



“A Community with Commitment”

# News



## STOCK UP



Before the stock transfer ballot being proposed for Glasgow Council Tenants in November goes ahead a Local Housing Organisation (LHO) must be identified for each area of Council Stock. In the Easterhouse / Barlanark area there is a competitive element to the choice of the LHO because more than one organisation has expressed an interest in the same houses.

Therefore, by the time you read this article the Co-op's staff and committee will have started on a series of promotional activities aimed at Glasgow City Council Tenants. The idea being to promote the Co-op as the choice for the LHO for Council Tenants living on the Co-op's borders.

This period of self promotion will last for the month of August. Following this the Glasgow Housing Association will make a decision on who is to be the LHO for the area the Co-op is interested in. Watch out for the next newsletter to find out if the Co-op has been successful.

### AGM ARRANGEMENTS

Don't forget that this year's AGM will be held on Tuesday, 18th September at 7.00 pm in the Robert Bennie Centre. Transport can be provided for anyone who needs it - contact Geraldine at the office to arrange. Crèche facilities are still being discussed, but will be advertised if available - places may have to be booked in advance so again, please contact Geraldine to discuss.

This year's AGM is going to be a cracker - so don't miss it! The agenda and papers should be received by all members by the beginning of September. If you don't receive yours by then, please contact the office.

### AGM UPDATE

Items on this year's agenda will include:

- \* Plans for kitchen replacements
- \* Tenant Satisfaction Survey results
- \* Programme of meetings for the year - your chance to discuss the Co-op's policies.

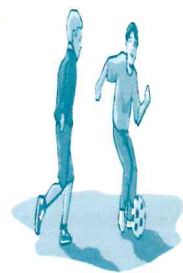
### DON'T TELL US...

If you have a complaint, please don't take it to an individual Committee Member. It is not part of their remit to personally deal with complaints - that is what the Staff and Committee Surgeries are here for (see page 2 for next Surgery time).

### WE'RE LISTENING...

From the Tenant Satisfaction Survey, the Co-op became aware that there was a lot of unhappiness and frustration in the area because of the lack of facilities for youths.

Due to this a meeting was set up to talk to youths from the area to find out what they want. A lot of things were talked about and are being arranged. One of the first activities will be football coaching - suggested by the girls - for both boys and girls. Youth groups, graffiti art classes and music lessons are all among the other activities that are being looked at for this area.



Watch out for details of these and of future youth meetings. Thanks to Sandra from Cultural and Leisure Services and Ann-Marie from Community Education for their help.

### IN THIS ISSUE...

Councillor Coleman Comments...	Page 2
Local Police - Get On Your Bike	Page 2
Police Surgeries	Page 2
Committee Surgery	Page 2
Garden Competition Winners	Page 3
The Robert Bennie Studio at J.W.C.	Page 3
Greater Easterhouse Carnival	Page 4
Personal Advertisements	Page 4
Farewell...	Page 4
Luck of the Draw	Page 4
Reach Your Potential	Page 4

## COUNCILLOR COLEMAN COMMENTS...

Lack of banking facilities within areas like Barlanark has always been a severe problem.

The Scottish Executive has recently launched a report indicating the need to extend credit unions within parts of Scotland, certainly within Glasgow and indeed within Greater Easterhouse.

There are already in place many credit unions. The problem however is that a lot of them find it very difficult to manage their own affairs in a way that is attractive to a wider range of the population. The recent incidents in Barlanark, where the credit union in the scheme was struggling and indeed to an extent has folded, clearly highlights that if a credit union is to have a future and serve the needs of the community, it must be properly resourced and properly supported.

To that end, the Council has set up a working group to look at the credit unions across the city with a view to coming forward with specific proposals to give these credit unions a long term future. At the moment a lot of them find it very difficult to make ends meet as they struggle to get volunteers and properly qualified and trained staff.

However, the Council is confident through working with the national agencies who cover credit unions, that they are able to put in place the appropriate training packages to support the staff in this valuable work. At the moment, we are involved in detailed discussions with credit unions across the city



and, as I said earlier, with the national agencies who are working very hard with us to achieve a break though in this.

We hope to be in a position shortly to come forward with proposals for three pilots in the city where we can re-locate the credit unions away from the back street, hopefully into the equivalent of the main street. In this case it may well be a main stream shopping parade, where people can know when they go into these premises the staff will be fully qualified and trained to deal with their financial needs. The back street image will have to be removed. People need confidence to know that their money will be safe and the staff qualified to treat them professionally.

It is hoped that this pilot will be put in place very shortly and indeed it is possible that part of this may include the Greater Easterhouse area. Credit unions in other parts of the world have proved very successful indeed, where they are not seen as the poor man's bank but an independent financial force to be reckoned with in itself. The credit unions carry out not just loans etc. but, offer main stream services like insurance or indeed fuel bills, so there are various options that we could be pursuing, certainly in Glasgow, to alleviate the poverty position that many residents find themselves in. I believe credit unions can play a major role in that. To that end, the Council and its partners are fully committed to putting this programme in place as soon as

### LOCAL POLICE - GET ON YOUR BIKE!

You will probably have seen our local community policemen patrolling the Co-op area on their new bikes.

The local police commander, Inspector Edward Keen, stated, "this is part of the enhanced service for the Barlanark area".

Pictured are Constables Mark McCall and Stewart May who have received full training for the new initiative.

If you want to contact your local Officers, please call Baillieston Police Office on 532-4350.



### POLICE SURGERIES



Community Police Officers from Baillieston still sit in the Co-op office between 1.30 and 2.30 pm on a Monday to take complaints or provide advice or information. If you want to speak to them, just pop in - no appointment necessary.

### COMMITTEE SURGERY

Members of the Committee will be sitting on 17 September at 2.30 pm in the Robert Bennie Centre to meet with tenants to discuss any issue. No appointment necessary, just come along.

## GARDEN COMPETITION WINNERS

Many thanks go to Mr. Charlie Duncan of C.D. Environmental and Mr. Thomas Kay, Chairperson of Calvay Co-op who judged of this year's garden competition.

Congratulations once again to Mr Adams of 36 Barlanark Road, for winning 1st prize. 2nd Prize went to Ms. O'Hare of 33 Calvay Road and 3rd Prize was awarded to Mrs. Cavanagh of 7 Burnett Road.

Tenants choice for Best Back Garden went to Mr Hugh Rooney of Barlanark Crescent - who received the most nominations by far.

Other tenants who received commendations for their gardens were:

Mrs. Isabell Jackson of 51 Barlanark Place  
Mr. Peter Howden of 12 Calvay Place  
Mr. & Mrs. McFadyen of 33 Burnett Road  
Mrs. Catherine Grady of 9 Burnett Road  
Mrs. Patrick of 38 Barlanark Road  
Mr. & Mrs. Cork of 35 Barlanark Road  
Mr. & Mrs. Coulter of 54 Calvay Road  
Mr. Peter McLachlan of 49 Calvay Road  
Mrs. Mary McCulloch of 5 Calvay Crescent  
Mr. & Mrs. Wilson of 12 Barlanark Road



## THE ROBERT BENNIE STUDIO AT JOHN WHEATLEY COLLEGE



On Thursday 19th July, John Wheatley College opened "The Robert Bennie Studio" in the new Extension at the Easterhouse Campus in memory of Robert who died in tragic circumstances last year and who was an Art Student at the College.

The Studio is set up for Art Students and is named as the Robert Bennie Studio by a special brass Wall Plaque. The studio also has a small exhibition of prints done by Robert himself.

The Opening was attended by Robert's father and younger brother, other members of his near family, friends from the Calvay Community and from the Co-operative Committee.

The College Principal, Mr Ian Graham conducted the opening and Duncan McLean spoke for the community and for Robert's family.

Throughout the Opening Ceremony it was clear from the speeches that Robert had been a valuable and helpful student at the College and an example to other students by his work and his contribution to the overall life of the College.

Mr Graham explained the splendid facilities at the new extension including computer facilities for the students and said it was one of the most up to date Colleges in Europe. It is hoped that it would be greatly used by young and old in Easterhouse for further education and could also be used by students at other Glasgow Colleges and Universities as a local learning centre.



The company were later given a conducted tour of the New Extension, which was very impressive especially the Computer access for students which is such an important element in modern studies.

Duncan McLean mentioned the Robert Bennie Trust and suggested that an Annual Robert Bennie Award should be made by the Trust for the Student chosen by the college who had contributed best to the life of the college for that year.

This is an excellent idea and the Trustees will consider approving this to start in the academic year 2001/02. The Award will also be a great way of continuing Robert's name in the Community where he is greatly missed.

## GREATER EASTERHOUSE CARNIVAL

Saturday, 18th August is Carnival Day in Greater Easterhouse. From 12.00 pm, the streets will be full of the sights and sounds of a Carnival as a colourful and noisy procession makes its way from Westwood Business Centre to the Sports Centre on Auchinlea Road.

Then from 1 pm - 4 pm enjoy the best in family entertainment at the Sports Centre. Activities on offer will include come and try workshops, sumo wrestling, street performers, face painting, exhibitions, DJ's and performances from samba drummers and much more!

Why not get more involved in the day by taking part in the parade? Throughout the summer free carnival workshops will be running across Greater Easterhouse giving you the opportunity to make your mark on the day.

Community groups will have the opportunity to set up stalls on the day at the Sports Centre. These stalls can be promotional and / or fundraising e.g. tombola. For further information on any aspect of the carnival, or to book a workshop place or stall, contact the Arts Team on 781-2000.

### PERSONAL ADVERTISEMENTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Don't forget that you can put your own personal notices, e.g. birthdays, births, anniversaries, etc. into the Newsletter - at no cost.**

**Also, adverts may be accepted, e.g. items for sale. Depending on the nature of the advert, a small fee may be charged.**

### FAREWELL...

To Stuart Hodge, who left the Co-op on Friday, 20 July. Stuart has completed all of his placements and his university course and has now gone out into the big wide world to find "a real job!".



All of the Staff and Committee wish him well with his career and thank him for his contribution to the Co-op during his placements.

### LUCK OF THE DRAW



The Co-op is currently in the process of having its annual report designed. As always, we like to involve the community in as many ways as possible, so this year we asked the local primary school children to submit drawings with a housing / community theme.

The drawings were forwarded to our graphic designer who is currently in the process of selecting the drawings best suited for inclusion in our annual report. The children whose drawings are used will receive gift vouchers, so watch this space in the next Newsletter for the winners.

### REACH YOUR POTENTIAL

Reach your potential with Best Foot Forward

- \* Unemployed?
- \* Over 16?
- \* Living in Greater Easterhouse?

Join us and learn:-

- \* New Employment Skills
- \* IT and Internet Skills
- \* Strategies to Achieve your Goals
- \* How to Develop your Ability
- \* How to manage Stress



We Provide:-

Childcare, Travel, Lunch Expenses and End of Course Bonus

Starts August 2001 - December 2001. For more information and application form contact Margie Hughes at Greater Easterhouse Development Company on 771-5591.



### GET WISE



The Wise Group have offered to hold a meeting for Calway tenants to discuss energy efficiency (and therefore lower heating and lighting bills) and to provide energy advice.

This meeting will be held in the Robert Bennie Centre at 2.00 pm on 20 August 2001. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided. Please come along - it may save you money.