



September Issue 2008

Homeward

Your newsletter from Hebridean Housing Partnership

Homeward is back and better than ever

Dear Tenant,

After a considerable absence since our last issue Homeward is back. We aim to make the newsletter more tenant friendly and pack it with the stories and information that you want to read.

News on new build and the Investment programme will appear on a regular basis to let you know what is happening and where it is happening. I will be asking everyone at HHP to contribute more to Homeward each month to make sure that each issue is as comprehensive as possible.

Please enjoy this issue which I hope will become a regular feature in your home.

Angus Lamont
Chief Executive
HHP



WHAT'S ON AT HHP

- ◆ AUGUST BOARD MEETINGS
27th–29th AUG
- ◆ INSPECTION FROM THE
SCOTTISH HOUSING REGULATOR
AUG-SEPT
- ◆ AGM SEPTEMBER 18th
- ◆ AREA COMMITTEES
SEPT 30th - OCT 2nd
- ◆ NATIONAL TENANT
ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE
11th SEPT

Elizabeth Haldane Court officially opens



hidden away behind hoardings creating much curiosity with the passing public.

The strikingly designed flats have attracted a lot of interest and feedback seems to indicate that it will be a popular choice amongst HHP tenants.

The 22 flats will now provide more affordable rented accommodation in Stornoway, which is currently in short supply.

HHP's latest new build development was finally unveiled to the public with an open viewing at Elizabeth Haldane Court.

The development which is located on Church Street was designed by Gordon Anderson Associates and constructed by Uist Builders (Construction) Ltd.

For over a year now the works have been

One of the flats will be made available for much needed Homeless temporary accommodation.

Most of the flats have now already been allocated and it is hoped that HHP's newest tenants will be able to move in to their new homes during September.

We wish them an enjoyable stay.

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Roofing and roughcast works are nearing completion in Cearn Phabaidh and in Carnan Hiort in Stornoway. Design works will start soon for Cearn Fhloddaidh which will begin in 2009.

Along with Angus we hope to finally negotiate this years kitchen replacements throughout the islands and get the works starting on site in a matter of weeks. The standard of workmanship and quality of units has been very impressive and this has been reflected in the feedback we are getting back from the tenants.

A two year window contract for Lewis will be out to tender this month. The tenants concerned have already been contacted and we hope to get the works underway soon after the tenders are returned. In Uist the window contract for Mishigarry has come back and should be on site in a couple of weeks.

Bathroom replacement tenders are also being prepared and a letter to those tenants who will receive the replacement will go out soon. The works, which include a new shower, will be on site this year.

I am still in discussions with suppliers for this years heating programme. HHP are looking to move away from the current electric and solid fuel forms of heating and concentrate on more efficient air source heating systems which should make a difference to your fuel bills. More on that in the next issue.



PROPERTY SERVICES



PROPERTY SERVICES

For the first time since I can remember the Painterwork from Butt to Barra should be complete before the end of September and what a difference it is making. I have always believed that external painterwork should be carried out during Spring and Summer when we can take advantage of any good weather.

We have also introduced tenant choice for the first time. The tenants in all the schemes were given the chance to vote on the colour they would prefer and the most popular choice was used by the contractor. Hopefully this will give tenants a greater satisfaction that they are being involved in what we do.

This year has also seen the introduction of the new Maintenance Term Contract with the Comhairle's Commercial Operations Unit winning both contracts for Lewis and Harris and Uist and Barra. Although still in the initial stages the contract is working well especially the new appointment system which means workmen will now arrive at your door at an agreed date and time.

Please remember when you phone in with a repair to refer to your Tenants Handbook which will enable our Customer Services team to get the right person for the job.

As Peter has said there are a lot of tenders currently being prepared which should be out shortly. Our aim is to get these works on site as soon as we can and to keep you informed of our progress

Angus MacNeil
Property Services Manager (Contracts)





Welcome to the Uist Section of our Homeward Newsletter. This section will provide you with information on HHP's news in the Southern Isles.

I am the Area Manager for Harris, Uist & Barra based in Balivanich, where we deliver a wide range of services to all our tenants, including allocations, repairs, estate management, rent collection and arrears management.

In delivering the service, we work closely with the Comhairle's staff in Tarbert and Castlebay and also with the Comhairle's Homelessness Service.

Since I can remember the Uist staff have always been based in the Council Offices in Balivanich but not for much longer as we are about to move into our new, purpose built, office. We are expecting to move in January 2009. From this date, the Uist staff can be contacted on the main HHP phone number which you will find on the back page of Homeward.

Although other HHP staff will keep you up to date with Investment and New Build I hope to use Homeward to promote what HHP is achieving outside of Lewis. Whether it is painterwork in Harris, new houses in Howmore or the latest news on the service we provide I will endeavour to bring it to this section of Homeward.

John Alick MacQuarrie
Area Manager



A VIEW FROM THE SOUTH

TENANTS AND THE FORUM

In March 2008 Hebridean Housing Partnerships' tenants were thrust into the spotlight of national policy, when the Glasgow and Western Isles Regional Committee was formed. This Committee will consult with The Scottish Government on a range of National Policy decisions. HHP will be welcoming this committee to our headquarters in Stornoway on the 11th of September 2008.

This is just one of the many exciting projects the Western Isles Resident's Forum are engaged in this year, culminating in our Tenant's Conference in March 2009, which promises to be an excellent showcase for tenants all over the Western Isles. With the help of the Tenant Participation Advisory Service we aim to make this the best conference the Western Isles has seen. So watch out in further editions of Homeward for more details.

Or if you want to be involved contact Customer Services and leave a message for the Forum or contact the number on the back page of Homeward.

Being involved with HHP, as a tenant, gives you the chance to affect how your homes are managed, have your voice heard and have a real say in how HHP is run. Involvement is at a level that suits you from the national level to local tenant groups. Your opinion counts.

Kevin Paterson

HHP Tenant Board Member.



*George Macguinness M.B.E.
Founder member of Glasgow Housing Association will be bringing a group of his colleagues to the Western Isles.*

INVESTMENT 2008-2009

Windows and Doors

Eireastaidh
Gearraidh Ghuirm
MacSween Drive
MacSween Terrace
Mishigarry

Kitchens

Airidhantuim (13-20)
Druim Fraoich
Graham Park (13-20)
Seaview Knock (11-19)
Westview Terrace (40-76)
Parkview Terrace (Tarbert)
Parkview Terrace (Scalpay)
Scott Road
Dunmore Crescent
Ashdail Cottages (1-15)
Cuidhe Na Gamhna
Rubha Doigheag
Sealladh Tharsal
Sligh Ruaraidh Calum Ruaraidh
Strome Cottages
Cearn Eoghainn
Maol Domhnaich
St Michaels Cottage

Heating

Bennadrove Road (2-12)
Plantation Road (32-42)
Seaview Knock (11-19)
Tigh Thorquil
Church Hill

Bathrooms

61 Matheson Road
Cearn Shodhaidh
Gead Gorm
MacLennan Place
Willowglen Road
Parkview Terrace (Tarbert)
Casimer Place (11-23)
Ford Terrace (Uist) (1-4)
Moor Cottages
Strome Cottages

HHP has some more new staff this year and here they are. It always helps to put a face to the name.



Norman Macaskill
Clerk of Works



Ann Maclellan
Trainee Housing Officer



John Angus Macdonald
Assistant Clerk of Works



Naomi McNinch
Allocations Assistant



Christina Macdonald
Customer Service Assistant



For all repairs and general queries please contact our Customer Services Team on 0845 603 9180



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 Industrial & Provident Society
 Registration No: 2644R(S)

If you need information on Home contents insurance please pop into your local HHP office

Diamond
INSURANCE SCHEME