

May 1999



"A Community with Commitment"

News



HERE WE GO!



At long last the final piece of funding for the upgrading and extension of the Activities Centre is in place. The Social Action Group received word of a grant of £64,575 from the Scottish Arts Council. Together with other grants from the Partnership Management Board, SHACT and the Co-operative this allows the Social Action Group to place a contract to carry out the works.

The contractor, Caledonian (1986) Limited will start work on Tuesday 4 May. The contract will create a high quality facing brick frontage on the whole of the shops block including the general store. It will also provide an enlarged and improved hall, which can be sub divided into three offices, toilet and kitchen facilities.

We expect the work to take approximately three months. Once the new hall becomes available the Social Action Group, the Youth Group, and other organisations will be able to increase the range of activities available for all sections of the community. The Arts Council funding has enabled us to create a good quality hall which will be an excellent venue for local Arts activities.

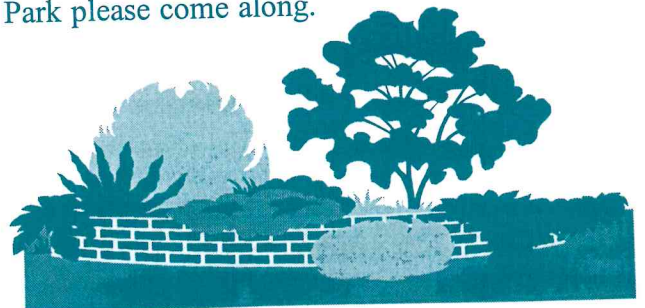
With the support of the Co-operative, the Social Work Department and other agencies the Social Action Group is continuing to pursue additional funds. These funds would be used to employ staff and broaden still further the range of activities available in the centre.

BARLANARK RECREATION GROUND

The new Barlanark Park is beginning to take shape with the first of the new play equipment being installed. It is making a real impact on the skyline of the park and the approach to the Co-operative area through the park.

The next stage in the renewal of the Park is to make arrangements for items of public art to be incorporated in the works. This will be done in association with Impact Arts but we hope it will involve members of the community in the design process.

The next meeting to deal with the redevelopment of the Park will take place on Tuesday 4 May at 2.00 pm at the old library, 78/80 Barlanark Road. If you are interested in the redevelopment of the Park please come along.



ELECTION HUSTINGS

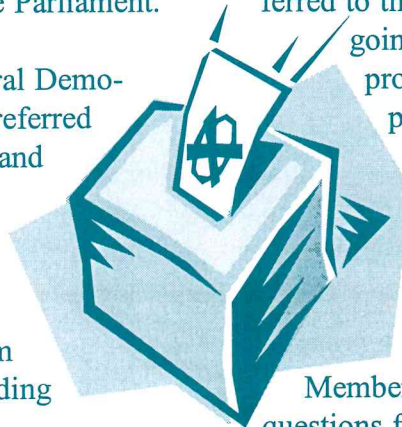
The Scottish Parliament election came to Calvey last Monday with a hustings for local residents and representatives of Greater Easterhouse Housing Associations and Co-op's. Tam Kay chaired the meeting. He wished all candidates well and looked forward to working with whoever is elected to serve in the Parliament.

Judith Fryer of the Scottish Liberal Democrats started the meeting. Judith referred to the problem of damp housing and outlined plans for a 'Healthy Homes Task Force'. Judith expressed her party's support for Associations and Co-op's and identified the need to enable them to plan ahead through 3 year funding agreements.

Labour's Margaret Curran emphasised the importance of tackling the City's housing problems. Margaret referred to three key objectives: addressing housing debt; generating investment, and; stable rents. Referring to the proposed transfer of Council stock she said no other party had proposed a real alternative. Margaret expressed an interest in the views of

Associations and Co-op's and emphasised the importance of true community ownership.

Dorothy Grace Elder of the SNP said that it was unanimous that something needed to be done about the City's housing. Dorothy referred to the need to increase the resources going into housing to tackle the problems of growing homelessness, particularly among women and children fleeing domestic violence. She spoke of the Glasgow Campaign Against Stock Transfer and its support among Tenants' Associations.



Members of the panel then responded to questions from the audience, mainly from local tenants and residents. Much of the question time was dominated by concerns at the Council's stock transfer proposals. Tenants were particularly concerned at the poor communication between the City Council and local residents affected by housing demolition.

Remember: On May 6th - Use Your Vote

H.O.M.E.S.

H.O.M.E.S. is a national mobility scheme designed to help people move between areas. Basically it is for people who need to move:

- to be closer to work
- for support due to a medical problem
- to give support to someone with a medical problem
- fleeing violence or harassment

If you are looking to move to another area for any of the above reasons contact Patricia or Gail at the office who will give you advice and assistance to apply through this scheme.

INTERNAL TRANSFERS

Have you outgrown your house, or has it outgrown you? or do you want a change of scenery? The Co-op keeps a waiting list for internal transfers only (i.e. for it's own tenants).



If you are looking for a move, contact Geraldine at reception for a application form. Don't wait until you see an empty house, it will be too late by then.

HOUSING MANAGEMENT UPDATE

HOUSING BENEFIT REVIEW

All tenants in receipt of Housing Benefit will now have received a review form. The closing date for return of these forms is 28 May 1999 but don't wait until then to return it as you may forget.

If you have lost your form, call into the office and pick up a new one. If you need help in filling out the form, contact someone at the office for assistance.

You can either return your form to the Co-operative office where it will be photocopied and a receipt obtained from the City Council, or return it to the City Council office at 30 Pendeen Road.

COMMITTEE SURGERY

The next Committee Surgery will be held at the Co-operative office on 8 June 1999 at 6.30 pm. No appointment is necessary. You may call into the Surgery to speak directly to the Committee regarding any issue.

Committee Surgeries are only held quarterly. If you have any issues to raise outwith the dates of sitting, please do not hesitate to contact a member of staff to discuss it.

STAGE 3 ADAPTATIONS

Do you or any of your household suffer from an illness or disability which would benefit from a disabled adaptation, for example an over-bath shower or walk-in shower?

The Co-operative has received money from Scottish Homes for this purpose and is presently accepting referrals from tenants who require this work.

If you would like more information, please contact Patricia at the office.

MAINTENANCE UPDATE

STAIR CLEANING

The Co-operative currently employ sub-contractors to carry out cleaning in various closes in the Co-operative area. This service is offered to the elderly and the infirm only.

Should you wish to register with the Co-operative for this service, please contact Tracy Johnston for more information or an application form.

GAS CENTRAL HEATING SERVICE

Cunningham Group have been attempting to gain access to various properties to carry out an annual service to the gas fire and back boiler system.

If you are one of these tenants where access has not been granted for whatever reason, please contact Tracy Johnston at the office to arrange access.

For your own safety, it is important that this work is carried out as soon as possible. If this work is not carried out, the emergency service may be withheld.

LANDSCAPE/GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Land Engineering Ltd. are on site doing the landscape maintenance. The contract started 2 weeks ago and the area has improved dramatically.

Please be reminded that under your tenancy agreement, private gardens should be kept tidy at all times.

Should you require assistance in carrying out grass cutting, etc in your garden due to ill health or disabilities please contact Tracy Johnston at the office for an application form.

GREATER EASTERHOUSE FOYER

Following an initiative by the Co-operative a number of organisations from throughout Greater Easterhouse and beyond have been examining a new approach to meeting the needs of young people in the area. With the help of consultants DTZ Pinda, the group are investigating the possibility of setting up a Foyer in Greater Easterhouse.

Foyers are an idea recently introduced to Scotland from France, and from England. Foyers aim to meet the needs of young people who are either homeless or threatened with homelessness. Unlike other initiatives they deal with the whole range of issues facing vulnerable

young people: housing; employment and training, and; social issues.

Funding for the work being carried out by the consultants has come from the City Council, the Health Board, Scottish Homes, the Glasgow Development Agency and the Partnership Management Board. This demonstrates the widespread commitment to tackling the needs of young people in the community.

A study tour took place some weeks ago, when a group from Greater Easterhouse visited the three existing Foyers in Scotland, Cumbernauld, Aberdeen and Kirkcaldy.

BLOOMING GARDENS!



All you budding gardeners will be glad to hear that the Co-operative will be reintroducing its gardening competition this summer.

Although plans for the competition were suspended last year, this year it is guaranteed.

Garden inspections will take place with a local dignitary, approximately at the end of July/beginning of August 1999. Details will be confirmed later, so watch this space and get digging!

JOB VACANCIES

The Co-op receives notice from various organisations, of job vacancies, or training schemes, ranging from bus drivers to Chief Executives.

These vacancies are displayed on the notice boards in reception. Please feel free to pop in during office hours to look through them.

LOCHFIELD PARK CO-OPERATIVE

*has improved flats
for sale at its latest refurbished
development at
GLENGYRE STREET*

**2 bedroom flats starting from
£24,500**

The properties have:-

- Double Glazed Windows
- Full Height French Windows
 - Gas Central Heating
 - Quality Fitted Kitchen
- Coloured Bathroom Suite
- Private Front and Back Gardens to Ground Floor Flats

For an information pack, please contact:

**Lochfield Park Co-operative Ltd,
10 Dalilea Drive, Easterhouse,
Glasgow, G34 0EJ
Tel: 0141 771 2228**