



ChitChat



Cash for Kids Christmas Jumper Day - December 2024

Cuppa and a cake in support of Macmillan

Our staff once again held an event in support of Macmillan’s Biggest Coffee Morning.

Our 8th ‘CHA bake off’ was held in October. The highly sought after award was again won by Raeann, our Maintenance Assistant, who retains her ‘Star Baker’ crown. We thank our staff - makers, fakers and donors - who supported the event and raised nearly £150.



The winning bake!



2024 Star Baker Raeann

Rent, CHA Power Ltd and Factoring Support Event

On Wednesday 27th November, we held an event for anyone worried about paying their rent, CHA Power heating or factoring bills.

We wanted to provide an opportunity for tenants and customers to meet with staff for an informal chat and to provide support and a listening ear.

Jim Percival of Community Links was also on hand to provide energy advice. Thanks to everyone who attended.



Cost of Living Support

We were delighted to jointly host an event with MSP Marie McNair for Cost of Living Support.

At the event at Centre81 on 17th November, our staff showcased the high level of support we provide to new and existing tenants. Visitors to the very popular event were also able to get information and advice from a wide range of agencies such as Stepping Stones, Scottish Gas, Citizens Advice Bureau, Working4U and more along with a hot lunch.



Tenants Group Event

Bannerman Place, Cumberae Court, Montrose Street

Thank you to the tenants from the above areas who joined us for lunch and a chat on 19th November. We wanted to meet to see whether tenants wished to set up a tenants group. We enjoyed providing details of the help and support we can provide over a nice lunch.



Fuel Poverty Support

Our staff were delighted to welcome along Jim Percival from Community Links Scotland to provide training on fuel poverty support.

On 22 November, staff learned ways to support our customers over a lunch and learn session. We are always trying to find ways to support our tenants and other customers.

Jim kindly provided some energy saving tips that can lower usage and save money on bills. Let us know if you'd like more advice on this.



Fuel Poverty & Energy Efficiency Drop-In Sessions

All of our tenants and customers are invited to drop-in to discuss any fuel bill concerns or to ask for advice. Join us at our office:

- Friday 17/01/25 – 10am – 1pm
- Friday 21/02/25 – 10am – 1pm
- Friday 21/03/25 – 10am – 1pm

Join us at Centre81 Cosy Afternoon:

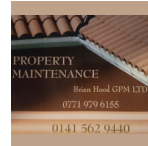
- Friday 24/01/25 - 12pm-2pm
- Friday 14/02/25 - 12pm-2pm

World Kindness Day

Many of our contractors, consultants and suppliers supported our World Kindness Day activity in November.

We raised £1,800 and provided half of this to West Dunbartonshire Community Foodshare for their Christmas Toy Appeal 2024 with the rest being used to spread kindness in our community.

We thank those who contributed for getting involved.



Christmas Joy!

Our staff elves donned their Christmas jumpers on Wednesday 4th December and distributed over 100 selection boxes and mince pies at our community garden in Radnor Park.



Our ground maintenance contractor, Averton Landscapes, kindly donated a tree for the event.

We treated residents to tea, coffee and hot chocolate from Café81 to keep them warm whilst listening to festive songs from the lovely choir from Kilbowie Primary School. All enjoyed a good chat with staff and neighbours.



Staff Christmas Jumper Day 2024!

Staff showed off their Christmas jumpers to raise money for Clyde 1's Mission Christmas.

On 13th December, staff got together to raise money for this worthy cause, with over £80 being raised.



Staff Swapshop

Staff raided wardrobes and lofts to hold a pre-Christmas Swapshop!

Many staff enjoyed taking a few new items home whilst the remaining 5 black bags of childrens and adults clothes, shoes and household items were delivered to Barnardos Donation Centre in Clydebank.



Residents Group Support

We were delighted to provide staff volunteers to serve at the Radnor Park Multis Tenants and Residents Association Christmas Lunch.

Our registered tenants organisation had a wonderful Christmas Lunch on 10th December at Centre81. We were delighted to provide the entertainment - Lily Smart from Best Acts.



SSPCA Donation

Staff donated blankets, towels and fleeces.

Staff got together to provide a donation to the SSPCA to help keep the animals at the Milton shelter warm and comfortable over the winter. We are also an emergency pet food supplier partner of the SSPCA.



CR Smith Community Benefit

We welcome formal and informal community benefits from our contractors for the benefit of our customers.

We were delighted when window contractor, CR Smith, provided some much-needed heated blankets and duvets, to Clydebank Housing Association Ltd for them to hand out to those in need locally.



Christmas Toy Appeal

Games, toys and pyjamas donated.

Staff took part in the West Dunbartonshire Community Foodshare Toy Appeal for Christmas 2024. They were thanked by Foodshare for their generous donations.



Staff Become Mentors

Joe Farrell, Head of Housing Services, and Sinéad Farrell, Customer & Corporate Services Manager, recently became career mentors.

The staff members will each mentor a young person from a local high school as part of the Career Ready Scotland programme for 2024-2026.



Menopause Café

We held our first Menopause Café on 16th December.

Many of our staff members came along to our first Menopause Café. It was a space to discuss and gain a greater understanding of all things menopause as both staff members and managers. It was great to get together and also see what other ideas we could incorporate into our staff Wellbeing Strategy.



Ask Access

Staff Lunch & Learn held to learn more about this local service.

Staff enjoyed learning that Ask Access is for anyone in West Dunbartonshire looking to be connected quickly with the right community service to help them feel and live better. It is WDCVS' community referral service.



Good News @ Centre81

Bonnie came to visit

Bonnie, the PlayTalkRead Bus, and the team came to see us at Centre81 in November. The sessions with the wee ones went really well.

Thanks for stopping by!



Christmas Lunch

Another brilliant Community Christmas Lunch was held on 12th December. Everyone had a ball!

70 local people enjoyed a delicious 3 course festive lunch by Café81 and a glass of wine along with prize bingo and a free raffle. Thanks to the Centre81 team for organising and Clydebank Housing Association Ltd elves for helping out.



Community Donation

We were delighted to provide the hire of the main hall to Clydebank East Community Council for their community lunch on 18th December.

The group thanked us for allowing them to have the hall for free which enabled them to provide more lunches.



Pizza Making

During the October week we held a pizza making class in our newly refurbished art room.

The children enjoyed rolling the dough and being creative with the toppings. Safe to say that all found the experience really fun and devoured the final product.



Fish Tea Treat

We treated our Bingo Buddies to a Fish Tea in November.

They all tucked into delicious fish & chips before enjoying their bingo.



Christmas Wreath Workshop

Lauren from Herbal Homestead came to the Centre for a Christmas Wreath Making workshop on 29th November.

Lauren took participants foraging for foliage and holly and they then made some gorgeous festive wreaths to take home. The workshop was provided free.



Please look at our social media for future similar events.

Gifts Workshop

Great to have Lauren from Herbal Homestead back at Centre81 on 13th December, delivering a Homemade Gifts Workshop.

Participants made gorgeous bath salts, hand & face cream and muscle rub. All made with natural ingredients. The workshop was provided free.



Santa Claus came to town!

On Thursday 12th December Santa Claus paid a visit to Centre81 and we had a party to celebrate!

Over 100 local children were able to visit Santa's Grotto and each received a selection box. A party was also held with DJ James Flames keeping our guests entertained.

Thanks to C81 Steering Group for assisting with the party and to Centre81 and Association staff who served hot chocolate to keep everyone toasty.



Thanks to Domino's Clydebank & Domino's Knightswood for the delicious free pizzas, Krispy Kreme Doughnuts Braehead for the yummy free doughnuts & Magnus Electrical Services for their donation of party prizes.

In addition...

In addition to all of our recent good news, we continue to provide the following for our tenants and customers:

Caring for our Existing Tenants

- Welfare rights service
- Tenancy sustainment service
- Hygiene/cleaning packs
- Emergency pet supplies
- Excellent repairs satisfaction
- High levels of customer care and kindness
- Bike storage in estates
- Wide range of community benefits from all contracts
- High level of quality communications
- Regular, popular events
- World kindness day celebrations
- Electric charge points in estates
- Support to residents groups & local groups
- 24/7 Tenant Portal
- Access to Centre81!

Caring for our New Tenants

- Starter pack
- Gym81 voucher
- Café81 voucher
- Decoration voucher
- Welcome card from the Chief Executive

Centre81

- Gym81 (£10 a month!)
- Weekly bingo
- Free and low cost classes
- Free bike repairs
- Community garden and raised beds
- Gardener on hand for advice
- Annual gala day
- Summer, Autumn and Christmas activities for all ages and abilities

Centre81

Gym81

Cafe81

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