



Tremendous!

Wednesday, 31st January was the day when children from Acres Hill Primary and Handsworth Grange school came to plant the Bowden New wood (next to the Davy Markham works on Prince of Wales Road) including a community orchard. Also keen to join in this community event were Sheffield's Lord Mayor Jackie Drayton (in the middle), local councillors Harry Harpham and Mary Lea, Area Panel Co-ordinator, Amy Edwards and directors from Kier who sponsored the event.

Over the 4 days of planting, over 250 local residents also joined in. As one said, 'if you're planning for the future, you plant trees' ... and what better way to do it than in your local neighbourhood. In 10 years time, these trees could make a visible impact on the landscape of Darnall, and even better, the 30 fruit trees will enable scrumping of plums, apples and damsons and may result in a pie somewhere near you!

Community Forester, Androo Thornton, says this was a great few days, blessed by glorious sunshine and super local support. The west of Sheffield has 22% tree cover where Darnall has only 8%. This community tree planting programme, and many others like it, will help restore the balance.



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Putting Children in the Centre

Children's Centres are a new way of supporting families with children under 5. They also provide training and resources such as Jobcentre Plus for parents and carers, as well as access to healthcare and other services.

The new Darnall Children's Centre is being developed to meet local needs our new building should be ready by early 2008. We want all families with under-5s to help us plan a full range of services for our area. **We need your help to make this a success for Darnall's children and families.**

How will we provide the services that people want? Many different organisations are coming together to provide a range of services. They will work together to share information and resources to deliver Children's Centre services, including: ante-natal; postnatal sessions; community mid-wife; health visitor's sessions; health checks etc. We also hope that the centre will act as a one-stop for advice on housing and



Local parents making their voices heard at Star Works with Shabana Ahmed, Childrens Centre Co-ordinator (above, far right)



benefits, as well as having drop-in sessions for carers and toddlers.

All Children's Centres provide full day care including early education, child and family health services, family support and outreach to parents, a base for childminder networks and links with Children's Information Services.

Further enquiries to: Michelle Wood, Parental Engagement worker at Darnall Forum on 0114 249 0099 or Shabana Ahmed, Children's Centre Co-ordinator on 07867 746 260.

Greener Homes for Darnall

Local campaigners have carried out an Environmental Impact Study of new homes to be built by Wimpey and Strata on the Craven Tasker site on Staniforth Road in Darnall. This has raised a number of issues about how environmentally friendly the buildings will be. Darnall Forum and East End Quality of Life Initiative are currently looking into this. We will keep you up to date with any developments, but if you would like to know more contact Neil Parry on 0114 285 9931.

If you need this in another language or format call 0114 249 0099

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Making it Happen For Muslim Pupils in Sheffield

Event held on Sunday 4th February 2007 at the PMC

Pakistan Muslim Centre (PMC) in collaboration with the Muslim Council of Britain (MCB) hosted a Community Development Seminar on Childrens Education. The aim of the event was to raise awareness between parents, educational providers and key stakeholders as to share problems, concerns and actions to be taken to address disaffection and underachievement.

Over 50 people attended the event and the audience was a mixture of parents, community workers, practitioners and key stakeholders.

Tahir Alam the speaker from MCB is well-renowned for his work with inner city schools in Birmingham to raise achievements and expectations of Muslim Children.

Tahir conveyed in his speech that *'...local education authorities shall have the general regard to the general principle that, so far as is compatible with the provision of efficient instruction and training and the avoidance of unreasonable public expenditure, pupils are to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents'* (Education Act 1944, Section 76).

He stated that it was up to parents to engage themselves in the running of the schools and to become Governors of their schools. Only then can the community have an understanding of how the school is



run and if it meet the needs of its community.

Eric Pye from the CYPD governor support team also stated there are few governors from the Muslim Community in schools where the majority of pupils are from a Muslim background. He stated that local schools are encouraging Muslim parents or individuals from the community to apply to their local schools to become Governors.

Feedback received on the day was very good and it was suggested a number of events should be organised to investigate the issues and develop practical solutions to address concerns.

■ **For more information contact Irshad Akbar at the PMC on 0114 243 6091**

New Family Development Project Workers

The Family Development Project is pleased to report the recruitment of new workers to the posts of Family Development Workers and Administrators. Alex Appleby, Valerie Yates, Mumtaz Begum Hussain and Marie Johnson joined the team on February 19.

This will increase the availability of activities, family support, education, training and volunteering opportunities. Our aim is to deliver community-led learning. If you have any ideas please let us know. Please contact us for details of courses that are on offer now and look out for our Open Day on 3 April 2007 from 10 am. We look forward to meeting you.

■ **For more information contact Jo Anne Van Leversley on 0114 244 8497.**



Two of our new team members, Taz and Marie

New Area Co-ordinator for Darnall

Stella Mekonnen has left her role as Area Co-ordinator for Darnall and has now moved into the Broomhill/Nether Edge and Central area.

She had been in Darnall for 2½ years and has worked hard to improve local services and contribute to the regeneration of the area.



Amy Edwards

Everyone who has worked with Stella has appreciated her hard work. We would also like to welcome our new Area Co-ordinator Amy Edwards who has been in post since January.

■ **Amy can be contacted on 0114 203 7494.**

Circular Walk Art Sculpture Trail

The circular walk which was completed in February 2006, has proved to be a huge success and has seen a rise in the number of people using parts of the park that were difficult to reach.

To make the walk more interesting and enjoyable The Friends of High Hazels Park have managed to secure an additional £5000 towards art sculptures around the walk. Artist Hilary Cartmel who has been appointed to create the sculptures has attended workshops with pupils from Greenlands Junior School. The children were asked to find inspiration from flora and fauna found in High Hazels Park and their designs are currently being cast into metal and will appear on the sculptures. We are hoping that the sculpture trail will be installed late Spring 2007.

A big thank you to the funders Evolve EB through Viridor Credits Sheffield and the Outokumpu Landfill Tax Credit Scheme, Church Burgesses Trust, The JG Graves Charitable Trust, Sheffield Town Trust, Sheffield City Trust, The Freshgate Trust Foundation, The Duke of Devonshire's 1949 Charitable Trust.



Healthier Darnall ... Healthier People

Darnall has been identified as a neighbourhood that has some of the poorest health in Sheffield. The Primary Care Trust (PCT), Darnall Forum and Sheffield City Council are working together to try and find out what the key health issues are and what can be done to improve the health of people in Darnall. Part of this will be to support and develop the work of Darnall Well-being.

Darnall Green Spaces

New Sports Facilities for High Hazels

We are pleased to announce that money has been raised to install an artificial

cricket wicket in High Hazels Park in Spring this year, and as some of you may already be aware there is a new orienteering course in High Hazels Park. Wooden posts with markers (pictured right) have been installed around the park and maps will be available soon on request from the development office in the park. Both facilities will be free to use and an official opening for cricket and orienteering in High Hazels Park will take place on Thursday 31st May, more details will be announced nearer the date.



Thank you to the Foundation for Sports and Arts, Awards for All and Sheffield City Trust for funding the cricket and South Yorkshire Community Foundation Sport Relief for funding the orienteering.

Good News for two Youth Groups in Darnall

Phillimore Park Youth Group have successfully raised money from the Youth Opportunity Fund for a residential trip and money from the Youth Capital Fund for a mosaic art feature in Phillimore Park. The youth group will attend workshops with artist Amanda Wray and be involved with the design and creation of the art feature. Congratulations also to the Young Friends of Darnall Community Park who have been awarded £10,000 from The Youth Capital Fund, towards a Youth Shelter in Darnall Community Park. Both projects are supported by 'Money Talks' and Sheffield City Council.

For more information please contact the Darnall Green Spaces Regeneration Project on 0114 244 6548 or 0114 243 4992 or visit our web pages at www.sheffield.gov.uk

Some of the priorities that have already come up are:

- Making it easier to access health facilities;
 - Encouraging healthier lifestyles and health choices; *and*
 - Help community members to change things that impact on Darnall people's health.
- *If you would like to get involved in the Healthier Darnall Group please contact Chris Nield on 0114 226 2246 or Lyn Brandon on 0114 226 2491.*

Jobs For Darnall

Living in Darnall and looking for work? ... We can help you!

If you are a Darnall Resident and are seeking employment but feel you need to build on your skills to get into a job that suits you, our dedicated team can support you in finding the job you want.

Our service includes: tailored support, advice and guidance; training support; CV building support; and Interview technique support.

Success Story

Andy Clayton has lived in Darnall all his life. He was working as a self-employed courier and transported goods for 6 years. Andy, who has been working as a driver since he left school in 1975, felt he did not have the confidence to apply for a new job and take an interview. The Darnall Forum



Team gave him the support he needed to overcome this barrier and he was successful in his interview. He is now working at Sheffield Park Academy as a site assistant/driver. Andy says *'Thank you for all your help and helping me achieve what I have now. I really enjoy my new job as I'm always doing something different.'*

Darnall 07-07-07 Carnival

Planning for this year's carnival is already well underway, and the committee is working hard to make it the best ever. This year we'll see

- A music stage with local Sheffield acts and a headline Bhangra act (to be confirmed);
- Stalls selling crafts, jewellery, clothing, shoes (kusay), islamic calligraphy, music, henna and beauty, and much more;
- Activities for children and young people;
- Tents with information and activities around health, the environment, children, jobs and learning; and
- African drumming workshops.

This year's event is being supported by a number of sponsors, including Meadowhall, Don Valley Stadium and George Wimpey.

- **If you have any ideas you would like to share please contact Anne or Shabana on 0114 249 0099**

Fancy a job in Meadowhall?

but don't have any experience? Sign up to our training program where you are **GUARANTEED** an interview.

New **Next** and **Primark** opening soon in summer 2007 and they're looking to recruit Darnall residents.

No experience necessary, just a friendly and positive personality needed. Training will be provided and you will be given a guaranteed interview. Deposit of £25.00 is required which will be returned upon completion of the course.

... or if it's Youth training you prefer, sign up today.

... or if you are 16-18 and would like to work for Sheffield Council ...

Call Sidrah on 249 0099



- **If you want to talk to someone at Darnall Forum about the job you want or training to help you get your ideal job call 0114 249 0099.**

Darnall Well-Being - update

A Very Active Meeting

Darnall Well Being had an opportunity to showcase its array of activities when we held our annual general meeting in January. We were pleased with the turnout of people, showing that people are committed to supporting Darnall Well Being and its cause. All of those who attended seemed to enjoy the event, whether it was trying to keep up with the talented Tai Chi group, being put through our paces with Chairobics, working up a sweat with Bollywood Dance or just sitting back and relaxing with a taste of Reflexology.

These are just a few of the activities that we have on offer, others include; health walks, a swim bus, art class, creative card class, community gym sessions and football. A new addition to the programme is a ladies only Hips, Bums and Tums class which is held on Wednesdays at 5pm at Darnall Education Centre.



If you are interested in any of these activities or have new ideas for groups that you would like to see, please contact Jo Clarke on 07858225089.