



## £52million - It's all gone

On 17th February Burngreave New Deal announced that from 31st March there would be no funding for any of their projects, two years before the official end of New Deal.

With just six weeks notice, fourteen local projects were faced with making staff redundant and ending their activities. Half the projects had contracts for funding for the coming year; some expected funding to the end of New Deal in March 2011.



Young People take the lead: Burngreave Youth Council organise a meeting with the Head of the Council's Children and Young People Directorate. Report on page 4. Photos: Aneela and Nama

In several public meetings that followed, New Deal told residents that the £52million awarded to Burngreave was all but spent. With just £400,000 left to spend, the New Deal board decided that the remaining funds would be spent on trying to make their buildings, Vestry Hall, Sorby House and Forum House, sustainable.

### Community projects pull together

Despite the shock and anger at the news, projects responded with a coordinated and determined campaign. The majority of the projects supported young people, who played a major part in the fight to save projects.

Coordinated by Burngreave Community Action Forum, residents attended the Full Council meeting on 4th March, armed with questions. Sheffield City Council are the 'accountable body' for the New Deal grant money. They also manage several New Deal funded projects. Residents put twelve questions to the Council including:

*"We work with the hard to reach at 13-19. It's a serious age, when a lot changes for them. If Streetworx goes, it's the young people that suffer. What will you put in its place?"* Rayon Ramsey, from Streetworx

*"Sheffield City Council is the accountable organisation, why did you let New Deal over spend?"* Shanti Wilson from Streetworx

*"What commitment will the Council give to ensure that valuable community activity in the education field is not lost. Surely it's wrong to play politics when it impacts on children at school?"* Mariam Anthony from Somali Education Breakthrough study support.

Councillor Andrew Sangar, Cabinet member for children's services, recognised how valuable the work of projects was. Cllr Simon Clement-Jones, Cabinet member for Finance, said, "We will do all we can to make sure this fantastic work continues. It's not your fault it has happened. Why should you be punished? We are the accountable body, and we are starting an investigation to find out what's happened here."

### Funding for young people secured

In a follow up meeting, young people asked Councillors Colin Ross and Andrew Sangar to make good on their promises to support their projects. They made a commitment to fund Streetworx for a further year and Study Support, Extended Schools and Family Advocacy projects for a further six months.

Young people organised a further meeting with Sonia Sharp, Head of the Council's Children and Young People's Directorate, to make sure the deal could be delivered. Farhan Ahmed reports on page 4.

### Other projects carry on

While the Council has stepped in to save vital young people's services, other projects have been left to fend for themselves. SAGE Greenfingers and the Burngreave Messenger, have been working to secure funding over the last year and will carry on despite the cut in funding. The PCT have brought resources from other areas to save the Health Shop and Burngreave Opportunities will continue but its service will reduce.

### Still at risk and major losses

Pitsmoor CAB manages three advice projects; some of this work will come to an end. Burngreave Community Action Forum was solely funded by New Deal and its staff team is at risk. Green City Action's funding was due to end in May, but their work will finish sooner, with up to 10 job losses.

Apprenticeship for All has ended with 26 apprentices made redundant. And Active Burngreave will end its sports activity in the area, with 6 jobs lost.

## FREE ½ day Training for Landlords



How can the Council help you?

- **Tenancy advice**
- **Repair advice**
- **Where to get help**
- **How to get concessions for landlords**

Date: Thursday 23rd April

Time: 10am-2pm

Venue: Pakistan Advice Centre, Fir Vale

Vegetarian lunch provided

### Sheffield Hallam University Landlords for Excellence

NEXT COURSE: APRIL 2009

Free access to a University run training course for landlords.

To find out more telephone Kevin Sharpe or Dennis Tester on 0114 273 5134

Alternatively, visit:

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

[www.sheffield.gov.uk/rls](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/rls)

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

# JAZnet

## Call Centre & Internet Access

6 Grimesthorpe Road South,  
Sheffield S4 7HQ (Opposite Vestry Hall)  
Tel: (0114) 272 1171 • Fax: (0114) 324 0150  
Email: [jaznet07@gmail.com](mailto:jaznet07@gmail.com)

## Our services

- Fax: Send/Receive
- Low Cost International Calls
- Internet Access
- Phone cards and top ups
- Print, Photocopy, Scanning and Laminating service available
- Transfer of VHS and Camcorder tapes to DVD
- Computer repairs

## Entertainment

DJ Sound Systems & Lighting hire,  
For Stages, Parties and  
Wedding Functions

## SHEFFIELD SPORT FOUNDATION

Are you a young person interested in attending Athletics or Football sessions as a hobby or professional training?

If so, please come along and bring your mates as SSF offers FREE training sessions by professional coaches in both activities.



### Athletics Sessions (Don Valley Stadium) Boys and girls 13-19

Every Monday

Track and field from  
6.00pm-8.00pm

Every Thursday

Track and field from 6.00pm-8.00pm



### Football Sessions (Power League, Woodburn) Boys and girls 13-19

Every Sunday

from 2.00pm-5.00pm

For more details, call:

Mustafa on 07877 852 899 or

Shakir on 07946 380 851



Sheffield Sport Foundation,  
C/O BCAF, 82 Spital Hill,  
Sheffield, S4 7LG.

**FREE**

## Adult Learning

### Guide to learning opportunities in Burngreave and Fir Vale

New Courses for the Summer Term

Available online at

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

New courses this term include:

- **DIY classes for women and men**
- **Maths**
- **Literacy**
- **ESOL**
- **Head Massage**
- **Arabic dance**
- **Conversation Clubs**

Sheffield  
City Council



Find out about these and other ongoing course's at local venues on the Messenger website.

The Adult Learning Guide is put together by the Adult Learning Working Group, which is part of Burngreave Community Action Forum.

For more information contact BCAF on 272 8008

Or Mary Blacka Lifelong Learning & Skills Service,  
Sheffield City Council, 266 7503



## TESCO plans

Story: Rohan Francis

The latest plans for Tesco's mixed-use development at the corner of Spital Hill and Savile Street have been submitted to the Council's planning board following amendments to their design. The proposals include a 10,000 square metre supermarket, four storey offices, a car park and several 'neighbourhood retail units'. This will create an unbroken commercial development that will wrap around the old Hartwells site and up Spital Hill, finishing at a new public space below the East House pub. It is hoped the new store will provide several hundred new jobs with 200 of these earmarked for the long-term unemployed.

Tesco's architects have re-drafted their initial plans after officials expressed concern that the designs lacked integration with the existing buildings, particularly the historic Wicker Arches. Although many residents are in favour of the new store, objections have been raised against the planned closing-off of Carlisle Street which some residents have said will increase their journey times and effect local buses. Tesco believes this measure will improve access to the supermarket entrance. If the Council gives its approval, the store could open at the end of 2010.

Comments can be made on the proposals until 4th June. The plans can be viewed at Burngreave Library and Howden House until 31st March 2009. A link to the application is on our website.

## No new homes until 2012

Following an angry meeting in January between the Council and Skinnerthorpe residents under threat of demolition, the Council have finally given a date of 2012 at the earliest to rebuild on Earl Marshal.

Residents were promised they could have new homes at Earl Marshal from the outset of the demolition process. Less than 30 residents remain on the street, only 20 of these are owner occupiers.

Demolition of some properties has already begun. All the Council can do now is make remaining residents lives as comfortable and safe as possible. They



have offered them additional heating, lighting and security in the form of fencing and gates. But this will be no compensation for the years of waiting that have already passed and that still lie ahead.

## Northern General parking

Tighter parking controls on streets around Norwood Rd can now be introduced, after residents raised the issue with councillors at Burngreave Area Panel.

A new "experimental" traffic regulation order around Norwood Road and Crabtree means Council officers are consulting with residents and allows them to try out various options such as yellow lines to prevent parking that blocks access to residents' homes. Depending on how they work, they can be changed or added to.

The council is inviting requests and feedback from residents – by phone on 273 6086.

The Messenger has had another two votes of confidence with grants from two charitable trusts who have seen the benefit of our work in the community: many thanks to the Scurrah Wainwright Charity and Sheffield Town Trust.

This is especially good news as we have lost some of our funding for the coming year in the New Deal cuts. We knew the funding would end but our funding plans were based on an agreed end date of November. It's a blow, but it will not be enough to stop the Messenger.

With the end of both the Area Panel and New Deal Burngreave needs strong community activity more than ever. And although the funding cuts are drastic they are still tiny compared to the money spent on mainstream services from the Council, police, health authority and other statutory bodies. We must ensure these organisations continue to deliver what is needed in Burngreave.

**Visit our website for extra news, jobs and features:**

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

**Messenger Info**

Copy deadline: 13th May

Published: 30th May

**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)

The Burngreave Messenger is a community newspaper with editorial independent, funded by the Tudor Trust, Comic Relief, the Scurrah Wainwright Charity, Sheffield Town Trust and our advertisers.

Thank you to last years funders: Burngreave New Deal for Communities, Working Neighbourhood Fund, Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities.

All content is copyright Burngreave Messenger Ltd or its voluntary contributors, not to be reproduced without permission. We aim to increase and encourage communication in Burngreave. Each edition is put together by an editorial team who write articles not otherwise credited.

This month's team: Ian Clifford, Michelle Cook, Kirstin Daly, Saleema Imam, Rohan Francis, Sam Galbraith, Caroline Harris, Douglas Johnson, Kamida Khan, Jamie Marriott, John Mellor, Lisa Swift.

## What happened to the money?

**At the Partnership Board meeting in February, New Deal Executive Manager Ann Allen stressed that "Absolutely no money has gone missing." However, it's clear New Deal were overspending for years and nobody was keeping track of the money.**

### Overspending

In 2006/7 New Deal overspent by around £1.9 million – at the time of the work on Sorby House and the Vestry Hall. In 2007/8, New Deal spent a further £700,000 more than what they were told by Government they could spend. All New Deal's planning in the last 12 months was done without realising they were more than £2million overspent.

### No one knew what had been spent

While the Government funds New Deal through the Council, it's clear neither the Government nor the Council were keeping track of what they were giving New Deal.

For the final two years New Deal had also planned to spend a further £2million beyond the original £52million. John Clark, then Chief Executive told the Board he expected Burngreave to get extra money from the Government, but it's now clear he had no commitment in writing.

New Deal realised at the end of 2008 they would not receive more than £52million and started to make cuts in their plans. But this was not enough to prevent the drastic cuts needed in February when they realised they were already overspent.

### What's left?

New Deal has around £480,000 in the bank, and can expect the remaining £642,902 of the £52 million. Their liabilities are around £800,000, including redundancy payments and unpaid pension contributions. This leaves only around £300,000 for the next 2 years. New Deal has decided to use this for its buildings.

Chair of New Deal Ronnie Lewin told the Messenger "Everyone is culpable, the Board, the Council and Government office. But I can see the outcomes of New Deal – If the money hadn't come here I don't know what would have happened to this area. There's been real change because of New Deal.

## Young People Take a Lead

Photos: Aneela and Nama

Story: Farhan Ahmed

Much work was put in to Burngreave for young people through New Deal Funding, 1000 young people have benefited from these services. When the Young Advisors and Burngreave Youth Council heard about the cuts to funding we organised a meeting with Sonia Sharp (Head of the Council's Children and Young people's Directorate) to help save these projects.

With around 200 people, the turn out of young people from Study Support and Streetworx was amazing, with parents and teachers supporting too. A presentation by young people showed the impact of study support, including that young people going to university has gone up 139%. Young people told the meeting:

*"They helped me a lot, I was below the standard at school, but then I went on to get 7 GCSEs A-C."*

*"Streetworx gave me an opportunity and it's allowed me to give other young people opportunities." Uzma Bibi*

*"I grew up in Pitsmoor. Streetworx helped me and kept me off the streets."*

In response Sonia Sharp said:

*"It's obvious these projects are really important to your lives. We haven't got a magic pot of money, but with the help of schools we have managed to buy some time. Study Support, Extended Schools and Family Advocacy have 6 months*



*funding, and we have found the funding to give Streetworx another 12 months, definitely."*

The best comments are best left until last, as a study support student stood up and said "Diane treats us like her children".

## Projects at risk

Pitsmoor CAB face significant losses. CAB Manager, Chris Walker, told us:

*"The bureau is going through a difficult time, losing 12 members of its staff. We will be looking for new ways of delivering services and still have a brilliant team of volunteers. We are always busy and under pressure but we will manage as long as we are needed."*

The CAB also manages the Supporting Advice projects with workers in other centres, who will lose a further 6 jobs.

BCAF - Burngreave Community Action Forum is at serious risk of losing its paid staff. Despite this, workers Steve and Dan have co-ordinated a successful campaign to help other projects.

*"This campaign has shown the strength, energy and enthusiasm of people in Burngreave. We've prevented these cuts*

*having the worst impact - though there's still a battle to secure these projects long-term. BCAF's own future is uncertain but we want to encourage volunteers to use office as a resource."*

There are huge cuts to sports work, with Active Burngreave losing six posts. Summer activities will be badly affected.

At Apprenticeships for All 26 apprentices, mostly young people, will be made redundant. Their training is funded by the Learning & Skills Council, but this will also end. The Project Manager could only say they were doing "everything they could" to save jobs. But project staff are already being redeployed in the Council.

Burngreave Opportunities, which gives residents support to prepare for employment, has been cut so the service will only support residents who are most in need. They move to Sorby House in April leaving Forum House empty.

## **Zanumb Bibi** **Streetworx, Activity Sheffield** **Apprentice**

I've volunteered with Streetworx for over 2 years, and I work as an apprentice with Activity Sheffield, I'm losing my job in March.

Streetworx is the best thing that happened to Burngreave; they should not take this service away because it's helped young people through situations and made a big difference to lives. Everyone is always popping in to see what's happening and what we can do for them. I strongly believe they should not shut Streetworx; it will be the biggest mistake!

It's unfair New Deal has overspent and now we all have to suffer. If this does close down there will be a lot of unhappy young people, we are voicing our concerns, now it's time to listen!

## **Aaron Wisdom** **Reach High 2 Apprentice support** **worker**



I have just started doing something I really enjoy and now I am losing vital experience and work.

It upsets me, not just because I'm losing my job, but the youths of the area are losing out on opportunities to try and better themselves. Everyone says how "These youths are out of control" but projects like this show they want to do better and as soon as they start making an effort they just get kicked back down.

For me I've seen the kids at the Reach High Project improve their grades in school coming out with better GCSEs, they're doing something positive that improves their future, and it's actually making a change to the youth's lives.

## **Reach High 2 Tutor in English**

I am a full time teacher of English at Parkwood High School, but I really enjoy the chance to work with motivated

students in a small group setting at study support.

Students get the extra attention they need to improve their grades in the key subjects of English, Maths and Science. My experience (38 years teaching, 20 plus years as Head of English) tells me that our students would never get the same attention or help in a normal school setting.

Large numbers of students have gone on from both projects to succeed at University. Many of these would never have dreamt of going, or achieved the right grades, without the intimidated, friendly personalised support we could give them.

## **Razya Saddiq** **Reach Higher 2, Primary Tutor**

If the project comes to an end it means all the work done comes to a STOP, which is disheartening as all our work leads to success and achievement.

It's the children who lose out on opportunities of educational and social activities as part of the community. The ethos of Reach High 2 and community spirit would change or could be lost.

## **Uzma Bibi** **Streetworx, Youth worker**

Because of the disruption New Deal caused in terms of Streetworx future hanging in the balance – a lot of work was put on hold as a lot of meetings had to be attended for funding purposes. As a result there is a backlog of work and extra effort is being made to compensate for all the disruption.

Streetworx is one of the main resources for young people in Pitsmoor; it's an investment for these young people's future. Streetworx is not just a youth scheme, it's a support system. Without Streetworx, there would be nowhere for them to turn. We'd be back where we were 10 years ago.

## **Ahmed Yusef** **Burngreave Study Support** **Apprentice**

I'm out of work now, I'm not doing anything. I thought it was going to continue until July and then I was going to go to college. I was getting qualifications in youth work with the apprenticeship, that's all stopped. I'm upset, it's a shock. Now I'm trying to find another job, but no one is recruiting.

I was a student at study support in 2006, but I didn't take my education seriously, and I was a drop out from college, Diane helped me get through that and gave me a chance. I thought I could teach the kids from my experience; I didn't have anyone like me when I was young to say 'I've been there, but you can do it differently'. I've turned it around now, it's given me a lot of confidence and experience – I'd like to thank Diane for that.

## **Haleema Sadia Jan** **Reach High 2 study support,** **Apprentice Admin worker**



It is upsetting and I am really shocked about the let down to the project. If the project came to the end it would be a disaster.

My job comes to an end in March; I am shattered because it has helped me to gain a lot of experience. I was in Pakistan for 7 years and I missed out on gaining proper work experience. Study Support turned my life around; I gained a lot of skills and made good friends with the students and staff.

## **Kassum** **Burngreave Study Support** **Apprentice**

I'm out of a job next week; I've got nothing to do until September. I'm hoping to get on an Access Course so I can go to university. It's worrying, I've tried to find another job but there aren't any because of the credit crunch.

The job has changed my life; it's given me another chance. I was in with the wrong crowd before this, but now I've got this valuable experience, I know what it's like to have a real job.

Study Support speaks for itself, just in the number of kids who attend. We have a fantastic Manager, Diane, who goes out of her way for people. It's been a really good experience for me working with the children – if I don't get another job I'd like to carry on as a volunteer.

# No Barriers No Borders

In June last year No Barriers No Borders was set up to support disabled asylum seekers and refugees. This is no ordinary group, as the support will come from other disabled asylum seekers, like Aman Ali. Aman gained leave to remain in the UK after a campaign by local people and he is now determined to help other people in a similar situation, he explained more about what the group is doing.

*"Our first event was in December where we launched a book about the stories of the different members of No Barriers No Borders. There are nine people from all different backgrounds involved in the group from places like Somalia, Afghanistan, Cameroon and Zimbabwe.*

*We all have disabilities, some have physical disabilities, some heart problems or mental health problems.*

*"We are helping our members with all kinds of problems, like getting suitable housing and proper care. We can also try to help with immigration problems, and give social support. We also plan to campaign on some issues.*

*"In the summer we will be starting a campaign around housing, which is a big problem. Disabled Refugees and Asylum Seekers are often homeless, or they are in unsuitable accommodation that have access problems. They are often placed in Bed and Breakfasts. They need permanent homes. We will be talking to our MP, creating a leaflet about the issue and starting a petition."*



The group is supported by Sheffield Hallam Social Work students, through New Perspectives, and they have already had success in finding people suitable accommodation.

The next event for the group will be a coffee morning on Saturday 4th April, 10am at Ashram on Spital Hill. If you would like to join or support the group, come along or contact [nobarriersnoborders@googlemail.com](mailto:nobarriersnoborders@googlemail.com)

# Congratulations to Peter Lamb

Story: Michelle Cook  
Photos: Kamida Khan

**At the AGM of the National Catholic Scout Fellowship, of which he is Vice President, 80 year old Peter Lamb was awarded the membership of the Brotherhood of St George. This is the highest honour that can be bestowed by the International Catholic Conference of Scouting.**

Nominations to membership recognizes service "of an exceptional contribution that has been given through International Scouting to the education of young people and to the development of their personality, faith and personal involvement in society in the spirit of Baden-Powell."

A member of the Scout movement for 55 years, he has held several appointments at local and County level, been Treasurer of the Catholic Scout Advisory Council for 20 years and Treasurer of the National Chaplaincy Trust for England & Wales.

A member of the Sheffield Norfolk District and British Rail Scout Fellowship, he organises the railway First Aid Competitions each year, and has been an instructor for the First Aid badge for Brownies Guides, Cubs and Scouts.

Mr Lamb worked for the railways for 45 years, moving to Sheffield in 1972, following his promotion to a Controller of Freight at Tinsley, when he was approached by St Catherine's scouts, who needed a new leader. Mr Lamb went on to do this job until he had to hand in his warrant at 65, then he continued as a trustee. For five years he was County Quartermaster and has fond memories of preparing porridge and prunes.

In his role as National Treasurer of the Fellowship, he and his wife Bernadette attended the international conference in Paris, where her French teaching skills were invaluable in translating the notes. Peter and Bernadette have five children, eleven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Peter has also been involved in the Peace Light project, in which a light from the Grotto of the Nativity in Bethlehem is taken all over the world. Passage in Britain was originally organised by the British Rail Scout Fellowship; this is difficult nowadays as trains are owned by different companies. After the tragedy of 9/11 the light was taken to Ground Zero on Christmas Eve.

Peter said he used to enjoy the scout parades in the city centre, but it is now very expensive to hire venues like the City



Hall and the Sunday shopping has made it difficult. Peter has attended jamborees around the country and met Lady Baden Powell and the Duke of Norfolk.

The couple are very involved with local life; Peter has been a voluntary patient escort at the Northern General and Bernadette is a member of the Burngreave Historical Society. This latest achievement in a long career of devotion and service to the scout movement is one which he should be rightly proud, and we are proud to have such a person in our community.

# Doing it for yourself

Story: Liz Searle

The Women's Construction Centre is well known in Burngreave for the DIY courses it offers. Recently partnerships with other local organisations have extended the range of opportunities for women in the community.

I spoke to Shabana Murtaza, Outreach/Courses Organiser at the WCC, who described the work done by learners from two courses, based at Firs Hill School and Fir Vale Enterprise Centre, and teenagers attending the Futureproof training at the WCC.

*"After the courses ended, classes were offered the opportunity to continue their learning by working on projects at the Pakistani Advice Centre in Fir Vale. The PAC had requested help in tiling a kitchen area and putting up shelving. Most were able to join in, and the tiling was completed by students from Firshill, Firvale and Futureproof. The women did a fantastic job and the PAC was so impressed that they've been asked to come back and do more work!"*

Although DIY courses run at the WCC itself, new classes are now being held at other community venues to make access and childcare easier. Some future courses

will take place at Whiteways and Pye Bank schools in April (there are still places available!). Shabana adds:

*"We always welcome new people, and once people have decided to come to a course, we support them all the way."*

Apart from growing in confidence and gaining new skills, there are more practical benefits to taking DIY classes, as Shabana explained:

*"Doing a job yourself is better than having someone do it for you - it's cheaper, and you get the satisfaction of knowing you've done a good job. The skills women learn here are something they can take away and use at home."*

The training can also lead to qualifications and open up new career paths - women can become self employed plasterers, plumbers, painters and decorators. If you fancy trying your hand at these skills, but haven't dared before, now's your chance!

The course's current learners said:

*Najma: "It was a really nice group; we all got on well and could have a laugh. We were really well supported, big thanks to all the tutors, Ros and Shabana. I'm planning to do more courses at the WCC, whatever they've got going!"*

*Sobia: "I never did anything like this before, but I wanted to learn how to do repairs at home."*



*Almas: "I wanted to join the first course but it was over-subscribed. At home if anything goes wrong, you don't know what to do, but now I've learnt quite a bit."*

For more information about courses at Women's Construction Centre, contact Shabana Murtaza on 273 7046.

## Upcoming courses:

**Introduction to DIY for Women**  
6 week course at Whiteways School

**Construction Skills for Women**  
13 week course

**Introduction to DIY for Men**  
6 week course

More information on the above courses can be found at [www.burngreavemessenger.org](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org)

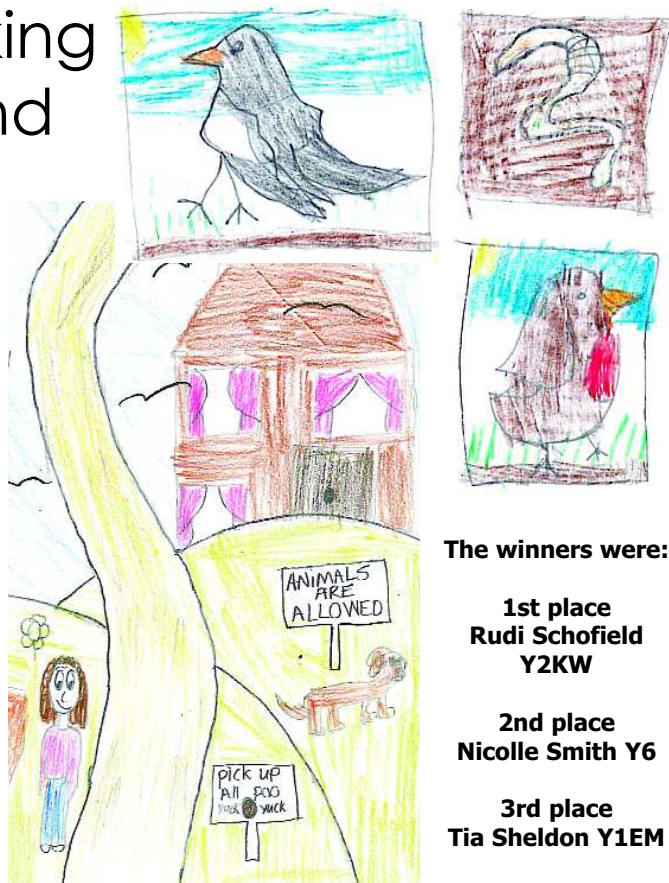
# Firshill walking wonderland

Charley Fitton & Nicolle Smith

**Firshill Tenants and Residents Association and St Catherine's School are working with students from Sheffield University to brighten up the walk to school.**

St Catherine's School took part in a walking wonderland competition. Every child in school had the chance to make a poster about what they would like to see on the walking bus route from the Sheffield United Academy to St Catherine's.

Both 1st and 2nd place each won 2 tickets to a Sheffield United football match and 3rd place won a £10 book token at Waterstones.



The winners were:

**1st place**  
**Rudi Schofield**  
**Y2KW**

**2nd place**  
**Nicolle Smith Y6**

**3rd place**  
**Tia Sheldon Y1EM**

# Wardens news

**Sheffield Homes have announced that the Burngreave Wardens service will be cut from 8 to 5.**

They will change the way they work, with no more weekend or evening shifts. Work will be focused on Council Tenants rather than the area as a whole, so some areas will no longer be patrolled.

However at the Area Panel on 18th March, Sheffield Homes made a commitment to continue its support for the Walking Bus for the foreseeable future.

Scott Road Walking Bus still needs volunteers. You don't need to be a parent at the schools. Training is provided by SCC Walking Bus Co-ordinator and all volunteers will have to have a CRB check.

Please contact Gaby Spinks on 0787 627 1857 if you can help.

Volunteer work is what keeps a lot of the community organisations going and is very rewarding and empowering for the individuals. This page celebrates some of the people who contribute to our area.

## Rainbow's End

Story: John Mellor

**Volunteers in Burngreave come from all around the world, as I discovered when I talked recently to some of the 40 people who work voluntarily at Rainbow's End charity shop at Sorby House.**

Sue originally comes from London. She did factory work for a few years and then spent time bringing up her family of six. She has worked in two charity shops in Hillsborough but started working at Rainbow's End with the help of her NOMAD support worker. Sue says, "This is the best shop I've worked in. I was feeling really down but working here has helped to build up my confidence."

Margaret has always lived in Sheffield and spent most of her working life as a retail assistant, with a short spell in the steel industry. She walked into the shop one day to have a look around and was asked, "Would you like a cup of coffee - and would you like to work here?" She finds it is the sort of work she really enjoys, especially when she sees friends coming into the shop.

Abu had to leave Liberia in 2004, having witnessed the murder of his father. He worked as a driver, transporting food supplies to UN refugee camps. His employer arranged a visa for him to travel to London (via Guinea and Beijing) where

he applied for asylum. He came to Sheffield in 2005 and has been on English and Computer Studies courses at the Vestry Hall. He is still not allowed to undertake paid employment but works two days a week at Rainbow's End.



Ekhlas comes from Sudan. After secondary education in Khartoum (she speaks English, French and Arabic), she studied Agricultural Science at Medeni University and then had jobs in banking and insurance. She joined her husband in the UK in 2006 when he was studying for an M.A. in Manchester. He is now doing research in Microbiology at Hallam University. Ekhlas, who has been on courses in Computer Studies, English and Administration at the Ellesmere Centre and Burngreave Vestry Hall, is currently looking for paid employment with the help of Burngreave Opportunities.

**If you are interested in volunteering, contact Yvonne Hayes on 07954 149 297**

## Messenger volunteer - Brent Moya

**I began writing for the Burngreave Messenger on a voluntary basis over 3 years ago and have covered a wide range of stories.**

I decided against studying Journalism at University but my voluntary work with the Messenger has given me more opportunities than I could have imagined. I have covered everything from interviewing sportsmen to giving people a voice during hard times.

My first story was at Keith Hobson's Family Butchers on Spital Hill and I have since gone on to meet interesting people such as Joe Scarborough, Billy Sharp and Brendan Ingle.

Working with people in and around Burngreave has been a real eye opener as

you come to realise how much talent there is in the area.

On a personal level, it's given me a lot of satisfaction knowing that I have helped people when they needed it most.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Messenger for giving me the opportunity to write for them. I have thoroughly enjoyed myself.

**To ask about volunteering at the Messenger, ring 242 0564.**



## CAB volunteers

Story: Sarah Cooper

Laurie Marris has worked at the Pitsmoor CAB for about a year. After finishing her law degree, she wanted some experience before starting solicitor training.

*"It gives me experience dealing with clients, researching issues, and letter writing. You pick up skills that you can transfer to other areas of your life."*

Uzma has a child in school but says, "I do my volunteering in school hours so that's not a difficulty for me." The CAB gave her training and Uzma now works with clients to check if they are getting the right benefits.

*"I really enjoy working with benefits and immigration issues, it's really interesting. It's good for me because now I know what to do and where to go when I have a problem. You get more self-confident and it's satisfying helping other people."*

Joy Shaw became a volunteer for the CAB after going to get some advice. She has now been volunteering for around 10 years and says it's been great using her life experience to help others.

*"I like working with the local community. We get people coming in and sometimes they are really distressed. We can put their minds at ease and lift some of the pressure off. It's just a great feeling to help people."*

## CAB's Financial Capability Project

**Pitsmoor Citizens Advice Bureau is about to launch a new service about managing household money.**

They are looking for new people who want to train and pass on information and their skills to the local community.

Managing money is getting harder and many people struggle to get the best deals on bank accounts, credit, electricity and gas suppliers, particularly if they cannot speak English fluently. People on low incomes usually have more complex options. The CAB wants to increase local people's confidence when choosing a bank account or supplier, or budgeting more effectively.

To find out more about the training, contact Chris or Mike on 273 8838.



# Volunteering

Many residents learning English in Burngreave, are hoping to improve their language so they can get a job. ESOL learners with Kath Swinney's Life Long Learning and Skills class at the Vestry Hall, are also gaining valuable experience as volunteers.



## Volunteering with the NHS

By Djamila and Lailuma

Arwa Alansi came to the UK 3 years ago and is from Yemen. She is qualified in haematology and worked in a hospital laboratory for 13 years. She is married and has a little boy.

### What do you do at the moment?

Actually I work as volunteer in NHS in the infections control prevention department, I've been a volunteer for a year.

### That is very interesting subject could you tell me how you find out?

One day my friends invited me to Sheffield Voluntary Action. I went there and told the coordinator about my experience, she was interested and offered me voluntary job in the NHS. I was so excited because it concerns my subject.

### What inspire you to do this?

Many things, firstly to improve my English, to be helpful and useful, and maybe to get a job in the future. I love helping people. It's great job and gives me more practice, precisely in this subject where I have got qualifications and certificates.

### What is your plan for the future?

I will continue this voluntary job and I hope to find a good job in the laboratory service. My advice for other people is to do voluntary work as it is very good for communication and for confidence. And it's the best way to make friends and enjoy life.

## Helping the homeless

By Amal

Azeb comes from Eritrea and she has lived in Sheffield about three years. She has two children.

Azeb studied dentistry in her country but now she is studying English in the Vestry Hall in Burngreave. She works as a volunteer for homeless people. She started after she saw people sitting around the church a woman worked there told Azeb about them, 'Those are homeless people and we give them a breakfast every Sunday and that's why they come here every week'.

Azeb decided to help them and she started doing voluntary work in the church. It is not the first time she has worked as a volunteer Azeb told me she used to work as a volunteer in her country about twenty years ago when famine and drought struck.

Azeb is a kind person and she said "I like to help people and I have something pushing me to be helpful". Azeb would like to improve her English and to be a dentist in the UK and she hopes to continue her voluntary work.

## Supporting Byron Wood School

By Azeb

Amal is from Somalia and lives in Burngreave with her three children.

### What kind of voluntary job are you doing?

I am volunteering in the school which my children attend. I am part of the parents group and the volunteering is about fundraising to help the school.

### What inspired you to do volunteering?

My children pushed me to do it. I started last year after the school caught fire and the school needed to raise money. I've had a very good experience doing this. And it is very helpful in improving my English language and for meeting friends.

### What is your future plan?

To continue my volunteering, I would like to work in school as a teaching assistant.

### What is your advice to other people?

It is good to volunteer, to help other people, and to get experience which helps you to get a job.

# Volunteering

At the Fir Vale Family of Schools

Byron Wood Primary School  
Firs Hill Community Primary School  
Fir Vale School  
Owler Brook Nursery Infant School  
St Catherine's Catholic Primary School  
Whiteways Junior School



### Have you ever wanted to?

- Make a real difference and contribute to your local community
- Share your skills and experience to help others
- Give some of your time for volunteering
- Meet new people and have fun whilst engaged in very rewarding tasks
- Gain practical experience for employment
- Support pupils in the classroom
- Understand how schools work
- Enhance your CV

### Have you thought about volunteering?

If the answer is YES then the Fir Vale Family of Schools needs you!

### Here are some of the roles that you could undertake as a volunteer:

- Additional language support
- Adult learners support
- Assist with reading during SATs
- Classroom support
- Customer services
- Developing school gardens
- General administration
- Help in developing the school library
- Help in ICT classes
- Help with supervision at lunchtimes
- Help with supervision in the playgrounds
- Listen to pupils whilst they read
- Reception duties
- Support after school clubs
- Support art projects / crafts activities
- Support individual pupils
- Support staff on school trips

### For further information please contact:

Ghassan Dhalai, Volunteer Co-ordinator for the Fir Vale Family of Schools on:

Mobile: 07787 814 125 or

Tel: (0114) 243 9391 / 284 2030

Email: [gshalai@firvale.com](mailto:gshalai@firvale.com)



The Fir Vale Family of Schools



**10% OFF**  
when you bring  
this advert  
offer closes end  
of April

# THE LAUNDRY EXPRESS

**0114 272 5015**

**Washing, drying and folding services**  
**Rug, blanket and duvet cleaning**  
**Ironing and drop-off services**

Too much to do, too little time?  
Then let the *Laundry Express* help you de-stress  
We offer a professional, fast and reliable ironing service

Starting from 50p per item

FREE delivery within 3 miles for orders over £15

You and your wash will get the best care in the business

3 Ellesmere Road, Sheffield, S4 7JA  
thelaundryexpress@googlemail.com



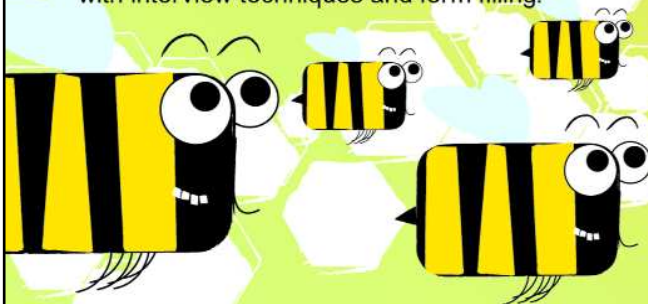
## Discover the path back into work



If you've been unemployed for some time, whatever the reason, help is at hand to help you get back into work.

Whatever your circumstances, whether you're long-term unemployed, receiving incapacity benefit or a single parent trying to get back into the workplace, we can give you the training or retraining for today's job market.

You'll work at a pace to suit you and you feel comfortable with. When you're finally ready to apply for that all important job we'll even help with interview techniques and form filling.



What have you got to lose? Call us now on 0845 45 33 800 or text **change** to 8-00-11 and find out how we can make Progress Together

## BURNGREAVE



## CULTURAL INDUSTRIES



## CHALLENGE

<http://sheffieldchallenge.ning.com>  
[www.semea.org.uk](http://www.semea.org.uk)



Join our cultural challenge for 2009

**Kutamba Kids!**  
Half Term School 26 -29 May  
9.00a.m. to 3.00p.m.  
Digital Design, Theatre,  
Video, Dance, Drums  
Ages 11 to 16

**Indaba! My Children**  
Stories and Arts  
Ages 5 to 11

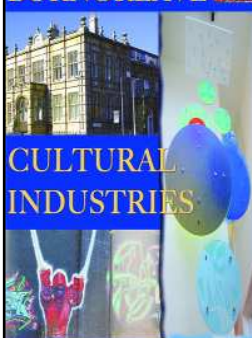
**Adult courses:**  
Mac OSX skills  
Arts & Web Marketing and  
Management Challenge  
11 - 15 May  
10.00a.m. to 1.00p.m.

Arts Marketing and  
Management Challenge  
Tuesdays 5 May - 2 June  
6.00p.m. to 8.00p.m.

Venue: SEMEA  
@the 'V' Space,  
Vestry Offices,  
2 Burngreave Rd,  
Sheffield S3 9DD  
arts@semea.org.uk  
Tel: 0114 2133803



## BURNGREAVE



[www.zambukoizibuko.com](http://www.zambukoizibuko.com)  
[www.sheffieldchallenge.ning.com](http://www.sheffieldchallenge.ning.com)

## Zambuko Izibuko Cultural Crossings Saturday 25 April

Events starts 10.00a.m.  
Cultural exchange with  
dance workshops  
OWEN Ncube  
mbira workshops  
LEMAN MIRANZI  
theatre workshops  
ETHEL DLAMINI  
Voice workshops  
MANOLA SISANDA  
Films and master class  
video workshop  
from  
Channel 4 film directors  
SIMON BRIGHT & INQUIRIO SINCLAIR

### EVENING SHOW: 7.30p.m.

**Zango Mbira Orchestra**  
**SOSA-XAI Sounds of Southern Africa**  
**Somali Female Messengers**

Day Ticket: £10.00 (Including Evening Show)  
Concs £6.00

Day Ticket: £5.00, (Burngreave Resident)  
Concs £3.00 (£1.50)

Evening Concert Ticket only: £6.00  
(Concs: £4.00)

**Sunday 26 April: see programme**  
**includes drum workshops,**  
**Edale Walk (by donation)**

The "V" Space, Vestry Hall  
Vestry Offices, 2 Burngreave Road, Sheffield S3 9DD  
Tel: 0114 2133803 email: arts@semea.org.uk

# International Women's Day

## Hafla at Whiteways School

Stroy: Usha Blackham  
Photos: Farzana Khan

Around 200 women and children from around Whiteways School attended the Hafla (celebration) for international Women's Day on 16th March.



The event started off with a live band, followed by poetry read by Lorraine O'Reilly. Lorraine said:

*"I had no women role models when I started writing, it's important to me to speak to other women about writing, so they can see they can do it."*

Women also enjoyed pampering such as head massage, facial, henna, nail art and hair threading. Also there was a lucky dip raffle, refreshments and much more.

It was also an excellent chance for young people from Big Challenge to sell their natural and recycled products. It was great to see children work so hard to setup a business idea and promote it in their schools and at community events. The young women Rafaidah, Priya, Ummesalama and Henna said:

*"It's a really good experience. It's really important that women are involved in*



*business, they bring a different point of view to men."*

The highlight of the event was Multicultural dances including Arabic dancing by Zubaidah, Bollywood dancing by Aim to Dance.

It was good to see some mums and grandmas spending some time for themselves with their little ones and we hope to try and bring more families together in the near future. We have plans for activities with dads and granddads in the near future.

## Women's Day at Verdon

International Women's Day was celebrated at Verdon Recreation Centre on Tuesday 10th March. Organised by the Health Matters shop and other local organisations, activities included empowerment workshops, complimentary therapies, massage, henna hand painting, local information stands and refreshments.

Photos on our website  
[www.burngreavemessenger.org](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org)

## Celebration at Vestry Hall

Story: Arwa Rasea Alansi

On the 7th March 2009 I was invited to International Women's Day at the Vestry Hall. I was joined by one of my friends and my little son. When we arrived at the hall we were welcomed by our friends and introduced to some of the African, Pakistani and Indian women at the event.



There was a buffet with a large variety of food from different continents such as African and Asian. We tried some foods which was delicious and tasty.

We joined the dancing which included a performance of the African Caribbean and Asia songs. The performance lifted our minds and hearts and it was fantastic. It was a really good chance for us to learn about people's culture and art. My little boy enjoyed dancing with other children and it was a really fantastic night

*The event was organised by ACCM Sheffield, based at Sorby House the organisation aims to improve the health and well-being of African women.*



## Free Makeover

**Local resident Mriom Nazir is to set up a new business after qualifying as a hair and makeup artist specialising in fashion and bridal hair and make-up.**

Mriom is developing a portfolio of work and needs local residents who can help show off her talents.

Over the next month Mriom is offering a free makeover, and local photographer Kamida Khan will capture your new

look. (There is a small charge for prints if you want them)

*So treat yourself to an exclusive free makeover.*

For further information and bookings please contact:

Mriom Nazir (Mims Hair and Make-up) 07957968786 or

Kamida Khan (Khoobsurat Photography) on 07989848192





## Gaza fundraiser

Story: Taibah Khan

**A vibrant and colourful fundraiser for Gaza was organised by Right Futures, a group of nine young people from the local area supported by the Modern Apprenticeship Scheme, who created an event to help raise money for those in need in Gaza.**

The event consisted of bring and buy stalls that had a variety of clothes, books and shoes on offer. These were run by the girls from the group, Diane Haimeed said

that, "All the community have shown their support for the cause by donating goods to be sold."

I spoke to Leila Shaibi and Laila Rehman, managers of Right Futures, who told me a little about their aims for the event: "We wanted to do something for the people of Gaza to show our support."

Nooria Al-Afif and Nawal Yosif also part of the group ran the clothes stalls and commended the "Community's tremendous effort".

There was also a hair and beauty area at the fundraiser where lots of women and

young girls took part in hair styling, massages, face painting and make-up!

Henna patterns in both Asian and Arab styles were also being done. These were really popular with everyone as the patterns were amazing.

All in all the event proved a huge success everyone who came had fun and £1300 was raised for the people of Gaza. Right Futures did a great job!

The money will go to the Palestinian Solidarity Group who will ensure that it is used to provide medical aid for the people.



## Firs Hill Comic Relief day

Story: Wanjiko Msigiti

Photos: Cara and Haaris

Comments: Rukaya, Ikrah, Seren.

Coordinator: Carys

**On Friday 13th March Firs Hill Community Primary School held a fun afternoon full of events to raise money for Comic Relief.**

A year 5 class were having lots of fun decorating buns, which were made by the school dinner ladies and cost 15p.

When we went to KS1 we found lots of busy teachers painting faces of eager young children. Then we met Gaby and Doreen busy packing up popcorn; Gaby

said, "We get to meet children and parents and we raise lots of money. This week half of the money will go to Red Nose Day."

When we entered the staff room the smell of make-up and nail varnish was so strong we nearly fainted! Year five and six girls were busy putting make up and nail varnish on other girls. Anam said, "The manicure is very good because of all the nice coloured nail varnish and how it's put on."

In the sports and arts area we saw some boys - and girls - try to score past some very determined teachers. Soon we met Aliasgar, who said "I feel happy that I scored a goal. My money was worth it!"

In the KS2 hall we saw lots of children in fancy dress. We soon realised that this was for grand finale when all the children

in fancy dress took part in a catwalk. This was a hilarious spectacle which was a pleasure to watch. Frankie Currie and Njoroge Msigiti made a funny film which the whole of KS2 enjoyed.

Theo Sparkes won the fancy dress competition because he was dressed as a girl. The grand total that Firs Hill raised was £495.72!

We asked people what they like about Comic Relief:

*"It's funny because it makes me laugh!"* Usman

*"The different activities are best, and helping people in poverty."* Rozena

*"The cake decorating is nice, but the cherries are disgusting!"* Khadija

*"Red Nose Day is fantastic I remember it from my childhood."* Miss Revell

# Arabic Dancing

Story: Farzana Khan and Lisa Swift  
Photo: Farzana Khan

**Arabic dancing classes are the new craze at Whiteways School. Organized by Usha Blackham for women and mothers at the school, it has been running since September.**

Some people might call it belly dancing, but it's not about showing your midriff – you can wear whatever you like, and the main thing is to exercise the body. Dancing helps you keep fit and healthy.

Class instructor Lynn Fletcher, from Zubaidah Arabic Dance, told us:

"I love teaching people, even if people have two left feet, it's really good for coordination. I've been teaching for nine years; I started dancing after I fractured my spine! I had to learn to walk again; first through yoga and then Arabic dancing I was able to strengthen my back. It exercises all parts of the body from your ankles to your finger tips."

Speaking to class members they said:

*"We love it. It's exhilarating, and it makes you feel really feminine."* Shahina



*"It's good to lose weight and you meet new people. Women from any culture can come and enjoy it."* Donna

*"It's good fun. It gives you a lot of confidence."* Jane

*"Even if you're not coordinated it's okay, because it's broken down into steps and it makes it easier to pick up."* Kath

Usha said, "It's made a huge difference to me, I feel healthier and more confident. It's made me more energetic. It's only Arabic dancing that can help you tone certain parts of your body, like the hips, shoulders and neck."



The dancers work together both in pairs and groups, and there's a really supportive atmosphere. It's a lot of fun and women of any ability can take part and enjoy the exercise.

**To join the class contact Usha Blackham on 242 3169.**

# Lego Club

Story: Kath Hobson

**"Lego Club" has been running since November at Firs Hill School. Every Tuesday and Thursday morning with the help of Sheffield Hallam University Engineering Students, Year 1 & 2 pupils and their parents enjoy construction together.**

For many families this is a new experience and some have never come across "Lego" before. Parents are given a chance to engage with their children through a fun and creative activity, resulting in joint learning for all.

There are different themes each week including transport, spaceships and rockets, and bridge building. Soon they will take part in National Science Week.

Parents have been giving children praise and encouragement for their achievements and some teachers have reported that the children involved in Lego Club come to class calmer and more settled for the start of their day!

This goes to show that extended schools activities like these really do make a difference to children's daily lives. One



parent, Saskia, said:

*"Parents don't always have time to play one to one with children, especially when you have more than one child. There's loads of Lego, more than you would have at home; they can be really imaginative."*

Another parent Ansar Hussain said, "I come with my daughter. We used to play at home, but we can't play as much as I have a younger daughter and the small pieces are too dangerous for her. Here I



can give a bit of time and see a smile on her face."

Some great creations have come out of Lego club and confidence and self esteem have grown through all.

**Contact Kath Hobson at Firs Hill School on 242 0109.**

# Partners and Communities Together (PACT)

Care about policing, crime and justice in your area?

Have your say on how issues are tackled

Safer Neighbourhood Teams are holding monthly meetings with partners and members of the community to agree your neighbourhood priorities and provide updates on local crime and policing issues.

*PACT is an opportunity for you to meet members of your local safer neighbourhood team and partner agencies, to discuss issues that affect you in the area in which you live.*

Inspector Simon Leake, who leads the Burngreave Safer Neighbourhood Team, says: "From consultation with the public we are aware that, although recent reports show an overall fall in reported crime, public perception and fear of crime has risen. We have made a commitment to total neighbourhood policing, but to be successful we need your assistance."

*Join the PACT.  
Your community needs you.*



Burngreave PACT meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at Sorby House, Spital Hill, at 6pm.

The Fir Vale & Firth Park PACT meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at the Pakistan Advice Centre, Page Hall Road, at 6pm.

Next meetings are:

**For Burngreave:**  
Wednesday 1st April & 6th May, 6pm  
at Sorby House

**For Fir Vale & Firth Park:**  
Thursday 2nd April & 7th May, 6pm  
at Pakistan Advice Centre

## Priorities from recent PACT meetings

The priorities identified at the Burngreave PACT meeting on the 4th February were antisocial behaviour and shoplifting at the shops at the top of Barnsley Road.

In response, we conducted high visibility foot patrols in the area and spoke to a number of people in the streets. Parent Advisory Letters were issued to parents of a number of youths, which warned of potential for Anti Social Behaviour Orders being served. This is the first step towards becoming involved in the ASBO process and is often enough of a deterrent to stop this behaviour. Two offenders have also been identified and arrested in relation to shoplifting offences.

These are key examples of the PACT process in action.

Following the last PACT meetings held in March at Sorby House and the Pakistan Advice Centre, the local priorities agreed in the Burngreave and Fir Vale Communities are:

- Drug dealing in Firshill Gardens and Orphanage Road
- Parking issues at Mosque times on Osgathorpe Road
- Reported anti social behaviour around Popple Street and Wade Street
- Drug dealing, motorcycle misuse and groups loitering causing anti social behaviour around Hinde Street and Hinde House Crescent
- Criminal damage, arson and theft from allotments on Windmill Lane

Progress on these priorities will be discussed at the next PACT meetings.



## WE ASKED... YOU SAID... ...WE DID

Through recent surveys carried out in Burngreave, Firth Park and Shiregreen we asked you what crimes concern you the most.

You told us that burglary, robbery and drug dealing should be some of the top priorities for the police.

Your local Safer Neighbourhood Team and partners have listened to these views, taken action and achieved the following results.

**89 fewer victims of burglary and 56 fewer victims of robbery in 2008**

**46 warrants executed in connection with drug dealing so far this year**

In 2008 overall crime fell in the area, resulting in 673 fewer victims of crime compared with 2007.

**To find out more about your local Safer Neighbourhood Team and what's happening in your area visit <http://neighbourhood.southyorks.police.uk> and enter your postcode.**

### HELP US TO HELP YOU

To report an emergency dial **999**.

For general enquiries or to report non-emergency incidents call

**(0114) 2 20 20 20**

Alternatively you can call **101** to report local issues such as vandalism and graffiti, noise nuisance, abandoned vehicles, dumping and fly tipping, threatening and abusive behaviour or drunk and rowdy groups.

# Sophie Mei breaks world record

Story: Kirstin Daly

Friday 13th March saw Sophie Mei, renowned belly dancer and Burngreave resident, break the world record for the most people simultaneously belly dancing, all in aid of Comic Relief.



The event took place at Embrace nightclub and the new record of 585 people belly dancing at once is in the process of being approved by Guinness World Records. Sophie shot to fame after reaching the semi-finals of 'Britain's Got Talent' last year, but has been belly dancing since she was 14.

*"I originally saw belly dancers at the Abbeyfield Park Multicultural Festival, and then joined the Christchurch group and got obsessed from there! I ended up doing workshops all around the country and getting as much training as I could."*

Sophie's talents have taken her not only around Britain, but across the world.



*"Last year was so crazy, I've found myself down South, in Egypt and then Italy, which was all amazing, but though it sounds cheesy, there's no place like home! No matter where I've been I just could not wait to come back to Sheffield."*

Even though Sophie had never before heard of a belly dancing world record she was happy to break it back in Sheffield and for a worthy cause.

*"Everyone was so friendly and down to earth; everybody just had a laugh, it was good fun. People had a little bit of an idea what belly dancing was but I tried to show them the proper stuff! I've always been really in to supporting charities, I always think it's important to give back."*

Sophie's next event in Sheffield will be at the Showroom Cinema on Wednesday 22nd April, 8pm till late. This will be an Egyptian themed night with an exclusive film screening of the documentary she filmed in Egypt (with Yorkshire TV) and an after party open-to-all to officially launch her new website.

From a former distributor of the Messenger to an international entertainer, Sophie shares her positive attitude with us all:

*"I believe that you can make anything happen; just go for it."*

**For more information about Sophie and the event, visit Sophie's website - [www.sophiemei.net](http://www.sophiemei.net).**

## Raising their Voices

**"Raising their Voices: Poems by Children in Burngreave" contains poems by over 50 children from six schools in Burngreave. Joanna Sutherland's colourful photographs embellish the book.**

Editor and celebrated poet Debjani Chatterjee (pictured) explains that the idea for the poems and the book came out of a Learning Campaign Schools' Poetry Project held in 2008.



*"At Owler Brook, children wrote about families and Eid celebrations. Byron Wood children concentrated on poems about faiths and at Whiteways and St Catherine's, children wrote humorous poems about family members and also composed riddle poems - often about animals. Animals were also a focus for Firshill children, who addressed the serious issue of cruelty to animals, whilst Fir Vale pupils were inspired by Refugee Week to write about the plight of refugees."*

Alexis Cowan, extended school coordinator at Byron Wood School, said:

*"The children were very excited to be in the book! I know Shazia Khan [the class teacher] was thrilled with how it turned out and is hopeful that it will provide inspiration for her current class when they do poetry."*

### Who is the Refugee?

Extract from the poem by Sonia Mahmood, Fir Vale School

*I want all lands to give up arms.  
Life-snatchers, you have done enough!*

*Who has the courage to admit  
We are one world and we should care?*

*We are all refugees at the doorstep,  
Awaiting judgement at life's end.*

**Copies of 'Raising Their Voices' can be obtained for free from Burngreave Library.**

# Carwood TARA fight for decent kitchens

Story & photos: Michelle Cook

**The Decent Homes scheme has arrived on Carwood and Firshill estates. This is the Government scheme to improve council housing, paid for by millions of pounds of central government grants topped up with money from the council's capital receipts.**

Local tenants' representatives have some concerns about the implementation of the Decent Homes Scheme on the Carwood estate. It surrounds the very heart and hearth of the home...the kitchen. It seems there has been a breakdown in communication regarding their refurbishment and this is causing a rift on the estate



## Promise of new kitchens

Surveyors from Sheffield Homes and their contractors visiting Carwood tenants in November told them their kitchens would be done under the scheme, measurements and plans were made and tenants signed and kept copies of these plans; by December they were told they were not. The TARA is aware of some tenants who bought new appliances on the strength of signing the plans and are now out of pocket.

Under the Decent Homes standard guidelines, a landlord should assess a property to determine whether or not components need repairing or replacing

*"The component should only be replaced when a component:*

- Is sufficiently damaged that it is impossible to repair;*
- Is unsuitable because material deteriorated or because component was never suitable;*
- Even if the component was repaired, it would need replacing within 5 years."*

## Fears of a patch up job

Some of the kitchen units are in this state of disrepair, as cupboards and drawers have actually fallen off due to wood

crumbling around the fixings and therefore qualifying to be replaced under the Decent Homes Scheme. However they have been passed to the maintenance department for patch up repairs.

## Residents told to wait

The deterioration appears to have been caused by faults in the fittings and glue during manufacture. Although these defects were identified some time ago, tenants were told to wait until the next scheme came round to have it rectified.

Questions about whether 2003 kitchens would be done were repeatedly asked by tenant reps, over the years and the answer was always yes. Sheffield Homes denies that anyone was ever told this, they say that this work was never down to be done on the scheme and will never be done under it. If this is the case why were these kitchens surveyed and designed?



## Concern about the Sheffield Decent Homes Standard

Anger was expressed by tenants, at Carwood AGM on 5th February about changes to the Decent Homes programme. In attendance was Councillor Ibrar Hussain who told the meeting, "Questions are being asked as to why the Council has changed the standard. Labour said bathrooms and kitchens would be replaced if they are over 20 years old. This administration will only replace them if they are 30 years old."

## Relief for tenants

Labour councillors launched a city wide petition which was presented to the full council on 4th March, by Carwood tenants calling for all Sheffield tenants to be treated fairly regarding the Decent Homes work. In reply Council cabinet member for housing, Cllr Bob McCann said he would investigate what has happened and what is to be done.

The Council has now agreed to assess all homes under the Sheffield Standard,

which is a big relief to many hundreds of tenants not already on the scheme and an investigation to solve the confusion about the kitchens is underway

## Confusion about kitchen's remains

In recent weeks the work on the 6 year old kitchens has been passed from Decent Home to maintenance and then back to Decent Homes. Causing confusion and distress for the tenants concerned as to whether their kitchen will be replaced or patched up. Cllr Steve Jones said,

*"It's been a nightmare for the people concerned. Local councillors will continue to work with Carwood to get justice for the local residents."*

When we asked Sheffield Homes what reassurances they could give to tenants, unfortunately they had none. Jon Lovibond, Director of Investment at Sheffield Homes said,

*"We are sorry for any inconvenience or misunderstanding caused. The majority of the kitchens on the Carwood estate were replaced in 2003 and therefore already meet the Decent Homes standard because they are only 6 years old. However, we acknowledge that a cosmetic defect has developed on the cupboards of some of these kitchens where the laminate is coming off. We will be replacing or repairing the affected doors. Those kitchens that weren't replaced in 2003 will be surveyed for work under the Decent Homes programme."*

It is totally unacceptable that this argument between senior management is still continuing. The array of conflicting messages and failure to answer the questions of tenant reps is causing a great deal of frustration for tenants. David Fisher, Chair of Carwood TARA expressed the feelings of tenants,

*"Council estates has suffered years of under-investment. With the demand for council housing continuing to rise the need to maintain our homes to the highest standards is clear. We need our national and local government to ensure the funding is there. The future of such programs should never be in doubt."*

## Carwood TARA Annual General Meeting:

**Thursday 9th April**

**6pm at St Peter's Church Hall, Lyons Street**

**Sheffield Homes and Local Councillors will be in attendance.**

**All welcome, Refreshments.**



# Fir Vale students plant trees for the future

Photos: Ersalan Hussain & Aamir Hussain  
Fir Vale School photography club

**In February and March Fir Vale School students worked with Burngreave Community Forestry to plant trees around school. On 19th March they worked on a major project to plant six large trees on the triangular green space next to their school at Rushby Street.**

Air quality statistics for Fir Vale are very poor, while tree cover and the number of vital oxygen-producing trees is low compared to other areas of the city. Mature London Plane trees have been chosen for Rushby Street as they have a high capacity to filter pollution.

Fir Vale Student Galayd told the Messenger, "Its great, it makes the school look better. I've learned about the nutrients that trees need, and that this area needs trees to suck up the pollution and give out oxygen."

Another student Abdi said, "Its been good, we've learned about how it will help the environment. Its easier with help from Wates, last time we did it all ourselves. When you look around there's hardly any trees, and now this is a nice little area."

Rachel Brown, Learning Mentor at Fir Vale School added, "The students have worked really hard today. I'm really proud of them. The digging has been difficult, as this is the site of the old Victorian school, and there's a lot of rubble from when it was demolished."



Dave Woodall, Fir Vale resident said, "At last something is being done on this green space. When I was part of Fir Vale Forum we always wanted to do something here. And now its happening."

Cllr Ibrar Hussain added, "I'm pleased to be supporting Fir Vale School students. The benefits of these trees will be felt by the school and the local residents of Fir Vale for many years to come."

The trees were sponsored by Wates Living Space, currently working on Decent Homes improvements in the area. Their employees supported the tree planting by doing a good deal of digging!



## Green City Action

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

Telephone: (0114) 244 0353

## Environment Day

Abbeyfield Park Environment Day will take place on Sunday 31st May between 12 noon and 4pm.

There will be a return of the very popular Birds of Prey display with two flying displays. Dr Bike will be there to make minor repairs to your cycles and our superb hanging baskets will be available too.



The ever popular Dr Bike

Come along, bring the family for a lovely afternoon in the park and you can get some great plants, enjoy one of Betty's famous teas and relax and listen to some local musicians. Plus, get advice on composting, recycling and loads of other ways to improve our planet.

If you want to contribute an activity or run a stall, or to come along and help as a volunteer before the event or on the day, then contact Garry on 244 0353.

## The last act of DIG

One of the last acts of the very successful DIG project will be repairing the kick about pitch (former bowling green) in front of Abbeyfield House.

The plan, agreed by the Council parks department, includes removing the old concrete and stone hard-standing, rebuilding the dry stone wall, contouring the perimeter of the old green and repairing the grass in and around the play area.

Friends of Abbeyfield Park are contributing towards making this and Environment Day happen. A big thank you to them.

## Deliver it green...

# BiG™

## MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

### ENTREPRENEURS SHARE THEIR SECRETS WITH NEW BUSINESSES IN BURNGREAVE

**B**iG – Make it Your Business hosted an event to bring together some of our new local 'budding' business people with some of Sheffield's established entrepreneurs at a special event held at Sorby House on the 25th February. The event, organised by the BiG – Make it Your Business programme included presentations from entrepreneurs including Alex Gardner, from 'Café Inside' and Tim Lindley from the 'Advanced Group'.

Alex, who has set up and run several cafes, served up some food for thought to the aspiring entrepreneurs on why they should go into business and what they need to be a success. Her message to people wanting to start a business was simple: "If passion drives you, let reason hold the reins!"

The hugely successful event was attended by 34 pre-start businesses and over a third of those who attended said they would like to be matched up with 'business buddies'. These are established entrepreneurs who can help and guide new entrepreneurs in facing the challenges of starting a business.

This was the first in a series of events designed to give pre-start businesses the confidence and motivation to move forward with their business plans. As well as presentations, guests at the event were given the opportunity to attend three valuable coaching sessions, hosted by Paul Beck, Jav



Local 'budding' business people with some of Sheffield's established entrepreneurs at a special event held at Sorby House.



Khan (both from the BiG – Make it Your Business Intensive Business Support Team) and Barry Bassnett (from the Savvy Partnership). They gave practical, helpful advice on topics such as business planning, pricing and e-commerce. Michele Mason (from Business & Education South Yorkshire) explains:

*"This was a hugely successful event and one which could not have taken place without the support of local entrepreneurs. We are now matching up entrepreneurs with a number of the pre-start business people, which has proved very popular with helping other individuals to set up their own businesses."*

The Entrepreneurs Exchange is part of the BiG – Make it Your Business programme. This encourages local entrepreneurs to become business mentors to individuals, as part of the Entrepreneurs Exchange. The aim is for pre-start businesses and young people in schools to get the chance to learn from those who have got the first hand experience of setting

up and running their own business. Cecilia Shields, programme manager for BiG – Make it your business, explains:

*"We are delighted with the success of this first event. The response was tremendous, with many pre-start businesses commenting on how much they have learnt and how they found the speakers very encouraging and motivating."*

### Are you interested in setting up a business?

Sorby House 15th April 2pm

Come and meet your Neighbourhood Enterprise Coaches.

For further information about what BiG – Make it Your Business can do for you, contact the team on freephone 0800 043 55 22, or visit us at Sorby House, 42 Spital Hill, Sheffield, S4 7LG.

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

#### SORBY HOUSE: THE BUSINESS BUILDING FOR BURNGREAVE

Sorby House is a carbon neutral building 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 as well as a friendly fully serviced reception area.

Call (0114) 213 6310 for more information.



## Current financial position and our legacy



Dear Resident,

This letter is coming to you from the New Deal Partnership Board. We are very conscious that people need to hear from us how the programme has ended up in the position it is.

First and foremost, we really want to take this opportunity of saying how sorry we are about the situation and the shock and distress it has caused in our community. We're particularly sorry about not being able to give more notice of the need to stop funding projects.

As a Board we've spent some time analysing our situation and we feel we've arrived in this situation through a mixture of circumstances, namely:

- **Our internal record keeping not being as good as it could have been**
- **Relying too much on the prospect of additional funding from Government**
- **A collective failure with our accountable body, Government Office and Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) to regularly reconcile programme expenditure and**
- **Us, as a Board, not demanding enough information from officers.**

In our defence, we have taken consolation from the fact that:

- **In 2006/7 we were rated as excellent in terms of performance by DCLG**
- **When BNDfC took over management of the programme we were being encouraged to spend to make sure Burngreave kept the NDC grant and**
- **Other NDCs besides us also expected additional funding based on ongoing discussions with DCLG**

We offer these issues as an explanation not as excuses. It is a really difficult situation for all of us and we want to go forward in as open and professional a manner as possible.

We are now going to be concentrating our efforts on making our three main buildings (Sorby House, Vestry Hall and Forum House) as profitable as possible so that any surpluses can be reinvested in the community. Securing the future of the buildings will be a very visible feature of the BNDfC legacy but we are also extremely keen that we don't forget what has been achieved in Burngreave through the work of our projects over the last eight years. We are also continuing to support projects as much as we can to secure some sort of future.

We will be producing an evaluation of the programme, we will continue to publish good news stories and we will, time and money allowing, be aiming to put on a feedback event to celebrate the most important legacy of Burngreave – its people and their achievements.

We hope that this letter helps residents to understand how we have arrived where we have. If you do want to discuss the matter in more detail please do come along to our monthly Board meetings held on the last Wednesday of every month at the Vestry Hall or contact any of the Board Members or our Executive Manager, Ann Allen. We can all be contacted by phoning 279 6932 in the first instance.

We'd like to end our letter by reassuring you that we have learned some invaluable lessons from this situation and we will be sharing our experience with other voluntary and community sector groups to help prevent them getting into similar situations.

We also want to reassure you that we all remain committed to improving the quality of life for people in Burngreave.

Yours sincerely,

Burngreave New Deal for Communities Partnership Board.



# Burngreave Community Action Forum

**Burngreave Community Action Forum (BCAF), is an independent organisation established in 1997 which fights to ensure the voices of Burngreave people are heard.**

The Forum belongs to the Burngreave community— its aims and priorities are set by the Quarterly Forum Meetings, to which everyone who lives or works in Burngreave is invited.

From the recommendations at the QFM's, a Coordinating Committee made up of local people set the short and medium terms priorities for BCAF.

## Recent Achievements

- Led the campaign against cuts in communities funding by Burngreave New Deal, helped to coordinate lobbying and supported collective action which resulted in the council agreeing to fund youth and education projects.
- Produced the Burngreave Adult Learning opportunities booklet delivered to every household in January 2009.
- Produced an audit of support services available to Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants in the area which is included in a Sheffield City Council information pack for new arrivals in the City.
- Established a Network of over 30 Affiliate organisations in the Burngreave area
- Held 5 successful Quarterly Forum Meetings.



**BCAF held its 2009 Annual General Meeting on Saturday March 7th at the Burngreave Vestry Hall.**

- Over 120 local people attended to discuss local issues and concerns.
- The meeting focussed on the recently announced BNDfC cuts, and the new Community Assembly arrangements for the city.

- BCAF's new Coordinating Committee was elected and the 2008/09 Annual Report presented
- A volunteer fair of local organisations took place during lunch.

A full report on the discussions and outcomes of the QFM, will be sent to all attendees and BCAF contacts. For a copy, please contact us on the details below.

## BCAF Working Groups

**Where do you go if you have concerns about local service, or other issues affecting your area?**

BCAF supports local people working together to identify concerns, those who can influence decision making and then agree on actions to address them.

BCAF has Working Groups focussing on issues around Adult Learning and Refugees and Asylum Seekers, whose work in the last year is described below. A third, Transition Burngreave, a group focussing on how our area will adapt to Climate Change and Peak Oil meets on the 2nd Tuesday in each month at the BCAF office. (for more information see [www.transitionsheffield.org.uk](http://www.transitionsheffield.org.uk)). Groups on issues around Health and Older people are expected to reform in the near future.

### Refugee and Asylum Seeker Working Group

In 2008 the RASM Working Group :-

- Produced an Audit of support services available to Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants in the area.
- Responded to Government consultation papers, and campaigned against deportations policy at a local and National level.

- Improved links with Sheffield City Council and Primary Care Trust for news of the latest developments in demography and legislation.

The group meets on the last Tuesday of every month 3.30pm - 5.30pm at BCAF

### Adult Learning Working Group

The Adult Learning Working Group (ALWG) an open group for anyone living or working in the area interested in Adult Learning and skills, has over the last year :

- Produced the Burngreave Adult Learning opportunities booklet
- Made decisions on the spending of the Burngreave allocation of the Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities Grant.
- Produced an up-to-date list of ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes and English conversation classes
- Increased access to local Childcare Training.
- Produced the Burngreave Adult Learning, Skills & Employment Plan.

The Adult Learning Working Group meets monthly on Thursdays 1.30 - 3.30pm. Contact BCAF for dates of meetings.

**Get in touch if you have any questions about these groups, want to join one or start up a new one on an issue important to you.**

For more information contact:

**BCAF,  
82 Spital Hill,  
Sheffield S4 7LG**

**Telephone:  
0114 272 8008**

**E-mail:  
[enquiries@bcaf.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@bcaf.org.uk)**

**Check BCAF's website for the latest information:  
[www.bcaf.org.uk](http://www.bcaf.org.uk)**

# Final Area Panel

Story & photo: Richard Belbin

**Around 50 people attended the last ever Area Panel on 18th March, to hear the fall-out from the New Deal cuts (see page 1,4,5), as well as plans for the new Community Assemblies.**



Alison Rayner, officer in charge of the North East community assembly spoke about the new arrangement which will replace 3 existing area panels, include 4 council wards and cover Southey, Firth Park, Shiregreen and Brightside, as well as Burngreave. The assembly will control £439,000 for the whole area

Councillor Jackie Drayton pointed out in a ferocious attack on the Lib-Dem administration, the four wards currently handle £752,000. Cllr Drayton lambasted the way the Council has effectively switched money from Burngreave to suburbs like Totley and Dore.

Community Assemblies start in May and will develop a community plan and decide what to do with the money by September at the earliest. In the meantime, it is not clear how any work will be supported.

The meeting closed with members of the panel and of the public thanking Andy Shallice, and Marilyn King, for their many years of service. They are to be moved to other areas of the city. The new Assembly team of four, replaces the six who currently work on the three Area Panels.

Community Assemblies: contact Alison Rayner or Vicky Williams on 203 7562.

# Peace walk

**26th April 2009, 2.30pm** outside Al-Rahman Mosque, Ellesmere Green To Firth Park Methodist Church

Bringing all faiths together,  
Build friendships  
Build a community of love and peace

Contact Abdool Kadir 07930 313 773  
Islamic Society of Britain

# Wicker bus gate to be relaxed?

Story: Nas Rauf

**In February Wicker business achieved an overwhelming victory with the Council agreeing to relax the Wicker bus gate. 30 businesses put together a 2047-person petition to the council calling for better signage and relaxation of the bus gate restrictions overnight (7pm -7am).**



The Wicker still remembers the summer floods that swept through businesses. After the loss of business due to the floods, a further blow was a bus lane restriction in January 2008 in Wicker. The restriction was to calm traffic in the area and divert it to the ring road - a "time-consuming and money-making plot for the council," says local businessman Mr Ahmed, of Raja's, after confusing road signs and directions were put up to avoid ring road works. Fines accumulated up to £99,225 in the first 7 weeks alone and over 4,341 motorists were caught.

Despite the concerns of planning officers, councillors voted to support the traders. They decided that a month be given so that the council officers could come up with designs for how this could be done.

However, things were again delayed at the 16th March meeting as councillors were not satisfied they had adequate information given to them by the officers' report, which again recommended that the bus gate should remain in force 24 hours a day.

Whilst on one hand, local businesses could do with what Wicker Pharmacist Ellie Bennett calls an "extra lifeline," the council officers'

case is that relaxing the bus gate will cause a hazard to pedestrians.

Local businessman, Imran, of Imran's Diner, added that, "Petitions have been signed and council has agreed. However the whole process has taken a long time. It will be worthwhile in the long run for all the businesses and local people".

Members of staff at Raja's say "They need to make it happen and they know they can."

# Lord Mayor visits Nomad

**Councillor Jane Bird, Lord Mayor of Sheffield, visited NOMAD tenancy support schemes in Burngreave.**



NOMAD's Tenancy Support Schemes provide help and support to single people or families who need help with moving into their new home. They also support people who already have a home but who need help to maintain their tenancy or access services within the community. The schemes are open to all tenants - housing association, private or council - and also homeowners.

The support workers can help with things like moving into a new property, making benefit claims, budgeting, accessing agencies and organisations, finding education and employment. The rising cost of utilities and food makes budgeting on low incomes more

difficult. Support usually includes home visits, telephone contact and help with attending appointments.

The Lord Mayor was shown around the building by Project Managers, Lynne Allen and Gemma Mathieson and told about the history of the project. Over a cup of tea and biscuits, she talked to staff about their employment and was particularly interested in talking to a current employee who started work as a volunteer.

**NOMAD has a Volunteers Project based at West Street. Anybody wanting to get involved in volunteering should call 0114 275 5441 for more information.**

# Dear Messenger...



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

## New Deal overspent

Dear Messenger,

John Vincent (Star 2nd March 2009) is right to want answers. He and many good people, all volunteers, only worked with the information they were given by paid staff and those working closely with the Chief Executive. It's time BNDfC started coming up with some answers as to why this money has been overspent. Maybe the ex-Chief Executive should be brought back to answer these questions – he did very nicely out of it so he's a right to give some answers! I suppose now we'll be getting the usual rubbish we've come to expect from BNDfC over the past few years. These highly paid staff should be held accountable for these decisions, along with the Sheffield City Council who allowed this to go on for so long, but I'm sure, as usual, they will distance themselves from it and take no responsibility whatsoever. BNDfC finished many good projects with their heavy handed tactics, accusing them of mismanagement, they have been a law unto themselves. BNDfC were good at one thing – telling others how good they were! Well it's about time Burngreave heard the truth, although I'm not holding my breath. Many good people have been damaged by this and it will take Burngreave a lot of years to recover. We're left with buildings, i.e. the white elephant Sorby House, which were bought with little or no community consultation, which no one wanted. Once again expectations were raised only to be let down by these people. Burngreave is certainly the poorer for it! Let's have some truthful answers for a change!

Regards, Burngreave Resident  
Name supplied

## Fred Woodbine – Sheffielder

By: Sue Woodbine

Fred Woodbine, former local councillor in Burngreave, has died at the age of 96. He was also on the Community Health Council and ran Pye Bank Senior Citizen's Lunch Club for years. He didn't like being called a role model, but was touched and proud of awards for his efforts in politics and community work.

He was doing computers at 93 and mending a Karaoke machine for his care home just before he died.

Sue Woodbine's full tribute to "Pops", her father, is on the Messenger website: [www.burngreavemessenger.org](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org).

## Madge Saunders

Dear Editor

News has been received from the church in Jamaica that Reverend Madge Saunders passed away in her sleep on Sunday 1st March, aged 96. Many older Burngreave residents will remember Madge, who came to Sheffield in 1966 at the invitation of the Presbyterian Church. Along with Reverend R C Gillespie and the members of St James' Scott Road, she worked to support immigrants newly arriving from the West Indies and her influence was widely recognised throughout Sheffield. After her return home in 1974 she was ordained a minister in the United Church of Jamaica and Grand Cayman where she played a significant part in its life and work right up to her death. Our memories are full of affection for a great lady.

Barry Swift

Elder in St James Church Scott Road

## Parkwood Academy

Dear Messenger

The saga of Parkwood High's proposed sponsor drags on. As a result of the recent DCSF inquiry, their Chairman Lord Bhatia has been forced to stand down. His removal casts doubt on whether a partnership with this sponsor is in the best interests of the school.

The inquiry found that Edutrast

- failed to comply with financial management arrangements
- had inappropriate governance arrangements
- highlighted significant concerns over the governance of the trust
- failed to address conflicts of interest
- had poor record keeping
- paid for items not 'properly chargeable' to it
- paid for items which were excessively charged'

Is this really the sort of sponsor parents would want directly influencing their children's education? I think not. Is Edutrast to be trusted? The answer is 'No'.

Short of the 'bribe' of a new school building sometime in the future, the proposal really has very little to offer and parents who had previously voted 'yes' may now be reconsidering their decision

Mick Ibbotson, Parkwood Parent

## Burngreave Cemetery

Dear Sir,

I recently visited my parents' grave in Burngreave Cemetery and was very upset to find everything in such a mess. For the last few years the place has been neglected and is now really disgusting. My grandparents' grave can't be found because the stone and surrounds have been taken away and there isn't even a number left.

This cemetery was immaculate for many years. Surely it is time to make this the peaceful and sacred place that it used to be. We owe that much to all our families that have passed on.

Mrs Hill

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am disgusted at the state of the cemetery and the goings on such as drug-taking, sex, rubbish being dumped, giving other persons driving lessons, disgusting driveways, overgrown grass, dog mess and also persons hanging around.

Mr W Wood

Dear Messenger,

I have been visiting Burngreave Cemetery once a month in winter and every two weeks in spring and summer since 1938 when my sister passed away. Since then I have buried my brother, mother and father there. Over the years the state of the Cemetery has got worse. Something must be done to make it a better place to visit our loved ones.

Dora Benn

More letters and comments on the website [www.burngreavemessenger.org/community](http://www.burngreavemessenger.org/community)

## Sutherland Road Baths

Dear Messenger,

Fred Shaw the wash house attendant ("Sutherland Rd baths") was also the swimming pool attendant, well known for bringing out the high pressure hose when youngsters would not get out of the pool when their time was up. Officially swimmers were allowed 20 minutes for 4d and this was strictly adhered to during the hot summer holidays. At other times, providing there were spare changing cabins, there was no time limit, so my friends and I often had good three hour swimming sessions.

My last swim in the pool was in 1972 with my two daughters when signs of a very weary building were evident.

Gordon Lawton Renmark South Australia



**Lively worship • Growth groups  
Youth group • Children's activities  
Bible-based teaching**

Join us Sundays for worship at 10:30 a.m.  
Just off Spital Hill at 75 Carlisle Street  
Phone: 0114 2767630  
[www.rockchristiancentre.org](http://www.rockchristiancentre.org)

## BURNGREAVE AMATEUR BOXING CLUB

40 Earsham Street, Sheffield, S4 7LS. • ABA AFFILIATED

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



### Opening times

Monday – Friday: 3pm – 7pm

Saturday: 10am – 12 Noon

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

## YOUR LOCAL ACCOUNTANTS

### Albert Winter & Peter Dearden

18 President Buildings, Saville Street,  
Sheffield S4 7UR.  
Telephone: (0114) 279 5961  
Fax number: (0114) 275 8222

- \* SELF ASSESSMENT RETURNS \*
- \* COMPANY, PARTNERSHIP & SOLE TRADER ACCOUNTS \*
- \* BOOK-KEEPING \* PAYROLL etc. \*

We offer a full range of Accountancy Services

## STRESS Solutions



Professional treatment in a  
secure and relaxing environment

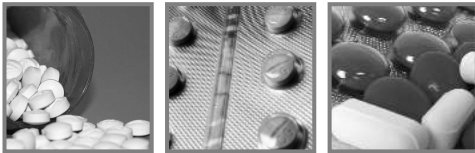
*Safe and confidential*

- Massage and Reflexology
- Aromatherapy and Hopi Ear
- Stress Management
- Anxiety Management
- Weight Management
- Fears & Phobias

Tel & Fax: 0114 273 0976 • Mobile: 0779 1106 885  
[amandajwells@aol.com](mailto:amandajwells@aol.com)



## Fir Vale PHARMACY



- Consultation Room
- NHS & Private Prescriptions
- Free collection & Delivery
- Health Care Advice
- Repeat Dispensing
- Medicines Use Review

Open 7 days a week, 8.00am–10.30pm

**(0114) 242 0009**

29 Rushby Street, Fir Vale, Sheffield S4 8GN

**Jeff**  **Hall**   
Driving School

make the right moves with jeff hall driving school

Local Burngreave Company • Taxi Training  
Male and Female Instructors • Discounts Available  
*Driving Instructor Training Available*

To book your lesson please call  
**07846 426903**

157A Spital Hill Burngreave Sheffield S4 7LF

## Pitsmoor Dental Health Centre *Wholistic Dental Care*

Dr Alan Moffatt  
Dr K M Ackom-Mensah

139 Burngreave Road,  
Sheffield S3 9D1  
Tel/Fax: 0114 272 3076  
Mobile: 07831 116 340



 **N.S.M.**   
Driving School

First 5 hours £49

- Friendly & Patient
- Quality Tuition
- Block Bookings
- Cheap Rates
- High Pass Rates

Tel Nigel on: (0114) 251 1445  
or Mobile: 07944 250 935





23 PAGE HALL ROAD, SHEFFIELD, S4 8GS  
T: 01142 61 67 68  
M: 07708 72 72 73  
E: a1immigrationservices@ymail.com

## IMMIGRATION SERVICES

### FREE INITIAL ADVICE



#### SPECIALISTS IN:

Work permits & HSMP (under new tier system)  
Family Visit, Tourist & Student visas  
Spouse, Children & Dependent Relative visas  
Appeals, Reconsideration & Bail applications  
Asylum & Human Rights cases  
Nationality Applications

"If our experts can't help you, nobody can!"

مفت ابتدائی مشورہ

A1 امیگریشن سروسز

ہم مندرجہ ذیل امور کے ماہر ہیں:

- 1 ورک پرمٹ (کام کا پرمٹ) اور "ہائلی سکلڈ مائیگرینٹ پروگرام" (HSMP)، یعنی اعلیٰ سند یافتہ تارکین وطن کا پروگرام (نئے درجاتی سسٹم کے تحت)
- 2 رشتہ داروں سے ملاقات، سیر و تفریح اور طالب علموں کے لئے ویزے
- 3 منگیتروں، بچوں اور زیر کفالت رشتہ داروں کے لئے ویزے
- 4 ایپل نظر ثانی اور ضمانت کی درخواستیں
- 5 پناہ اور انسانی حقوق کے مقدمات
- 6 نیشنلسٹی کی درخواستیں



اگر ہمارے ماہرین آپ کی مدد نہیں کر سکتے تو پھر کوئی بھی آپ کی مدد نہیں کر سکتا! دیر مت کریں، آج ہی رابطہ کریں!

# Amoia

## BLINDS

FREE  
MEASURING  
& FITTING

12 MONTHS  
GUARANTEE

## VERTICAL BLIND SALE

WOOD VENETIAN  
SPECIALISTS

FREE : 0800 046 1502  
PHONE

MACHINE WASHABLE FABRIC 89MM

3 FOR £89	5 FOR £149	CONSERVATORY £169
--------------	---------------	----------------------

INCLUDING WHITE & CREAM FABRIC

VERTICAL • VENETIAN • ROLLER • ROMAN • PLEATED • VELUX

## Pop In TAKEAWAY

Fish & Chips  
Curries and Pizzas

House Speciality: 24" Mixed Kebabs

7 Gower Street, Sheffield S4  
Telephone: 272 2285 or 296 6612  
Text through, jump the queue! 0792 6630030

Open 7 days a week  
Including Bank Holidays

Monday - Thursday: 5pm - 1am  
Friday - Saturday: 5pm - 2am  
Sunday: 6pm - 12am

FREE delivery on  
orders over £8.50

## Burngreave Health Matters

NHS  
Sheffield

### Health in Burngreave Conference

Thursday 16th April 9.30am-3.00pm  
Provided FREE by Health Matters in Burngreave.

Are you interested in health in your community?

Would you like to find out more about health issues that affect people in Burngreave?

Do you have ideas of how services could be better?

There will be a Health Focus Group to get involved with and workshops on diabetes, obesity and other topics of interest.

You can get more information and book a place at:

Health Matters, 131 Spital Hill • Telephone: 0114 292 0464

## Prime PIZZA

and  
PRIME CURRIES

Open 7 days  
4.30pm-Midnight

Free delivery on orders  
over £10.00 and 70p for orders under  
£10 within a 3 mile radius

All Pizzas have a fresh base of Mozzarella  
Cheese, Special Recipe Pizza Sauce  
and Italian Herbs cooked to perfection!

Create your own Pizza!

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

243 9786 or 243 2442

38-40 Firth Park Road, Firth Park, Sheffield

Or order online at [www.primepizza.justeat.co.uk](http://www.primepizza.justeat.co.uk)



## WICKER PHARMACY

Open Late EVERY day  
of the year!

Award  
Winning  
Pharmacy



FREE delivery  
of medicines  
to your home!

[www.wicker.co.uk](http://www.wicker.co.uk)



Just phone our friendly staff and arrange  
for your repeat prescriptions to be delivered  
to your home or place of work.\*

(0114) 253 6888

\* Delivery free to Sheffield area only.

an ASSOCIATED CHEMISTS (WICKER) LTD service, 55-67 Wicker, Sheffield.