



North and East Housing Association

Spring Newsletter 2015



Spring Forward - Making the most of your outdoor space

This spring North & East will be holding a competition to showcase some of the wonderful gardening skills shown by our Residents. We will have three categories:

- Beautiful Blooming Garden Competition
- Beautiful Blooming Balcony Competition
- Biggest Blooming Hanging Basket Competition

Please contact your Housing Officer if you wish to include an entry. We have vouchers up for grabs for the winner of each category.

Top Tip: Don't throw away your grapefruit peel after breakfast! Scooped out halves of grapefruit or oranges placed face down in different part of the garden will attract slugs and snails overnight. In the morning all you need to do is gather them up and dispose of in the brown bin.

Good News Story!

Earlier this year, Eimear sat down with one of her residents who applied for a grant through the Noel McArdle Education Bursary. Her application was awarded and the following is what she had to say on the difference it has made.

"I was lucky to get a house from North & East a year and a half ago and it was a more positive and permanent address for me and also my kids to grow up, now I can relax and enjoy my surroundings without the stress of not knowing if your landlord is going to sell the house.

Before I moved to my new home with North & East I completed a FETEC 5 course in Health Care Studies and Palliative Care. I then progressed and completed a FECTEC 6 course in Childcare Studies and Education. I applied to DKIT for a course in Community Youth Work and Applied Social Studies and was awarded a place on the 4 year course.

I am currently on my second semester of the course and I am so glad as it is the field which I want to work in.

I then applied to North & East for the Education Bursary which has helped me a great deal with the other things that the college and grants don't supply, for example books, cartridges, parking and many unforeseen expenses.

I can't wait to finish my degree to get into the workforce and with the stable environment that I now live in and with that little bit of help from North & East I now can focus on my studies."

Changes to Social Welfare Payments - 2nd July 2015

So what are the changes to One-Parent Family Welfare Payments?

Age Limits:

For all new claims after 2nd July 2015, you will only receive the payment until your child is 7 years old

For all other claims before 2nd July 2015, you will receive the payment until your child is either 18 or 22 (if in full time education) and the payment for the youngest child will cease at the age of 7 years old

Jobseeker's Allowance Transition:

You can apply for the payment when your child reaches the age of 7 until and you can receive this payment until they are 14 years old. The jobseekers allowance means test applies in this case; i.e. it is more difficult to qualify for the payment than for the one-parent family payment; which will reduce the amount of claimants who are employed claiming the benefit

Family Income Supplement (FIS) is not payable with this payment

Registration of Births

It is now compulsory to register the name of the father if the parents are not married

For more information; please contact Citizens Information on 0761 07 4000 (Mon – Fri, 9am – 8pm) or check out their website on www.citizensinformation.ie

Remember your Housing Officer is always available to discuss any issues that you may have





Call our admin team for all enquiries: 01 820 0002 or email us on info@neha.ie.

If you are calling out of hours, it's the same number 01 820 0002

Only emergency repairs requests will be responded to out of hours, please leave a message in order for us to respond to your request

Important Dates, Upcoming Events and Great Days

Important Dates

30th March 2015

Remember your new rent starts 30th March 2015. Please change your standing orders, household budget deductions and rent payments from **23rd March** onwards

2nd July 2015

Changes to Social Welfare Payments (see front page for details)

Upcoming Events

Coffee Mornings

Golden Ridge Mews: 19th March & 18th June at 10am in The Thatch Coffee House, Rush

Dundalk Office: Every Thursday at 11am

Kells Office: 29th April & 3rd June at 11am

Navan: 20th March at 11am in The Newgrange Hotel, Navan



Great Days

Easter Events

Dundalk Office: **Thursday 2nd April, 2pm** - all residents from Dundalk invited
Paint your Easter Egg, Egg & Spoon Race, Easter Chick Hunt
Prizes for all

Seaview Grove: **Wednesday 1st April at 2pm**
Estate Clean Up, Easter Egg Hunt

Kells Office: **2nd April at 3pm**
Easter Clean Up & Easter Egg Hunt

Killegland Crescent: **1st April at 2pm**
Easter Clean Up & Easter Egg Hunt



National Spring Clean

An Chearnog **Thursday 30th April at 3.30 – 4pm**
Estate Clean Up & Planting of Trees

INTERNATIONAL NEIGHBOURS DAY - 29th May 2015

McArdle Green & Wheaton Hall: Coffee Morning at 10 - 11am
Connect Resource Centre, 171 Moneymore, Drogheda

Kells Office: Coffee Morning at 11am

