



## Gold medallist

Story: Brent Moya

**A 13 year old from Firvale school is proving to be a success as a runner despite having only trained for the past year. Essa Ahmed of Firvale began running for the school team after the coach took him under his wing.**

Multi talented Essa Ahmed who competes in either the 800/ 1000 metres, only began running towards the back end of last year. He also boxes but says his main passion lies in athletics and dreams of going to the Olympics when he's older, "that's my dream, it's what I've always wanted to do in life" said Essa.

Despite his seamless progress on the track he says it takes a lot of hard work to prepare himself for competition: "It definitely doesn't come easy for me! In the build up to a heat I do a morning jog from 6.30-7.30am followed by training every Tuesday and Friday, it's hard work but definitely worth it."



He took part in his first heat on the 1st November 2011 (last year) and went on to win the final in Birmingham on the 25th of February despite never entering a competition before. His school teacher Diane Haimeed, who has been particularly impressed with his dedication and hard work, had this to say about him, "Essa is a lovely kid to teach and is a very talented individual. If he works hard and stays focused he could have a bright future ahead of him."



## £1 million for Spital Hill

Story: Saleema Imam

**Over £1 million is to be spent on improving the Spital Hill shopping area.**

The Council had secured just over £450,000 from the planning agreement linked to Tesco. This is for replacing paving, street lighting and litter bins, as well as the installation of public art works in the area.

Questions had been asked why nothing was planned for Ellesmere Green, which is in a sorry state, as we reported in October's Messenger. Councillors decided that Ellesmere Green should be a priority and the council has now decided to invest an extra £605,000 from the 'Local Growth Fund.'

Councillor Harry Harpham, the Council's Cabinet member for Homes and Regeneration said,

*"We want the local community and businesses to have their say on this exciting opportunity to make significant improvements to the area and we will be holding consultation events at the end of May/early June to get their views."*

An important part of the consultation will be the future use of Ellesmere Green, which is considered key to helping improve the overall appearance of the area.

Councillor Jackie Drayton said,

*"This is great news for Burngreave, especially for Ellesmere Green. We can develop ideas to improve the green, which could include a market area, new seating and pathways, as part of the improvements for Spital Hill."*

There are also plans for public artworks along Spital Hill. Once the Council has appointed an artist, they will consult local people for their input on the theme for the designs. The artists tender document states: "Designs to include stone and mosaic work, lamp-post banners and hoardings on the corner of the TESCO site which will create a high quality, pleasant, environment, supportive to local traders and attractive to investors."

## Invitation to Easter events at Christ Church and St Peter's



### Palm Sunday 1st April

10.30am at Christ Church

Special service with focus on the Karen community from Burma. Palm crosses and Karen food.

Huw Thomas at St Peter's

### Maundy Thursday 5th April

7.00pm at Christ Church

Celebration of Last Supper with shared meal at 7.30pm

### Good Friday 6th April

12.45pm walk from St Peter's to Abbeyfield Park

(short service at 1.15pm)

2.00pm - 3.00pm: Christ Church - the last hour

6.00pm at St Peter's: Meditation on the Cross

### Saturday 7th April

10am - 1pm at St. Peter's

"Easter Explored" activities and food for all the family.

### Easter Sunday 8th April

10.30 am Easter Services at

Christ Church and St Peter's



## Burngreave Community Action Forum Public Meeting



Burngreave Community Action Forum's next Public Meeting will take place on:

**Saturday 14th April, 11am - 1pm**

At Pitsmoor Methodist Church, Burngreave Road.

The meeting will focus on:

- An update on BCAF's recent activities
- A financial report
- Ways of working more closely together in Burngreave.

This is an important time for Burngreave residents and all voluntary and community organisations operating in the area. The way that services are funded and delivered are changing dramatically; the Public Meeting will offer a chance to discuss how local organisations can respond to the challenge.

A buffet lunch will be served at the end of the meeting.

For more info, contact BCAF on [tony@bcaf.org.uk](mailto:tony@bcaf.org.uk)

Mikron Theatre Company presents

## LOSING THE PLOT by Deborah McAndrew

*A Tale of Love, Life and Allotments*

**Wednesday 16th May 7.00pm**

**Grimesthorpe allotments**

(entrance opposite Torbay Road)

Refreshments available but – **bring your own chairs!**

**Losing the Plot** explores the history of allotments, with a rollicking mix of music hall tunes, new songs, big characters, inventive storytelling, and the odd scarecrow thrown in for good measure. A tale of earthy pleasures and pitchforks at dawn.

A collection will be taken at the end.

Contact [www.greencityaction.org.uk](http://www.greencityaction.org.uk)

### Riverside Weekends - Volunteer Sessions and Pub Grub

Three practical conservation sessions for volunteers have been arranged at sites close to The Riverside pub on Mowbray Street. **Dates are: Sunday 22nd April, Saturday 26th May & Saturday 23rd June.**

Volunteers are entitled to a discounted lunch from The Riverside for their efforts! People interested in getting involved are to **contact Hellen Hornby on 07766 352 932.**

## Friends of Burngreave Chapel & Cemetery

Welcome you to a  
Public Meeting

**Sunday 15th April 2012**

**12.00 am - 2.00 pm**

**Burngreave Cemetery Chapel**

We want your views and ideas on further development of the Chapels

Contact Christine

[chris.burngreave@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:chris.burngreave@blueyonder.co.uk)

Visit our website:

[www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk](http://www.friendsofburngreavecemetery.btck.co.uk)

# Nursery Street work to start

Story: Douglas Johnson

**A new park is being created that should help keep the Wicker flood-free.**

Work is being started at Nursery Street to create a new 'pocket park' alongside the River Don. This is a flood prevention measure, which will also be a pleasant public amenity. The park will have grass terraces and new paths and there will be a canoe platform and tree-planting. The park will protect against floods by filling up with water when the river is high, acting like a big sponge.



The work starts in March and should take about 3 months. A formal launch event is proposed for September.

The long-term plan is to close Nursery Street to traffic altogether. Buses would be diverted round Stanley Street and Joiner Street.

# The lights go out

Story: Douglas Johnson

**The lights are going out on the Wicker as the cuts bite.**

When the Wicker was revamped, the paving was improved with new stone benches containing coloured lighting. Additional lighting also illuminated the trees, creating an attractive environment in the evenings, when the Wicker is busy. The lighting also made people feel safer.

Whilst the project was a success, the Council was left with the cost of the electricity, as no money was found for the ongoing bills. Now the cuts in public services have led the Council to turn off the lights, to save the £3000 a year cost. The street lighting is not affected.

Local traders at the Wicker Forum were asked if they would like to take on the cost. They told council officers it was a "bit of a cheek" to be asked for an extra contribution when city centre traders were not being asked to pay extra.

# Supporting the Messenger

**Burngreave Messenger is about to become a teenager! In July, we'll be celebrating our 13th birthday and in June, we'll be putting out our 100th issue – quite an achievement for a community magazine run mainly on the time, effort, skills and goodwill of local volunteers.**

The Messenger is delivered free to over 9,000 houses in Burngreave and Firvale six times per year. We know how much readers value the magazine as a reliable source of local news and a strong voice for the area and the people who live here.

A Roe Lane resident says, "I look forward to each issue coming out. There's so much information about what's happening locally and lots of photos. I often recognise people I know. I keep each copy for all the contact details it contains."

We have had vital grant funding from the Tudor Trust and the Big Lottery Fund. Adverts from local businesses contribute

about a fifth of the cost of each issue. Equally important, readers donated close to £1,000 last year, making a crucial contribution to keeping the Messenger free to its readers; though to print it, pay for a small staff team and the young distributors who put the Messenger through your letterbox (for many this is their first regular employment) costs under £10 a year per household.

You can help keep the Messenger free

- By sending a one-off donation to the Messenger office in Abbeyfield Park House, Sheffield, S4 7AT.
- By visiting ([www.burngreavemessenger.org](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org)). If you pay tax we can claim an extra 25% of your donation through Gift Aid by visiting the website.
- By standing order. This can be arranged by ringing the office on 2420564 or, if you have internet banking facilities, by making the standing order payable to the Messenger bank account, Sort Code No: 09-01-50, Account No: 02705737.

**Thank you. With your help, we can keep the Messenger going!**



Visit the Messenger website for:

- The latest issue online
- Archive of back issues
- More news and extra articles
- More pictures and photo galleries
- Upcoming events
- Jobs listing

[www.burngreavemessenger.org](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org)

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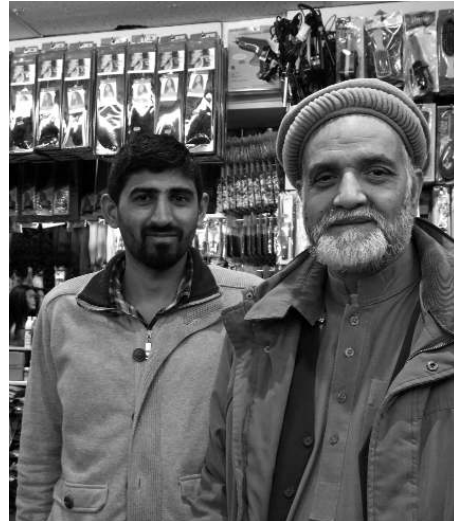
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# Tesco impact on Spital Hill shops

Story: Lisa Swift and Sagaal Ahmed

Over 4 months since the opening of Tesco, the Messenger went to Spital Hill to see what impact the massive store is having on smaller shops.



To look at, Spital Hill is not suffering at all. Very few of the shops are empty, with several new businesses establishing themselves in recent months, ranging from new take-aways to clothing shops. The greatest fear is for the grocery stores, so we focused our attention on these.

SR Raja has been serving Burngreave since 1976 and is on Tesco's doorstep. The owner told us:

*"Tesco is a big problem for us. All our*



*customers have gone there. We can't beat Tesco, they have everything cheap, like bread, milk and rice. What can we do? They sell it cheaper than we can get it at wholesale. We were told they wouldn't sell the things we sell, but they do - all the Asian food."*

SR Raja still has an impressive range of specialist hair products, including a large selection of hair extensions and accessories.

*"They don't sell these kinds of hair products, not yet. But we are struggling. The Council should cut our business rates or I won't be able to afford to pay people's wages."*

Emin's, formerly Ozmen's, has been in place for 3 years. Owner Sadik Emin was confident Tesco wouldn't bring his business down.

*"It's OK; we've lost some customers but we will be OK. We sell 90% Turkish food*

*- that's why people come here. Sometimes Tesco has offers, like cheaper alcohol, but it's only for a few days and then ours is cheaper again. And we are open 24 hours, we are very busy at night. We get fresh veg every few days, which is cheaper."*

*"I think Tesco have made a mistake, building their store there. It's not a cheap place really. I'm going to beat Tesco!"*

Further up the Hill at Ellesmere Green, we spoke to Peace Valley News owner Ali Saleh, who has been there for 13 years.

*"It's not really affected us. When we compare prices, we are cheaper. We are just going to carry on. Our customers are loyal and we have better customer service. Tesco can't do that; they just want your money."*

*"They said a Tesco would be good for the area but they didn't employ enough local people."*

# Brightening up Spital Hill

Story: Sagaal Ahmed

**Queen Shop is a new shop on Spital Hill, it sells fashion clothing for women.**

I went to speak to the shop owner, to ask her more about the new business. The shop was really beautiful, with nice clothes and beauty products. As I walked into the shop there was a wonderful smell, coming from the bukhuur (or incense).

**How long has the shop been open and what do you sell?**

"It was opened 3 months ago. I sell Somali and Arab women's fashion clothes, for example dirac, shiid, cadar,

abaayah and hijaab. Women can have clothes made to fit. I also sell health and beauty products for hair and skin and bukhuur incense. And I do henna in the shop."

**What is the difference between Queen Shop and the other shops which sell similar things?**

"I am selling some things that no other shop sells, like the health and beauty products. I have also got a sewing machine, so I can make alterations in the shop."

**Why did you open the shop?**

"I went to International Women's Day and it gave me the idea to open the shop, where women can get clothes from their own cultures and countries. Then we can show at the Women's Day that we have our own culture, which includes our clothes and our dance and music."



**Why did you open it on Spital Hill?**

"I want to make a community which helps each other, so women can find what they want here in Burngreave and not anywhere else."

I think Queen Shop is a good shop for the community, it has got traditional clothes and a wide range of hair products, it also has traditional Somali sweets, ordered from London, which were lovely.



## Residents raise concerns about staff changes

Story: Lisa Swift

**Local residents have raised concerns about proposed staff changes at Verdon Recreation Centre and Pitsmoor Adventure Playground, both run by Activity Sheffield.**

They wrote to their local Councillors after news that existing staff would be replaced by new members of staff. The workers have been in post for up to 6 years and are highly regarded by residents and young people.

Delia Chadwick, who runs the Agewell group at Verdon Rec said,

*"It's important to us as Agewell has been running at this centre for 20 years. It's for over-50s to get together socially, as well as exercising and doing different activities. Aislinn prepares the room for us and supports us, but she would be helpful to anyone. It's not fair what's happening: nobody agrees with it."*

## Cuts in local spending

Story: Mick Ibbotson

**In times of austerity, it is always the poorest who suffer the greatest. Vital services are being reduced, downsized or simply curtailed. Burngreave is not exempt – the City Council have supported the area in the past but have cut this year's Discretionary Budget for the Community Assembly by almost 30%. The £78,446 allocated to Burngreave ward seems a lot, but it's £30,000 less than last year's allocation.**

### So what will it buy the area?

Councillors and officers propose to spend £22,600 on buying some vital support for the young and the old via Activity Sheffield – this will pay for 30 hours per week provision across the entire area. It's not a lot at all and nowhere near the amount of provision the area needs.

They have also allocated £10,000 for 'quick wins' (small schemes which make an immediate impact), £15,000 on NEAT teams (environmental clean-ups) and floral displays, £11,000 on Community Cohesion projects (getting people together) and small amounts on Speed Indication devices – helping to make the streets safer for road users.

The Somali Dance Group have been using Verdon Rec for 3 years. When they heard Aislinn was leaving, one of the group's assistants, Zam Zam, said:

*"We use the centre a lot for activities. Our group is important social time for children and mums together. We don't want to lose Aislinn; she is a nice lady and supports us. We don't understand why she is being replaced."*

Craig Wallace from the Taekwondo Club, told the Messenger he had been running sessions there for 5 years but had started learning there in 1987.

*"Verdon Rec is part of the fabric of the area. This club has personally helped me get into the British Taekwondo Team. Aislinn helped us get financial support and we've been able to expand to 3 nights a week. Aislinn helped make that happen. This centre might not make a lot of money but it's worth the money the Council puts into it. It's creating sporting excellence through our club."*

Children at Pitsmoor Adventure Playground were also very concerned. Javien Allen, Millie Higgins, Skye Dawson-Hydes and Chanel Dawson had put together a 'Save our staff' petition, with over 100 names of children who use the playground. They told the Messenger,

*"All the kids at the playground have signed it. We like our staff and we want to change their minds about what's being done. We know them, they are fun, and if we get other staff they might have new roles and they might change the playground. We can be ourselves at the playground."*

The petition and letters were presented to Councillors at the Community Assembly on 21st March. Jackie Drayton told the meeting,

*"We are very concerned as elected members. We met with Activity Sheffield and we want to protect Verdon Recreation Centre and the Adventure Playground. It's a difficult issue because it involves people's employment, but we are following it up."*

This leaves around £12,300 unallocated – it's not going to stretch very far.

### Community First

However, Burngreave also gets some money from the Community First scheme – this is from central Government for the most deprived wards in the country. The money is not allocated to the Council and new grant-making panels have been set up to spend it. The plan is that the community decides, via a panel of local people, where this funding is spent and on what. They are welcome to be partners but any implied notion that it is extra council funding should be corrected – it is not.

The Council have tried to keep a handle on Community First money, by trying to divert it via community assembly structures, with different levels of success. They have also made the controversial plan to cut the discretionary budget by the same amount as the Community First money, so that Burngreave is no better off overall.

You can find out who is on your panel, by checking out the website [www.burngreavecommunityfirst.com](http://www.burngreavecommunityfirst.com) as well as information about time-scales, awards and the application process. As things develop, it seems this is the only local form of financial support available in the ward, so it's worth keeping an eye on it.

# Making Tracks at Parkwood Springs

Story: Catherine Brown, Secretary to the Friends of Parkwood Springs

**Work starts soon at Parkwood Springs, on an exciting new mountain bike trail, funded by Sport England and European Value. The free, open access trail is designed to be accessible and promote skills development at all levels from novice to expert rider.**

On Saturday 10th March, Parks & Countryside Officer Jon Dallow led a walking tour of the proposed first sections of the route, starting at the Shirecliffe/ Cooks Wood Road entrance where there will also be a warm-up area. Jon explained that mountain bike trails are graded like ski slopes – green (easy), blue (moderate), red (difficult), black (severe). Parkwood Springs trail will be blue with some red ‘opt-in’ sections.

The project which aims to work with all aspects of the local community, will be supported by a Ranger for roughly two days a week over the next two years, providing bikes, equipment and instruction so that anyone can have a go!

Emphasis will be on developing mountain bike skills, understanding the natural environment, promoting sustainable trail use, good rider etiquette and respect. Longer-term aspirations are to create a regular Saturday club and hold at least one race per year.

A 1 metre wide single track will head in an anti-clockwise direction for 2.4 km (1.5 miles), weaving first uphill through



woodland, then an exhilarating downhill section near the Forest Garden, from which riders will get an excellent view across the city centre before a further climb to the finish.

The Friends of Parkwood Springs were reassured to hear that the ecology of the site had been carefully considered as part of the design process, involving local trail builders, riders and 2008 world mountain bike champion Dr Steve Peat. The majority of the track will be stone surfaced, to protect heathland from contamination, and when meeting footpaths and bridleways it would be designed to reduce the speed of riders so that everyone can enjoy a safe visit.

**For further information contact  
[www.parkwood-springs.org.uk](http://www.parkwood-springs.org.uk)**

# Foresters and horses in Greater Roe Woods

Story & photo: Iain Stokes

**Not ‘Paint Ball Gamers’, but foresters, have been in Greater Roe Woods. They’ve been leaving pink dots on trees to be thinned, which will encourage the tree canopy and nesting birds. The foresters have also been raising the next stand of oak to bring on a tall ‘Treeland Standards’ habitat.**



So as not to churn the delicate floor of our young woodland, Green Estates duo Max and Amanda brought a team of two Clydesdale draught horses, Freddy and Big Lad, to pull a hundred tons of small and medium timbers out of the wood and to train college graduates Alex and Nathan in the finer arts of forestry and horse handling.

Quietly munching on oats and carrots mixed with meal corns and molasses, the gentle giants, Freddy and Big Lad, finished their dinner and set about hauling the one-and-a-half ton timbers down to the bottom gate with graceful ease. The timbers were due to be collected for milling and for the smaller stems to be chipped into bio-fuel. The horses proved to be a big attraction.



# Parkwood Springs litter pick

Story: Catherine Brown | Photo: Kath Hobson

**The winds and storms of winter toss rubbish about and leave our open spaces unattractive.**

On a sunny Saturday morning, 10th March, Friends of Parkwood Springs joined the Rangers to clear litter in Little Pear Tree Field – a lovely place for nature study and country walks.

The litter pick cleared sacks of rubbish – but everyone had a great time in the fresh air. One parent said, “At home my three sons would be fighting - here they work together.” They also pruned trees and learned about woodland management.

Join us next time – but better still, please take your litter home so we don’t have to clean it up!

## Wensley's metal gates secured

Wensley residents have been targeted by metal thieves in recent months, with a number of garden gates going missing.

One local resident told the Messenger how he had stopped one theft from taking place:

*"I caught them carrying the gate down the street. The gates are heavy but with two people they were able to lift the gates right off the hinges. They ran off when I shouted at them. I had to stay with the gate until the police came in case they came back for it. This was in the middle of the day."*

Sheffield Homes admitted that the gates had a design flaw that allowed them to be lifted off by a determined thief. Residents who have reported their gates missing have had them replaced and Sheffield Homes have now secured the gates on the estate so they can no longer be lifted.

Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Supervisor Shaun Davis, told the Messenger,

*"Local PCSOs work closely with the TARA on these issues. It's a problem not isolated to Wensley, there are one or two unscrupulous 'scrap metal' operators that are using criminal methods to ply their trade. We are actively patrolling and*



*trying to raise awareness of the problem, together with taking a robust approach in stopping and checking anyone believed to be involved in scrapping, checking operators licences and working with scrap metal dealers. Anyone with metal gates would be advised to check how easily their gates can be removed".*

If you are a Sheffield Homes tenant living on Wensley and your gate is missing or still not secured, contact Sheffield Homes 273 5555.

### Support Wensley TARA

Wensley TARA's general meeting is on **12th April, 6.30pm at Wensley Community Centre**. Just by attending, you can help the TARA to continue.

#### Advice on metal theft:

Do not leave metal items unsecured in your front or back yards; Secure backyards from any attacks; Do not challenge metal thieves; Report any metal theft to the police. **If you wish to report metal theft, contact South Yorkshire police on 101.**

## Metal thefts in Fir Vale

Story: Muneebah Waheed

**Residents are expressing anger after metal theft has been continually taking place in Fir Vale and Page Hall, with large amounts of metal having been taken from their own private backyards.**

Metal theft in Sheffield has risen by 72% in over 5 years with the Firth Park and Firhill districts having the highest number with a total of 822 thefts since 2006. This now seems to be an issue which is affecting the majority of the Fir Vale area. A local resident spoke to the Messenger about metal theft saying,

*"It's absolutely disgusting that metal has been taken without prior consent. I have elderly family members who have had metal stolen from their private backyards, which has left them feeling vulnerable to further attacks."*

Another listed her rotary washing line, metal dustbin, and cellar grate amongst items stolen. Instances of thefts of roofing lead from houses and other buildings had been reported, often resulting in difficulties in re-insuring properties.

## Trees vandalised on Abbeyfield Road

Story: David Peck  
Abbeyfield Road Street Champion

**It was with a mixture of incredulity and dismay when walking down Abbeyfield Road a few weeks ago that I noticed at the lower end of the road, near Osgathorpe Road, two fairly young trees planted several years ago and a quite substantial mature tree had been simply cut down. It appears this senseless criminal damage took place during the night of Thursday January 26th.**

As Abbeyfield Road Street Champion I contacted the police, Street Force and our local councillors. I also mailed all the residents of Abbeyfield Road from Scott



Road downwards to seek their views on this incident and on the trees generally. All those responding were dismayed at what had happened and felt strongly that the culprits should, if possible, be identified and prosecuted. Also, that the trees should be replaced. There seems no doubt that the majority of Abbeyfield Road residents see the trees as an attractive distinguishing feature of the road which distinctly improves the street

scene and helps to maintain property values.

The police have confirmed that if the perpetrators can be identified they will be charged with criminal damage. Street Force also say they will seek compensation to replace the trees. Unfortunately, at the present time there is no tree replacement budget. I can only appeal to anyone with information about this incident to contact the police, Street Force or me. Surely someone must have seen or heard something!

All is not lost though. One resident has generously offered to contribute towards replacing one of the trees and we may be able to apply to the North East Community Assembly to help with funding; however, we have no guarantee that it will be forthcoming. The estimate just to replace the two younger trees is over £1000. The real cost however is to the many local residents and others who really appreciate and value the Abbeyfield Road trees and are so saddened to see them needlessly destroyed.

# Page Hall house sales

Story & photo: Lisa Swift



**The Council have now sold 24 of the 32 properties they owned in Page Hall, raising a total of £856,358.**

The Council's latest capital budget shows that just £10,000 will be spent back in Page Hall in the coming year, and will be spent on property management of the remaining unsold houses. The rest will be "reinvested in regeneration activity within the City", which could be anything from spending on Park Hill flats to demolition in the south-east of the City.

Many properties were sold at auction, for less than they were bought for in 2005. The Council states it is selling the houses at market value.

Since the start of Housing Market Renewal in 2003, the Council has invested just over £2.5 million in Page Hall. It has paid for four houses to be refurbished to a very high standard, (the "Eco terrace", 2-into-1 and the "21st Century terrace"), as well as improvements to Wade Street and adjoining green space.

With all but one of the improved terraces sold and the recent removal of benches from the green space, what is left of regeneration plans for Page Hall? The Council had no comment, but significant investment seems unlikely in the near future.

The Community Assembly has focused some resources on dealing with litter and fly-tipping in the area. Alison Rayner, Manager of the North East Community Assembly, said, "Unfortunately a lot of it is generated from within the community itself due to the short term occupation of properties. It is everyone's responsibility to keep Sheffield clean. We are working with the community to organise a clean-up day so we can work together to tackle the issue of litter head on. Anyone who needs to arrange the removal of bulky refuse can get advice by calling 0114 273 4567."

# Interserve keep Fir Vale Astroturf closed

Story: Lisa Swift

**Fir Vale's Astroturf is an important facility in the area but it's been closed to local groups since November.**

Since the rebuilding of Fir Vale School under a Private Finance Initiative (PFI), a company called Interserve has managed the school buildings and facilities. The Astroturf is used regularly by local residents, community organisations and youth providers, such as Activity Sheffield and Sheffield Futures.

A member of the public was reportedly attacked in November and the facility has been closed since.

# Mawlid Celebrations

Story: Muneebah Waheed

**On the 19th of February 2012, the Muslim community united and came together, on a surprisingly sunny afternoon, on the streets of Fir Vale to celebrate the life and birth of the Prophet Muhammad (Peace and Blessing Be Upon Him).**

Many people took part in the procession and marched on the streets waving flags and banners expressing their love for the Prophet in a peaceful way.



Muslims celebrate the festival of Mawlid-Un-Nabi in the 3rd Month of the Islamic Calendar, and people all over the world gather together to express their happiness by showing gratitude to God for blessing us with the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H). Many people also recite salutations in praise of the Prophet, give charity, distribute food and expand their knowledge about Islam. Stories are narrated about the prophet's life and character during gatherings.

Muslims aim to try and implement the Prophet's characteristics in their daily lives and use the celebration as an opportunity to refresh their knowledge about the Prophet's life, and to focus on his teachings about character to try and improve their own character for the better.

Many local businesses and residents provided refreshments for the procession, whilst the community leaders relayed stories of the Prophet. People from all walks of life helped to influence the positive and cheerful atmosphere that echoed through the streets of Fir Vale.

The Messenger spoke to a number of local agencies who have offered to support Interserve to resolve the matter, but they have yet to take up the offer. Interserve have told the Messenger that the Astroturf will reopen, but cannot say when, stating it would 'not happen overnight'. One local youth worker told the Messenger,

*"There's been a lot of tension in the community because of it. One set of young people feel they can't use it because of the behaviour of another group. Young people are going out of the area to do their sports. It needs resolving quickly."*

Interserve are required under the PFI agreement to make the facilities at Fir Vale accessible to the local community. It has been praised for its flexibility in accommodating the community in the past, but it cannot afford to keep this facility closed when it is desperately needed in Fir Vale and offers of help are on the table.





## Bill Stead 'lucky to be alive' at 90

Story: John Mellor

**Bill Stead, of Rock Street, celebrated his 90th birthday with his family and friends at the 'Normanton public house' recently. Born in Mirfield, West Yorkshire, he looks much younger than his 90 years and is both alert and sprightly, no doubt largely due to his early prowess as a prize-winning ballroom dancer. Although he has spent much of his life in Yorkshire he served in both India and Egypt during the war.**

Bill remembers three times during his long life when he says that 'lady luck' was on his side.

On leaving school at 14 he trained as an apprentice motor mechanic at a garage in Huddersfield. At the age of 19 he was called up and was advised by a friend to volunteer to join the RAF. After basic training he was transferred to Bomber Command at Poklington for driver training on various RAF vehicles. By 1942 he was sent to India. The journey via Cape Town took 6 weeks. In India he was

attached to a radar unit where his main duties were as a driver. Whilst there, his first son Barry was born. Bill told me:

*"I wasn't able to get home to see him until 1945 when the war had ended. But things were very quiet in Bombay, I never saw a bullet. Most of the fighting was in the east on the border with Burma. Towards the end of the war I was transferred to Cairo where my main duty was as a driver to Air Marshall Sir Charles Meadows, who was in command of Middle East forces."*

On returning to Mirfield after the war, Bill discovered that he was the sole survivor of his group of friends from school who had been called up at the same time as him.

His first jobs on returning home were as a salesman, selling for a wholesale potato merchant and greengrocer, then with two vacuum cleaner companies. In 1954 he survived what could have been a fatal accident.

*"I must have been sleep walking one night and somehow managed to fall through a first floor window. Fortunately, although my right arm was badly cut, I landed on soft soil which I had just turned over the previous day."*

Bill then became the landlord of a number of public houses. The first, in 1965, was the 'Butcher's Arms' at Berry Brow in Huddersfield, followed by the 'George' at Parkgate, Rotherham, the 'Fox' (Stainforth), 'Dog & Partridge' (Attercliffe), and the 'Ferry Boat' (Mexborough).

Then, in 1977, Bill moved south to Torquay where he took over the running of a taxi firm. This was a hectic period of his life, working seven days a week, with a regular contract for Newton Abbot prison as well as the busy tourist trade.

*"On one occasion when driving my taxi*

*in Torquay I was hit by a speeding stolen car. Although the taxi was badly damaged I was not seriously injured"*.

Bill returned to Sheffield in 1988 with his wife, Margaret (who died of cancer two years later) and family to become the landlord of the 'Highway' in Fox Street.

*"This was a very busy pub when I first took it over but the Council began the demolition of flats and houses in Woodside and the area became very quiet, leading to the closure of the 'Highway' in 2005."*



Right up to the time the pub closed, Bill was still serving behind the bar, at the age of 83!

Bill still lives in his own home and is cared for by his daughter, Kath, who lives close by. He obviously thinks a lot about his family of five children, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren who all came to celebrate his 90th birthday, and he proudly told me about his second daughter who has recently become a professor at Newcastle University. He enjoys watching TV, particularly the programmes on "Challenge", and looks forward to his weekly outing to the Lunch Club at the Welcome Centre in Nottingham Street.

Bill has a very positive attitude to life:

*"I'm looking forward to receiving a special message from the Queen in ten year's time!"*

## Easy PPI money

Story: Diane Johnson

**I know there is much hype out there surrounding PPI (Payment Protection Insurance) but a lot of people in Pitsmoor are probably owed some. You can easily claim it back and you don't need to use a claims company**

Here is a website you can have a look at and use to help you with any claims you may think you have: [www.moneysavingexpert.com](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com). It is a useful site and comes with templates of

letters you can use to write to your lenders to start your claim.

The best thing to do is look over your statements from credit cards, loans, mortgages, catalogues and store cards, and check whether or not PPI is on there. Often you don't even realise you were paying for it. To start your claim, contact your lender by a simple phone call and speak to them. Before you end the phone call, make sure you are given a reference number (this allows the lender to know you have made a previous call if you have to contact them again). Within days, you should receive a letter telling you they are investigating your claim.

Remember every lender has their own way of dealing with claims. Some you will hear from quite quickly, others may take time. However, if they do not respond, you can speak with someone at the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS). They can be contacted on 0800 023 4567. It's best to do this yourself as the claims companies will take a percentage of anything paid to you. Why pay for something you can do yourself? I myself was reluctant to claim, but I did. I have made a successful claim after making the phone call to the lender myself. The money will sure be useful at the moment. Good luck, it really is worth a try.

# Son or daughter learning to drive?



**MAKING SOUTH YORKSHIRE  
ROADS SAFER**

The biggest killer of young people in Sheffield?  
The biggest cause of serious injury?

*Not drink, or drugs, or crime...*

## Road crashes

...and young drivers are four times more likely to be in a crash than any other driver.

How can we make it safer for them?

Council trained Learn Safe Drive Safe instructors prepare their pupils to deal with the biggest risks they'll face after passing their test:

- Speed
- Friends in the car
- Other drivers
- Drink, drugs and tiredness
- Mobile phones and other distractions

If you want your sons and daughters to get the safest possible start in their driving career then contact one of the Learn Safe Drive Safe instructors.



Just Google search for "Learn Safe Drive Safe", or visit:

[www.sheffield.gov.uk/roads/travel/driving/young-drivers/learn-safe-drive-safe](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/roads/travel/driving/young-drivers/learn-safe-drive-safe)

Telephone: 0114 273 4785

# What will you do with your family today?



Spending time and doing things together as a family has a huge impact on how children learn and develop communication, language and literacy skills. The best thing about it is that it's free; even doing the simplest things together can be so much fun.

Learning happens everywhere, such as:

- When talking and listening together whilst having a meal
- Sharing and reading a book together
- Visiting family and friends
- Talking about the things you can see whilst walking to school, the local shops or when you're out for a walk
- When cooking and preparing food, washing the dishes or simply playing a game such as cricket, football or I spy

We've launched a 'Literacy in the Home Award' to celebrate the things you do every day and the contribution you make to your child's learning. Why not take part?

Go to [www.sheffield.gov.uk/familytime](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/familytime) to find out more.

## Did you know?

- Children start to hear sounds from 24 weeks in the womb and will recognise your voice from birth
- It's really important to talk together in your home language
- Helping your child learn to talk can be as easy as talking, listening and playing together
- Children who spend time reading and looking at books in the home will do better at school
- It's good to carry on talking in your home language, even if your child chooses to respond in English



DP11035



*"This day is important because lots of women from diverse communities come together. It's a way of reducing social isolation. It gives women an opportunity to meet others and learn about different cultures."*

Fathima Khan had a handmade cards stall. She said, "I come every year because my friend Fatima Musa used to organise this event and many women from different backgrounds meet and celebrate. This is a nice atmosphere. It's nice to be with other mums, you don't feel alone."



Stella from North Trent Cancer Network was raising awareness of breast cancer and specifically targeting women over 70. She said she can be called at 226 3410 to give talks.

Annisa Ali from Burngreave Children Centre said:

*"It's been a good way of meeting parents and we have managed to register 7 new families, a very good number. It's good because I have also made contact with people from other organisations that are here today and I will be working with them in future."*

The event at Verdon Recreation Centre was organised by Burngreave Women's Health Network supported by Maan (Somali Mental Health), Community Mental Health development worker.

Lots of women attended; it really had a party feel. There was music, pampering, health food, lots of fruits, exercise sessions and stalls giving advice about jobs, drugs, housing and health trainers. Muna Abdi wrote a poem especially for the day.

Chetna Patel, one of the ladies who helped to organise this event, said:

Ladies who attended the event felt the Zumba class was uplifting, energetic and excellent. Sarah said, "I have been to 3 events at Verdon and this is the best one because of the Zumba and a wonderful party atmosphere. I am also pleased that Jackie Drayton and Chris McNiell from NHS Sheffield were here and they shared their experiences."

## International Women's day

Story: Clarete Zvoushe

**International Women's Day is celebrated in March to recognise the critical role and contribution that women make, not just in the family but in the community. It helps empower women and achieve a better society.**

## Muslim Women's Voices

Story: Michelle Cook

**Muslim Women's Voices is a group based in Burngreave whose aim is to listen to and involve Muslim women who are at risk of being socially excluded on the grounds of their religion, belief, gender, race or other social or economic disadvantage.**

On 23rd February, they held their first AGM at the Vestry Hall in Burngreave. Over 100 women, from many different cultures, attended. The theme was Women's Empowerment. Guest speaker, former MP Helen Jackson, said,

*"Muslim Women's Voices have shown the importance of having the confidence to speak. I have been inspired by the work of women who had to overcome difficulties in their own lives to achieve this. Every year they have gone from*



*strength to strength. Women can be the agents of change in the world."*

Kaltun Mohammed of Byron Wood School extended services said,

*"I have lived in Sheffield half my life. When I first got here, I didn't speak English and I didn't want to come out of my house. But I got involved to help my children and to encourage other women to get involved."*

Zabeda Hussain from Pye Bank School extended services, one of the founders, said,

*"It's really important to have women's voices heard. There is so much good work going on in Sheffield and elsewhere, we wanted everyone to share the good practice. There are lots of communities represented here today which is very good."*

New members are always welcome and women are encouraged to be involved. Anyone interested please contact muslimwomensvoices@gmail.com Rafiza Amin 07940 984 998.

# World Book Day

Burngreave's schools celebrated World Book Day on 1st March 2012 with book-related events and costumes. You can obtain more information about World Book Day by visiting [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com).



## Hucklow School

Story: Ahmir Hussain

On 1st March 2012, pupils, staff and parents from Hucklow Primary School celebrated National World Book Day. Staff and pupils dressed up as characters from books that they have read. The theme in Year 4 was Roald Dahl's *Fantastic Mr Fox*; Year 6 children and staff followed the theme of Louis Sachar's *Holes*.

Throughout the day, pupils completed activities and attended a very special assembly that highlighted the importance of reading. Parents were also invited into school to read with their child, as part of the Readathon. The event was very successful and over 240 parents attended.

## Byron Wood School

Story: Sehrish Khan, Byron Wood Young Writers Group



On Monday the 27th of February-Friday the 2nd of March Byron Wood Primary School took part in the national world book week.

During the week the children did various activities such as designing their favourite book covers and making book reviews. On Thursday they dressed up as their favourite book characters and did a catwalk in the afternoon. The parents also got a chance to come in and listen to their children read whilst eating breakfast. Chris White, a professional poet (and cartoonist), visited the school on Friday! He read a few of his famous poems to the children and helped them write their own poems. He also showed the children some of his brilliant illustrations.

Everyone enjoyed book week and can't wait till next year!

## Firs Hill School

Photos: Kath Hobson



## Pye Bank School

Story: Zabeda Hussain



Pye Bank School celebrated World Book Day by focussing on Super Heroes.

In Foundation, in order to make learning link to the current topic of mini-beasts, they focussed on Superbugs. They had a great time designing their own Superbug. This involved lots of creative talk, looking at non-fiction text, drawing, writing and making. Mrs Dawson, head of Foundation said, "It was great to see how the parents had been creative and designed their outfits."

## Owler Brook School





## Byron Wood's got talent

Story: Tamikka Reid, Byron Wood Young Writers Group

**On Tuesday the 7th of February 2012 Byron Wood Primary School had a talent show, "Byron Wood's Got Talent!" It was an amazing event with exceptional performances from the year 2's upwards. Everyone had a brilliant talent, some that we have never seen before.**

The staff were very impressed, but each teacher knew exactly what their act was



doing. Sadly, some acts didn't get through to the finals and some didn't even get through to the semi finals. But that's showbiz!

Mr Critoph (Gary Barlow) and Mrs. Gill were the hosts of this event (as always) but this time they tried to fool us by getting a pupil to wear a mask as Aston from J.L.S.

Everyone who participated was nervous and excited at the same time, especially T.S.Z.J Tamikka, Sehrish Khan, Zanoobia and Jamilah (the cup girls), who had to go first. But of course they weren't chosen because they were either the best or the worst, in fact they were chosen out of a hat and so was everyone else to make it a fair test. The other acts were JLS Girls Forever, Hula Hooper's, Simran Majeed, The Freaks, Rabiya Bahadar, The Katie Khans, Semeen Shahzadi, The Biebettes, The 50cent dancers, Hamza Yousuf and The Cheryl Cole's.

At the end of this event they revealed who the winner was and who came second and third. The JLS Girls Forever came joint second with the Hula Hooper's and T.S.Z.J won, Byron Wood's Got Talent 2012.

## Friendships without borders

Story: Abdikarim Yussuf

**In February's half-term break, a group of young people from different schools and colleges in the city, including Parkwood Academy and Sheffield College, made a short film for an Olympic Games film competition.**

There were 12 people on the film and we travelled to Huddersfield Media Centre to make it. They provided us with a camera and use of animation equipment. We had just one day to make a film. The film



shows different languages and images of friendship. This film will now enter a competition and we would like people to vote for it via the internet.

It was really cool experience going to the media centre to make the film, it's an



excellent film. Please make sure you watch and vote for it!

<http://www.filmnation.org.uk/watch/film/friendships-without-borders-1>

Deadline for voting 2nd April 2012

# George & Brian

## Spring

by Edgar Lowman

Hey Brian, What comes after winter?? I got us a calendar.

Easy! It goes: Summer, Autumn, Winter...

Oh yeah, Spring!

# Breast awareness in women over 70

## Are you Breast Aware?

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in the UK and it is currently estimated that 1 in 8 women will get breast cancer in their lifetime. However, it is a very treatable cancer in most women, especially if it is found in the early stages and more than 8 out of 10 women survive breast cancer.

## Older women are more at risk

Older women are most at risk and about 80% of breast cancers occur in women over 50. About 1 in 3 of these women are over 70 and sadly about half of these women do not survive for a long time. This is because many older women believe that if they have not had breast cancer by the time they are 70 (or don't have anyone in their immediate family who has had it), they are not going to get it and therefore they do not continue to go for mammograms, neither do they remember to check their breasts and many do not go to see their doctor until it is too late.

Being Breast Aware means knowing what is normal for yourself, and going to see your doctor as soon as you notice any unusual changes. Here is a list of breast changes you should check for:

- A change in the size or shape of a breast
- A lump or thickening that feels different from the rest of the breast tissue.
- A change in skin texture such as a thickening, or puckering or dimpling of the skin
- Redness or rash on or around the skin or nipple
- Discharge of liquid from a nipple
- A swelling in your armpit.
- Constant pain in your breast or armpit

Remember most changes to your breast won't turn out to be cancer, but it is important to get them checked out promptly with your doctor.

## Reduce your risk

Whilst getting older is a fact of life, 4 out of 10 cancers are preventable and women can reduce their risk by leading a healthy lifestyle such as:

- Drinking less alcohol
- Maintaining a healthy weight
- Staying physically active (walking to the shops, climbing stairs, gardening and housework are all physical activities).
- Stopping smoking

## Breast screening

All women between 50 and 70 years are sent an appointment every 3 years to have a mammogram. This is an X ray of the breast which can detect the earliest signs of breast cancer, even before you can see or feel any changes.

Women who are over the age of 70 may continue to have mammograms every 3 years for as long as they wish. This just means telephoning and making an appointment directly with the breast screening centre.

Floor C, Out Patients, Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield  
Telephone 0114 271 1922

Please help spread the word and pass this information onto someone else. You never know, it could save their life.



## Learning to live healthy

Burngreave Healthy Communities has been working on helping people manage and prevent Type 2 Diabetes in recent months.

Type 2 Diabetes occurs when your body cannot produce enough insulin or because the cells in your body do not react properly to insulin. Insulin is a hormone that is needed to control the amount of glucose, a type of sugar, in your blood.

## Healthy living Type 2 Diabetes course in April

Following the success of the 'Healthy Living with Type 2 Diabetes' courses that ran in January and February 2012, a third course is due to commence on Wednesday 18th April. The course will run every Wednesday for six weeks from 10am-12pm at the Pakistani Advice & Community Association (PACA) on Page Hall Road.

Type 2 Diabetes is particularly prevalent in the South Asian community, and so there will be Punjabi and Urdu translation (provided by Health Trainer Sophina Asghar).

The sessions focus on practical ways to manage and prevent Type 2 Diabetes through diet and exercise. It will also provide an opportunity to learn from each others' experiences.

**For more information or to book a place contact Becky Gunn, Health Development Worker, on 07960 084 119.**

## Choosing healthy food

To prevent or manage Type 2 Diabetes it is recommended that you eat a healthy, balanced diet and maintain a healthy weight.

Working out which foods are the healthiest option is not always easy. Foods that claim to be low fat are often high in sugar, which can make it difficult for people trying to lose weight. Many processed foods contain lots of salt which can raise blood pressure and risk of stroke and heart disease. Plenty of food products in supermarkets have labels on the front of their packs which give information on calories, sugar, fat, saturated fat, and salt which can help you make healthy choices. To make it easy to check your food labels, use this handy Food Shopping Card to make sure your foods don't contain any hidden surprises.

*Numbers on the shopping card are based on every 100g, so make sure you check the right column on the food labels.*



# Sheffield Parent Carer Forum



Does your child have a disability or health condition?  
Do they develop more slowly than other children?  
Do they need extra help in school?

**FREE** event for parents/carers of children with additional needs from all communities.

**Saturday 5th May 2012, 12-4pm**

At SADACCA, 48 The Wicker, Sheffield S3 8JB

Find out about services and organisations to help your child

**FREE Buffet (Caribbean, British and Vegetarian)**

**FREE pampering sessions**

**FREE crèche provided by Watoto pre-school (must be pre-booked!)**

**FREE arts & crafts activities**

For crèche bookings, please call SADACCA on 0114 275 3479 or email [sadacca2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sadacca2002@yahoo.co.uk)

[www.sheffieldparentcarerforum.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldparentcarerforum.org.uk)

Organised by the Sheffield Parent Carer Forum in partnership with SADACCA (Sheffield and District African Caribbean Community Association)



## FREELANCE INTERPRETERS REQUIRED IN SHEFFIELD

Language Line services are recruiting! We are a market leading interpreting agency in the UK and are currently recruiting freelance face to face interpreters in Sheffield to join our team and share in our success. We have urgent vacancies in the following languages:

Pashto, Punjabi, Kinyarwanda, Slovak, Kurdish Sorani, Somali, Burmese, Karen, Mandarin, French and Vietnamese.

However, all other languages are also invited to apply for future positions.

For more information, please contact the Recruitment Team:

**Tel: 0845 602 7769 (option 2)**

Apply online:  
[www.language-line.co.uk/page/careers](http://www.language-line.co.uk/page/careers)

E-mail: [lr.recruitment@language-line.co.uk](mailto:lr.recruitment@language-line.co.uk)

**QUOTE: BM001**

## Adult Learning Guide

for the North East Community Assembly Area

Looking for a course in your area?

All the information you need is on

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

Burngreave, Fir Vale, Brightside, Shiregreen, Firth Park, Wincobank, Southey, Longley, Parson Cross and Fox Hill.

Search online for courses in your area

**Summer term courses now online**

Updated with new course information in August, December and March



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email: [amorablinds@gmail.com](mailto:amorablinds@gmail.com)

# Serious accidents

Story: Saleema Imam

**Several serious accidents are making local people increasingly concerned about their safety and the difficulties of using new road crossings.**

One local resident told us,

*“Crossing Catherine Road at the junction of Burngreave Rd means you have to look behind you, to the left and right and then scuttle across quickly and beware of fast moving cars. On one occasion, I saw a car come up Burngreave Road, turn right and hit a cyclist coming down Catherine Rd head on. The car driver had not slowed down. Since this event, I have noticed the white lines on the road have been re-painted.”*

On 8th March, a 92-year-old man suffered life-threatening injuries when a heavy goods vehicle hit his mobility scooter on the pelican crossing near Firshill School.

Another collision on Barnsley Road left a 52-year-old woman driver with serious

leg, chest and spinal injuries. It happened shortly after 9am on Wednesday 15th February, near the Lime Tree Nursing Home, when a red Citroen travelling up Barnsley Road collided with an oncoming First Mainline bus.

**Anyone who could assist the police, including the four passengers on the bus, is asked to call 101, quoting incident 366 of 8th March 2012 or 207 of 15th February 2012.**

Burngreave has the third highest number of accidents behind Central and Darnall wards. To reduce these figures, Dave Lawson from the Council’s Road Safety team told us,

*“We deliver road safety sessions to all age groups in all the primary schools in Burngreave and to years 7, 8 and 9 in Fir Vale Secondary. We also run sessions aimed at young drivers at Longley College and youth training organisations including Sheaf Training.*

*“Over 40 driving instructors around Burngreave have been trained to deliver road safety as part of their lessons. This number will continue to increase.”*

# Byron Wood Choir

Story: Marysia Horner (parent)

**On Friday 9th March 58 children from the Byron Wood choir were invited to participate in the Music for Youth Regional Festival to perform in front of an audience and two adjudicators.**

The children ranged from Year 3 through to Year 6 and were led by Performing Arts Teachers Mrs Stroud and Ms Smith to a captivated audience. After hearing Kye Kye Kule the comments from the adjudicators were “You look so good! Terrific, such a confident opening.” This was followed by a rousing rendition of Allah Hoo, prompting the feedback “This choir is so well focused on its conductors – and you are SO together!”

The finale was the impeccably performed Ain't Gonna Let Nobody. The adjudicators' reaction: “Love the dance – super rhythmic energy, this is so good to end your performance – totally committed!” The choir and its amazingly talented teachers brought passion to the performance. Not only did they exceed expectations and perform at another level, they glowed from the inside with smiles to match as they sang.

“A great choir with enormous potential” was the final comment from the adjudicators and everybody was in agreement.

As an audience member I for one felt moved and honoured to witness such enthusiasm and pride from the children. It doesn't matter where you come from – it's how you perform with the world watching! The world better watch out because these children could go far!

# Byron Wood road safety

**Streetwise Sam has joined Byron Wood School to help children become aware of road safety.**

Streetwise Sam will support children to become aware of road safety issues like crossing the road properly, being seen, wearing a seat belt, using a booster seat and travelling to school.



# Firs Hill litter pick

Story: Kath Hobson

**The Friends of Firs Hill School and the School Council have begun a project to reduce the levels of litter and dog fouling in the area around the school.**

The project launched before the start of the Easter holidays with a competition to design posters about the issues of litter and dog fouling. The winning poster(s) will be posted around the area to encourage everyone to keep public spaces cleaner.

We aim to join the Neighbourhood Cleanup Campaign proposed by the Burngreave Safer Neighbourhood Team

and Firs Hill TARA and to include St Catherine’s School/ brownies and guides.

Litter picks are planned between April and June 2012. Surveys will be done to assess what type of litter is being dropped and where. Litter which is recyclable will be collected separately.

The litter pickers will be organised into small groups with at least one CRB checked adult with each group of children. The children will be encouraged to be as involved as possible in the organisation of the project.

All participants will receive a certificate.

**For more information or to join in, contact Clare on [clareturner@o2.co.uk](mailto:clareturner@o2.co.uk)**







## A friend for everyone

Reporter: Alisha Siddiq

**At Owlter Brook School, they had a special friendship week. They learnt about being a better friend.**

All the children learnt all about friendships and made a very special video about friendships.

The Year Threes had a special afternoon where they named what made their friends special, attached this to balloons and let them go, with them all saying a rhyme.

'Be friends, stay friends, never ever break friends' as they all let go of their balloons.

**See more stories from Owlter Brook's pupils on the website: [www.burngreavemessenger.org](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org)**

## Fairtrade at St Catherine's RC Primary

Story: Liz Smith

**From 5th March, children explored the meaning of Fairtrade and how they support farmers across the world.**



They designed posters to raise awareness about Fairtrade and the knowledge gained was shared in an open morning for parents and friends. Fairtrade goods were sold in the Cafe and the School Council shared the work done in the local community.

Following the local shopping survey carried out by the Y2 to Y6 children, school council reps were invited to tea in the Lord Major's parlour to celebrate the work that they are doing.

We are proud of the way our children develop their understanding of this topic year on year. This important work helps children understand the meaning of Global Citizenship.

## Hucklow's Business and Enterprise Project

Story: Ahmir Hussain

**Move over Alan Sugar and Richard Branson, new entrepreneurs are in town! Hucklow school pupils are working on a major enterprise project, aiming to learn the key skills required to plan, design and produce products, which will then be sold at the forthcoming Hucklow market.**

The children initially complete business plans and then have to pitch their business idea in Dragon's Den style to the school's very own Hilary Devey, Headteacher Mrs Arnold. She will then decide whether to grant them the funding they require to produce their products and come back to her with a profit.

The products range from designer T-shirts, key rings and personalised mugs to children designing their own jelly babies (a joint venture with Cadburys). Parents will have the opportunity to visit the market and purchase the products.

## Little Ummah Playgroup



Story & photos: Aaishah Aslam

**Little Ummah Playgroup has now been running for well over a year. Grimesthorpe Academy recognises how important it is to start early positive nurturing in an Islamic environment.**

This is why we are running (perhaps the first ever in Sheffield) Muslim-focused mother, baby and toddler group, every Wednesday, 11am-1pm. We focus on early stage play, by encouraging Islamically-led play and making it fun. We aim to offer crafts, games, stories, singing and socialising between mums. We also hope mums can feel part of this and contribute to the sessions, with whatever skills and talents they have.

So, whether you like to sing Islamic songs, or do crafts, or even present a bit of "I Can Cook" to the session, it will be very welcome, as this is your group. We also provide areas for feeding, changing, nap times and snacks. All we ask for is a contribution of £1 and any donations of good quality toys are welcome. Please come along and together we can continue to make 'Little Ummah' a success.

**For further queries, contact Naheeda – 07976 206193 – at Grimesthorpe Academy, 191 Grimesthorpe Road, S4 7EU**

# Community Development and Health Course

Story: Clarete Zvoushe & Fran O'key | Photo: Fran O'key

The ICDH course is about teaching people how to make small changes to improve their own health and the health of their families and community. It ran at Pye Bank School every Thursday for 15 weeks.

It gives people knowledge of their local services, and how to use those services in different situations. It gives them confidence on how to deal with problems they might face when using the services and not just to take everything at face value but to look at the situation and try and bring out the good in it.

As a result two students have launched their project called 'Positive Choices' whereby they go around local schools giving talks to parents and teachers about healthy eating and exercise for themselves and their children. They have had fantastic feedback from teachers and parents and have been invited to more schools to give their talk. Because of this one of them is planning to set up his own sports and coaching business.

Here's what some of the participants said:

*"ICDH has been a memorable course. It has given me a clearer insight into health and wellbeing. I have shared some emotional*



*and educational information and learnt a great deal from all the other people on the course. It has been a great experience. Everyone should try it!"*

*"ICDH has given me a greater insight into the things that are missing in the community and how we could make changes and generally help build on things. It has given me a greater focus to help others."*

*"ICDH has made me recognise my skills and inspired me to go on and do lots more to help me and my community."*

The group, tutors and the course material were all brilliant, we had pretty good discussions sometimes emotional ones and we have learnt more from each other.

We want to tell you if you have a chance to do this course, do it! And you will be grateful that you have done it.

## Writing wrongful cuts

Story: Vivien Urwodhi

On Saturday the 24th of March SAGE Greenfingers organised a fundraising writing event for people who wanted to write but never had a chance to demonstrate their skills.

You could really see the room full of drumming rhythms of spoken words. Blank sheets were turned by the linking of ink into stories and poems.

Attendees participated for 7 hours at the Welcome Centre on Nottingham to raise money for the horticultural therapy



service, which had to be cut in January from four to one session per week. The gardening sessions provided healthy outdoor activity and laughter for those who are experiencing mental health problem.

Song writer Sally Goldsmith and Sheffield well known poet River Wolton were impressed by the total of 26

inspiring writers, who attended to support the charity during this difficult economic time.

There were also some poems to take home, as well as muffins and tea. This poem was created by the group using random words:

Echo home	No pie
The underwhelming	Party fragment
Sometime zonked	Damp people
Become zippy	Surly someone
You swivel	Fishy eye
Shovel London	Wandering pest
Convertible speak	

**SAGE welcomes support of many kinds. Please contact them if you can help with gardening, organising fundraising or helping publicise our work. [www.sagesheffield.org.uk](http://www.sagesheffield.org.uk)**

## Book yourself in at the library

Story: Liz Searle

If you didn't know what a great resource we have on our doorsteps, it's time you visited Burngreave Library!

Located next door to the Housing Office, on Spital Hill, the library has something for everyone. I spoke to Susan Taylor, who described her workplace as very busy

and full of information and activities for local people.

You can use the computers, borrow books, CDs and films in many languages, read and relax or find information, all for free. The librarians are all very friendly and will help you with any enquiry.

Baby Time sessions run on Mondays 23rd April, 14th May and 28th May 10am-11am.

Conversation Club and Citizenship Test Practice runs every Monday and Wednesday morning.

The Science Club has been very popular, and will hopefully be starting up again depending on funding. Keep a look out for more information.

### Opening hours:

Monday 10am-12.30pm  
and 1.30-6pm

Wednesday 10am-12.30pm  
and 1.30-5pm

Friday 10am-12.30pm  
and 1.30-5pm

Saturday 10am-3pm

Telephone: 0114 203 9002

# Easter Holiday Activities

Monday 2nd – Sunday 15th April (All activities are FREE unless otherwise stated)

## Youth Clubs with Sheffield Futures

### Earl Marshall Youth Centre

Cooking, Arts & Crafts and Sport  
Age: 13-19 years  
Wednesday 4th - 1pm-5pm  
Wednesday 11th - 1pm-5pm  
Contact Sheffield Futures on 201 8600

### All Saints Youth Centre

Healthy Eating, Cooking, Arts & Crafts  
Age: 13-19 years  
Tuesday 3rd - 1pm-4pm  
Thursday 5th - 1pm-4pm  
Contact Sheffield Futures on 201 8600

## Verdon Recreation Centre

With Activity Sheffield

*Come along and take part in lots of fun activities. Activities take place outdoors and inside in case it's a rainy day.*

Contact Verdon Recreation Centre on 249 1626

### Sports Camp with Arts & Crafts

Age: 8-16 years  
Tuesday 3rd & 10th, Thursday 5th & 12th  
2pm-4pm  
Multisport (Bring a drink)

### Verdon Rec Youth Club

Age: 8-16 years  
Monday 2nd to Thursday 5th - 4pm-6pm  
Tuesday 10th to Thursday 12th - 4pm-6pm  
Multisport (Bring a drink)

### P.I.Ts Youth Club

Age: 8-16 years  
Wednesday 11th - 6pm-8pm  
Dance & Multisport (Bring a drink)

### Taekwondo

Under 18's - £2.50, Over 18's - £3.50  
Age: 6 years up  
Tuesday 3rd & 10th - 6pm-8pm  
Friday 13th - 6pm-8pm

## Pitsmoor Adventure Playground

### Holiday Activities

*Come along and take part in lots of fun activities including a zip-wire and huge slide! Indoor and outdoor activities available – so no need to worry about the weather!*

Age: 8-13 years (Under 8s welcome with an adult)  
Tuesday 3rd to Saturday 14th (closed Sundays and Mondays) - 12noon-6pm  
Contact the Adventure Playground on 203 9394



## Firth Park Community Arts College

### Activity Camp Unleashed £3

*An exciting multi-activity holiday camp. Activities include; trampoline, football, tennis, badminton, dodgeball, street dance and more!*  
Age: 8-16 years (not suitable for under 8 years)  
Tuesday 3rd & 10th - 11am-3pm  
Booking Essential (Bring a packed lunch & drink)  
Contact Activity Sheffield on 273 4266

### Play Chess with a Grandmaster!

Meet 1996 British Chess Champion Chris Ward for inspiration and top tips. Collect Children's University credits.  
Age: children 8 and upwards  
Thursday 12th - 10am-3pm  
Contact 07980 143 776 to book a place

## Crabtree Ponds Nature Reserve

Age: family event

### Boggarts and Bark Boats

*Make your own boat from natural materials to go in the pond!*  
Thursday 5th - 1pm-3pm  
Contact Sheffield Wildlife Trust on 263 4335

## Fir Vale Secondary School

### Cricket & Football Camp £2

Age: 8-16 years (not suitable for under 8 years)  
Wednesday 4th & 11th - 1pm-5pm  
Booking Essential (Bring a packed lunch & drink)  
Contact Activity Sheffield on 273 4266

## Owler Brook School

Family Events in partnership with Whiteways School. Contact 261 2015 or 243 8611  
Age: all family events

### Family Community Day

Monday 6th - 1.30pm-3.30pm

### Trip to Cadbury World

Tuesday 3rd - depart 8.30am, return 4pm  
Contact the school for price and to book a place

### Clifton Park Rotherham

Wednesday 4th - depart 9.30am, return 3pm  
Contact the school for price and to book a place

### River Don walk with Blue Loop

Thursday 5th - meet 10am  
Earl Marshal Road, near Fir Vale School

### Egg Hunt & Outdoor Games under 5s

Friday 13th - 1pm-3pm



## Pye Bank Communication Ambassador

Story: Zabeda Hussain

**There are 30 volunteers who are Communication Ambassadors in Sheffield. Three of them got together at Pye Bank School to pass some key messages across to parents. It's important parents talk to their children.**



Children with good communication skills do better in school make friends more easily and get on better in life. Children with underdeveloped communication can experience many difficulties from learning to read and write, to simply having fun and making friends.

Parents are the child's most important teacher and have greater impact on their child's development.

75% of your child's brain development occurs between birth and the age of two.

Good speaking and listening skills give children a positive start to the rest of their lives.

It's important that parents understand the development of their child's speech and language and get help if they are worried

## New goal ends at Wensley Green

In February the Community Assembly installed new goal ends at Wensley Green

For the past two years Wensley TARA has found funding from various sources for sports activities on the green space on the Wensley estate. There have been football sessions, penalty shoot outs, the climbing wall and multi sports activities organised by Activity Sheffield. All sessions were very well attended, by young people from the Wensley estate, Arches Housing and the Page Hall area and supported by Stephen Shipley, the local PCSO from South Yorkshire Police.



Early this year, some of the children came to ask Gladys Newbolt from the TARA if they could have some goal posts. This request was passed to the Assembly and the goal ends (including a cricket wicket) were installed this spring. They are very well used and appreciated by the community.

## Funding & decisions

At the March meeting the 2012/13 budget was allocated for Burngreave:

**£22,612** – Activity Sheffield Worker

**£10,000** – Rapid Response funds for local issues

**£15,000** – Floral features, Bring out Your Rubbish Days and funding for environmental work and clean ups

**£11,000** – Communication, cohesion and networking

**£2,500** – Projects helping to get people into work and out of poverty

**£4,000** – Rotation of electronic Speed Indication Devices.

### Highways

In January the Councillors agreed that the remaining Highways funding

for the financial year 2011/12 would be allocated to two projects, one in the Firth Park Ward and the other in the Burngreave ward involving further consultation into a possible road closure at Earl Marshall Road.

In March Councillors agreed that they would meet with the Yorkshire Muslim Academy on Petre Street to discuss ways of reducing speeding. They will look into costings for school signs and ask the Council's Travel Advisors to advise the Academy.

### Removal of benches at Wade Street

Local Councillors have responded to residents who felt that the benches on Wade Street were contributing to anti social behaviour in the area. The benches have now been removed and will be placed in the Wensley area where people gathering will be less of a problem

for Year 1. The Community First Panel has had difficult decisions to make. The total bids for this ward exceeded £170,000 and the allocation for Year 1 was only £33,744.

Another round of funding will open soon for Year 2 (2012/13) and more information can be found about deadlines and application forms on [www.burngreavecommunityfirst.com](http://www.burngreavecommunityfirst.com)

## Community First

Community First is a government-funded initiative that will run for four years and will help fund both new and existing community groups.

There has been an amazing response. 85 groups have applied for a share of the funding in the Burngreave ward

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

## Next public meeting

The next public business meeting of the North East Community Assembly will be held on Wednesday 11 July 2012 at Shirecliffe Community Centre, 349 Shirecliffe Road, S5 8XJ

The meeting runs from 6-8pm and you are invited to share a sandwich with your local Councillors from 5.30pm.

Full minutes and the agenda for this meeting will be published at [www.sheffield.gov.uk/northeast](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/northeast) from 4 July.

The next Ward meeting for Burngreave will be held on Thursday 14 June from 6-8pm at Pitsmoor Methodist Church, 131 Burngreave Road, S3 9DG.



Jackie Drayton Ibrar Hussain Talib Hussain

## Councillor Surgery Dates

Your local councillors share surgeries on a rota basis.

**14th April:** Ibrar Hussain,  
11am–12pm Burngreave Library,  
12.15pm–1pm Firshill TARA

**17th April:** Talib Hussain,  
11am–12pm Shirecliffe Community Centre, 12.15pm–1pm Norwood and Bishopholme TARA

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

**28th April:** Jackie Drayton,  
11am–12pm Burngreave Library

**12th May:** 11am–12pm Burngreave Library, 12.15pm–1pm Firshill TARA

**15th May:** 11am–12pm Shirecliffe Community Centre, 12.15pm–1pm Norwood and Bishopholme TARA

**17th May:** Talib Hussain,  
2pm–3pm Pakistan Advice Centre

**26th May:** Talib Hussain, 11am–12pm Burngreave Library

[jackie.drayton@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.drayton@sheffield.gov.uk)

[ibrar.hussain@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:ibrar.hussain@sheffield.gov.uk)

[talib.hussain@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:talib.hussain@sheffield.gov.uk)



**Store owner Sajid Khan and IT technician Zeeshan Khan**

## Internet café on Scott Road

Next to Bruce's grocery store on Scott Road is .net, a new internet café and mobile phones and accessory shop. It provides a variety of services, including mobile phone unlocking, top-ups, phone and PC repairs and even a Playstation to come and play games online.

Zakaria Khan, colleague of shop owner Sajid Khan explains he got the idea for the shop while living in London. "This place on Scott Road was a closed property for many years. I knew the owner and he

said, 'just take it and do what you can with it'. There's already a grocery store next door, an off-licence up the road and another grocery store nearby, so it had to be something totally different. I'd been living in London where they have these types of shops everywhere. I came back to Sheffield and I thought 'they don't have them here as much, not in this area', so I thought I'd open it up and see how it goes. It's something different"

As well as computers providing access to the internet, the shop provides a variety of mobile phone services. "We've got many mobile phone accessories and chargers, and we do a repair service for mobile phones, including LCD screen repairs or replacements for when screens are cracked."

They also do computer and laptop repairs. Staff member and friend Zeeshan is a qualified IT technician with ten years of experience. Zakaria adds: "We do upgrades and downgrades. We can install your software and operating system. If you've got a problem you can bring it here, and normally we'll have it fixed within the day or the day after."

### Online gaming

The store provides a sofa to sit and watch the big screen TV or indulge in some online gaming. "We've got a Playstation hooked up to the internet so you can play games online. It's a big thing nowadays, so I thought I'd provide something different".

#### .NET services include:

- Fast speed broadband internet usage for £1 an hour.
- Computers equipped with headsets and webcams for video calling.
- Mobile phones and accessories, unblocking/flashing for all brands
- Western Union money transfers
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**157 Scott Road S4 7BH**



## The Tea Gardens outing

Story: Adrian Wynn

I'm a Burngreave-based photographer, interested in the history of industrial cities, particularly Sheffield. In addition to my own work, I have a small collection of old photographs that illustrate the landscape and people of the city.

The pictures here are from a short strip of 35mm negatives that I bought on an on-line auction. Although they came with no information, they are clearly of a coach outing from "The Tea Gardens" pub on Grimesthorpe Road circa 1960. However, beyond that, we know little and, if anyone recognises the occasion or anyone in the pictures, we'd be pleased to hear from them.

More of the photographs can be seen at [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com) or [www.adrianwynn.com/links](http://www.adrianwynn.com/links)

## Tea Gardens public house

Story: Christina White

The Tea Gardens was a coaching inn where passengers stopped for refreshments and the horses were changed.

Once on the main Sheffield to Barnsley Road, the pub had a number of names, including The Saracen's Head, and was later affectionately known by regulars as "The Tea Pot".

In the 20th Century, it was a meeting place for the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffalos, a men's society that undertook charitable work.

Possibly the coach trip that local children went on was paid for by the Buffalos.

Dear Messenger...



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

Dear Burngreave Messenger

I would like to say a big thank you to Janet and all the staff at Burngreave Library. One cold windy Saturday morning in February, I was stranded on Spital Hill unable to get into the building which had been booked for a discussion group on 'Everyday Economics'. I went to the library to ask if we could come across and use their meeting room. No problem! We were welcome to come in, get warm and put the kettle on and the discussion went ahead as planned. What a great local resource at the service of local people.

Rose Ardron

Local resident, Andrew Richards, has written to Tesco Manager, Mark Collings to complain about the new cycle lane on Spital Hill.

Dear Mr Collings

I'm writing about the cycle lane on Spital Hill built as part of the planning permission for the new Spital Hill Tesco store. This cycle lane is built wrongly. Specifically, it is built according to the original plan submitted, rather than the revised plan after consultation. This means that it is far too narrow in places, making it dangerous. Vehicles passing cyclists may be caused to misjudge the space they have available to overtake; in turn cyclists are likely to feel threatened on this stretch of road due to inadequate width of the cycle lane. This is a pity, since it should be a very useful stretch of cycle lane, particularly with it being on an uphill stretch where slow moving uphill cyclists would benefit from the protection a cycle lane would give – were it wide enough.



You may have seen the article in the August 2011 issue of the Burngreave Messenger "Road Changes at Spital Hill" about the narrowing of the footway to provide road changes for the new store: Alas therefore that so far this has delivered the Messenger-publicised disadvantage of a loss of width for pedestrians and a not (yet) fit-for-purpose cycle lane.

Taken together with the news in the most recent Messenger that the public realm improvements for Spital Hill are in limbo, it begins to look like Tesco is not honouring its commitment to the community in which it exists. It's therefore easy as a local resident to become resigned to broken promises. Whilst the Spital Hill public realm improvements may be the Council's responsibility, I understand that the correct construction of the cycle lane is in fact Tesco's responsibility. Here is an opportunity for Tesco to show it cares by honouring its commitments and replacing it with one following the revised cycle lane plan. Does Tesco care?

I hope you will be able to address this issue quickly and look forward to your response.

Yours Sincerely,  
Andrew Richards

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Dr K M Ackom-Mensah

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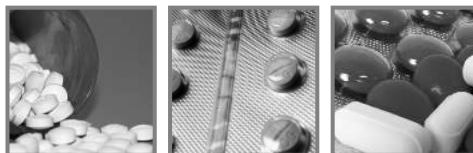
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