



Newsletter

Largs Away Day

On Thursday 21 March 2019, we put on transport to and from Largs, and lunch provided at the famous Nardini's café, restaurant and ice cream parlour. Staff members Matthew and Stephen went along for the trip to sample the sights, sounds, and seagulls which the renowned seaside resort had to offer.



"Had a great day with lovely people thanks to all who organised everything x"

"Was a fantastic day thank you to all who organised it xx"



"It was a great day. Lunch, shopping and time to relax and chat to neighbours and friends. Thanks to everyone who organised it."





It's your street...keep it neat

On Wednesday 20 March 2019, volunteers from around the Co-operative area participated in a litter pick around our office.

Litter pick kits with hi-vis vests, litter-pickers, gloves and rubbish bags were provided to those participating, and tea/coffee and sandwiches supplied afterwards. Thank you to all the volunteers who showed their kindness by offering their valuable time to fill approximately sixteen bags of rubbish. We had hoped for higher numbers but will endeavour to run another litter-pick later in the year which gives everyone another opportunity to help keep the neighbourhood tidy.



Estate - what we do...

In your area, we have cut your grass, cleaned closes, tidied the bin areas, and picked up litter.



Environment Wordsearch

All completed wordsearches which are returned to us, from entrants aged 12 or under, will be entered into a draw to win a small prize. Please pass your completed word searches into the office before **Friday 10 May 2019** to be in with a chance of winning.

**ATMOSPHERE • EARTH • LIFE • ENVIRONMENT
ECOLOGY • ANIMALS • BIOSPHERE • PLANTS •
PLANET • RECYCLE**

Answers may run horizontally, vertically or diagonally, and may even be backwards!

D	E	A	S	L	A	M	I	N	A	S	B	C	M	P
U	D	L	T	W	I	E	X	F	O	T	I	R	W	C
T	X	H	C	M	V	F	Y	M	J	N	O	P	B	Z
K	C	Q	G	Y	O	W	E	B	C	A	S	F	E	W
E	A	R	T	H	C	S	R	P	E	L	P	V	E	C
S	F	J	X	L	V	E	P	H	D	P	H	Y	V	Z
Y	Y	T	O	M	B	S	R	H	E	I	E	L	Y	T
G	Z	N	M	Y	R	N	V	T	E	G	R	Z	C	E
T	O	X	D	G	I	Z	E	Z	X	R	E	F	C	M
E	N	V	I	R	O	N	M	E	N	T	E	O	L	V
X	F	Z	A	U	A	F	L	U	K	T	L	O	H	N
X	E	R	Z	L	V	K	E	L	X	O	C	P	U	N
V	A	Z	P	P	Q	T	M	C	G	L	P	I	V	P
D	Y	Q	O	O	A	N	X	Y	R	O	M	Q	Z	J
C	T	D	S	T	W	T	D	X	J	H	O	U	Q	G

Name & Address:

Telephone:

Age:



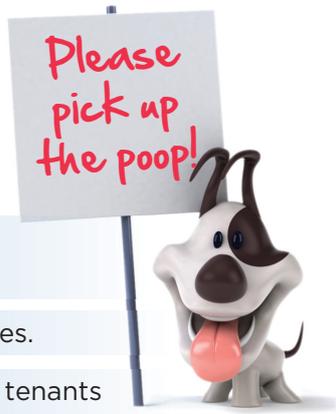
Dog Fouling

Dog fouling persists to be an area which we try to manage. As you will see below, we are doing our part to stem the problem, but we need YOU to report to Glasgow City Council's 'Clean Glasgow' department on 0300 343 7027 if you are able to identify the person responsible. Fixed penalty notices will be issued to people accountable for the mess.

What we do:

- School drawing competition illustrating anti-dog fouling campaign
- Two banners are displayed at Merryton Avenue and Linkwood Drive illustrating anti-dog fouling campaign.
- Annual visit from Dogs Trust to provide dog poo bags, health checks, nail clippings, and microchipping.
- Newsletter articles highlighting dog fouling issues/methods of reporting.

- Regular estate inspections by our Estate Caretaker.
- Posters displayed inside closes.
- Addresses visited to identify tenants who have breached their tenancy agreement.
- Patrols by Community Enforcement officers.



We are notified of any fines issued, and will treat these as a breach of tenancy as per section 2.5 of the Tenancy Agreement:

You must take all reasonable steps to ensure that any pet does not foul or cause damage to, or deterioration in, the condition of the house, your neighbour's property, anything belonging to us or anything that we are responsible for, including the common parts.

Welfare Benefits

We want to remind our tenants that we have a Welfare Benefits Officer at the office every Thursday from the Citizens Advice Bureau. You can contact the office on 0141 944 4902 to make an appointment.

The service can assist with the following...

- Benefit checks – to check entitlement to a range of welfare benefits and to ensure you are receiving all benefits you are entitled to.
- Assistance with claiming benefits.
- Applying for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction.
- Assistance with pursuing appeals
- Applying for Universal Credit
- Information on Welfare Reform and how this could affect you.



Please note that if you make an appointment and you can no longer attend, it is important that you contact us to cancel or reschedule, as this service is very popular and we usually have a waiting list for cancelled appointments.

Braille/Audio Options

If any tenant or applicant has difficulty reading documents which we make available, please contact us at the office on **0141 944 4902** and we can arrange to have documents produced in a braille or audio recording format. For example, our newsletter can be requested in a larger text or another language if you have difficulty with understanding the content.

Our website also includes the SPEAK I.T facility which is available at the top of the web page, and an option to change the language which is currently selected.

If there is anything else which you feel that we may have missed, please let us know so that we can arrange to have this changed at the earliest opportunity.

Goodbye to Matthew



Since last summer we have been fortunate enough to have Matthew Leach provide maternity cover for our Housing Officer Marisa McCarthy. Matthew has been a fantastic asset to our team and we will be sorry to see him leave at the end of April.

Good luck from all the team at the Co-operative, Matthew - keep in touch and we hope to work with you again some time in future.

The good news is that we welcomed Marisa back to our ranks on 8 April 2019. We hope that you ease back into your role and can pick up where you left off.



Drumchapel parkrun - Weekly free 5km timed run

Here is the volunteer roster for the next few weeks. If you'd like to take a particular spot, simply email drumchapelhelpers@parkrun.com.

	27 April 2019	4 May 2019	11 May 2019	18 May 2019	25 May 2019
Run Director	Craig PERRIE	Simon DENNY	David MUNRO	Brian KEENAN	Craig PERRIE
Volunteer	David MUNRO				
Co-ordinator					
Timekeeper	Brian KEENAN				
Timekeeper	Craig PERRIE	Brian KEENAN			
Finish Tokens					
Number Checker					
Barcode Scanning					
Marshal	Anne BOYLE	Anne BOYLE	Anne BOYLE	Anne BOYLE	Anne BOYLE
Marshal	Lavina GRAHAM	Lavina GRAHAM		Lavina GRAHAM	
Marshal	Elaine HIGGINS				
Tail Walker	Graham REILLY				
Pre-event Setup	David MUNRO				

What is Drumchapel parkrun? It is a 5km run - it's you against the clock.

When is it? Every Saturday at 9:30am.

Where is it? The event takes place at Garscadden Woods East, Drummore Road, Drumchapel, Glasgow G15 7LG.

www.parkrun.org.uk/drumchapel



Community Grant Funding from CCG (Scotland) Ltd

We would like to show our appreciation to one of our contractors who were responsible for carrying out the Bathroom and Window replacement programme over the last couple of years.

Two local organisations within Drumchapel benefited through CCG (Scotland) Ltd grant funding as part of their commitment towards winning the contract for installing the new bathrooms and windows.

Funding was granted to the G15 youth project based in Kinfauns Drive from CCG for the sum of £200 which was used towards their Easter programme.

This included taking 12 young people to Flip Out Trampoline Park in Rutherglen where they greatly enjoyed the trampoline facilities. Some of the money was also used towards Movie Nights, pizza and snacks as part of the Easter programme. As part of their commitment to the community grant funding, CCG also replaced 2 WCs and unblocked a sink for the G15 project free of charge.

CCG (Scotland) Ltd also donated funding towards the local independent food bank in Drumchapel based at Ladyloan Place. The donated sum of £300 will go towards funding to help improve their volunteer and client experience.

The food bank also hopes to raise the standard of the project by providing their clients with ingredients and recipes to build a stable, healthy diet in the hope of promoting a healthier lifestyle within the Drumchapel area. These ingredients and recipes will be purchased and written by their volunteers at the



food bank and distributed weekly at their drop-in service ran for the service users. Volunteers will also be offered travel expenses and free lunches over the time to make for an easier work environment.

Recent Improvements...

Door Entry Panels

We have carried out an exercise of upgrading the door entry windows at our older tenemental stock after it was discovered most of the panels were either badly scratched or vandalised.

Through the years, this has taken the look away from the front entrance to the closes and it was decided to upgrade these panels with new laminated safety glass panels to help keep the glass free from scratches or being smashed or burned.

All panels have now been installed and the doors at close entries have been given a new lease of life.

Larder Window Infill Panels

We also instructed the replacement of external wooden end panels at the back of properties on all our end terraced T-closes which had new PVC panels installed.

These small external panels, which covered the small windows within the old T close larder/storage cupboards off

the kitchens, were all beginning to rot through time.

All wooden external panels have now been replaced with PVC waterproof panels which has enhanced the look at the back of these properties.

We will continue to carry out improvements within our stock through our Reactive Repairs and Planned and Cyclical maintenance programmes. This in turn, moving forward, will make our properties more sustainable and give our tenants more value for money.

Fire Safety within common closes and back courts

Drumchapel Housing Co-operative Ltd had a number of common close and back court fire risk assessments carried out on Wednesday 27th February 2019.

The risk assessments covered all levels within the close and back courts, focusing a snap shot of the premises on the day of the inspection which ensures all means of escape routes were clear and free from obstruction and that there were no potential risks of fire within the closes and at the back court and bin store areas.

A number of issues were highlighted in the assessment for each of the closes and back court areas inspected but generally the closes and back courts were in good condition and free from any fire hazards, including the bin areas.

The risk assessments were very positive, however, highlighted some isolated housekeeping issues that could increase the risk of fire.

These include:

Item	Risk
Black bags left at front and back close doors	Could be set on fire, blocking the escape route
Cellar doors being left open to the public	Potential fire risk to tenants within close if set on fire
Bulky items stored inside landings and stairwells	Blocked fire escape routes in the event of fire
Bins overflowing at bin shelters	Potential fire risk spreading to properties

The main issue within the closes which was identified in the risk assessments was that of black bags being left outside flat doors or at the back close doors which potentially could be set alight and block the means of escape should a fire break out.

The other issues within the close were cellar doors being left open which contained combustible materials and also had the potential to cause a fire. This along with bulky items being stored within the close such as white goods, bikes and prams could also block our tenants means of escape during a close fire.

Back court areas and bin stores were generally very tidy but people failing to dispose of rubbish directly, or by overfilling bins, has resulted in bin areas becoming a potential fire hazard. We would urge you as the tenant to put all loose items such as newspaper or cardboard into the recycling bins provided, and all domestic rubbish into the general waste bins. This would help cut down on the volume of items being stored in each bin.

Please:

- Ensure that escape routes are kept clear as is your only means of escape in the event of a fire.
- Don't leave cellars unlocked or leave bags or combustible materials in common areas or close vicinity to the building.
- Recycle to prevent bins overflowing and don't throw loose waste into bin areas.

There has been a recent increase in deliberate fire setting within the estate, resulting in a number of wheelie bins being set on fire. This behaviour could easily result in a serious fire and put lives at risk.

We have addressed some of the issues mentioned by lettering persons who are storing items within their closes. We have also applied fire safety signs in each of the closes within our stock to warn our tenants of the potential hazards if a fire was to ignite within the close.

If you see anyone acting suspiciously, playing with fire or wilful fire raising, please contact **Police Scotland on 101 or the Community Safety Glasgow on 0141 276 7559.**

Together we will continue to ensure you live in a cleaner and safer environment.

The common stair is your only means of escape in the event of a fire.

Have you ever thought what you would do if fire were to break out in your stair? It may not necessarily be in your flat! A fire started in a common stair could kill you and your family. Even a small bag of rubbish can create enough smoke to fill a whole stair. Items left in a common stair are often deliberately set on fire.



Keep it clear

- Get rubbish, old furniture, etc out of the building
- Make sure storage areas are kept locked
- For advice on uplifting items contact your local Council



If fire does start

- Keep doors closed to prevent smoke filling your house
- Dial 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service, giving as much information as you can

For free home fire safety advice

CALL 0800 0731 999

or visit our website at

www.firescotland.gov.uk

Easter Drawings



Thank you to all the children who sent us in their Easter drawings prior to the holiday break.

All who did received a chocolate Easter Egg.



Office Closures

Due to the May holiday weekends, our offices will be **closed** on **Monday 6th May** (re-opening on Tuesday 7th May) and on **Friday 24th May to Monday 27th May** (re-opening on Tuesday 28th May). Our office will also be closed on **Friday 31st May 2019** for staff training (re-opening on Monday 3rd June). Should any emergencies or urgent repairs be required, please call City Building on **0800 595 595** or use the emergency numbers listed on our website at <https://www.drumchapelhc.org.uk/emergency-contact-numbers/>

Ramadan

Ramadan takes place this year between 6 May and 3 June. During this month, Muslims will fast through daylight hours, observing it as one of the five Pillars of Islam.

We wish all our Muslim tenants a peaceful Ramadan and enjoy the celebrations at the conclusion for Eid al-Fitr on 4 June.

