



Dudley Federation

of Tenants and Residents Associations

Newsletter May 2014



On Wednesday 30th April a party was thrown as the new lifts at Claverly Court were officially unveiled.

Stan Chance, Vice Chair of DFTRA was invited to cut a special lift shaped cake with Cllr. Steve Waltho, lead member for housing.

This is the first modernisation of lifts in high rise blocks and Andrea-Pope Smith has said that they plan to extend the programme, the next block to have new lifts will be St Johns Court on the Chapel Street Estate. The new technology is said to improve the experience and reduce callouts.



Well done Phyllis!
We would like to congratulate DFTRA Director Phyllis Rowley on achieving her black belt in karate!



Partnership meeting feedback
Police and Crime board
Untaxed cars should be reported to DMBC on 0300 555 2345
Low level ASB should be reported to 101

Social Media

Don't forget - the first Social Media session for TRA members will take place on Thursday 5th June 10am-12noon

On 24th April 2014 Sylvia Townsend and Martin Smith from Bowling Green TRA presented Bowling Green TRA Big Thank You awards to various Council employees who had provide services over and above what would normally be expected.

The recipients were selected at a public meeting of Bowling Green TRA and reflect how people on the ground feel about the those who go that little step further to provide a special service. This not only reflects the work that front line officers do but the people who answer the phone and start the ball rolling.

The photos show (anti-clockwise) Sylvia receiving her award from Nigel Columbello who is Head of Housing Management, Sylvia with Dennis Organ, the pest control officer, Sylvia with Matt Williams, Garry Dean and the recipient of the award Roger Morgan, Sylvia with Dave Wesson and the street cleansing team, Sylvia and Housing Manager, Vicky Skidmore, Sylvia with Hugh Murphy and his enforcement team colleagues and finally Sylvia with Alan Radford.

Blowing our own trumpet

Since January 2014 the DFTRA board members have recorded, followed up and solved 28 issues or complaints from tenants and residents

Free tenants and residents associations meeting alerts!

Text your surname, house number and postcode to **07797 870352**
e.g. Brookes, 10, DY1 1HF
(initial text will only cost your standard text rate)
Contact the Participation Development Team on

01384 815168

Sign up for emails at www.dudley.gov.uk



Spotlight on a Capital Bid project at... Darby End TRA

We asked DFTRA to help us put a bid together for new communal doors on the blocks of low rise flats in Darby End Road. The application form was easy to fill in and required very easy amounts of work for our group to do.

We found that once the application had been processed the time for the doors to be made and fitted was just 7 months. The doors have had made a big difference for the safety and the cosmetic look to the blocks. Before the doors were fitted groups would cause problems around the blocks and around the entrance by breaking the old wooden frame and lock on more than 30 occasions. Since the new steel doors have been fitted the problems have stopped all together and all the tenants and residents are very happy with the outcome.

Darby End TRA would like to thank DFTRA and Building Services for their help in preparing the application and for the quick installation of the new steel doors.

The Committee of
Darby End TRA



Q&A with... Oval & Tudor TRA

Q. How long has the group been running?

A. Oval & Tudor TRA was formed in October 2006

Q. What would you say is your biggest achievement?

A. It is hard to pick one, Big Clean Ups on the estate have proved to be very successful, we have had 5 now. We also obtained funding working alongside Turl's Hill and Swanbrook Valley Residents Association to replace fencing around grazing land off Eve Lane to improve it's appearance and sensor lights have been fitted for all Tenants on the estate who wanted them.

Q. How are things with the group at the moment?

A. At present the TRA is struggling to get enough support, partly because so many changes have taken place within the committee itself. We need to be stable but it is difficult to get people interested in being involved, we have loyal committee members who are supportive but are unable to take on an active roll. For some time now Terry and myself (Joan) have undertaken the workload ourselves, but this is not sustainable in the long term.

We will not be undertaking any new projects until there are others involved to help with tasks.

Q. What are your plans for the future?

A. We have some door knocks arranged soon to try and get new members, any plans for the future will be decided if these go well.

Q. Any other comments?

A. I would like to thank Janet Hand from the Participation team, Stan, Pete, Martin and Caroline from DFTRA and everyone concerned for trying so hard to keep Oval & Tudor going.

Black Country Day Pensnett

On Sunday 13th July there will be a fun day to celebrate Black Country Day. The event will be held at The Dell Stadium, Pensnett from 1-5pm. There will be entertainment for all the family including a fun fair, mini zoo, games, food and drink. Entrance is free and all are welcome. For more information or if you are interested in having a stall at the event please visit blackcountrydaypensnett.co.uk



Gornal Fun Day

The Annual Fun Day will be held on Saturday 12th July 2014 from 12:00noon - 4:00pm at the Recreation Ground Vale Street Upper Gornal (otherwise known locally as the Quarry)

Entrance is free and some of the attractions to look forward to are the High Arcal School Band, a bouncy castle, Punch and Judy, balloon modelling, face painting, nail art, a fine collection of vintage cars, BBQ, various stalls, raffle, refreshments to name a few. Music and announcements are being provided by Black Country Community Radio.

If anyone wishes to have a stall please contact DFTRA who will put you in touch with the relevant person.



Do you have a story?

If your group is involved in an event or activity that you would like included in this newsletter please send any information to info@dftra.org.uk or call 01384 868010 to discuss.

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