Hucklow Primary win Sheffield cricket final

Story: Ahmir Hussain

Hucklow Primary School smashed their way to victory at the Sheffield ASDA Kwik Cricket City Final on Tuesday 26th June 2012. This all-day event managed to beat the weather and was a great day for the schools that took part.

The 8 Year 5 boys from Hucklow, pictured along with Coach Ahmir Hussain and Teacher John Allen, managed a great achievement in winning this competition. Initially local-level competitions took place through the “Chance to Shine” Programme that runs throughout a large number of schools. The winners of these competitions came through to play in this Sheffield City Final at Abbeydale Sports Centre.

Overall, approximately 1350 children will have taken part in the competition structure throughout the city.

On the day, Hucklow managed to overcome 14 other teams including Stradbroke, Hallam, Nether Green, Dobcroft and neighbouring team Firs Hill to take home the winner’s trophy in the final. This means that the boys will next year go on to play in the Yorkshire Finals, to be held at the Headingley Carnegie Stadium in Leeds, which is home to the Yorkshire county cricket side.

To celebrate their success, the champions were treated to a special visit by international nasheed singer and former Hucklow pupil, Ahmad Hussain. He was so impressed with their performance that he took time out from his busy schedule to attend the Governors’ award assembly and present the children with medals and praise them for their success and achievement.

Tusaaale United cup success

Story: Guleid Jama, Tusaaale United

New football club, Tusaaale United have just completed a fantastic season in Sheffield’s amateur leagues, securing several cup victories.

Tusaaale United Under 15s won the Sheffield & District Junior cup on the 13th May 2012. The over 18s won the Somaliland Cup in London on the 19th May 2012 where there were 16 teams from across the UK who entered. We also entered a Somali futsal tournament in Birmingham on 20th May 2012 where there were 32 teams and our under 18s team won the cup without conceding a goal.

Started by a group of young Somali men, we run the club as volunteers. It brings together players, from across the city, areas like Darnall, Broomhall, Upperthorpe, Sharrow as well as Burngreave. The team gives them the chance to play together and this is good for our community.

Tusaaale United are already planning for next season where we plan to make 5 teams: U10s, U13s, U15s, U16s, and U21s. Trials were held in June for all teams.

The teams rely entirely on donations and volunteer time. We are looking for sponsors for all of your 5 teams if you’re interested in sponsoring us please contact Mustafa Jama 07412 606 471.
Consultation on Conversion to Academy

In line with Bishop John’s statement warmly encouraging all Diocesan schools to consider becoming an Academy, the Governors of St. Catherine’s are seeking views about conversion to Voluntary Catholic Academy Status.

If you would like to register your views, make comments, or ask a question, please contact us by 1st October 2012. Although school will be closed over the summer, we will be able to access the post, emails and telephone messages:

The Academy Working Party
St. Catherine’s Catholic Primary School
Firshill Crescent, Sheffield S4 7BX

Telephone: 0114 303 0381
Email: governors@st-catherines.sheffield.sch.uk
Respect for Maat

Story: Lisa Swift

Campaigning mental health group, Maat Probe Group, were recognised by Downing Street in March, with an invitation to London to meet Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg.

Maat Probe is a user-led group supported by SACMHA (Sheffield African-Caribbean Mental Health Association) based on Andover Street. They successfully fought for a new approach to the way people with mental illnesses are treated in hospital. Hospitals in Sheffield now use an approach called ‘RESPECT’ which minimises the need to physically restrain patients.

This is a massive change and members of the group have been involved in the recruitment process that trained the first 12 people. Almost 300 staff are now trained in using ‘RESPECT’ in Sheffield. It has been adopted fully by Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust and will be rolled out across the Trust. Work has also started with the Universities and Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, which train future nurses.

Members of Maat Probe are now looking to empower other people by setting up a multicultural service users group. They also want to see a review of recovery policy in Sheffield so that service users can get a recovery action plan that reflects their cultural needs.

Robin Cox, communication officer for Maat Probe, told the Messenger,

“It was good to have our work recognised by Downing Street. We deserve that recognition. It was a lot of heavy security and posh food, but we rose to the occasion!”

Maat Probe can now offer workshops on service user-led research and influencing policy. To find out more, contact Otis Hinds at SACMHA on 272 6393.

Ellesmere Road new houses

Story: Lisa Swift | Photo: Douglas Johnson

Work on new housing in Ellesmere came to a halt in April after the contractors ceased trading.

Arches Housing are managing the development, with funding from the government, which will provide two 5-bed, seven 4-bed, four 3-bed and six 2-bed homes. They will be highly energy efficient.

With the site abandoned for several months, many residents were concerned about what was happening. Local housing provider Arches have now explained that there were difficulties finding a new contractor. They told the Messenger,

“We are really pleased that we finally have good news and a way to move things forward. The new contractor is Southdale Construction and we expect work will restart towards the end of August or beginning of September and the whole site will be completed by mid December.”

Arches also address concerns about the footpath, which has been out of use for some time.

“The local authority highways department have been informed of the recent appointment of the new contractor and they are aware of the immediate priority for completing the external works including the foot paths as these have been out of use longer than intended.”

Arches Housing hope some homes will be ready in September for people to look around.
Pedestrians hurt

Story: Saleema Imam

Two recent road incidents on Barnsley Road show it remains a dangerous place.

On the evening of Monday 2nd July, eight pedestrians at the bus stop near the Northern General Hospital entrance were badly hurt when a silver BMW crossed over the road, mounted the pavement and hit them. Three men and one woman suffered serious injuries. The other four were treated for minor injuries.

Witnesses are asked to call the police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111, quoting incident number 1168 of 2/7/12.

The following day, a man was knocked down by a car whilst crossing Barnsley Road next to the bus stop by Firs Hill Primary School. He is said to have tried to cross the road behind a 75 bus and another no 88 bus. As he crossed the road between busses, a large 4×4 car hit him. Fortunately he received only minor injuries.

Bin changes

Story: Douglas Johnson

Big changes to bin collections in Burngreave will take place on Monday 13th August. Black bins will only be emptied once a fortnight instead of weekly. Blue bins and boxes will be emptied on the same day in the alternate weeks.

The other change allows residents to put paper and card in either the blue box or the blue wheelie bin. Plastic bottles, cans and glass cans go in the other blue container. Residents can choose.

The main reason for the change is to save the Council £2.4 million to spend on other services but some people worry the changes will lead to overflowing and smelly bins and more problems with rubbish on the streets. Some streets in Burngreave already struggle with bins and people can’t get rid of excess rubbish. In some areas, very few people use the blue bins.

The Council plans to help with the change by writing to all households and following up with tags on the bins to give instructions for the new collections. Veolia will also have staff teams to knock on doors in areas where rubbish is a problem. The priority areas are yet to be decided.

Veolia’s helpline is 0114 273 4567. Residents can request help where they see the changes are causing a problem on their street. Residents can also request a second blue box to aid recycling. Only families of six people or those with medical waste can ask for a larger black bin. Elderly and disabled people who cannot manage to put their bins out can request an “assisted collection”.

Cooks Wood Road scrapyard

Story: Lisa Swift  |  Photo: Douglas Johnson

Cooks Wood Road residents have complained to the Council after land on the street has been turned into a scrap yard for cars.

One resident told the Messenger that the land between 12 and 14 Cooks Wood Road, had been sold at auction by the Council 5 years ago but earlier this year it was fenced off. The land, which previously had trees and an informal path, now has nine scrap cars stored on it.

The Council’s Planning Enforcement team have taken on the issue, as there is no planning permission for its current use. The Council’s West and North Planning Committee will consider action to be taken on Tuesday 31st July, 2pm at the Town Hall, this is a public meeting, so residents can attend.
Abtisam carries the Olympic torch

Story: Emily Haimeed

On Monday 25th June the Olympic torch came to Sheffield. Local resident Abtisam Mohamed was chosen to be one of 8,000 torchbearers in the UK.

Abtisam was nominated because of her positive contribution to the local community. Having lived in Burngreave most of her life, she has worked in the Voluntary Sector for over 11 years alongside developing a career in Law.

“I helped establish the Fir Vale Pre-School, set up many projects for women, given legal advice on a voluntary basis, as well as developing many other community projects at the Yemeni Community Association. I love the Burngreave area and have always done what I can to make sure the area is not forgotten.”

After being short-listed, Abtisam was chosen to be a torchbearer by the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. “It was a nice surprise! It’s one thing somebody nominating you but it’s different when you are actually chosen as it is recognition of the work done.” Abtisam said the hard work and input of her colleagues was important in the selection:

“I have never achieved things single-handed but only with the support and contributions of other people. You’re only as good as the people that support you.

“My colleagues, both at the YCA and the Pre-school, are strong, hardworking, dedicated people who all remain committed to improving the local community. Carrying the Olympic Torch was an acknowledgment for the work they all do.”

On the day of the torch relay, Abtisam arrived in Attercliffe at 5.30am where she received her torch. She carried the torch 300 metres, and was supported by her family who came to watch her.

“The atmosphere was amazing! I was running with the torch, waving at a lot of people. A lot of people came up to me to ask if their children could take pictures with me and the torch. It was a surreal experience. In the build-up to it, I felt a bit apprehensive, thinking it’s going to be in front of lots of people but on the actual day it was really nice. The people who organised it made the extra effort to make us feel like stars for the day!”

Abtisam plans to let people make use of her torch, which she will be taking to an Olympic event in the local area so that people can have a look at the torch and take pictures with it.

Dina Martin OBE Honour

Story: Muneebah Waheed

Head teacher of local school, Firs Hill, has been awarded with an OBE for services to education, as part of the Queen’s Birthday Honours.

Dina Martin, who has worked at Firs Hill Primary for 10 years, spoke to the Messenger about her achievement and how the Honour can be attributed to her work at the school.

“I’ve been in Sheffield since 1988 and I absolutely adore it. Although this is my third headship, I think the OBE is for my work here at Firs Hill.”

Dina’s work at Firs Hill has helped to raise the school from the special measures which were enforced on the school in 2002. “I believe that we should always empower and believe in pupils and provide them with genuine trust and honesty to make them successful”. Dina also contributes heavily to the local community and has fundraised for disadvantaged women. In 2007, Dina visited Azad Kashmir to help students with their education. “My ethos has always been sharing what we do and this was a prime example. I believe that by helping others, it will truly contribute to the greater good.”

Pupils have shown support for their headteacher by researching the OBE. Firs Hill student Abdulwahab told the Messenger, “OBE means the Order of the British Empire. Ms Martin has earned it because she gets us all to do our work.” Another pupil, Asim, said, “You get an OBE if you are great at something. I would like to be an engineer and get an OBE.”

Dina spoke of her disbelief on gaining the award, saying “It was an absolute shock! I couldn’t sleep all night, as I felt I didn’t deserve it!” Dina has worked passionately to help Firs Hill achieve its respected community standing and she has provided the community with stability in leadership. Congratulations Dina Martin on the OBE!

Dr Patricia Edney retires

Dr Patricia Edney left Pitsmoor Surgery on 30th June, after 30 years working in this community. Over the years she has cared for generations of many families and seen countless changes in both the place and its people.

Practice manager David Emmas says, “although she has now retired, Patricia will be continuing her active involvement in various committees concerned with the current changes in the NHS and will remain a champion for reducing health inequalities across the health care system.”

She will now have more time for another of her interests – care for the environment and the birds she encouraged to visit the green space around the surgery.
Ellesmere Green proposals

Story: Emily Haimeed

Sheffield City Council has proposed plans to improve Ellesmere Green which are expected to begin in summer 2013.

Public consultation will take place until Friday 27th July 2012. The Council would like to hear residents’ views on the plans by filling in a questionnaire available at Sorby House, Burngreave Library or at www.sheffield.gov.uk/ellesmere

Demolition of public toilets and new features

Proposed changes include the demolition of the existing public toilets and the construction of new metal railings to surround the Green on the Spital Hill and Gower Street sides to protect the planting of new flowers. There are also plans to create a new central meeting point which will include the replacement of the existing benches in the central seating area, stone sitting walls and a public art feature.

Footpaths, trees and lights

Some footpaths across the green will be removed, and a new, wider footpath will also be established to lead people to safe crossing points. Some trees will be removed to make way for the new features and to make the green lighter. There will also be more electric lighting, with new lampposts and tree lights.

Changes to parking

Parking spaces will be altered. The Council is proposing to introduce a time limit of either 30 minutes, 1 hour or 2 hours for parking. They will assess all the responses and decide which time limit would be most suitable.

Events space and market

The bus lay-by will be moved slightly to create a new events space on the Green, which could also be used for a market in the future. The new bus stop will have a raised kerb and tactile paving to make it easier to get on and off the bus.

I went to Ellesmere Green to talk to some of the residents who use it on a regular basis, to see how they felt about the changes. Many people were unaware that there would be changes to the Green, and that they could tell the Council their views.

“I sit here most days if it’s not raining. I didn’t know they were planning to make any changes. It will take a long time to make the changes and that’s a big problem because we all come to this place, we leave our houses to come here and get some fresh air. Where else will we go whilst they’re doing this? There’s nowhere else we can sit in Burngreave.” – Mohammed Yafai

“I think the plans are good but they should not demolish the toilets. Where will the people who sit here go? Sorby House is too far for old people to walk to and it closes early but, during summer, people will be out here until late. The benches need to change though because they’re sloping down; the surface is uneven.” – Abdi and Ali.

“I don’t know exactly what they’re doing but I’m happy with the way Ellesmere Green is. If they’re going to upgrade it and have better toilets, that’s fine, but I think that the way the Green is used is great. This is a rest place for people, this is where they meet and it should be accessible to everyone, I don’t think they should put railings all around.” – Fatima Musa

“The changes will make the Green look more friendly and welcoming. I don’t think anybody uses the toilets, they should get rid of them if they aren’t going to replace them with better ones.” – Abdul and Abdirisaq

For more information

Ellesmere Green and improvements to Spital Hill footways, contact: Lucia Lorente-Arnau, 0114 273 6673, lucia.lorente@sheffield.gov.uk

Spital Hill Traders’ Forum and grants to improve shop fronts, contact: Fiona Champion or Elaine Feeney, 0114 273 5531, elaine.feeney@sheffield.gov.uk

Public art work on Spital Hill, contact: Andrew Skelton, 0114 205 3784, andrew.skelton@sheffield.gov.uk
Spital Hill developments

While Ellesmere Green is being revamped, work will also be carried out by the Council to improve paving and lighting on Spital Hill. Artworks have also been commissioned for the area. These are being funded by the money Tesco must pay to the Council as part of the planning agreement.

Artworks

Pitsmoor-based photographer Richard Hanson has been commissioned, with two other artists, to produce art work celebrating Spital Hill and its people.

The artwork will be exhibited on the hoardings that run from the Wicker Arches along to Tesco on Savile Street, covering a length of over 100m, and will feature Richard’s portraits of people who live on, work in and use Spital Hill in their daily lives. Artists Fabric Lenny and Yvonne Roberts are using art, design, text and additional photography to develop the theme of ‘A Common Thread’ which will tie the images together.

Already over 70 people have taken part and had their portraits taken - by the time the work is complete it’s hoped there will be over 120 people photographed, and maybe many more. There is a blog about the development of the work [http://acommonthreadsheffield.blogspot.co.uk/](http://acommonthreadsheffield.blogspot.co.uk/).

Metal sculpture

Sculptor Michael Johnson has also been commissioned to produce works for Ellesmere Green, outside the Vestry Hall and Caborn’s Corner. He uses materials such as stainless steel and bronze, and many works also include glass, stone and found objects. The designs are not yet decided but could be mosaics or standing sculptures.[http://michaeljohnsonsculptor.co.uk](http://michaeljohnsonsculptor.co.uk).

Traders forum and shop fronts

The Council has funding for improving shop fronts on Spital Hill. They have contacted businesses to form a traders forum to discuss how the funding could be spent.

Council officers suggest that new signage could have a consistent design, and shop fronts could be given a face-lift with brick cleaning. Shops can access these improvements for free, with opportunities to buy extra improvements, which would be completed by Council contractors.

The Council is also looking at providing training for local shop owners in business skills. Further meetings of the new Traders Forum are planned from late August.

Church on Ellesmere Green

Story: Elizabeth and Gordon Shaw

Ellesmere Green is currently in the news due to the plans for improvement. There will be many people living in, or passing through the area, who are unaware that this was the site of the Wicker Congregational Church.

Three Deacons and 43 members of the Queen Street Church formed the Wicker Congregational Church. Alderman F Hoole laid the first stone on 18th April 1854. The Church was described as being built in ‘early decorative style’, able to seat 1,000 and cost £4,500. In 1855 the Sheffield Independent Newspaper had an advert for the Opening Services of the Wicker Congregational Church on Sunday July 15. There was a morning and evening service with collections made during each service for the Building Fund. This was followed by an Ordination Service on July 18th with seven Reverends taking part. Dinner was provided in the Wicker School Room at 3pm – tickets half-a-crown each (12.5p).

The same newspaper also ran an article, on 16 January 1861, about the opening of the new schools erected adjoining the Wicker Congregational Church at a cost of £2,000.

“The schools, backed by the church, form a very imposing group. The principal front, towards Gower Street, is 138 feet long and the flanks at either end forming the gables are 36 feet wide. The end next the church, fronting to Barnsley Road, is very effective, presenting three two-light windows, of simple design extending from the ground to the upper floor. The schools are arranged to fit the peculiar shape of the ground. On the basement storey is the lower day school for 400 children. Immediately over this room, and approached by an entrance hall leading from Gower Street, is the principal school room, about 60 feet long with accommodation for 400 children in classes. From the same entrance the lecture room is approached with capacity for 150 scholars. There are also four classrooms... giving accommodation to about 150 scholars.’

Still listed in Kelly’s Directory in 1968, the church was eventually demolished and the site was grassed over for seating and trees.
OFSTED at Parkwood

Parkwood Academy has been praised for its leadership, which OFSTED rated as ‘good’, while overall the school was rated as ‘satisfactory’

OFSTED Inspectors reported that, “Significant progress has been made … due to the very effective leadership,” and, “students’ aspirations about what they can achieve have been raised.” They also said, “Students’ attainment is rising securely”.

The Inspectors noted there is “a positive learning environment based on good relationships between students and between adults and students – we agreed with those of you who told us that there was a very good ‘team spirit’ within the academy.”

They were also pleased to see the positive impact of the new school building on students’ school experience.

Parkwood students Lisette Luamiloza, Faith Chitwamali and Lindie Dube report on what it’s like to meet the Inspectors:

“Making the film was fantastic but I was so scared to see it on the screen. I would like to do more things like this. We need to work together- we want the message about drugs to go to the next generation.” – Sagaal

Eid Party in Abbeyfield

Story: Guleid Jama

Al-Taqwa Mosque on Andover Street is organising an Eid party in Abbeyfield Park on the 18th and 19th of August.

We would like our non-Muslim neighbours to get involved and enjoy this special day with us. Volunteers are wanted to help out.

After Dhuhr Salat prayers at 1.30pm, there will be a buffet, cultural and sports activities, and market stalls selling perfumes, Islamic clothing, books and other things from around the world.

Masjid Al Taqwa seeks to bring the community together on this special day and discover common ground across age, class, race and the garden fence. We remind ourselves that charity begins at home or, at most, a couple of doors away.

Eid Al-Fitr is celebrated after the month of fasting (Ramadan) ends. It is one of two festivals (the other being Eid Al-Adha).

For information contact Guleid on 07936 340 779

Making Tracks at Parkwood

Story: Emily Haimeed

An exciting new cycle track for mountain bikes will open at Parkwood Springs this summer.

The Council are organising sessions every Wednesday (2-4pm) over the summer break to allow local residents to try out the track. These activities (with free bikes and instruction) will mark the start of a two-year programme of cycle activities for the local community and schools. A ‘have a go’ weekend is also planned for 22nd/23rd September.

Neill Schofield, Chair of the Friends of Parkwood Springs, commented:

“We welcome the bike trail and support the programme of activities being arranged so young people enjoy the site responsibly and have something positive to do in Burngreave.”

To get involved, please contact: Woodland Officer jon.dallow@sheffield.gov.uk.

‘Sort your life out’

Story: Emily Haimeed | Photo: Lisa Swift

On Tuesday 10th July a group of people aged 16 – 25 from the InterAct project launched a DVD they had been working on since February.

InterAct Sheffield brings asylum seekers and refugees together with local young people. Together, the group made a short film about the harmful effects of drug use. ‘Sort your life out’ was shown at the Vestry Hall and around 30 young people turned up to watch it, including the individuals who had been involved in the project. Some comments were:

“I just want my area to be safe. It’s been getting more serious. I want to do more to get the message out about drugs. I want to say to people ‘wake up’, they need to think about tomorrow and the future.” – Saeed Yassin

“If I do drugs, it might not affect me but it can affect my family and friends. Two friends of mine have passed away because of it. I hope by making this movie, it will get a message to young people that it’s not too late to change your life and get a job or go back to education.” – Arsalan Othman
Youth work changes

Story: Emily Haimeed

Youth work has undergone substantial changes in a move away from universal provision, for anyone, to a targeted approach.

Different services have come together to form new ‘Community Youth Teams’ including Sheffield Futures youth workers, Police Officers and Sheffield City Council Prevention and Children and Young Persons Officers.

The Burngreave area is part of the North Community Youth Team, which will now be working with 8-19 year olds, as opposed to the 13-19 age range that Sheffield Futures previously worked with.

All services in one place

I met with the Interim Chief Executive of Sheffield Futures, Andy Barrs, to discuss how Community Youth Teams will work.

“Our intention is to get the staff in one location so that we are better equipped to serve young people and support them. Sheffield Futures’ role is now more targeted towards young people who need our support, particularly our most vulnerable and hard to reach. The main responsibility for positive activities is now with Activity Sheffield. That said, we still have open access at all our centres, anybody is welcome.”

Andy talked about why changes to youth work are necessary and how the Teams will work with the voluntary sector:

“In my former role as a senior police officer, I was in Burngreave when Jonathan Matondo was shot dead at age 16. I went up to the scene and saw Jonathan there and it was probably the biggest challenge in my police career. Everybody that had access or professional relationships with Jonathan has some responsibility for what happened to him. It forced everybody, including me as a police officer and now as the chief executive of Sheffield Futures, to improve the way we support young people, particularly those at risk. I would like to think that Community Youth Teams are Jonathan’s legacy to this city; they represent a real move forward in partnership working.

“Everybody needs to step up to the plate and help us provide this new service. We want to work with voluntary groups to get extra resources and funding for young people. We are also employing a volunteer manager who will recruit local people to help us on the ground.”

Working with the Police

The changes mean youth workers and police officers will now be working closer together. I spoke to members of the North Community Youth Team about whether this may deter young people.

“Generally, a young person is more likely to trust a youth worker than a police officer, that’s life. Many young people who say they don’t want to work with police officers may have had negative experiences with them or know somebody who has, but working together we can achieve positive outcomes. One young girl referred to us from the police was at risk of receiving an ASBO. The police officer within our team explained how she’d been doing really well since working with us and the ASBO was dropped.” Ronny Tucker (Community Youth Manager, Prevention)

“There are things said to youth workers that they can deal with themselves without needing to breach any confidentiality and that’s important to maintain. All our staff are trained to know when to intervene.” Andy Barrs

Keeping out of trouble

Community Youth Teams will encourage teachers, schools and other professionals, to refer young people who are getting into trouble. Young people can also refer themselves. Members of the team stress that it is a positive and supportive service.

“Working together, we support young people to make the right choices, improve their self-belief and give them the resilience to cope better with the ups and downs of life.” Ronny Tucker

“What young people think

I spoke to young people at the Vestry Hall about the changes. All were unaware of Community Youth Teams. In general, they did not seem to mind the police working with youth workers.

“I think the police need to hear what young people have to say. They should give people more leaflets and tell people about these changes because I didn’t know about them.” Galal (16)

“They need a better marketing strategy, I don’t think they’ve got one. They should go into schools and colleges and tell people about it.” Hamza (18)

“It’s better this new way because going from one place to another is stupid, but they need to come here and tell us about what’s happening.” Amer (18)

Youth workers generally thought that agencies working together was a good idea, but nobody quite understands how it is going to work yet. One youth worker said:

“The important question is: Do people know what Community Youth Teams are about? If it’s confusing to me, it’s going to be confusing for a young person to understand. To build up a relationship with a young person can take six months, once they find out you’re working with the police it might start to deteriorate.”

Members of the new Team also spoke about the advantages of the changes.

“It’s great that all agencies are involved as we can cover all angles. It saves us trying to find the right person or take on that job ourselves. Now all the contacts we need are in our team.” Steph O’Malley (Police Officer)

South Community Youth Team, based at the Millan Centre, 199 Longley Lane. 0800 138 8381 or cyt@sheffield.gov.uk
Jubilee Busk Meadow Park

Story & photos: Vivien Urwodhi

The Shirecliffe Jubilee took place at Busk Meadow Park on Saturday 9th June.

It was organised by Parkwood Academy, Shirecliffe Community Forum and Shirecliffe Tenants and Residents Association to celebrate 60 years of Queen Elizabeth II’s reign.

David Blunkett, MP for Sheffield Brightside and Hillsborough, stepped into the event with families and children around having fun. He also came to support ex-Parkwood Academy student, John Rwothomach, who has been selected as an Olympic Games steward in July.

Lots of children came to cheer and have fun, as young dance performers amused them with amazing street style dance.

St Peters Jubilee Tea Party

Story: John Mellor | Photo: Ann Creasey

A community family tea party was held at St Peter’s Ellesmere to celebrate the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee, with flags, bunting and balloons decorating the building inside and out.

Invitations had been sent to every house in Ellesmere. About 80 local residents replied to say they would come but, by the end of the afternoon, the number had risen to around 120 – and there were just 12 plates of food left over!

Jubilee litterpick in Page Hall

Story: Ben Barker

On the Saturday of the Jubilee weekend Eden Project Firvale organised a community litter pick in Page Hall.

We were joined by our local PCSO, a local cohesion worker, some trainees from St Thomas’, Crookes and about 20 local children. We blitzed the area. Since then, another group in the community has been regularly picking litter in the area (see page 20). On Jubilee Sunday, rain made us move everything back for an indoor party and about 50 neighbours had a fantastic party with us.

Christchurch Jubilee garden party

Story & photo: Vivien Urwodhi

The party which took place at Christchurch Vicarage on Monday the 4th of June brought together families, friends and members of the Church on Nottingham Street. The sun shone on the vicarage garden where people celebrated the jubilee.

The event supported Angela Kiwomya who is going to Venezuela to help with a public health project. It also launched the Welcome Centre improvement fund.

More on our website at: www.burngreavemessenger.org
Abbeyfield Park Multicultural Festival

Story: Vivien Urwodhi

Abbeyfield Park was full of people on Sunday 8th July 2012 who came to meet up, to unite with old friends and families and created an harmonious atmosphere.

The stage was presented by MC Nige, who introduced the performers through the day. The field was filled with food, children’s activities and information from charities.

I spoke to some of the stallholders. Gillian Andrew showed me her stall with the 186th Sheffield Girl Guides. They aim to raise money to enable them to travel to Austria in 2013. The Rock Christian Centre contributed a lot to make the event happen - both a donation and huge volunteer effort. Beverley from the Shiloh Church was there to cheer on their youth, performing gospel songs. She added they’ve made her very proud.

Ellesmere Family Feast

Story: Liz Searle | Photo: Anwar Suliman

Ellesmere Children’s Centre held their annual multicultural event on 8th June. Manager Sharon Curtis smiles as she tells me about the different national dishes families brought to share: “We had Asian, Caribbean, Spanish, Chinese ... so many!”

Activities for the children included face-painting and a bouncy castle; for the adults, three types of massage, complementary therapies and a henna artist.

The Centre opens over the summer. The dance camp will run on Mondays and Fridays from 1-4pm, for 3-8 year olds, contact 281 2143. A new resident artist will start in September too!

Reach High 2: Our celebration

Story by: Zakya Jan and Haleema Jan

On 8th July, Reach High 2, the study support project, celebrated another successful end of the year. We were fearful of another monsoon; luckily it was dry all day.

Our students came along to enjoy food and fun - bouncy castle, sumo wrestling, face-painting, hair-styling, sports and four treasure hunts. We also had a barbecue.

All the pupils who attended got a certificate for their hard work and effort. We all had lots of fun through out the day.
## Summer Activities

### Sports

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### Trips & Events

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### Youth Clubs

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All activities and events are FREE and OPEN TO ALL unless otherwise stated.

Outdoor Activities

**Pirate Thursdays at Victoria Quays**

- **Thursdays 11am-3pm August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**
- Arch 18/19 at Victoria Quays
- Contact Hellen Hornby at Blue Loop ☏️ 263 6420

Whether you are a pirate princess or pirate friend, swashbuckle your way down to Victoria Quays and join in the practical fun by the waterfront. There will be treasure hunts, arts and crafts, brass rubbings and boat trips (chargeable) to take your fancy. Pirate fancy dress is encouraged!

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

**River Dipping on the Don**

- **Sunday 1-3pm August 12**
- Meet at the Wicker Arch, next to SYAC
- Contact Hellen Hornby at Blue Loop ☏️ 263 6420

Ever wondered what lurks beneath the water of the Don? Now the river is clean again there are all sorts of insects, fish and other animals living there. All equipment is provided but bring bug pots or magnifiers if you have them. Includes a short walk (with Sheffield Wildlife Trust)

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

**Torch Lit Bat Walk**

- **Friday 7.30-9.30pm August 31**
- Start and finish at Arch 18/19 at Victoria Quays
- Contact Hellen Hornby at Blue Loop ☏️ 263 6420

Join us for a twilight walk along the Blue Loop, where we’ll be looking out for bats swooping over the River & Canal hunting bugs for their dinner. Bring a torch, sensible footwear and a waterproof jacket.

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

**Naturally Arty family event**

- **Wednesday 1-3pm July 25**
- Pitsmoor Adventure Playground
- Contact the North & West Ranger Team ☏️ 240 3578

It’s Love Your Parks Week. Create your own work of art from natural materials and enter our competition for the best work of art produced in Love Your Parks Week.

**Green Man Masks family event**

- **Thursday 1-3pm August 16**
- Abbeyfield Park - near the playground
- Contact the North & West Ranger Team ☏️ 240 3578

The legend of the Green Man has been around for many years. Add to his story with your own Green Man mask.

**Busy Bees family event**

- **Thursday 1-3pm August 30**
- Pitsmoor Adventure Playground
- Contact the North & West Ranger Team ☏️ 240 3578

An event with a sting in the tail. Bees are very important creatures. Why? Come along and find out with the Rangers. You might even get to try some honey.

**Activity Programmes**

**Summer Holiday Sports & Activities 3-16 yrs**

- **Mondays to Thursdays 10am-12pm and 2-4pm**
- at Wensley Community Centre. Contact Michael Hill under 8’s need parental consent ☏️ 228 8122

Various sports and outdoor activities including swimming, Arts & Crafts, Ice Skating, Woodland Activities, Boxercise, Zumba, Health and Fitness.

Additional trips and activities on Saturdays and evenings.

**Open Access Play Sessions 8-16 yrs**

- **Tuesday to Saturday 12-6pm**
- through the holidays
- Pitsmoor Adventure Playground with Activity Sheffield under 8’s accompanied by a responsible adult ☏️ 273 4266

**Art, Dance & Stories**

**Arts & Crafts, Food, Games 8-18 yrs**

- **Mondays 2-4pm July 23, 30 August 6, 13**
- at All Saints Youth Club with Sheffield Futures
- Contact Danielle Sharp at Ellesmere Youth Project ☏️ 07886 777 068 or 213 3120

**Arts & Crafts 8-13 yrs**

- **Tuesdays 1-3pm July 24, 31 August 7, 14**
- at Pitsmoor Adventure Playground
- Contact Danielle Sharp at Ellesmere Youth Project ☏️ 07886 777 068 or 213 3120

**Joe Logan Cartoon Workshop 8-13 yrs**

- **Wednesday 2-3pm August 22**
- at Burngreave Library. Under 8’s with an adult
- Contact Janet or Sue ☏️ 203 9002

**Arts & Crafts 4 U 8-16 yrs**

- **Saturdays 2-4pm July 28 August 4, 11, 18, 25**
- at Pitsmoor Adventure Playground with Activity Sheffield under 8’s accompanied by a responsible adult ☏️ 273 4266

*Bring old clothing for painting and a drink*

**Arts & Crafts 4 U 8-16 yrs**

- **Wednesdays 1-4pm July 25 August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**
- at Verdon Recreational Centre with Activity Sheffield
- *Bring old clothing for painting and a drink* ☏️ 273 4266

**P.I.T.S Dance Session 8-16 yrs**

- **Wednesdays 6-8pm July 25 August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**
- at Verdon Recreation Centre ☏️ 249 1626

under 8’s accompanied by a responsible adult

**Dance Camp 3-8 yrs £3 session**

- **Mondays & Fridays 1-4pm, throughout the holidays**
- at Ellesmere Children’s Centre. Contact Sharon Curtis ☏️ 281 2143

**Sidewalk Van in Wensley families**

- **Sundays 2-4.30pm August 5, 12, 19, 26**
- at Wensley Park with Eden Fir Vale. Contact Ben Baker

An hour of crazy games, loud songs and a Bible story ☏️ 07515 436 589

**Story Lab up to 14 yrs**

Library opening times throughout the holidays

Burngreave Library. Contact Janet or Sue ☏️ 203 9002

Summer reading challenge with incentives along the way

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**Playschemes**

**Holiday Playscheme 4-8 yrs**

- **Monday - Friday 9am-4.30pm July 30 to August 24**
- Firvale Pre-School, Firvale Centre, Earl Marshal Road
- Contact Sonia ☏️ 303 0176 or 303 0147

Snacks provided free. Children will need to be provided with their own packed lunch if staying for the full day.
**Turn Travel**

**HAJJ TOUR 2012**

**ONLY £3150**

**Package includes:**

- A high quality Hajj package at low cost.
- 20 days to complete your pilgrimage in ease with guided lectures.
- Direct flights from (Heathrow to Medina) return (Jeddah to Heathrow).
- Medina hotel (Riyad Al Muhajiron) 3 mins walk from Haram.
- Makkah 4 star hotel (Ramada) in Aiyad 5 mins walk from Haram.
- Half board basis in the hotels and full board in Mina and Arafat.
- Qurbani (hady), Simcard and Ihram included.

**HURRY! Limited spaces**

Call us on: 0114 275 8985
email: info@u-turntravel.com
Or visit us in our new office at:
64 Spital Hill, Sheffield, S4 7LG.

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**Junior Cricket Coaching**

By popular request the Sheffield Indoor Cricket Centre are starting junior cricket coaching sessions on Tuesday and Sunday mornings. All our cricket coaches are ECB qualified and CRB certified and they have a lot of experience working with kids of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

Children of all ages are welcome.

**Tuesday:** 7:30pm– 8:30pm (Under 13 year olds)

**Sunday:** 10:30–12:00pm (All ages)

Sheffield Indoor Cricket Centre Ltd
Petre Street, Sheffield S4 8LU

To guarantee a place please ring and book in advance:

**07769 585 890**

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**Your black bin and recycling service will change in August**

Your black bin containing waste that can’t be recycled will be emptied one week and your blue bin and blue box containing recyclables will be emptied the week after. If you have a large family of six or more or have a medical condition you may be eligible to apply for a larger bin.

The changes to the blue bin and box mean you will be able choose which container is used for glass, cans and plastic bottles and which one is used for paper and card.

Please look out for the leaflet coming through your letterbox soon.

For more information call **0114 273 4567** or visit [www.veolia.co.uk/sheffield](http://www.veolia.co.uk/sheffield)
My Great Grandmother

Story: Sarah Guetaia

My great-grandmother is a unique and different person. We don’t speak the same language but her love and smile makes me feel like I understand what she wants to say. When I see all her children and grandchildren respect her and how they like to spend their time with her and listen to all her old stories it makes me think that she has a lot of interesting things to say. Her language is so different from my mum’s language. It’s not French and it’s not Arabic. Why is her language so bizarre and her look as well, her make up is like a tattoo?

I asked my mum, who told me that my great-grandmother is Berber or Amazigh, which signifies a free person. She speaks Taqabaylit, a Berber dialect, a language without script. Since eternity knowledge has been passed on orally from parent to child, it is the mother who taught their children to speak this language. She never went to school but she raised her children with a good education. She is a very strong woman with a big heart. I can’t wait to see her in summer and try to share all the great moments of her life.

When I see all her children and grandchildren respect her and how they like to spend their time with her and listen to all her old stories it makes me think that she has a lot of interesting things to say. Her language is so different from my mum’s language. It’s not French and it’s not Arabic. Why is her language so bizarre and her look as well, her make up is like a tattoo?

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The Olympic Torch

Story: Sarah Guetaia

The Olympic torch came to Sheffield on 21st of June. Me and my family went to see it, we got free flags and drums. There was a band called The Tribes’ who played. The Olympic torch was one hour late but we didn’t mind. When the lady came she put the torch in the Olympic bowl. There was cheering and shouting, and more entertainment but finally we had to go home.

Jubilee celebration at Pye Bank School

Story: Sumayah Hussein

On Wednesday 30th May there was a big celebration for the Queen’s Jubilee at Pye Bank School.

There was a funny clown called Peanut who started with bubbles and he did fun circus stuff with all of us. Jasper, our learning mentor, was doing the barbeque he cooked burgers and sausages. Miss Kearl said it was great and fun, and Mr Hopkinson said he loves to see smiles on everyone’s faces.

My mum and other parents organised it. There was food like rice, chocolate cake and icing fingers. There was a long queue for the bouncy castle. There were people doing henna and Mr Marsden did the face paints - my brother had the incredible hulk and green face paint in his hair. There was even a queen and that was Mrs Vintin, who said to one kid, “Would you like a cup of tea, come to my Buckingham Palace.” It was really funny!

Diamonds Carnival

Story: Ayah Mohammed

On the 26th of June at 2.30pm all the parents and the children came to the Y2 Diamonds very own carnival. We were learning about carnivals and so we had our very own little carnival. We had our faces painted and our parents had to pay a little amount if they wanted food. All the sweets were free so the parents didn’t have to pay for those. Four people from my class did a little dance. The people were called Alyaseeyah, Madihah Wardak, Zahra Saeed and Sam Haroon. Everyone got their best clothes from home and they wore them when it started.

Pye Bank Girls football

Story: Reema Mohammed

My name is Reema and I am 11 years old. My favourite hobby is Football.

Last November me and my friends played a match against St Josephs, Mosborough and lots more. The team had a kit which was yellow but the goalkeeper was different.

Before we had the match, we practiced a lot every Friday. We practiced how to head, how to tackle, defend and much more. Then we arranged our group.

I enjoyed it because we worked as a team and scored a lot of goals. We also persevered and didn’t give up.

Stories and objects from all over the world, like Sarah’s can be found in Museum Sheffield’s Precious Cargo displays at Western Park Museum to mark the Olympic Games.
**Adult Learners Week Awards**

ESOL learners were presented with awards at a ceremony at the Town Hall on 15th May 2012, in recognition of their hard work.

They kept the class going, which helps towards a job or learning other skills. 37 people collected their certificates from Dee Desgranges and Neil Hessell, Assistant Chief Fire Officer. The experience was amazing, seeing families and couples come together for the ceremony.

I hope to see more for those who work hard and deserve respect, gratitude and credit for their efforts. Being able to communicate in English is hard, especially if you have no confidence, and though learning, this has been possible. We wish this to continue next year.

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**Mr Elgy retiring**

After many years of teaching at Byron wood, Mr. Elgy, Y6 teacher is retiring. He has been a great asset to the school and has taught an outstanding amount of people in every generation.

In 1976, he qualified to be a teacher and then got a teaching job at Bluestone Middle School. He taught there for ten years and, in 1986, he came to work in Byron Wood, which was then known as Burngreave Middle School, as a Deputy Head Teacher. In 2004, he decided to become a Y6 teacher.

Since he started teaching at this school, he has noticed how much the school has changed and improved over the years.

For example, at first there were only 5 classes in the whole school but now there are 15. Also, only pupils from the ages of 8 to 12 were allowed to attend the school when it was Burngreave Middle School.

His experience throughout teaching has taught him a lot. He feels very lucky to have had the chance to teach at this school. He will definitely be missed by everyone.

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**Schools Cricket League**

Organised by retiring teacher Ted Elgy and Nic Cassin from Byron Wood, the six matches took place, come rain or shine, at the all-weather cricket surface at Abbeyfield Park.

Firs Hill won the competition and went on to play Brook House School in the semi final.

Pye Bank coach Garfield Walters said, "It was fantastic. I'm really proud of our boys, who were the youngest to compete. We had loads of fun as well."

Ted Elgy said, "The games were competitive but it was a friendly rivalry and excellent sportsmanship was shown from teachers and children of all three schools. Let's hope the tradition of playing cricket continues even after I retire."

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**Reading group at Whiteways**

Since September 2011, 25 volunteers have given up their time for a school reading project.

Small groups of parents, carers and community members were trained to support children's reading. The Reading Volunteers come into school and listen to children read. This boosts the children's self-esteem and confidence and has had a very positive impact on their reading.

The Reading Volunteers also benefit as it gives them valuable experience if they wish to take up a career in education.

The Reading Volunteers Group will continue to support the children in reading and hope to get involved in other initiatives at the school.

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**Chess tournament**

A few children were picked to play chess on behalf of each school on Monday 9th July at the very first chess competition which was held at St Catherine’s school.

The schools that took part were, Byron Wood, St. Catherine’s, Firshill, Watercliffe Meadows and Firvale. This is the first time we have ever competed against other schools so we were very nervous. There was no need though because we had lots of fun, we also made some new friends. We hope that we will be able to have more competitions like this and go to different schools.
Burngreave Foodbank now open

Story: Andrew Birtwhistle

Burngreave ‘Food Bank’ opened on 18th June 2012. It is run by volunteers at the Rock Christian Centre, Carlisle Street and linked to a UK-wide network of over 200 food banks.

It is clear evidence that many people are struggling to provide food for themselves and their families. Many people in Burngreave live below the official poverty line. A crisis can happen when there is a benefit delay, loss of work or an unexpected bill. Burngreave Food Bank covers people living in S3 or S4 and aims to provide emergency food for 3 days.

How does it work?
Food donated by the public is sorted and packed by volunteers. Social workers, doctors or community organisations identify families in need and issue a voucher, which can be exchanged for food. Volunteers can also offer a cup of tea and a listening ear.

Burngreave Food bank is based at Rock Christian Centre 75, Carlisle Street, S4 7LJ and is open between 2pm and 4pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

We depend on support from the community so, if you want to help, please contact us at the Food Bank or by email to info@burngreave.foodbank.org.uk. Or see us at our food collection days at Tesco on 8th and 9th August. There is more information on our web site at www.burngreave.foodbank.org.uk.

New Look for Verdon Rec

Story: Liz Searle

Verdon Street Recreation Centre has been transformed by a refurbishment which makes it brighter and better.

The new carpet and chairs “definitely brighten the place up!” comments Verdon Rec’s worker, Aislinn Adams. The new noticeboards will soon be filled with information from groups such as Pilsung Taekwondo and PITS Street Dance.

The function room now has a mirrored wall, which is perfect for dance classes, with a curtain and blinds to ensure privacy. After your exercise class, you can sit down on the colourful seats and catch your breath in comfort! The room has been booked every week for social functions and meetings.

The sports hall has been re-painted and the floor sanded, so the football, badminton and volleyball can practise in high quality surroundings. Everyone who uses this building, from Parents and Toddlers to the Agewell Group, will benefit from the “fresh” feel to the place.

The first meeting of a Friends of Verdon Street Recreation Centre – to “influence and shape the future of the centre” on Tuesday 17th July.

If you would like to find out more about activities at Verdon Recreation Centre or about the new Friends group, contact Activity Sheffield on 273 4266.
We have the following facilities you could rent: Multi Sensory room, training and play room and space for weekend events.

Call us now for an informal chat, to arrange a visit or to book a place

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St Catherine’s Summer Fair

On Wednesday 27th June St Catherine’s Primary School held their annual Summer Fair.

The fair was run by the school’s Parent Forum with all the money raised going towards school funds. Each class in the school was asked to contribute a stall which was then run by children from that class alongside a member of staff.

The fair had something for everyone including a bric-a-brac stall, lucky dip, shoot-a-hoop, chocolate raffle and a bouncy castle. There was a delicious variety of food cooked by parents of children in school.

Even a little bit of rain didn’t dampen people’s enjoyment. A member of the Parent Forum, Michelle Grant, said “We’re outside and that’s made all the difference.” Another parent Norma said, “It’s been very enjoyable, I hope the rain holds off!” Miss Morris said, “The children have thoroughly enjoyed the day, seeing them work as a team was lovely.”

The fair managed to raise a massive total of £440.00 that will help school to buy much needed games and equipment. We’d like to thank all the parents, staff and children for all their support.


Byron Wood Family Fun Day

Byron Wood Primary School had a Family Fun Day on 14th June.

There were lots of activities and fun games like throwing wet sponges at teachers. There was also a humongous bouncy castle which kids went on again and again. Children had their face painted and done pretty henna patterns on their arms.

Crescent Indoor Street Party

Outside the rain teemed down but inside all was dry, warm and decked out in red white and blue. Teachers, the craft group and residents (also decked out in red, white and blue) enjoyed a very tasty buffet lunch organised by school governor, Joanne.

Firs Hill Jubilee

Firs Hill School had a Diamond Jubilee Party on Friday 1st June. Children had a picnic lunch and wore clothes in the theme of red white and blue. Reception classes made flags to wave and Y1 to Y6 made their own jubilee kites. Money raised went to the Azad Kashmir Schools charity.

Fun & Games

by Edgar Lowman

What are you doing in the games then? George?

Fencing
Northern General parking plans

New plans to improve parking and access for residents around the Crabtree estate, including Fairbank Road and Norwood Road, will be made public soon. These are based on the results/feedback of the Permit Parking consultation that took place a couple of years ago.

Sheffield Council will carry out a consultation this summer to get public feedback on the proposed traffic management measures:

- **Blyde Road** – Pay and display 2 hr max stay
- **Coningsby Road** – Limited waiting on one side
- **Fir Vale Road** – junction protection
- **Norwood Road and Norwood Drive** – limited waiting
- **Crabtree Close, Road, Crescent, Lane** – junction and access protection measures
- **Fairbank Road** – access protection plus one way (from Aldfield Way to Herries Road).

Each address in the area will receive a letter and drawing explaining the proposals.

The work, funded by the Northern General Hospital, is designed to address long-standing issues with all day parking, along with proposals to increase parking capacity on site.

The scheme could be implemented by the end of the year, but may take longer if there are changes or objections.

Contact trafficregs@sheffield.gov.uk

Telephone: 0114 2736178

A Clean Sweep for Page Hall

Page Hall residents have been concerned about the litter in their area and with support from the Pakistan Advice and Community Association have formed a voluntary group to sweep the streets themselves using their own brushes. Burngreave Councillors have agreed to fund equipment to continue the task.

Shirecliffe Community Centre,
349 Shirecliffe Road, S5 8XJ. You are invited to share a sandwich with your local Councillors from 5.30pm.

A special Cabinet in the Community meeting: Sheffield City Council’s cabinet will be available to answer your questions before the Public Business meeting.

Streets Ahead Works set to begin in August

Sheffield City Council’s £2 billion Streets Ahead project is set to begin work in mid August 2012. The project will improve the condition of the city’s roads, pavements and street scene within the first 5 years of the contract and then maintain them at that good condition for the remaining 20 years of the contract.

Over the next 5 years residents in Burngreave will see a vast improvement to their roads, pavements and street scene. Further details about specific works in the Burngreave area will be available in the coming months.

The city will be divided into over 100 zones and before work starts residents will be invited to a roadshow in a local venue to identify which road and street scene issues are most important to them. Their responses will feed into the planning of the improvement and maintenance works to be carried out under the project.

For further information about the Streets Ahead project visit: www.sheffield.gov.uk/streetsahead

Dates for your diary

**Area Ward meeting for Burngreave Ward** - 6-8pm, Tuesday 11th October, Fir Vale School, Owler Lane, S4 8GB.

**North East Community Assembly Public Business Meeting** - 6-8pm, Wednesday 31st October 2012 at Shirecliffe Community Centre, 349 Shirecliffe Road, S5 8XJ. You are invited to share a sandwich with your local Councillors from 5.30pm.

A special Cabinet in the Community meeting: Sheffield City Council’s cabinet will be available to answer your questions before the Public Business meeting.

Contact us on 203 7562, email communityassemblynortheast@sheffield.gov.uk, or write to: Firth Park Library, 443 Firth Park Road, Sheffield, S3 6QJ.

Blog – www.sheffield.gov.uk/northeastnews
Website – www.sheffield.gov.uk/northeast
Carwood Jubilee

Story: Michelle Cook

Carwood TARA put up the bunting to host their Jubilee party on Saturday 2nd June.

Around 30 people enjoyed food and games at the community room. The good weather meant children could play traditional English games of pinning the tail on the donkey, hopscotch and apple bobbing in the square.

Knitting Club

Every Monday Carwood TARA have a ladies’ knitting club at 3pm before the very popular English conversation club at 4pm. Please bring leftover oddments of wool, knitting needles or crochet hooks to the Carwood TARA office at 10 Carwood Grove, which is open Monday 4-6pm, Tuesday 10.30-1pm or Tuesday night 4-6pm.

Thanks to Wynn March

Carwood TARA held it’s AGM on 31st May. They said goodbye to Wynn March who has retired as treasurer. They would like to thank her for her years of service. They welcomed Michelle Cook as the new treasurer.

Bingo

A new bingo session is starting on Friday 27th July at 7pm. Accompanied children are welcome.

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Update on BCAF

BCAF held its AGM on Saturday 23rd June 2012 at Pitsmoor Methodist Church.

It was noted that income for the last year was a quarter of that of the previous year. BCAF held successful public meetings in May 2011 (topic of cuts to young people’s services) and in July (ESOL). BCAF also secured NLDC funding to produce the Northeast Adult Learning Guide and website and run a women’s health course. BCAF has had no paid worker and the bulk of the work, in particular the networks, had been done with support from the Burngreave Messenger.

It was felt that the limited company could be wound up even if the name of BCAF continues as an informal or unincorporated association. In previous years, BCAF had always been supported by paid staff but lack of funds has prevented it having a worker.

Directors were appointed for the coming year.

Two year wait for wall repair

Story: Emily Haimeed

Two years ago, local resident Sharon’s back garden wall collapsed. Since then, she has reported the problem to Sheffield Homes and Kier numerous times but the wall is still not fixed. I met Sharon to talk about the problem:

“Some guys sat on it and it fell over. I reported it to Sheffield Homes three times and Kier came to measure up twice, but nothing happened. One excuse they made was that the neighbour’s garden was too untidy so they couldn’t fix it. I don’t think that is a valid reason!”

Sharon then left the issue until she joined Burngreave TARA in 2011, when Sheffield Homes took up the issue again and after reporting it in March, an inspector from Kier came to Sharon’s house. He left a ‘you were not at home’ card, and the job was cancelled. Sharon said:

“I rang Kier back when I found the card, the Inspector said he couldn’t find the damaged wall. I told them he can’t have looked around the back. Sheffield Homes sent Kier a letter saying they had seen the damaged wall. In May they came back, this time they said they need the right bricks. This week Kier phoned me up and apologised and said it will take six weeks.

“They keep making excuses. I don’t even know if it will get done this time. I shouldn’t have to report it that many times and I’m very disappointed.”

The Messenger contacted Kier about the issue, they told us:

“Unfortunately, the bricks required are not kept in stock either by Kier or local merchants so they had to be ordered from the manufacturer - resulting in several weeks’ delay. We have also been in touch with the resident to explain the delay and apologise for the inconvenience, and we will keep her updated of any progress, as well as arrange a final appointment to complete the repair.”
Fondly remembered: Tom Gould

Dear Burngreave Messenger,

I wish to refer to your articles of December 2008 and February 2009 which featured Tom Gould. In the February obituary you stated that Tom had no living relatives. In fact he was my Father's cousin and myself and my Mother were in contact with Tom right up until his death. Until my mother moved from Sheffield, following ill-health, she and Tom saw each other on a regular basis. My mother is elderly and disabled and, although she was no longer able to travel long distance, she and Tom continued to correspond. Although I moved away from Sheffield, Tom attended my wedding, we exchanged letters and we kept up to date with our lives and my family. I can appreciate however you were probably not aware of this as Tom was quite a private gentleman by nature. His death came as a shock as I had only recently received his Christmas card and note, the only year it had arrived late.

It was a pleasure to read your article about Tom - it reminded me of my father first telling me about Tom being a Prisoner Of War. It was also lovely to see such a recent photograph of him before he died. The work is far from complete and is an ongoing and absorbing project.

Kind regards,

Valerie Brightman

Apologies to Valerie and family for the error in the February 2009 edition. We are pleased that the Messenger was able to document a small part of Tom's life in December 2008 and we know that he is fondly remembered by Firs Hill residents.

Local History Book Launch

Burngreave Local History Group launched their first book, “Pitsmoor: a Peek into the Past,” in June at Burngreave Library. The Group celebrated with an exhibition of their research and some food to share. Thanks are due to Burngreave Library for use of the community room and for displaying the exhibition.

Books are available for £7 at Burngreave Library, Burngreave Cemetery Chapel on Sundays between 11am and 3pm, and from the Messenger office.

Sheffield and the Great War

Story: John Mellor

Over 50,000 men from Sheffield took part in the Great War of 1914-18. Those who enrolled (many of them under 18 years of age) saw the war as a great adventure compared to their routine lives which revolved around work during the week and chapel on Sundays. Most had never left the city boundaries, let alone travelled to a foreign country.

During the 4 years of World War 1, many thousands of these volunteers lost their lives or were maimed and scarred for life, dying years later from the effects of their injuries or from gas poisoning. On one day alone, 1st July 1916, around 500 Sheffield soldiers perished on the first day of the Battle of the Somme.

A Burngreave resident, Dean Hill of Malton Street, is undertaking the massive task of gathering information about each of the Sheffield residents who were involved in the war. I asked Dean what had led to him collating all this information and setting up a website. He told me:

“In researching my family history, I discovered that my maternal great-grandfather, 53521 Albert Dale, 2nd York and Lancs, had been killed on 18th September 1918, at the age of 39, in the battle of Eppey. Since then I have been able to visit the site of that battle and follow his footsteps on the last day of his life - a very moving experience.

“In addition to this I also discovered that my paternal great grandfather, William Hill, (pictured standing on the right in the photograph) was a survivor of the Great War. He was a professional soldier who had first fought in the Boer War in South Africa before being sent to France with the Coldstream Guards in 1914, later transferring to the Royal Garrison Artillery. These discoveries led me to find out about other local people who had been involved in the war and I began a website in 2011 which gives details of a large number of them. The work is far from complete and is an ongoing and absorbing project.”

Dean is keen to hear from anyone who has information about a member of their family who fought in the war.

His website is: www.sheffieldsoldierww1.co.uk and he can be contacted by e-mail at: donnadean@hotmail.co.uk

Cemetery well dressing 2012

Story: Saleema Imam

Thankfully the sun came out for the annual well-dressing in Burngreave cemetery on Sunday 15th July and participants in Ken Wild’s guided walk didn’t need their macs! Firs Hill School Year 4 pupils brightened the chapel with their colourful collages of butterflies, the theme for this year’s well-dressing. Many thanks to all those who helped to create our ‘work of art’ which will remain by the well until it disintegrates. Colour photos on the Messenger website
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