

Dalgarno News

June 2008

compiled by Peabody Estate Tenants Association

Landscaping improvements



New garden:

The old sub-station building at the end of A block has gone, and a planted area developed around it.

Work on the trees

Some significant work on a very small number

of trees is likely to begin mid to end of July 2008. A larger number require a crown lift [pruning lower branches to remove obstructions] in the short-term. The works will include the removal of a few dead trees. All other works will be looked at in the autumn.



Spot the camera!

The football cage:

We are hoping to get funding to re-surface the cage, but as residents have decided there should not be floodlights, there will not be games in the evening in the winter. For the moment sports events can take place in the secure and floodlit area behind the community centre.

Planters

We have also won a grant to put large planters or boulders on some pavements to stop trucks running over and cracking paving stones.



The Chairman speaks...

Lee Knight:

“It might seem like we're just a bunch of old men who sit and moan about things on this estate.

“I can assure you we also do a lot of work in trying to convince the landlords about some of the things they could do to try and make life a little better for all of us.

“I'm sure that most of us are concerned with the gangs of youths that appear on what seems to be a daily basis and kick the security doors in and run through the blocks and intimidate the elderly. We also have a growing dog problem.”

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Country Diary

Summer in the Dalgarnos

Swifts arrived for the summer with the fine weather on May 3 - 4; four days later than in 2007. Phenologists relish this kind of observation but the return of Swifts ought to interest anyone concerned about his or her health, for these birds are reliable indicators of clean air. Another such indicator is the humble lichen *Xanthoria*, spp., which grows in many parts of the Lower Dalgarnos.

But will the air stay clean much longer when smoke control and clean air legislation is being disregarded? Some local residents have started keeping open-hearth coal fires again and a few young people 'torch' cars, scooters or recycling containers on a regular basis.

Finishing on an uplifting note; a pair of Bullfinches have returned to feed from a bird table in a local garden for the second year. Their colourful plumage adds a touch of the exotic to any neighbourhood.



Old Mole

Your TA: all tenants are members

TA committee meetings are usually on the first Tuesday of the month at 6pm in the TA rooms. Come to observe - and join the committee if you like.

The purpose of the Tenants Association is to arrange *social events*, apply for and spend *funding*, participate in *local events*, and have a say in *local issues* - especially through the Dalgarno Partnership Alliance. We have an opportunity to influence the Trust. The TA is *not* a forum for complaints, but it is a focus for *positive suggestions* for improvements. We get involved when new projects are proposed, and we monitor *service levels* on the estate (e.g., cleanliness, caretaking, gardening.).

Neighbourhood Management Update



Emma Taylor is now the Neighbourhood Manager for the Dalgarno Neighbourhood Management Alliance.

Emma thanks those who returned the questionnaire sent out with the Dalgarno Times last month. “We'll use these to identify areas and issues you are concerned about,” she says, “and we'll revise and update the Neighbourhood Action Plan.”

Supporting this process a workshop has been arranged for all residents in the Dalgarno area to help identify where priority should be given. The workshop is on Tuesday July 8 in the Peabody Tenants Association rooms (back of D block).

Points from recent meetings and official statements:

Parking

Parking enforcement has been suspended on Peabody Estates as the Trust has given notice to cancel the contract with ISTM. It is hoped that the change over process will be a quick one in order to minimise any disruption.

Block doors

The Trust is in the process of evaluating the door entry systems on the Dalgarno estate as it is clear that there is a problem regarding the strength of the magnets and there is a weak point in the system that needs to be rectified.

Contacts:

Peabody Direct: 0800 022 4040

Chairman: Lee Knight 020 8960 5110

Dalgarno Neighbourhood Manager: Emma.Taylor@williamsutton.org.uk

DNT Director: Vicki Laville-Davis 020 8969 6300

Councillor Matthew Palmer: cltr.palmer@rbkc.gov.uk

Editor of newsletter: Paul Redfern, TA secretary, 020 8960 9420, pr@paulredfern.co.uk



Dalgarno Peabody Estate Tenants Association
AGM 2008

The Chairman speaks - continued...

“We put on social events, mainly for the elderly tenants but also for the estate as a whole. If you see a notice of a social event please try and turn up, if only for a short while. We recently held a European Neighbours Day - at our AGM - which was open to all tenants of the Peabody Trust. We were happy to see a few new faces, and it turned out to be a relative success. But it would have been a lot nicer if a few more tenants had turned up, not only to meet new neighbours, but also to support your tenants association.”

European Neighbours Day is on the last Tuesday of May every year. Any city or town or social housing organisation is welcome to hold simple events like lunch or a picnic to enhance social cohesion.

Events to come this summer

- **SHOUT PROJECT** – looking for a number of families to participate
- **YOUTH PARTNERSHIP LAUNCH** on Saturday May 31
- **YOUNGSTARS ACADEMY LAUNCH** on Saturday June 7
- **LITTLE SCRUBS FUN DAY** Saturday June 21
- **BLOOMING GREAT TEA PARTY** late June to raise money for Marie Curie cancer care
- **ANNUAL STREET PARTY** on Sunday September 21

For details contact Anna at the Community Centre on 020 8969 6300