

NEWSLETTER

Issue No18
Spring 2007

HANDOVER OF SCHEME AT TENNENT STREET, BELFAST

On 13 February 2007, the Association's new scheme built on the former Methodist Church Site at Tennent Street was completed by the Contractor, Donaghmore Construction.

The scheme consists of 9 units of general needs housing for the elderly which are designed to lifetime homes standard.

The scheme consists of:-

5 no 2 bed/ 3 person bungalows

4 no 2 bed/3 person flats (no lift available)

Heating of all flats and bungalows is by gas central heating and all dwellings are doubled glazed and built to 'Secured by Design standards.' There is no Scheme Supervisor/Warden service and the scheme is not linked to an emergency Careline. Any defects arising are reported through to the Contractor as the scheme is currently in a 6 months defects liability period. All nine properties have been allocated and tenants are settling into their new homes. Pictured above is Mabel McCullough with Lawrence McAdams, Chief Executive, accepting her keys for her flat at Tennent Street.



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Pictured above are the bungalows on Geoffrey Street and the flats on Tennent Street

TENNENT STREET, BELFAST

WELCOME

The Association would like to welcome its new tenants at Tennent Street/Geoffrey Street, Belfast:-
Albert & Gladys Millar, George & Kathleen Luney, Abraham Thompson, Mabel McCullough, Mary Potter,
Peter & Mary Perry, William & Anne Brown, Joseph & Margaret Smith, James & Margaret Murdoch

We hope that all tenants enjoy their new homes.

FANCY A BREAK?

BCM (Belfast Central Mission) has been co-ordinating holidays for older people since the early 1950s and is now one of the few remaining organisations to do so. Four holidays are organised every year, each of which lasts for seven days. These are followed by reunion weeks in the Autumn and Spring. The holidays take place at Childhaven, which is BCM's holiday Centre on the coast at Millisle, and they provide a week of companionship, camaraderie and lots of fun!

WHO GOES?

Each holiday caters for up to 21 older people. Those who attend vary a great deal in age and ability. However, there are three main criteria which **everyone** must meet:-

1. All bedrooms are upstairs. Guests must be mobile and able to climb stairs.
2. The centre does not provide care. *Guests must be able to look after all aspects of their personal care including health needs.*
3. The Childhaven staff are not permitted to administer drugs. *Applicants must be capable of looking after and administering their own medicine.*

All rooms are shared, and couples can be easily accommodated. The holidays are also attended by one leader and a helper. They are on hand to ensure that the holidays are enjoyable for everyone.

WHAT'S ON?

During each holiday, various day trips and shopping excursions are organised. Evening entertainment is also provided which can include Musical Groups, Old Time Dancing, Fancy Dress and Craft Exhibitions. The delicious home cooking is always a talking point with visitors to the Centre as is the warm welcome given by the staff and volunteers who run the holidays.

Janet Sewell (the holiday co-ordinator) says, *"Our holidaymakers don't seem to mind what the weather is like. Good or bad it doesn't dampen their enthusiasm. They thoroughly enjoy all the delicious home-made food prepared by the staff and join in the nightly entertainment."*

One lady who has attended several holidays said, *"You're always made to feel very at home at Childhaven. Every year you feel as though you're wanted. I love the holiday and having the company."*

INTERESTED?

Anyone interested in booking a place or finding out more should contact Janet Sewell at the address below. The full cost of each holiday is £170 and a non-refundable deposit of £20 is required to guarantee a place.

BCM, Grosvenor House,

5 Glengall Street, Belfast

Tel: 90 241917

Email:

csm@belfastcentralmission.org

Bryans house, new mossley

WELCOME

Sandra and the tenants of Bryans House would like to welcome Helen Moir, Derek McCorkell and Jimmy Stewart into their new homes and hope they enjoy their tenancy in Bryans House.

DOMESTIC ASSISTANT

A big welcome also to Maureen Skelton, Domestic Assistant. Everyone at Bryans House welcomes Maureen on board and trust she has many happy hours in the scheme.

IN BLOOM

With Spring upon us now and the daffodils and spring flowers in full bloom, Sandra wishes to thank the anonymous person/persons who planted bulbs and left us a beautiful window box. Thank you, this is much appreciated. Also thank you to Andrew and the team for keeping the grounds looking so well.

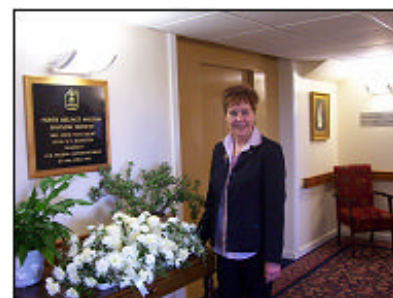


LUNCHEON CLUB

Many tenants are now enjoying the Luncheon Club now in full swing in Mossley Presbyterian Church. Reports are of good food and great craic. If you are interested in attending the club on Mondays at 12 noon, please speak to either Maureen Puggy or Sandra. A big welcome is extended from Rev Ian McDonald and everyone who makes this event all worth while.

WEDDING FLOWERS

Sandra and the tenants would also like to thank Mossley Presbyterian Church for the beautiful gift of wedding flowers that they delivered to the scheme after a recent wedding in the Church.



GRANDFATHER'S BIBLE



Pictured left is David Neill from Bryans House passing his grandfather's bible to the Chief Executive, Lawrence McAdams.

David Neill, a tenant at Bryans House, Newtownabbey recently presented an old bible belonging to his grandfather J Flack, to be displayed in Edgehill Theological College Museum in Belfast. The bible had been presented to Mr Flack on 6 September 1904 by the Superintendent of North Belfast Mission (now Newtownabbey Methodist Mission) by the Reverend 'Paddy' Maguire and Teachers of the Sunday school on his leaving the District and in recognition of his valuable services as a Teacher and Christian worker.



Mr Neill has also donated a New Testament, presented to himself on 7 November 1954, by North Belfast Mission on his reception into Church membership.

On behalf of the Church, we thank Mr Neill for his kindness and generosity in handing over these bibles to be displayed for the interest of others.

WESLEY COURT, CARRICKFERGUS



ACTIVITIES: Pictured are just some of the tenants who attend the regular coffee afternoons held in Buchanan House every Monday afternoon.

Gentle exercises classes have been very popular and enjoyed by all who attend. Hope to see more of you ladies in September.

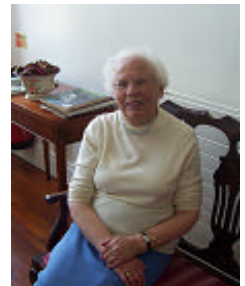
GUEST ROOM: Please note that the guest room is as popular as ever and is fully booked from May to September.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Jackie and the tenants would like to offer their congratulations to Mrs Cuerden, Mrs Hayhoe, Mr Donald, Mrs Gibson and Mrs Quinn who recently celebrated their birthdays.

WINNER

Pictured right is Helen Quinn who attended the Christmas Concert at Downshire High School and won their Christmas hamper.



WELCOME

A warm welcome is extended to Martha Hartley, our new tenant at Wesley Court.



DIAMOND WISHES

Jackie and the tenants would like to congratulate Campbell and Yvonne McNeill on their 60th wedding anniversary on 1st January 2007. Campbell and Yvonne were married in 1947 at Willowfield Parish Church and the reception was held in the Presbyterian Hostel, Howard Street. So what is the secret to 60 years married? "Give and take" says Mrs McNeill.

FLEMING/STUTT HOUSES, BELFAST

WELCOME: A very warm welcome from all in Fleming and Stutt to the new tenants:- Robert & Martha Craig, May McConkey, Violet Watters and Betty Wilson who have already been an asset to the Thursday Coffee Mornings.

EVENTS: From January, tenants have been very busy with Housie Housie, Beetle Drives and lots of chat!

In February, St Valentines Day was celebrated with a party and card making (still not sure who Bob gave his too?????)

March started with St David's Day when daffodils were planted and lovely arrangements made. Thanks to Mrs Barr who supplied the information about St. David.



NIE visited Fleming and Stutt to give tenants a talk on how to use Economy 7 more efficiently. A big thank you to Alan Morton for his very informative talk.

Our very creative Olive once again showed all how to make fantastic Easter cards with chicks and eggs galore.

WITH SADNESS: Everyone was saddened to hear that William Anderson and Dorothy Mullay both passed away in March and our condolences go to their families.

PALMERSTON RESIDENTIAL HOME



PARTY TIME

As you see from the pictures above, the residents and staff had a great time at their Christmas party held on 15th December 2006.

ACTIVITIES

Its spring time in Palmerston again and the ladies and gentlemen have been busy in Toni's craft classes. Everyone decorated their own pots which were later planted with orange and purple pansies.

On Easter Sunday, an Easter egg hunt took place and gave everyone plenty of exercise!

With the lovely warm weather, residents have been sitting outside and taking the good of it.

All the residents are looking forward to the annual outing to Newcastle and lunch in the Slieve Donard Hotel.

NEW STAFF

Welcome to Alice Brush who has joined the care staff and Carol Harrison who joined the domestic staff.

ANNUAL ANNOUNCED INSPECTION

The annual announced inspection took place on 2nd and 3rd April 2007 by the Registration and Quality and Improvement Authority.

REGISTRATION OF SOCIAL CARE WORKFORCE

All care staff, who are required to do so, have now applied for registration with the NI Social Care Council

AVOIDING UNNECESSARY CALL OUTS by the fire authority in sheltered schemes

To avoid unnecessary call outs by your local fire authority, please remember to:-

Confine smoking to the kitchen, sitting room with the hallway door closed.

When cooking, keep the hallway door closed.

Be careful when using aerosol sprays near smoke detectors. Spray downwards towards the floor.

When cooking/smoking, good ventilation is recommended ie opening windows.

When decorating, please speak to your Scheme Supervisor and obtain covers for your smoke alarms.

IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE ALARM SOUNDING WITHIN THE SCHEME

The alarm is raised by a continuous bell sound. It is essential that all tenants leave their dwellings as quickly as possible ensuring that all electrical equipment, eg cookers etc are turned off.

Do not carry bags, coats, etc with you. **Always** react when you hear a fire alarm

Do not stay in your dwelling. You should never think it may be a false alarm.

WESLEY HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD

Administration Offices:
2 Wesley Court
Carrickfergus BT38 8HS

Tel: 02893 363558
Fax: 02893 355319
Email: info@wha-ni.org
Website: www.wha-ni.org

YOUR NEWSLETTER

If you have any stories, poems, photographs etc that you would like to include in future Newsletters, please pass to your Scheme Supervisor or contact Heather Smyth at the Administration Office.

MIDNIGHT IN THE PANTRY

You can boast your round of pleasures,
Praise the sound of popping corks,
When the orchestra is playing to the rattle of the forks;
And your after-opera dinner you may think superbly fine,
But that can't compare, I'm certain, to the joy that's always mine
When I reach my little dwelling—source, of all sincere delight—
And I prowl around the pantry in the waning hours of night,
When my business, or my pleasure, has detained me until late,
And it's midnight, say, or after, when I reach my own estate,
Though I'm weary with my toiling I don't hustle up to bed,
For the inner man is hungry and he's anxious to be fed;
Then I feel a thrill of glory from my head down to my feet
As I prowl around the pantry after something good to eat.
Often I hear a call above me; "Goodness gracious, come to bed!"
And I know that I've disturbed her by overeager tread,
But I've found a glass of jelly and some bread and butter, too,
And a bit of cold fried chicken and I answer. "When I'm through!"
Oh, there's no café that better serves my precious appetite
Than the pantry in our kitchen when I get home at night.
You may boast your shining silver, and the linen and the flowers,
And the music and the laughter and the lights that hang in
showers;
You may have your café table and its brilliant array,
But it doesn't charm yours truly when I'm on my homeward way;
For a greater joy awaits me, as I hunger for a bite—
Just the joy of pantry-prowling in the middle of the night.

Written by Edgar Albert Guest (taken from dailypoem.co.uk)

SMARTPASS

People in Northern Ireland aged 65 and older can travel free anywhere in Ireland by public transport from 2 April onwards, provided they have a Senior SmartPass. You need to remember to check the expiry date on your Senior SmartPass to be sure of obtaining free travel.

The Department for Regional Development has set up a helpline for those who need information:

0845 600 0049

ARE YOU GOING AWAY?

Just a reminder to tenants of our sheltered housing schemes, if you will be away overnight or on holiday for a few days/weeks, please remember to advise your Scheme Supervisor. If your Scheme Supervisor is off-duty, please inform Fold Telecare by using the call system. Just tell the operator when you are going and when you expect to be back again.

This information is important in the event of an emergency at the scheme.