



YES YES YES

North Glasgow Housing Association secured a triple YES when GHA tenants were asked if they wanted to switch landlord.

Tenants in North Glasgow LHO voted 88.6% in favour. In Balmore LHO it was 86.5%. And in Red Road Balornock, tenants voted 80.8% to transfer.

The transfer should be completed by the end of March 2011 and will almost double the size of the Association.

Staff, committee members and existing tenants in North Glasgow HA are delighted with

the result which comes after months of hard work and campaigning.

During the consultation process, we arranged many events so we could engage with GHA tenants, get their views and make sure their aspirations could be included in our plans for the future.

It is our view that community ownership for tenants in the north of the city can now become a reality. Working with our existing tenants and other partners we believe we can build a new North Glasgow – a great place to live, learn, work, visit and invest in.

Robert Tamburrini, Chief Executive of North Glasgow Housing Association, said: "We are absolutely delighted that GHA tenants in the North of the city have listened to us, put their trust in us and voted to join us.

"They have voted for proposals which they helped to shape. This is all about real local control and we can't wait to get started.

"Tenants will have a much bigger say on local priorities with local services on their doorstep delivered by a talented and professional team at North Glasgow Housing Association.

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Football training camps prove a hit

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The official opening of the 1000th New Home built by North Glasgow HA

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TENANTS BACK North Glasgow HA

FROM PAGE 1

"We look forward to welcoming GHA tenants and to providing them with a first class local service.

we look forward to working together for the benefit of the North Glasgow community

"We are delighted they have voted to have North Glasgow Housing Association as their new landlord. We want to thank them sincerely for putting their trust in us and we look forward to working together for the benefit of the North Glasgow community."

The Association has received dozens of messages of congratulations. They included one from Patricia Ferguson, Member of the Scottish Parliament for Glasgow Maryhill.

She put a motion before the Parliament stating that: "North Glasgow Housing Association has The X Factor."

She asked that the parliament: "recognises what it believes was the imaginative campaign that they engaged in and the additional benefits offered to tenants in these areas; congratulates the housing association on this achievement, and wishes it and its new tenants well as they work to build a new vision for North Glasgow."

The motion was supported by MSPs Sarah Boyack, Jackie Baillie, Frank McAveety, Mary Mulligan, Bill Butler and Trish Godman.

Gordon Sloan, the Chair of GHA, said: "I am pleased tenants have

voted in the recent ballot. We are committed to the Second Stage Transfer of homes from GHA if this is what tenants want. I wish the tenants of the areas involved every success in the future."

The Association held many events during the successful ballot.

There were lots of formal public meetings and others less informal occasions such as a tea dance and a concert.

An open top Boogie Bus toured all of the transfer areas and our feathered friends from the Clyde Valley bird of prey centre were a popular attraction in many locations including sheltered housing complexes and shopping outlets.

Pictured below are two Possilpark youngsters.

Ten-year-old Billie Urquhart, from Killearn Street, met Popcorn the little owl at her local Co-operative store.

And fearless three-year-old Dylan Donnelly, from Covlin Gardens, held Lunna, a male barn owl.

The Association wishes to thank all our tenants, committee members and staff who helped in the successful ballot campaign.

And, of course, all GHA tenants who voted to have North Glasgow HA as their new landlord.

Together we aim to build a New North Glasgow – a great place to live, learn, work, visit and invest in.

Reduce home energy costs

You may be overpaying for your gas and electricity if you haven't reviewed the market for the last six months.

As part of our constant drive to improve, we asked our business utility consultants how they could best help tenants and staff to reduce domestic energy costs.

Their recommendation is for tenants and staff to log on to a new independent website, www.switchmyenergy.co.uk or to call the switchmyenergy helpline on Freephone 0800 410 1262.

www.switchmyenergy.co.uk is a new website which is dedicated to helping tenants and staff within housing associations to get the lowest prices for their electricity and gas supplies. It is easy to use and on average users will save more than £200 per annum on their yearly energy bill. Because they show prices from every supplier in the UK and every tariff available in your area, they are 100% independent.

Within the first day of launching, some housing association tenants who signed up through the website identified that they are due to save more than £500 over the next 12 months.

Recent research has found that many people stick with the same company for many years. Unfortunately, this loyalty often means excessive profits for the energy companies. The suppliers benefit from customers sticking with them because the price schedules are often "phased out." In the industry, those price schedules are known as "tariffs". If the customer does not move from an out-of-date tariff, they usually default on to an expensive rate.

Five minutes every 6 months can determine if you're on the best deal. The "Price Updates" section shows new tariffs being launched all the time.

The transfer to a new energy supplier normally takes about a month. Another money saving tip is to take your meter readings every month and pass them to your energy supplier to avoid "estimated" bills.

Housing association tenants, staff and homeowners are able to use the www.switchmyenergy.co.uk website right now, or speak to someone by calling the Freephone number, 0800 410 1262.



CLEAN UP CAMPAIGN FOR POSSIL



NORTH Glasgow Housing Association and Glasgow City Council (GCC) Land and Environmental Services have agreed to work together to

help improve the environment in the Possilpark area.

The new environmental team supported and managed by North Glasgow HA will provide a clean up service designed to enhance the work already being carried out by GCC.

Councillor Jim Coleman, executive member for Land and Environmental Services, said: "The City Council is delighted that North Glasgow HA is assisting Land and Environmental Services to improve the local environment of Possilpark

"It's another great example of joint initiatives which support the local community. It's also great to see that local young people will be involved in the clean-up and have the opportunity to learn and develop their skills for the benefit of their own communities."

John Devine, Head of Business Development at North Glasgow HA said: "I'm pleased the Association is working in partnership with Glasgow City Council and local business Allied Vehicles to enhance and support a physical clean up of the Saracen Street area."

The new clean-up service is being supplemented by the Association's Kick Start Futures Programme – an initiative aimed at preparing

younger adults (aged 18–24) for employment and further training by focusing learning and developing skills in Estate Maintenance.

The team have already made a big impression on the area when they power washed all the paving in the Balmore Road area.

A planned visit to inspect the work coincided with the heavy snow at the start of December. Once John Devine had removed some of the snow, Councillor Coleman was able to see the cleaned up stone.

He was also able to witness the environment team working together to clean some of the snow from the pavements.

The Green Machine, used by young people on the Kick Start Futures development programme, has been put to good use.

When the snow fell recently, a plough was fitted to it and Jason Turner pictured below, was able to help staff and tenants gain access to the Association's offices.

At Millennium Square, right, it was used as part of a clean up of the granite stones.



Councillor Jim Coleman (right) and John Devine



New face in the office...



STEPHEN LAUDER joined the association last month.

Prior to that he worked with the Wise Group in Milton and Sandyhills visiting tenants and listening to their views on energy efficiency. He is about to complete an SVQ in Business Administration, level II. Stephen heard about us through the Glasgow Centre for Inclusive Living. Stephen said: "All the staff have made me feel really welcome and I'm delighted to be involved in the work of the Association."



Billie Urquhart, left, with Popcorn, and Dylan Donnelly holding Lunna.



POSSILPARK PLAYERS OF THE WEEK HOUSE, Brian Davey and John Devine from the Association with coaches Gary Sibbald and Arron Lias with players of the week Stevie Elder and Jay McKeever.



Coaches Ryan Taylor, Mark French and John Nicol with our team and the Springburn players

Kids get a kick out of holidays



A FOOTBALL fiesta organised by the Association during the October school holidays proved to be a real hit with youngsters.

Professional coaches from Falkirk Football Club led a four day training programme for school pupils from primary one to six. There were three training camps – at Possil Point, the Red Road Multi-Storey Flats and the former tennis court now a small pitch or basketball area in Springburn Park.

The training involved a full range of football disciplines including skills development, individual technique, ball mastery, group

games, small sides games, fun challenges and competitions.

It wasn't all football though and some other fun was added with special themed days including a crazy hair day, design a strip day and North Glasgow's got talent day.

Falkirk run the camps through their community team which has gained the Scottish FA's Quality Award.

In addition to football skills, all players attending the camps had to abide by ground rules including using appropriate language at the camp, timekeeping and general behaviour.

There was a superb response from youngsters at all three venues. So many attended at Possil that two groups were needed to meet the demand.

All of the youngsters who took part were presented with a certificate and Falkirk FC goodie bag.

The coaches also selected a Player of the Week who received a special certificate to mark the achievement.

John Devine, Brian Davey and the Association's mascot HOUSE attended the presentations at all three venues. Robert Tamburrini, Chief Executive of North Glasgow Housing Association, said: "It is often said that we are more than a housing association and this is a further demonstration of our commitment to the local community."

Tom Elliott Head of Community Coaching at Falkirk FC said: "We were delighted to be able to organise and run football coaching camps for the boys and girls in the North Glasgow area and it is something that we hope to build on."



Springburn Player of the Week, Kyle Higgins with his certificate with coaches Scott Arundel and Danny Johnstone



Red Road Player of the Week, Mohamed



RED ROAD & BALORNOCK PLAYERS



POSSILPARK PLAYERS

Gordon Matheson, (right) Leader of Glasgow City Council congratulates Robert Tamburrini, (left) Chief Executive North Glasgow Housing Association on the opening of the 1000th new home.



North Glasgow HA's 1000th New Home

THE official opening of the 1,000th new home built by North Glasgow Housing Association was an amazing landmark in our history.

The ceremony was carried out by Councillor Gordon Matheson, the Leader of Glasgow City Council and he praised everyone in the community for their efforts (see story on the right).

the most important ingredient in all of this are the people living in these new homes

Speaking to tenants, staff members, and invited guests Robert Tamburrini, Chief Executive North Glasgow Housing Association, said: "The 1000th new build home is a fantastic milestone for North Glasgow Housing Association.

"Our first new build home was built in Hillkirk Street in Springburn in 1985. That's 25 years ago and if you know the area, and look at those houses today its hard to believe they are 25 years old.

"That's because North Glasgow Housing Association invests the rent money it takes in back into the properties to keep them up to the same standard as when they were first built.

"We strongly believe that we have a role to play in addressing the wider housing needs of the city. In recent years we have always sought to include homes for vulnerable or disadvantaged sections of the community in our developments.

"Working with partners in Springburn and throughout North Glasgow has been one of the Association's key building blocks in achieving major social and physical regeneration within our community.

"I am delighted that we have been able to deliver this project in partnership with City Building Glasgow. Like us, City Building, have a strong social commitment to Glasgow and to creating opportunities in our communities.

"It's vital to remember that the most important ingredient in all of this are the people living in these new homes.

"The Association and City Building might build and improve houses, but it is people who turn these houses into homes and communities.

"We sincerely hope that the residents are as proud and delighted with their new homes as we are."

The 1000th house is located in the £27million 16-acre Broomfield Road development. When complete, there will be 198 new homes in a mixed tenure development.

The project is a unique partnership between the Association, Alexander Morton Homes and City Building (Glasgow) LLP.

The development has helped to sustain local employment and develop the skills of apprentices. A total of 42 tradesmen from City Building and 20 apprentices are employed on the project.



Local residents enjoy the occasion with the cutting of the cake.

GLASGOW LEADER PRAISES NORTH GLASGOW

THERE were smiles all round when Councillor Gordon Matheson, Leader of Glasgow City Council, cut a ribbon at a special show house to open the 1000th new home built for North Glasgow Housing Association.

He is pictured, left, with Robert Tamburrini, the Association Chief Executive, and some of the apprentices who have gained invaluable practical experience on the development at Broomfield Road, Glasgow.

Councillor Matheson told staff, tenants and guests at the ceremony: "The whole of the city is proud of you. This is a significant achievement and I am delighted as the leader of the council to officially open the 1000th home.

"To all in North Glasgow Housing Association, on behalf of the city council and the people of Glasgow thank you and well done. You should feel rightly proud today."



Gordon Matheson (middle) cuts the ribbon on the special show house, Robert Tamburrini (left) & Willie Docherty (right) Managing Director of City Building

He also paid tribute to City Building for their recruitment of apprentices to work on the project and also to their special division, the Royal Strathclyde Blind Industries (RSBI) describing it as the best sheltered employment in the UK.

The workforce there made the timber kits and kitchens for the houses and all the furnishings for the show house.

The pictures below show just how good the interior looks thanks to their efforts.

Some of the tenants who attended the opening ceremony later helped to cut a specially crafted cake, with a picture of the exterior of the showhouse on top.

And that provided a delicious end to another superb day for North Glasgow HA.



Lovely new interiors of the special show home.

That's

30 EDITIONS

and counting...

We've given North News a new look to celebrate the 30th edition.

Our newsletter has kept tenants and others in the community in touch with housing and other developments for almost eight years.

On these pages, we feature the front pages of all 30 editions, including this one.

The first issue in Spring 2003 had just four pages. The lead story was about a customer satisfaction survey that showed 96% of tenants were happy with the Association as a landlord.

Inside Doreen Shaw featured in an item about the Dispersed Housing Alarm Facility. Doreen is a well known member of the community and still a member of the Association's management committee.

By the second edition, we needed six pages to report all the news. One story told that 320 new kitchens had been installed.

The newsletter, like the Association, has got bigger and better over the years. The third issue needed eight pages and focussed on the new houses at Killearn Street and the grand opening of the Carron sheltered housing complex.

Refurbishment of existing properties and our new build programme have provided many headlines for North News over the years.

David Cowan celebrated five years as Chair in the first edition of 2004 and he was succeeded by Pat Kenna but continued to play an active role.

That story was reported in a revamped North News, edition No. 7, which also featured

Charter Mark status being awarded, the first housing association in Scotland to attain the accolade.

The following year saw Investor in People status awarded, our Adult Learning centres winning a national award and a visit from a Scottish Government minister.

It closed with three awards in a week - David Cowan winning the Committee Member of the Year, the Chartered Institute of Housing's Outstanding Contribution to Social Housing in Scotland Award and the Scottish Training Award in the UK Skills National Training Awards.

It is also interesting to note that the summer 2005 issue

featured 'Us and Us' - a community housing partnership involving North Glasgow LHO, Balmore Housing Association and Red Road Balornock LHO. The recent ballot success turns it into a reality.

The following year, North News got bigger again becoming a 12-page newsletter. It allowed our designers more space for excellent photographs of many local people and events.

The planned growth and continuous improvement policy of the Association has seen many new housing developments open. Our involvement in the Petershill Initiative has meant coverage from idea, through planning, construction and opening as a first class community facility.

Other editions have covered major events such as the 30th anniversary of the Association, the signing of multi-million pound contracts and further awards such as Eco status for several developments and the Government's Customer Service Excellence status.

Our newsletter is regarded as one of the best publications by a housing association. We hope you enjoy the new look.



New look for the 30th Issue



ISSUE 1 SPRING 2003



ISSUE 2 SUMMER 2003



ISSUE 5 SPRING 2004



ISSUE 6 SUMMER 2004



ISSUE 7 WINTER 2004



ISSUE 3 AUTUMN 2003



ISSUE 4 WINTER 2003



ISSUE 8 SPRING 2005



ISSUE 9 SUMER 2005



ISSUE 10 AUTUMN 2005



ISSUE 11 WINTER 2005



ISSUE 12 SPRING 2006



ISSUE 13 SPRING 2006



ISSUE 14 AUTUMN 2006



ISSUE 15 WINTER 2006



ISSUE 16 SPRING 2007



ISSUE 17 SUMMER 2007



ISSUE 18 WINTER 2007



ISSUE 19 SPRING 2008



ISSUE 20 SUMMER 2008



ISSUE 21 AUTUMN 2008



ISSUE 22 WINTER 2008



ISSUE 23 SPRING 2009



ISSUE 24 SUMMER 2009



ISSUE 25 AUTUMN 2009



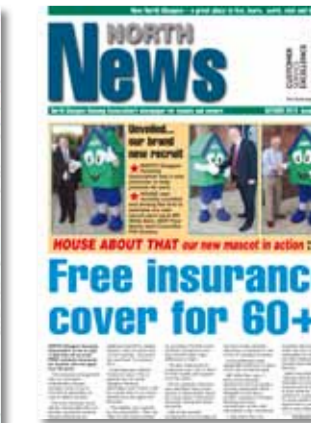
ISSUE 26 WINTER 2009



ISSUE 28 SUMMER 2010



ISSUE 27 SPRING 2010



ISSUE 29 AUTUMN 2010



FREE insurance cover increased to £15,000

TENANTS of North Glasgow Housing Association who are aged over 60 years or have a disability will receive FREE contents insurance cover up to £15,000 starting in January.

The free insurance was announced in our last issue and is part of the Association's tenants reward scheme, designed to acknowledge the part that responsible tenants play in paying their rent on time and helping to sustain the investment in their homes.

North Glasgow has been negotiating with insurance underwriters for several months and has negotiated a 50% increase in cover.

And arrangements were made for tenants who qualify and whose current insurance expired in December to have the free cover put in place early.

A number of other benefits have also been put in place such as Christmas and Wedding gift cover, pedal cycle cover, unspecified and specified valuables cover outside the home.

Tenants will have free access to online legal advice plus a series of free documents such as wills, complaint letters and help with identity theft.

Other key features include no excess, no minimum physical security requirements, cover for fixtures and fittings up to £2,000, accidental death of £5,000, all post codes accepted, a sympathetic approach to under insurance and no penalty for late notification of claims.

Chief Executive Robert Tamburrini said: "The cover will be up to £15,000 when it starts in January. In addition to being for tenants aged over 60, it will also apply to our tenants who

have a disability.

"The reaction from elderly tenants has been very positive to this extension to our tenants reward scheme. It is only right that we recognise the loyalty of tenants who have supported us over the years, paid their rent on time and played such an important role in the community."

- The second regular draw under the rewards scheme has taken place. All tenants who abide by the Association's regulations and tenancy agreement and pay their rent on time are entered. A random computer programme has selected two winners who each receive a £50 shopping voucher. The second draw winners are Mrs A. McGuinness, Syriam Street, and Mrs E McInnes, 8 Redmoss Street.

NORTH Glasgow Housing Association will close for the festive season at 4pm on Friday, December 24 and will reopen after the holiday period at 9am on Monday, January 10.

Tenants can report any emergency repairs during the holidays by calling the emergency contact number at 0141 336 1300 (Possilpark) and 0141 560 6000 (Springburn).

During periods of extreme cold weather there is a risk of pipes freezing and bursting. At such times it may be useful to follow these suggestions:

- Keep heat circulating in all rooms.
- Report any dripping taps and pipes to office for repair.
- Find your main stopcock in case of leaks. If unsure of location, call office.
- Leave sink unit doors open to allow heat to circulate.

If you have a burst pipe please carry out the following:

- Turn off water at stopcock or tap
- Switch off your immersion heater or boiler
- Turn on taps in sinks and baths
- Turn on as much heating as you can
- If water comes in contact with any electrical fittings turn off electricity at the mains

If your pipes do freeze or burst contact the emergency office number (0141 336 1300 or 0141 560 6000)

Problems with gas central heating should be reported direct to the Association's gas maintenance contractor City Technical Services on 0141 587 3629.

The Management Committee and Staff at would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

How to get in touch with us:

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