

GALLIA NEWS

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Meet The New YCA Trustees

We met with the new trustees that were elected for the YCA in the December 2009 AGM. They spoke about their aspirations and aims for the YCA and how they could contribute to the development of the organisation.

Khaled Muflehi

I elected myself to become a trustee as I feel like I can make a positive difference within the community. A lot of people recommended me to become a trustee, and this made me more motivated to do this. I am well known within the community, and I see myself as a friendly face, and very easy to approach.



The YCA is a well established organisation that has helped the community for many years. It has carried its objectives in every way, and I am extremely privileged to become part of its success. I want to concentrate on the positives and be a productive trustee.

I particularly want to give my attention to projects that will incorporate women, and allow women to have a role in British society. I also want to support activities for the younger generation, as this will enable them to stay away from trouble.

I am 35 years of age, and I am a happily married family man. I have three children and I am a qualified accountant. I previously lived in America for around 7 years before moving to the UK.

Huda Ahmed

I was one of the first Yemeni women to work for the Yemeni Community Association (YCA). My first position of working for the YCA was in 1987 as a Yemeni women Liaison Officer. I was based in the Burngreave office. I managed to convince the management committee at the time to open the Burngreave office one day a week purely for the use of Yemeni women. When funding for the post stopped I moved on to get a job with the Local Authority, but continued to work voluntarily with Yemeni women for a further 10 years, setting up the Young Yemeni / Arabic Women's group (YAW).



I'm delighted to be one of the trustees for the YCA. I intend to bring a fresh approach to this role with a set of skills, knowledge and experience that I have gained working over 20 years for Sheffield City Council and the voluntary sector.

Sheffield is becoming an increasingly diverse city and it's a trend that's set to continue. We should ensure that Yemenis have a voice, play a role in promoting and fostering Sheffield as a cohesive and inclusive place to live, study and work in.

We need to value the contribution of Yemenis. There is no doubt that Yemenis and Arabs in general have enriched the cultures of not just Sheffield, but the UK and even Europe – look at the history of Spain for example. We should be proud of our cultural heritage and we have a duty to educate our children about our history, culture, and faith. We have introduced traditions and features for example in literature,

New Trustees Cont...

Huda Ahmed cont...

medicine, science, art, music, cooking, languages and the economy are just some of the areas that have been significantly influenced by people of Yemeni / Arab descent.

Personally, I am all about improving opportunities and narrowing the gaps between rich and poor for people from whatever background. I believe in creating a fairer and more equal society in particular for women, young and older people. If we don't deal with the inequalities and challenges, we will make Sheffield, our community and society in general less prosperous, more divided and less able to face the future. This is why I believe the YCA needs to pay particular attention and more emphasis in place to support young people and their families to reach their full potential.

Young people are central to the future development of YCA. We need to be in a strong position to deal with the challenges. More importantly we need to skill and educate our young people to cope and live successful lives. I hope my position as a YCA trustee member gives me the opportunity to support this development and look forward to working with colleagues on the board of trustees.



Faiza shaibi

في البداية اسمحوا لي ان اشكر القائمين على هذه المجلة الصادره عن الجالية اليمنية وعلى استضافتهم لنا واعطائنا هذه الفرصه للتحدث فيا بعد نجاحنا في انتخابات الجالية اليمنية. وسبب ترشيحي للهيئه الاداريه للجالية اليمنية كان نابع من شعور شخصي للمشاركة في الهيئه التي تعنى بمساعدة اليمنيين في مدينة شيفيلد ، وادراكا مني باهمية العمل الخيري ومشاركة المرأة فيه حيث سبق وقد عملت في المجال الخيري وقدمت فيه جهود كبيره لمساعدة الاخرين. الجالية اليمنية بنظري هي المكان الحيوي الهام الذي يجمع اليمنيين وتظم في اطارها كوادر ومثقفين لا يستهان بهم وبحكم طبيعة العمل الخيري فهي جاليه ناجحه وتتطور من وقت الى اخر وتتسع المشاريع فيها وتخدم جميع اليمنيين بدون استثناء واتوقع ان يكون لها مستقبل مليء بالنشاطات والفعاليات التي تعود بالنفع للجميع.

العمل في الجالية هو عمل خيري في كل الاتجاهات ولكن نظرا لخبرتي في المجال النسوي افضل العمل والمشاركة في هذا المجال واشراك المرأة في العمل الخيري وتقديم الخدمات المتاحة لها واعطائها الفرصه المناسبه اسوتا باخوها الرجل .

اني سبق وان عملت في مؤسسات حكوميه مختلفه وكنت مديرة ادارة وضابط في وزارة الداخليه وعندني خبرات في العمل الاداري سابقا في اليمن ، وفي بريطانيا عملت في مجال العمل الخيري لعدة سنوات وكنت رئيسة مشروع المرأة اليمنية ونجحنا في هذا المشروع الخيري وقدمنا خدمات كثيره لا يستهان بها خلال الفترة الماضيه ، وحاليا اشارك في المجال التربوي والتعليمي للمدرسه العربية بشكل طوعي. كما قد اتبحت لنا الفرصه مرة اخرى لانتشاء مشروع المرأة اليمنية والاشراف عليه .

سنعمل بكل جهد وصدق واخلاص مع الجميع وسنعمل على مساعدة المرأة من خلال النشاطات والفعاليات الذي سيقدمه مشروع المرأة اليمنية في الجالية وفقا للامكانيات المتاحة.

انا احد اعضاء الهيئه الاداريه في الجالية اليمنية ومهامي وفقا لقرار الهيئه الاداريه بتحمل مسئولية مشروع المرأة اليمنية وكذلك الاخوت هدى، وكون هذا المجال يتناسب مع خبراتي السابقه. وبالاعتراف لايستعني الا ان اشكر الهيئه الاداريه التي تعمل على تسهيل عملنا في القطاع النسوي واحص بالذكر رئيس الجالية اليمنية الاخ صالح النورد الذي يولي جل اهتمامه لقطاع المرأة ويعمل على تقديم العون والمساعدة لها.

وشكرا

New Trustees Cont...

Ammar Abdullah

Putting myself forward for election was based on a belief that I can make a difference with the knowledge I have learned, experience I have gained and good relationships with others. The unique initiative by the YCA to gather qualified people and elect them inspired me to apply.

I was happy to see applicants nominating themselves to practice their rights and I saw their enthusiasm to help the community in Sheffield. My belief is that there is no difference between all applicants other than the differentiation of the type of work they wished to do. In addition to that, the respect that I get in return from all sorts of people made me stand out. I will do my best and all that in my power if I get the chance to work effectively for the YCA.

The Future holds a lot for the Yemeni community at all levels of strategic working, both within the community and with external partners. My point of view is that it will be a bright future for the community if the organisation contains energetic, educated and hard working people. The statistics and figures demonstrate that the Yemeni community is in the right path and in consistent progress.

I will do my best to provide what's productive for my community and that would benefit them in the most professional way that I can ensuring that I remain committed to my religion, culture and traditional that I am proud of. The duties are to be fulfilled towards both the YCA and its members. I have to strive towards achieving the association's aims and targets.



The YCA members put their trust on me which requires me to think about the various ways I can utilize this to serve them.

I have a lot of interests such as reading, sports and Nashid. I have a lot of respect and appreciation for all my friends. Making them smile makes me happier.

Yemeni Parents Meeting

- **How important is your child's future to you?**
- **How do you support your child's learning and development?**
- **Do you interact with your child?**

On Wednesday 9th June 2010, at 5.30pm, the Yemeni Community Association is hosting a parents meeting with

head teachers from neighbouring schools to discuss the achievements and current challenges facing Yemeni youth.

This is a free event, with food and childcare facilities. To book places in the crèche please call (0114) 256 0933. The event will be held at the Yemeni Community Centre, Fir Vale building (entrance on Earl Marshal Road, behind Fir Vale School). For more information please call (0114) 256 0933.

ما مدى اهمية مستقبل طفلك إليك؟
كيف تشجع طفلك على التعليم والنمو؟
كيف تتفاعل مع طفلك؟

يوم الأربعاء الموافق ٩ يونيو في الساعة ٥:٣٠ عصرًا سنقيم الجالية اليمنية إجتماع لأولياء الأمر مع مدراء من المدارس المجاورة ليتحدثوا عن الإنجازات والتحديات الذي تواجه الشباب اليمنيين

هذا الحفل مجاني. سوف يكون هناك طعام وحضانة للأطفال تحت سن الخامسة. لحجز مكان لطفلك أرجوا الإتصال بهذا الرقم 01142560933



سيقام الحفل في الجالية اليمنية في Fir Vale Centre (بجوار Fir Vale School) للمزيد من المعلومات أرجوا الإتصال بهذا الرقم: 01142560933

New Book By Kevin Searle

On the 4 February, Kevin Searle held a book opening launch at the Hadfield Institute of the new release of his book.

“When you’re young, you’re loose, like a bird, you can fly from one tree to another (Abdullah Salum)

Kevin spoke about his background and how he had no connection or part in the Yemeni culture or background. He was first introduced to the Yemeni community by his father who used to teach at Fir Vale secondary School which had a very strong Yemeni background.

Kevin decided to do his PhD on the first generation of Yemenis who first entered England to enable him to learn more about the Yemeni culture and community. The research recognised the struggles older people faced when coming to England. It also recognised the sacrifices they had to make in order for them to live and work in England.

The participants in the study were very happy to see that there were people like Kevin that recognised all their hard work and contributions to society.

And, one of the most important things about this study is that it isn't a study where the singular voice of the author dominates the text. The book is based upon life-story interviews, and the stories of the Yemeni former-steelworkers themselves permeate much of the work, as they are of course the best people to tell their own stories. This makes the book extremely original and highly readable. The book isn't overrun with names, dates and information solely derived from reports or other grey materials. Instead, fascinating first-person accounts of the everyday lives and struggles of Yemenis living and working in post-war Sheffield are prevalent.

“I don't know what made me come to England, just a coincidence, you see?”

You know sometimes you cannot plan things. You know what I mean?

So I was talking to a friend of mine, who's gone to England, I say, 'what's in England?'

He says, you know, a different life.' You know, when you're young, you're loose, like a bird, you can fly from one tree to another.

So I applied for British passport and I got one, you know. I got one because we are British, you know, from Yemen, we had no problem.

I knew nothing of England before that. You know, blank. I'd heard London on the radio stage, you know? 'This is BBC world service' or something like that, you know?

'This is London.' I'd seen English people in Yemen, you know, in our country. Oh, they were high class people, not working class people. (Abdullah Salum)



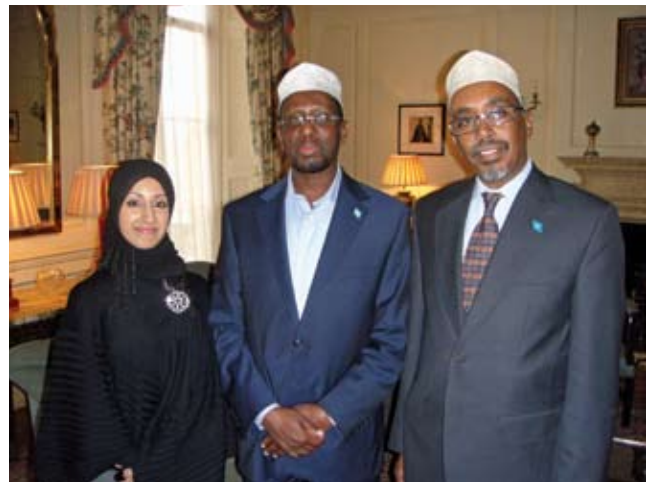
A Meeting With The Somali President

The Chief Executive of the YCA, Abtisam Mohamed was invited by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office to visit the President of the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic - Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed on his visit to the UK.

The YCA Chair Saleh Al Noud and Programme Director Abtisam Mohamed were also invited to meet with the Minister of State, Ivan Lewis to discuss Middle Eastern policy and what the British government had so far done to address the issues of concern.

The Minister stated that a 10 year development had been put in place for the Yemen which would be monitored closely. It was a useful meeting to air concerns on International Policy and how it affects Muslims and even Non-Muslims here in the UK.

The Minister stated that the UK's government's position that they condemned the plan's by Israel to build 1,600



homes on occupied Palestinian land in an East Jerusalem settlement.

Fir Vale Pre-School

Sonia Thomas-Coleman, the new Manager of Fir Vale Pre-School tells us a little bit about herself.

My name is Sonia and I am the new Manager at Fir Vale Pre-School. I have been working here since September 2009, and I have fitted in really well with other members of staff. I have ample experience from working at other Pre-schools, and want to use my experience in a positive way. I am very eager to strengthen the relationship between parents and staff with regards to their children's well being at the setting. I also want to make sure that every parent has the confidence to approach any staff member if he / she has any issues or enquiries they want to discuss.

Finally, I would like to comment on the positive atmosphere that is visible at the Pre-School. I am very pleased to be working in a multicultural environment, and have very high expectations for the future.

The Pre-school is also pleased to inform you of a new outdoor play area that is well under way. The outdoor play area is being built at the Fir Vale Centre (pictured below) which will allow the children to take full advantage of the outdoors, and allow them to exercise their little legs!



New NHS Worker At YCA

The YCA Welfare and Advice Centre welcomes Sarah Woolsey from the NHS who will be running sessions promoting Mental Health.

My name is Sarah Woolsey and I am the new IAPT worker at the YCA Welfare and Advice Centre. What my job involves is helping people with issues relating to anxiety, stress, panic attacks etc. These problems have an effect on our day to day lives and to get through these problems we have to approach and deal with our issues appropriately. By doing this I can help you by using different techniques and therapy's such as cognitive behavioral therapy which involves helping people to see how their thoughts and behavior relate to the way they feel and how this might contribute to their problems.

My role as an IAPT worker also gives me the opportunity to support and give advice about Employment law, Disability discrimination, reasonable adjustment at work and the lack of employer awareness around mental health etc.

If you wish to see me, I work on Mondays from 9am - 4pm, however you will need to book appointments with the receptionist first, before you can come to see me. Please call (0114) 256 0933 for more information.



Help, Training & Advice

UK Online Centre

The UK Online Centre is a free service that will help you to get started with computers and the internet.

UK Online is for anyone who is new to using a computer. You don't have to know anything about computers, or have any experience.

Drop in sessions are aimed to educate users on for example how to use a mouse, search online, stay safe online and send emails.

For more information, please speak to Yousif on (0114) 256 0933 / 261 8620.

Free drop in session timetable:

**Tuesdays 1pm – 4pm
Thursdays 9am –12pm & 1pm – 4pm**



Hadfield Institute

Abdulrazak Saleh is the Community Training and Service Manager at the Hadfield Institute.

The purpose of his job is to give community training and provide career advice, ICT classes and ESOL classes with citizenship. These are all held at the Fir Vale Centre at the YCA. Abdulrazak gives us some information about his role in the YCA and what services he provides.

Career Advice:

**Monday from 9:30am – 1pm
Thursdays from 9.30am – 1pm**

The sessions are for people who would like to receive one to one / group support. Help is also available in writing CVs, filling in job application forms and interview techniques.



NU-BASE Youth Club

NU-BASE is a youth club based in the Netherthorpe area of Sheffield and is run by Sheffield Futures Youth Worker Zain Ahmed.

Activities and sessions take place every Tuesday from 6pm to 8pm. The club is aimed at young boys between the age's 13 - 19 years old. The Netherthorpe area does not have a youth club for young boys, therefore Sheffield futures felt there was a need to establish a safe environment for young people to express their views and have fun in.

A wide range of sessions and activities are conducted depending on the needs of the young men who attend. These range from issues such as health, culture, diversity, self esteem and future careers. A new project that is currently undergoing, aims to bring both the eastern and western cultures together using T-shirt printing and designs. Activities are also run through the holidays which include rock climbing and ice skating.

For young boys who live in and around the Netherthorpe, Upperthorpe and Crookes area, Nu Base youth club is an exciting and fun place to attend. The youth clubs welcomes young boys from all kinds of cultures and background, and always welcomes new members.

The youth club is based at the YAFA charity organisation at:

NU - BASE building
58-62 Fawcett Street
Netherthorpe
Sheffield
S3 7PN

Tel: 07780 686 720



Promoting Health And Well Being For Elderly Yemeni Women

Public Health workers from the NHS recently attended the social learning class at the Yemeni Community Association at the Burngreave Centre.

The health workers gave an insight on heart problems and the causes of heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure as well as many other health problems.

The Yemeni elderly women participated in activities such as identifying human behaviors that cause health problems such as smoking, and being overweight.

At the end of the session the elderly women were all eager to change parts of their life style, and to eat more healthily. This can be done by eating 5 portions of fruit and vegetables a day and doing regular exercise such as walking to their local shops.



'Question Time' At Burngreave

On the 13th of April 2010, the YCA invited local politicians and panellist to a 'Question Time' event at the Vestry Hall.

The Muslim and BME communities were given the opportunity to ask any questions affecting them. Issues such as discrimination, Islamaphobia, immigration, and education were all discussed.

The evening was very successful as both the audience and panellists express their views / concerns as well as getting answers from the local MPs. Many of the audience were young people who were new to the voting system.

It was an eye opener for them as their votes count and can cause a change in the society they live in.



YCA Sport Updates!

Please check out the YCA's football website:

<http://ycasportsfc.webs.com/>

YCA have a new coach Oday Obud who is from Iraq and is a very experienced ex-professional player.

Oday is looking to get new players who have potential!
If you are interested, call Khalid on 07702 813 252, for training for the new season.

