

Burngreave Messenger



Voice of the Burngreave Community

Smashing school results



Left to right: Parkwood students celebrate; Sharnika Reid and Chinyanta Yombwe from Firth Park Community Arts College ; Celebration assembly at Reach High 2 Study Support, based at Firs Hill Community Primary.

This year, schools attended by Burngreave pupils are celebrating their best ever results.

Five or more GCSEs at grade A*–C were achieved by 37% at Parkwood; 39% at Firvale and 41% at Firth Park. A few years ago less than 10% were achieving this grade at some of these schools. Primary pupils are celebrating too, with particularly stunning English results for 11-year-olds at Firs Hill Primary.

Firvale School sustained and consolidated 2005's improvement.

Mehmet Ozcelik, originally from Turkey, celebrated passing 15 A* and A GCSEs, despite not being able to speak English four years ago and Sophia Hussain, with 12 A*, A and Bs, now plans to study at Longley Park College. She said, "I have really enjoyed Fir Vale and I will miss it. The facilities are great and the teachers recognise each pupil's needs and are very supportive."

Results at A and AS Level in Arabic and Urdu were also outstanding and Year 9 pupils achieved the school's best ever performance in the Government's KS3 SATs.

Head teacher Lesley Bowes said, "We would like to congratulate all pupils in years 9 and 11."

Firth Park Community Arts College is extremely proud of its eleventh year of GCSE improvements. The school's Performing Arts Specialist Status was reflected in excellent Arts results with a 100% pass rate in GNVQ Performing Arts, worth four GCSEs at A*–C.

Black and minority ethnic students did superbly well including Ahmed Sahbi with eleven A*–C passes. Zarifa Mirza, Sharnika Reid and Monique Abbey with ten A*–C passes Monique's mostly at A*/A and Ali Ashraf and Chinyanta Yombwe with nine A*–C GCSE passes, the latter after only two and a half years in this country.

Headteacher, Mo Laycock said: "Over 100 pupils are now at Longley Park Sixth Form College, a wonderful testament of our students' belief in post-16 education."

Parkwood High School scored its best ever GCSE results. 37% of students achieved five or more higher grades giving them access to advanced level courses or training.

Heba Mohamed achieved fourteen GCSEs most at A* or A and Jodi Wilkinson, Deepa George and Morgan

Davies each achieved thirteen A-C GCSEs – with many grades A and A* amongst them.

Parkwood has come a long way since opening as a new school in 2000. 30% of pupils now come from Black and Minority Ethnic communities, enriching the school and contributing to the increasingly high achievement, with more and more pupils from the Burngreave and Pitsmoor areas.

Chris Mallaband, Headteacher, said, "We are enormously proud of the young people. We work very closely with other local schools – especially Firth Park and Firvale and we are pleased that the local communities now have the choice of several increasingly successful schools and that more young people attend schools within their local area."

Firs Hill Primary celebrated its best ever results for Years 2 and 6. Over 89% of pupils made the level 4 grade in English in year 6, compared to 79% nationally and a 72% average for the City. Headteacher, Dina Martin said "The academic results are attributed to hard work by pupils and staff and support from parents. We would also like to acknowledge the role of the study support groups based in the community."



Burngreave Community Action Forum (BCAF)



Annual General Meeting Saturday, 28 October 2006 10.30am

At Pye Bank School
Andover Street, Sheffield S3 9EF

Anyone wishing to become a member of BCAF, please contact the office on 272 8008 or call in at the BCAF office.

Crime in the area will be discussed at this meeting as a follow-up to our July meeting, where many concerns & issues were raised. Inspector Jon Ekwubiri from Attercliffe Police will be attending the meeting. If these issues concern you come to our meeting,

All Welcome!

Burngreave Community Action Trust (BCAT)

Extraordinary General Meeting Saturday, 28 October 2006 1.30pm

If you wish to become a member of the Trust or require further details contact the office on 272 8008.

Please contact the BCAF office for any further information.

12-14 Burngreave Road, Sheffield S3 9DD
Tel: (0114) 272 8008, Fax: (0114) 272 8800
e-mail: enquiries@bcatsheffield.org.uk

The Horn of Africa Blind Society is a registered charity that provides support to Somali blind and partially-sighted people.



Information Worker

We now wish to recruit an Information Worker who will be mainly responsible for the production and distribution of relevant information about services for blind and partially sighted people in Sheffield.

English and Somali language are essential.

This is a part-time post, initially funded for 12 months by the Lloyds TSB Foundation.

Salary for 18 hours – £11,578
plus 6% pension contribution

For further information and application pack please contact:

Carmen Calvo-Rodriguez
Tel: (0114) 275 0050
carmen.calvo@dsl.pipex.com

Closing date: 3rd November
Interviews: 15th November

Office Hours

Tuesday–Thursday, 9.30am–3.30pm

15 Jobs available as Classroom Assistants / School Support Workers

- Are you aged between 18-64?
- Are you currently out of work and living in Burngreave?
- Would you like on the job training?



(Places are available in Primary & Secondary Schools)

We can offer you:

- Employment for 1 year
- A salary of £176 per week
- 33 hours per week – including a package of training
- Term-time only contracts available
- Ongoing support and guidance

To find out if you are suitable to apply for these exciting opportunities ring Jobnet City Centre on:

0114 272 4551

Details also available at Burngreave Opportunities, Forum House, 35 Spital Hill. Closing date, Thurs 26th October.



Supported by



This programme acknowledges the contribution of the European Social Fund and Yorkshire Forward

Shiregreen/Burngreave Service District Street Work Project



Trainee Assistant Youth Worker – Level 1 (Post Ref: SF15)
Salary: £13,995–15,618

Sheffield Futures is looking for a Trainee Assistant Youth Worker from Burngreave (applicants must live in the BNDfC area) to work on the StreetworX Project.

This is a fixed-term contract until 2010 linked to specific external funding by Burngreave New Deal for Communities.

The successful candidate will work alongside a new flexible team, working on the streets of Burngreave, to engage young people and provide alternative positive activities, information and support.

Candidates should have experience of face-to-face work with young people, an understanding of multi-cultural communities and must be willing to undertake training.

Youth Work

– Level 2 (Post Ref: SF16)

Salary: £16,707–18,807 (pro-rata)

Informal enquiries: Zain Abdulla 0792 149 1540

Closing Date: 30th October

Interviews: week commencing 6th November

Application forms and further information are available from:

Sheffield Futures

Star House, 43 Division Street, Sheffield S1 4SL

Tel: (0114) 201 2843 (24 hours)

Previous applicants living in the Burngreave area will automatically be considered.

Parkwood legal challenge

The Council gives green light for Parkwood tip development - but legal action could lead to closure.

Planning permission for the expansion of active (rotting) waste tipping at Parkwood was granted on 29th August, but two weeks later legal action by a group of local residents aims to stop the site from causing a nuisance – which some say can only be achieved by shutting down the site.

Petitions ignored

Permission to 'rephase' operations at the site was granted by Sheffield Council's West and North Planning Board, despite petitions against the proposal signed by 3,000 people. This means that active waste tipping will continue for longer and over a greater area than it would have done under the previous planning permission – but only if the Environment Agency grants a new permit, which is "by no means a foregone conclusion", an official said. Risk assessments have to be carried out to the Agency's satisfaction, and the effect on local wildlife must be mitigated.

Under the new plan, site owners Viridor will first construct a 50-metre buffer zone and a ten-metre high 'bund' to protect nearby residents on the Kingsmead Estate from noise and dust coming from the site. Viridor hope to complete this work before the end of the year, if weather conditions are favourable.

Deadline for claims

Solicitors Hugh James, acting for more than 200 local residents who say their lives are blighted by smells, litter, dust, noise, flies and birds from the landfill site, say they have a very strong case which could result in a High Court injunction ordering Viridor to stop causing the nuisance. Compensation would be claimed for interference with residents' lives and reduction in their property values. Viridor denies that it causes any nuisance.

Sheffield Judge John Bullimore has appointed Hugh James, specialists in environmental law, to represent all claimants against Viridor, and decided a cut-off date of 30th November, by which time all claims must be registered. It is very unlikely that the courts will allow any other claims after that date.

Environment Agency record complaints

The public record of complaints held by the Environment Agency for the five years to 2005 records 776 separate complaints in relation to odour nuisance, with 22 site warnings being issued and one recommendation to prosecute over litter offences.

Hugh James advises residents not to assume there is no need to complain now the legal action has started. Residents should continue to notify the Environment Agency of any problems they experience on 0800 807060.

Ms Helen Murphy of the Kingsmead Estate said:

"We moved into the area when the house was built in 2002, we had no idea about the problems with the landfill. The site has blighted our lives and we worry whether we would be able to sell the house in the future. We have complained about this site for years but nothing has been done, we feel very let down by the authorities. It's a sad state of affairs when local residents have to bring their own legal case to tackle this situation."

by Claire Berry & Andrew Green

Information...

Residents wishing to register a claim should contact Hugh James' Parkwood Team on (01685) 371122, by 30th November.

The Environment Agency can be contacted on 0800 807060. You can notify them of any problems with the landfill and all calls will be logged.

Burngreave Messenger

SIXTH AGM
Saturday
4th November 1pm

Community Room
Abbeyfield Park House
Abbeyfield Road, Sheffield S4 7AT

All Welcome



The Burngreave Messenger aims to increase communication and be a voice for the whole community. We need people from all parts of the community to come and join us.

"Probably the most exciting management committee in Burngreave!"

Refreshments provided

Messenger Info

Meetings: 6.30pm at Abbeyfield Park House
Editorial: Wed, 4th October
Management: Thu, 2nd November
All welcome.

Copy deadline: 18th October

Burngreave Messenger Ltd
Abbeyfield Park House
Abbeyfield Road
Sheffield S4 7AT
(0114) 242 0564
messenger@burngreave.net
www.burngreavemessenger.org.uk

The Burngreave Messenger is a community newspaper, funded by New Deal, with editorial independence. We aim to increase and encourage communication in Burngreave. Each edition is put together by an editorial team who write articles not otherwise credited.

This month's team: Sonia Bartley, Clare Burnell, Ian Clifford, Camille Daughma, Rohan Francis, Khuram Habib, Naheem Hanif, Saleema Imam, Tom Sadler, Rob Smith, Lisa Swift and Paul Taylor.

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Jamaican Journey

David Burton is a second-year student at the Sheffield University studying Orthoptics.

Recently he was selected by Grace Kennedy and sponsored to do on a two-month, all-expenses paid trip to Jamaica. David was born and grown in Burngreave, of Jamaican parentage. He attended Firshill Junior School and then went on to King Edward Secondary. On completion of his A Levels, receiving two Bs and two Cs, he was accepted at the University and selected Orthoptics as his career choice.

He heard about the Birthright Programme that Grace Kennedy sponsored through his mum. He applied online as he wasn't really expecting anything to happen, and his priority at the time was his upcoming exams.

However, while on one of his rotations he received a call informing him that he had been shortlisted. Still not wanting to be too hopeful he dismissed it. A few days later he received a call saying he was selected. He was shocked and excited all at once.

When asked about the whole experience all he could say is it was unbelievable: "There were six of us in total from the UK (two), USA (three) and Canada (one). It was more than I expected. We were looked after well and made welcome by everyone. We stayed in a lovely apartment next door to the Bob Marley estate and we travelled all over the island. I worked at KPH Hospital and was amazed at how sterile the operating theatres were, I wasn't even allowed to carry my laptop in. They are very strict with regards to cleanliness."

Learn, earn and enjoy

To qualify for the programme, you should be:

- between the ages of 18 and 30 years
- of Jamaican parentage whether parents or grandparents
- an undergraduate at University with Grades of B or higher
- willing to work and offer your services

For more information visit www.gracekennedy.com/grace/corp_birthright.htm.

by **Camille Daughma**



Events

Black History Month

Detailed below are the BNDFC Community Engagement Team's contributions to this year's Black History Month. For more information please contact one of the team on 279 6920 or 292 0393.

Saturday 30th September, 4-8pm

Launch Event, Ellesmere Green – International arts and food festival. Free food from different nationalities, also dance, performances and information.

Tuesday 3rd October, 8.00-9.45pm

Burning An Illusion (film), SADACCA

Thursday 5th, 8-9pm

Cherps (film), SADACCA

Wednesday 11th, 8.00-9.15pm

Queen of Soul – The history of reggae and dancehall (film), SADACCA

Saturday 14th

Day trip to Liverpool museum and black history tour. Call Ophelia Clark on 292 0459 to book – £4.

Tuesday 17th, 8.00-9.45pm

¿Hasta Siempre? – Until Always (film), SADACCA

Thursday 19th, 8-9pm

Black Survivors of the Holocaust (film), SADACCA

Monday 23rd, 8.00-9.45pm

Five Hundred Years on (film), Cactus Club

Tuesday 24th

Day trip to Bristol museum and black history tour. Call Ophelia Clark on 292 0459 to book – £4.

Wednesday 25th, 8.00-9.35pm

Rulers and Dealers (film), Cactus Club

Friday 27th

Soul to Soul (film), Ellesmere Green

All film showings are £2.00 entry for adults and 50p for children under 16 years, young children under 5 years are free.

Jamaica Society events

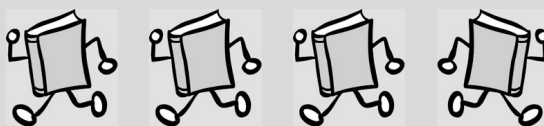
Sunday 15th, 3pm prompt-7pm

The Jamrock Experience, SADACCA. Sharing experiences dispels myth! Follow David Burton on an explorative journey of Jamaica seen from the eyes of a first-generation British-born Jamaican. Sample Jamaican food as you go on the ultimate tour of Jamaica.

Friday 20th, 7pm

SADACCA Women's Group in conjunction with the Jamaican Society presents a night of Tribute in Honour of the late Dr Louise Bennett, SADACCA. Entrance: £3.

Bookcrossing 14th-28th October



Burngreave Community Learning Campaign (BCLC) and Burngreave Library will be releasing hundreds of books for free in Burngreave. They will be leaving labelled books in shops, cafés, community centres, learning centres, hairdressers, doctors' surgeries, advice centres and restaurants. All you have to do is pick up a book, take it home to read and pass it on to a friend or leave it for someone else to find.

If you find a book, email info@burngreavelearning.org with your review, or type the book's registration number into www.bookcrossing.com to track its progress. Pick up a book from Burngreave Library, 179 Spital Hill or Forum House, 35 Spital Hill.

For more information...

Call Anne at BCLC on 279 4960 or Janet or Laura at Burngreave Library on 203 9002

Madge Saunders – A Remarkable Woman

In November 1965 a woman called Madge Saunders arrived in Burngreave to begin working alongside the minister at St James Church in Burngreave.

Whilst this seems an unremarkable statement, it hides two remarkable facts that challenged some of the social mores of those times: firstly Madge was from Jamaica and secondly that she was a woman. In the 1960s it was quite unique for a black woman to come from overseas to hold such a position within a local church: a radical reversal of the original missionary culture. The story of her ten-year sojourn in Burngreave is one that I have been keen to unravel. So, in celebration of Black History Month, I went to talk to some of the people who remembered her.

Barry Swift, Treasurer at St James Church for over 30 years, gave some background to her coming:

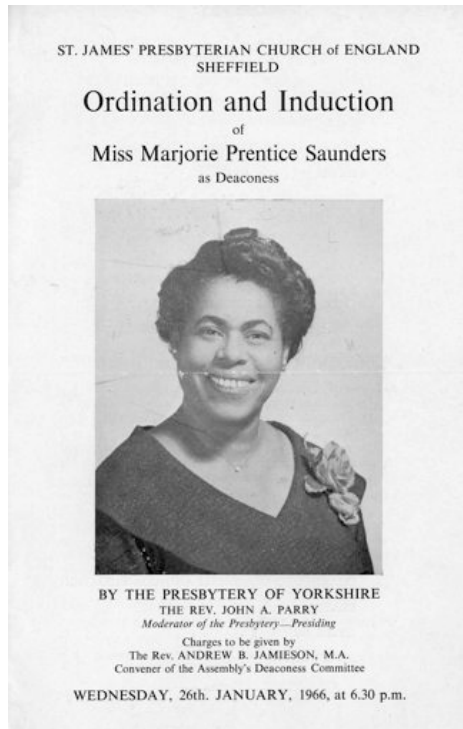
“In the late 1950s the first African Caribbean people started to arrive in Sheffield. They came with expectations of better conditions but were often faced with great hardship in finding both jobs and accommodation. Even in the local churches they were sometimes made to feel unwelcome. By the 1960s quite a few were coming to St James. Our Minister then, the Reverend Gillespie, had enlightened views for the time and, aware of the tensions with the church, wanted to reach out to immigrants and make them feel welcome. So, through the church, he requested a man of God to come from Jamaica to work with the congregation and increase understanding amongst them. What was surprising then was that we got Madge – a woman – instead!”

Recalling her arrival, Barry described what happened. “When Madge first came, there was a problem finding somewhere for her to live. Arrangements were fairly haphazard and she ended up in a dismal place on Rock Street. Whilst waiting for the Council to offer her a place, my wife and I invited her to come and live with us for a few months. She took part in my daughter’s first birthday party, I remember. Finally she got a flat on the top floor of the high rise on Andover Street.”

After her ordination as a deaconess at St James, Madge began work in earnest. Her focus was on children and families, having trained as a teacher and social worker back in Jamaica. She organised family worship, held classes for black children in her flat, helped Rev Gillespie set up advice sessions for immigrants (quite a controversial thing at the time) and took part in numerous meetings and committees, all with the intention of breaking down some of the barriers that black people encountered. She later wrote:

“I tried to bring about understanding and respect for the immigrants as people who need no special treatment, only wanting to be treated as human beings”.

As well as the local work, Madge became a member of the Race Relations committee and spoke regularly on Radio Sheffield. She wrote a booklet called ‘Living in Britain’ to help immigrants adapt to British life. This was well received and later translated into Urdu and Gujarati for other migrant communities.



Janet Lees, former minister at St James, recalls Madge’s achievements:

“She is a fantastic woman, now in her 90s but still active in the church back in Jamaica. But what she did here in ten years was truly ground breaking! She was the first black woman from the United Reformed Church of Jamaica to come to Britain as a missionary and her achievements here in Burngreave show what a remarkable person she has been. She wasn’t afraid to take on a challenge... and she certainly faced a few of those here! The fact that she led the St James congregation after Rev Gillespie died is testament to the fact that the congregation saw her as their minister. This was pretty unusual in the 1970s! And before she left Sheffield, they held a reception for her at the Town Hall, led by the Mayor.”

Listening to these stories of Madge has been truly inspiring and I can’t begin to do justice to her history in 600 words: for anyone interested in knowing more, you can read about Madge’s work in ‘Daughters of Dissent’ edited by Elaine

Kaye, Janet Lees and Kirsty Thorpe, published by the United Reformed Church, 2004, and available via the URC website: www.urb.org.uk – go to the bookshop section. Also available in Burngreave Library is the story of a visit made in 2002 by some of the St James congregation to see Madge back in Jamaica: ‘Full Circle: A journey for justice’.

Thanks to Barry Swift and Janet Lees for talking to me about Madge Saunders.

by Nikky Wilson

Burngreave Voices: Our Stories Celebrated

‘An Introduction to Reminiscence’ A one day training course

**Thursday, 19th October, 9.30am–4.30pm
At Burngreave Library**

Free places for Burngreave residents. Lunch provided.

This course will provide a practical introduction to anyone interested in working with people in reminiscence projects. It has a practical focus on simple techniques to stimulate memories and would be useful to anyone working with older people or involved in oral history projects. This course is provided by a trainer from Age Exchange, internationally recognised for its work with older people.

To book a place or find out more information about the course, please contact **Nikky Wilson** on **276 1900** or call into Burngreave Library.

Also check out the Age Exchange website on www.age-exchange.org.uk/.

Burngreave Voices: Our Stories Celebrated is a Sheffield Galleries & Museums Trust project in partnership with Sheffield Libraries and Information Service, supported by Burngreave New Deal for Communities Partnerships.

Arriving with hope

Burngreave has always provided a safe haven for people migrating or fleeing from other countries. One of Burngreave's most recently arrived communities is the Slovaks from Eastern Europe, travelling here for work now that Slovakia is part of the European Union. As with other communities before, their story is one of hopes fulfilled and difficulties still to overcome.



One of the Messenger's experienced volunteers, Stuart Crosthwaite, went to speak to local Slovaks with help from interpreter Hannah Skrinar of SCAIS.

They were welcomed into the home of Zdenek and his family (pictured above), who had been in Burngreave for four months. He was made redundant immediately after finishing three years of study and work experience in Slovakia and was left claiming benefit, which isn't enough to live on in.

"I have a better life here because I have work; I think my children are better off here too. I'd like my children to stay here forever. With a good education they might get good jobs and make a good life for themselves."

"Mam tu lepsi zivot, lebo mam robotu. Ja si myslim, ze sa tu maju lepsie aj moje deti. Ja by som chcel, aby tu ostali moje deti."

Jan, a relative of Zdenek, spoke about his concerns for their children:

"They are afraid of going to school, they feel threatened. There needs to be an adult in every school who knows the situation. Our children get beaten up every other day. I was a teaching assistant in Slovakia, I don't know if it will be possible to do that here too."

"Nase deti sa boja chodit do školy. Citia sa vyhrazani. Mali by mat v kazdej skole dospeleho cloveka, ktory vie o ich situacii."

Jan was a miner in Slovakia, working 1,200 metres underground to extract iron and copper. The mines were closed in 1992, when cheaper imports became available from Russia.

"I'm glad to be in Sheffield, I'd like to stay here. But people should improve the way they help out people who don't understand."

Irena has been in Burngreave since last November. So far she has been happy here, but she has experienced difficulties in other parts of Sheffield.

"I'd like to tell English people to leave us alone and not hurt us. We're people too. I was given a council house at the start, but I had to refuse it because I was too scared to live there. I had to get rented accommodation. When police were called the people scattered, but once the police had gone they came back and threw stones through the window. This was in Gleadless."

"There are all kinds of nationalities here, but as far as I'm concerned, we should just shake hands and be polite to each other and not notice if your skin is dark, yellow, black or white."

But Irena was glad her husband had work in a chicken factory, which was the reason they were staying here.

"In Slovakia when the communists were in power we had a very good life – you could live off 20–100 crowns per week. When 'democracy' came the government started taking benefits away – they only gave us half."

"We came here for work, not for benefits or charity from anybody, or to complain about anything."

Irena is scared to go out at night, for fear of being attacked, but it's not just this that prevents her from enjoying a night out.

"There's not really time to have fun. Sometimes the men do twelve-hour shifts. Sometimes they work all weekend and women are working hard at home; it's work, sleep, work, most of the time."

"Nemame cas na zabavu. Niekedy muzi robia 12-hodinove smeny. Niekedy robia cely vikend, zatiaľ čo ženy tvrdo pracuju doma."

Milan had just woken after a twelve-hour shift in a printing factory when we spoke to him. Milan has been in Sheffield for two years, since his work at a train station in Slovakia ended when the company he worked for closed down.

"My mum and dad are at home in Slovakia. It's difficult – I've not seen them for two years. It's very difficult to come here; it's very hard at first. Every person has to suffer that. If an English person didn't have work they'd be in the same situation as me, having to move for work."

"There are many people here from many countries, there is racism here, but when you see someone you don't know, and you're from one country and he's from another, you don't know what he's like and he doesn't know what you're like, but when you get to know each other, at work or something, there's no racism. The way a child is raised is how the adults become."

SCC Housing Advice Sessions Slovak Interpreter BCAT Office

Poradenské služby v oblasti byvania za účasti slovenskej tlmocníčky v kancelarii BCAT na 10-12 Burngreave Road: 28/09/06, 12/10/06, 26/10/06, 9/11/06, 23/11/06 od 14:00 do 16:00 poobede.

Burngreave Children's Centre (SURE START) services

Detské stredisko 'Burngreave' (SURE START) bude poskytovať služby počas týchto termínov z oblasti prenatálnej pomoci, otázok zdraveho jedenia a bezpečnosti, detskej masáže a tak ďalej. Vitane budú vaše návrhy týkajúce sa budúcich termínov.

Burngreave Women's Conversation Club (klub konverzácie v Burngreave pre ženy) pre ženy, ktoré chcú zdonkonalovať svoju angličtinu konverzáciou, zábavnými činnosťami a vyletmi.

Kazdy pondelok od 13.00 do 14.45 po pbede. Na 'The Welcome Centre' na Nottingham Street. Deti budú prítvane. Zavolajte Ingrid na číslo 275 0731.

Burngreave Men's Conversation and Social Club (spolocensky klub konverzácie v Burngreave pre mužov), aby cvičili svoju angličtinu a tiež, aby sa spolu bavili. Budu napríklad biliard a stolnu tenis.

Kazdu stvrtok od 13.00 do 16.00 po pbede. Na 'The Welcome Centre' na Nottingham Street. Zavolajte Jeffovi na 0793 133 5071.

Longley Park Sixth Form College

Clare Burnell, local resident and College Governor gives us an update on progress at Longley Park, our own £12 million, purpose-built Sixth Form College.

The College is celebrating its first proper set of exam results with a 95.3% pass rate at advanced level, which is close to the national average, and 129 top A grades. There are also record numbers of students applying for the next year. Principal Paul Ashdown explained: "we are very, very pleased with these results. We have over 700 individual grades with nearly 30% of these at A or B. Our students and staff have worked incredibly hard and put a huge effort into securing this success and I am really proud of them."

Mo Nisbet, Vice-principal said: "this year the best news has been the number of our students who have got the right grades to go to the university of their choice, over 200, including one with four As going to Oxford University and two students winning places to study medicine".

The fact that Longley Park has done so well is, I think, also down to the support that it has received from Burngreave, its young people, parents and also the many local people who campaigned and signed the petition to get the College built. It is certainly a very proud moment to see so many of our young people doing so brilliantly.

I went to Longley Park Sixth Form College to talk to young people from Burngreave at an enrolment session for second year students. I asked them about their experiences at Longley Park, if they rated the College, about the facilities and if they would recommend it to others.

Students give their opinions

Ali Mireh is studying BTEC forensic science and planning to go to university and then make a career in medicine. He says:

"It is a good environment, really friendly; with lots of new technology. The Plaza and cafeteria are great for meeting and making friends. I belong to the football team which wins sometimes and last year I went to Cambridge University on a trip with Aim Higher. I would definitely recommend Longley Park."

Awil Mireh is also studying forensic science and wants to go on and do biomedical science at Sheffield University. He says:

"Longley Park is a good college, with helpful teachers who explain what you need to know."

As for facilities he rates the Learning Resource Centre and gym.

Abdul Dalil Shaila is in his second year taking A levels (A2s) in product design and technology, sociology, psychology and religious studies, after this he plans to go to university and then get a good job and make some money. He said:

"I like that it is multi-ethnic and all the different races get on. My advice is if you want to come to Longley Park then check it out for yourselves and come to one of the open days."

Farhan Kahin, studying BTEC National Diploma in ICT and planning to go on and study accounting at university. He says:

"Longley Park is one of the best colleges in Sheffield because it is brand new with lots of activities, interesting courses, friendly teachers and most importantly, for me, lots of new IT equipment."

Adnan Ahmed is also studying Forensic Science.

"The teachers provide good support and not just in lessons, pointing out that there is extra support available if you need it."

Mohamed Ahmed is studying religious studies, sociology and history, then planning to go to university to get a degree and become a secondary school teacher.

"I like the diversity, all the students are from different communities, you get to know what people are like, and there is no division, hassle or trouble. It is social, everybody gets on with everybody, and the learning contract that you sign means that everybody works hard, there are high standards, and lots of support so whatever you want to achieve you can at Longley Park."

The College offers a very wide range of courses – you can do dance, DJ technology, psychology or law, just some from a choice of **over 50 subjects**. Its priority is running full-time level 3 courses, BTEC and A level for young people aged 16-19.

The College also runs Adult and Community Education Courses which start at various times during the year, including some excellent childcare and teaching assistant courses up to level 2 and new this year a part-time foundation programme which will open the door for adult learners to move on and study at the University of Sheffield.



© Longley Park College

Information...

For information/prospectus: **262 5757**
or email enquiries@longleypark.ac.uk
Next open day: **14th November**
5.30-8.30pm
Website: www.longleypark.ac.uk/

Demolition looms

With memories of Woodside's demolition still lingering in many minds, more Burngreave residents now face the same trauma. The Masterplan, agreed by Council Cabinet in May 2005, is now being implemented.

It includes the demolition of houses on Skinnerthorpe Road, Catherine Street, Brotherton Street and Earl Marshal flats. The Messenger visited some of those affected.

It's worth more

Our first contact was Mr Shakeel Aziz, a young man who was born and brought up in the area. He and his family have been living at a three-bedroom property on Brotherton Street, which his parents helped him to purchase over two years ago. Mr Aziz is very close to his family and is distraught at having to move away from his parents.

"I wouldn't like to move out of Burngreave, I have lived here all my life and my family is here."

He has only been offered around £60,000 for his house by the Council and will be expected to make up the difference to purchase the new home the Council is recommending.

"We're not happy with what we have been offered. Our house has three bedrooms and a garden, its worth more than £90,000."

A house for a house

Mohammed Shafiq, lives on Catherine Street with his aging mother. Mr Shafiq, who suffers ill-health is very concerned that he is now expected to find the additional money if he accepts the Council's offer of £67,000.

"At 56, I cannot afford to borrow money for another house, how will I pay it back? I want a house for a house."

Mr Shafiq has lived in Burngreave for over twenty years and feels at home in this community. He also fears racism and other ills, which his friends have suffered when they moved to other areas of the city.

Mr Shafiq is very worried about what the move will mean for his mother and what will happen to them as they are unable to borrow money to purchase another home.

Never leaving Burngreave

Mr Nagi, who is 79 years old, has lived in the Burngreave area for over thirteen years, in a private rented property on Catherine Street. Unlike other residents, he is quite happy to move because the Council has promised to help him by giving him a bit of money to decorate his new home and help him move. He says that if they keep their promise it will be all right, so long as he does not have to move out of the Burngreave area altogether.

"I would never leave Burngreave, you know everyone around here, its like a family."

Mr Nagi says he has been advised to wait for the Council to give him priority on a choice of Council properties. His only concern is that they don't give a property with a hidden passageway as he is afraid of being mugged.

by Sonia Bartley & Naheem Hanif

Earl Marshal flats

Evacuation of the Earl Marshal flats has already begun. When we arrived workmen were replacing old shutters with a new design on some of the empty properties. People had been breaking in and were making a trade from stealing boilers, pipes, radiators and fittings.

"They can screw the old ones off and get into the flats," explained the worker, "These new ones are different."

Too small for families

In Earl Marshal Drive a resident of over two years said he was happy to be moving as he would be prioritised for a new place.

"I think it's a good idea to knock them down in order to rebuild better ones. These are one-bedroom flats and there have been families in them. They're too small."

The man said he would have moved already but was waiting for his family to join him from Eritrea. He could then bid for a Council house rather than a flat. Asked if he'd want to be rehoused in Burngreave, his eyes lit up. "Yes," he said, "My first choice is Burngreave."

The man explained there had been problems with local youngsters at the flats, but it had not been so bad in recent months.



"They were getting into the block and hanging around smoking. The block has never been secure against kids. I've no idea how they're getting in."

As we left we could see that the security door was open on the empty flat opposite and on his way out was a blond-haired, scruffy boy of around 14. He said he'd been searching for a place for some homeless men he knew, before scampering down the stairwell and disappearing. It was obvious that children can get in and out when they want.

Another resident, Wayne Smith, accepted that the blocks were being knocked down adding, "I'm a priority with the Council anyway and I'll be moving soon. The only thing you hear is the mice moving in."

In another block we found Mavis Sutherland, aged 61 who had been living in the Earl Marshal flats for over four years. Aware that the flats are being knocked down, Mavis believes there are still a few years left in them. "I could do with a bit more time here," she said, explaining that she hadn't found anywhere else she liked yet. She definitely didn't want to stay in Burngreave and wants to move to Firth Park. She didn't seem familiar with the bidding system and was hoping that her Social worker would do the bidding for her.

Earl Marshal flats are being shuttered into a ghost town where only trouble, gangs and rodents can really breed.

by Rob Smith

If you are affected by demolition and you would like to tell us your story, please contact us on 242 0564.

Putting on the heat

On 6th September a major incident in and around the Gower Arms caused reason for further concerns about local police activity and tactics.

George Wilson, aged 65, who was sat inside the TV section of the Gower with Levi Ferguson, explains what happened:

“Police officers pursued a man onto the premises but he doubled back through the toilet area, escaped and disappeared from the scene, a little while later a different local man was being arrested further up the road, on suspicion of transporting the original suspect from the scene. We all gathered outside the main door of the pub to see what was happening, and Levi decided, he would go further up and find out what was actually going on.”

Having returned very quickly after approaching the arresting officers, Levi was in some distress, saying he'd had CS gas directly discharged into his face.

“I took Levi back into the pub toilets and helped him wash out the substance from his eyes. And then returned outside, to the main door of the Gower.

“We both then challenged the officer they call Duncan, telling him what had just happened to Levi and that it wasn't necessary. Duncan said Levi shouldn't have got involved and that an officer was within their rights to take this action if they'd felt threatened. Levi was coughing and challenged the female officer who he claimed sprayed him in the face for nothing. She then approached, I heard him shout something and that's when all hell broke loose. Duncan ordered Levi to get back inside the pub.”

But Levi was already being confronted by two male officers. A scuffle commenced, and they all ended up back inside the TV section. George continued:

“By now four officers had Levi on the floor beating him up, that's when a fifth officer came storming in and into the fight. They were all set on and beating him up. Levi was screaming in pleas for leniency at this time.”

Local drinker David Allen, who actually resides on the premises explained, he was drinking in his usual position at the bar. “I saw Levi being wrestled on the floor by at least four of them,” said David. “Of course they ushered me between the main door and closed the



entrance to the bar, where they were doing their stuff. You know, beating him into some form of submission and he was pleading for leniency.” Dave said he could hear what was going on. “It was terrible what they were doing.”

George, who was still in the pub, tried to stop what was happening:

“Myself and another gentleman, although frightened and not young any more, decided we'd have to intervene. That's when officers turned and began spraying us also with CS gas.”

Vernon Solomon, the licensee, wasn't present at the start of this incident, but arrived during the heat of it. “Inside my pub they had a man on the floor manacled and being roughly manhandled by the officers present. Inside there was around six or seven officers and that horrific smell all over the pub of CS gas, which affected me immediately. I was then asked to vacate my premises while the police inside continued with what they were doing.” Vernon then helped calm things down outside, along with former licensee Linda Fleming, who was on the scene. “Linda helped me prevent what could have escalated into a very nasty situation,” added Vernon.

George explained what happened next:

“After spraying the whole place, they moved Levi, who seemed unconscious at the time, and that's when I saw one officer attempt to stomp on his ankles. I intervened again, it wasn't necessary; the whole thing was out of order. When they finally got Levi out and arrested another man, every police officer stood outside the pub brandishing extended truncheons with CS gas sprays at the ready. It was like they were here for war. I was so afraid to leave.”

One member of staff who doesn't want to be named told us that it was out of

order the way the police behaved. “We knew the victim sustained injuries because there was blood all over the wall and the floor. And there was no warning before CS gas was discharged inside the pub.”

The Gower Arms is also well known to have CCTV security installation installed on its premises. “The police returned and took all that the following morning,” Vernon Solomon explained. They removed all video, hard drives and the tape machine. This lapse in security led to a burglary of the premises in the early hours of the morning after the surveillance equipment was removed.

“Obviously,” said Vernon. “People became aware of our lapse in security and as the new proprietor, I'm left no further option but to seek full legal advice.”

by Rob Smith

The Messenger spoke to Craig Charlesworth of the New Deal police team. He explained that the incident was under routine investigation and he would not be able to comment on what had happen. He gave us these comments about the use of CS spray.

“The police are issued with CS spray following training in its use. Officers are also tested every year so they are qualified to use it. Officers are trained to take into account all factors before they decide what action to take, whether that be use of CS spray, their baton, or talking to someone. The action taken depends on the officer and their judgment of a situation, but whatever they choose they have to justify it later in a report, or in a court of law. CS spray is less severe than using a baton, CS is generally used when an officer is under threat of violence.”

The Messenger asked why there was no after care for the residents sprayed with CS.

“After care is part of the training in CS spray use, generally this includes reassurance that the effects will wear off soon and advice not to rub the eyes and not to use water on the affected area. I can't comment on what happened in this particular incident.”

“Its frustrating that we cannot comment, there are always two sides to story, but it's under investigation. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) will decide if there is a case to answer.”

Mythical mural

The Pegasus mural still stands defiantly on the side of the last house on Brotherton Street after nearly 30 years.

The mural once depicted Pegasus rising from the head of Medusa, but only Pegasus remains visible under the flaking paint that now covers the original painting, although it is still a magical sight.

I spoke to Steve Field, the mural's artist, about how he came to create it.

"There was a competition initiated by a Sheffield architecture student called Matt Bruce, who also owned the house. Lecturers from the Art School (now Sheffield Hallam) and Sheffield University chose my design and Dulux supplied the paint. The runner-up design, by an art student, featured cartoon hippos!"

Steve, who was a postgraduate architecture student at the time, displayed drawings of how the mural might look in the window of the house and at the University to gauge public opinion of the plan. The overall feeling seems to have been positive and it was painted in the summer of 1977.

"I painted the mural from a mobile tower with a bit of help from my then girlfriend and a fellow student. The painting was based on the classical myth, in which Pegasus rises from the head of Medusa, against a backdrop of Mount Parnassus. The composition was worked out mathematically to fit the gable end."

Steve's mural won a National Student Award for Use of Colour in Design for which he received a prize of £250. He went on to design a second mural for a house on London Road but moved away to work in the Midlands before it could be painted.

The Pegasus Mural obviously means a lot to him as he still has the sketches for it on his wall at home. He told us, "I'm really glad the people of Burngreave still remember it." He is still involved in public art projects for Dudley Council, although now works mainly on mosaics and sculptures.

by Tom Sadler



© Cedric Green, courtesy of Sheffield Hallam University

© Rohan Francis

Wedding blessing

Local residents, Sia Angela Maturie and Ansumana Rahman Muctaru Sillah, celebrated their wedding on Saturday, 2nd September, in the presence of over 150 guests.

The ceremony was held at The Sheffield Cathedral Church in the city centre and officiated by the Reverend Canon Paul Shackerley.

The day was a blessing, with plenty of rain, food, music and laughter. Sia and her groom arrived at the reception in a white limousine, followed by their entourage.

The happy couple would like to thank all their friends, families and associates for the help and support they received, which made their wedding a truly memorable one.

May God richly bless you, Mr and Mrs Sillah.

by Sonia Bartley



All © Sonia Bartley

Thanks to Milton

Firshill TARA would like to thank Milton Graham, who was Chairman of the Committee, for all his hard work for the Firshill Estate.

He has had to resign because of ill health and he is going to be missed by everyone on the estate, although he assures us he will still be around at General Meetings and Fairs etc and we look forward to seeing him then.



He was also well known throughout the City because of all the committees he was on and all the meetings he attended. As a founder member of Area K TARA, Milton will be missed by all his colleagues in Area K and by Sheffield Homes who worked closely with AKTARA.

Firshill TARA Committee are going to carry on working for the estate and would like to invite any levy-paying member to join them as we have also had resignations from three other committee members for various reasons.

If you feel able to join us please contact us at Firshill TARA Office, 11 Firshill Glade, telephone: 256 0337 or call in Tuesday or Wednesday 10am-12 noon or Thursday 2-3pm.

We would hate the estate to lose its TARA because of the lack of members. Please join us if you can.

Diving bronze

Claire Blencowe, previously of Fir Vale School and now of Longley Park Sixth Form College has just had a successful competition in the Junior World Diving Championships in Malaysia.



City of Sheffield diving duo, Jodie McGroarty and Claire Blencowe (*pictured left*) picked up Britain's first and only medal of the World Junior Diving Championships on the final day of action in Kuala Lumpur.

The pair, who finished fourth in the 3m Springboard Synchro at the European Junior Championships just last month in Majorca, went one better on the world stage to win bronze with 257.37 points.

After taking the lead on the third dive, Jodie (17) and Claire (16), then slipped two places in the final two rounds with China taking the title with 276.00 points. Ukraine won silver with 270.24 points.

Claire also achieved a personal best score in the individual 1-metre competition.

by Deborah Blencowe

Budding talent

There's a budding talent in Burngreave in the form of amateur boxer Liam James Akers.



© Camille Daughma

Liam, who attends Firth Park Community Arts College, stumbled into boxing by accident, as his favourite sport was football. His Dad, who coached the Ecclesfield Red Rose football team, encouraged him to build himself up and get stronger, as the other players were much bigger than him. That's when some friends told him about the Sheffield Boxing Centre. Liam was only ten but, spurred on by his desire to play football, he decided to give it a go. He liked it so much that he continued even when his friends dropped out.

His trainer saw his potential and encouraged him to train as an amateur boxer. He won his very first fight in Devon in 2001 and went on to fight in the North East County Area finals in 2003. Earlier this year he attended training camps in Las Vegas and Miami where he trained with boxers from America. So far, he has had twenty-one fights and won nine.

I asked him what has been his worst experience in boxing. "Having to take a year off due to glandular fever, then, after recovering, I got a broken ankle," he replied. His best experience, he told me, was winning his first fight.

I asked Liam what his friends think of him boxing. "Some say 'go for it', others think 'oh no, you can't be a boxer'". Liam is softly spoken and very unassuming. I had the opportunity of watching one of his work-out sessions – he is transformed in the ring!

He has had the opportunity to meet a lot of people including former boxers Sugar Ray Leonard and Frank Bruno. He even sparred with Roberto Duran. Asked about the experience, he said, "It's like a shock. You see these people on TV and I can't believe I'm actually seeing and talking to them".

Liam would like to progress to professional boxing. His family are very supportive but his father insists that there is no pressure: "it's entirely up to him."

His next fight is on 4th October at Beighton Working Men's Club. Tickets cost £7. For more information please call 270 0072. Good luck Liam – we're all rooting for you.

Liam would like to thank Glyn Rhodes and the team at Sheffield Boxing Centre and also Kay and Paul at the Normanton Pub who sponsor his kit.

by Camille Daughma



Burngreave Sports Network

Football Coaching

All Saints Soccer School
Fir Vale Sports Centre

Boys and Girls

Mondays – Years 1,2,3 & 4

Wednesdays – Years 5,6,7 & 8

4.45-6.00pm • Only £1

Coaching by Mark, Rafiq, Abdul, Lisa and Patrick.



Require Committee Members

We are looking for local, enthusiastic and committed people, interested in developing sporting activities, to form part of the Steering Group to guide the project to new heights.

You will be required to attend monthly meetings and share your views on the project.

For more information please contact

Lisa Bailey on **0778 338 0399** or **lbailey-bsn@bndfc.co.uk**

Rafiq Saleh on **0778 338 3096** or **292 2907**

John Norton and Son (Sheffield) Ltd

Halfway up Rutland Road stands Norton Kitchen showrooms; according to proprietor Marion Sayles, “the last of the old Sheffield firms”.

Founded in 1844 in Queen Street to offer water pipe and gas fitting when Sheffield was the first city with gas street lighting, it served breweries and churches amongst others. They moved to Solly Street in the 1970s and to their current premises three years ago.

With bigger show room space on a busy road and more room for car parking, “the move has seen a big improvement in business”, says Marion.

Greeting you as you enter is a stunning array of multi-coloured Aga, Rayburn and Redfyre range cookers of all shapes and sizes, with a new range of solid fuel



fires also on display. Upstairs are kitchen and bathroom showrooms.

Popular cookery demonstrations attended by up to 50 participants regularly take place, the next in November and December will be Christmas themed.

Though the majority of cookers sold are gas, electric or oil fired, Marion told me:

“40% of Rayburn cookers being sold now are wood/solid fuel burning and it’s increasing. Sixteen staff install and maintain solid-fuel burning cookers in an area stretching from Chesterfield to Doncaster and Hope Valley to Retford.”

It’s ironic that though the central government is encouraging the use of wood as a carbon neutral fuel, costing less than 50% of fossil fuels, in Sheffield the clean air act still prevents wood being burned in most appliances.

by Saleema Imam

**Norton House, 169 Rutland Road
Open: Mon–Fri: 8.30am–5.30pm
Sat: 9.00am–4.00pm
Telephone: 272 1294**

Andreas hairdressing

On one beautiful Wednesday, I found myself in a magnificent and incredible hair dressing shop, packed with a multitude of customers from all ages, genders and races awaiting their hair cuts.

John, the manager, was busy cutting a customer’s hair. Earlier this year, he relocated to Pitsmoor Road from Spital Hill.

“Pitsmoor Road is actually a nice location and customers and members of the community were very happy about the move.”

He has been in the business for 32 years and has always wanted to be a hairdresser.

“It feels natural to be a hairdresser – getting on with everyone in a community with loving people is why I like being a hairdresser.”

John first started working with a friend



on Spital Hill and couldn’t miss the opportunity to start his own business when his friend gave him the shop. He thought he would repay the gesture by naming the salon after him, calling it ‘Andreas’. It was a very hard decision to move, but he has fond memories and feelings for Spital Hill.

When asked what was the strangest haircut he has ever done he replied, “Nothing is strange, every haircut is artistic.”

If he could cut anyone’s hair, it would be that of Gandhi, “He achieved more in peace than anybody else has ever done through violence,” said John.

John specialises in men’s, women’s and children’s hair from short, back and sides to highlights and extensions. His future plans for Andreas are to expand the women’s section.

John had this piece of advice for the Burngreave Community:

“Let’s carry on as we are, caring and loving one another, Burngreave should be made a better place for all.”

by Derrick Okrah

**424 Pitsmoor Road
Open: Mon 8.30am–5.30pm,
Tue 8.30am–5.00pm,
Wed 8.30am–12.30pm,
Thu 8.30am–5.30pm,
Fri 8.30am–6.00pm,
Sat 7.30am–3.00pm
Telephone: 272 0301**

Tree Trail



Work continues at Burngreave Rec where Community Forrester, Tim Shortland and BTCV conservation volunteers have been clearing up and maintaining the wooded areas around the site. They have made some interesting discoveries like the Rauli – a Chilean beech tree not often found in this country. To learn more about the local tree

species join Tim on Sunday 8th October for a ‘Tree Trail around the Rec’. Starting at 10am at the Burngreave Cemetery Gates, Melrose Road, and lasting one hour.

The next meeting of the Friends of Burngreave Rec will be on Tuesday 24th October, 6.30pm at the Chapel.

Kenyan Family Forum

The Kenyan Family Forum began in April and provides support for Kenyan immigrants who have moved here from Africa.

The forum brings families together and acts as a support group, where all its members unite to help each other through any difficulty they may face.



Joseph Nyaga, chairman of Kenya Family Forum explained: "The main focus is on improving the health and development of young members and communicating strong values to them, to keep them away from anti-social behaviour, make them good citizens and integrate them into society". He continued: "We feel as people and families, it is important to be there for each other. When you come to a new place you feel alone, it can be very reassuring to know there are others like you."

Vice Chairman, Patrick Liyayi, explained that the group have taken part in various events since their formation, including a trip to Cleethorpes in July and now plan a clean up of both Scott and Abbeyfield Roads on 7th October. The group also organises lessons for youngsters with a mix of work and play during am and pm sessions.

The committee meets every month to discuss feedback and plan for the future, but their main concern currently is funding. "We need funding to help with our projects," he explained.

"For example, when we go on day trips, we are the ones who must pay the cost, but this cannot happen every time as we also have families to look after, it would also help us to further develop our community by reaching out to other people," Patrick stressed.

Meetings take place in member's homes, but funding would allow the group to rent an office, "We have a meeting about this with the City Council at the end of September," said Joseph.

With about thirty adults and twenty youth members already involved, it seems the Kenya Family Forum is already going places. "We are always welcoming new members as there are many Kenyan families in Sheffield," said Elizabeth Mbure, the treasurer. Other officers include Kariuki Gakuru – Activity Co-ordinator, Gladys Gesage – Assistant Treasurer, Sarah Ambundo – Secretary, Christine Mbure – Youth Secretary and Emanuel Ambundo – Youth Chairman.

The planned clean up of Scott and Abbeyfield Roads is on 7th October from 9am–1pm, followed by a picnic in the park. Anyone wishing to take part should contact Joseph Nyaga on 0784 956 3569.

by Brent Moya

Improve your health and your environment!

Get out into the fresh air and get active by taking part in gardening and nature conservation activities in Burngreave's parks and green spaces. Sessions last between two and four hours and are free. Women Only sessions are available.

By taking part in the **BTCV Green Gym** you can improve your health and fitness, reduce the risk of coronary heart disease, make new friends and feel more positive about life. You can also make a real difference to your local environment.

For more information
call BTCV on
0114 272 3591 or
email s.hughes@btcv.org.uk



Green City Action

Bright and vibrant



The green city stewards have now finished painting the play equipment at Denholme Close open space and what a difference a coat of paint makes. 'Bright and vibrant' is how one resident described it and who are we to argue. It will be great to see the swings reinstated for the kids to use, especially now the area around the playground has been cut back to make it much more visible and safer to use.

Ellesmere Park cut back

The team have also been responding to requests from residents on Maxwell Way to cut back the overgrown shrubs and trees on Ellesmere Park that backs onto their homes. A consultation event was held and we were pleased that residents took time out to tell us of their aspirations for this space.

If you want to see green spaces, near where you live improved, however big or small, then please get in touch with us on 244 0353. Working together we will 'Deliver It Green'.

Free spring bulbs

Sheffield City Council is offering free spring bulbs for neighbourhood planting again this year. We would like to take the best possible advantage of this offer. If you would like to see daffs and crocuses flowering near where you live next spring, get in touch with us and we will help organise a bulb planting day near you.

For more information contact Green City Action 244 0353.

Deliver it **green...**

Sorby House public event

Come and find out the latest news about Sorby House at a public event on Friday 6th October. The Kier Group, Sorby House developers appointed by BNDfC, are committed to working closely with BNDfC and local residents and schools to ensure the community are truly involved.

The afternoon will be an opportunity for you to meet the developers and it also marks the start of a series of events to be organised throughout the physical development of Sorby House. Ideas at present include; competitions for children to suggest the contents of a time capsule to be held behind a wall in the reception area; winner of another competition to have their handprint cast in concrete at the entrance to Sorby House and the setting up of a 'Doomsday Book' where residents can include their hopes and aspirations for the future. On the afternoon Surestart will be organising activities to keep the children amused giving you the opportunity to look at the plans for Sorby House and photographs already taken by Richard Hanson, photographer charged with keeping a pictorial record of progress.



The event is at Forum House, Spital Hill, on Friday 6th October, 3.00–5.30pm – refreshments will be available.

Information Shop

The staff at the BNDfC Information Shop are there to help you find out about projects, courses and events happening in the area in which you might be interested.

The shop is a valuable resource that we are very keen to fully utilise. If you are involved in a project and would like to use the shop facilities to hold regular drop-in sessions or maybe a one-off event, call in or phone the Information Officers for a discussion about your needs.

BNDfC Information Shop, 131 Spital Hill, Tel: 292 0464

New Priority Area Launch

As the *Messenger* has gone to print this month, the launch of the new BNDfC priority area is being planned for Forum House on Thursday 28th September.

A report of the event will be included in the next issue of the *Messenger*.

Burngreave New Deal for Communities is a ten-year £52m regeneration programme established to tackle the issues of deprivation in the Burngreave area, a vibrant multicultural community situated close to Sheffield city centre. We are now looking to recruit a Small Grants Co-ordinator who will be responsible for project managing a range of small grants and developing systems and a robust process through which the grants can be assessed and progressed. If you are passionate about people, enjoy a challenge, can operate effectively in a diverse and complex political environment, and can meet the criteria for the role, we want to see you!

Small Grants Co-ordinator

Salary £20,514–24,616

- the knowledge to recruit, train and support volunteers for the small grants panel
- the ability to appraise grant applications and act as adviser to the small grants panel
- the ability to manage the financial monitoring of grant payments and claims
- the ability to undertake monitoring, support and verification visits to ensure compliance

**Closing Date for applications: Wednesday 18 October, 2.00pm
Interview/Assessment Date: Tuesday 14 November 2006**

Applications from residents of the Burngreave New Deal for Communities area are particularly welcome for all our posts.

If you are interested, have the relevant skills and want to know more, contact Roy Sinclair on 279 6937, alternatively you may request a recruitment pack via our email address enquiries@bndfc.co.uk.

A New Deal for Burngreave



Vestry Hall Art

Artists Claudia Phipps and Amanda Simmons, winners of the open tender to create unique pieces of art work as part of the £3m redevelopment of Vestry Hall, are due to start community workshops in the area shortly.

Richard Hanson, a professional photographer of international reputation and a local resident, has already been working on producing a photographic record of the redevelopment of the building. Another local man, Anwar Sulliman, won the opportunity to work with Richard on this project. To see the progress of the transformation of the hall visit: <http://www.vestryhall.co.uk/>.

Claudia will be working on the glass infill screen which will be in a prominent position alongside the new main entrance. The entrance has been moved to the side of the building for better access. The screen, at around two metres high and eight metres in length, will form an impressive architectural feature and will make a substantial visual impact.

Amanda will be working on the reception feature. As the first thing anyone will see when they enter the building the piece needs to reflect the aspirational nature of the new use of Vestry Hall and be inspiring as a piece of work in its own right.

Community workshops led by the artists are an important part of the art commissions. It is important to the success of the pieces of artwork that the community are involved in their development in order to ensure that the finished works are relevant and enjoyed by the whole community.

Workshop dates can be found below, further dates will be advertised.

Workshop Dates Free – all ages welcome! Get involved!

Meet the Artists

Thu October 12, 6-8pm (Furnival)

Workshops

Sat October 21, 10am-12.30pm (Furnival)

Mon October 23, 1-3pm (Verdon Recreation Centre)

Wed October 25, 1-3pm (Verdon Recreation Centre)

Sat November 4, 10am-12.30pm (Furnival)

More dates in October & November to be announced.

Venues

The Furnival, 199 Verdon Street, Sheffield S3 9QQ
Tel: (0114) 272 7497

Verdon Recreation Centre, Verdon Street S3 9QS
Tel: (0114) 249 1626

There is an opportunity for a locally-based artist to work-shadow both lead artists. If you are an artist and would like to learn more, please get in touch.

Karen Sherwood

Telephone: (0114) 285 2665 or 0781 736 3310
or email karen@cupolagallery.com

www.vestryhall.co.uk


allen tod architecture



Diary Dates

Saturday 4th November, 4–9pm

Bonfire Night and fire works display, Petre Street

For more info contact: Leroy Betts CE Manager 0791 701 4312 or 292 0393.

Residents Forum events

Priority area	Oct	Dec
Employment & Skills	6th	5th
Physical Environment & Safety	5th	7th
Children & Young People	*	12th
Community Strength & Wellbeing	12th	14th

* The Children and Young People Forum will be holding an event on Tuesday 7th November at 6.00pm, venue to be confirmed. The subject of the event will be 'exclusions and school behaviour'. If you would like to attend call Jon Cowley, Regeneration Manager on: 292 2908.

Strategy Group

Priority area	Nov
Employment & Skills	7th
Physical Environment & Safety	9th
Children & Young People	14th
Community Strength & Wellbeing	16th

Implementation Group meets quarterly, next meeting planned for December, date to be confirmed.

Partnership Board meetings are held bi-monthly, the next meeting being 29th November. Venue to be confirmed.

If you have any comments please write to:

Alison Reid
Communication Manager

BNDfC
1st Floor
Speedicut Works
Harleston Street
Sheffield
S4 7QB

alisonreid@bndfc.co.uk



contact: 276 9134

Burngreave Area Panel

Rubbish and gullies and the Area Panel

Climate change is now with us. Every week there's another confirmation about how we all have to change the way we live. Below is an extract from a recent report to the Council's Cabinet:

Reducing Waste



The government aims to reduce waste to landfill. Sheffield City Council has responded by the development of the 'energy from waste' plant (managed by Veolia at Bernard Road) and the introduction of both the blue bin scheme for recycling and of civic amenity 'bring it' sites. However, waste continues to grow and the Council will struggle to meet statutory waste targets without a significant culture change towards consumption and waste management. It is imperative we see materials as a resource and not simply as waste. We should encourage waste reduction in households and businesses, through education and provide the opportunities for everyone to segregate, re-use and recycle the

materials they consume. This will lead to an increase in the provision of domestic and commercial facilities, and will require developers to provide access and storage for waste and recycling activities.

The next Area Panel meeting will be discussing what this means for this community and for the Council. It will focus on household waste – from leaving your house, into Veolia's bins on the kerbside and on to Veolia's recycling plant at Beighton or the energy from waste recovery incinerator at Bernard Road. We'll discuss improving recycling, dealing with green waste, composting, glass collection and bring out your rubbish days. Ask your questions and have your say – Tuesday 3rd October at 5pm at Pitsmoor Methodist Church (note earlier time for breaking the fast). Also a full discussion on the response to traffic and highways problems in the area.

Autumn Gully Cleaning

Street Force is doing its annual gully cleaning in Fir Vale from 25th September to 13th October. Burngreave was done in April this year. Before, during or after the following dates, please try and avoid parking on the grids in your street so that the Street Force staff can get to the gullies.

October

- Mon 2nd All over Crabtree, Norwood Road and Norwood Close
- Tue 3rd Norwood Drive
- Mon 9th Cookswood Road
- Tue 10th Shirecliffe Road, Batsworth Road, Batsworth Drive and Firshill Glade/Croft/Avenue
- Wed 11th Firshill Crescent/Gardens/Way/Rise

New Year Honours

Every year, the Burngreave Area Panel holds a 'new year's honours' awards ceremony in the Town Hall. The Lord Mayor gives recognition to people who live and (or) work in the areas of Fir Vale, Firshill, Pitsmoor and Burngreave to celebrate those who contribute 'above and beyond'. And of course, this year the Lord Mayor is our own Jackie Drayton. There are separate awards for volunteers, paid workers and local organisations. Nominations for Burngreave New Year's Honours to Marilyn King on 0773 636 2179 by 30th November.

And finally

A poem sent to me recently by Sylvia Reaney, from Earl Marshal Road who wrote: "reading about the activities and pleasure days available to everyone in the local newsletter and *Messenger*, prompted me to write this poem..." Thanks for this Sylvia.

To live together in harmony, is music to our ears
 People alongside each other without the stressful fears
 Joining in activities, things we all can do
 Giving us the chance to meet, say 'hello' and 'how are you?'
 A smile, a friendly word costs nothing but means to us a lot
 When we shake hands with each other and tie another knot
 Life is for the living not with wars be taken away
 Let us live in harmony each hour of every day
 Then we can keep on trying to make the world a better place
 For each and every being in the human race

Councillors' Surgery Dates

Your local councillors, Jackie Drayton, Ibrar Hussain and Steve Jones (pictured left to right below), share surgeries on a rota basis.



Councillors' surgeries are on the second and fourth Saturday mornings of each month.

14th October: Steve Jones, 11am–12 noon Burngreave Library and 12.15–1.00pm: Firshill TARA

21st October: Steve Jones, 11am–12 noon Burngreave Library

Next Area Panel Meeting

Tuesday 3rd October, 5–7pm, Pitsmoor Methodist Church.

Agenda: road traffic and highway problems – including Spital Hill, Northern General Hospital and Fir Vale junction; and improving household waste recycling.

Burngreave Grant Fund GRANTS OF UP TO £5,000



Get involved with your community...

Does your organisation have a new or innovative idea that would benefit local residents?

Would a small grant allow you to develop your idea?

If so contact the BNDFC Grants Team to discuss your idea.

A member of the Small Grants Team is available for information and advice at the Information Shop, (0114) 292 0460, on Spital Hill every Wednesday afternoon. No appointment needed.

The closing day for applications is the last working Friday of each month.

For an application pack, phone the Grants Team on (0114) 292 2906 or 292 2905.

Greenfingers Volunteers Wanted



Greenfingers is looking for volunteers to work alongside our group members who have mental health support needs, doing a variety of gardening tasks on our allotment garden on Grimesthorpe Road.

Experience of gardening or the ability to speak a community language would be really helpful.

We would like volunteers to join us for one session per week. Sessions run Monday–Thursday, 11am–2pm.

If you are interested please phone
Greenfingers on: (0114) 274 3651

Women's DIY Courses in Burngreave

The following courses will be starting
in October/November at the
Women's Construction Centre, Burngreave

DIY

(Practical Construction Skills)

Tue 31st Oct–19th Dec, 12.30–3.00pm

Wed 1st Nov–20th Dec, 12.30–3.00pm

MATHS FOR DIY & THE HOME

Tue 31st Oct–28th Nov, 9.30–11.30am

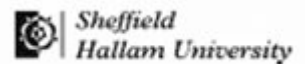
TIRED OF YOUR KITCHEN

(Computer Aided Design followed by practical skills to change the look of your kitchen)

Wed 29th Nov–1st Feb, 6.00–9.00pm

All courses are **free** & for women only.
Childcare provision available on daytime courses.

For further information, to book a place and arrange childcare ring (0114) 273 7046 or email wintt.sywdt@btconnect.com



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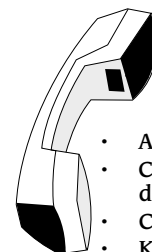


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Denise on 0779 944 2946





Dear *Messenger*

I am writing to tell you something about life as an asylum seeker, living between life and death.

Some people may ask: "Where are you from?" "Why did you leave your country?" "What made you decide to live here?"

Asylum seekers are victims who have to leave their home countries for reasons of war, civil war, racism, politics, religion, nationality, human rights or economic problems.

An asylum seeker may have left their children, mother, father, sister, brother and loved ones; their country and their job. They leave everything and leave their lives to fate. The tears on his cheek remind him every single day that he is a foreigner.

For some, fate takes over and many don't have a safe journey or witness the democracy of a safe country. For an asylum seeker in this position, his children, mother, father, sister, brother and loved ones are still waiting to hear from him. They don't know what happened to him. They don't know if he is alive or dead. Many people's stories are like that. I cannot write everybody's story in this article.

Others seek asylum with the Home Office, explaining their bad situation and history. If the Home Office believes him, there is a good chance he will get a positive decision and become a refugee. If not, he is in big trouble.

After the first refusal he can go to the immigration judgement court. If refused again, his National Asylum Support Service (NASS) benefits will be stopped and he will lose his accommodation. Homeless and destitute, where will he live without support and without permission to work?

In my opinion the Home Office have a responsibility when someone gets a refusal. The asylum seeker is asked by the Home Office to return voluntarily to the very place he fears or face destitution. Homeless, and with no income to support himself, the asylum seeker may feel he has little choice but to work illegally, in which case, the employer probably pays well below the minimum wage.

I leave you the reader to decide who is at fault who has made the wrong decision and who is doing the wrong thing.

Ari Moustafa

Messenger Entrepreneur

Business Manager at the *Messenger*, Naheem Hanif has shown his entrepreneurial spirit by acquiring the *Messenger* Graphic Design service.

The Design Service has been responsible for many local publicity campaigns, promotional material and newsletters including the city centre newsletter *City Talk* and *Burngreave in Business* newsletter. National work has also been undertaken with customers as far afield as Scotland.



Although a new business name is now sought, Naheem is extremely optimistic about the future of the business.

"We use professional industry-standard software applications and are all highly skilled in this field. What sets us apart from our competitors is that we are cheaper (as we don't have the similar overheads), we are local and we have a team of experts."

The business has also adapted to the changing nature of communication – due to the rapid growth of the internet, a website development and digital photography service is now also available.

Naheem is a freelance journalist and graphic designer. He has an impressive portfolio of work with magazines including the *Burngreave Messenger*, *Fir Vale News*, *City Talk* and has also worked for the *Sheffield Star*. Naheem is also a copywriter for many advertising campaigns and publicity material. He graduated from the University of Hull with a BA (Hons) in Business Administration with specialism in Marketing.

A new website with full information and portfolio of work will be launched soon. Full details will be provided in the *Messenger*.

For further information please contact Naheem on 0795 734 1355 or email to: naheem@burngreave.net (Special rates given to locals).

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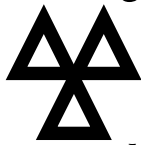
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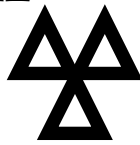
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Thirty-four years ago Grenadian scholar Bernard Coard caused a social and political storm – telling it how it was in his seminal study *How the West Indian Child is Made Educationally Subnormal in the British School System*. Exposing the plight of Black children in the education system, it kickstarted many of the anti-racist and multicultural policies of the 1970s and '80s.

Three decades on our schools still fail Black children. The book *Tell It Like It Is* reprints Coard's classic text alongside essays, articles and reflections from other scholars and activists – bringing the debate about race and education firmly into the 21st century.

This meeting in Sheffield is one of a number of meetings that have taken place around the country. Costs have been paid by Sheffield NUT (National Union of Teachers), because many teachers are also concerned to see these problems addressed.

Come along to discuss the issues, your experiences, and how we can effect change.

public meeting 7.30pm Tuesday

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