

February 1997



"A Community with Commitment"

News

ANNUAL RENT INCREASE

Once again the Management Committee have had the unenviable and difficult task of looking at the Co-operatives rental and other income, outgoings, future service provision and the amount of income the Co-operative has to generate over the coming year to meet its budget.

Obviously, and unfortunately, one of the main ways the Committee intends to raise its income is through increasing its rental income which, in effect, means a rise in rents. This year the Committee have determined that rents must be

increased by 4.5%.

In addition to this percentage rent increase the co-operative has reviewed its rent setting policy. This means that some Tenants rents may rise by more than the annual percentage increase.

The co-operative has attempted to keep such increases to a minimum. The co-operative is required to make such changes by Scottish Homes. It, along with the rest of the Scottish Housing movement attempts to resist such requirements as

much as possible.

The co-operative will also be looking at the costs of the services it provides to its Tenants and members and will be aiming to achieve value for money i.e. a quality service at a reasonable cost, so that future rent increases can be kept to a minimum. You shall receive notification at the end of February of your new rent charge. You do not need to advise the Housing Benefit Dept. of this increase as the Housing Management staff shall do this.

NEW BUS SHELTER FOR EDINBURGH RD.

In December 1996 the Co-operative wrote to Strathclyde Passenger Transport (S.P.T.) to request a new bus shelter for Edinburgh Rd at Calvay Rd.

In a response to this letter, S.P.T. stated that they would recommend this stop for a final shelter because it is so exposed. They also stated that this recommendation was being made reluctantly due to the amount of vandalism made to the previous shelters.

If this recommendation is accepted it is likely that the new shelter will be provided within the next eight weeks. However if this shelter is vandalised, no further shelters shall be provided at this stop.

We would ask all local residents to help monitor the shelter and protect it from vandalism as far as possible.

MAINTENANCE UPDATE

GAS CENTRAL HEATING SERVICING

All Tenants should have received a visit from the contractor carrying out the servicing of the heating systems.

If you have not received a visit in the last few months, contact Tracy Johnston at the co-operative office to arrange an appointment for the contractor to call.

GARDENING SEASON

With Spring fast approaching it is now time to start to clean up your gardens.

You should lift and clear any dead shrubs and cut back rose bushes.

Those areas that you intend to plant in should be forked over. This will allow the frost to break up in the soil.

Following these tips should ensure that your garden is prepared for sowing seeds in March for Summer flowers.

GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Co-operative Tenants are entitled to apply to Glasgow City Council for assistance with their garden maintenance.

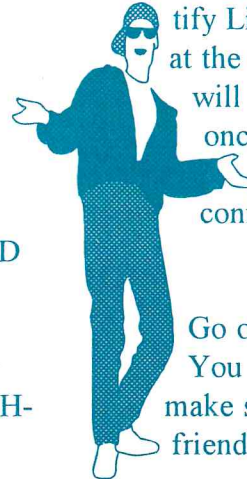
All applications must be made through the Co-operative. To be eligible you must have a medical condition which prevents you from doing garden maintenance, or be of pensionable age, and have no other able bodied adults living in your household.

If you are interested in finding out more about this scheme, contact Patricia at the office.

CYBERZONE - TRAINING

Cyberzone are offering training in the following areas -

COMPUTER SKILLS
PHOTOGRAPHY
VIDEO PRODUCTION
BEAUTY AND HAIR
FIRST AID
RECORDING
STUDIO TECHNIQUES.



they are free of charge. The Youth Group is organising this training. Anyone interested should notify Lisa or Sharon at the office. Dates will be arranged once numbers have been confirmed.

Go on have a go. You may even make some new friends.

The main emphasis of the courses is fun and

WATCH THIS SPACE!

Do you have anything that you would like to advertise or publicise in the Calvay News?

The co-op is offering a free service to all of it's Tenants and members. Maybe you want to everyone know about the birth of a baby, a wedding, engagement or special anniversary.

Maybe its an event or fund raising activity you want to publicise. You may even wish to advertise your business.

Budding journalists

out there may even want to contribute articles covering issues of local interest (everyone has to start somewhere).

If you have any ideas about how else the Co-op could make use of the newsletter we would be happy to hear them.

If you wish to make use of this service, contribute articles or make any comments, contact Patricia or Debbie at the office.

HOUSING STUDIES- PAID TRAINING

Glasgow College of Building & Printing are running a Housing Studies course from Monday 10 February 1997. The course runs for 18 weeks and a training allowance of £60 per week and travelling expenses are paid. No academic qualifications are required to gain entry to the course. Greater Easterhouse residents will be favourably considered.

Assistance with child care expenses can be arranged for those requiring it during the day, or after school, for dependant children.

Anyone interested should contact the I.D.E.A.S. Shop, 40 Shandwick Square, on 771-5591.

LITTERBUGS !

The look of the Calvay area is becoming more and more run down due to the amount of litter that is being carelessly thrown away - not only by children ! Picking up all of this rubbish costs the co-operative, and ultimately you (through rent charges) a lot of money. Could everyone

please be more careful, and ask your children to bring all of their litter back to the house.

Together we can make Calvay a more pleasant area to live in.



Don't forget

To return your housing benefit claim form.

General Meeting on 10th March, 1997 at 7.00 pm

Youth Club Volunteers meeting on Tues 25th Feb. 6.30pm. In the Advice Centre

The Advice Centre is available for hire. Contact a member of the Social Activities Group for more information.

The Housing Management Staff are available by appointment only.

Committee Surgery on 11th March

Housing Management Update

Gail and Patricia will both be attending the SFHA's annual Housing Management conference on 11th & 12th February, 1997.

Whilst this means that there will be no appointments available for Housing Management staff on these dates, someone should be available in the office to help you in the case of any emergen-

cies.

Estate Management

Gail will now be spending all Fridays on Estate Management duties. This will include checking stair cleaning. Unfortunately close rotas have not yet been distributed for this year. If you require one urgently contact Gail at the office.

New Build Phase Two - Cottage Flats

Interested in owning your own home?

Don't look any further. There are only two shared ownership flats remaining in our highly sought after new build development in Barlanark Drive.

Fixed Price £35,000

Should you wish to view the flats, or require any more information on Shared Ownership in general, please contact Clare at the office.

Don't delay - first-come, first-served basis in operation!



HOUSING FOR GLASGOW- PUBLIC MEETING

Shelter, the national campaigning group for the homeless, is holding a public meeting (open to everyone) on Friday 7 March 1997 in The Council Chambers, Strathclyde House 5, Elmbank Street, Glasgow.

The issue that will be discussed is how the current housing and homelessness situation can be improved. This

meeting is being held as part of Shelter's "Housing for Good" campaign.

On 7 March, Shelter will also be holding a street collection to raise funds to support the campaign. Please help out if you can.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER

The Co-operative's Management Committee is keen to see the range of activities in the area increased.

This will be done in co-operation with the social activities group and the youth group.

To help us promote such activities the Co-operative has appointed a Community Development Worker, Sharon Mooney.

Sharon shall be working part-time and she

would be interested in hearing of any ideas that you have for developing activities. Anyone interested in volunteering to help out with the activities can contact Sharon through the co-operative office.

Details of all activities will be publicised in the newsletter, so watch this space!

LOTTERY TIPS

To celebrate the new mid-week draw, this month's tips are special lucky Wednesday numbers only. They are:

7,9,14,19,27,33. Good luck - and don't forget where you got those numbers from!