



## Honours for Burngreave

The Town Hall's reception room was full of Burngreave's finest on 25th January, as local Councillors, MPs Richard Caborn and David Blunkett and the Lord Mayor presented the Area Panel's New Year's Honours.

Photos: Anwar Suliman



Much recognition was given to those working with young people. From Elaine Virgo's long standing contribution to youth work in Fir Vale, to Imran Ali's passion to be a good role model. Steve Edwards was recognised for his outstanding work at Pitsmoor Adventure Playground and the coaches and managers at Earl Marshall Football Club received awards for their commitment. Youth workers from Streetworx were awarded for their impact on the



challenges faced by young people. Nasira Amin's award for her work with Reach High 2 Study Support, could not have had a more fitting acceptance speech,

*"As Malcolm X said, 'Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.'"*

Residents received well earned awards for their contributions to their local communities. Ivor Wallace for supporting developments in Page Hall, Anne Murdoch and Flo Gill for their dedication to Firs Hill TARA, Roger and Anne Sheldon for their unwavering commitment to Wensley TARA and members of Carwood TARA for their efforts on their estate.

Among the outstanding workers awarded where Anesar Shaibi, for her determined

support for those most in need in the Yemeni community, and Jim Bruce for his tireless efforts to improve the environment of Burngreave's streets.

The final presentation was a special award for Fazal Hussain, who set up the Pakistan Advice Centre in Fir Vale. He tragically died last year and his award was accepted by his wife and daughters, followed by a moving tribute by his daughter, Shamsbad, to the life and work of her father. She said,

*"He was never hungry for big public displays of recognition. He was a true activist who kept the needs of the most disadvantaged and powerless, as his central focus."*

A full list of award winners can be found on the Area Panel page, pg 20.

### Burngreave Bouncing Back

#### Community March

**Saturday 15 March 1 - 4pm**  
From Osgathorpe Park to the Town Hall

#### Banner making

**Saturday 16th Feb 1 - 4pm**

The Welcome Centre,  
Christ Church, Pitsmoor Road

Refreshments provided

*"The community is sick and tired of the rise in drugs and gun crime, and the negativity surrounding its community and young people."*

*"The senseless killing of Jonathan Matondo, Ibrahim Ilyas and Younis Khan has given rise to strong feelings to reclaim our community."*

The organisers, including local groups and churches, are appealing to all communities, cultures, religious orders, schools, youth groups and sympathisers to come and support this demonstration.

Contact Pastor Andrew Rashford-Hewitt for more information on 07931 732 490.

See Messenger website for full article by Maureen Griffiths.



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The Pitsmoor and Burngreave residents' information line is funded by Burngreave New Deal for Communities until 31st March 2008.

# New Deal controversy

Story: Members of the editorial team

**On January 23rd, the Sheffield Star published allegations concerning Burngreave New Deal and reported a call from the local Liberal Democrat leader for New Deal's Chief Executive to be suspended, and for governance arrangements at Burngreave New Deal to be investigated.**

The allegation is, essentially, that Burngreave New Deal employed two men who had been accused of improperly living rent-free in a property provided by Brent Council when they were in charge of a New Deal in South Kilburn. Bill Husband, who was sacked by South Kilburn after being found guilty of gross misconduct, was employed as temporary Deputy Director at Burngreave New Deal. Jack Davies, who resigned from South Kilburn, was awarded substantial contracts with Burngreave New Deal to deliver training.

Residents will be weary of yet another negative story about Burngreave in the

Star, but may take an interest in whether the power at Burngreave New Deal has shifted too far from local residents towards highly paid staff from outside the area, especially as there are no longer any local residents working at New Deal's main office.

New Deal has now terminated all contracts with the two men and is undertaking an internal enquiry. However, none of the senior officers at New Deal or New Deal Board members approached by the Messenger were able to provide any answers regarding what information senior management shared with Board members and whether Board members were able to scrutinise the appointment and the contracts.

Questions still requiring answers include:

- What did staff at New Deal in general, and the Chief Exec., in particular, know about the background of the two men?
- Was anything known about the two men's background communicated to the wider Partnership Board?
- What was the total amount of the contracts awarded to Jack Davies?
- Since it's usual for projects of over £50,000 to be approved by the Board, did this occur in this case?

## TESCO approved

Story: Carlene Hepworth

**Tesco's plan for a 10,000m<sup>2</sup> store at Spital Hill was approved by Sheffield City Council on 14th January. The store will include 871 parking spaces, a petrol station, car wash, recycling unit and offices. 395 jobs will be created in the Tesco store and a further 175 elsewhere in the development.**

However, fears grow that the supermarket could threaten shops on Spital Hill. Dave Havard, who works at New Roots Café, said, "My prediction is that some of those local businesses will go out of business. People do 'one-stop shopping' so they will go to Tesco." Keith Hobson, at his butcher's shop on Spital Hill, said, "Hopefully it will do some good but people won't go there and then come here afterwards. It could be the last nail in the coffin - or the other way round."

Other businesses hope the new store will bring more people into the area. Raja Sadiq of S. R. Raja's continental food store, said:

*"Of course it will affect us but I think if there are more people in the area then it is a good idea."*

Tesco has promised they will not sell specialist products for ethnic minorities. Spokesman Max Curtis said, "We aim to work with the businesses of Burngreave. There are a large number of specialist shops who offer completely different products and services to Tesco. We won't compete with them."

The planning conditions also restrict Tesco from opening a post office or a pharmacy.

Burngreave New Deal (BNDfC) believes it will help the community and businesses rather than hinder them. Alison Reid, of BNDfC, said:

*"There will be about 400 jobs at Tesco and we're hoping the majority of those are local people. It wouldn't do Tesco any favours if everybody did go out of business. It wouldn't do them any good to have a derelict road."*

Also included in the planning conditions is a clause requiring the commemorative tree and plaque dedicated to George Caborn to be "transplanted, preserved and replanted" once the building work is complete.

## The Editorial

### The Future of the Messenger

The Messenger faces a challenging year. We need to secure additional grant funding to continue the project as it is, but whatever happens we hope to be able to produce six issues this year.

We have been successful in the first stages of our Lottery and Tudor Trust bids, and we are waiting to hear if our second stage applications have been accepted.

Whatever the outcome we know we will need the help of our volunteers to keep the newspaper going and to make it as good as it can be.

If you would like to join our voluntary team of writers, photographers, proofreaders and editors. Please get in touch on 242 0564.

#### Issue dates for 2008

**April:** Deadline 19th March, Published 5th April

**June:** Deadline 14th May, Published 31st May

**August:** Deadline 2nd July, Published 19th July

**October:** Deadline 10th September, Published 27th September

**December:** Deadline 12th November, Published 29th November

### Messenger Info

Editorial meetings: 6.30 pm at Abbeyfield Park House  
Next meeting: Wed, 13th February

All welcome.

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This month's team: Richard Belbin, Ian Clifford, Rohan Francis, Lisa Harrison, Douglas Johnson, Seraphin Nyirenda, Jamie Marriott, Derrick Okrah, Christine Steers, Lisa Swift.

# Northern General drop £95,000 bill

Story: Kath Swinney

**Last issue the Messenger highlighted the case of Aman Ali, a refused asylum seeker, who was badly injured and received a massive bill from the Northern General Hospital. This bill has now been written off thanks to the support from his friends.**

Aman fell from 10m (about 30ft) and badly damaged five vertebrae. The treatment he received at the spinal unit saved his life. For two months he was lying in a special bed and rolled by machine. It was a long time before he could be touched. After a few months it still took 5 people to move him. By the time he was discharged he could stand for a few minutes and move about in a wheelchair thanks to the expert care at the spinal unit. He also had a bill for £95,000 because the government policy is that refused asylum seekers do not receive free care from the NHS.

A friend wrote to the Chief Executive of the Northern General Hospital, Andrew Cash OBE, and explained that the stress of the huge bill was having an adverse effect on Aman Ali's health. This is the reply:

*"Clearly Mr. Ali is unable to pay these costs, this organisation has therefore written off Mr. Ali's costs. There remains a wider issue about how the NHS recovers these costs but it is out of the scope of this case."*

The letter had been copied to Mr Ali's MP Richard Caborn, who has since been in touch to find out more about Aman Ali's case. Thank you to the Messenger for supporting this case and to Andrew Cash who has shown us that human rights are still important at the Northern General. We feel he deserves his OBE!

Thanks from Kath Swinney and Aman Ali.



# Skinnerthorpe receive CPO

Story: Carlene Hepworth & Lisa Swift

**Sheffield City Council has issued Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) against over 140 Fir Vale homes. Some home owners on Skinnerthorpe Road, Owler Lane, Bagley Road and Barnsley Road will be forced to sell their homes, so that the houses can be knocked down, as part of the Burngreave and Fir Vale Masterplan.**

The decision was approved on 16th January 2008 at a Council meeting, although the Council has stated that it will still be acquiring property by agreement, rather than CPOs, for up to a year.

45 of the homes have already been purchased by the Council, while some residents remaining are waiting for new housing to be built on the Earl Marshal site.

## No choice but to leave

Some of those who have already left, felt they had no choice but to go. Thazeem Hussain now lives in Firth Park. She said,

*"We had to leave, we have small children and the house was damp. One night the ceiling fell in, but what's the point of doing the house up when its going to be demolished. The Council offered us a house for half price because it had to be renovated, but the repairs have left us in debt. In a way I'm glad I'm out of Skinnerthorpe Road but I miss the community."*

Shanaz Begum, lived on Skinnerthorpe Road for 12 years before moving out last year. She said,

*"While we were living there, there were rats and mice, I felt that I had to move out. I don't feel its fair to put CPOs on those who are left. They are bullying residents. The Council's first offer for*

*my house was £35,000, they eventually gave me £71,000."*

Both Mrs Begum and Mrs Hussain urged residents to keep on at the Council until they get the price they want for their house.

Shaz, who is still a resident on Skinnerthorpe Road, thinks the council are not giving enough information. He said, "They are not giving us any security. They are doing things in their own time. If we ask, they give; if we don't ask, they don't bother. It's homework. You have to get it yourself."

## Broken promise on CPO

At a residents' meeting in January Skinnerthorpe residents complained that Housing Manager David Shepherd had promised there would be no CPO until it was clear what would be built on Earl Marshal for displaced residents. There are still no plans for Earl Marshal but Councillor Chris Weldon promised,

*"Anyone who wants to move to Earl Marshal, will be able to."*

There is a commitment that homes on Earl Marshal will be affordable, i.e. no more than the value of their current homes plus a Council loan of up to £75,000. One resident said:

*"There's no doubt that Councillor Weldon is trying to do his best for us, and we'd love to stay and have a new house on Earl Marshal, but we are worried they will be matchboxes."*

Residents were concerned that the development was originally planned to be 63 homes and is now going to be 70 or 80 homes. And no timescales can be given. One housing officer said that work would definitely start on site by September 2009, but with a new process being considered for choosing a developer, its unclear how anyone can be sure when building will start.

Chris Weldon made a commitment that residents will have a say on the design of the housing on Earl Marshal and that CPOs would not affect residents who wanted to move to new homes.

# Pedestrian crossings

Story: Lisa Harrison & Lisa Swift

**Some local people have criticised the new crossings recently installed on Burngreave Road and Spital Hill as part of the Better Buses scheme.**

The old pelican crossings, which have the red/green man signal directly across the road from pedestrians, have been replaced with puffin crossings, which have the red/green man signal appearing on the same side of the road as waiting pedestrians.

Several residents have written about their concerns. Their comments are printed here. If you would like to join in the debate, e-mail us at [messenger@burngreave.net](mailto:messenger@burngreave.net) or leave a comment on our website: [www.burngreavemessenger.org](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org)

*"Traffic lights are very dangerous in the Burngreave area. The blind people used to hear a loud signal telling to cross the road, but now we don't have that, so it makes it dangerous. It is better than having no lights at all, but children can have an accident by not looking by their side. They should put the lights in front of the children and not next to them."*

*By Zahra Saleh*

*"I asked some people who live on Catherine Road, they told me that the traffic lights are very dangerous and they spent a long time waiting, and hope to change something."*

*Amal Ahmed*

*"I live on Burngreave Road. Near to my house there are four traffic lights. The cars come from four ways. Before the road did not have traffic lights and it was very dangerous and there were lots of accidents. It is better now."*

*Khadiza Hassan*

*"I think it was better before than it is now because before the crossing lights*

*were in front of you and now it is at the bottom of the lamp, so you can't see it well. Sometimes you wait a long time, before it was very quick."*

The Messenger spoke to Howard Saffer of the Council's Traffic Signals department. He explained that all new crossings are the type recommended by central government. One reason for having the signal at your right is so pedestrians will be looking in the direction of traffic, rather than across the road. It makes it more likely for people to see if cars have stopped.

*"A new feature of the crossing is that detectors can see when someone is on the crossing, so although you can't see the green man, the lights will not let traffic start until you are completely across the road. If it takes you a long time to cross, the lights will wait."*

It's possible that crossings that once beeped, but now don't, will have the sound restored. The Council is looking into this.

# Bird sculpture

Story: Jon Dallow | Photo: Richard Belbin

**A new 'Boy and Bird' sculpture can be seen waving at you as you travel down Rutland Road, prompting some phone calls to find out what it all means.**

The bird of prey looks like a kestrel, as often seen hovering over the cliffs at Parkwood Springs near the ski village, although tales also exist of men flying falcons on the site in their youth.

Sheffield artist Jason Thomson worked with local children and the Parkwood Springs Group to develop a new sculpture in cast iron, which rusts to a distinctive colour.

The tree root the bird perches on harks back to the 17th century when the sculpture would have been in what was then called 'Cook's Wood'. The word 'spring' in 'Parkwood Springs' has nothing to do with water but lots to do with the old woodlands.

The boy's gloved hand raises yet more discussion. Is he off to play cricket - or be a goalie? Maybe it's a work glove from the old factories like Stanley Tools, that used to line Rutland Road?

Best bet - go and have a look yourself and make your own mind up. Whilst you're there, take five minutes to follow



the footpath up the hill, where you will find a bench at the top and a fantastic view across the city.

It is hoped the sculpture will become a much-loved local landmark and is part of the ongoing work at Parkwood Springs.

Jason Thomson's previous work has included the 'steel man' near the Parkway at Bowden Housteads woods and the 'old man of the woods' at the back of Firth Park clock tower.

# Council under pressure on freehold sales

Story: Lisa Swift

**Two Sheffield residents' groups joined Cookwood residents in expressing anger at the Council, who sold the land under their homes at auction.**

Following a petition from Hollybank residents, the council were forced to review the issue at a Scrutiny meeting at the Town Hall in December.

Council officers and our councillor Steve Jones were under fire from Liberal Democrat councillors, who criticised their procedures as unfair. Residents from three areas across Sheffield experienced a lack of information before the sale of their freeholds and were denied the right to buy their freeholds directly from the Council.

The Council has suspended the sale of freeholds until a fairer process can be put in place. Residents affected were also offered free legal advice from the Council's legal department. And in future the Council promised to make it clear to residents that they could buy their freehold at any time.



# Streetworx Youth Conference

Story: Afrah Alkheili  
Photos: Anwar Suliman

**This event was impressive. The anticipation and hard work of the youth councillors paid off in the end.**

Fady and Fagr focused a workshop on guns and knives. With the help of PC Hancock, they managed to piece together displays of different knives and guns to illustrate the kinds of weapons that have been used by young people. Afrah's workshop focused on drugs - a brief talk by Chris and Aziz from the Burngreave Drug Project was followed by information from SHED (Sheffield's young people's drugs project) about their services. Mohammed and Haseena did their workshop on the successes of young people, followed by a brief session on how to make the most of your time and abilities. Zainab's workshop raised an awareness of issues related to crime and addressed the diverse issues facing young people.

A panel of important decision makers were brought together to answer the concerns discussed in the workshops.



Many stressed the importance of banning toy guns, as they cause immense distress, not only to adults but also to children.

The reason behind the Youth Conference is to bring young people together, to discuss relevant issues concerning young people's lives. This event was also meant to encourage local residents, and other decision makers in the area, to come along and hear what is being said. It was also about realising that young people are important contributors, economically, socially, and even politically. Giving them a voice is the Youth Council's aspiration, both now and for the long term.

Many people praised the event and stressed the importance of addressing not only the setbacks but also the need to take in hand the ways young people



can be backed by their community. Through realising that there are problems, the foremost question is how we can tackle them together, as service providers, as residents, as parents and as a whole community. Many discussed the reasons behind certain illegal acts, the choices that are made and the consequences that result. The workshop on the successes of young people focused on the employment rate and concluded that a high percentage of people in Burngreave are on benefits.

It is essential to appreciate that this is a first event for the Youth Council and should be seen as breaking the barriers and the fears of speaking out.

## 'Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do It!'

Story: Liz Searle

**One in five children are overweight in the UK. It can have a serious effect on your health, but making changes to your lifestyle is difficult. The new MEND project (Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do It) is designed to help children improve their fitness and lose weight.**

Seven Burngreave families committed to the ten-week course, which began at Verdon Recreation Centre in September 2007, attending four hours of activities per week and learning about nutrition and fitness.

A second course started on Monday 14th January, facilitated by Saduf Khan and Hayley Parsisson, who demonstrated the benefits of nutrition (eating well, understanding food labels, and planning menus) and physical activity (sports, games and exercises).

Hayley explained why families enjoyed the MEND course so much:

*"They developed their motivation and team building skills. Everyone had the chance to take the lead in activities, getting their endorphins going and working as a team."*

Saduf talked about the outstanding results of the last programme - all of the seven families completed it and achieved their targets of improving their diet and fitness. She says that the MEND course is 'all child-friendly, fun and interactive', yet needs to be taken seriously as it involves making a lifestyle change.

*"MEND is about parents understanding the need for change, every aspect of what they put into their mouths, and how they think about food and their lives."*

Families who took part said they have learnt new exercise routines and how to plan healthy meals; enjoyed



trampolining and rounders; and changed their lifestyles in terms of eating more healthily, doing more exercise and being more active. Their comments included:

*"You get fitter, but it doesn't feel like it because you're having so much fun"*

*"We're trying new foods and recipes"*

*"It's life changing"*

*"The trampolining session was fantastic"*

*"The programme should last longer"*

**If you are interested in joining the next MEND course, get in touch with Aislinn Adams, Hayley Parsisson or Saduf Khan at Verdon Recreation Centre on (0114) 249 1626.**

# Two sides to every Academy

Story: Douglas Johnson

**Strong feelings were expressed at two well-attended meetings set up to consult the public about Parkwood School. The proposals are to transfer Parkwood School out of the Council's control to become an Academy, sponsored by a private business organisation called Edutruster.**

The government is promoting Academies, which were initially aimed at failing schools. Parkwood is not a failing school but its headteacher and Governors are still keen to explore Academy status. The school would become a limited company, with the majority of governors appointed by Edutruster. The sponsor is required to pay an endowment and takes over the school site and buildings.

## More money

The first meeting on 10th January was at Parkwood School, the second, at the Vestry Hall on the 18th, saw more people from Burngreave as Pye Bank School is a feeder for Parkwood. Both meetings were fronted by a panel of 3 – headteacher Chris Mallaband, Bill Goodwin from the Council and Dame Marlene Robottom from Edutruster.

Mr Mallaband spoke passionately of the possible benefits from partnership with business, including a little more money – admittedly only about 1% of the school budget. Edutruster said their primary aim was “to make a difference to students’ life chances”, though she was less clear about quite how that was to happen.

## Loss of Control

Next parents, teachers, adult learning workers and community activists asked questions, the majority about issues of control of the school. The panel stated, “Trustees appointed by the sponsor form

# Parkwood success

Parkwood’s recent OFSTED report is full of praise: a letter to the students from the lead inspector says that their positive attitude and enthusiastic learning go to make it a good school. She also refers to the excellent leadership at the school, parental involvement and support for those students who find school difficult.

The inspectors found nothing unsatisfactory and described several aspects of the school as outstanding. The

majority of the Governing Body,” but people asked whether this was really necessary. Councillor Jackie Drayton joined those querying the transfer away from democratic control by the governors. Edutruster did not respond.

Everyone agreed the school is currently doing very well indeed under its current headteacher but Mr Mallaband said just a small wobble would destabilise progress. A parent then asked if the upheaval of becoming an Academy might cause such an upset. The panel was also asked about teachers’ pay and conditions.

Unfortunately, the somewhat vague answers given didn’t seem to satisfy the audience. Edutruster’s promises of “working in partnership with stakeholders” didn’t seem to fit with the need to have majority control of the Governing body. The most direct question to Edutruster was, “Why don’t you just give the money? Why do you need control?”

Mr Mallaband was candid that the school was considering a gamble but made clear it has to take risks all the time. He also pointed to the prestige of having the name “Academy” which he felt would bring motivation to staff and students.

Unfortunately the meetings became very tense at times, with a gulf appearing to open up between the handful of school staff who were very strongly in favour of Academy status and the majority of the questioners. This led to the meetings becoming chaotic, with the feeling of clumsy stage-management of a bad school play.

Campaigners against Academy status hope to further air the issues at meetings at the Vestry Hall on February 19th and Shirecliffe Community Centre on February 28th.

A decision on whether to move to a feasibility stage will be made by Council Cabinet on 27th February, and, if agreed, debated at full Council on 5th March.

leadership of the school and effectiveness of Governors is underpinned by Mr Mallaband’s “exceptional team of energetic leaders”, discrimination is tackled and partnership working outstanding.

Parkwood is third out of Sheffield’s 27 schools in a Government league table of pupil progress. As to actual GCSE successes, Mr Mallaband is rightly very proud of the fact that 99% of students left with at least some GCSE qualification. Mr Mallaband said, “Our number one priority for next year is to be outstanding.”

# Downing Street visit

**My name is Kadie-Ann. I am 16 years of age and on the Burngreave Youth Council (YCB). We are here to help our community and help put back the good in our area which is known for drugs, teenage pregnancy, underachievement and violence.**



A lot of people around Sheffield have a lot of prejudices and stereotype us people of Pitsmoor. Those sorts of people just see the bad points of our area but we know there are good skills and qualities hidden and which need to be recognised.

## Making a difference

I was invited to No.10 Downing Street by Sheffield MP Richard Caborn and Prime Minister Gordon Brown to attend a reception on 16th January. This opportunity to represent our community shows we have the potential to do well and have been recognised by the Prime minister. When I spoke to Mr Brown, we discussed what we can do to help the poor children of India. We have agreed to fundraise and make people more aware of what’s happening around the world. By doing this we can show Gordon that we are capable of helping others and ourselves. We need help from the local community to do this and will advertise events soon. Come along with family and friends to help make a difference.

We should all be about unity and sticking together. We are one area and without togetherness it will be hard to make a difference. Everybody deserves a chance to do better and achieve their aspirations. I hope you do this and prove all the people wrong that have negative thoughts about Pitsmoor.

**For more information on fundraising for India call 272 3628.**

## Halfway mental health services



Story: Richard Belbin  
Photo: Nicholas Hall

**The Messenger went to visit Burngreave residents Andrew Martin and Nahid Aziz, in order to find out more about their work at Community Action Halfway, a voluntary sector provider of mental health services.**

Andrew and Nahid have both taken up working in the area after completing their

university courses. Halfway has residential and community support services, an OCD (obsessive-compulsive disorder) support service, a programme for volunteers and a befriending service.

Nahid, along with colleagues Jonathan and John, is particularly concerned with supporting people with OCD, an anxiety disorder which involves unwanted intrusive thoughts, tiresome rituals and a great deal of stress and hardship.

"Although OCD can affect anyone from any background, there is a lack of information and understanding about the condition and cultural differences may create other barriers to getting help – a problem which is no doubt evident in areas such as Burngreave," Nahid told us.

*"The most common ways are hygiene and contamination - feeling you have to wash your hands and yourself constantly - and safety - checking locks and bolts, etc. Often there is a need to maintain an 'orderly and tidy' routine and almost constant feelings of guilt. It's important to know that OCD is a treatable condition and that people need not suffer in silence."*

Andrew runs a scheme to encourage volunteers to get involved. He says, "We get people to carry out a range of tasks. As well as the befriending, we help people to partake in 'key work' with a client - things like budgeting and cooking. Life skills, if you like."

*"I've found it a great job. It's very rewarding, doing something with someone that gives them a better quality of life."*

Halfway's befriending service, run by Gail, can simply mean meeting with people to reduce their isolation and getting them out. "We are always on the look out for more befrienders. It can be individually rewarding, as well as offering a good route into Mental Health or Social Work."

If you are interested in helping out as a volunteer or if you think you might be interested in any of these services yourself, you can contact Halfway on 279 6777 ([www.cahh.org.uk](http://www.cahh.org.uk)) or take a look at the OCD Action website – <http://www.ocdaction.org.uk>.



## Inspired by Martin Luther King Junior

Story and photos: Seraphin Nyirenda

**Born on January 15th 1929, Martin Luther King was an inspired and wonderful person who an entire black generation trusted and put their hope in.**

**I have a dream...  
What is your dream?**

On Monday 21st January at Christ Church Pitsmoor, the Martin Luther King Junior Planning Group organised an event, reminding us how wonderful Martin Luther King was and how his war for freedom, justice and equality began. Over 50 people from all generations came together for the event, creating a lovely atmosphere. We had performances with dancers from Ellesmere Youth Project, High Storrs and Second Step. We also had discussion groups looking at violence, speaking out, justice and love:

**Violence:** People concluded that hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that. It is not good to react in violence.

**Speaking out:** The entire group concluded that our lives begin to end, the day we become silent about the things that matter.

**Justice:** MLK was fighting for justice; people should not wait for others to fight for their justice. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

**Love:** Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend. We need to show to others that only love is the way to fulfil our dream.

Lolita Allen, presenter for the evening, spoke about the need to love and respect all humans and treat them as equals.

*"I am convinced that if we succumb to the temptation to use violence in our struggle for freedom, unborn generations will be the recipients of a long and desolate night of bitterness, and our chief legacy to them will be a never-ending reign of chaos."*

Lolita said gun crime is a problem now



in Sheffield, England and all over the world. Not only should friends talk about stopping this before people die, but so should all adults, teachers, and the people working in the Churches and Mosques if we are going to win the fight against guns.

Lloyd Samuels, a Sheffield Live presenter said, "This is a right time to stop and fight against the injustice and racism by acting justly and honestly, we should trust and believe in God."

The event was finished by a song from Second Steps, which was a popular song for freedom.

**The Martin Luther King Junior Planning Group needs your help and support. For more details please contact Nick Edmondson on 07725 569 380.**



## Suria Saleh

Story: Amal Ahmed and Anab Ali

**Suria Saleh enrolled at Sheffield Hallam University in September 2006 to do a PGCE/CertEd, and graduated last year ready to continue her role as a teacher at the Yemeni Community Association.**

Suria came from Yemen in 1991 and attended Earl Marshall School. She came to this country with her Mum and her five brothers.

*"My father came to Sheffield in the 1960s and he worked in a steel factory. My father used to visit us in Yemen every two years but in the 1980s the policy changed and my father decided to bring us to the UK. There were barriers for me, like culture, language and the climate, but now England is my second home."*

In 1995 she finished school and went to the college for one year to do health and social care, but she didn't finish the course, "I decided to get a job with the Council so I could earn some money. I was also helping people in the Yemeni community who can't speak English. I was reading them their letters and helping them with their affairs."

Then Suria got married and had two children. She helped set up a Yemeni Women's group and trained to do translating and interpreting. Two years ago she was offered a teaching job at the Yemeni Community Centre. But in all that time she had no qualifications, so she enrolled part-time at Sheffield Hallam University to get her degree.

When we asked what advice she could give other mothers about being a student she said, "Give it your best. Get to know your neighbours and friends. When you need support they can help you." She also said, "As a Muslim, home life is demanding. I'm a mother, wife and sister, and I have responsibilities. If you want to be a graduate it's good to have the support of your family and your husband."

Suria hopes to go back to Yemen in the future with her husband to start a business and use her skills as a teacher.

## Sagr Abdullafeheh

### Ali Al-Afif

Story: Molly Butler

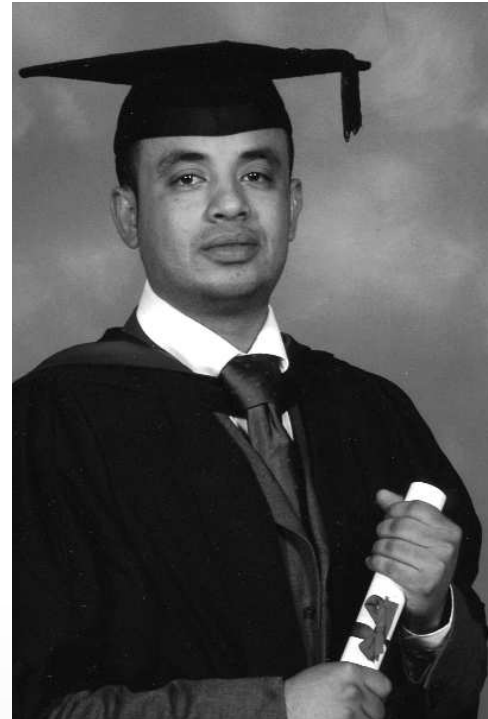
**Sagr lived in London and arrived in Sheffield in 1997 with his brother and a sister. He lived in Burngreave and went to Parson Cross College doing a GNVQ in Information Technology.**

He went to the Yemini Refugee Organisation as a volunteer and progressed to paid work for two years at the Spectrum Centre as a system network administrator for their computer network. He also worked on many of the events held at the centre.

When the job came to an end because of funding, his friends and family encouraged him to go to university to further his education and he did Information Technology Networks at Sheffield Hallam University.

*"I had particular support from two friends who I call my two golden brothers, Adel and Hani Mutlak, who said 'we've done it, why not you.'"*

The degree included personal development in IT such as Cisco Academy in networking 1 and 2, Local Area Network, application programming and data modelling alongside the cutting edge of computer databases. It was



challenging, but he believes IT is the way forward for success.

Sagr graduated on the same day as his sister, Naserin who achieved a BSc (Hon) in Forensic Engineering, and now he is trying to persuade Noria, his younger sister, to follow in their footsteps, after achieving ten GCSEs!

He would like to thank his parents for their motivation. He also says that people at university are very friendly and really helpful, and he made good friends. Sagr thinks education is very important and you have to work hard, but he said:

*"If I can do it, anyone can!"*

He has applied to do a Masters and hopes to progress to a professional job in IT.

## Farana Akhtar

Story: Fran Belbin

**Farana Akhtar graduated from Sheffield Hallam University last year after studying for four years part-time for a BSc in Biomedical Science.**

Farana is 28 and was a pupil at Earl Marshall School before taking a GNVQ in Science at Castle College. After college she started work as a lab assistant at the NHS Blood and Transplant Service in Longley and took her degree while working.

*"I enjoyed the course - it was hard work*

*because I was working full-time as well but it was a good experience. I had a lot of support from the lecturers who understood the pressures and worked around me."*

After the course Farana also completed a professional portfolio to get her registration with the Health Professions Council, which means she is now a qualified biomedical scientist.

For now, however, Farana is facing a new challenge as she had her first baby, a boy, in December! She plans to return to work full-time at the NHS in the future.

*"I strongly recommend that people from the area should get into studying - it is hard work, but worth it in the end!"*

For more profiles and case studies visit The Aimhigher Graduation Project website at [www.thegraduationproject.ac.uk](http://www.thegraduationproject.ac.uk). Sheffield Hallam University encourages students of all ages and backgrounds to consider higher education as an option. For more information about Sheffield Hallam University and courses available see [www.shu.ac.uk](http://www.shu.ac.uk) or call us on 0114 225 5555.

# Hope in new youth workers

Six young people will have the opportunity to train as youth workers over the next three months, through a new project by Streetworx called Hope.

Their training will include health and safety, coaching skills and how to deliver activities for other young people. Streetworx youth worker, Uzma Bibi, has developed the project and told the Messenger,

*"These young people are role models for others, they have already shown their commitment to making something positive happen in our area. We hope they will use their new skills and experience to go on to jobs or further training and that they will make a real difference for other young people."*

The Hope youth workers are keen to work with other projects, for more information contact Uzma Bibi on 07894 395 815

Burngreave  
**Streetworx**  
Project

**HOPE**

Supported by Burngreave Opportunities

Photos: Amal Ismail



**My name is Jerone Blake.** I'm from Pitsmoor Burngreave, I have lived in the area for 19 years. I got involved with the project through volunteering and participating in activities put on by Burngreave

Streetworx. Before this opportunity came about I was a security guard for Ace Securities Ltd.

There needs to be more positive role models for young people and more hope and future for young people. My hopes for the future are to find more positive young achievers to carry on the work. The qualities that make me a good role model for young people are that I'm outgoing, I'm good at listening to other people's thoughts and I'm good at interacting with people of all ages and I've always been my own person.

**My name is Shaun.** I live in Pitsmoor. I got involved by a member of staff putting my name forward. I wasn't working before this, so I am going to make the most of this opportunity.



The changes that I think are needed are more events for young people but not just in the day but also at night. I think I'd make a good role model because I know most of the young kids in the area so when they see me working it will influence them to make something of themselves.

**My name is Kasum** and I have lived in Pitsmoor all my life and I think it's a great place to live. I got to know about the Hope project by regularly visiting the Verdon Street Centre. Before the project came along I was out of a job and had left college.



I believe the area needs a few changes, maybe a youth club or more activities for the youth to keep them busy. I believe the youth of Pitsmoor can have a bright future if they are kept off the streets and out of trouble. That's why the Hope project can be very successful because we are the youth of Pitsmoor and we know what the youth need and we can be a great help for them.

**My name is Malaki Preston.** I live in the Burngreave area, which is where I am from. Before this opportunity, I wasn't doing anything, I was going to look for a job but lucky enough this came along.



Changes should be made around the area, there should be places like youth clubs to get youth off the streets and not up to no good. My hopes for the future are to become a good worker, with a good job and to help youth and children. I think I would make a good role model because I can communicate with kids my age and younger, let them know what kind of things I've been through and for them not to do the same.

**My name is Ahseem** and I'm from Pitsmoor. I got involved in the project by talking to Uzma Bibi, I did some voluntary work with her and she helped me a lot with looking for jobs and getting on to courses.



Before this trainee job I used to go up Sharrow Youth Centre (Football Unites Racism Divides). I did voluntary work up there, like street kick, delivering sessions in schools and organising events.

I think the area needs to change in a lot of ways. We need more facilities for the young people to use, more youth centres, ongoing sessions at night. That's when the young people are out on the streets doing nothing but causing trouble - they are bored and have nothing to do.

In the future I hope to be a Burngreave community worker because I want to help young people as much as I can. I think I will be a good role model because I think positive and I want to get the best out of young people.

**My name is Rayon** and I'm from Pitsmoor. I decided to get involved with youth work when I went on a 4 week course, introduction to youth and community work. Before this I was involved in football coaching at local schools and community resource centres.

I think the area has changed in many ways although there is still room for improvement, as there is not enough youth provision. Facilities that captivate young people such as music studio, sport centre, Astro turf football pitch with a floodlight area are all positive improvements to the area and would encourage young people to engage positively.

I want to make a positive impact on the community and surrounding communities using my skills and knowledge. I think young people in the area can relate to me as I live and was raised in the area and I understand the issues that young people face.



## 2008 IS YOUR YEAR FOR CHANGE FORUM HOUSE RECRUITMENT AND OPEN DAY TUESDAY 13TH FEBUARY 1pm—7pm

**Looking for work? Working but want a change?**

**Want to start a course? Want to start your own business?**

Find out information from key employers such as NHS, Kier and Sheffield City Council. Get advice and up to date information on training courses in the area. Attend the BIG workshops to see how we can help you be your own boss.



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For more information about Forum House and its services contact 0114 275 5106

Forum House is open from 9am–5pm

# Pitsmoor Adventure Playground Special Events



From February, Activity Sheffield's *Pitsmoor Adventure Playground* will be holding a **FREE** special event once a month!

The first three of these will be:

## Play is back at Pitsmoor Last Saturday of every month

A variety of activities showing how the playground provides fun and all round development for local children.

Between 12 and 4pm there will be a variety of play experiences for children and their families to take part in, including:

- Parachute games / group quizzes
- 5 a side football tournament
- Chess competition
- Arts and crafts activities rotated throughout the day, such as designing of mural wall / plaster of Paris modelling / chalk art on the roof
- Fancy dress

## Under 5s Area Launch Party Saturday 23 February

With the help of the Big Lottery Fund, we have been able to purchase an Under 5s Area with mini slide / climbing wall / climbing tower / special soft pour flooring and picket fence.

This area will be available from the 5th February. The launch event is planned for 23rd February, 12-4pm.

Local councillor Jackie Drayton and public figures are being invited to the event with the official opening and ribbon cutting planned for 1pm.

**For more information,  
please contact Steve Edwards,  
Play Development Officer on:**

**Telephone: (0114) 203 9394**

**Email: [steve.edwards@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:steve.edwards@sheffield.gov.uk)**

## Easter Party Saturday 22 March

Lots of Easter fun activities including: easter egg hunt / decorating easter eggs / easter bonnet decoration / quiz / party games / face painting etc.

Party will be 12-4pm.



## Tree planting in Burngreave

Winter is a busy time for the Community Forestry team. This season activities have included the planting of trees and daffodil bulbs on Wensley Street with the help of youngsters from Fir Vale, planting small trees with pupils from St. Catherine's School and planting two large cypress trees with Green City Action (GCA) to support the opening of the Vestry Hall.

Six large mountain ashes were also planted with the Landfill Action Group at the Rutland Road entrance to Parkwood Springs, and 22 heavy standard white mulberry trees were planted with the help of Greenfingers allotment group on the re-landscaped bank on Grimesthorpe Road. This exciting new scheme is aimed at renewing the presence of mulberries following the removal of mature mulberry trees across the road to make way for a new development.

Young people from Earl Marshal Connexions Centre joined GCA and the Ranger Service to undertake woodland management and a tidy up in the woodland along Bagley Dike. This band of woodland has historic importance and boasts a fine variety of woodland plant communities.

## Events planned for 2008 include:

- Field maples, mountain ash and fruit trees planted at Parkwood Springs along with a belt of 400 small native trees.
- Heavy standard tree planting in Osgathorpe, Abbeyfield and Ellesmere Parks.
- The 'greening' of housing sites on Verdon St, Firs Hill Crescent and Spital St.
- Trees on highway verges.

Call Tim on **(0114) 273 4190** to get involved in the events this season or to suggest a potential tree-planting site.



## Trees for Free

We are offering apple and pear trees again this season for residents interested in growing food at home. Tree and shrub species will also be available to create hedges, an excellent way of marking boundaries whilst providing valuable habitats for wildlife. Please call the number below with your name, address, contact number and tree requirements. This offer is only available to residents of Burngreave.





## Aiming high

Story: Seraphin Nyirenda.

**Local student, Salim Omar has recently been recognised for his outstanding academic achievements at a special awards ceremony held by the European Social Fund. Out of 900 applicants Salim became one of five finalists who were awarded for their hard work and achievement.**

Born in Yemen in 1989, Salim came to Britain at the age of 16. In 2006 he

enrolled on the Community Foundation Studies programme, run by Sheffield College in Fir Vale. Despite having practically no English skills when he began the course, Salim made phenomenal progress and excelled academically in both English and Maths. He quickly learned to settle into a completely different culture and overcame many barriers.

*"I first attended the Fir Vale Centre for a Summer Course and then completed the Foundation Studies year and now I'm studying at Castle College."*

The Foundation Studies Course teaches you English, Maths and IT but you can also choose to study specialist subjects.

*"A good knowledge of the English language is the first step and I wanted to study Maths and Science because they provide a good grounding for higher level courses. I found the Maths course a challenge because it is taught very differently in Yemen. But I managed to achieve level 2."*

The course helped Salim make lots of friends. He was able to meet many different people from different backgrounds. Winning the award generated a great deal of attention; we asked him how he felt:

*"I'm very happy. I would like to thank Dawn Griffiths, my tutor for all her help."*

In the future, Salim wants to get into Medical Engineering – designing and creating the machines and equipment that are used in hospitals and medical centres. He is enjoying his current course and told us:

*"I'm studying Engineering at level 3; it's great, but difficult and the Engineering words can be hard for me to understand, but when I go home I use my dictionary to learn them. One of my tutors congratulated me on how well I was doing, which is encouraging."*

Salim is applying to go to Sheffield Hallam University in September to do a Foundation in Engineering and is waiting to hear if he has a place.

*"In the future I want to have a good life, a good job and a good family. I would say to other young people – never ever give up, your lives will change and get better."*

The Burngreave Messenger wishes Salim good luck in his chosen career and hopes he is successful in his application to university.

## Education Chief opens toilet

Story: Gaby Spinks  
Photos: Anwar Suliman

**On the 6th December a momentous occasion occurred at Firs Hill Primary School. Jonathan Crossley-Holland, Director of Children's and Young Peoples Directorate opened his very first lavatory!**

Headteacher Dina Martin opened the event by thanking all those involved in the planning, and announced that the OFSTED inspection received that week had some very good comments, with a couple of 'outstandings'.

### School Council

The idea for the new toilet area - a unique design for schools - came from a secondary school in Bristol that a group of staff, parents and children had visited earlier in the year. The School Council had highlighted that the toilets and cloakrooms in the junior building were a problem area with some bullying and children messing around with water and other children's belongings. These new



facilities are based on an open plan layout with no corners or doors for children to hide behind. The cubicles are unisex with floor to ceiling doors so there can be no peeking underneath. They are also only large enough for one child to use at a time. The wash area is very space-age, with a circular sink with four sprinklers. Soap dispensers stand in the centre of the room, and lights come on automatically with a sensor.

Firs Hill Drummers entertained the crowd with a couple of pieces. The drummers are all junior children, and recently went through to the next round of the talent contest "The Big Drum".

### Beacon of Engagement

Mr Crossley-Holland said he was very impressed and it was no accident that parents and children helped with decision-making; the school is a beacon in its engagement with children and parents.

The party then went on to officially open the newly refurbished caretaker's house. The building will be used for meetings and courses.

# Award winning Page Hall

Story: Rohan Francis & Ivor Wallace  
Photos: Ivor Wallace

Page Hall Community Association was formed in 2005 when a group of residents came together to fight the Council's plan to knock down their homes. Since then they have seized the opportunity to do positive things for the area.

"Demolition is History. What's happening now is really good," the group's chair Ivor Wallace told us.

## Page Hall success

In 2007 Page Hall's terraces were decorated with an array of hanging baskets. In a joint effort with Green City Action, Street Force and the Burngreave Area Panel, Page Hall residents aimed to work the same magic that brought them success in Britain In Bloom and Sheffield In Bloom in 2006. The street's colourful floral decorations made such an impact that not only did they win a Merit in Britain In Bloom they were also joint winners of this year's Environment Community Award, the fifth such award for this community. On receiving the award from the Lord Mayor on 3rd December 2007, Ivor Wallace said,

*"I feel proud of Page Hall that our efforts are appreciated; our members give up their free time to get involved and raise the profile of Page Hall."*



Following the success of their environmental achievements Page Hall Community Association, residents, local college students and Community Forester Tim Shortland, planted several new trees in the area. The tree species were carefully selected in order to minimise root damage and shade to properties whilst offering the benefits of spring blossom and autumn colour in the form of small bright berries.

The area has also seen improvements to street lighting on Hinde Street and Willoughby Street. The positive developments continue with the recent arrival of a glass recycling bin on Popple Street and a plan to inform residents of domestic recycling opportunities using their blue bins.

## On Wade Street this Spring

Wade Street Green Space is a new project to renovate a triangle of land at the end of Wade Street and bordering the Wensley estate and Owler Brook

School. Residents have been involved in consultation events with the East Regeneration Team and the Council's architects to come up with a new layout for the site. The plans include the planting of 7 new trees, demolishing an existing wall to open up the area bordering the school and installing new lighting, seating and bollards.

## Plans for the future

Page Hall's Victorian terraces have withstood the threat of complete demolition under the original 'Masterplan' for the area. They are now destined to stand for a great deal longer as the victorious residents have steered regeneration plans towards supporting the creation of a sustainable community. The buildings themselves have been the focus of a national competition in which architects were challenged to come up with affordable renovation schemes that would improve the home's quality, energy efficiency and layout. The winning designs will be used to renew five empty properties in Page Hall which will then be opened for the public to view.

The Council also plans to introduce a 'Homezone' to the area which is designed to improve the streets for residents, by making alterations to the road layout, pavements and parking arrangements. Page Hall Community Association and the Council have developed ideas for a new layout of Wade Street, where work is expected to begin sometime after April.

Page Hall Community Association and the East Regeneration Team hope to continue their collaboration in the future and will be seeking funding for Page Hall projects over the next three years. Plans are already in place for the area to enter Yorkshire In Bloom 2008.

**If you'd like to get involved in the group contact: Ivor Wallace, Page Hall Community Association on 0114 242 0205 or email: [burlives@talktalk.net](mailto:burlives@talktalk.net).**



# Burngreave Small Grants Fund



*Get involved with your community...*

Do you or your organisation have a new idea that would benefit local residents – would a small grant help to make it happen?

Organisations can apply for a grant of up to **£5000** and individuals and groups can also benefit with grants of up to **£500**. *Social and sporting activities are eligible for up to £500.*

Examples of what we fund are...

- Activities for children or young people
  - Trips for local residents
  - Education and courses
  - Healthy eating or exercise initiatives
  - Environmental improvements
  - Equipment for local groups
- and much more!*

Your applications will be considered as long as the people who benefit are residents of the Burngreave New Deal Area.

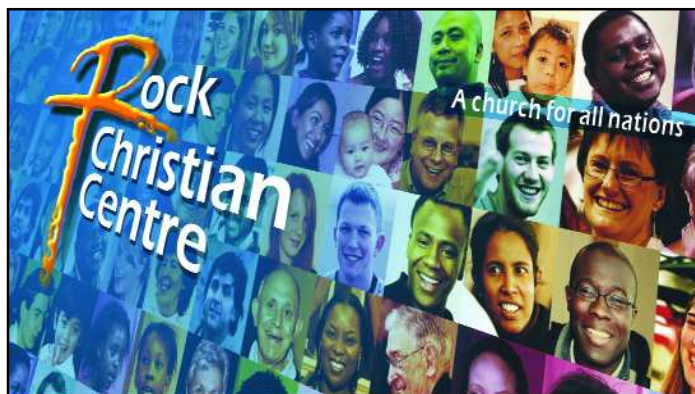
The Grants Panel meets in the last week of every month; application deadlines are two weeks before. Contact the grants team for more information.

**For an application pack:**

Phone the Grants Team (Val and Chris) on: 292 2905

Or download a pack from our website:

[www.bndfc.co.uk/projects/smallgrants](http://www.bndfc.co.uk/projects/smallgrants)



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**Do you need help making your business more successful?**



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in Burngreave

**Are you looking for help and advice to start your own business?**

**Have you got ideas about making a difference in your community?**

**Then come and talk to us!**

The **Burngreave Business Support team** is here to help you, your business or your enterprise idea grow and prosper. We are a dedicated resource that is committed to helping individuals and businesses in Burngreave.

We can offer you a variety of help and advice that includes dedicated advice and information on:

**Marketing • Finance • Legal Issues  
Skills Analysis • Funding • Business Planning**

We even have grants to help get you going!

To find out how the **Burngreave Business Support team** can help you or your business, please contact:

**Business Support Team,  
Forum House, 35 Spital Hill, Sheffield, S4 7LD.**

**Telephone: (0114) 292 0462**

**E-mail: [businesssupport@bndfc.co.uk](mailto:businesssupport@bndfc.co.uk)**

BURNGREAVE BUSINESS FORUM



Helping to improve businesses in Burngreave



## Burngreave Community Wardens

The aim of the Community Warden Service is to improve the quality of life in your area by:

- Reporting issues related to crime and disorder such as burglary, fly tipping, drug dealing, youth nuisance and anti-social behaviour.
- Providing a highly visible presence on the estates, on foot and in vehicles, with a view to deterring and preventing anti-social behaviour and crime.
- Engaging with and supporting tenants and residents on all local issues.

The warden service is currently run seven days a week, and all information obtained from tenants and residents is handled in the strictest confidence.

**If you have any queries or want to request a patrol please telephone the Community Wardens on (0114) 293 0000.**



# Evening of Islam

Story: Farhan Ahmed  
Photos: Anwar Suliman

**It was a spectacular evening of celebration, inspiration, remembrance and charity at the Magna Centre on Sunday 13th January. Over 1000 people attended the largest gathering of Muslims in South Yorkshire, organised by Iqra Promotions on Owlter Lane.**

Ahmad Hussain, founder of Iqra Promotions, said, "The aim of this event was to highlight the current crisis in Darfur (Africa), where millions are being oppressed and neglected by the world media. We successfully managed to put together this event and raise a substantial amount of funds to help the cause. As Muslims, we have a duty to support the oppressed and this is highlighted through many examples during the life of our greatest role model, the prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)".

In just four hours, over £5000 was successfully raised. This spectacular event, hosted brilliantly by Khaleel Muhammad, featured a guest appearance



by two-times world Thai boxing champion, Imran Khan. Nasheeds (Islamic music) were heard from Wajid Akhtar plus his debut single, soon to be released. Sheffield group, Ahmad Daud, and Asad from Fir Vale also performed.

Amazing performances were seen from Aashiq Al Rasul, Hamza Robertson, Nazeel Azami and Kamal Uddin. Fantastic comedy by international star and Aapna TV presenter, Baava Ditta, really lifted the audience. International correspondent and TV presenter, Yvonne Ridley, gave an inspirational talk about Islamophobia in Britain.

It was an incredible evening, enjoyed by all that attended. There was a fantastic atmosphere and Magna was filled with Takbeers (chants) praising Allah. As well as all this, children enjoyed a dedicated play area alongside a very Middle Eastern Souk (market) selling all types of accessories.

**Iqra promotions want to continue bringing these types of events to the city. Please contact them on 0114 243 8786 for more information and how you can get involved in future events. Or visit [www.iqrapromotions.com](http://www.iqrapromotions.com) for more info.**

# New Year at the Rock Christian Centre

Story: Lisa Harrison  
Photo: Sarah Watts

**"Hope" is a national Christian event to celebrate New Year. It involves seven days of constant prayer, with people attending as much or as little as they like during that time. Each city in the UK has a Church acting as a focal point and, this year, the Rock Christian Centre on Carlisle Street hosted Hope 08 for Sheffield.**

The premise of "Hope" is to bring long-term and lasting change and unity to communities. Phil France, who attends the Rock regularly (and even had a hand in building it) said, "It's wonderful! Because there's so much prayer going on, there's a great atmosphere; last night the worship just took off!"



Packed in with well over 100 people, the Messenger attended the evening service on 4th January when Nike Adebajo, from the King's Centre in Nether Edge, was conducting proceedings. The service was extremely lively and informal, with people dancing, singing and chatting to each other happily. The event was so successful that the Rock has already been asked to host next year's "Hope".

Pastor Jon Watts gave me a tour and showed me a children's corner, two quiet areas and a prayer wall where people could place their requests for loved ones. Every continent on Earth

was represented here, from countries as far-flung as Peru and Israel.

Helen Porteous said, "There's a huge mix of people here. It's really great having lots of people from different areas praying for this area, increasing their positive perception of it."

Nike Adebajo prayed for Burngreave to become known as a place for peace and unity among Churches. Later she told the Messenger, "Hope 08 is a great opportunity to demonstrate the love of Jesus and to bless Sheffield. This is a chance to experience hope for people who otherwise have no hope."



# Greenfingers allotment attacked

Story & photos: Brent Moya

**An attack of vandalism that led to an explosion on Grimesthorpe allotments has caused outrage amongst its members and staff.**

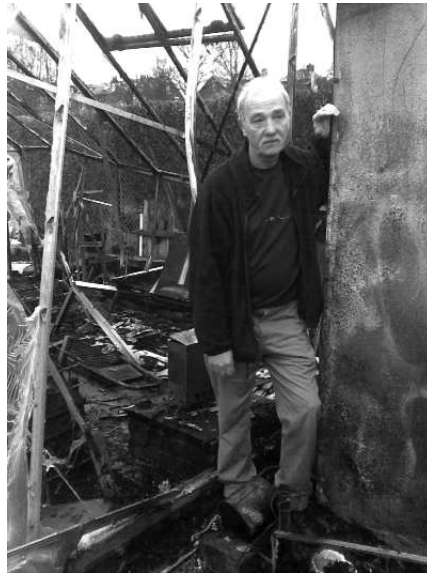
Sage Greenfingers allotment is a meeting place for around 40 people, most of whom have chronic mental health problems. It has been temporarily closed due to the explosion of several gas canisters during a suspected arson attack on Sunday 13th January.

Manager John Lawson, a local resident, says the attack came as a surprise. "I only found out after the fire brigade had been called by a resident on Grimesthorpe Road at 2am on Monday morning"

The explosion has caused severe damage, particularly to the greenhouse and metal tool shed which contained a large quantity of valuable equipment. Because of this the group have suspended any further meetings for the time being.

John explained that many of the project's users will be affected, "Most of the people who come here are very isolated and this gives them their only chance to interact with other people."

With the repair costs estimated in the £5000-7000 bracket, and the project is



now appealing for donations, or loans, of tools and equipment. They urgently need protective clothing, such as gloves, weather proofs and boots. Tools are also needed so the project can start the all important spring work.

John remains optimistic that normal service will soon resume, "We hope to be back to normal within 6 to 8 weeks" he emphasised.

Contact 274 3651 or 07932 927 153  
sagegreenfingers@yahoo.co.uk.

## Crabtree and Roe Woods response

John Gilpin - Woodlands Project Officer

**I would like to respond to the article in the November 2007 issue of the Burngreave Messenger regarding Roe Woods and Crabtree Pond.**

Firstly, I want to clarify that the Trees and Woodland Section of Sheffield City Council manage Great and Little Roe Woods. However, the Council is not responsible for the day to day maintenance of Crabtree Ponds. Responsibility for this lies with the Sheffield Wildlife Trust (SWT), who manage the site on a lease agreement with the Council. In general, enquiries or complaints with regards to Crabtree Pond should be directed to the SWT. However, I will also follow up the issues raised by Peter Mappin with SWT, and ensure they respond directly to him.

The small pond in Little Roe Woods was de-silted and repaired in November 2004 by the Green Watch Project Team. You reported on this in an article in the Burngreave Messenger in 2004. Since the

flooding in June and July of this year the pond and culverts have been cleared of rubbish and silt. This work was carried out by the Council's Street Force Service and completed in November 2007. There are further plans to clear tipped material from the northern end of Roe Woods. It is envisaged that the work will be completed early in the New Year.

We recognise the importance of working in partnership with local residents and groups. Since 2004 we have worked closely with Green City Action on projects in Roe Woods and over the spring and summer we carried out successful educational projects in the woods for local school children, to promote the importance of woodlands for future generations. An initial 'friends of' group meeting was held on 4th December 2007, at which many positive aspects of the management were discussed.

The next meeting of the Friends of Roe Woods and Crabtree Pond will be at 6pm on Thursday 14th February at Roe Lane Community Centre. Contact Joanne Buck on 2736884 for more information.



## Green City Action

www.greencityaction.org.uk  
Telephone: (0114) 244 0353

## Harleston Street Big Spring Clean



In January the Deliver It Green team turned their attention to Harleston Street/Sutherland Road triangle. In February and March we will be working with local residents to bring about improvements that will benefit residents, both human and animal. Some new jump rails will be installed to prevent fly tipping, benches installed for users of the site, nest boxes installed, footpaths upgraded and animal and insect habitats improved. We will be clearing away the trees and shrubs that are past their best to provide space for new plantings next season.

## FREE Gardening Services Available Now

If you are over 65 and living in the BNDfC area, we are able to offer some help with your garden. We can also offer gardening advice to all BNDfC residents. Call us on 244 0353 for more information or to arrange a visit.

## Compost Bin Sale

We have some excellent compost bins for sale at only £5 on a first come first served basis. To grab yours now ring 244 0353 to arrange collection. Delivery is available at an additional charge.

**Deliver it green...**

## New face at New Deal



The New Year sees a new face at New Deal with the appointment of Ann Allen as Deputy Chief Executive, although some of you may recognise her from her days as Area Co-ordinator for Burngreave where she worked from 1999 to 2001.

Ann said, "Having worked 31 years in the council, I am looking upon this new challenge as an opportunity to re-invigorate my working life.

"My appointment means that John Clark (CEO) will be freed to work more strategically with our partners across the city and I will take on the day to day running of the programme."

Ann is no stranger to a challenge. When at the council she had responsibility for a range of teams, including 150 bin men, city centre street cleaners, and was Client Manager for refuse collection in addition to being a shop steward during the time competitive tendering was introduced. Most recently she worked with the Regeneration and Renewal team before her move back to Burngreave.

Ann's professional ambitions are to, "See the Burngreave New Deal programme delivered and completed on a high, with Burngreave being the best performing NDC in the country".

In an effort to ensure a good work/life balance Ann is working four days a week and enjoys spending time at home; loves cooking, but is hopeless at baking; likes traveling (nowhere too hot) and loves a bargain, her one weakness being handbags! Personally, she sees herself retiring in the next ten year, and opening a florists; both indulging her love of flowers and using her creative flair.

## Parents wanted to help roll out Walking Bus across the area

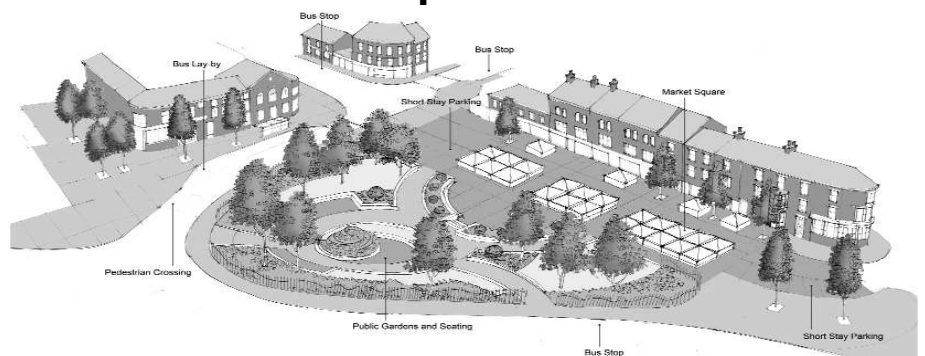
Since 2006, the Burngreave Walking Bus scheme has gone from strength to strength. Now its volunteer organisers and Burngreave Community Wardens want to roll the scheme out across the area and are looking for more parents and children to jump on board.

The walking bus currently provides children from Firshill Junior School and St Catherine's School with the chance to

keep fit as well as caring for the environment. As new walking buses are set up more children from the area will benefit. However, to do this more parents are needed to take over the existing walking bus around Firshill so that the Wardens can move on and work with other schools.

If you are a parent and are interested in helping to run the bus or have a child who would like to join the group please contact David Ayrton, Sheffield Homes Burngreave Community Wardens Coordinator on 0114 293 0000 for more information.

## Ellesmere Green Update



In recent months Sheffield City Council has made significant steps towards the planned improvement of Ellesmere Green. After consultation with local businesses, community groups and presentations to the Area Panel, the council can now set out their vision for this important green space. The scheme, headed up by Chris Birks, Project Officer with the City Development Division of the council, was granted planning permission at the end of October 2007.

Plans are for a 'Town Garden' on the green, together with a new open market square and community event space on Ellesmere Road, in front of the shops. Paving surrounding the green will be improved and renewed with new seating, tree planting, street lighting and reorganised parking. Better lighting and CCTV improvements will provide a safer space for the whole community. Public art will also be a part of the scheme, artists will work with the local community in the production of new art for the area.

It is anticipated that Ellesmere Green and Spital Hill will become a destination for shoppers from across the city looking for a more varied cultural mix of food and other goods.

Plans also include improving the paving and setting of the newly refurbished Vestry Hall, where it is expected that work will start on site in early Spring 2008. These improvements will give a taste of what to expect across the whole scheme with high quality materials being used throughout. The quality of the streets will be similar to the ones in parts of the city centre and those being constructed now on the Wicker.

The council is currently working to secure funding to realise all elements of the scheme. The plans will improve the image of the area and give a boost to local enterprise. Burngreave New Deal for Communities will be working with local people to assist in the start up of new trading ventures. BNDfC's Neighbourhood Enterprise Champions are working closely with the council to make this part of the proposals work well and ensure that local 'budding entrepreneurs' are fully supported to develop their business and trading ideas.

The plans link to the creation of an attractive new gateway from Burngreave along Spital Hill and the Wicker to the city centre.

## Crime Reduction Officer warns of lead thefts

Police are investigating a rising number of lead and scrap metal thefts across the Sheffield west areas and are appealing for businesses and members of the public to be vigilant.

Reports of these types of thefts, from both residential and commercial properties, have increased across Burngreave, Shiregreen, Wincobank and surrounding areas.

Sheffield's Police Crime Reduction Officer Dene Tinker said:

*"Due to the global increase in value of metals such as lead and copper, they have become attractive to thieves who then weigh it in for cash at scrap metal dealers."*

Police are concerned that a theft will eventually result in an accident or possible fatal injury as thieves, some as young as twelve, scale the heights of church roofs and industrial units to steal the lead flashing. Dene said:

*"We are asking the public to write down the vehicle colour, model and registration number, location and time of where the offence is taking place and, if possible, a description of the thieves and it is crucial that any information of this nature is passed to police immediately."*

Police officers will be carrying out frequent visits to scrap yards to find out who is selling and receiving stolen metal.

If you know anyone committing this type of crime report it to South Yorkshire Police on:

**01142 20 20 20**

Or **Crimestoppers** free and confidentially on:

**0800 555 111**

Sheffield Theatres presents

## A Handful of Henna by Rani Moorthy

Supported by  
Burngreave New Deal for Communities

At the Vestry Hall, Burngreave Road on  
Tuesday 5th February

6.30pm: hot food served

7.30pm: performance starts

8.45pm: meet the cast, Q&A session

**This event is FREE  
and all are welcome.**

Sheffield Theatres is one of the most influential theatres in the country with the quality of its productions continuing to win major national awards. *Handful of Henna* was developed for the main Crucible stage to launch the Sheffield Children's Festival 2006 and received overwhelming praise prompting it to be redeveloped for the current tour. The production has been highly successful with young audiences and adult audiences alike.

*"Nostalgic, extremely moving and also unexpectedly funny, Handful of Henna is one of those rare plays that reaches out beyond the stage... Generational differences, cultural barriers... the treatment is so thoughtful and entertaining that it's impossible not to be drawn into this story of family life divided by time and continents."* - John Highfield, Sheffield Star/The Stage



*"Handful of Henna tells the story of Saheeda, who came to England as a young woman but returns home with her teenage daughter Nasreen. Standing outside the airport in the middle of the monsoon, neither mother or daughter realise that their visit will become so much more than a holiday."*

*"As Saheeda unravels her past, mother and daughter discover the importance of their shared heritage."*

*"This production was inspired by original stories by Muslim women, but like all good theatre, it identifies universal truths and experiences that we can all share."*

*"It was a joy and tears were pricking the back of my eyes at the end! The staging, direction and ensemble playing were fabulous. Beyond that, it was great to see how the community responded to it and the evening will stay with me for a long time."* - Sarah Unwin, Illuminate Festival.

## Let's stamp out anti-social behaviour in Burngreave

**Do you suffer from noise nuisance or harassment?**

**Or as a result of criminal behaviour?**

For someone to talk through your concerns and offer advice and support contact the Burngreave New Deal Anti-social Behaviour Team.

You don't need an appointment; you can telephone, write or call in to their offices.

The team are based at the Burngreave Housing Office:

177 Spital Hill, Burngreave,  
Sheffield S4 7LF.

**Office opening hours are:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
9.00am – 4.00pm

Wednesday 9.00am – 1.00pm

Telephone: 0114 293 0000

Or visit their website at  
[www.sheffieldhomes.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldhomes.org.uk).

Follow the links through 'Keeping your estate safe' where you can complete an online reporting form.

The team will contact you within two working days.



## Responding to a tragedy

Just fewer than one hundred people, young and old, attended the last Area Panel meeting in November. The theme of the meeting was the implications of the recent tragic death of Jonathan Matondo, and how the major local agencies are going to change, or intensify, their services in response. Six leading staff from Sheffield Futures, the Police, Youth Offending, Children/Young People's Service, Activity Sheffield and the city's Safer Communities Partnership attended. They all reflected on what Jonathan's death meant for their responsibilities, and what they planned to do in the future.

Over forty questions were asked, and mostly answered. The councillors drew a number of conclusions, including the need for:

- An increase in provision for young people in the area.
- Strict monitoring of pupil exclusions, including provision of support for excluded pupils and their parents.
- More joint working and collaboration between Activity Sheffield and Sheffield Futures and other youth providers.
- Building on the work that Streetworx were undertaking in the area.
- Counteracting the adverse publicity following this and other incidents in the area, by highlighting the positive things young people were doing in Burngreave.
- Improvements to play facilities for young people in the area.
- An increase in Police presence in the area, particularly the PCSOs.

Ronny Tucker (from the Youth Offending Service) explained that they were now determined to stem any gang formation, which some other cities are experiencing. This means having determination and an ability to work in schools and on the streets, with gang members and those on the fringes to hold out the hope that some young people might have lost.

Lastly, the Panel wanted to know how things look in three months time. The 19th March meeting of the Panel, 6.30pm at the Vestry Hall, agencies will report back on what's happened since last November.

### Next Area Panel meeting

The next meeting of the Panel on 20th February 6pm at St James meeting room, Scott Road/Abbeyfield Road will host a discussion about how the Council can help address climate change and what local communities like Burngreave, and individuals can do! We know that this is a massive threat; and we know that it isn't inevitable but that many things will have to be done differently. What? How? When? Andy Nolan - the Council's environmental strategy manager will be introducing the discussion.

### Councillors' Surgery Dates

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



## New Year's Honours



This year's annual New Years Honours awards went to:

- Ivor Wallace (Page Hall Community association)
- David "Das" Smith (Christ Church)
- Sue Odell (Whiteways School governors)
- Anne Murdoch and Flo Gill (Firshill tenants association)
- Roger and Anne Sheldon (Wensley tenants association)
- Earl Marshall under 7s and under 12s team managers/coaches
- Rose Ardron (BCAF and New Deal partnership board)
- Fazal Hussain (Pakistan Advice Centre, Fir Vale management committee and inspiration)
- Anesar Shaibi (Yemeni Community Association)
- Chief Inspector Jon Ekwubiri (Burngreave Police Team)
- Elaine Virgo (Youth worker Earl Marshal Centre)
- Imran Ali (Youth worker Activity Sheffield)
- Jim Bruce (Streetforce)
- Jon Dallow (Parkwood Springs Parks and Countryside)
- Leroy Betts (New Deal Community Engagement worker)
- Nasira Amin (Reach High 2 Study Support)
- Nicky Wilson (Burngreave Voices)
- Steve Edwards (Pitsmoor Adventure Playground)
- Carwood TARA committee
- Burngreave Children's Centre volunteers (Jenny Jones, Gemma Hopkins, Fouzia Ibrahim, Denise Palmer, Pauline Simmonds and Fyzah Saleh)
- Green City Action
- Burngreave Streetworx (Youth workers Uzma Bibi; Shanti Wilson; Ayesha Rehman; Sadia Akram; Lorraine Blake; Yassin Usuf)

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

**9th February:** Steve Jones, 11am-12 noon Burngreave Library and 12.15-1.00pm Firshill TARA

**19th February:** Ibrar Hussain, 11am-12 noon Shirecliffe Centre

**23rd February:** Jackie Drayton, 11am-12 noon Burngreave Library

**8th March:** Jackie Drayton, 11am-12 noon Burngreave Library and 12.15-1.00pm Firshill TARA

**18th March:** Steve Jones, 11am-12 noon Shirecliffe Centre

# A new start for Burngreave's Community Forum

Story: Afrah Alkheili

**The Burngreave Community Action Forum was established in 1997, to be the voice of influence for the community and communities in Burngreave. The Forum has had a difficult time in recent years. Its managing organisation, Burngreave Community Action Trust, collapsed in 2006 with the loss of its funding and the staff team. Now with their new Development Manager, Steve Gayle, and administrator Daniel Stanley there is a possibility of new life for our community forum.**

After several years managing a national social housing consultancy, Steve decided to move closer to home where he could use his knowledge and experience of working in communities to make a difference.

Steve expressed his passion to bring people together by working in partnership with residents and existing organisations right across Burngreave.

*"The Forum has suffered from a long*

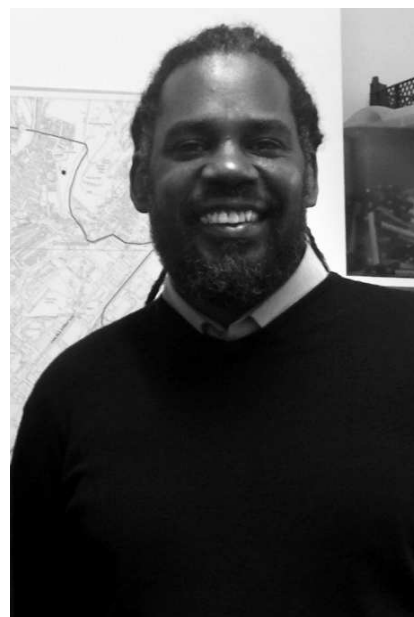
*period of inactivity, we now need to work hard to help make residents aware and share in what we are doing"*

Steve hopes BCAF will continue to encourage residents, community organisations and service providers to participate in making Burngreave a better place by raising issues and working together.

He aspires for there to be healthier relationships between BCAF and the community and agencies working, in Burngreave; he expressed his anticipation for BCAF to "develop into a strong network of community organisations", making sure that the issues raised by residents are dealt with by those who have the power to change things.

In relation to representation on the Coordinating Committee, the group that manages the affairs of BCAF, the target now is to encourage more involvement from the variety of different groups and interests living and working in Burngreave; in particular young people.

BCAF is there to challenge and be challenged but it can only act if people raise issues and voice their concerns.



Some of the issues BCAF hopes to be focusing on in the near future include the development of new housing in the area, community safety and the succession planning for New Deal.

**You can contact BCAF at 12 – 14 Burngreave Road, Tel No. 276 5268 and/or email [enquiries@bcaf.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@bcaf.org.uk).**

## Regeneration - but not for us

Story: Camille Daughma

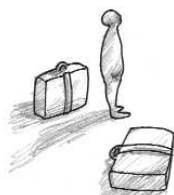
Illustrations: Rohan Francis

**Burngreave has come to be known as one of the most diverse and tolerant districts within Sheffield. In the recent book, "Burngreave Voices", it is quoted as being "alive, friendly and welcoming". Its diverse and multicultural background is unique to Sheffield.**

In the 1980's when the various thriving industries declined, poverty resulted. The rich moved out and left the poor. All the conditions associated with poverty manifested themselves within the area.

In recent years, regeneration of the area has brought about optimism amongst the residents. The area is now clean and safe and brings a sense of pride to its residents.

There is however a dark side to this regeneration. Residents are now being



forced out of the area due to rising house prices and rent. This method of dealing with deprivation creates a cycle of the same problems. What eventually happens is that the problem is moved to another area.

In certain areas within local authorities, regeneration plans have worked well and in others they haven't. The present model being demonstrated within Burngreave by the local authority seems to be to get the area developed, move out the poor and move in the high-income earners. In other words, "let's move the problem elsewhere".

This is a short-sighted approach to the situation as, within another 10-20 years, due to lack of sufficient stable infrastructure and opportunities, the rich will again abandon ship for greener pastures. There will then be the need to start the process all over again from scratch instead of building on the foundations created by the present regeneration process.



## Residents' Experiences

Burngreave residents shared their experiences with me.

A female resident in her 20's, stated how she had to move out of the area as rent of her 1 bedroom housing association accommodation increased. She was unable to find anything within the area at a cost she could afford so she ended up moving out of the area

A resident in his 30's, is threatened with homelessness, with his only prospect of accommodation being outside the Burngreave area. He had rented a 2-bedroomed house for £200/month since 1998. In 2006 it was sold on when the landlord cashed in on the rising value. The new owner increased the rent to £430 and forced him to give up his space so it could be developed into 2 flats, as he stood to earn more by having another tenant in.

**If you need advice on your tenancy, either private or housing association contact Housing Aid on 273 5450.**

## Football focus



### Burngreave Saints



Story & Photo: Danny Hall

**Despite facing a bigger challenge on a bigger pitch, Burngreave Saints have held their own during the first half of the season and the club hold strong hopes of finishing well in the league. The team is currently third from bottom of their league having won twice, drawn 4 and lost 9 games. However, their coach Patrick Blake says, their league position betrays them.**

*"We've lost players to other teams, a few have gone to academy sides, and most other teams are a lot bigger than we are - I think we're the smallest team of the lot.*

*"It also doesn't help when teams are putting ringers in (players of a higher age group), I think it's sad really. At this age, it's all about developing the players and that doesn't help."*

After a very successful last couple of years, with 5 major trophies sitting on the Saints' mantelpiece, many could see the season's performance as a disappointment - however, as team secretary Emma Wilkinson says, the side aren't pushovers. "We played Sheffield Wednesday Junior Owls earlier in the season and we didn't deserve to lose, we went down 1-0."

Goalkeeper Niall Wilkinson has already joined Rotherham United's School of Excellence, and scouts from The Millers and Leeds United have flocked to their training base at Sheffield United's Academy to view the talent in the Saints' squad.

*"I believe some of these lads could make it professionally - they usually say one in 100 will make it in the game, but I'm confident more will from here."*

The team experienced a taste of being a professional footballer when they had the opportunity to parade their trophies to a near-30,000 crowd at Bramall Lane when Sheffield United played QPR, and Patrick said: "The kids loved it - how many kids can say they've had that experience? It was a big boost for the kids - they won the day after!"

The Council have given the club use of Parkwood Springs to use as their home base from next season, and Patrick showed his gratitude to both Parkwood High School and Sheffield United for allowing use of their facilities. "They've been a big help", he said. "We're a family community club and any help is gratefully received."

### Earl Marshall

Story: Mick Ashman  
Photo: Richard Hanson

**After winning promotion from the Sheffield and District Junior League Division D last season, Earl Marshall Under 12s delivered some excellent performances in their pre season friendlies.**



The 2008-09 season got underway with an impressive 3-2 Cup win against top Division B side Dodworth and ensured that Earl Marshall approached their league campaign with a real sense of optimism. The season started well, and after a 6-1 win away to Brampton Dynamos there was even speculation about a second successive promotion.

However a series of narrow defeats have ensured that Earl Marshall approach the mid point of the season knowing that they need to get points on the board if they are to maintain their status in the third tier. Their ability to take points from the three top sides has shown that they can compete with any team in the Division, but manager Garfield Walters will be looking for the players to show a similar team effort when they face mid table opposition in the new year.

Newly formed Earl Marshall Under 7s have impressed everyone with the progress they have made since they started training together last May. The team have enjoyed some great results and proved they are more than a match for the leagues established clubs.

The success of the Under 7s team has given the club the impetus to regular training for Under 6s on Wednesdays from 6-7pm at Firshill School with the intention of creating a new Under 7s squad ready for next season. For further information on any of the Earl Marshall teams, contact Club Secretary Mark Moran-Healy on 07776 457 732.

### Burngreave and Canklow

Story: Danny Hall

**Burngreave and Canklow Crusaders started the year in the top half of the table, a good effort considering the step up from Under 18's to a men's league.**



The Crusaders finished 2nd in their U18 league but doubts were raised as to whether the team would be able to carry on into the adult league. As team manager Steve Richardson told the Messenger, his position was clear. "I was always there as long as the lads wanted it", said Steve, "They knew what they were up against but wanted to give it a go."

The Crusaders receive little sponsorship and funding, something that Steve reckons is a help rather than a hindrance. "Mostly it's the lads that pay their own way - it gives them a strong sense of identity and responsibility," said Steve.

They have identified a site for a home pitch at Parkwood, and are currently in discussions to try and secure funding. "We'll have to lobby hard at the end of the season to put an adult pitch on there."

Matters on the pitch however have gone better for the club so far. "The highlight of the season was a game in which we came up against a much wiser and experienced team. A few of our lads grew up that day, it was a learning curve. That game may have just made our season." A season that Steve admits has been a bittersweet one. "We've struggled to maintain a regular attendance as a few lads have moved on, but next year hopefully Canklow and Burngreave will run separately. Two areas are going to flourish, so this season is going to be a good one."

# Sheffield Funding Fair

Thursday 13th March 2008

11am-4pm

Sheffield Town Hall, Pinstone Street, S1 2HH.

The event is free and there is no need to book in advance.

## Meet funders, including:

- The Big Lottery Fund,
- Burngreave New Deal for Communities Small Grants,
- Sheffield Church Burgesses Trust,
- JG Graves Charitable Trust,
- South Yorkshire Community Foundation,
- Sheffield City Council Small Grants Fund.

## Get advice from support organisations including:

- Voluntary Action Sheffield,
- South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau,
- Sheffield City Council Parks,
- Area Action Teams.

More funders and partners who agree to attend will be added to this list regularly .

For more information and updates on the fair or to get funding news, advice and information, please phone Sara Williams on (0114) 249 4343, or email [sara@syfab.org.uk](mailto:sara@syfab.org.uk)

Further information can be viewed at: [www.syfab.org.uk](http://www.syfab.org.uk)

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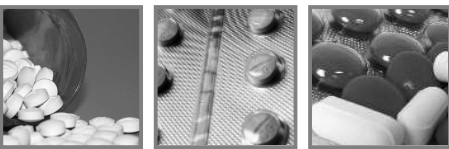
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3 A.C.E. Business Centre, 120 The Wicker, Sheffield S3 8JD.

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- Free access to a dedicated landlord Housing Benefit Advice line!
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To find out more telephone Kevin Sharpe or Dennis Tester on 0114 273 5134

Or visit [www.sheffield.gov.uk/privaterentedproject](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/privaterentedproject) or [www.sheffield.gov.uk/rls](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/rls)

Or email [prp@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:prp@sheffield.gov.uk)



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## The Health Education Employment Training event

Aimed at Young People Locally & Citywide ...

Verdon St. Recreation Centre  
Saturday 1st March 2008  
1:00 - 5:00pm

Refreshments Provided



For further info contact:

**Patrick Edwards**

BME Communities Development Officer

t: 0114 253 6645

e: p.edwards@vas.org.uk



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*You will not be asked your name or where you live.*

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*Crimestoppers do not tell the police your gender, apparent ethnicity or age.*

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[www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

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