



NORTH news



One Vision: Create a great place to live, learn, work, visit and invest in

ISSUE 34



WINNERS... Vice Chairperson Frank Miller and CEO Robert Tamburrini with the North Glasgow HA team that travelled to London to receive the award from Jeremy Hardy, left and Peter Brynes - MD of Kier Services' Maintenance Team extreme right

UK Award Winners!

Best in Britain! That's the accolade given to North Glasgow Housing Association when we were named Large Housing Association of the year at the UK Housing Awards.

In winning the award, North Glasgow HA demonstrated high levels of performance across a range of service areas and showcased innovative work that benefits our local communities.

Stand-up Comedian Jeremy Hardy presented the award to a delighted Frank Miller, Vice Chairperson of North Glasgow HA, at a ceremony in London.

Frank said: "To win this UK award is a fantastic achievement as we were competing against some wonderful organisations in our category. It's a great tribute to all the hard work of our Chairperson Pat Kenna and all my fellow volunteers on the Management Board. They have contributed so much over the years to the growth and success of

North Glasgow Housing Association." Robert Tamburrini, Chief Executive of North Glasgow HA, said: "This is just brilliant. To see the work we do in our communities recognised at a UK level is fabulous. I'd like to thank all of our dedicated committee members and the hard-working staff team without whom we couldn't have achieved this great result."

The Association won the award after one of the most eventful 12 months in its 36-year history. The period saw the completion of the 1,000th new home built at Broomfield Road with funding support from Glasgow City Council. It more than doubled in size through a stock transfer of 3,000 homes after 85% of tenants voted in favour of the move.

We set up a successful social enterprise company ng2 that employs local people and provides services to tenants. We also launched a partnership with Scotcash to provide tenants, residents and the wider

North Glasgow community with more affordable alternatives to unregulated lenders and payday loan companies.

The UK Housing Awards are the longest established and most respected awards in the social housing sector, recognising the ingenuity, creativity, passion and results of housing organisations and individuals across the UK.

North Glasgow HA came up against five other large housing associations from Manchester, Liverpool and Birmingham in the form of Helena Partnerships, Liverpool Mutual Homes, Midland Heart, New Charter Housing Trust Group and Parkway Green Housing Trust.

The awards were run by Inside Housing and the Chartered Institute of Housing.

CIH Chief Executive Grainia Long

said: "The UK Housing Awards showcase the very best people and organisations working across the housing sector and we are thrilled to be a part of it."

Patricia Ferguson, MSP for Springburn and Maryhill, was among the first to acknowledge the housing provider's latest achievement.

She said: "North Glasgow Housing

"To see the work we do in our communities recognised at a UK level is fabulous."

Association richly deserve this recognition. They understand that working in partnership is the best way to get results and the links they have formed over the years with Glasgow City Council, Scotcash and others has produced great benefits for the people of North Glasgow."



6

Professor signs in at North Glasgow



12

Concierge team leader hailed as a hero

THE partnership between Scotcash and North Glasgow Housing Association has been a great success.

Many tenants and residents have benefited from affordable loans and access to financial advice since Scotcash moved into our Springburn office.

The service will now also be available on Mondays in the Possilpark office.

The Association and Scotcash wanted to bring financial services closer to tenants and help reduce the cost of borrowing.

The service helps provide access to money advice and credit union savings accounts.

Emma Paterson from Scotcash is now a familiar face in the Association's Springburn office. She is pictured with colleague Sharon Macpherson at the site of the old fountain, near the Possilpark office

to help promote the extension of the service.

Some of the Scotcash clients are dependent on benefits and have previously had to rely on very expensive forms of credit, paying up to 272% APR or even more in some cases.

Many have also been able to get advice on debt and help with their finances as a result of the new service, which can make a big difference in addressing financial worries.

Emma explained: "We have raised awareness in North Glasgow that there is an alternative to paying huge amounts of interest and that the more affordable choice is Scotcash."

You can book an appointment with Emma by calling the Scotcash office on **0141 276 0525**. Emma works from 10am-4pm. She's at Possilpark on Mondays and in Springburn Tuesday-Friday.



Scotcash Success Leads to Extension

growing spaces



Possilpark is in Bloom thanks to the efforts of sheltered housing staff and residents who have helped to transform their communal garden spaces.

The project was supported through Playbusters Grow Green programme and Lambhill Stables. Sheltered housing complexes at Barloch Street and Hawthorn Street and residents took up the 'Green challenge' by taking part in gardening courses and planting a variety of colourful plants.

Sharon Hazlett, Manager, said: "What a difference this has made to the garden area. The residents have really enjoyed taking part in designing this space and have learned new gardening tips from Kate who provided gardening courses."

The residents are now hoping for some sunny days ahead where they can relax and organise activities.

NG homes will be carrying out further environmental works, including growing spaces, and would like to hear from residents who have an area that they feel could be transformed.

If you have any ideas please contact Margaret Layden at the Regeneration Team or talk to one of the housing staff. You can also e-mail: mycommunity@northglasgowha.com



Get MAD...

The Association's Chief Executive Robert Tamburrini has urged staff and committee members to get MAD.

Speaking at the Annual Performance Planning Seminar, Mr Tamburrini reviewed the Report Card for the past year.

He said that although it reads well, there is no room for complacency.

"This year and every year onwards, I want everyone to be MAD – make a difference – and continue to create a new North Glasgow... a great place to live, learn, work, visit and invest in."

The report card showed the Association has achieved 21 of the 25 priorities it set for the previous year.

He said: "I believe how we went about bringing the three Local Housing Organisations into North Glasgow was key. We all settled in well. The Board and Area Committee members get on well and see how operations and strategy are two equally important parts of running the business."

New teams and new roles came with Second Stage Transfer but there was no them and us, only us.

Many staff achieved promotions through the opportunities that the



Making a difference... brain storming at the Seminar

transfer brought and there will be continued staff development in the future.

Mr Tamburrini did recognise that the world is changing faster than broadband.

He said: "Subsidy for building much needed homes for local families is much lower than in the past and it may get worse. Austerity is the new economic buzz word.

"Many of our tenants might be badly affected by welfare reform and the reduction in funds for local government services. The voluntary sector is being decimated.

"There is no doubt that thousands of people in North Glasgow will be adversely affected and that makes our role even more important."

The Annual Performance Planning Seminar was spread over three nights, two for staff and one for all committee members.

It is an important meeting to reflect on the previous year but even more important to look forward, to plan and to set new goals for the year ahead.

WANTED: A Safer Possil



Community crime has been targeted by officers from Strathclyde Police as part of a joint initiative with North Glasgow HA.

Safer Possil is a 16-week campaign to crackdown on serious assaults, drugs offences, nuisance neighbours and alcohol-fuelled disorder.

North Glasgow HA staff are working in partnership with a dedicated police team involving two sergeants and ten officers to supplement the existing police resources in the area.

In the first three weeks of the initiative police have carried out **792 stop searches (133 – 20% positive for alcohol, drugs, offensive weapons and stolen property). They have issued 32 Fixed Penalty Notices for ASB, checked 251 Licenced Premises, reported 11 people for drug possession, executed 14 warrants, made 30 arrests and reported 87 people.**

Similar crackdowns in other parts of Glasgow led to an 82% drop in incidences of violent crime. Housing officers and police also carry out joint

visits to nuisance neighbours and offenders and offer support to victims of domestic abuse.

During the initiative, police will patrol flats and streets and known crime 'hot spots' and target licensed premises to clampdown on the illegal sale and supply of alcohol.

A weekly drop-in surgery will also be held for people to report crimes.

Chief Inspector Ann Hughes, of Maryhill Police Office, said: "What we are trying to do is build a safer community but we need the support of other people.

"What's also important is making sure the working practices are in place when the initiative ends."

Ann Marie Devlin, North Glasgow HA said: "Although there will be an increased police presence in the the area during the Safer Possil initiative, there will also be a range of activities supported by the association that people can get involved in."



Local schools were asked to design a logo for the Safer Possil Campaign. Demi Donnachie and Ami Graham proudly show off their winning entries to Lynne Cooper and Richie Carroll. All 52 children who entered the competition received a voucher for their efforts.

SUMMER ACTIVITY...

FREE SUMMER SOCCER WEEKS
North Glasgow Homes in partnership with Falkirk Football Community Foundation and Partick Thistle Charitable Trust will be running FREE football coaching camps for boys and girls between the ages of 5-14 years old. There are 150 FREE places available at each venue

TECHNIQUE COMPETITIONS BALL MASTERY

GROUP GAMES CHALLENGES SMALL SIDED GAMES

Each venue will also include x1 days training at the Falkirk Stadium
Transport provided!

If you want to take part you MUST register for this programme. To register please call Falkirk Football Community Foundation.
Tel: 01324 624121 (option3)
Email: admin@falkirkfcf.co.uk
Parents are invited to attend the final hour of the camp to take part in the parent/coaches v players competition.

Venue	Time	Week 1	Week 2
Possil Point *	11-3PM	24-27TH	31-3RD
Eastfield Park	11-3PM	24-27TH	31-3RD
Springburn Park (Balgrayhill Road side)	11-3PM	24-27TH	31-3RD
Broomfield Road playing fields	11-3PM	24-27TH	31-3RD

* = led by Partick Thistle Charitable Trust

COMMUNITY TRUST & FALKIRK FOOTBALL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Summer Football Programme

Possilpoint Community Centre, 130 Denmark Street

Monday's from 2nd – 23rd July
Age 5-8years - 1pm - 2.30pm
Age 9-12 years - 2.30-4pm

Wednesday's from 4th - 18th July
Age 8-12 years - 1pm - 2.30pm
Age 12-15 years - 2.30-4pm

Summer Soccer Weeks at Possilpoint

24-27th July, 31st July-3rd August
Age 5 - 14 years - 11 - 3pm

Camps are part of wider NG Homes Soccer Weeks in partnership with Falkirk Community Foundation and Partick Thistle Charitable Trust

Free activity for boys & girls



North Glasgow HA is supporting a series of Summer Football Camps which will be delivered in partnership with the Community Foundations of Division One football clubs Falkirk and Partick Thistle.

These camps are based at four sites - Possil Point, Eastfield and Springburn Parks and Broomfield Road playing fields – and will run for two weeks from 24th-27th July, and 31st July-3rd August.

They are aimed at boys and girls from 5-14 years and are FREE of charge.

For more information and to book spaces, email admin@falkirkfcf.co.uk

carron facelift update



The carbon energy savings programme funded by British Gas and North Glasgow HA in the Carron area has been progressing well since the end of April.

- Works so far have involved:
- New gutters and downpipes
 - New soffits and fascias
 - New tv /satellite containment system
 - New gas boilers or heating systems for many

Most importantly the buildings are being covered in a new high insulation over cladding system.

In addition to transforming the look of the Carron estate, the cladding should lead to a dramatic decrease in fuel costs.

As this edition went to print, properties at 4 and 10 Carbisdale Street were nearing completion and already residents are commenting on how good the improvements to the properties look and how cosy their homes are.

The remainder of Carbisdale Street will be completed over the next few weeks.

Work is also ongoing at the 15 storey blocks in Eccles Street, the 8 storey blocks at Carron Place and to properties at Carron

Crescent. The improvements are being delivered almost like four separate contracts so that they complete on time.

As we have said previously the works will continue until the end of October when the contract must be finished. Just in time for the impact of the insulation to be felt fully with winter approaching.

The contract is currently on programme. We do, however, realise that the works are causing some disruption to people living in the area.

We do try to minimise the effect of the works but ask for tenants patience and to allow the workmen access when required to complete their works.

With the school holidays underway, North Glasgow HA is asking that parents remind their children that the works and scaffolding is a building site and is dangerous.

Please do not allow children to play on the scaffolding or around the works. Let's keep everyone safe.



Carron resident John MacFarlane was our latest voucher winner when he entered the competition at the information day. John is pictured with Housing Officer Geri Anderson.

are you ready to take up the recycling challenge?

North Glasgow has taken up the Green challenge through supporting National Recycling Week.

Not only can recycling help the environment but we can all benefit from recycling things around the house, at work and during our leisure time. The more we recycle the less goes to landfill and precious materials can be used again to create new things instead of only being used once.

Last year a number of residents took part in workshops supported by Zero Waste Scotland and came up with a lot of ideas to promote recycling. As a result of this we will be taking their ideas forward and over the next few weeks will be carrying out 'recycling' workshops throughout the area and will be launching

these at Balgrayhill multi storey flats. These events will include creative, fun and informative workshops along with recycling, energy saving and food growing. Information will be displayed showing times when these will take place and also will be available on our website.

These will include 'Crafty Ideas' where you can transform old clothes, paper, plastic bags, plastic bottles into something more exciting. We will also be organising 'book swaps' and 'bring and take' events.

To start this off we are inviting young people to enter a competition where they can create their very own 'Recycling Super-hero'. They can send in their drawings with the name of their Recycling Super-hero and why they think recycling is important. This can be handed in to the housing office or concierge station and

we will name the winners within our next newsletter with prizes for the winner and runners up.

So get your 'green thinking caps on' and remember **let's work together to make Scotland a zero waste society.**

If you want any more information or want to get involved then contact your housing officer or Margaret Layden from our Regeneration Team email mycommunity@northglasgowha.com



REDUCING OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT...

North Glasgow HA's efforts to reduce carbon emissions have been boosted by a Scottish Government grant.

The Association will receive £292,635 for its Waste and Energy Strategy project.

It will be at the forefront of implementing change through recycling and re-use, energy saving, food growing and in the process will change attitudes and behaviours to create a lasting legacy.

Stewart Stevenson, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, praised North Glasgow and 20 other communities across the country that received grants for their support of Scotland's ambitions to reduce carbon emissions.

The 21 groups will share £2.9million for the next three years through the Climate Challenge Fund (CCF).

The CCF helps communities across Scotland

to reduce their carbon footprint, supporting a low carbon lifestyle, and contributing to Scotland reaching its ambitious climate change target of reducing carbon emissions by 80 percent by 2050.

Mr Stevenson said: "Climate change is one of the most serious threats we face as a global community and Scotland is leading the way in tackling the problem."

"Importantly Scottish communities are playing their part, taking action to reduce their carbon footprint with support from our Climate Challenge Fund. Across the country, a further 21 exciting new projects will receive £2.9 million support, empowering more communities to realise their carbon saving potential."

"CCF has captured the imagination of our communities, producing many innovative ideas and projects to change behaviours and drive

down emissions. And that commitment from local communities – to tackle climate change from the grass-roots up – is essential if we are to succeed in delivering Scotland's world leading and ambitious climate change targets.

"The international leadership we are taking on sustainable development and low carbon economy is something we should all be proud of."

A delighted John Devine, Head of Regeneration at North Glasgow, said: "The Association recognises the importance of saving energy and recycling and this is a great boost to our Waste and Energy Strategy."

Pat Kenna, Chairperson of North Glasgow HA, said: "We are delighted that the Scottish Government is supporting our Waste and Energy Strategy. This funding will help the Association reduce its carbon footprint and it will go a long way towards changing attitudes towards recycling in North Glasgow."

COMMONWEALTH GAMES LEGACY PROJECT UNVEILED IN NORTH GLASGOW

The Depute Leader of Glasgow City Council and the Executive Member for the Commonwealth Games, Councillor Archie Graham, joined youngsters from across North Glasgow to unveil details of a new Commonwealth Games Legacy Project.

The North Glasgow Sports Legacy Project will connect residents in the north of the city with the ongoing Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games legacy initiatives. A Sports Co-ordinator has been appointed to drive the project forward with the specific aim of increasing participation in sport and improving health and wellbeing. The legacy project is the first of its kind in the city.

Councillor Graham was joined at the launch by representatives from North Glasgow Housing Association and the Winning Scotland Foundation, who are key partners in the project along with Glasgow Life and Glasgow City Council.

Councillor Graham said: "The Commonwealth Games will leave a lasting legacy for the people of Glasgow and projects like this will make a real difference to communities in the north of the city. We want to see the Games benefit people in every part of the city and partnerships with organisations such as North Glasgow Housing Association and the Winning Scotland Foundation will enable us to do just that. This project will have a specific aim of getting more local people involved in sporting activities and leading healthier lives - that will be a real legacy of the Games."

Chief Executive of North Glasgow Housing Association, Robert Tamburrini, said: "This an exciting opportunity to develop sporting opportunities as well as both individuals and communities within North Glasgow."

Vice Chairperson Frank Miller said: "It is a great opportunity with the backing of fantastic partners. We look forward to making a real difference especially with so much good work already being done in the area and with the Commonwealth Games just around the corner."



Scotland UnLtd seek entrepreneurs

In conjunction with North Glasgow Housing Association, Scotland UnLtd and Firstport are on the look out for the most ambitious social entrepreneurs in the north of the city.

The initiative will make it easier for people to set up a social venture. It will offer cash awards of up to £5000 for Level 1 and up to £20,000 for Level 2 to social entrepreneurs with the most ambitious ideas. In addition to the awards, individuals will be given access to knowledge, networks and ongoing business support and advice.

The awards programme is for individuals (or small groups of individuals) who are prepared to go that extra mile and use their passion for making a difference in their local community. Thomas McAlister, Award Manager at Scotland UnLtd, said: "Social Entrepreneurs are people who want to make their world a better place. This doesn't mean they necessarily develop complex, global solutions to large scale issues. Often they simply take a problem within their own community and make a commitment to tackle it."

A structured development programme is

planned for August / September 2012 for people who want to explore setting up a social venture. The programme will offer practical workshops aimed at helping individuals generate ideas and transform them from concepts into practical solutions through tailored support and business development sessions. To register an interest in this event e-mail Thomas using the contact details below and include your full name, address, telephone number and e-mail address.

John Devine, Head of Regeneration at North Glasgow Housing Association, said: "I am delighted that we are able to support an initiative like this. The partnership will make it easier for social entrepreneurs in North Glasgow to set up and thrive. The initiative is designed to help find fund, and support social entrepreneurs to create new social businesses that deliver real benefits to people and communities in the north of the city."

If you are passionate about helping your community then Scotland UnLtd could have the cash and support to make it happen!

For further information contact Thomas McAlister on 07545 933 798 or e-mail thomasmcalister@unltd.org.uk

There will also be a series of Community Commonwealth Games roadshows, with opportunities to participate in various games activities as well as wider community activities.

The roadshows will also highlight what individuals and communities can do to get involved in the forthcoming Commonwealth Games, and will be based at various North Glasgow HA sites in early August.

There are also a number of different activity-based camps being run by partner organisations and these will be made available when confirmed.

DATES ARE:

- Tuesday 7th August
- Thursday 9th August

Eastfield Park

There will be a range of other activities so encouraging families and wider community to come along.

Balgrayhill Multi Storey flats

Both events are from 12 - 4pm



COMMONWEALTH GAMES ROADSHOW



One of the World's leading experts in the field of Event Management was so impressed with a new training programme in Springburn that he wanted to come and see it for himself.

The totally free training and volunteering programme kicked off in June in North Glasgow Housing Association's Training Academy in Springburn. The course provides young people from local schools with the opportunity to achieve a Volunteer Skills Award SCGQ Level 3/4 and 5.

the world, meet lots of different people, experience many different cultures. I was really impressed with the young people I met in Springburn and I have no doubt they will be successful in their chosen careers."

Professor Goldblatt often mentions the WOW factor when talking of events and the young people provided that WOW factor for the Professor's visit by presenting him with cupcakes and an engraved gift as he had recently celebrated a special birthday.

He said: "I was totally overwhelmed that the students would pay that much attention to detail, it was very

Legacy for Glasgow.

Councillor Archie Graham, Executive Member for the Commonwealth Games at Glasgow City Council, said: "I am delighted that this scheme has been given Legacy programme status. Event Management skills will be very much in demand in Scotland in the future - not least at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games - and such schemes are examples of how preparing for the Games will leave the city better off economically and socially. I would like to congratulate North Glasgow Housing Association for providing this

PROFESSOR SIGNS IN AT NORTH GLASGOW

"I was really impressed with the young people I met in Springburn."



thoughtful of them and the cupcakes were great!"

Professor Goldblatt personally signed and presented all the students with copies of the 6th edition of his book: Special Events - A New Generation and the Next Frontier.

One of the students inspired by Professor Goldblatt was Connor Gibson who said: "His presentation was really fantastic. It was great to see all the different events that we could be a part of. It was also good of him to write a personal message in each of our books."

CEO of North Glasgow HA Robert Tamburrini said: "We are deeply honoured that a world expert on event management would take time out from his busy schedule to meet with the students and support our programme.

"I'd like to thank Professor Goldblatt for coming to North Glasgow and I'm delighted he enjoyed his visit.

"Our vision for North Glasgow is to create a great place to live, learn, work, visit and invest in and this free training opportunity for our young people supports that vision."

The project has also been backed by Glasgow City Council who have accepted it as an official legacy programme as part of the Commonwealth Games

opportunity for young people in this part of Glasgow."

As well as Professor Goldblatt the young people will also hear fascinating insights



Apprenticeship Scheme coming to North Glasgow

North Glasgow HA are currently recruiting through the Modern Apprenticeship scheme which is part of Glasgow City Council's Commonwealth Apprenticeship Initiative.

This is a fantastic opportunity for school leavers as it provides the opportunity for practical work experience whilst gaining a qualification. Applications are open to 16/18 year olds.

This programme will progress young people through a number of areas such as office based roles, facilities, care and concierge leading to SVQ level 3 in business administration and/or housing or an SVQ level 2 in facilities management.

If you are a 2011 winter leaver or a 2012 summer leaver and attend a Glasgow school or

are a Glasgow resident you are eligible.

To apply for an apprenticeship, you need to register online at the Commonwealth Apprenticeship Initiative site:

www.glasgow.mappit.org.uk

The deadline for applications is 14th July.

Professor Joe Goldblatt of Edinburgh's Queen Margaret University has written and edited over 20 books on Event Management and is renowned throughout the world as an expert in his field.

Professor Goldblatt met the young people from Springburn Academy and gave a presentation on volunteering for the 2014 Commonwealth Games and also spoke about his experience and career in event management.

The Professor, who has delivered events for two US Presidents, said: "I think this is a fantastic idea that North Glasgow Housing Association has come up with. The events industry can provide an amazing career for young people. Every day is different, you have to be creative, you have to think on your feet.

"A career in events management can let you see



First year pupils from Springburn Academy and All Saints Secondary were given an insight into regeneration and the part North Glasgow HA has played in local development. A special conference was held for the pupils from both schools.



The Dragons: Head of 1st year at Springburn Academy Mr Hamilton flanked by Margaret Layden and Arlene Rush from ng homes

The idea was to let the youngsters and their teachers know all about the work North Glasgow HA does in the community.

It started with presentations and a short film on Possilpark. Pupils were then given the challenge to design their perfect street and some of them had to present their plans to a Dragons Den style panel. It featured North Glasgow HA's

Regeneration Co-ordinator Margaret Layden and Events Co-ordinator Arlene Rush and Springburn Academy's head of first year Mr Hamilton.

Mrs Higgins, Assistant Head Teacher at All Saints Secondary, said: "This was a good idea to get the pupils thinking about how they can change something about where they live. By talking about it and doing their research they can make a difference."

Developing our young people



All Saints S1



Springburn Academy S1



Young people from Springburn Academy were most impressed when they saw up close a car built to break the landspeed record.

The young people and their teacher went to see the BLOODHOUND SSC with their teacher Mr Cochrane and Gordon Wilson from North Glasgow HA.

Gordon said: We had been supporting the young people on the Go4Set Programme and so for further inspiration we came along to see the Bloodhound SSC and everyone was really impressed by the car."

The BLOODHOUND Education Programme will be made available to all pupils in primary and secondary schools, and to students in further and higher education. Nearly 4,000 schools have registered in the first 18 months of the project, plus numerous presentations have been given to other groups and professional institutions, taking the project into the heart of the community and society.



North Glasgow HA, is supporting a new module in local schools All Saints Secondary and Springburn Academy which teaches pupils all about financial education.

Robert Tamburrini, Chief Executive of North Glasgow said: "The lessons will include how to open a basic bank account as well as advice on budgeting. It will give the young people an understanding of financial matters which will stand them in good stead when they leave school."

Chief Executive Robert Tamburrini with Mrs Higgins Assistant Head Teacher at All Saints Secondary and Mrs Ervine Headteacher at Springburn Academy.

Red Road Blow Down

"I was among the first back on site and everything was white and thick with dust but the clean up started right away."

Tenancy Support Officer Laura Sharkey had a close up view when the first of the Red Road flats was demolished.

She was allowed access to a media area to watch the blow down after spending months involved in meetings for the big day.

Laura realised the demolition would impact on North Glasgow HA tenants and spoke to the contractors Safedem.

North Glasgow HA has over 70 properties at their Broomfield Road development and tenants had to move out on demolition day.

Laura said: "The contractors started to board up windows and doors as soon as tenants left just after eight in the morning. A local school was used as the evacuation centre and food and drinks were provided there."

"The blow down was spectacular and the media area was very close. It was a bit like being on a movie set at Universal Studios but this was real."

"I was also among the first people back to the site and everything was white and thick with dust but the clean up started right away."

"Teams moved back into our homes to take the boards down and check for damage. Everything went fairly smoothly and people were able to get back in their homes after 3pm."

"We then discovered a water pipe had been damaged in the blow down and it was a few hours before water was restored."

"Most tenants were very understanding. There were crowds of people watching from various vantage points. Immediately after the explosion, the building dropped like a stone and then there was a cloud of dust. Then you could hear all the car alarms had been set off."



FACT BOX:

- It took around 275 kilos of explosives to reduce the steel frame triple block to rubble
- Built in the mid-1960's, the Red Road flats were the highest in Europe at 292 feet tall
- They were designed to house 4,700 people. The development had shops and a bingo hall. Latterly just 300 lived there
- In 2006, the area was the setting for the film Red Road, which earned director Andrea Arnold a Scottish Bafta
- The remaining seven multi-storey buildings are to be demolished by 2017
- The bottom storeys of the block were left intact to be demolished by machines. The clear-up operation will take several months to complete. The rubble will be crushed and used as foundations for roads and buildings and the steel will also be recycled



GOING...GOING...GONE!

April 2013 will see major changes to benefits introduced through the Welfare Reform Bill. Some changes that will affect our tenants are:

- **'Bedroom Tax'** – Under the new regulations any household deemed to have one or more spare bedrooms will have their Housing Benefit reduced. This will be done by comparing the number of bedrooms occupied by the household with the size criteria and where the claimant is deemed to be under-occupying then one of the following restrictions will apply.
 - **14% where underoccupying by one bedroom**
 - **25% where underoccupying by two or more bedrooms**
- **Personal Independence Payment** – Disability Living Allowance is to be replaced with a Personal Independence Payment with existing DLA claimants being transferred on a limited scale from October 2013 with the full scale reassessment of working age claimant to begin January 2014 and be completed by 2016.
- **Benefit Cap** – There will be a maximum amount of benefit that people can claim from April 2013; if your household is made up of a couple with or without children or a lone parent with children your benefit will be capped at £500.00 per week; if you are a single person and you have no children your benefit will be capped at £350.00 per week.

Welfare Reform

Welfare Benefits Manager Agnes Cole welcomes Phyllis Miller from MacMillan who is working in our offices providing WELFARE BENEFITS ADVICE FOR PEOPLE WITH LONG TERM ILLNESS

The cap won't apply to you if you, your partner or any of the children you are responsible for qualify for Working Tax Credit or have been awarded any of the following benefits.

- Disability Living Allowance
- Industrial Injuries Benefits
- Personal Independence Payment
- Attendance Allowance
- Employment and Support Allowance (Support Component)
- War Widow's or War Widower's Pension

Benefits that count towards the cap include:

- Child Benefit
- Child Tax Credit
- Housing Benefit
- Income Support
- Incapacity Benefit
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Jobseekers Allowance
- Carer's Allowance

Tenants will be kept updated on these changes as more information is received. If you have concerns regarding these changes then please contact your Welfare Benefit Officer at either office or e-mail: rentteam@northglasgowha.com

Residents at Gourlay Street Sheltered Housing Complex are delighted with the changes that have been made so far at their development.

One resident, Mary Fishwick, who took time out from an armchair aerobics class to share her views, summed up



their enthusiasm.

She said: "We are delighted with the changes that have been made to the entrance of the building and the new common room is just super."

"We can't wait to see how the garden area will look when it's finished."

The backcourt upgrades include lighting, surface conditions and drainage. There will also be new seating areas and the drying areas will be improved.

Robert Tamburrini, Chief Executive of North Glasgow HA, said: "The improvements are part of a package of promises we made to the tenants when they joined us through the stock transfer and we are delighted to be delivering on those promises."

PROMISES DELIVERED



ng2 update...

ng2 have been even busier than ever since the last issue of North News in April.

As well as their everyday work which consists of cleaning over 400 closes a week they also pull out the bulk for uplift, provide stair lighting maintenance and a whole host of other services that benefit the local community. In the last few weeks they have been out pressure washing several streets in North Glasgow.



ASHFIELD finished the season on a high when they won the Evening Times Cup Winners Cup, defeating Irvine Meadow 1-0 in a hard-fought match at Newlandsfield Park, Pollok.

It was third time lucky for the team from North Glasgow having lost out narrowly to Clydebank and Irvine Meadow in previous finals this season.



Cup win for Ashfield

This time it was Ashfield's night as Manager Stevie Rankin and his coaching staff readied a much-changed side for one last effort this season. The match was settled by Mark Thomson's 24th goal of the season scoring from the penalty spot in the 10th minute.

A delighted Stevie Rankin said after the game: "It's great to finish the season on a high. I'm elated for the team, my coaches, my backroom staff and our supporters. We deserved this. We've played well in other finals this season and not got the win so this is long-overdue."

Asked about the penalty that won the cup for Ashfield Stevie said: "It was a definite penalty and we

should have had another near the end of the game!"

Stevie also had a word for North Glasgow Housing Association, one of Ashfield's local partners: "North Glasgow have been great with us. They've supported us all season and it's nice to reward them and all our supporters with some silverware."

Head of Regeneration at North Glasgow HA John Devine said: "It was a perfect evening for football and it was great to see Ashfield lift the cup. At North Glasgow we want to provide better sport and health outcomes for our communities."

CEO of North Glasgow HA Robert Tamburrini said: "It's our vision to create a new North Glasgow: a great place to live. Health and wellbeing are key



strands of that vision. Along with our partners we are creating sporting opportunities for young people in our community."

Activate...

Another 13 local people have successfully completed the community development Activate course supported by North Glasgow HA and delivered by Glasgow University.

Participants had community links with various organisations including North Glasgow HA, Young Peoples Futures, Faith in Throughcare, Depot Arts, Red Road Family Centre and Children's Inclusion Partnership.

The students came from a wide range of age groups, experience and types of voluntary work. Without exception everyone loved the course and felt they gained a lot from it.

The successful students joined those from other areas on the Activate course for a graduation ceremony, each receiving a certificate in recognition of their efforts.

North Glasgow HA committee member Agnes Wilson and her husband John both successfully completed the course.

At 77-years-old, John was one of the oldest participants. He said: "I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would recommend it to anyone. You are never too old to learn."

Agnes added: "There was a widespread age group but that brought a lot of different views to discussions. It has been a really interesting and worthwhile experience."



Margaret Layden, Reneneration Co-ordinator for North Glasgow HA, said: "We had a superb response from those who participated. They felt it was a great course that would help them to develop their communities through the organisations they volunteer with. Three people are now moving on to a BA Community Development course at Glasgow University and at least another two have committed to study at John Wheatley College. The others will continue to work within their communities and feel the training provided on the course will be of great benefit to them."

Everyone was appreciative of the opportunity of getting involved in Activate Course. A new Activate course will start soon and is open to anyone over 16 years of age and there is no upper age limit.

Students will learn about community work and local/global issues through discussion and group work.

If you are interested please contact Margaret Layden on **0141 560 6000** or email info@northglasgowha.com

Life Skills...



If the smiles are anything to go by then our 12-week, part-time course Keys to Learn must be fun.

These are the latest students to develop new skills to help them manage their home.

The course is designed to open the door to learning and is particularly aimed at people who have been affected by homelessness or housing problems.

The course, at our Springburn learning centre, teaches basic DIY skills, digital photography and gives participants a personal project to undertake.

It also features budgeting, computer skills and healthy cooking.

A number of organisations, including North Glasgow HA, support the programme which is run in conjunction with the Glasgow Homelessness Network (GHN).

Another course will start early next year. Anyone interested in enrolling should contact Martina, Pauline or Aileen at GHN by telephone on **0141 276 4825** or email info@ghn.org.uk

focus on

HEALTH



Bowel cancer is the third most common cancer in Scotland after lung and breast cancer.

Every year, almost 4,000 people are diagnosed with the disease.

The Scottish Bowel Screening Programme will invite all men and women in Scotland between the ages of 50 to 74 for screening every two years.

The programme has been rolled out across Scotland and is now available in all NHS Boards.

The bowel (colorectal) cancer screening pilot in Scotland began in April 2000 in Tayside, Grampian and Fife and five years ago was rolled out across the whole country.

Anyone registered with a GP aged between 50 and 74 should receive a screening test kit every two years.

It is sent by post and contains a step by step guide as to how to take samples from three bowel motions.

It can be done in the privacy of your home and three trips to the toilet and the return of the screening kit could lead to early detection and treatment of bowel cancer and prolong your life.

The test may sound a bit embarrassing but the peace

of mind it brings makes it all worthwhile.

After the test has been returned and analysed at the Bowel Screening Centre, a letter with the results is sent within two weeks.

Most people have a negative result, which means that no blood was found in the sample sent.

If blood is found then further examination is required usually involving a colonoscopy.

It is important that your GP has your current address so that the testing kit reaches you.

Bowel cancer is more common in people over 50 years of age but especially in men.

One in 20 people over 50 years will get bowel cancer at some point in their lives.

Screening aims to find bowel cancer at an early stage in people with no symptoms, looking for hidden blood in the bowel motion.

If bowel cancer is detected early enough through screening, there is a 90% chance of treating the disease successfully.

Make sure you take the test and if you are aged 50 to 74 and have not had a test in the past few years, then contact your GP to find out why you have slipped through the net.

CONTENTS INSURANCE

Like most housing providers, North Glasgow HA provides buildings insurance as part of the housing service.

But the cover does not extend to contents which is the responsibility of tenants.

A special home contents insurance service is being offered to tenants by THIS Tenant Contents, a trading style of Thistle Insurance Services.

The Association has introduced a free insurance deal for those aged over 60 years or who have a disability. This is still available to tenants who qualify and anyone not already taking advantage should contact their housing officer or visit one of the Association's offices.

Other tenants may be interested in the new service from THIS Tenants Contents.

They offer flexible regular pay-as-you-go payment options, fortnightly or monthly cash, monthly by direct debit or annually.

Their package includes no excess – their clients don't pay the first part of the claim – and cover for theft, water damage, fire and much more.

There is no minimum home security requirement and additional cover is available for extended accidental damage, wheelchairs and mobility scooters, hearing aids and buildings cover for sheds, greenhouses and garages.

For more information or a free information pack contact your local office or email:

tenantscontents@jltgroup.com

Or for immediate cover call This Tenants Contents on lo-call **0845 601 7007**.

Walk on

Catherine Maguire was at the centre of the Health Focus in our last issue through her job helping to detect breast cancer.

She revealed plans to take part in various Race for Life Walks in aid of Cancer Research.

With her daughter Alix she has completed three 5K Race for Life walks on three consecutive Sundays in Falkirk, Stirling and finally Glasgow on 5th June and they were two of 12,000 taking part. Catherine and Alix are pictured with their T-shirts showing sponsors logos including North Glasgow HA.

The whole family are now joining in because the following weekend her other daughter Katie and a friend, Anna Martin, did the Edinburgh Walk the Walk overnight marathon walk for breast cancer.

With the cancellation of the Glasgow Shine walk this year, the family has now invented another walk around Bute on 15th September. There will be four walks in one – a 5k, 10k, half-marathon and marathon.

Catherine said: "We started with only a handful of people taking part and now have over 50 so far with people doing what they feel comfortable with."

For more details, pictures and donations, visit: www.raceforlifesponsors.org/catherinemaguire



Tenancy Sustainment Officers Susan Mellon and Laura Sharkey are pictured with a starter pack – one of the many ways they try to help tenants settle in to their homes.

North Glasgow HA has two dedicated Tenancy Sustainment Officers in each office. Susan and Laura are based at Springburn and Danielle Quinn and Gail Nicolson at Possilpark.

Their role is to help tenants enjoy living in their homes and assist when people find it difficult to manage their tenancy.

In addition to starter packs, the team give advice on how to furnish a home, provide access to other organisations and service providers, improve personal safety and security, contact utility services, check benefits and apply for adaptations.

If you think you need help, please contact the Tenancy Sustainment team on **0141 560 6000** (Springburn) or **0141 336 1300** (Possilpark).

Tenancy Sustainment

Deputy Lord Provost Gerry Leonard presents Concierge Team Leader Tosh Hamilton with an engraved glass memento to mark his achievement, flanked by CEO Robert Tamburrini, Depute CEO Ann Marie Devlin and Vice Chairperson Frank Miller



Going that extra mile...

Concierge team leader Tosh Hamilton has been hailed as a hero after helping to prevent a young woman jumping from a bridge over a busy road.

Police think his swift action helped to save her life and recognised his efforts with the presentation of the Divisional Commander's Certificate of Appreciation.

"Just as I got to her she let go but I managed to grab her jacket."

Now Glasgow City Council's Deputy Lord Provost Baillie Gerald Leonard has made a presentation to 46-year-old Tosh to recognise his achievement.

Tosh, one of four team leaders based at North Glasgow HA's concierge station in Balgrayhill, was on a nightshift patrol when he spotted a figure on the pedestrian bridge over Springburn Road.

He said: "The person appeared to be on the outside of the railings which seemed rather strange. As I got nearer I saw it was a female and asked what she was doing.

"She said she was waiting on a bus. I kept talking to her as I walked towards her. Suddenly I heard a bang below her on the road. I then saw that she had dropped her handbag."

By chance, a police car was nearby as officers were attending another incident and Tosh waved to attract their attention. It was the early hours of the morning and one

approached from the other side of the bridge while the other stopped the traffic.

Tosh added: "I could see the lady sliding her hands down the railings and ran towards her. Just as I got to her she let go but I managed to grab her jacket. The police officer reached over the railings and together we pulled her to safety.

"I'm not sure what her motives were. She seemed a bit confused and we walked her back to the police car and the officers took her to be checked out at hospital."

Tosh reckons he was in the right place at the right time and that any other member of the concierge team would have done the same thing.

He said: "There are times when

concierge don't see an elderly tenant for a few days and try to contact family, care organisation or other support groups to gain access and make sure they are safe.

"We do that more often than stopping someone jumping off a bridge but to me it's another demonstration of how we could save a life."

Tosh, dad Andrew, partner Gail and her niece Rachel attended the police awards ceremony where he was presented with a framed certificate.

Division Commander Chief Superintendent Wayne Mawson said the award recognised his "outstanding efforts."

He added: "You assisted police officers in preventing a female from jumping from a bridge and thereby saved her life."

Tosh said: "It was a very humbling experience and many police officers received awards for much more courageous acts than mine."

North Glasgow CEO Robert Tamburrini praised his actions when he addressed a staff meeting saying: "Tosh's actions were way beyond what could be reasonably expected of him and we should recognise that."



working in partnership

How to get in touch with us:
email: info@northglasgowha.com
www.northglasgowha.com

springburn office
Ned Donaldson House,
50 Reidhouse Street,
Springburn, Glasgow G21 4LS
Tel: 0141 560 6000

possilpark office
252 Saracen Street,
Possilpark,
Glasgow G22 5LF
Tel: 0141 336 1300

Design by media2k
0141 226 3600