

WALKING VOICES / WEBCLIP TEXTS

WEBCLIP 1

Ali

It looks like nice place to me, I come out of Meadowhall, Meadowhall is beautiful place, beautiful shops, banking, car parks, nice, Meadowhall is beautiful. I have been to Meadowhall many time, meadowhall is nice. People go here for shopping, passing time, meeting friends. I meet a lot of people there, they come from everywhere. Meadowhall is great thing of Sheffield. I like Meadowhall, I like Meadowhall very much. We have some bazaar in Yemen, it is not like Meadowhall at all.... A big bazaar, it's for selling clothes, too many bazaar. Nice cheap things there people buy things very cheap. Not dear like here, buy in Yemeni currency, you call it Rials

WEBCLIP 2

Camille

If you did not know the image of Spital Hill normally, you would think you were somewhere on... West Street –part, bits of it. The Mangla Restaurant looked really nice inside, was really nice, really upmarket and really...it really changes the image of Spital Hill. Ummm..... at that time of the night it's rather quiet. It's.... it was fairly... late you know. Ummm..... normally when I am walking home I would go over Spital Hill and onto Andover Street and walk through the neighbourhood. But because it was night I decided to stick on the main road, just as a precaution not because I was afraid or anything. Prevention is better than a cure more or less. While I was walking through Spital Hill I didn't feel unsafe or anything. The place looked really nice, the breeze was nice and cool – it was crisp. It was nice and cold, my hands were cold but it wasn't like unbearably cold. It was just a nice easy walk up and while we were walking L. and I laughed and chatted as we came home.

WEBCLIP 3

Yusef

Landscape in terms of Burngreave... it's no good, I don't know how you gonna change, it's just no good at all.... Because it's the area neglected, and how should we say, let down by the people who supposed to make the area better high standard, in terms of crime it getting better, you never used to leave your car outside, but now safe, very safe area, the crime is reduced a lot, one of the reasons crime is reduced, is because the area has changed... there are new people, Somalians, Pakistanis, Yemeni's, new people, who don't want crime at all, come to live in this area, don't like the world of crime, want to work, want a better life, so the crime has gone down... the reason, new people arriving, and the council trying to do bit work now, they trying to make the area safe, but the landscape, people like myself, want to see a nice, field, nice trees, we haven't got that.

WEBCLIP 4

Ahmed S.

Why do like these building sites – it's very nice to look at. And like... you mean these building – personally I get experience..... Things. I get things; I used to come on the other road, the police station way, I used to pick up the words on the signs. I used to go home [...] and I never used to know what this pedestrian mean – and I just came , I actually read that in college, and teacher says what does that mean – does anyone know what that mean? - I say yes She said “that's really amazing, how did you pick

that up?" I said "I picked up words right outside my house". Oh that's good Sometimes I don't know wordsand I am like oh my god I don't know what that means and I write it down and find out what it means. ...

Other places Usually the place I look for words is outside in town, because in town it is usually words like names and things like that. These places I do like, construction sites because there are different word for construction and buildings and things like that and I can learn and in the future if I need to study to be a building or designer – I can know what the words are. (walking past road works along Infirmary Road)

WEBCLIP 5

Shireen

You know something happens when you are a child and it never goes out of your head. And you are in the same spot and something makes you think!

It's like when I see here it reminds me of, I came from Yemen, and I was only a kid and I remember my mum and everyone was planning something – going shopping or something and I remember crying, crying, crying because I did not want to go to school. My mum came late that day and all I did was walk on this grass. My house was only up that tunnel up there and I remember going up the other side. I remember crying my eyes out and one of the parents bringing me back....

WEBCLIP 6

Camille

"The city I can see... ur...is it Park Hill? Looks like Park Hill, a horrible looking building that needs, demolishing! And some other apartments, is that Woodside? Yea that looks like Woodside, and that looks like the tram line after you pass Castle College, right.

This view reminds me of.... back home, not far from where we live is a place called Red Hill, when you go up to the top and you see the city, and you see the hotels and the lovely new buildings....everything. Especially at night when the lights are on, OH it's gorgeous. This view reminds me being on top of the hills and looking across the city.

WEBCLIP 7

Ahmed S.

I usually get tram in Hillsborough corner or Hillsborough Park to college and I go to the restaurant. I don't like it, not in the way of relax. It's a place better than anywhere I go. For example If I go to town I don't have friends in town and I have to go to restaurant where I have friends and when I go and talk about things and I play black backgammon or something but if you say relax there's no relax. You know backgammon?

So why do you go there?

For company and for playing as well and have a tea...that's what people do when they go over there. [...] There's no where to go – you can't always go to barber shop because if you want too..... The shop will be empty if people want to go and sit in the queue. If you stay there, just chatting, Ahmed would you mind stand up this man this man is standing and he is in the queue... if you stay there, just chatting.

WEBCLIP 8

Lola

This community is predominantly Asian and quite a few Asian Africans and a mixture of other people. Quite a few trees around and the area is green and lush and is getting greener with the rainfall. I can see a lot of young children hanging out with their peers and school has just started and they are getting into the swing of things again. And it's quite interesting to see them. I can see families hanging out together in the front of their yard and I can see young children and parents counselling their children. It's quite a homely friendly community, quite a number of activities on the street. Youths are playing ball, just getting together and chilling out in the evening.

WEBCLIP 9

Nazia

I feel them, that they are like just my grandmothers, mothers and grandmothers, you know like that, yeah they are, and they are just like.

[Why do you think, why do you think the healthy walks are quite popular amongst those women?] Its actually, you know like, that's a good thing here, they give you knowledge, yeah, and if you go to doctor they will tell you its, walking is healthy for you or your blood pressure is very high. *[Yeah]*

So you have to walk, to take your weight down and your fat too ... so your blood pressure will be normal, so that's good, but if don't, people don't know then they will not go, so if the facilities are available but they will not go.

WEBCLIP 10

Ali

Myself I go to my daughters' house and we sit there with the kids and we talking with each other. Some other Yemenis families comes to meet my daughter's children. Families go to Sometimes my daughters' and I, we go to families, other Yemeni's family. Not far from Burngreave, sometimes we sit there for a couple of hours, half an hours and having our tea and biscuits. That's how Yemeni's is. Family like other families. They want to know more about families. Like once my daughter have a chat with her sister and her sister says I ahhh there's some nice families, they're so and so and they come from so and so and there are nice, very beautiful families and they want to see me and you and they say dad you coming with us, and I say ok and I'll come. And we walk together. They're welcome to ours and they'll come to us the next day or the day after you know.. They welcome to them to come. That's our life you know.

WEBCLIP 11

Camille

Hi, how are you? Some body passing said hi. You do have the occasional ones who will say hi but basically they are ones from outside the area because quite a few people from the area have passed me and have not acknowledged me. In Jamaica this would be seen as not having any manners. If you passed someone and don't say hello, it wouldn't go down very well. If a child did that it would be even worse because before the child reached back home the person would have complained to their parents and the child would be hassled and so to avoid that, a lot of the kids....um.... would grow up saying hello to people when they pass along, if its even merely not to be hassled when they go home. So it becomes a part of them, wherever they go and they see a person

while walking they say hello, they may not have a long conversation but when they see a person they say hello.

WEBCLIP 12

Mr Kheili

Yeah! That's the first one – when we went to an illegal campsite. When we came camping we didn't know you had to camp in a camp site we thought that you go anywhere, you set up tent, that's it. Because that's like that in the Yemen, there's no law that says you can't camp anywhere. We drove to the Peak District and set up camp, big camp, set up a tent and that. And this two – a couple, came. A lady and a gentlemen about 60, 70, came up to us and told us that we can't just set up there, we said "why?" "it's illegal!" So we rang up Derbyshire city council and we asked and they said "no, no, you're not allowed!" And they gave us some numbers and we drove around one of our mates and we went all over and most of them were full it was the weekend. We were out on a trip and they said there's a place where they do camping and we went there and we loved it enjoyed it.

WEBCLIP 13

Zara

People at home have hardly anything, hardly any money, no jobs, you know, horrible houses, but there they wake up and they're right happy and I don't know if it's the weather and the sun or what?" "yes, it's true though" "Because here you got everything – money, work, car..." "Why is it? Why is it that – we have everything? And yet again these people who are just like us – and yet why they are so unfortunate?! I just sometimes feel so selfish. I do get really upset, it really makes affects me really bad when I see the people like that. I just think that we all came from same place. I always think that. And I think sometimes thinking like that, actually, it does bring you back to reality. It does make you appreciate what you've got, not take everything for granted. Or when you are sitting at home angry at stuff for no reason at all. Something so silly it does bring you back to reality I suppose".

Webclip 14

Mr Kheili

This is what I like... this like... reminds me... that's why we come here... reminds me back home... you know it's not as green, but the open land, no houses, not as much, not as populated like, you get a few, just a few villages, and that's where we from, me I'm from a village, most of the lads I know from village, we not from the city, it just like reminds us, it might not be as green, in certain areas Yemen as bit green like this, but where I'm from it's not... sometime we come here, even in the evening and just come here and sit.

WEBCLIP 15

Lola

I am here in Moss side in a garden party, it's a gospel overtone. The person whose birthday it is, that person is a Christian so the songs they sing is based on Christianity. The quality of people here and the songs that they sing reminds me of the songs I grew with in the Caribbean and the old time gospel old songs and it's just lovely listening, you know the crowd, everybody is drinking and me, I am just dancing man and you know it's great! I am here with my friends, this is one of my friends and she's standing with me.

WEBCLIP 16

Ahmed A.

Some day we were driving down here, it was night time, and the moon was full. Just right at the top there. and it was beautiful. I stopped there and took a picture of it. I stopped right there and took a picture. It was such a beautiful day and clear sky and a full moon. It was beautiful. That's what we are planning, if we going move to move, one day from this house... it has to have a view. Either sea, or like this view, because I love it, I love it.

They are lucky, them here.

My friend has got a flat in Margate Drive. And he looks over the whole city. I said "If I were you I wouldn't go out... I'd stay at home".

WEBCLIP 17

Yusef

This morning was quite shiny, hot, sunny, and some people came out without jacket – the thing is now it's raining. When it gets to about 12 something the rain starts, and that's why I a lot, said earlier on you don't trust the weather. Great Britain can be anything, sometimes it can be hot, sometimes it can be ok, one time it can be winter. Unreliable, the weather in Great Britain is unreliable. And that's why you have to put your jacket on, that's what I do always.

WEBCLIP 18

John

And the next year my garden was absolutely beautiful.... Proper drainage! No water settled. Need no wellies or nothing like last year cos I flooded that damn thing! And, I've learnt you got to learn and get inspired by looking at things. You learn how to do the things. I don't have to buy no books. I checked me plants, and I think ok I am planting a cabbage, just a little plant like that. And I treat my plants like I am dealing with a living human being...[like little children?] they're like babies.

Sound stupid doesn't it?

[No, no].

I am talking to my little plants – I says you are my little babies. You know, I am looking at it and I am breaking the soil and I am planting it and watering and I am saying my little babies I am watering you and planting you! Just talking to it! No, no...you think I am crazy! It's like a... it's like a caring feeling! It's like a little baby; you pick a little baby p when it cries and you hold it gently. I am thinking that that little plant needs to be treated in a proper manner and you get a better result. You understand what I'm saying? It's a little thing that you do.

WEBCLIP 19

John

In summertime when I am... you know...cos I like to walk through here... cos I live down here right? Sometime I walk straight across this road take you all the way down Burngreave Road, yeah? So you can imagine, two, three o'clock in the morning, I walk through here on me own! I'm not bothered! My friends are like are you crazy? What's

wrong? Cos they're scared! Scared! Cos this is a cemetery, like, and these dead people are going to rise up above the ground and attack you! I said don't be daft!

That's right, that's right... – they are absolutely petrified of going through here. But to me now, it's fun, walking through here. And I like to go around and to look at these headstones.

You see it's a good view – when you go up there on a lovely summers day you can sat up there and it's lovely warm – things seem peaceful, it's quiet and you can walk around like – I'll tell you my favourite place – and you can look and the thing I found that, when you walk around in the quiet – you are reflecting things and things come into your thoughts when it's nice and quiet and fresh air. Ummmm... the clean element and there's no disturbance, you understand what I am saying? My thoughts seem to work a lot lot better.

WEBCLIP 20

Ahmed A

I love this area

[In the middle of Burngreave?]

The middle of Burngreave, grassy yes. I love it.

The middle of Burngreave this area I love it. I see the people who sit there. It's a nice place to have a rest if you are an old person walking around. It's nice. But it's not a nice to come and sit and relax to be honest in the middle of all this traffic. If you are retired or an old person it's ok to go sit down there, to have some rest. But I wouldn't call it a relaxing area. But it's a life area, that's what I like, innit, it's a life.

WEBCLIP 21

Camille

I am quite relaxed, I still can't explain what the pull is. I remember coming here and it was quite relaxing...when I came here, it was when I just came to this country and I was feeling down. My friend took me out for the day and I quite enjoyed it and I haven't been here since.

For some strange reason, I just had the urge to come up here today. It would have been much nicer earlier in the day but I got the urge to come this afternoon so we'll just see what happens.

I remember when I just came and I was feeling so low because of the racism. My first contact with racism, and it affected me badly so that I wanted to live as hermit. So there was this lovely house, we're coming near to it, it's a lovely garden, very big garden, and its brick but they've painted it light blue or mauve. It's really, really lovely. The roof needs a bit of work though because... looks like the original... it's not slate but it look like stone and moss is growing on it I don't know if it leaks or anything. It looks solid and it's not sinking anywhere. I said, oh this would be perfect... I wouldn't have to see anybody or talk to anybody I would just come home. You know, not having to have contact with any of the horrible people.

Oh my goodness, what happened to the river?!

When I came there was a lovely, lovely river right in front of me. I remember I went in there and waded in it and it was sooo COLD and people with their dogs were splashing about in it – I guess that means that there hasn't been any rain for a while.

I don't know if you call it ecology of the area has changed somewhat, back to where I am in Lack Hill.

It wasn't as bushy.... that was in summer anyway – maybe that had something to do with that Now that it's in September and it's been six years. So Quite a lot of changes. There use to be a river flowing out, but when I came you could hear the water. The river behind behind all these bushes and it sounded so lovely. I'm assuming it would be cold as well. I love the sound of water, so I picked that up. OK, I don't hear anything. I thought I heard a trickle of water. It's doesn't look as lush. I mean there's a lot of bush and green and everything but it's not as lush. It's dried and portions of it are dried.... ahhh there's some people coming in front of us and it's very narrow....we'll make it somehow.

(Speaks to passer by - thank you)

Whispers to the mini disc: there's a constipated smile, really pretentious, I hate it.

My theory is if you smiling, smile, if you don't want to smile then don't smile.

WEBCLIP 22

Ahmed A

Believe it or not, I do motorways. If I have to relax, believe it or not, I go motorways... when I want to relax and have nice time, I make something to go somewhere, I just make it up, just to go and drive on the motorway... I love it (the motorways) ... the main thing I miss when I go to Yemen, we went to live about a year and a half there, the one thing I miss about England is driving in the motorway... believe it or not, that bit of it. I suppose its, I'm into driving, I don't know why, different. I'm into driving. I like it... I know most people they hate driving... Unless you driver you won't understand it, you have to be a driver to understand it, if you into driving, the snake pass to Liverpool I love it... it reminds me of the Yemen's highways as well... near enough the same... *(but it's not a motorway?)* It's a driving way, a scenery... and it pretty much reminds me of the motorways in Yemen, not the motorways but we talking about traveling, in some areas, it's exactly. Especially the turning areas, going like snake, the curves, the turnings and the bends, the scenery, it's spectacular, like it's higher in Yemen. It's much higher, you talking three miles above the sea. You see the cloud down there, it be raining down there and yet it will be dry where you are. It's beautiful, especially these days. In Yemen it's the tropical season, rain in the summer.