

Calvary News

www.calvary.org.uk

Summer 2019



So long, Yvonne!

It was a sad day here at Calvary recently, as we bid a fond farewell to our long-standing Community Development Manager, Yvonne Smith. After 15 years with us, Yvonne has headed to sunnier climes in Spain to join her daughter and family.

Yvonne was totally committed to the Calvary community and summed her role up as 'helping people locally'. She organised events, pointed people in the right direction for additional support and often provided a listening ear over a cuppa.

One of her favourite parts of the job was helping local people trying to provide services to other local people, such as the All Stars Dance Academy and the Calvary Boxing Club, and did everything she could to provide support

to them. After working hours, Yvonne often found herself back at the Calvary Centre, as a member of some of the local clubs, including the Craft Club and the singing group!

Calvary's Corporate Services Manager Tracy Boyle, who worked with Yvonne for the full 15 years, said:

“Yvonne could turn her hand to anything, she was very practical and very good at giving advice. She drove me nuts, though, because her paperwork was shocking! However, she was always the first to admit that.

“Yvonne was really good at just mucking in and had a great relationship with the local community. I think they'll miss her

because of all the 'unsung' support she gave to people, especially the volunteers in the Calvary Centre. We'll all miss her, but gave her a good send off and wish her well in her new life abroad.”

What happens next?

We're not appointing a new Community Development Manager straight away. Instead a review of the wider role and activities in the Calvary Centre is being carried out. We'll keep you posted in the next newsletter.

Hello there,

Welcome to the Summer 2019 edition of Calvay News.

In this issue, we're getting back to you about the results of the tree consultation featured in the last newsletter, and also asking you about possible changes to our office opening hours. Please do get in touch and let us know what you think.

Also inside, you'll find an article on the new play area at Calvay Crescent. Anyone who has been around Calvay Crescent will have seen children enjoying playing on the new equipment. Unfortunately, some people have been allowing their dogs into the play area. Please help us keep it clean and tidy, and keep dogs out!

In other news, we have exciting plans to build new houses on three local sites:

- Blyth Road (the site of the old Social Services building)
- Garvel Crescent and
- Barlanark Road.

Currently, we own Blyth Road and Garvel Crescent. We're negotiating to buy the Barlanark Road site from the Council and will update you on our plans in the next newsletter. In the meantime, we've appointed Safedem Ltd to demolish the old Social Services building on Blyth Road. Please make sure your children do NOT play on this site – the building is dangerous – and that they stay well away once the demolition work begins.

Finally, a date for your diary. Our Annual General Meeting is being held on Thursday 12th September 2019 at the Calvay Centre. Everyone is very welcome to come along.

Have a great summer!

Best wishes from the Committee and Staff at Calvay.

Nick Dangerfield
Director



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER

12

This year's Annual General Meeting will take place on **Thursday 12 September 2019 at 7pm** in the main hall of the Calvay Centre.

If you're a member of Calvay Housing Association and have paid your £1 share, you'll receive your AGM papers at least 28 days prior to the meeting. **All welcome.**

CLOSED

Office Closures

The Calvay Office will be closed on the following dates:

Glasgow Fair

Friday 12 July 2019

Monday 15 July 2019

September Weekend

Friday 27 September 2019

Monday 30 September 2019

Tell us about it!

This is YOUR publication, so we want YOU in it! Please tell us your news, achievements and special celebrations so we can share it in the community - and if you can send us a photo, even better! We'll write the story, we just need you to give us the details.

Please contact **Tracy Boyle** at the Calvay office or email tracy@calvay.org.uk

Deadline for next issue: **Friday 30 August**

Tracy Boyle

Tracy is one of our longest serving team members, having been with Calvay a whopping 23 years! Starting out as Secretary in 1996, two promotions later, she's now Corporate Services Manager. Here she tells us a bit more about life at Calvay and being an original Rock Chick!

Twenty three years, Tracy, what's your secret?

Ha ha, I just genuinely enjoy working here! Calvay is honestly a great organisation to be part of, the team is brilliant. We have to work really hard, as there's so much to be done in a day, but being surrounded by good people who pull together makes all the difference.

What does being 'Corporate Services Manager' involve?

A bit of everything really! I work closely with our Director, Nick, and the Management Committee, but also wear lots of different hats, including Committee and Staff Training Co-ordinator, Health & Safety Administrator, Office Manager, IT Troubleshooter and Data Protection Co-ordinator.

Phew, do you ever go home?

Yes, but often pretty exhausted! It's a wide ranging role, but I've worked up to it over the years. I was Secretary for the first nine, which gave me a really good grounding in the organisation. Then I became Administration Officer in 2005, where I learned the 'ins and outs' of everything. I was promoted to this role last summer. Although I work 'back office' and tend not to have much direct contact with tenants, it's been great to see how the Calvay community as a whole has developed during this time.

What do you like to do outside of work?

I love the 'usual' things, like spending time with family and friends, going on holiday and so on. I'm also a huge music fan and go to as many gigs as possible – I'm at well over 200 now! I My first was Iron Maiden at the Apollo, when I was 14. I went with my mum, stepdad and stepbrother. My stepdad worked in Yarrows at the time, so he brought earplugs for us all, which of course I didn't wear. I regret it now though, after years of going to loud gigs, my hearing is shocking!

If you had to re-live one of those 200+ gigs, which would it be?

My first Wildhearts gig in 1993. They're my favourite band in the world and I've been going to see them for 26 years now, so I wish I could remember the first one better and relive the moment I fell in love with them. I got to meet them recently at a signing session in Edinburgh, but can't remember a thing I said, I was so nervous!

Any more this year?

I was lucky enough to be in LA recently with family, which is just such an exciting place. We took in a gig at the famous Whisky a Go Go and spotted Luke Goss in the crowd...so my sister said hello and got her picture taken with him! I've just seen Metallica in London, then I'm going to see Kiss in July, Volbeat in September and a band called Y&T in November. My colleagues usually ask who I'm going to see next and when I tell them, the reply is usually 'never heard of them' hahaha! We'll see who 2020 brings!



Tracy with the Wildhearts

OFFICE OPENING HOURS – TIME TO HAVE YOUR SAY

At Calvey we're always thinking of ways to make it easier for our customers to keep in touch with us.

One thing we're considering is offering alternative office hours, as we realise our regular opening hours of 9am – 5pm may not be convenient for everyone, especially for those of you who work similar hours.

For example, we might consider opening one night per week till 7pm, so those who work during the day can phone the office or pop in to see a member of staff. However, changing our opening hours will depend on demand.

So, what do you think? Good idea? We'd like to know if you would make use of a late night opening. On top of this, we're keen to hear any views or suggestions you might have on the matter.

Please contact the Calvey office before 31st August on **0141 771 7722** and ask for Craig. Or email the office on **enquiries@calvey.org.uk** and give us your views.

We'll collate all your feedback, review the matter and report our findings in the next newsletter.



Tenants & Residents if you don't have home contents insurance you should think about protecting your personal possessions and home contents.

These include your furniture, carpets, curtains, clothes, bedding, and electrical items. And don't forget your jewellery, pictures and ornaments.

FIRE, FLOOD THEFT

All our tenants are eligible to apply for the Diamond Insurance Scheme.

There's no excess, you can pay as you go, you don't need special door or window locks.

For further information ask your landlord for an application pack.

sfha
Scottish Federation of Housing Associations

Diamond
INSURANCE SCHEME

The Diamond Insurance Scheme is a product arranged by Thistle Tenant on behalf of the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations and administered by the RSA Group, Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance plc, Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Thistle Tenant is a member of the Thistle Insurance Services Limited, Thistle Insurance Services Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FPN 310418. Lloyd's Broker. Registered in England under No. 00338645. Registered office: Rossington's Buildings, West Carr Road, Retford, Nottinghamshire, DN22 7SW.

Consultation Feedback: Update on the tall trees

In the last newsletter, we asked for your views on whether the high conifers between Barlanark Road and Calvay Crescent should be cut down, following a complaint they were blocking out light and sun from the backcourts.

There were only two responses to this consultation: one for cutting the trees down and one against. The reasons given for not cutting the trees down were loss of wildlife in and around the community garden, and also that the trees create privacy.

Given the very low response, there appears to be no clear appetite for removing all the trees. However, our Landscape Clerk of Works,

Charlie Duncan, has agreed to take another look at these trees to see if there would be any scope for a compromise.

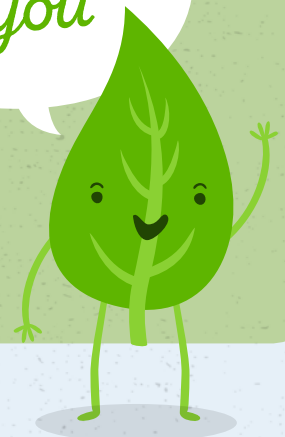
Charlie has already advised the trees could not simply be reduced in height, as this would only lead to them growing thicker and creating more of a problem. But as a compromise, it might be possible to remove alternate trees.

If you have any other suggestions or comments, please let us know. You can phone, come into the office or email info@calvay.org.uk with your comments

We'll keep you informed on progress in the next newsletter.



*Thank
you*



Re-connect Discount Vouchers

Re-connect Furniture Recycling makes sure as many items of furniture as possible are saved from landfill, selling them on through their shop to the people who need them the most. Every piece they sell is high quality at affordable prices.

Previously we'd issued 40% discount vouchers for Re-connect to help tenants purchase items they needed. However, these vouchers are no longer valid.

Instead there's a 20% discount available, but terms and conditions do apply – a minimum spend of £100 is required and there's also a delivery charge.

For further information, please call Melissa Craig at the Calvay office or contact Re-connect directly on **0141 556 7085** or visit www.reconnectglasgow.co.uk



Chess Mate!

If you've ever wanted to play chess, you'd find yourself in good company. The list of household names and celebrities who have enjoyed the game includes the likes of Julia Roberts, Leonardo DiCaprio, Ray Charles, Einstein, Frank Sinatra, Bill Gates, John Lennon, Robin Williams, Stephen Fry and Princess Diana to name a few.

You can also be in great company with us, the Calvay Chess Club, where you can learn the basics of chess, and hone your skills against other players of varying abilities. Or if you already know how to play, come along for a game against our regular members.

As we're a new club, only set up in March this year, we're still finding our feet and gaining momentum. By the summer, we'll have created a learning programme focusing on different techniques and manoeuvres to improve your game and take it to a new level.

We'll also have a weekly chess problem for the Club to solve, to help keep your mental abilities sharp!

The club currently meets on Friday evenings, 4.30pm to 7.30pm in the Lounge of the Calvay Centre. It's free and open to all ages, but children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

So come and join us, we look forward to welcoming you there!



Community Festival – Save the Date!

On Friday 9th August, the EHRA group of local housing organisations, which includes Calvay, is organising a Community Festival at Platform (The Bridge).

Details are still being finalised, however the day will run from 11am to 3pm, with the theme "The Past – The Present – The Future".



It looks set to be a great event for all the family, and it's FREE!

So as many of you as possible can come along, we're providing transport from Calvay to the Bridge and back throughout the day.

Keep an eye on the noticeboard on the front page of Calvay's website for more details, but put the date in your diary now – 9th August!

English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Classes

لتعليم اللغة الإنجليزية. سيبدأ هذا الفصل الدراسي في شهر سبتمبر / أيلول ، وسيتم إعطاء الدرس فيه كل يوم أربعاء من الساعة 6 مساءً إلى الساعة 8 مساءً ، وسيكون هذا الفصل مناسباً لجميع الأشخاص الذين يتحدثون باللغة الإنجليزية سواء على نحو مبتدئ أو متقدم. ولضمان الاستمرار في تقديم هذا الفصل الدراسي ، فيتوجب تواجد 12 شخص على الأقل من الأشخاص الراغبين بحضور هذا الفصل الدراسي. ولتسجيل رغبتك بالحضور إلى هذا الفصل الدراسي ، يرجى منك الاتصال بميليسا كريج Melissa Craig في مكتب كالفاي Calvay أو إرسال رسالة إلكترونية إليها مباشرة : Melissa@calvay.org.uk حول رغبتك بالالتحاق بهذا الفصل الدراسي.

Placówka Glasgow Kelvin College zaoferowała darmowe lekcje Języka Angielskiego w późniejszym okresie tego roku. Zajęcia rozpoczną się we wrześniu i będą odbywały się w każdą środę pomiędzy 18.00 – 20.00. Zajęcia obejmą wszystkich na poziomie początkującym do poziomu zaawansowanego. Wymagane jest minimum 12 osób, które chcą uczestniczyć, aby zajęcia się odbyły. Aby zgłosić się do udziału w zajęciach, należy zadzwonić do Melissa Craig w biurze Calvay office lub wysłać bezpośredni e-mail na adres Melissa@calvay.org.uk.

Glasgow Kelvin College have offered to provide a free English language class later this year. The class will begin in September and will be every Wednesday from 6pm – 8pm and will cater for everyone from beginners to advanced speakers. In order for the class to run, we require a minimum of 12 people willing to attend. To register your interest in the class, please call Melissa Craig at the Calvay office or email directly at Melissa@calvay.org.uk.



Please keep the playpark clean!

In the last newsletter, we reported on how our local kids were enjoying the new playpark.

Unfortunately, there are already some issues with rubbish being left and people allowing their dogs into the park.

Please don't do this! There are litter bins for your rubbish and - as much as we love dogs - they're not allowed in the park.

With Summer almost here, let's keep the park clean and dog-free so the children can safely enjoy their play.



PS Thank you to the person who was seen tidying up the park. We appreciate you doing this.

Calvay Bingo



Every Wednesday
The Calvay Centre
7-9pm

All welcome

PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS AND CYCLICAL WORKS

We've got plenty more maintenance and improvements planned for 2019/2020 to keep you safe and secure. Here are just some of the works coming up to make your home and environment better.

Fire Safety Upgrades & Electrical Inspections

The Scottish Government has placed a legal requirement on all social landlords in Scotland, like us, to implement fire safety upgrades over the next two years. This involves the installation and upgrade of smoke alarms, and interlinked heat alarms in all our properties. We've decided to carry out these works in conjunction with our periodic electrical inspections, so one contractor can do all the works, ensuring continued safety for all our tenants. For those properties which have already had an electrical inspection, we'll need to double back to carry out the fire safety upgrades as this is a legal requirement. We'll send individual letters to all tenants affected. We must stress the importance of providing access to have this done. Thank you.

Painting

We'll be continuing with some cyclical painting works during 2019/2020 to various properties. The next phases due for painting are New Build Phase 4 and Improvement Phases 2 and 5, ie Bressay Road\Close\Place and two blocks in Barlanark Road, together with Calvary Road odds and 72/78 Barlanark Road.

Close Doors & Door Entry Systems

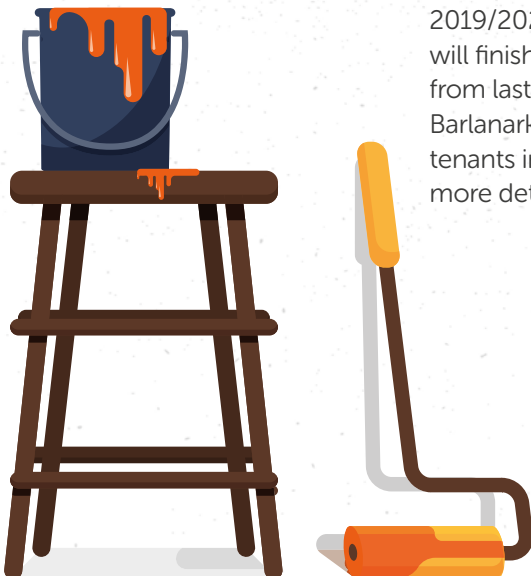
We view close doors and entry systems as a priority, in terms of providing security for all residents. So we plan to replace these in regular numbers over the next few years. We started this contract in the Viewfield area last year, but unfortunately works were delayed due to the contractor going into administration, meaning we had to re-tender the contract for 2019/2020. The new contractors will finish off the closes left over from last year, before moving onto Barlanark Road. We'll write to all tenants in the closes involved with more details of specific timescales.

Linotol

Linotol is the floor covering used in the older Calvary tenements. We noticed last year that some closes were beginning to look very poor, with high levels of repairs being needed regularly. Replacing linotol is a difficult job to do from a health and safety point of view, as people still need to be able to walk up and down the stairs while the works are going on. Last year we tackled 10 closes, all of which were completed without issue and the finished result has made a great improvement to the closes involved. Further works are planned for 2019/2020 and again we'll be writing to all tenants involved with specific timescales.

Kitchen & Bathroom Replacements

We're also planning to replace some kitchen units and bathroom suites during 2019/2020. We're in the process of arranging this with MCN (Scotland) Ltd, who carried out our previous kitchen and bathroom contract. **Please note that any tenants who have failed to provide access for the electrical inspections or to have any follow on works carried out, will not be included in the kitchen and bathroom upgrade works.**



BIG changes to your bins!

Glasgow City Council has announced they're replacing all metal ash bins within tenements with green wheelie bins. For Calvay this should happen by next spring.

The Council wants to introduce green wheelie bins because they're safer and cleaner. The Council also plans to move from weekly collections to every 8 days for general refuse and every 16 days for recycling.

We agree that the small metal ash bins in many of Calvay's tenement bin stores are no longer suitable. Bins are often worn or damaged, bin lids are not used or missing, and many bin stores have damaged or missing top-layer bricks. This leads to residents placing rubbish bags outside the bins, which provides easy access to birds, squirrels and other animals searching for food, resulting in unhygienic and unattractive bin stores.

The Council have stated they'll install green wheelie bins within backcourts and remove existing ash bins - regardless of whether existing bin stores can accommodate wheelie bins or not. For Calvay properties, many bin stores are too small for wheelie bins, meaning the wheelie bins would have to be placed outside the empty bin store, which is not ideal.

Calvay has 108 tenements and the current bin situation is as follows:

- **99 of the 108 tenements have metal ash bins**
- **82 of these have external bin stores**
- **17 have internal bin-stores**
- **Some tenement properties also have recycling bins**

We carried out a survey of all our tenements to find out which of our existing bin-stores need to be modified to fit wheelie bins - and we reckon it's about 70.

In addition to any changes needed to the actual bin stores, we've gathered information about the length of paths from front close to external bin store, the steepness of those paths and whether there are external steps at the front and/or the rear. We'll be working with the Council to make sure any changes we made would allow them to empty the new wheelie bins. This is important because the Council have rules about how far their staff

can pull bins, the number of steps on the way and the steepness of slope which is acceptable to them.

We know that not all properties are the same and therefore modifying some areas will be more complicated and costly than others.

We're talking to the Council to find out exactly what needs to be done and what they're prepared to offer in terms of helping us make the changes needed for the new wheelie bins. We'll keep you updated on any progress made. You can also log onto the Council's website for more information and Frequently Asked Questions about **Glasgow City Council's Bin Replacement Programme**.

In the meantime, we would appreciate your views on this matter, so please take a few moments to answer the questionnaire in this newsletter and let us know your thoughts. Thanks.



WELFARE RIGHTS SERVICE

Are you receiving everything you're entitled to?

Calvay's Welfare Rights Service provides Tribunal Representation and Money Advice to local tenants. We also make sure you're receiving all the benefits and payments you're entitled to, as well as helping you put in claims for backdated payments if you've been missing out.

We see around 12 tenants every week to help them maximise their income. Maybe we can help you too?

Last year we helped tenants claim back a total of £584,688. Of this £124,271 was in backdated claims for Housing Benefit and Discretionary Housing Payment.

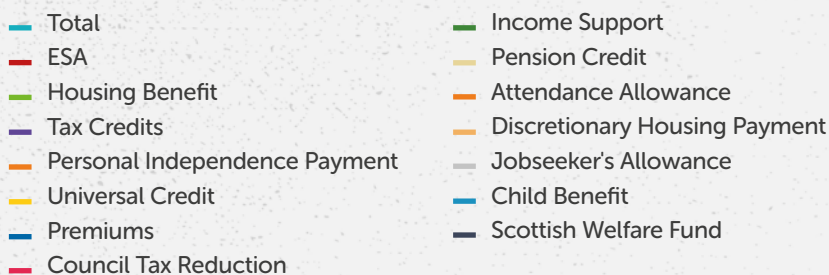
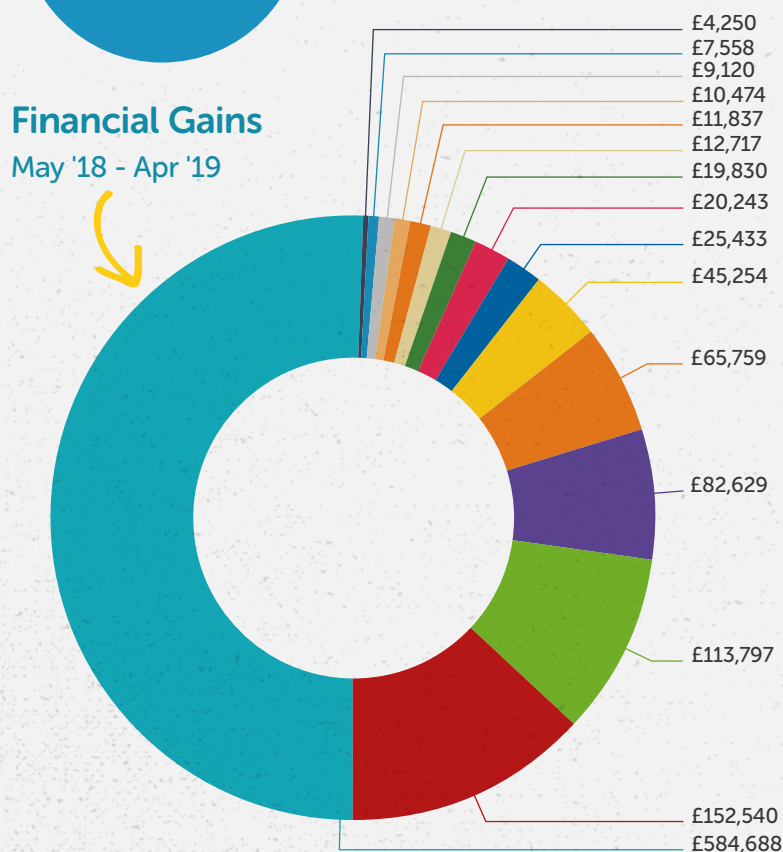
If you're having problems paying your rent or would just like to know if you're entitled to welfare benefits, call Dawn our Welfare Rights Officer on **0141 771 7722**.



Welfare Rights

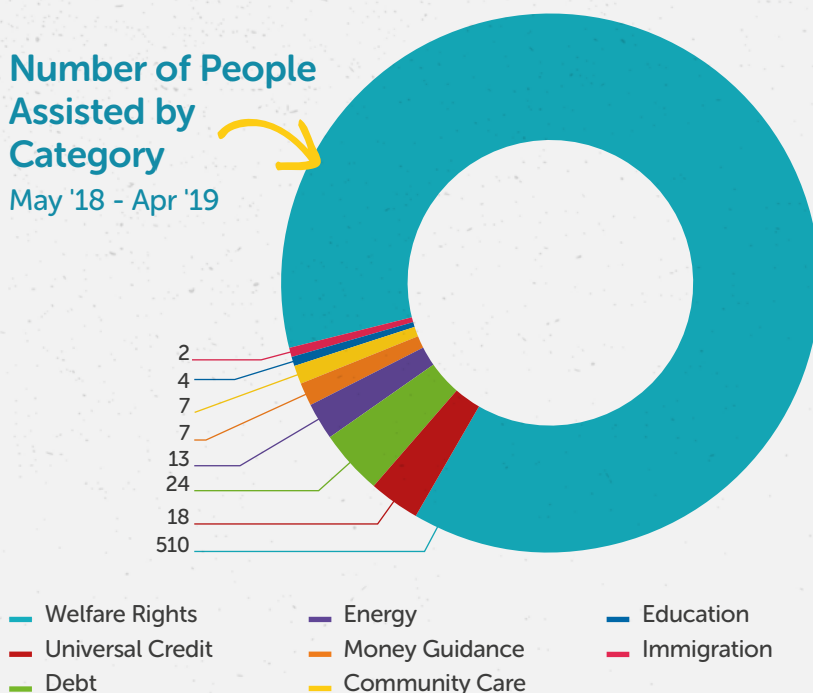
Financial Gains

May '18 - Apr '19



Number of People Assisted by Category

May '18 - Apr '19



BENEFITS UPDATE

Universal Credit

This is now up and running for all new claims for:

- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Related Employment & Support Allowance
- Housing Benefit

You can make a claim at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-universal-credit>. If you need help to apply, please contact Dawn, our Welfare Rights Officer on **0141 771 7722**.

Remember

Not everyone needs to make a claim for Universal Credit. Some people can continue with their legacy benefits, so contact Dawn today to make sure you're getting the right advice.

Carer's Allowance Supplement

If you live in Scotland and receive a Carer's Allowance, you could be due a Carer's Allowance Supplement of £452.40 per year, paid in two instalments of £226.20. You don't have to do anything to claim the payments. If you think you might be due this, but haven't received it, please contact Dawn at the office for advice.

Best Start Grant

Universal Credit

There's now additional income available for some families.

To qualify you must live in Scotland and receive:

- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Related Employment & Support Allowance
- Housing Benefit
- Pension Credit
- Universal Credit

Pregnancy & Baby Payment

The Scottish Government will provide low income families with £600 for the birth of a first child and £300 for subsequent children. You can apply from the 24th week of your pregnancy, up to the day your baby is 6 months old. Where there's a change in childcare responsibility, such as you've adopted a child, this time goes up to 1 year old.

To claim your new Pregnancy & Baby Payment call **0800 182 2222** or visit www.mygov.scot/pregnancy-and-baby-payment/

Early Learning Grants

There's now a new Early Learning Grant for children aged 2-3 ½ years. You can apply from your child's second birthday up to the day your child is 3 years 6 months old. If you can get the Early Learning Payment, you'll be paid £250 for each child you can get the payment for.

To claim your new Early Learning Grant call **0800 182 2222** or visit www.mygov.scot/early-learning-payment

School Age Grants

There are now also School Age Grants - a one off payment of £250 for eligible families around the time a child would normally start Primary 1, although there are exact dates when you must apply, depending on when your child was born.

Your child's date of birth

Between 1 March 2014 and
28 February 2015

Between 1 March 2015 and
29 February 2016

When you need to apply

Between 3 June 2019 and
29 February 2020

Between 1 June 2020 and
28 February 2021



EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Gas/Heating

For all gas central heating and boiler repairs, you should contact Gas Sure on **01294 468 113**. This number is available 24/7, but should only be used outwith office hours to report an emergency repair.

Smell Gas?

If you smell gas or suspect a gas escape, you should call Scottish Gas Networks on **0800 111 999** immediately.

If you smell gas or think you may have a gas leak, Scotia Gas Network provides the following advice:

- **DON'T** smoke or strike matches.
- **DON'T** turn electrical switches on or off.
- **DO** put out naked flames.
- **DO** open doors and windows.
- **DO** keep people away from the area affected.
- **DO** turn off the meter at the control valve.

Power Cut?

In the event of a power cut, you should contact SP Energy Networks on **0800 092 9290** or 105 free from your mobile.

Other Emergency Repairs

If you need any other emergency repair carried out while the office is closed, please contact City Building on **0800 595 595**.

Contact Details:

Calway Housing Association
The Calway Centre
16 Calway Rd, Barlanark
Glasgow, G33 4RE
Phone: 0141 771 7722
www.calway.org.uk

Office Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm

Resident Paul Narloch has sent us in another brilliant poem, the subject matter this time being horoscopes.



How Horace Copes

Astrological signs ae eternal time.
Zodiac readings, some ae which rhyme.
Celestial bodies, becoming together.
Stars straighten up, a future that's mine.

The Ram that supplied, The Golden Fleece wools.
Is followed by, the great Taurus Bulls.
Each sign spans, an exact 30 degrees.
Heeding its ain, in hoose rules.

The Gemini Project, a spaceship for two.
Twins, Castor and Pollux will form this crew.
Wired tae the Moon, is Tropic of Cancer.
In dark unlit skies, wi Crabsticks tae chew.

Leo the Lion is part ae the pride.
Wi its fiery mane and impenetrable hide.
Fair maiden VIRGO, Parthenos in Greece.
The last immortal tae abandon Earth's side.



Themis balancin' oot the scale.
Her custom and laws, bound tae fail.
Rich in colours, reds, broons and blacks.
Mind the sting in Scorpions tail.



Sagittarius, Half-Human, half horse.
He pulls back the bow and arches his torse.
Capricorn goat wi tail ae a fish.
Handy for butting and swimming due course.

Constellation Aquarius, aka Ganymede.
Bearing water tae flocks in need.
Twa Koi fish duly, captured by string.
Paving the way for Aphrodite tae lead.

Some read wi view, ae solace tae mend.
Others share it oan, text and send.
Blissfully ignorant or taken tae heart.
Stars shinin' bright, read tae the end.

