

## World Cup Competition 2018

You don't need to be a football expert to have a go in our World Cup Competition. Wouldn't it be great to do better than the football expert in your house?! There are two £100 prizes. Firstly, predict the scores in the 1st Round group matches. A correct score gets you 3 points. A correct result with a different score gets you 1 point. The person with most points after the 1st round wins £100. The second £100 prize is to anyone who can predict who will contest the World Cup Final on 15 July. (Competition is for Blochairn residents. Entrants must be 16 years or over. In the event of a tie the prize money will be split equally. You can still enter after the competition starts on 14 June).



## LifeLink (www.lifelink.org.uk) (Tel: 552 4434)

Self harming and thoughts of suicide are more common than you think.

You are not alone.  
Contact LifeLink. Phone 552 4434



## Useful Phone Numbers

Heating/Hot Water Emergencies (James Frew Ltd)	01294 468 113/0870 242 5037
All Other Emergencies (City Building)	0800 595 595
Blochairn Housing Association (Staff on Call)	07976 569 939
Housing Benefit & Council Tax Revenue Centre	287 5050
Scottish Power	0845 272 7111
Scottish Power Emergencies	0845 27 27 999
Scottish Gas (Escapes)	0845 609 1122 (0800 111 999)
Clean Glasgow	0300 343 7027
City Council - Pest Control and Cleansing	287 9700
Police SCOTLAND	101 (in an Emergency, dial 999)
CCTV Cameras - StreetWatch	287 9999
Social Work Services Emergencies	0800 811 505
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)	945 6350 or 0800 80 70 60
THISTLE Tenants Risks Insurance	0845 601 7007

## Staff Contact Details

Michael Carberry (Director)	michael@blochairn.org	553 0023
Angela MacDonald (Housing Services Officer)	angela@blochairn.org	553 0022
Danielle Murphy (Housing Services Assistant)	Danielle@blochairn.org	553 0021
Kaye McFall (Housing Services Assistant)	kaye@blochairn.org	553 0024
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Scottish Charity No. SCO40816

Property Factor No. PF000257

June 2018

## Blochairn Housing Association Newsletter

### Annual General Meeting + Special General Meeting

The Association will hold an AGM and a SGM on Tuesday 26 June. The SGM is to ask the Members to adopt the latest Rules to comply with current legislation and with the Scottish Housing Regulator's requirements. If you are a Member and are interested in joining the Management Committee please contact the Association's Director, Michael Carberry, for more information. You can email michael@blochairn.org. There will be prize draws and the Community Citizenship Awards will be announced for Royston Primary and Saint Roch's Primary. The next newsletter will show the agenda for both meetings. If you are not a Member you can pick up an application at the Association's office. It only costs £1 to join the Association.

# AGM 2018

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## Major Repairs



The Major Repairs contract at Contract 1 (324/330 Roystonhill) is almost complete. Feedback from residents has been good, with new windows and the classy, glass close doors particular favourites. Internal closes and railings will be painted soon and some new slabs laid in the backcourts. The next phase of the Major Repairs programme will begin in August/September at Contract 2 (20/30 Dunolly Street & 227/231 Millburn Street) and work will follow directly on to Contract 3 at (14/18 Blochairn Road & 2/6 Cloverbank Street). Under the **Planned Maintenance** programme **new kitchens and boilers** have been fitted at Contract 6

(Cloverbank Street/Gardens). Again feedback has been very positive. Surveys for **new bathrooms** at Contract 3 have been completed and work should begin in July.



## Facebook



Check out the Association's Facebook page. It has 590 "Followers". There's a mix of serious stuff but humour as well. See what you think.



## National Accommodation Strategy for Sex Offenders (NASSO)



The **NASSO Awareness Group (NAG)** continues to press for answers in the George Cameron case. In 2012, Cameron was a **GHA** tenant in Toryglen when, aged 68, he **seriously sexually assaulted** his neighbour's 4 year old son. In 2013, a **Serious Case Review** made several recommendations, including a review of how houses are allocated. There were no checks, no communication between Police, social work and housing authorities before Cameron's victim's family moved in. **There was no system in place.** The Case Review recom-

mendations included: ".....that the Glasgow Oversight Group commissions work in collaboration with all housing providers in Glasgow to undertake an audit of practice in respect of how tenants are accommodated in close proximity to Registered Sex Offenders and to identify if improvements can be made in relation to information exchange between housing providers and responsible authorities. A final report outlining any recommendations for improvement in practice around this area of business should be produced and shared with all Community Justice Authority Strategic Oversight Groups across Scotland". **This has not been done.** In 2014, Glasgow City Council's MAPPA Report 2013/2014, Recommendation 3, states: ".....that the Glasgow SOG commissions work in collaboration with all housing providers in Glasgow to undertake an audit of practice in respect of how tenants are accommodated in close proximity to Registered Sex Offenders and to identify if improvements can be made in relation to information exchange between housing providers and responsible authorities". **This has not been done.** **GHA** refused to tell the NAG how it has dealt with the recommendations. The **Scottish Public Sector Ombudsman** decided that **GHA** could chose whether to answer the question or not. The **Scottish Housing Regulator** decided that it was the **Scottish Government's responsibility** as the management of sex offenders was covered by legislation. The NAG submitted a **Freedom of Information request** and results will be known soon. Blochairn's Management Committee decided that these questions cannot remain unanswered. The NAG will support an approach to the **Housing Minister** again and the **Justice Minister**.

The NASSO is part of the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). It has never been reviewed since it was published in 2007.

The NASSO Awareness Group (NAG) is a group of housing associations who are challenging government policy on housing sex offenders in their communities. Members are located across Glasgow and include: Blochairn; Craigdale; Easthall Park; Elderpark; Gardeen; Kendoon; Kingsridge/Cleddens; Milnbank; Pineview; Provanhall and Ruchazie.

Membership has fallen because some associations are reluctant to challenge the Scottish Housing Regulator or the Scottish Government. Recent meetings have confirmed the determination of remaining members to continue.



## Tenant Bonus Scheme



Changes are afoot! The Good Neighbour Fund has been renamed the **Tenant Bonus Scheme**. The reference to being a "good neighbour" was unfair on folk who, for some reason, could not receive the Christmas Bonus. They were not necessarily "bad neighbours". A survey of Blochairn tenants will try to establish what it means to contribute to the wellbeing of the Blochairn community. It may be that, to receive a Christmas Bonus, residents will be asked to confirm that they do, or don't do, certain things. The contribution made by residents is vitally important.

Blochairn employs **only 5 staff**. It can do that because of the **good working relationship with the community** and because the majority of residents are **really good tenants and good neighbours**. Seventeen years ago Blochairn was the **first housing organisation** in Glasgow to offer a Bonus to its tenants. The Association provides a quality management and maintenance services but it also tries to create a **place where people want to live**, that they can be **proud to say they come from**. If you have any views on the Bonus scheme please let us know. This can be in total confidence. You can email the Association's Director, Michael Carberry, at michael@blochairn.org.

## Housing Services Assistants



The Association's Housing Service Assistants are your **first point of contact for issues**. Please speak to your Housing Services Assistant about anything you are concerned about. You will see them out and about regularly. They will be making sure that your property, and the area generally, are as good as they can be. Listed below are properties each Assistant



is responsible for:

Danielle Murphy  
Email: danielle@blochairn.org  
Direct Dial: 553 0021

Kaye McFall  
Email: kaye@blochairn.org  
Direct Dial: 553 0024

**Danielle Murphy**  
Cloverbank Gdns  
Cloverbank Street  
Dunolly Street  
Sandmill Street



**Kaye McFall**  
Blochairn Place  
Blochairn Road  
Millburn Street  
Roystonhill