost shone on Saturday the 18th May for the annual plant sale and AGM of Grimesthorpe Allotment Society.



**Christopher Benjamin minds the plant sale.**

## Community bicycling

Story: Lisa Swift | Photo: Rashida Hassanali

With support of cycling groups CTC and Pedal Ready, women have been learning to cycle at Fir Vale and Bryon Wood School for several years. From 7th June these groups will be moving to Abbeyfield Park.

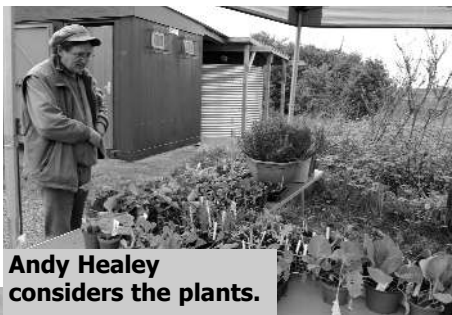


The project provides bicycles to use and gives support for people to gain confidence and to learn how to ride a bike. The tarmac paths in Abbeyfield Park will give a realistic experience of riding on roads in a more secluded environment within the walls of the park.

The sessions are suitable for lots of different abilities, and new members are welcome every Wednesday and Friday morning, 9:30am -10:30am starting Friday 7th June.

**Contact:**

**Pedal Ready on 241 2775 or call Rashida Hassanali on 07535 484 372**



**Andy Healey considers the plants.**

The event was well attended and people were pleased to see the shop opening alongside the sale.

Food and drinks were welcomed by all and Ann's Specialty Scones and Jam accompanied the AGM.

## Final Community Assembly meeting

Story: John Mellor

The final meeting of the North East Community Assembly took place on 2nd May at Shirecliffe Community Centre with just 12 local residents present.

The purpose was to explain the consultation being carried out to find out the views of local residents about what should happen in this new situation.

Vince Roberts, Head of Locality Management for the City Council, explained:

*"Due to reductions in funding, the Council has to save £50 million in the current financial year. As part of this saving, the Community Assemblies' budget of £2.6 million is being reduced to £580,000. The Council launched the first part of the consultation in January 2013, asking for the views of Sheffield residents on the impact of this change."*

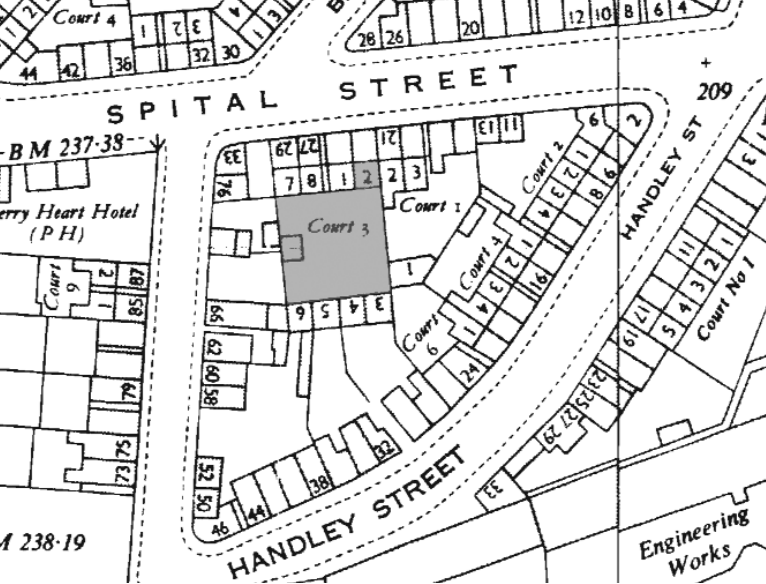
He then went on to outline the proposals:

- New ward-based structures will be set up, with local councillors taking the lead in engaging their communities, setting out priorities and plans for wards.
- Funding will be allocated to each ward based on the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). On this basis, Burngreave qualifies for just under £20,000 per annum, the third highest in the city.
- The former Community Assembly boundaries will remain but will be renamed as 'Areas'. A Local Action Partnership will be set up for each Area, chaired by a Councillor and will include representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors. A senior Council Officer will provide advice and support to the work of the Councillors and Local Action Partnerships in agreeing and implementing key priorities for each ward.

Those who attended the meeting took part in small group discussions and residents were encouraged to make their views known to the Council before the end of the consultation period on 3rd June.

The Consultation Report is available online at:

[www.sheffield.gov.uk/in-your-area/community-assemblies/consultation.html](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/in-your-area/community-assemblies/consultation.html)



Map from 1954 showing back-to-backs and courts on Spital Street. Harry Brearley was born in the house behind number 23 Spital Street.

## Brearley's origins

Story: Burngreave Local History Group

**Harry Brearley, who discovered Stainless Steel in 1913, was born on 18th February 1871 in a back-to-back off Spital Street, Pitsmoor, in what was known as a House, Chamber and Garret.**

When the Sheffield Telegraph reported on the death of Harry Brearley on July 15th 1948, it stated:

*"In June 1939, when he was made a Freeman of the City, he painted a drab picture of the little back room in a yard off Spital*

*Street - a room 10 foot square - where he, his eight brothers and sisters, and his father and mother lived. His mother, he said, took in washing to help in the struggle to bring up her large family. 'I feel that this Casket, signifying the Freedom of my native city, belongs to her,' he said."*

The House where he was born has now been demolished. Burngreave Children's Centre and Sheffield Medical Centre have been built on the site.

## Harry's school destroyed by fire

Harry went to Holy Trinity School and then Woodside Board School. In his autobiographical notes, he recalls that he had only an average schooling when he was young. Although he liked to read, there were no books at home. Harry went to school in a smock made of fine sacking and had a pair of clogs on his feet. His mother patched almost everything he wore until the original garment was unrecognisable.



Holy Trinity School was recently destroyed by fire. The school was adjacent to the Holy Trinity Church and Aizlewood's Mill on Nursery Street. It had been boarded up for many years after being used as a factory. The Fire Service said the fire had been started deliberately. The building has since been demolished, but the lintel engraved with 'Trinity Church Schools' has been retained by Kelham Island Museum.

## Down the mines

Story: John Mellor | Photo: Saleema Imam

**A group of intrepid local historians set off from Burngreave Cemetery early in May to visit the National Coal Mining Museum at Wakefield.**

For several of the group, it was their first visit to Caphouse Colliery and proved to be an eye-opening experience into the history of the coal mining industry.

The museum has a well-stocked library where members of the group were able to do research into drift mines, examples of which were once found in Pitsmoor. The visit continued with a tour of the buildings on the surface where there were two pit ponies in stables.

We saw the Winding Engine House, which operated the winding gear, and the Fan House, which supplied a constant stream of fresh air to the underground workings. The extensive Pithead Baths, with their large banks of 'clean' and 'dirty' lockers at either end, prompted some humorous anecdotes from the guides, all ex-miners with their own characteristic sense of humour.



But the most unforgettable, and indeed shocking, part of the tour was the hour and a half spent exploring the underground roadways and coal faces after a descent of 140 metres (450 feet) in the 'cage', kitted out with miners' helmets and lamps. Shocking in the way that lifelike figures were used to display the appalling conditions in the 19th Century, when women and young children laboured for long hours in dark, damp and dangerous conditions.

The displays took us through periods when the only tools available were picks

and shovels and the coal had to be dragged on wooden sledges pulled by women and children on their hands and knees up long slopes or 'drifts'.

Later, pit ponies were used for this purpose and were kept underground for long periods of time without seeing daylight or green grass. Canaries were used to detect toxic gases such as carbon monoxide: when the canary fell off its perch, the miners knew it was time to beat a hasty retreat out of the mine!

In more recent times, large, ingenious coal-cutting machines were installed. These reduced the amount of physical work considerably and speeded up the process of extracting the coal but also increased the amount of coal dust and noise. We asked our guide how these large machines got there. He told us that they had to be dismantled at the pithead, taken down the mine piece by piece and then assembled by fitters and electricians at the coal face.

Our six hours passed very quickly and there was still much more to see – perhaps another visit? Our thanks are due to Saleema who organised the day – oh yes, and everyone was counted back at the pithead!



## Chileans commemorate 40th anniversary of the coup

Story: Nazrul Hussain

**Chile Sports, Culture and Development Association (SCDA) moved into Abbeyfield House last month after fifteen years in nearby Norbury Resource Centre.**

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the bloody military coup led by General Pinochet in Chile, which overthrew the democratically elected government. Chile SCDA is planning a range of activities to commemorate the event.

The Messenger interviewed Pedro Fuentes, chair of Chile SCDA. Pedro is a Chilean refugee who came to the UK during Augusto Pinochet's terrifying reign of power. From September to December 1973, about 250,000 Chilean people were detained. 3000 people were executed, 'disappeared' or lost their lives as a result of torture and political violence during Pinochet's leadership. Political parties in Chile were outlawed. Anyone with a beard, moustache or long hair was accused of being against Pinochet.

Pedro was those arrested and jailed for three years. While there, his family fought for him to get a visa to the UK.

*"I was shocked and puzzled when I received the visa to the UK, I wasn't aware of it at all. Anyone seen approaching the embassy was arrested and put in jail so it was very difficult. They had to be very careful not to get caught contacting the embassy. When we first came over from Chile, all the refugees were in London. From there, people were sent to Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Sheffield and all over the UK."*

Pedro went on to tell us about what he used to do before the coup.

*"I was working for the National Institute of Skills and Training, which was a government organisation, and I was also a member of my union - which was normal in Chile. 85% to 90% percent of people that worked in government institutes were jailed."*

Around 300 Chileans sought refuge in Sheffield and Rotherham, and there is now a second generation and an emerging third generation. Pedro explained the purpose of the organisation at first was to support Chilean refugees and help them adjust to their new lives, as well as to help Chilean prisoners. The group actively denounced the human rights violations of the dictatorship.

*"Political involvement has always been the case. It's why everything happened and why we are here. But it's a new world of politics in Chile. Any link with Chile now is if we help them, like during the earthquake. More recently, we wanted to be a community organisation rather than a political organisation. We are a self-support organisation - we help people with education, work and training."*

The Chilean group has remained involved in political activities in the UK.

*"We have been involved in the UK with protests: we have been there during poll tax and issues like that. We also supported the miners' strike. That was a really interesting experience."*

Chile SCDA has been active in Burngreave for over 15 years. We asked what type of events the organisation have held in the past.

*"We wanted the new generations of Chilean people to understand the sets of principles and values we brought with us from home because that is very important to us. So we would go away for a week with 50 to 70 people and have children playing together and we collectively organized food, games and a big range of activities. It helped children and adults to better understand what community and family is."*

As 2013 is the 40th anniversary of the coup, Pedro's organisation is particularly busy.

*"We want to commemorate people who were killed or 'disappeared' - there are still people who were never found. We have a range of things happening and a calendar with event information on our website [www.chile40yearson.org](http://www.chile40yearson.org)."*



### Exhibition of Chilean patchwork

Unique opportunity to see arpilleras - the art of a collective national memory - made by relatives of prisoners and disappeared people.

18th to 22nd June (10am - 6pm) at Abbeyfield Park House.

**For more information about Chile SCDA contact [admin@chilescda.org](mailto:admin@chilescda.org)**

## Toolbank relaunched

Green City Action has recruited Sarah Emberson to co-ordinate the newly-relaunched Toolbank at Abbeyfield House.

The official relaunch will be at 10am on Saturday 22nd June. There are also free



energy-efficient light bulbs and birdbox-making activity.

You can also meet the Friends of Abbeyfield Park and find out the latest developments about creating a community heritage hub.

**The tool bank will be open Thursdays 12-2pm and Saturdays 10am-12pm, from 6th June. Call 244 0353.**

Dear Messenger...



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

## Bedroom Tax demo

Linda Cawley shares her views about the Bedroom Tax (photo by Cariad Thomas):

From April 2013, the Government is introducing new rules to restrict the amount of benefit you can claim if you are renting your home.

If you have one 'spare' bedroom, your housing benefit will be cut by 14% of the rent you pay every week. If you have two or more spare bedrooms, you will lose 25%.



Thousands of people who have lived in their homes and built up their lives around their communities and families will either have to pay the extra amount or move out. The local authority has the right to evict if this is not adhered to.

This is an awful outrageous attack, in my opinion, on those people who already struggle to make ends meet and, as far as I can see, Sheffield City Council is not doing anything about it. This is a Coalition decision and a policy that I thought unions and the Labour Party were there to oppose. So far I have not seen either of them do much about it.

There are pockets of resistance against the tax, and on Saturday 18th May, I was one of a few hundred people to attend a rally outside the City Hall. There were speakers from Parson Cross and other areas in Sheffield where the bedroom tax will affect most people. They were young, ordinary, working class people and I was inspired by their defiance and resolve to oppose this tax. I was also cheered to see so many faces from Burngreave there.

This dreadful tax will bring misery to thousands of families. Already one grandmother was so depressed about the fact that she might be thrown out of her home that she threw herself in front of a bus and died.

I have been a long-standing Labour supporter in Sheffield but all I see at the moment is the council here implementing Cameron and Clegg's policies. We must resist this. So the next time we have a rally, please come along and show your support. Contact your local councillors and MP and let them know how you feel about it. Remember we voted them in and we can vote them out.

Burngreave Against the Cuts  
<https://twitter.com/S3S4AgainstCuts>

Contact details for the campaign against bedroom tax:  
Email: [Sheffield.benefit.justice@gmail.com](mailto:Sheffield.benefit.justice@gmail.com)  
Phone: 07928 766 385

## Missing cat – can you help?

A Messenger reader who lives on Whiteways Road is looking for help to find her missing cat. The cat is ten months old and is black, with a white smudge above her nose, white paws and front. She has been missing since 12th April. She had no collar or tags when lost and there is a small reward offered if she is found.



Her owner, Almary, told us "We have had her since she was eight weeks old, we love her so much and miss her a lot. Please help us find our cat. If you know anything about her or if you have seen her in your gardens or homes, please help." Almary has already contacted the RSPCA and local animal charities and has made an appeal on Facebook. Any Messenger readers with information can contact Almary on 0773 444 7609.

**Coffee Morning Thursday June 13th 10.30 am**

**Summer Garden Party Saturday June 22nd Time TBA.**

Both at Pitsmoor Methodist Church,  
131 Burngreave Road, S3 9DG

*We have two pianos to give away free to anyone who wishes to own one.*

The contact name for interested parties is  
John Eaton. Telephone 0114 243 5333.

## Burngreave Cemetery Summer events

### The Big Picnic

**Sunday 2nd June from 12pm**

Bring your lunch and see what the Friends of Burngreave Cemetery get up to! Join in gentle lawn games, view the new site of the carved wooden head with Councillor Jackie Drayton and find out about geocaching.

### Launch of the 2013 well-dressing

**Sunday July 14th 12 noon onwards.**

If you'd like to help create the well-dressing join us after 2pm either Friday 12th or Saturday 13th July in the chapel.

### Permaculture Design Course

**Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th September**

Start of an accredited 72 hour Permaculture Design Certificate Course.

**All activities are in the chapel near the Melrose Road entrance to the cemetery.**



### Contact

[saleema.imam141@googlemail.com](mailto:saleema.imam141@googlemail.com)  
Telephone: 07950 299 073  
[www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk](http://www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk)

**Mosaic workshops to create a sundial in the cemetery will take place regularly from late July through to September. Contact Patrick on 07715 270 384 for more information.**

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We also offer Burgers, Southern Fried Chicken, Kebabs, Garlic Breads and Curries

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