



tenants news

The local newsletter for tenants served by
Falkirk Area Office

OCTOBER 2004

Helping to beat nuisance neighbours

WE'VE all heard stories about "neighbours from hell" and some of us have been unlucky enough to be on the receiving end. The Scottish Executive has recognised the growing problem of antisocial behaviour and recently brought out the Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004. This Act gives landlords more powers to deal with offenders and more funding has been given to help support victims too.

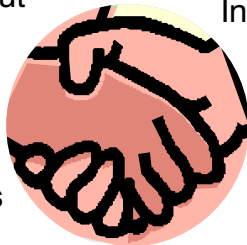
As part of our commitment to providing tenants with a high quality service, Link has entered into a joint working arrangement with Falkirk

Council's Conflict Resolution Service to help resolve neighbour disputes. The Council offers an out-of-hours helpline and a mediation service.

In cases of more serious antisocial behaviour, their Investigation and Response Team will gather evidence and, if necessary, help Link to take legal action against the offenders.

If you live in the Falkirk Council area and are experiencing problems with neighbours when Link's office is closed, please feel free to call the helpline on (01324) 504030.

For further information, please contact your Housing Services Officer.



CHARITY CHAMPIONS

TWO members of staff from Link's Falkirk Office, John Hay and Elaine McAulay, took part in the Great Scottish Run in Glasgow on 22 August. They ran on behalf of Strathcarron Hospice and Cancer Research UK and raised well over £300 in sponsorship from colleagues in the Link Group. Congratulations to both!

AWARD FOR DANIELLE'S RIVER RESCUE

THE bravery of a young Link resident in Langlees, Falkirk has been recognised with one of the Royal Humane Society's top awards.

Despite not being a strong swimmer, Danielle Whittet (13) did not hesitate to jump into the fast-flowing River Carron to pull three-year-old Scott Tetsill to safety when he fell in after wandering off from his house.

Danielle had been alerted by Scott's quick-thinking playmate, Ross Jack (4) who will receive a Certificate of Commendation for his part in the rescue.

Thankfully, Scott has made a full recovery from his ordeal.

FREE SWIMMING FOR STIRLING YOUNGSTERS

IF you live in the Stirling Council area and are aged between 12 and 16 then you can swim for free at Rainbow Slides every Friday from 8.00pm to 9.30pm. You must have a leisure card (if you don't have one you can apply at the swimming pool reception – they are free). The sessions will run from now until the end of March.

WORKING TOGETHER

LINK recently completed an environmental improvement project in Garry Place, Grangemouth. Tenants were involved from the word go, helping to decide how to make their neighbourhood a safer and more attractive place to live.

Funding was obtained from Communities Scotland and Linkwide, the Link Group's community regeneration subsidiary. The work entailed the installation of metal fencing to enclose gardens; increased drying facilities for each block; additional planting to front and back garden areas; and better external lighting.

As you can see from the photographs – the top picture shows Garry Place now, the lower one before the work was done – there has been a big improvement. A good example of tenants and Link working together.



homehuntTM
LINK



THE way we allocate tenancies has changed and we are now operating a system called Homehunt. If you wish to apply for a transfer to another property within Link you will have to register. Vacant properties are advertised every Tuesday in the Daily Record and are also available on our website: www.linkhousing.co.uk Click on "links" on the home page.

As long as you are registered you can then apply for any vacancies.

To register, please contact us on the Freephone number 0800 783 1589 and we will forward you a registration form.

UNWANTED FURNITURE

ONE of the most common complaints we get is about people dumping large unwanted items in common areas. Local councils offer a service to take away unwanted furniture etc. Here are the contact numbers:–

Falkirk	01324 504411
Stirling	0845 277 7000
Clackmannan	01259 450000
West Lothian	01506 777800
Perth & Kinross	01738 476476



Link will produce this information on request in Braille, Audio Tape, Large Print and Community Languages.

To find out more contact the Interpretation and Translation Service (Telephone 0131 242 8181).

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