



## Champions inspire Sports Foundation

Story: Lisa Swift and Seraphin Nyirenda

Young residents, Abdirisak Ahmed and Muktar Mohammed, have won gold medals in Junior Athletics at county and national levels, while Muktar also plays for Sheffield Wednesday. Their achievements inspired the Somali community in Burngreave to launch the Sheffield Sports Foundation in June.

More than 40 young athletes, trainers, and residents attended the launch meeting organised by Mustafa Mohammed, Roble Ayah and Ali Yussuf. Roble told the meeting:

*"We want to know why young people from black and ethnic minorities are not involved in sport, so we can support them to participate and get professional training."*

Mustafa, who has been training athletes since 2004, and has more than 15 young people currently training at Don Valley Stadium, said:

*"It has taken a lot of courage, there are a lot of barriers. I'm really proud of the group and what the boys have achieved."*

The Foundation called for people to help by referring young people; providing transport; sharing facilities and providing technical help in setting up the Foundation.

To find out more contact Mustafa on 07877 852 899.



17 year Abdirisak Yusuf Ahmed, started in athletics with the Burngreave Mile Run. UK champion in 800m, 3000m and 5000m, he has represented England winning two gold medals for cross country.

*"I started when I was 12 and train five times a week. When you win the race you feel proud because of all the effort you've put in. You have to rely on yourself - it makes you a strong person. I'm hoping make the Olympics in 2012, or 2016."*

17 year old Muktar Mohammed plays for Sheffield Wednesday under 18s, and has won gold medals for 800m and 400m at county level and UK school games.

*"My PE teacher at Abbeydale Grange referred me to Sheffield Wednesday and I started athletics last summer. I hope to make it in football in the future, maybe to play in Italy."*



## Murder on Spital Street



**At 1.45pm on 11th July Burngreave witnessed the loss of another young life; Tarek Chaiboub was shot dead outside the barbers on Spital Street.**

The 17 year old from Wincobank, also known as GT, had recently been released from hospital after being stabbed.

The murder was witnessed by local workers and residents, people on a passing bus saw the shots fired. Residents expressed their concern to the Messenger:

*"He must have been worried about his safety because he was carrying a gun. They are fighting over nothing, it's just little things," a young man told us.*

*"Regeneration is only on the surface, all this is going on underneath," said a woman who couldn't get back home because of the cordon.*

Inside this issue we look at the newly launched gang strategy, and the views of a young man on the edge of youth violence:

*"Everyone is talking about gun and knife crime. A lot has been set up to work with us young people to move us off the streets. The ones that need working with are not even touched..."*

**Continued on page 5.**

**Inside: Music In The Sun - See page 6 for details**

**Inside: Fun filled Festival - page 13**

**Inside: Guide to Summer Activities for young people - pages 14 and 15**

## Training to help your group fundraise !!!

- 8 funding sessions per course
- Only £20 per person

South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau (SYFAB) are running an 8-week OCN accredited Funding & Fundraising course in the Burngreave area though October and November 2008.

This is a course for voluntary and community groups who want to learn about funding and fundraising. The course will help you to be a lot more confident writing letters to funders or completing funding application forms.

Priority will be given to small to medium sized groups. maximum of 2 people per group may apply. Please get in touch to book a training place.

**Dates and times: Tuesday mornings 10 - 1pm**

30 Sept • 7th Oct • 14th Oct • 21st Oct

28th Oct - course break this week

4th Nov • 11th Nov • 18th Nov • 25th Nov

Please contact SYFAB for more details and a booking form.

**Telephone:** (0114) 249 4343

**Email:** diane@syfab.org.uk  
sheila@syfab.org.uk

**Website:** www.syfab.org.uk



LOTTERY FUNDED

## Support your local school - Become a School Governor

*Have you ever thought about being a school governor?*

**There will be elections for parent governor vacancies at local schools early in the Autumn term 2008. If you are not a parent you could contribute as a Local Authority governor or a Community governor.**

Sheffield is doing well compared to other local authorities in recruiting and retaining Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) school governors [7.7%] but the Council wants to improve further!

Sheffield is working with a local BME Governors Network to double our numbers.

If you would like to become a School Governor, or would like more information, please telephone (0114) 250 6868.

**More information can be found at:**  
[www.sheffield.gov.uk/schoolgovernors](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/schoolgovernors)



## Watoto Pre School

Nurturing Children's Strengths, Dreams and Aspirations

### Early Years Practitioner

**Salary: £12,300**

**Hours: 37hrs per week**

This post offers an excellent opportunity to play a key role in the ongoing success of the Watoto Pre School.

Applicants must have knowledge and at least two years experience of the early years foundations stages and be dynamic, innovative and creative in their approach.

Candidates must have NNEB, NVQ Level 3 in Childcare with Endorsements, Btec'97 onwards, NVQ3 in Early Years Care and Education with successful post qualifying experience.

As we are a diverse and representative organisation we are not particularly under-represented but would welcome men and disabled employees as we endeavour to support all employees. Both the DDA 1995 and SDA 1975 apply.

The successful candidate will be required to complete an Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure form in line with Section 115 of The Police Act 1997.

**Closing Date: Thursday 31st July 2008**

**For an application pack and informal enquires please call Sharon Brown/Lillian Linton: (0114) 275 1817.**



## Young People's Day 24th July 2008

Burngreave Vestry Hall, Burngreave Road, Sheffield.

### INVITATION

Organised and presented by young people from Shiloh Church and guided by their youth leaders and pastor, the day is open to all children and young people aged from 8 - 18.

### Daytime Fun 11am - 4pm

You will be given the chance to join our youth choir for the day, learn and participate in a choreographed dance performance ready for an evening performance or you can join a discussion group or play a game and just have fun.

### **Also featuring:**

**Music Work Shop • Dance Workshop • Youth Choir Practice  
Convocation Topic Workshop • Quiz • Games**

### Evening Service 6.30pm to 9.30pm

This will be led by young people from Shiloh Church. The evening service will reflect on much of what the young people created and achieved during the day time event. Our evening service will include:

**Praise and worship songs • Poetry • Giving of the word  
Youth Choir • Sketches • Video presentations  
Prayers written for and by young people**

Please come and join us on this wonderful God filled day.

For more information, please contact Celia on 07948 737 128.

# Parkwood academy ballot

Story: Ian Clifford

The new Liberal Democrat leadership of the Council have announced that a full parental ballot will take place on the issue of whether Parkwood Secondary School should become an academy. The ballot will involve not just parents of children at Parkwood, but parents of children at the "feeder" primary schools – those that send children to Parkwood, including Pye Bank CofE Primary.

Councillor Andrew Sanger, new Cabinet member covering education said:

*"We know that local parents want to ensure that they are in control. We will require any school pursuing academy status to use the ballot system."*

The ballot will be run independently of the council and the school by the Electoral Reform Society, and will take place in the autumn as part of the next phase in consultation.

Speaking to the Messenger, Paul Scriven, leader of the Council, said:

*"This is the first time this has happened anywhere in the country. The Government can't say that local democracy doesn't matter."*



## Northern General parking

Story: Michelle Cook

**Residents living near to the Northern General Hospital have expressed their frustration at the lack of action being taken about the street parking in the area.**

Chris Blackett, a resident for 50 years, told the Messenger that the problems had been going on for two years, ever since the Northern General introduced parking fees for staff. Deliveries and emergency services struggled to get through Crabtree Road, as did Hallam Rock's contract cleaners and gardeners. Some disabled residents can't park near enough to their homes, despite having white lines painted on the road.

A local resident of 45 years, Mr Middleton, expressed his annoyance at the lack of consultation with local residents. He said the main problems facing them were that visitors to their home, traders and delivery drivers could

not park and, if they go out, they are not able to access their driveway or garage due to parked cars. He said,

*"People are struggling to sell their properties as a direct result of vendors encountering parking problems."*

Suggestions from residents have included:

- Parking time restrictions on Norwood Road, Crabtree Road and surrounding areas at the times worst affected.
- Yellow lines down one side of Crabtree Road

The residents have organised themselves and had regular meetings with the hospital management, the council and the police. Local councillors at the Area Panel meeting on 12th June 2008 heard that a local consultation exercise was now being conducted. There has also been a travel plan and plans for a multi-storey car park. However, there has been no immediate solution. Residents now intend to petition the Council at the next scrutiny board.



## Thanks to Naheem

Naheem Hanif has worked for the Messenger for three years as the Advertising Manager. He will be leaving the Messenger this month, taking voluntary redundancy, to focus on his own business plans, in graphic design, photography and magazine production. The Messenger would like to thank Naheem for his work on the Messenger, and wish him the best of luck with his future plans.

The redundancy is a result of several failed funding applications. We are however hopeful that the Messenger will secure enough funding to continue in the future.

## Writing course for volunteers

The Messenger is running a course in 'writing for a community newspaper' in August, for residents who would like to volunteer for us. The course will be on Fridays for three weeks, starting 1st August, 10am-1pm.

If you would like to get involved in the Messenger contact Lisa Swift on 242 0564.

Messenger Info

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**Burngreave Messenger Ltd,**  
Abbeyfield Park House,  
Abbeyfield Road, Sheffield S4 7AT  
Tel: (0114) 242 0564

[mail@burngreavemessenger.org](mailto:mail@burngreavemessenger.org)  
[www.burngreavemessenger.org](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org)

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This month's team: Nasira Amin, Annie Blindell, Ian Clifford, Rohan Francis, Sam Galbraith, Lisa Harrison, Douglas Johnson, Jamie Marriott, Seraphin Nyirenda, Rob Smith, Anwar Suliman, Lisa Swift.

Story: Brent Moya | Photos: Seraphin Nyirenda



**The local community can grab a taste of ring side action with the opening of Burngreave Amateur Boxing Club.**

The club, which is run by Phil Wood, was opened on September 11th last year and has sparked widespread interest.

*“We’ve had men and women from as young as 4 to 55 years old from all nationalities, everyone is welcome. People are here because they want to be so it’s a very friendly atmosphere where you will make new friends.”*

Since opening, the club has been

contacted by schools on behalf of bullied students wishing to get involved. They have also received a grant from Awards for All which enables them to build a shower block and purchase training equipment.

The club managed to put a show on during March which saw 6 out of their 7 boxers triumph and Phil sees this as a sign of things to come. “This is important for the community as it gives people a pastime, especially youngsters who can be easily misled.”

Paul Smith works alongside Phil as a coach and volunteers several times a week despite his long working hours. “I’ve cut my hours down in order to help out. I’ll be coming in on Sundays to start a women’s class soon as well,” said Paul.

John Wood, 16 is also very enthusiastic about the project “Everyone here is new and is learning a great sport that teaches mental strength and discipline. I’ve been doing this ten years and I’m happy to pass on my experience to others.”

In response to demand the club is starting women only sessions Sunday 10.30am -12pm, Wednesday 7-8.30pm.



- **All Coaches Fully Qualified & Police checked**
- **Private Sessions by Appointment**
- **Schools & Groups Welcome**
- **ABA AFFILIATED**

**Opening times**

**Monday – Friday: 3pm – 7pm**  
**Saturday: 10am – 12 Noon**

**Contact Phil Wood For More Details**  
**Gym: (0114) 279 9052**  
**Mobile: 07946 250 587**

**Pye Bank wrestling**

Story: Douglas Johnson

**Boys and girls in Year 5 at Pye Bank School have been learning freestyle wrestling techniques such as grappling, pinning and tag-wrestling, with Tony Phillips, a grassroots wrestling development worker.**



For this traditional sport, wrestlers must be agile and quick, nimble and balanced - rather than big or heavy. It teaches co-ordination, control and discipline and

therefore offers something to children (as well as having fun and not getting told off for it).

Students also got free tickets to the GB freestyle wrestling cup at the English Institute of Sport, where athletes from Finland, Canada, Japan, Belarusse, Poland, Hungary, Germany and Britain competed. As a special reward, Simon Johnson, Michael Johnson, Zahoor Muflahi and Hamda Deria, (Pye Bank’s star wrestlers) were chosen to carry the medals to the podium. Some of these athletes will be hoping to win more medals later this year at the Olympics.

**Race For Life**

Story: Rebecca Norton

**The Race For Life training sessions at Verdon Recreation Centre have paid off and, on Sunday 15th June, 15 local ladies completed the 5km, starting and finishing at Don Valley Stadium.**

Everybody did really well and 10 of the ladies are now going to carry on training for a 10km event at Wentworth Castle in September. The group managed to raise almost £1000 for Cancer Research. The training sessions are open to both males and females and they leave Verdon Recreation Centre at 1pm on a Wednesday. For further information contact 249 1626.





# Getting to grips with gangs

The Government has provided £500,000 to address issues involving young people and gangs in North Sheffield which is being used to fund a "Targeted Youth Support Team" based at All Saints.

Violent incidents involving young people which are thought to be gang-related are happening more and more frequently. Youth workers have told the Messenger that these are not so much organised and disciplined criminal gangs, but networks of young people resorting to knives and guns. Concern has been expressed that the new team will engage in yet more preventative work with young people who are easy to work with, rather than targeting those who are really in trouble. Below, the Messenger publishes an interview with Ronny Tucker, leader of the new team, and a comment from one of the young people which the team is supposed to target.

## Targeted support

Story: Steve Gayle

**The issue of guns and gangs came to the forefront in Sheffield and particularly Burngreave with the shooting of Jonathon Matondo at Nottingham Cliff playground last October.**

Sheffield Futures, who are responsible for youth provision in Burngreave, and the Youth Offending Service (YOS) have together launched a new team – the Targeted Youth Support Team (TYST) – whose task will be to divert young people from joining gangs and to reduce the use of guns.

The new team is concerned with tackling gang activity throughout the city but with a special focus on Burngreave, Sharrow and Broomhall. It will be based at All Saints Connexions Centre in Ellesmere and will be funded for three years.

The TYST is led by Ronny Tucker from the YOS with workers Bethan Williams and Maria Lysandrou from YOS; Ayesha Rehman and Alyas Khan, from Sheffield Futures and Inspector Paul McCurry from South Yorkshire Police. The team combines skills and experience from the YOS, youth work and the police with that of Sheffield Safer Communities.

While there are not that many hardcore gang members in Sheffield, according to Ronny, gang membership is an emerging problem.

*"We must not take our eye off the ball but we must not exaggerate the problem either."*

## Prevention

The TYST will be working closely with schools, youth centres and community groups. It is also important for young people to have positive role models to talk to and learn from. "Schools have been very welcoming" said Ronny. "We will work with all the young people in school, not just those linked to gangs."

Much of the work will be on prevention – putting young people off joining gangs before they get too deeply involved. This could include taking young people to visit gang members in Doncaster Prison, to see that life in prison is by no means glamorous. "There are not many good career criminals in Sheffield", said Ronny, "...they all get caught!"

*"We want to talk to young people about the dangers of weapons. Knives can be as lethal as guns and are readily available."*

Young people can be diverted from gang involvement through activities such as sports and the TYST is working to negotiate cheaper use of sports centres and swimming pools for young people without much money.

Mostly, young people will be referred to the TYST by schools. Young people can also attend voluntarily, or be referred by parents, Neighbourhood Action Groups, community organisations and PCSOs.

## Early Signs

The team will be involved in mediating between different groups that may be in conflict and get them talking to each other, and will be working to help parents notice the early signs of gang activity. This can include changes in dress and attitude and unexplained income. Ronny confirmed that "Parents need to be confident to ask these questions and we can support those parents." The YOS already has two Parenting Co-ordinators, who work with parents in small groups.

TYST are talking to Streetforce about reporting and removing gang-related graffiti within 24 hours as this can provoke incidents.

BCAF and TYST will hold an information sharing event over the summer to introduce the team and highlight the different ways young people, parents, schools and the community can get involved. For more details, contact the YOS team on 283 5927 or BCAF on 276 5268.



## A youth voice

The Messenger asked a local youth worker to speak to a young person anonymously.

“Everybody is talking about gun and knife crime. A lot has been set up to work with us young people to move us off the streets. The ones that need working with are not even touched. It's ok for all these organisations to get money in our name but they are not really doing anything.

How many stabbings or shootings do you think go unrecorded? The youth don't wanna work with these groups that are involved with the police, it's too dangerous. I wish I could give u guys the reasons why all this has kicked off but you're not blind. You see it and hear it and u know exactly what's happening. It involves money, drugs and more importantly reputation. It's about the young guys and girls making a name for themselves. Making a mark so they can make money. There is nothing else out there for them. There is nothing in the community because that is targeted at the easy kids, ones they can work with. Schools get rid of them or just pass them on without realising that they could be putting them in an area that is a no go for them, so they just don't go.

The one thing that confuses me as a young person is that when u talk to young people to look at their needs, who r u talking too? Who r u askin? Cos nobody has ever been to see me or the youths I know. Start facing reality, this is gonna get worse and a lot of young people out there like myself r scared. Show us a way out and we will take it with both hands. But don't come with false promises and the police standing behind u because that's when u lose us. We are not bad people, we r just stuck in a bad cycle and can't find the exit.

# MUSIC IN THE SUN

WWW.MUSICINTHESUN.CO.UK

LIVE MUSIC STAGE / X3 MUSIC ARENA'S  
FUNFAIR / CHILDREN'S ZONES  
EXHIBITIONS / TALENT COMPETITIONS  
DISPLAYS / OVERALL FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT & FUN!

DON VALLEY GRASS BOWL, SHEFFIELD, AUGUST 2008

SATURDAY 2ND AUGUST - 1:00PM - MIDNIGHT

SUNDAY 3RD AUGUST - 1:00PM - 9:00PM

WILEY (ROLL DEEP) WEARING MY ROLEX  
JAZZIE B (FULL SOUL 2 SOUL SOUND SYSTEM)  
FATMAN SCOOP (CROOKLYN CLAN)  
MATT HELDERS (ARCTIC MONKEYS) WORLD EXCLUSIVE B.J. SET  
STEVE EDWARDS & LORDS OF THE FLAT BUSH  
PUNJABI M.C  
CHRIS GOLDFINGA (BBC RADIO 1)  
LEVI ROOTS (BBC 2 DRAGON DEN - REGGAE, REGGAE DANCE ENTREPRENEUR/MUSICIAN)  
CAROL THOMPSON  
PETER HUNNINGALE

HOSTED BY: GUS & MICKEY (BBC 1 EASTENDERS)

PLUS ACCLAIMED SUPPORTING ACTS:  
TINY DANCERS, BIG ANG, TODDLA 1, PIPES, MC DORCEEE, BELLEBA, RICH,  
STOBAN, GUT BAMP, SAG (REGGAE DANCE CREW), ARTERY, ALISON,  
PABBY ORANGE (14/05/08 HEAD START MUSIC COMPETITION WINNER),  
KINGS HAVE LONG ARMS, DEAD WORLD LEADERS, THE YELL, PISTOLA KICK,  
THE SOBS, BARE KNUCKLE TOOLS, BOHEMIAN MODS, MESTA PROJECT, IBOB MARLEY  
TRIBUFE BANDA, THE YELL, LADY FATIMA.  
PLUS UP AND COMING LOCAL TALENT SHOWCASES.



## 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 (Charlotte 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)

## Playing together peacefully

Children will be learning conflict resolution and co-operation skills through art, drama and play at

**Firshill After School Club.**

**Playscheme Days**

Wed 23rd July • Wed 30th July • Wed 6th August  
Wed 13th August • Wed 20th August

Cheryl Smart from CRESSST (Conflict Resolution Education in Sheffield Schools Training), Shuna Beckett (freelance drama facilitator) and Sam Galbraith (local artist and playworker) will be working together to teach children conflict resolution and co-operation skills through art, drama and play.

Sessions will also run on Wednesdays during term time.

To find out more or to book your child in please call Alison or Louise on (0114) 256 0989 or call in to get a booking form.

Fees apply.





# BIG<sup>TM</sup>

## MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

**B**iG 'Make It Your Business' is a set of business support activities that aims to boost enterprise in Sheffield by helping more people to set up in business, support sustainable business growth and increase the success rate of locally-owned businesses in the city.

Sheffield has been granted £24 million from the government to support businesses. BiG will be about bringing services out into the community, through Enterprise Champions and Business Advisors. Its aim is to make enterprise accessible to everybody.

BiG offers a range of free business advice, one-to-one support and business support activities including:

- Business start up advice and guidance
- Legal issues
- Financial analysis
- Financial advice
- Support with drawing up your business plan
- Business skills training
- Advice on accessing specialist equipment or skills
- Help in finding the right premises or business
- Support for existing businesses

You will benefit from your own personal business mentor and the programme also offers a Mentoring programme for schools and colleges and budding entrepreneurs.

Burngreave New Deal for Communities (BNDfC) is leading on the delivery of the BiG Neighbourhood Enterprise Champions across the city. BiG's Burngreave team is

### SORBY HOUSE: THE BUSINESS BUILDING FOR BURNGREAVE

Sorby House is a new carbon neutral building that recently opened at 42 Spital Hill.



We are offering office space for new business start ups, existing businesses and voluntary and community groups. High specification IT is available and a friendly fully serviced reception area.

Call (0114) 213 6310 for more information.



Lisa (left) Paul (middle) Farid (right)

based at Sorby House on Spital Hill. The team consists of Farid Abdulla and Lisa Hughes who are both Neighbourhood Enterprise Champions and Paul Beck, a Business Advisor.

Lisa said: "Our role as Neighbourhood Enterprise Champions is to connect ideas to opportunities and we provide you with dedicated support and guidance through your business development."

Business Advisor Paul said: "We offer a range of services including business advice, ideas generating, advice on sales and marketing and help with branding and website development."

The BiG Project has had a significant response from the local community with over 200 people showing an interest in the programme so far since it started in September 2007.

Farid added: "The BiG programme provides a fantastic opportunity for those interested in business. With the benefits of this project, there has never been a better chance to get support in setting up a business."

If you are interested in setting up a business or would like further information on any aspect of the BiG project, contact the team on (0114) 213 6310, or visit us at Sorby House, 42 Spital Hill, Sheffield, S4 7LG.

Further information is available at:  
[www.thebigwebsite.org.uk](http://www.thebigwebsite.org.uk)

### BE YOUR OWN BOSS, WORK FOR YOURSELF FROM HOME

Digital Homeworking is an opportunity to set up your own business, working from home, handling calls and earning a regular income.

If you have a polite telephone manner, the ability to input data into a computer system, and you enjoy talking to customers on the phone, then you've got what it takes to work for yourself being a Digital Homeworker.

Taster sessions will run in late August 2008. For further information, call (0114) 213 6310.

Digital Homeworking is not sales and you will not have to make outgoing calls.

### FRANCHISING WORKSHOP

Friday 25 July 2008 at Creative Sheffield, St James Row, Sheffield City Centre. Registration and Coffee at 10am. Finish at 2pm. A buffet lunch will also be provided.

Call Lisa or Farid on (0114) 213 6310 for more information.

# Lib Dems plan big changes

Story: Douglas Johnson

The Liberal-Democrat administration took control of the Town Hall in May's elections, promising an end to what they called Labour's "favoured areas" policy. Leader Paul Scriven also waded into the New Deal row and called for an investigation. The Messenger interviewed Paul Scriven to find out what it all means for Burngreave.



After showing us the new layout of the Town Hall Leader's office, he told us:

*"You'll see a devolution agenda, where powers that are held here in the Town Hall or by managers in services are devolved to communities so they can work with their councillors to determine where street cleaning should be*

*taking place, how green spaces and parks can be looked after and whether Library services are fulfilling local needs.*

*"We want it to be cleaner; we want the environment to be better; we want people to feel safer and we want to have more positive activities for young people."*

So, a 'Cleaner, Greener, Safer Sheffield' - to use Labour's catchphrase?

*"No - the title we're using is 'Sheffield - a place where everyone matters'"*

## Competition

The Lib Dems' plan is "to implement competition" and devolve 20% of the area's budget to area panels. For instance:

*"If the council or Streetforce can't deliver the service to the quality, then we could say, 'let's look at whether we can provide it by this community organisation or a company coming in.'"*

The Lib-Dems' next plan is to replace the 12 area panels with 7 "community assemblies". Why the need for change?

*"We don't want to have 12 area panels because some area panels only have one ward. Others have 3 or 4 wards; there's no equity.*

## Dismantling Area Panels

Burngreave area panel will presumably merge with another area - as yet unknown. Maybe this discussion will be part of the "community plan", an ambitious aim to build the views of all members of the community into a coherent way to deliver services:

*"Underneath the community assembly, there will be area working and that will be about going out to mother and toddler groups, the working-men's clubs, the old people's clubs, where people congregate, asking them what their hopes are, asking them about their quality of life. That will lead up to an integrated community plan.*

*"At the moment, councillors can't determine what graffiti is cleaned, what hours the library opens, what they want in the parks - it's just done to us. Those decisions are taken in private, behind closed doors, by service managers."*

*"Community assemblies are where councillors can hold local services to account and where local people can hold councillors to account.*

*"There'll be no more hiding places for councillors."*

Won't it cost more in money and staff resources to carry out another boundary change and this level of community research Paul Scriven is very clear the plans are "cost-neutral".

*"There is no new money coming in for this."*

## Areas "not deprived"

The Lib Dem leader says he is "passionate about social justice" but there's no mention of communities, talking instead about "personalising services" -

*"It's not areas that are deprived but individuals within areas that are disadvantaged. We do accept that there is clustering of people in areas like Burngreave of individuals who are disadvantaged and deprived."*

Paul Scriven has now been appointed to the New Deal board, but continues to express concern about management issues. He said:

*"I don't think we've ever had a situation where the governance has been in such chaos. There are management issues that are letting down the people of Burngreave. The board hasn't acted in a way that is decisive and on behalf of the people of Burngreave."*

We asked what he would do if the rest of the board doesn't agree with him.

*"Well, we are the accountable body. We do have sanctions if the board won't take its systems seriously."*

*"I am not walking away from Burngreave."*

## Burngreave Community Action Forum (BCAF)

### Next Quarterly Forum Meeting

6th September 2008 12 - 3pm at the Vestry Hall

Paul Scriven, Leader of Sheffield City Council will attend and address the meeting. This will provide the opportunity for Burngreave residents to share their views and ask questions about the Council's future policy for the area.

Other Topics for discussion include:

- Consultation on Post Office closures
- Update on the proposed new housing developments in the area
- Feedback on priorities from BCAF meeting in May

There will also be information sessions and workshops

- BME Exclusion Project
- Burngreave Chapel
- Improving Council homes through the Decent Homes Programme
- Burngreave Community Radio

This is your forum, why not find out more and get involved?

Contact BCAF

Telephone: (0114) 272 8008

Email: [enquiries@bcaf.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@bcaf.org.uk)



**BCAF - it's your Community Forum!!**





## New Deal Investigation

Story: Douglas Johnson

Shortly after our June issue went to press, the council published its audit report, which answered the questions posed in our February issue. The allegation was that New Deal awarded contracts to two men - Jack Davies and Bill Husband - found guilty of gross misconduct at another New Deal in London.

The report revealed:

1. Chief Executive John Clark did know that the two men had been suspended.
2. John Clark did not pass this information on to the Partnership Board.
3. The investigation couldn't say exactly how much was paid for these contracts but it was at least £110,118, plus VAT.
4. New Deal did not follow agreed processes all the time.

With this report, the new Lib Dem leadership of the Council voted no confidence in the Chief Executive and called for him to resign, saying they would consider stopping payments to New Deal "until proper management is in place".

Since then, New Deal has announced:

*"We can confirm that the position of Chief Executive is currently included in redundancy negotiations, which will be finalised at the end of July. The appointment of a Deputy Chief Executive was part of a planned exit strategy identified by John Clark a year ago."*

For full coverage of the story and the report, see our website: [www.burngreavemessenger.org](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org)

## Post office closures

**2500 Post Offices across the country began closing in October 2007. On 5th August, the consultation begins in Sheffield.**

The plan could affect Pitsmoor, Ellesmere or Owlter Lane Post Offices. Residents will be able comment on the plans for 6 weeks but the Post Office will only reconsider if they have made a factual mistake in applying the criteria - in deprived urban areas, 99 percent of the population will be within 1 mile of a post office. Pitsmoor's Post Office is ¾ miles from Ellesmere's.

They are also required to take into account topography, infrastructure, public transport arrangements, local demographics and the impact on local economies.

Residents can comment by email or post once the plan is made public. Details will be available in the Post Office and we will add information to the Messenger website.

As part of the consultation the plan will be discussed at Burngreave Community Action Forum quarterly meeting on 6th September. See advert on page 8 for details.

## Elders need real change

Story: Abtisam Mohamed

**At the June Area Panel, disappointment was expressed at the response from Council Officers to a community campaign for better day-care provision for elders from ethnic minority communities.**



In April last year, the Yemeni Community Association (YCA) and Pakistan Advice Centre (PAC) organised a consultation event for older people. Over 100 elders from the Yemeni, Somali and Pakistani community came to voice their concerns to Council managers about the lack of appropriate services.

Elders wanted local day-care services that met cultural needs. They wanted information to be accessible in centres they used and trusted. Based on the feedback from the event a report with recommendations was written and sent to Council Managers.

However, 15 months after the event, no response has been received from the Council, leaving the older people cynical about real change. One older man said, "When will they listen to us? It's like we don't exist!"

When challenged at the Area Panel meeting, Eddie Sherwood and Phil Reid, from the Council's Neighborhoods and Community Care Directorate acknowledged that they should have responded to the recommendations made.

They said they have introduced a DVD in community languages for illiterate older people to watch about services available to them, apparently unaware that many older people do not own a DVD player let alone know how to use one!

### Lack of Response

The Council Officers said they had commissioned daycare places in response to the feedback but these places were for high specialist support. They did not listen to the older people's cries for a preventative facility for those with low to intermediate needs, where they could socialise and avoid being isolated. Such a service would reduce the need for specialist care in the long term.

The responses given by Eddie Sherwood and Phil Reid were impractical and meaningless and did not address the needs that were raised. As a result of the lack of response the issue is now to be taken to the Council Scrutiny Board.

For more information about the campaign or for a copy of the report, contact Abtisam Mohamed from the YCA on 2560933 or Gulnaz Hussain from the PCA on 2619130.

In response, Eddie Sherwood said:

*"The Council apologises for the lack of a formal response to the report which was due to poor internal communication within the Council. We were rightly challenged about this at the meeting. We will be producing a formal report based on both the information we provided at the meeting and subsequently in response to the points raised at the meeting."*

# Black Women's Resource Centre celebrates move

The Black Women's Resource Centre, formerly based on Burngreave Road, was established in 1994 offering training and positive progression routes for local black women. In 1996, due to demand, the centre developed a 28 place childcare service, offering affordable culturally sensitive childcare for local parents and families.



We have now moved from Burngreave Road to Catherine Road, a purpose built children's centre. We can now offer up to 56 places for local children under 5 years.

On August 29th 2008 we are holding our Annual General Meeting and open day to officially mark the move we have made in opening our "Watoto Pre-School". The opening will take place on Friday August 29th 2008 at 11am – 1pm with a programme of activities, cutting of the ribbon and refreshments. This will be followed by our annual general meeting at 1pm – 2pm. Anyone interested in attending the open day and/or becoming a member should contact the centre for further details on 275 1817.



## Brett Anton Blake

16th October 1984  
7th June 2008

Do not stand at my grave and weep  
I am not there, I do not sleep

I am a thousand winds that swiftly blow,  
I am the diamond glint on newly fallen snow,  
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,  
I am soft and gentle autumn rain,  
When you wake from sleep,  
In the early morning hush,  
I am the swift, up lifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circling flight  
I am the soft starlight at night

Do not stand at my grave and weep  
I am not there, I do not sleep

# Campaign success for Aman Ali

Story: Kath Swinney

**Aman Ali was granted indefinite leave to remain in Britain on Wednesday 25th June.**

Aman fled to England from Afghanistan in 2002, after his family were killed. In 2007, while repairing a roof, he fell and broke his back. He was left wheelchair bound, but because of his status received little support. Local people have campaigned for Aman to remain in the UK since March.

He would like to thank his campaign group, everyone at the Ashram New Roots Café and everyone at New Perspectives.

The Burngreave Messenger started Aman's campaign when he was interviewed the day the immigration police called at 4am – support when he really needed it.

Aman can now start a new life thanks to the support from his community in Burngreave.



## Nottingham Cliff work day

**This summer, Streetworx and Green City Action will be working with young people on improvements to the Nottingham Cliff Rec.**

From 25th to 29th August young people will be painting the play equipment and improving the park. The week will end with a celebration and barbeque.

The Young Advisors are currently planning on a community event on the 10th of August and aim to attract Burngreave residents of any age for a positive day.

**For more information call Streetworx on 272 3628.**

**Or contact the Young Advisors at [realya@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:realya@hotmail.co.uk).**

## Mosque planning appeal

**In October 2007 plans to rebuild the Mosque on Barnsley Road were refused by the City Council on the grounds that it would be out of character with local buildings, would inconvenience local residents, and would cause road safety problems due to increased traffic and a lack of adequate parking facilities.**

The Mosque has appealed against the decision to the Planning Inspectorate, who will review the application and consider the grounds of the appeal. The deadline for comments was 26th June. The inspectorate will make a site visit in July and a decision is likely to be made by early September.

**More on  
our website...**

## Pitsmoor Pipers

Pitsmoor residents, Diz and Francis Feeley of Rock Street, are members of the City of Sheffield Pipe Band - Diz is a drummer and Francis is a piper. In May, the band visited the Sheffield Memorial Park in northern France, which commemorates the fate of the Sheffield "Pals" Battalion in the First World War.



The 30 pipers and drummers performed a ceremony of remembrance on the spot where 513 young men of Sheffield were killed within 10 minutes at 7.30am on the 1st of July in 1916. More were wounded and the rest were sent to other parts of the battlefield to fall later in the war.

See the Messenger website for Francis's full report.

## 'Hope on the streets'

Burngreave churches came together on 7th June along side 200 Christians from across the city, as part of the nationwide 'HOPEo8' initiative that is encouraging Christians to get out of their churches and clean up their local community.



The Messenger's Seraphin Nyrienda spoke to The Rock Christian Centre's Pastor Jon Watts about the day:

*"We organised the day with the representatives of Rock Christian Centre, Christ Church Pitsmoor, St Peters Ellesmere, St Thomas Philadelphia (who work as the Red Team in Pitsmoor)."*

*I think in total there probably 25 -30 churches from Sheffield represented on the day.*

*We had 28 different teams working in the area. We had a major focus around the Ellesmere area we also worked on Carwood, off Catherine Road, around the shops in Spiral Hill and provided sport for young people at Nottingham Cliff Park."*



## Phoenix Music Club

Story: Mark Gibbens  
Photos: Anwar Suliman

The Phoenix Music Club, based at The Companions Club, Barnsley Road, took off in style recently with two evenings of music, song and dance from all over the world. Phoenix promotes local artists alongside international ones, and the aim is to give everyone something they know and love, something new, and something to dance to. Enthusiastic feedback from punters confirms Phoenix passed this test with flying colours.



Phoenix Music Club will be back on 27th September, at the Lantern Theatre, Nether Edge, featuring Finnish blues artist Erja Lyytinen. Then it's back to the Companions Club, on Thursdays 9th October, 13th November and 11th December. Details will be posted on the club's website, [www.phoenixmusicclub.org.uk](http://www.phoenixmusicclub.org.uk), where you can also sign up for the e-newsletter.

## New designs for adventure playground

Story: Sam Galbraith

Children got a chance to have their say in the design of a new building at Pitsmoor Adventure Playground. With the help of a 'Big Brother'-style tent children voiced their feelings.



"This building is old fashioned", said one of the children, "the building bricks are all in different places, some are big and some are small. I like glass".

They also told the architect they wanted a slide from the roof, better toilets, a chill-out space, somewhere to play with water and a graffiti mural.

For more information or to get involved, contact Lisa Swift on 07855 726 653.

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



# Devon Gardens celebration

Story: Lisa Swift | Photos: Nicholaus Hall

**Devon Gardens has been transformed in recent months, and on 12th July, residents celebrated the success of the project so far.**

New paths, seating and letter bins are in place, the new plants and flowers were blooming for the event. Children enjoyed games, and there was food for everyone. Mir Khan, from Friends of Devon Gardens said:

*“There have been fantastic improvements and more people are already using the amenities. We are working with Parks*

*and Countryside to keep it maintained. We would welcome any other ideas for additions we can make to the park.”*

**The Friends of Devon Gardens are due to meet on 21st July at Abbeyfield Park House, contact Moira Walker on 273 6952 for more information.**



# Roma Family History Afternoon

Story: Carrie Hedderwick  
Photos: Nicholaus Hall

**Sheffield Companions Club hosted a Roma Family History Celebration on June 24, to bring together many of the Roma families, mainly from Slovakia, who have settled in Burngreave, Fir Vale and Page Hall in recent years.**

The migration routes of Roma people over the last 2,000 years were displayed, alongside photos of Slovak villages and peoples' relatives, and a slide show of a recent visit to Bystrany in eastern Slovakia. Food (provided by the Ashram) and the music of Horvathovsi – a family group comprising of three guitar players and three singers - were enjoyed by all 60 attendees, including Roma and local people. Horvathovsi have performed traditional Roma music at various festivals around Slovakia and the Czech Republic, and also at Fir Vale Festival last year. The atmosphere encouraged people to get up and dance and other musicians joined in with additional drums, a sax and more guitars.

Marion Horton, from Barnsley based Ad Ed Knowledge Company; spoke with a number of people about their families and backgrounds.

## Communist Regime

‘M’ spoke of how life for his forebears had been difficult under the communist regime (which lasted until 1990), but that there had been more work available. His father had died aged 32, and his mother had to bring up eight children alone, whilst working for a local farmer.



*“Many Roma children can only speak Romani, not Slovakian, because we were not allowed into the Slovakian schools. Such racism is very common; most white people would not sit next to a Roma on the bus. Even when the government did give money for projects to benefit Roma villages, the money was often left unspent by the local councils.”*

M. and his wife said that they were very happy to be in the UK, and although there were problems, they expressed appreciation of ‘the many big-hearted people’ in Sheffield.

## Travelling, collective community

A young man, R., was keen to talk about his childhood in Slovakia. He had been orphaned and was brought up in a children’s home. There was no segregation between white and Roma children there, but his early life had been hard, and he felt the home did not prepare children for adult life.

*“Roma people are happy and jolly, we are a travelling, collective community, very musical and able to have fun even when times are bad. But I would like most for all Slovakian Roma people to be able to get proper jobs in Slovakia – that is our home after all.”*

This was an event to remember – an opportunity for people to share memories, to talk about the past and the present. Hopefully this is the first of many events where Roma families can meet, socialise with local people.

The afternoon was organised by the Barnsley Black and Ethnic Minority Initiative and the Ad Ed Co., and funded by National Heritage Lottery Fund.



# Abbeyfield Festival

Story: Sam Galbraith  
Photos: Anwar Suliman, Ivor Wallace,  
Nicholaus Hall & Freddie

**The atmosphere at Abbeyfield Multicultural Festival was peaceful in spite of fears raised by the shooting of Tarek Choubaib on Friday. People came together to support local talent and were enjoying themselves.**

Paul Stead, a local resident said: "I think it's better than last year – there are more things to do and the weather's better! The music's brilliant and the atmosphere's good – everyone's in a good mood and my sister's kid has enjoyed the dance-off".

Mohammed Omar agreed, "It would be better if they did more things for families here. I feel safe here - safety is important and comes first. The best thing for kids is that they can enjoy themselves with their families safely."

I was really pleased the festival happened, in spite of rumours in the Star that it might be cancelled. We need these sort of events to bring the community together. There is great potential and talent in this area. There's even more talent than was represented today. More work is needed to find that talent and bring it to next year's festival.

Green City Action have announced the postponement of Fir Vale Festival. It will be happening in October instead.

More festival pictures at [www.asphotography.com](http://www.asphotography.com)



More photos on our website at [www.burngreavemessenger.org](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org)





# Youth Clubs

All activities are Free and open to all unless otherwise stated

## Christ Church

Christ Church Welcome Centre - Contact 07771 590 034

The Hangout (8-14 yrs)

Come and enjoy chillin out with mates, playing Wii, X-Box, table football, active games and more

Tuesdays 22nd July to 5th August 6.30pm-8pm

Youth Tower (15-18yrs)

Activities including karaoke, movies and active games

Wednesdays 23rd July to 6th August 8pm-9.30pm

## All Saints Connexions Centre

Contact 256 2940

Junior Youth Club (8-12yrs)

Monday 4th August to Thursday 21st August 10am-3pm

Open Access Youth Club (13-19yrs)

Trips and events including Go Karting, Alcohol Free Cocktail Party, BBQ Fun Night, Ten Pin Bowling and Cinema

Monday 28th July to Friday 29th August

Sports, arts & crafts, sewing & outdoor activities (13-19yrs)

Saturdays 19th July to 30th August 4.30pm-9.30pm

Contact Diane Haimeed 261 1439

## Earl Marshall Open Access Youth Club (13-19yrs)

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 21st July to 15th August 6pm-9pm

Contact Earl Marshall Youth Centre 243 9871

## IT-CSSS

Indoor Games

Thursdays 24th July to 28th August 12pm-2pm

Contact IT-CSSS, 16 Spital Lane 07931 375 764

## Osgathorpe Pavillion

Multi Sports and Games (8-19yrs)

Tuesdays and Thursdays 22nd July to 28th August 1pm-4pm

Contact Firhill and Firvale Youth Activities 07768 888 716

Open Access Youth Club (13-19yrs)

Mondays 21st July to 11th August 6pm-9pm

Contact 243 9871

## Verdon Recreation Centre

Junior Club (8-12yrs) 30p

Multi Sports, Arts, Crafts, Table Tennis and Tuck Shop

Tuesdays and Thursdays 22nd July to 28th August 4.30pm-6pm

Multi Sport, Games, Art & Craft (8-14yrs)

19th July to 30th August

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 12pm-3pm

Saturdays 1pm-2pm

Contact Verdon Recreation Centre 249 1626

## Wensley Community Centre

Chill Out Zone (13-19yrs)

Mondays 21st July to 18th August 6pm-8pm

Contact Firhill and Firvale Youth Activities 07768 888 716

Multi Games, Arts and Crafts (8-13yrs)

Mondays and Wednesdays 21st July to 27th August (except 25th August) 4.30pm-5.30pm

Contact Firhill and Firvale Youth Activities 07768 888 716

## Pitsmoor Adventure Playground

Open Access Play Activities (8-14yrs) outdoor games, sport, indoor games, board games and arts & craft activities

Tuesday to Saturday 22nd July to 30th August 10.30am-6pm

Under 8's welcome - accompanied by an adult

Contact 203 9394

Open Access Youth Club (13-19yrs)

Tuesdays 22nd July to 26th August 6pm-9pm

Contact Streetworx 272 3628

## SADACCA Playscheme (8-13yrs)

Outings to various play attractions, parks, cinema, ice skating, swimming, educational sites etc

Monday 21st July to Friday 8th August 10am-4pm

Lunch is £1 a day

Contact SADACCA (The Wicker) 273 1975 or 275 3479

## Firhill Playscheme (see advert on page 6)

## Fir Vale Playscheme (8-13yrs)

A range of sport and recreational activities

Monday to Friday from 21st July to 29th August (closed Monday 25th August) 9.30am-4pm

Fir Vale Centre (Earl Marshall Road)

Lunch 50p

Contact Diane Haimeed 261 1439

# Trips & Events

## Streetworx trips and events (13-19yrs)

Contact Streetworx 272 3628

Road Safety Workshop and Go-Karting

Thursday 24th July 12pm-2pm

Verdon Street

Girls Go-Karting

Mon 11th August 1pm-2pm

Cinema Trip

Tuesday 12th August 12pm-4pm

Mini Carnival

Thursday 14th August 12pm start

Petre Street

Drayton Manor (£3 refundable deposit)

Monday 18th August 8.30am start

## Fashion Show - (for girls) £2

Celebration evening, performances, dance, and music

Saturday 9th August 5pm-8pm (plus after-party)

Vestry Hall

Burngreave After School Study Support Project

Contact Diane Haimeed 261 1439

## Sheffield Futures Activities for Young Women

Clumber Park Guided Cycling Tour

Wednesday 30th July 1pm-5pm

Rother Valley Water Sports

Wednesday 6th August 1pm-5pm

Hesley Woods Team Building & Obstacle Course

Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th August 1pm-5pm

Vivienne Westwood Fashion Exhibition

Wednesday 20th August 2pm-4pm

Contact Shahnaz Hussain 07919 446 851



# Football

## Football Camp (8yrs+)

22nd July to 29th August (except 12th & 13th August)  
 Tuesdays 11am-12.30pm & 1pm-3pm Firshill School  
 Wednesdays 1pm-3pm Verdon Recreation Centre  
 Thursdays 1pm-3pm Pitsmoor Adventure Playground  
 Fridays 11am-12.30pm & 1pm-3pm Abbeyfield Park  
 Contact Steve Richardson 07810 685 519

## Football coaching session (8-14yrs)

Fridays 25th July to 29th August  
 Sheffield United Football Academy 4pm-6pm (50p)  
 Verdon recreation Centre 4.30pm-5.30pm (30p)  
 Contact Steve Richardson 07810 685 519

## Football coaching and matches (8-13yrs)

Thursdays 24th July to 28th August 6-8pm  
 Byron Wood Field (Burngreave Rec)  
 Contact IT-CSSS 07931 375 764

## Football coaching and matches (boys 8-19yrs)

Thursdays 24th July to 28th August 8pm-9.45pm  
 Fir Vale Sports Centre - Astroturf  
 Firshill and Firvale Youth Activities  
 Contact Imran Ali 07768 888 716

## Football Coaching £1

Sundays 20th July to 31st August  
 2pm-4pm (under 14yrs)  
 4pm-6pm (14yrs+)  
 Sheffield United Football Academy, Firshill Crescent  
 Contact FURD (Football Unites, Racism Divides) 255 3156

# Sports

## Basketball

Mondays 21st July to 25th August 12pm-2pm  
 Verdon Recreation Centre  
 Contact IT-CSSS 07931 375 764

## Boxercise Class (13-19yrs)

Wednesday 23rd and 30th July 1pm-3pm  
 Burngreave Amateur Boxing Club (Earsham Street)  
 Contact Streetworx 272 3628

## Cricket Weeks

Learn skills and get coaching building up to a match  
 Session 1 mixed (8-11yrs) 11am-12pm  
 Session 2 mixed (12-15yrs) 1pm-2pm  
 Mondays to Thursdays 21st July to 28th August (except 25th Aug)  
 Abbeyfield Park Cricket Pitch  
 Contact Alex Morris, Activity Sheffield 07966 849 094

## Multi sports session with Active Burngreave

29th and 31st July, 5th and 6th August 12pm-2pm  
 Cornerstone Building, Carwood Road  
 Contact Ellesmere Youth Project 07886 777 068

## Cycling at Rother Valley Country Park (8-13yrs)

Saturdays 26th July to 9th August (boys) 9.30am-12.30pm  
 Saturdays 16th to 30th August (girls) 9.30am-12.30pm  
 £1 per session  
 Contact Nasira Amin (Reach High 2) 07834 468 138

## Nottingham Cliff Park (8-14 yrs)

A range of sport and play activities in the park  
 Mondays and Wednesdays 21st July to 6th August (except 30th July) 6.30pm-8pm  
 Contact Christ Church 07771 590 034

# Art & Media

## Ellesmere Youth Project - Contact 07886 777 068

Art and Photography Workshop (8-18yrs)  
 Thursday 31st July 2pm-4pm  
 Customising Clothes and Bag Making (8-18yrs)  
 Wednesday 6th August 2pm-4pm  
 Cornerstone Building, Carwood Road

## Creative Art (8-13yrs)

Fridays 25th July to 29th August 6-8pm  
 Verdon Recreation Centre  
 Contact Nasira Amin (Reach High 2) 07834 468 138

## Photography and DVD Media Project (14yrs+)

16 Hour Course, Starts July  
 Vestry Hall with Sheffield University  
 Contact Diane Haimeed 261 1439



# Dance & Music

## Girls Music Workshop (Girls 13-19yrs)

Thursdays 24th July to 21st August (except 14th August) 6pm-10pm  
 All Saints Connexion Centre  
 Contact Streetworx 272 3628

## Hip Hop Dance Taster Session (8-18yrs)

Tuesdays 29th July, 5th & 12th August 6.30pm-7.30pm  
 Venue tbc  
 Contact Ellesmere Youth Project 07886 777 068

## BCR Radio Presenting and DJ Workshop (13-19yrs)

Thursdays 24th July to 21st August (except 14th August) 5pm-7pm  
 Sorby House  
 Contact Streetworx 272 3628

# Training

## Two day Training with South Yorkshire Fire Service

(13-18yrs)  
 4th & 5th, 11th & 12th, 18th & 19th, 28th & 29th August 9.00am-4.30pm  
 Elm Lane Fire Station (pick up Firs Hill School)  
 Lunch Provided  
 Contact Diane Haimeed, Burngreave Study Support 261 1439

## Level 2 Award in Sport Leadership (16yrs+)

Tuesdays from 22nd July 9pm-4pm  
 Verdon Recreation Centre  
 £20 for 6 week course (Money refundable upon completion of all 6 sessions)  
 Contact Rebecca Norton, Activity Sheffield 07909 936 244

## Crucial Crew - safety training (11-16yrs)

Tuesday 12th August 9am-3.30pm  
 Magna Science Centre  
 Nasira Amin (Reach High 2) 07834 468138

Sponsored by the YCA Positive Activities for 8-13 year olds programme







## East meets West

Story: Douglas Johnson | Photos: Anwar Suliman

The noisiest audience yet in the Vestry Hall came on June 20th as Isha Nandra's cast performed an energetic and varied programme of entertainment and dance – with plenty of audience participation. At one point, Isha took the microphone round the audience for a poll on how it was going. She needn't have bothered – she could have just listened to the whoops, cheers, laughter and applause.



## Workshop on Torture

Story: Sam Galbraith

**I thought this workshop might be a bit distressing! But then I thought - this is the reality of some people's lives - and gritted my teeth.**

I soon got talking to a GP who told me, "Most asylum seekers are fleeing from victimisation in their own countries - imprisonment, assaults, torture, rape and threats to their lives - and are not economic migrants."

Helen Todd of the Refugee Council read out a horrific account of being tortured that gave me an insight to the degree of suffering that people experience. Gill Martin, a psychotherapist, talked of her work with torture survivors and the impact on their children. Memories of torture may cause nightmares, headaches, vitamin D deficiency and depression over many years. Memories are often distorted and survivors are often not believed.

On a more positive note, we talked about the best way of helping people. Volunteer befrienders make a big difference in helping people find their feet in a strange land. Writing, music and art allow the expression of overwhelming feelings.

Helen Todd now works with people from Burma, many of whom have experienced violence or torture. The project is looking for local volunteers to help people settle in to the area - contact [jennifer.wood@refugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:jennifer.wood@refugeecouncil.org.uk) if you are interested.



For more information on the workshop or for future events, please contact Carita Thomas at [carita.thomas@howells-solicitors.com](mailto:carita.thomas@howells-solicitors.com).

### "Promises"

One such initiative is the drama group ReACT, who recently performed "Promises" at the Vestry Hall, where the audience was allowed to role-play caseworkers and refugees.

Babak Kouravand, a refugee from Iran, studied psychology at Hallam University and is a member of the drama group. He spoke of the importance of identity and integration:

*"Refugees in a new country belong initially to the 'refugee' group. When people go to college or contribute to their community, they can call themselves students or volunteers. This makes a big difference to their lives."*



## Warrior Square

Photo: Anwar Suliman

### Review by Douglas Johnson

As a free performance for the community, with a free meal from the kitchens of the Pakistan Muslim Centre and a question-and-answer session afterwards, this story of integration was a treat.

The story is of two children – a boy called Andréa and a girl called Riva – who flee their home country with their mother, in a scene of terror when their father is murdered by the mob. With only each other to give the support they need to deal with this trauma, they find themselves placed in shabby, insecure housing in a seaside town to await their official notification of their application for asylum.



### Review by Amal Ahmed

This was a very important play because it shows people who have never been refugees what it's like. When I came to England, I felt the same things: I felt alone and I missed my family, my country and my food. You feel you can't go out and you feel embarrassed because you can't understand people. So you stay home a lot and you feel depressed.

The play was fantastic. More than one hundred people came. People were emotional. Some people cried when they heard their story.



## Cultural celebration

Story & Photos: Seraphin Nyirenda

**The Station Foyer on the Wicker held its annual Refugee Week event on 20th June with a Cultural Fashion Show and Training Awards, celebrating the contribution of refugees and asylum seekers to the community.**

More than 50 people were present at the event. There was a good atmosphere, with sunshine and no rain. There was free food, a pool competition, break dancers and music from all over the world. People joined in with the Kurdish dancers linking arms with each other.

The fashion show was planned by staff and users of the Station Foyer and included fashion from Pakistan, Angola, Cameroon, Gambia, Burundi, Congo DR, Congo Brazzaville, Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Iraq, showing the different cultures from across Sheffield.

The users of the Station Foyer told me that they were happy to see so many people gathering together here in Sheffield and enjoying the service provided by the management staff.

The Station Foyer supports refugees in education and with accommodation. Refugees are even allowed to stay at the Foyer for six months or more until they get the response from the council for their accommodation.

I spoke to one of the users of the Foyer Mr. Amevi Kouassi. He told me that the Station Foyer offers support for the

refugees who are still looking for jobs or are new in the country.

*"When you work as a volunteer the Station Foyer provides transport expenses. We get free internet access, and if you need to talk to your G.P, solicitor, or the council the staff can help you use the phone and even talk to them."*



The organisers of the event Mr. Barry Brown, Miss Sharon Baah and Miss Laura Stackhouse said they were very happy to see this event being a useful one and promised even more for the next event and thanked all the users and members of staff who helped to make this happen.

**For information on refugee support services contact 267 5250 or visit [www.refugeesupport.org.uk](http://www.refugeesupport.org.uk)**





## Assessing Fire Safety

*South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue's Hussain Ibrahim, visited local ESOL classes at the Vestry Hall in June to show residents the dangers of fires at home.*

Story: Anab Ali

**Every Year many people die as a result of fire accidents. So it is important to take safety measures to reduce the chances of fire accidents occurring in your home.**

There are many things you can do. Firstly it is important to check your smoke alarms regularly. Smoke alarms are very important as they detect smoke quickly and give early warning to you and your family. You should test the smoke alarm once a week and change the battery once a year.

Secondly you should come up with a fire action plan. In the plan you should choose the best escape route and an alternative route just in case the first route is blocked. Also make sure everyone knows where the house/window keys are and choose a room to wait for fire service if both escape routes are blocked.

Finally before going to bed check the escape routes are clear and check that cookers/washing machines/heaters/fires are all turned off. Also unplug all electrical appliances and make sure internal doors are locked.

For a free Home fire Safety Rick Assessment contact 253 2314. The Fire Service will check your home and fit smoke alarms if they are needed.

## Arabic School celebration event



Story: Ahmed Said | Photos: Ian Clifford

**The Arabic Community Language School held an event on Thursday June 19th at Fir Vale School to celebrate achievements during the last academic year.**

During the ceremony students performed songs in Arabic and English, a play and a beautiful demonstration of Yemeni traditional costume. Certificates and gifts were given to a number of distinguished students and to the teacher of the year Angela Ghafoor.

Headmaster Mr. Musaid Al Hakam, expressed pride at the efforts made by teachers and stressed the importance of learning the mother-tongue for children. Mr Al Hakam told the Messenger:

"Our ambition is to increase the number of hours, days of study and the introduction of computers to develop teaching methods. We also aspire to teach various basic subjects beside Arabic such as history and other subjects that develop personality and maintain culture and traditions".

Other speakers included Abdul Rahman Al-Qahtani, speaking on behalf of parents and Chair of the Yemeni Community Association, Saleh Alnoud who said:

"The YCA has been providing moral and financial support to the Arabic school. We are extremely proud of its important achievements." Saleh also thanked the Youth Opportunities Fund for supporting the event and thanked some of the young people from the Youth Opportunities Fund Grant Panel who attended the event.

Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, who gave out the prizes, expressed his happiness at this celebration of the organisation, and its vitality and activity. A students' speech, delivered by student Amirah Mohammed expressed thanks and appreciation to the headmaster, the administration and staff at the school.

Also worthy of mention is the vital role played by teacher Ammar Abdullah, who shined in organising and presenting the events and made a huge contribution to the success of this magnificent ceremony.



# Morning reading at Whiteways School

Story: Zaida Bibi

**If you walk into Whiteways School on a Wednesday or Thursday morning you will experience a happy and inviting atmosphere with children and parents sharing and enjoying books. Sue Alldred, the English as an Additional Language Coordinator, welcomes all parents and Y6 volunteers help them sign in and choose books.**

Sue tells us, "The Reading Morning shows parents and children that the school values the many languages spoken. Parents who can't read English can share a book in Urdu or Arabic with their child. This gives children the confidence to read and speak their home languages. We have bilingual books in over 20 languages."

Staff from other schools across the city have visited the project as an example of good practice. Ms Zia, a Year 3 teacher said:

*"We have a lot of Dads coming in which is great."*

There is also an added incentive for the

children: every four times the children attend the project with their parents they are able to choose a free book. It provides a great opportunity for the children to share these books at home.

Sue adds; "Research shows that if you bridge the gap between home and school it can really positively affect the progress of the children. The school rates the Reading Project highly and provides special funding for the free books."

Waheeda Younis, who has children in Years 3 and 5 says: "Since the Reading Project has started I have made a concerted effort to attend. I know my daughter really enjoys our time together and her confidence has grown. She reads really well now. The project has been a real success".

Alena Hussain in Year 4 comments: "I really enjoy the time with my mum. It is our special time together. I know how proud she is of me when I read".

Maria aged 9 says: "Coming to the Reading Project every week has helped me read better."



Safia, aged 9 tells us: "It is a good experience. It helps me with my reading. I can read in two languages, it helps me with my own language at home."

Farzana, Safia's Aunty comments: "It is an opportunity for both parents and children to learn something together."

Sue is already looking forward to next year and developing the new electronic library.

# Stand for Islam - Citizenship and Ethnic minorities

Story: Nasira Amin

**A series of seminars recently took place at Firhill School by a group of professional Muslim women to promote greater understanding of their belief.**

Naeema the organiser explained how the seminars came about and why they were organised.

*"I wanted to do something to address the misconceptions of Muslim women in the media. I was appalled by the constant negative stereotyping. I also wanted to raise awareness amongst Muslim women who didn't know about the rights Islam gives them. In their ignorance they are being oppressed by everyday situations from rights in divorce, marriage, education and so forth."*

At the citizenship and minority rights seminar the general discussion was that despite claims society is fair and equal there are inequalities for some. Throughout history minorities from the



Irish, Scottish, black community and now Muslims have been singled out, faced hatred because of the image portrayed by the media and politicians.

*"We need to go to our neighbour and say Muslims are not like they are portrayed in the newspaper. We have a responsibility to do this."* Local Resident

*"What does integration mean? I have a car, I have a job, I listen to Coldplay! Is this not enough? People still think it's about taking off the hijab."* Nighat Rashid

The message taken from all the seminars concluded that oppression emanates from

culture whereas Islam liberates women; the way forward is dialogue with the wider society to create an understanding that Islam is based on equality, healthcare, welfare, right to security for all citizens which is a stark contrast to the pessimistic ideas pushed.

*"It's been good to discuss things. You don't get chance to discuss these issues even with other Muslim women, because we all know the issues but we don't talk about them."* N Ali

**For information on future events you can contact Naeema on [naeema\\_khn@yahoo.com](mailto:naeema_khn@yahoo.com).**

# Firshill Summer Fayre

Story: Lisa Harrison  
Photos: Nicholaus Hall

**Firshill TARA held its annual Summer Fayre on Saturday 14th June at Roe Lane Community Centre. The Fayre was well-attended, with around 60 people turning up to enjoy the many activities there.**

There were a selection of stalls on offer, including a tombola, a raffle with over 30 different prizes including speedway tickets and a tin of Quality Street, a name the teddy bear stall, a treasure hunt, and stands with information from the police and the community wardens.

The fayre was opened by Councillor Jackie Drayton, who wore one of her trademark hats with a matching skirt suit. The event was one of the last to be hosted in the community centre before its scheduled demolition during this summer.

In all, over £250 was raised. This will go towards funding the TARA's future activities.



## GP appointments

Story: Camille Daughma

**We can all relate to the experience: we feel unwell and, after hoping and wishing it would go away, it only gets worse. The inevitable happens and we call the doctor.**

The receptionist at the other end of the line responds, her tone professionally cold or condescending. Hesitantly, anxiously, you explain. The receptionist responds with an often-recited line, "You cannot be seen today. The earliest available appointment is in two weeks." You think to yourself 'I could be dead by then'.

The Government is seeking to address this by introducing polyclinics and GP-led city centre services across England. The polyclinics will be located at various points across the city and will consist of local GPs working together under one roof with other services. The GP-led service will be based in the city centre. They will both provide extra services such as chiropody, pharmacy and physiotherapy to reduce the need for multiple appointments. The concern is that patients will have to travel outside

their local area to access health care and that local GPs might be phased out eventually.

I spoke to Helen, the Communications Officer at the Sheffield NHS Trust, which is presently consulting on a GP-led City Centre service, and asked whether this was a means of replacing the GP service.

*"It would be an additional service which would complement the present local GP by offering more access and convenience for people who work and live in and around the city centre."*

The service will offer access to GPs on a walk-in basis, treating non-emergency cases. The service will be free and open from 8am to 8pm every day of the year.

### Private enterprise

I spoke with Dr Edney from Pitsmoor Surgery who expressed concern that the City centre GP service would be run by private enterprise. Although it would not cost the service users, it would cost the NHS a large sum which would inevitably cut the hospitals budget. The GPs would not be familiar with patients and it has been her experience that patients like to see their own GP. Continuity of care could also become a problem.

I enquired as to why it is so difficult to get an appointment at your local GP? "There is a huge demand to be met. Patients who come with trivial things really do not need to be seen, robbing patients with more urgent need of an appointment. Patients who do not turn up waste time that could have been allocated to others. More services have been moved out of hospitals into local surgeries. Patients expect a 24-hour service but it's not possible for the same doctor to work 24 hours."

### More accessible

She also acknowledged that GPs need to make their practice more accessible. She encourages patients who genuinely have difficulty getting appointments to raise it with the practice. At Pitsmoor Surgery, the Drop-in service has reduced the incidence of missed appointments. She agrees that surgeries have to make appointments more available.

There is a need to improve GP Practices and Dr Edney acknowledges, "We can only improve by listening to the patients and putting ourselves in their position. Patients should in turn put themselves in our positions as well."

The consultation runs until 22nd August – see <http://www.sheffield.nhs.uk/>



# Lord Mayor opens New Park in Page Hall

Story & photos: Ivor Wallace

The first project of the regeneration of Page Hall is completed as the Lord Mayor officially opens the Wensley and Wade Street green space.



The Lord Mayor arrived at 10:00 am prompt, it may have been too early for some residents but as soon the music began to play people started to come out into the beautiful sunshine. With a balloon artist creating multicoloured hats, swords and animals, the children were squealing with delight. There was a long queue for the services of the face painter and the coffee and tea were flowing.

Two years after consultation with the residents, this green has been transformed from a bland and dismal area to a bright open space with modern stainless steel seating and litter bins, new cast iron bollards, new style lamp posts, seven new trees, climbing foliage on the railings and brand new bound resin paths really are setting the standard for the area.

Two marquees held information for the next stage of the regeneration programme, it invited residents to have their say on the initial designs for the Wade Street homezone and also where else in the area it can be extended. There was a cautious air of optimism as residents began to enjoy their new facilities. Hannah Gibbins, a member of the East Regeneration Team, found it difficult to contain her excitement:

*"Having been involved from the very beginning I just think it's so fantastic to see the first job completed, I just can't stop smiling."*



## Green City Action

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

### The big DIG Carwood cleanup

The Green City Action DIG team have just completed a project to replace the rotten benches on Carwood Green. The public spaces on the Carwood estate are run down and poorly maintained. The benches, installed when the estate was built in the mid 1970s were made using second hand railway sleepers which have rotted and been vandalised over the years.



Working with Carwood TARA, and with support from Sheffield Homes, we removed the old timbers and replaced them with new treated soft wood sleepers and volunteers helped to dig over the shrub beds. The work has transformed the look of Carwood Green and inspired residents to seek further funds to continue the work of improving their local environment.

Our 'Britain in Bloom' project which includes community events to make up and distribute hanging baskets has produced 430 baskets this year. Carwood residents took 118 of these and many went to our OAPs' garden project participants. So good gardening!

### Tool Bank

GCA's Tool Bank is still thriving. To borrow tools or find out more please call us or pop in when we're open.

Opening times are now:

**Wednesdays: 1-4pm**

**Saturdays: 10am-12noon**

## Deliver it green...

## Strings attached for promising fiddler

A budding Sheffield violinist is hoping to hit the right notes by pursuing her musical dreams now that she has an instrument to be proud of.

Twelve-year-old Katrina Love, from Burngreave, has been playing the classical instrument since she was eight but has never owned a violin to match her talent.

Katrina, a pupil at Notre Dame School, has been using borrowed violins in poor condition or too small to use, but, thanks to a special grant, the promising musician has been able to buy a professional standard instrument.

Katrina's mother Grace applied to the Burngreave New Deal for Communities (BNDfC) Small Grants Fund which donates money to the local community to work together towards the social and economic improvement of the area.

Said Grace: "We applied for a grant so that we could buy Katrina a restored French violin. She has achieved her Grade 5 practical, but the violin she has been using isn't suitable past this grade. It is too small for the advanced techniques and styles of play required at higher grades.

"Her new violin is perfect. She can



practice more and can now take her Grade 5 theory and continue through the grades."

Katrina plays the violin for her school orchestra and performs for St. Catherine's Church. She has also played at Sheffield City Hall and Sheffield Music

School as well as in several other concerts.

Grace added: "Katrina has a real talent and it would be wonderful if she carried on playing and performing in bigger concerts. This grant has gone some way to ensuring that she can."

Katrina said: "My mum helped me apply to Burngreave New Deal for funding towards my current violin. I chose this instrument because it has a beautiful mellow sound when it's played. With the grant I also bought a good quality bow and a case.

"At the moment I am working towards my grade six repertoire and grade five theory that I have to pass before I can move up to higher grades. I have joined three orchestras, not only to learn to play different types of music, but also to meet other musicians of similar age. I would love to continue playing music when I'm an adult and this grant will go along way to helping me continue playing."

**The BNDfC Small Grants Fund was set up by BNDfC and has so far donated nearly £1.3 million to groups and individuals who have applied for grants ranging from £250 to £25,000 in the Burngreave area. Contact the grants team on 292 2905 or 292 2906.**

### Diary of Events

**Physical Environment & Safety Evaluation** August, Sorby House. Date and Time TBC.

**Rolling Information Bus** 14th & 15th August at St Peter's Church, Carwood Estate. Providing information on projects with a focus on employment opportunities.

**Burngreave Annual Seaside Trip** August 23rd to Cleethorpes. Tickets available from Vestry Hall on 1st August.

**School Exclusions** September 2008 Vestry Hall. Date and time TBC. Discussion on the impact of

school exclusions on the community.

**BNDfC Partnership Board Meeting** Wed 24th September, Vestry Hall. 5.30 - 8.00pm.

**Burngreave Bonfire Night** November 5th. Venue TBC. Calling volunteers and performers who'd like to be involved, contact Leroy Betts 0797 014 312.

**Burngreave Educational Forum** Vestry Hall. 14th October. Time TBC.

Further details can be found on [www.bndfc.co.uk](http://www.bndfc.co.uk) or contact Pauline on 0114 279 6920.

### Advocacy Now

Mrs A suffers from medical conditions including renal failure and receives kidney dialysis twice a week. She was struggling to get to an upstairs bathroom, but could not access help as Mrs A speaks no English. Our bi-lingual advocate supported the client through an assessment by the Aids and Adaptations Dept at the Council.

Mrs A had a stair lift fitted in her house and is now able to reach her bathroom without difficulty. The advocate supported Mrs A with the making the initial application, during the assessment visit by the occupational therapist and maintained contact with client until the lift was installed.

Mrs A is now better able to manage her disability and has an increased sense of well being as a result. Mrs A said, "I'm very happy with this service. The worker was supportive and helped me till I got what I needed".

**Find out more about the Burngreave Advocacy Now project by calling 275 0262.**

## Apprentices told 'you're hired'



Romanah (5th from right) and fellow apprentices at the celebratory event.

A 26-year-old from Burngreave who was unemployed and claiming benefits has turned her life around after signing up to a scheme to help people find work.

Romanah Khan joined Apprenticeships for All, a programme designed to give people from Burngreave access to city-wide training and job opportunities, and now has a full time job.

Following the projects' innovative link with Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (STH), Romanah began a 20-week apprenticeship at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital and now has a permanent position as an administration assistant in the Eye Department.

Romanah said: "Apprenticeships for All has made such a big impact on my life. Being on benefits can be a hard-struggle. It is hard trying to support yourself and finding job opportunities, especially when

you don't have any formal qualifications.

"Apprenticeships for All made me feel very comfortable and confident and I was really pleased to be offered an apprenticeship with STH.

"There is a lot of training that you have to go through. You spend two days in the workplace, gaining experience and three days training away from work. I now have NVQ qualifications as well as practical experience which have set me up well to develop my career."

Apprenticeships for All, managed by Sheffield City Council with funding from Burngreave New Deal for Communities (BNDfC), offers a wide range of apprenticeship employment opportunities in a variety of occupations and sectors including regeneration, retail, mechanics and administration.

The project's initiative with STH has seen over 40 people gain full-time employment within the Trust and Romanah is one of eight new starters who began the course last November. They recently attended a special event to celebrate the success of the project.

Romanah added: "The scheme has certainly helped turn my life around, as I now have a full time job and am really positive about the future. I would definitely encourage other people from Burngreave who may be in similar situations to me to get involved."

Cliff Smith, Lead for Vocational Education at STH, said: "We hosted the celebratory event to hail the success of Romanah and her fellow apprentices who have excelled in this scheme.

"As a major employer in Sheffield, it is important that we have a sense of social responsibility and part of that is helping people gain employment. That is why we have linked up with Apprenticeships for All and Forum House.

"The project provides jobs to those people in Burngreave who may not have thought about applying to work within Sheffield Teaching Hospitals. Not only does it lead to a job but also a career; there is no reason why anyone who enters employment through Apprenticeships for All cannot go onto a wide range of different professional avenues after entry level."

**Anyone wishing to find out more can contact Apprenticeships for All on 0114 272 2743.**

## Have Faith In The Kids

I am a resident in Burngreave who has seen major changes in the area, not only from an employment perspective but also environmentally. Burngreave has in the past been seen as a 'no go area' but recently improvements have placed it on the Sheffield map. These improvements are due in part to the hard work that has been put in place by Burngreave New Deal for Communities (BNDfC).

Eight years ago we had pot holes, crime was at a maximum, a major element of postcode prejudice existed, schools were at a low achievement level etc. Burngreave New Deal for Communities recognised the needs of the community as a whole, has worked to make a difference and is having a direct impact in the area, rather than simply talking about it, they have shown some action.

I lost my 20 year old son, Ibrahim, two years ago due to a shooting, but before the shooting I am pleased someone gave him an opportunity to better himself. When Ibrahim left school he had no significant qualifications but BNDfC gave him an opportunity to prosper and offered him an apprenticeship with set qualifications, this was something that was not available to him through mainstream routes.

My other son is now working for Kier which BNDfC arranged and my other two children have aspirations of becoming architects and designers.

I'd like to say thank you for investing in my kids and giving them and other kids in the area an opportunity to shine and having faith in them.

I hope people stop using politics to destroy all the good things that BNDfC have done.

Khadija Ilyas





## The Area Panel Action Plan



Each year, the Area Panel agrees a set of local priorities (known as the Action Plan) to help improve the area. This year, the Panel has £205,000 to allocate. So what has the Panel agreed?

### Environment

Although Burngreave is an "inner city area", it doesn't have to suffer from having a drab and untidy look. £50,000 is being spent to improve "the environment". This includes money for: the Parks service to employ a community forester; Street Force to light up Ellesmere Green during winter, and floral displays in the summer; 14 bring out your rubbish days this September; helping with 'In Bloom' events in Page Hall and Firshill; and developing the Street Champions' work.



### Young People

Burngreave has recently witnessed both the huge challenges facing some young people, as well as the massive energy and enthusiasm that they can produce. £22,000 is being allocated to Activity Sheffield to keep the Active Burngreave staff team until the autumn when hopefully, the Football Foundation will 'match fund' £300,000 New Deal; the £22,000 will also preserve the work in Fir Vale with 8-19 year olds until next spring. The Panel also want to send a small number of young people, at risk of detention or custody, on a LIFE course run by the Fire Service - it's a course that makes young people face their



responsibilities and learn how to deal with emergency situations. We will also support the development of two new projects around mechanics and performance and music.

### Employment

About £40,000 is being spent on "work and skills" in three areas. First, running two pre-recruitment courses for residents interested in a career in the uniformed services (ambulance; fire and rescue and police/safety). Secondly, an outreach programme in Fir Vale for people to work at the Northern General Hospital. And lastly, subsidising construction skills (including DIY skills) courses for local women who want to become more confident at both domestic and potentially paid employment in these areas.

### Bringing us together

Lastly, about £70,000 is being spent on a variety of schemes which will "bring people and communities together". This includes supporting Green City Action to host the two local festivals this year (Abbeyfield and Fir Vale); supporting the expansion of the Messenger into Fir Vale and the operation of Burngreave Community Radio; hosting the Area Panel's Community Chest programme three times a year and the annual New Year's Honours in January at the Town Hall; and helping with some small scale funding for the newly created, volunteer-run 'conversation clubs' for people new to Sheffield, England and English. Another £28,000 will be decided upon in October.

### Bring out your rubbish

- 2 Sept** Wensley estate
- 3 Sept** Page Hall terraces (Hinde; Robey; Lloyd; Popple; Willoughby)
- 4 Sept** Page Hall Rd; Owler Lane; Selby; Rushby St; Upwell Lane; Hinde House Lane
- 9 Sept** Whiteways; Earl Marshal; Margate
- 10 Sept** Burngreave Rd; Melrose triangle; Burngreave Bank
- 11 Sept** Barnsley Rd; Conningsby; Firshill Ave; Norwood Close / Rd / Drive; Pitsmoor Rd; Roe Lane
- 17 Sept** Scott Rd; College Court / Close; Passhouses; Firshill Rd
- 18 Sept** Abbeyfield; Devon; Holtwood; Osgathorpe Rd/Cres; Stair
- 23 Sept** Bolsover; Cammell; Ellerton; Hucklow; Mortlake; Vickers; Wheldrake
- 24 Sept** Addison; Granby; Hamilton; Vivian; Firth Park Rd
- 25 Sept** Crabtree Lane / Place / Rd / Drive / Cres / Close / Ave; Cannon Hall; Godard Hall; Firvale Rd / Place / Hallam Rock / Hampton
- 30 Sept** Carwood estate; Grimesthorpe; Woodspring; Torbay
- 1 Oct** Osgathorpe Rd/Drive; Blayton; Gayton; Kirton; Pexton; Skipton; Sturton; Ellesmere Rd N
- 2 Oct** Firshill (Cres / Croft / Glade/ Rise) estate; Shirecliffe Rd; Batworth Rd / Drive

**Next Area Panel meeting:** 9th October at 6pm, St Peters Church, Lyons Street.

### Councillors' Surgery Dates

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



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

**26th July:** Steve Jones, 11am-12 noon Burngreave Library

*No surgeries in August*

**13th September:** Steve Jones, 11am-12 noon Burngreave Library and 12.15-1.00pm Firshill TARA

**16th September:** Ibrar Hussain, 11am-12 noon Shirecliffe Centre and 12.15-1.00pm Norwood/Bishopholme TARA

**27th September:** Jackie Drayton, 11am-12 noon Burngreave Library

# Join the Friends

Story: Ingrid Gillson, Friends of Osgathorpe Park

The Friends of Osgathorpe Park (Foop) were formed around five years ago and now consist of five members of the local community. Foop work in close partnership with the Council's Parks and Countryside Service, particularly Moira Walker. We have been working hard to make the park a safe and accessible place and our achievements include:

- A fenced play park for toddlers and young children, with picnic benches, butterfly border and mosaics made by the local community
- Lighting down the main path used by school children
- Planting wild flowers and an avenue of tree
- Installing dog waste bins, litter bins and benches
- The installation of squeeze bars to prevent access to motorbikes
- The pathway from Osgathorpe Road relaid



**Tom Barnard and Ingrid Gillson, members of Friends of Osgathorpe Park**

We consulted local residents, Fir Vale Youth Group, Fir Vale School, Burngreave Youth Council and the wider community.

Foop's current focus is the regeneration of the area next to the pavilion to install an Active Play Zone (Multi-use play area or MUGA), with raked seating to overlook it. The plans for this were featured in June's edition of the Messenger. A climbing boulder is also planned, for the 9-14 year olds, and a mural has been commissioned for the pavilion wall.

As a member of Foop, I gain a huge sense of satisfaction and pride walking round the park (usually with a litter-picker and dustbin bag) on a summer's evening, watching my child and others using the play equipment, parents sat on the picnic benches, listening to the cricketers' bats striking the ball and the loud booming cheer that follows. I smile and think to myself, I was part of the group that made this place better.

As Foop members all work and have family commitments, we are seeking to recruit more willing volunteers to do as much or as little as they can. Everyone has skills they can bring, from occasional litter picks to filling in forms for funding our work. It's not all work: we have fun too and can often be seen at the Kashmir and Mangla!

**Please contact Foop on [friendsofosgathorpepark@hotmail.com](mailto:friendsofosgathorpepark@hotmail.com) or Moira Walker at Parks and Countryside Service on 273 6952.**



## 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.**



## Tackling anti-social behaviour

Sheffield Homes are committed to working with tenants and residents to prevent anti-social behaviour. We believe people should be able to enjoy peace and quiet in their own home and feel safe and secure in the areas where they live.

There are a number of steps against anti-social behaviour that Sheffield Homes, the Police and our partner agencies can take, including, verbal warnings, written warnings and cautions, eviction of tenants, fixed penalty notices and much more.

We aim to deal with your complaint as quickly as possible and all cases will be strictly confidential.

**To find out more about reporting anti-social behaviour please contact Sheffield Homes Anti-Social Behaviour Team:**

**Tel: (0114) 293 00 00**

**Burngreave Housing Office,  
177 Spital Hill, Pitsmoor, S4 7LF.**

**[www.sheffieldhomes.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldhomes.org.uk)**

*Translation/interpretation service is available.*



Dear Messenger...



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

### The Message

Since the death of Jonathon Matondo this city has been simmering like a tinder box with its tit for tat attacks and opposing factions growing daily. Many parents are scared and stressed out every hour that young men from many families are not close beside them. Some see the younger generation as completely out of control.

What is startling for us all is the explosion of acts of violence.

Today the taking of life is becoming so easy, many families are now in a state of red alert and the violence we are up against is becoming the norm. We are seeing African, Somali, Asian, Arab and African Caribbean British-born descendents, fighting, stabbing and shooting each other. A situation that we fear will only end leaving very few of our young men left standing, before some see reason to stop.

Some of the root causes and issues that need to be addressed have always been with us. We must look hard at where this rot has begun and how to reverse it.

We have watched the system contribute to decaying parental infrastructure and discipline with a high level of increased financial greed.

Console games, film and music industries also contribute by controlling and blighting the minds of our young with negative messages and images.

The end of apprenticeships and traditional industries, YTS and even youth centres, has left many young people vulnerable and without the support and means of gaining financially, or steady employment. They see little future alongside an older generation of brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts and parents in the same situation of unemployment.

This financially unstable lifestyle, reflecting down on their children, does not allow parents to portray a proper role model for this fiercely financially driven generation. Although a few of the older generation can be seen as working hard; achieving goals; gaining mortgages and even TV and sports fame, so many of our generation have subconsciously succumbed to the barriers placed against us making those achievements. Barriers that can be seen when we witness how few from the black community are in senior or management levels in Sheffield.

In this situation, many families can no longer control the frustration of young men and woman, who are unable to aspire to mortgages; yearly family holidays or business ownership.

If we are to survive in a system that's running into chaos, then these barriers must be lifted, both physically and mentally.

We must begin to address these issues, not as one community leading and feeding off the dire situation others find themselves in, but by working fairly and equally together.

We must be prepared to look at history to see where the rejection of society by young British born Black people began.

Rob Smith

**We welcome your letters but please include contact details as we cannot print anonymous letters. We also reserve the right to edit letters.**

Dear Messenger,

I would like to bring to your attention what is happening on Pye Bank Drive/Road, Woodside.

Since the maisonettes were pulled down we have had no end of rubbish being dumped on our road. It is beginning to become an eyesore for the area. Rats have taken over the street where the children that still live here play. During the day and night we as residents watch various cars and vans come and dump their unwanted goods which range from fridges, beds, furniture etc. We know they are doing this as the entrance to Rock Street is blocked off. So we are able to see them drive down and empty their vehicles and then drive back up the road like nothing has happened. Let me point out there is a clear sign informing drivers that the road is a dead end.



Various fires have been set at the old pub site where in fact most of the rubbish has been dumped. Just last night 1st June 2008, three youths drove a car into the wall on Pye Bank Drive and crashed it before setting it alight and then running off down the road. It's getting very depressing living on this road, it never use to be like this.

We have drug sellers doing their deals, people hanging around waiting for the drug dealers to arrive. All sorts of shady characters appear on the road. We have people parked in their cars taking and smoking their drugs and then driving up and down the road at speeds that are unnecessary while the children are playing. The road is becoming very dangerous indeed. Once again there is nothing that the police can do as they are long gone before they get here.

We are a close set of neighbours that have always looked out for each other and it seems a shame that a few inconsiderate low lifes want to spoil it for those that still live here. It has got to the stage where I am ashamed of my family travelling up the motorway to see me because of the state of the street.

These people know what they are doing, but what do they care? They don't have to live here, do they?

I have lived on this road for over 13 years as have the other residents too and it seems sad that we would have to move. I can assure you that not one of us wants to do this despite what is going on. You would have thought with Pye Bank Drive/Road being so close to the town centre that the council would try and address this issue. But we all know what they would say we were not aware of any problems on this road. We all know about the so called red tape and funding issues.

We want our street back, can you help?

Yours sincerely a very angry and fed up resident of Pye Bank Drive.

*Since this letter was written this issue has been raised at an Area Panel meeting. The Councillors are planning to meet the resident to discuss possible solutions.*

Shiloh Church at 8 Gower Street, Burngreave invites you to the

## Annual Convocation

Tuesday 22nd – Sunday 27th July 2008

Programme for the week starts at 11.00 am – 1.00 pm  
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For further information, please call Beverley on 07890 027 854.

## St Peter's Church Events

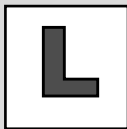
Activities funded by BNDfC (for residents of New Deal area)

July 2008 - May 2009

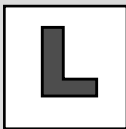
- **Chairobics Sessions**  
Every TUESDAY 11.45am – 12.30pm  
At St Peter's Ellesmere, organised by Activity Sheffield.
- **Day trip to Chester Zoo**  
9th August 2008
- **Day trip to Whitby**  
6th September 2008

(Both trips depart from St Peter's Ellesmere, Lyons Close)

For further information about these activities, contact John on 243 6305.



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





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