



# 2023 Gardening Competition

Spring is now here and we are looking for tenants to participate in our garden competition. Some of the winners from last year included best overall garden, grow your own and the children's choice which was a spot prize as the winning garden caught their eye. We had a great time judging the gardens last year at the annual gala day where members of the community got to choose their favourites.

This year we are going to add something a little bit different! We are looking to see who can come up with the **best "recycled" pop up garden**. What ideas can you come up with that entails using recycled containers to transform your space? This could be anything from a milk carton to plant herbs or an old wellington boot to plant flowers!

**Top Tip!** A great idea for planting seedlings is to use empty toilet roll holders. Fold over the bottom to give it a base, fill with soil and plant your seeds. Once they are big and strong, transfer them, toilet roll and all, straight into the soil. Because the holder is biodegradable it will disintegrate over time. If you decide to give this idea a go, keep a timeline of pictures and submit these at the closing date of Friday 28 July.

To take part in this year's competition, please either:

- complete the form on the back page of this newsletter
- download the form from our website
- pick up a form from our reception

## Easter Weekend

The office will close on Thursday 6 April at 5pm for the Easter weekend holiday and will re-open on Tuesday at 9am. Any emergency repairs during this time can be reported by calling **0141 887 4053** and following the instructions.

# Staff update

It's a big welcome back to our volunteer co-ordinator Bobbie McCabe who has returned to work on a phased basis. We are in no doubt she was sorely missed by the community. However, this means we say goodbye to Lewis Nesbitt who has been covering Bobbie's post. We would like to thank Lewis for all of the hard work he has done here in the Tannahill for the community of Ferguslie Park.

Congratulations to our Property Asset Manager Gavin Johnston who recently qualified as a Passivehaus Designer which will help us as we plan for how our housing will be more energy efficient in future years.

Welcome to our new staff member Heather Duffus who will be meeting and greeting customers in reception.

The Ferguslie Group are undertaking the LGBT youth charter and to compliment this staff member Teresa Gallagher recently completed a course to become the Groups Equality Diversity and Inclusion Champion. The group are committed to actively promoting, celebrating and raising awareness of equality, diversity and inclusion issues within the workplace and the community.



Heather Duffus



## Equalities Monitoring

We are collecting equality information on our tenants which enables us to plan and deliver effective services and to meet our legal and regulatory obligations. We are now conducting an exercise to gather this information from our tenant base and ask that you take part in this, all information will be processed confidentially and in strict line with data protection laws.

If you are interested in taking part in this survey you have the option to be entered into our prize draw for £50 ASDA voucher.

Taking part is easy, you can do it in 3 ways:

- Scan the QR Code which will take you to the online survey
- Download the form <https://fpha.org.uk/tenant-consultations/> complete and return it by email to [teresagallagher@fpha.org.uk](mailto:teresagallagher@fpha.org.uk), please don't forget to give permission to be entered into the prize draw by giving us your name, address and contact number.
- Request a paper copy or collect one from our reception





# Find My Gas Engineer...



Gas Sure, who carry out all the Association's Gas Maintenance work, is launching a new online service where tenants can track the progress of the engineer planned to visit your home.



Whenever a service or repair call is booked with Gas Sure, customers will be given a link by email or text that allows them to see details of when the job is planned. On the day of the service, customers will receive a link giving an estimated time of the engineers arrival which will be within a 15 minute timescale. The new system will also give real time location of your engineer, so on the day customers will receive a link allowing them to track the engineer.

We know your time is important and by having live up to date information the aim is to minimise the disruption to your day as much as possible.

The service is due to go live in the coming weeks and as you book in your annual service or have to report a gas repair you will get more information then.

## Grounds Maintenance

We are delighted to welcome In-Work Enterprise as our new grounds maintenance contractor who have recently started working with the Association. In-Work are a Social Enterprise which means they invest any profits back to the business and communities to provide opportunities for people who have had health issues by providing training, voluntary and work-related opportunities including landscaping and grounds maintenance. It is hoped that In-Work will be able to work with local people and individuals over the coming months.

Our Grounds Maintenance Service also includes the ability to cut tenants grass and we maintain over 120 gardens through our Garden Tidy Scheme.



The Garden Tidy Scheme is open to tenants who have reached pension age or have mobility or other issues that prevent them from being able to maintain their garden.

To apply to be part of the Garden Tidy Scheme give us a call or pop into the office to leave your details.



# Bulk Uplift Service

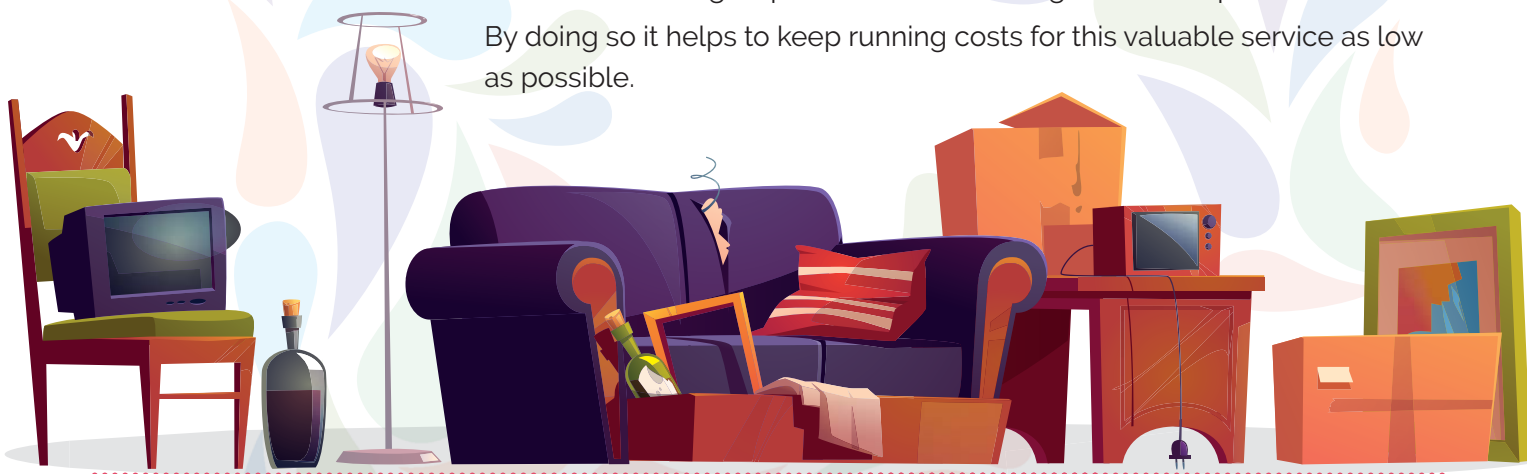
The Association offers a bulk uplift service where tenants can arrange of the disposal of bulk items from your house. In the past year we arranged over 640 bulk uplifts from tenants.

The cost of this service is around £40,000 per year and is clearly well used. The Association has worked hard in recent years and we now spend just under half what we used to through better planning and use of contractors and how waste is dealt with.

We have noticed an increase in bulk uplift requests for items that do not necessarily need a bulk uplift. We would ask you to remember that the bulk service is really for items that do not fit in your refuse and recycling bins, for example furniture and old white goods.

Items such as bin bags of rubbish or cardboard can be disposed of using your normal wheelie bins and we would ask tenants to think about what's being disposed of before asking for a bulk uplift.

By doing so it helps to keep running costs for this valuable service as low as possible.



## Investment in Homes<sup>update</sup>

We have just completed a programme of bathroom upgrades in the past few weeks to over 30 houses costing over £100,000 and the feedback from tenants has been excellent.

At the moment we are developing a new programme for the installation of new windows and doors and expect work to start later in the year.

In addition to this, we are also piloting some new technologies in some houses to improve the energy efficiency especially when new heating systems are being required to be fitted. This work is all part of some other investigations we are carrying out so we can better understand what is needed to make your homes cost effective to heat and to considerably reduce the carbon emissions from houses. We would like to thank those tenants who have helped us by giving access to your homes for varying works and investigations as part of this.

In the near future we will begin to share our plans and outcomes from our research as we start to think about how we play our part in reducing energy to better deal with climate change.





# Tannahill Centre Update

## COMING SOON AT THE TANNAHILL CENTRE

### Easter Egg Hunt

**Saturday 8th April 2023**

The Youth Voice Group will be holding a Free Easter Hunt on Saturday 8 April 2023 from 11am to 1pm in the Tannahill Centre. The event is open to children and young people of all ages. The young volunteers look forward to seeing you there!

### Family Fun Day

**Sunday 16th April 2023**

The Love Church are holding a Free Family Fun Day in the Tannahill Centre from 11:00 am on Sunday 16th April 2023.



**TANNY EVENTS TEAM PRESENTS**

**THE ROD STEWART EXPERIENCE**

The Tannahill Centre  
Saturday 27th May  
7.30pm - till late

Tickets £10

**BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE**

### The Rod Stewart Experience

**Saturday 27th May 2023**

The Tanny Events Team are holding a bring your own bottle night with leading Rod Stewart Tribute Act – James Frew. Tickets cost £10.00.



NO SUBSTITUTE MEN'S GROUP PRESENT

**A NIGHT OF**  
*live music*  
**AND STAND UP**  
*Comedy*

LEE KYLE MC EDDY MACKENZIE  
CHRIS DINWOODIE  
OBIE AIMLESS NOMADS

**SATURDAY 29TH APRIL**  
**7.30PM - TILL LATE**

Tickets £10 B.Y.O.B

### Live Music and Comedy Night

**Saturday 29th April 2023**

The No Substitute Men's Group will be holding a night of live music and stand up comedy to raise funds for the annual No Substitute for Life Football Tournament held in the summer in memory of those who have been lost to suicide.

Compered by one of the UK's most inventive comedians Lee Kyle, he will be joined by Obie, Eddy MacKenzie and his tiny guitar as well as Chris Dinwoodie, a Scottish comedy circuit regular who combines magic with humour. Live music will be supplied by local frontman Steven Donnell and his band the Aimless Nomads.

# Congratulations to the young volunteers!

Over the past six months, young volunteers have been working with our Youth Development Worker Laura to develop their skills, knowledge and confidence gaining qualifications, running events for the local community and working with organisations such as Youth Scotland to learn more about money management. Well done to all the young people involved!



## Award Win for The Tannahill Centre!

The hard work of volunteers, staff and community groups was recognised by the business community in Renfrewshire at the Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce 2022 ROCCO Awards.

## Volunteers cooking up a storm in their new kitchen

Thanks to funding from the Scottish Government with support from FPHA's contractors James Frew, a new kitchen was installed in the Community Room. The 25-year-old kitchen was replaced with modern new kitchen units, sinks and white goods.



# What's On

You can pick up a copy of our What's On leaflet listing all of the activities that take place within the centre. You can pick up an up-to-date What's On from the Tannahill Centre reception.



As well as our usual activities, we also have a number of new services starting...

## Free Yoga Classes

Thanks to funding from Engage Renfrewshire's Mental Health and Wellbeing the Tannahill Centre will be running a series of free Yoga classes starting on Wednesday 19th April from 10am to 11am in the Main Hall. To reserve your place please email [gordonlarkin@fpha.org.uk](mailto:gordonlarkin@fpha.org.uk) or call **0141 280 8801**.

The Tannahill Centre have a

# Free YOGA Class



Starting Wednesday  
19th April 10 - 11am

BOOK YOUR PLACE BY  
emailing [gordonlarkin@fpha.org.uk](mailto:gordonlarkin@fpha.org.uk)

ENGAGE RENFREWSHIRE

Tannahill Centre  
at the heart of Ferguslie

FLAIR  
Federation of Local Housing Associations  
Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire

Ferguslie Park  
Housing Association

## Men's Group Update

### Football sessions

Every Monday night at Ferguslie Sports Centre from 6pm to 7pm, £3 per session. This is open to anyone over 16 and of varied abilities.

Jones & Us is running a free **Men's Fitness Group** starting on Tuesday 18th April at 10am here in the Tannahill Centre. Drop-in for more information.



## Free Zumba Classes

Roar Connects for Life are running a block of eight Zumba classes every Tuesday night from 7:00 pm here in the Tannahill Centre.

Sign up here: <https://www.roarforlife.org>



Ferguslie Park  
Housing Association

# GARDEN COMPETITION

## Nomination Form

To nominate someone or yourself please tell us:

Your name

Address

and/or the name & address of the friend/neighbour you'd like to nominate:

Please tick which Category you are entering into:

Best overall garden ☐

Grow your own ☐

Pop up garden ☐

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