

Tenants Newsletter

The newsletter for Council
tenants in South Ayrshire
Autumn 2024



Check out our
HomeSwapper
Article on
pages 4 & 5

HomeSwapper[®]

..... *INSIDE THIS ISSUE*

**COUNCIL TAX
REDUCTION**
Page 3

**SUMMER
SAFETY**
Page 14

**TENANTS
TOGETHER**
Page 20

**KIDS
CORNER**
Page 18

Useful Contacts

South Ayrshire Council
Customer Services
0300 123 0900

Environmental Health
01292 618222

Trading Standards
0300 123 0900

Housing Enquiries & Repairs
(Emergency or Routine)
0300 123 0900

Waste Enquires &
Special Uplifts
0300 123 0900

Scottish Water
0800 077 8778

Scottish Power (Emergency)
0800 092 9290

GAS (Emergency)
0800 111 999

Police
101 (Non Emergency)
999 (Emergency)

Power Cut
105

NHS 24
111

Emergency Homeless
0808 100 3151
(Out of Hours)

Ayr Hospital
01292 610 555

Girvan Community Hospital
01465 712 571

Crosshouse Hospital
01563 521 133

INFORMATION & ADVICE HUB

Our Information and Advice Hub is here to help you with a range of services including:

- Help to claim the benefits you are entitled to.
- Help to manage your money including budgeting and debt services.
- Help with the cost of living.
- Employment Rights.
- Financial Crisis.

Get advice first by contacting us via our web page www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/information-and-advice-hub or by calling 0300 123 0900.

BE A COVER STAR!

For your chance to design the front cover of our next edition and be in with the chance of winning a £25 Scotland Loves Local gift voucher, simply take a photo of your seasonal themed drawing and send it to tp@south-ayrshire.gov.uk no later than **1st November 2024**.

WINNER WINNER!

SPRING 2024 EDITION WINNERS

Well done to **Joyce McCulloch from Kirkmichael** who was the winner of the 'Where's Ernie' competition!

And well done to **Oscar D'Angelo from Ayr** who was the lucky winner of the Kids Corner 'Spot the Difference' Competition.

This information can be made available, on request, in braille, large print or audio formats and can be translated into a range of languages. Contact details are provided below.

درخواست کرنے پر یہ معلومات نابینا افراد کے لئے ابھریے حروف، بڑے حروف یا آڈیو میں مہیا کی جاسکتی ہے اور اسکا مختلف زبانوں میں ترجمہ بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ رابطہ کی تفصیلات نیچے فراہم کی گئی ہیں۔

本信息可应要求提供盲文，大字印刷或音频格式，以及可翻译成多种语言。以下是详细联系方式。

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ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੇ ਬੋਲ, ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸੁਣਨ ਵਾਲੇ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਵੱਖ ਵੱਖ ਢੰਗਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਲਿਖੀ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ, ਅਤੇ ਇਹਦਾ ਤਰਜਮਾ ਹੋਰ ਬੋਲੀਆਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਵੀ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਗਈ ਹੈ।

Niniejsze informacje mogą zostać udostępnione na życzenie w alfabecie Braille'a, w druku powiększonym lub w formacie audio oraz mogą zostać przetłumaczone na wiele języków obcych. Dane kontaktowe znajdują się poniżej.

Faodar am fiosrachadh seo fhaighinn, le iarrtas, ann am braille, clò mòr no clàr fuaim agus tha e comasach eadar-theangachadh gu grunn chànanan. Tha fiosrachadh gu h-ìosal mu bhith a' cur fios a-steach.

Ця інформація може бути перекладена іншими мовами та надана в іншому форматі за запитом.

As a Council tenant you have a duty to report any defects or safety concerns within any communal areas surrounding your property. Help us to keep you and your neighbours safe by reporting any concerns to 0300 123 0900.

COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION

Do you have a responsibility
to pay **Council Tax?**

Council Tax Reduction could assist you. It is based on your and other household members' financial circumstances and can reduce the amount of Council Tax you have to pay each month.

Council Tax Reduction is separate from Housing Benefit or any Universal Credit Housing Costs you may receive to help you with paying your rent. To receive this reduction, you must make an application to South Ayrshire Council

Claiming Council Tax Reduction is easy and can be done online:
www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/counciltax-reduction

For more information or assistance contact
Benefit Services on **0300 123 0900** or email:
benefit.services@south-ayrshire.gov.uk



Have you joined HomeSwapper?

South Ayrshire Council has subscribed to HomeSwapper, the UK's largest online home-swapping platform.

Tenants using the HomeSwapper service for a mutual exchange (also known as a home swap) will have **the opportunity to swap their home with another council or housing association anywhere in the UK** – greatly expanding housing options for South Ayrshire Council tenants.

This service is completely free for South Ayrshire Council tenants!

Success!

More and more tenants are joining HomeSwapper each week with several council tenants finding a suitable match and swapping homes using HomeSwapper. You will hear from a few tenants in our next edition about their swap!

Why swap homes?

Some tenants may wish to move to accommodation that is smaller than the home they currently live in or may need an additional bedroom because their household has increased.

Other tenants might want to live in a different town or neighbourhood to be closer to their family, friends, and support networks. A mutual exchange may give tenants an alternative means of moving to more suitable accommodation, in addition to the Council's transfer list.

How to register with HomeSwapper

To register with HomeSwapper please follow the following steps. You can access HomeSwapper via your mobile, tablet or pc. Apps are available to download for both iOS and Android users. For those who choose not to sign up with HomeSwapper, there is more information on how to find a match on our mutual exchange webpage: www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/mutualexchanges-homeswaps

Our informative leaflet can be found here:

www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/media/11291/SAC-Mutual-Exchange-leaflet/pdf/49405
SAC Mutual Exchange ONLINE LEAFLET.
[pdf?m=1715795514547](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/media/11291/SAC-Mutual-Exchange-leaflet/pdf?m=1715795514547) or scan the QR Code here:



How to get the best out of your HomeSwapper advert?

Your advert is the first impression a potential swapper will have of your home, so it is important that you make it great! The property description in the 'additional information from tenant' section on your advert is where you will have the chance to explain why somebody would want to swap tenancies with you. We want nothing more than to see you have a successful HomeSwapper journey. One of the key things that can help is how your advert looks – and there is nothing better for this than including great photos of your home!

South Ayrshire Council provides a Scottish Secure Tenancy (SST) which is the social housing tenancy provided in Scotland. In a small number of cases a Short Scottish Secure Tenancy (SSST) is provided. Those who have been allocated a short tenancy will have been notified of this and will have signed an agreement. If you are unsure and want to find out what type of tenancy you have, you can check your tenancy agreement for details, or contact our Housing Options Team.

Looking for help or have questions about a mutual exchange?

To discuss your eligibility for mutual exchange, please contact our Housing Options Team using the contact information below. Our Officers can provide advice and guidance to ensure the best chance of an exchange for you. 0300 123 0900 or email: HousingOptionsTeam@southayrshire.gov.uk

Online access

If you do not have access to the internet our local Libraries offer the use of computers and the internet through their library card scheme. Membership is free to anyone of any age who lives, works, or studies within South Ayrshire.

For more information pop into your local library or call the main help desk at Carnegie Library on 01292 286385. www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/libraries

▲ Ayrshire housing

Ayrshire Housing (Registered Social Landlord) have also joined HomeSwapper which means there could be more properties that match what you are looking for in a move.

TENANT PARTICIPATION STRATEGY REVIEW 2024

Our Tenant Participation Team alongside a working group of involved tenants are reviewing our current Tenant Participation Strategy 2019 – 2024. The review will identify what has worked well, areas for improvement and it will allow us to refresh and update the strategy from 2025 onwards.

The team have created a quick survey which you can access and take part in at the following link <https://forms.office.com/e/eLtu8jtB1c> or by scanning the QR Code.



The review team would like to gather tenant's views and opinions on the priorities from 2019 – 2024 and the opportunity to suggest future priorities.

If you don't have internet access or would rather complete the survey via post, please complete the survey on the next page, cut out the freepost information on the back page of the newsletter, attach to an envelope and pop it your nearest post box.

What is a Tenant Participation Strategy?

All registered social landlords (RSLs) and local authorities in Scotland must have a Tenant Participation Strategy. The introduction of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 created a legal requirement for landlords to actively develop and support Tenant Participation.

The Tenant Participation Strategy ensures 'continuous improvement in landlords' performance in supporting and enabling tenants to participate', which means that tenants are provided with opportunities to participate within the Housing Service at a level they feel comfortable with.

Our strategy sets out the Council's commitment to involving tenants in decisions about their homes and how we communicate, carry out consultations, keep tenants informed and receive feedback on services provided. It also ensures that we meet the current Scottish Social Housing Charter Outcomes and Standards under 'the customer/landlord relationship' which are:

- **Communication** - tenants and other customers find it easy to communicate with their landlord and get the information they need about

their landlord, how and why it makes decisions and the services it provides.

- **Participation** - tenants and other customers are offered a range of opportunities that make it easy for them to participate in, and influence their landlord's decisions at a level they feel comfortable with.

You can view the full Scottish Social Housing Charter online at www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-social-housing-charter-november-2022/

The priorities within our Tenant Participation strategy for 2019 - 2024

- To involve tenants from communities and neighbourhoods throughout South Ayrshire
- To work with tenants who are less likely to get involved in formal ways (such as joining Tenant Participation, attending meetings or completing satisfaction surveys)
- To improve the visibility of the Tenant Participation service and make sure tenants know about the different ways they can get involved
- To ensure our tenants' involvement is valued and their views are taken into account
- To make greater use of technology to help tenants get involved
- To involve frontline and senior staff in promoting and supporting Tenant Participation
- To communicate effectively with tenants on the work of the Housing Service



You can read the full TP Strategy 2019 - 2024 online at www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/article/27552/Tenant-Participation-Strategy or by scanning the QR Code.



Tenant Participation Strategy Review 2024 Feedback Form



1. Do you feel that the 2019 - 2024 priorities were effective in shaping Tenant Participation in South Ayrshire?

YES NO

2. Do you have any suggestions for future priorities or any improvements from 2025?

3. Were you aware of the current Tenant Participation Strategy 2019 - 2024?

YES NO

Complete and return using the freepost information on the back page of the newsletter, attach to an envelope and pop it your nearest post box.



2023



**Are your
blinds safe?**

Looped blind cords and chains can strangle babies and young children. But there are simple steps you can take to keep them out of reach.

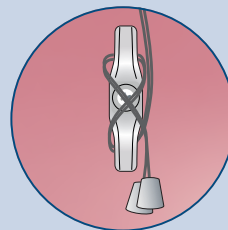
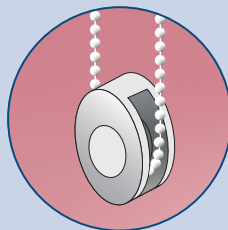
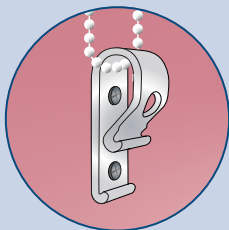
Our advice can help keep little ones safe.

Blind safety checklist

Changes to standards for blinds in 2014 have led to improved product safety. New blinds with looped cords must have child safety devices installed at the point of manufacture or sold with the blind. However, blinds installed earlier may not have these features and millions of households could be affected. Our advice will help you make your home safer for your children and young visitors.

✔ **Fit a tidy, tensioner or a cleat**

Tidies and tensioners should be firmly fixed to an adjoining surface so that the cord or chain are permanently held tight. Cleats should be positioned out of children's reach on an adjacent surface, at least 1.5 metres from the floor. Cords should be fastened up in a figure of eight after every use of the blind, making sure all the spare cord is secured on the cleat.



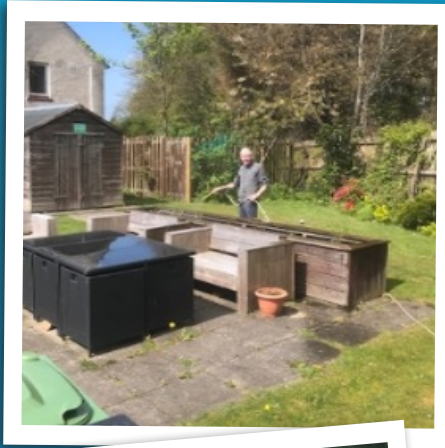
✔ **Move furniture away from windows**

Children love to climb, so keep furniture clear of window blinds. This includes cots, beds, highchairs and playpens.



SHELTERED

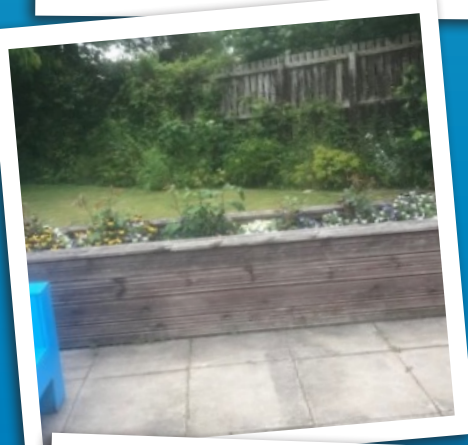
HOUSING NEWS



Bingo! The tenants at Dundonald Sheltered Housing Unit enjoyed a 'No Scotland No Party' themed bingo night.



Sandhill Gardens Beetle Drive. Some of the tenants at Sandhill Gardens, Troon getting creative and drawing up some beetles for the Beetle Drive.

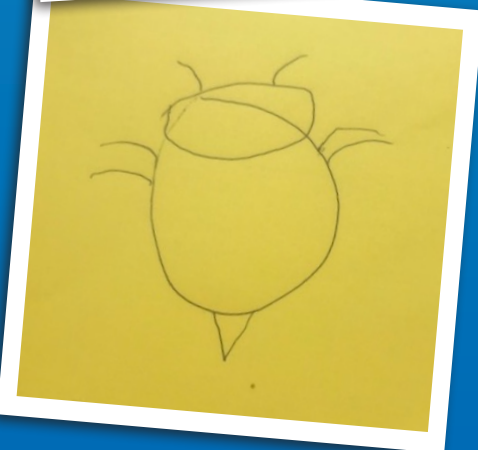


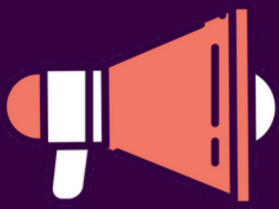
Green Fingers at Sandhill Gardens, Troon. Cool as a cucumber gardener working on his raised garden. Beautiful roses and petunias, violas and pansies.



Smoothie Break Anyone?

Lichtenfels Gardens, Prestwick have been out enjoying the sunshine! Our tenants have been extremely busy planting and growing lots of different flowers. And they have also enjoyed well earned refreshments in their gorgeous garden.





Are you waiting for social housing?

If so, can you take part in research?

Scottish Federation of Housing Associations and Wheatley Group, working with Altair, want to know your experiences.

What's involved?

Short telephone interview (up to 45 minutes) or a short survey repeated every week or so.

We want to speak to a mix of people from across Scotland on social housing lists, people with different housing needs, waiting for a long or short time.

The research is from April to September 2024. We can offer a £15 Love2Shop gift voucher to thank you for taking the time to participate.

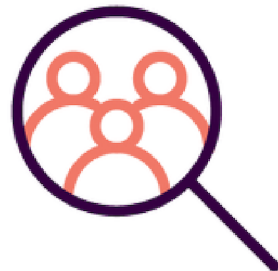
Taking part in the research will not affect your housing situation. You will not be able to find a home quicker or be penalised for taking part in the research.



45-minute telephone interview



Or short survey over few weeks



Contact us:



Bekah Ryder

Research and Insights Manager

07443 107 596

bekah.ryder@altairltd.co.uk

Why are we doing this research?

We want to talk about the impact of a lack of social housing has by telling stories of those affected.

The findings will be published later this year and will guide the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations policy and campaigns, making change for people who need a decent, warm and affordable home.



This research is funded by the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations and Wheatley Group.

Award Winning COMMUNITIES FUN DAY in the Sun!



Our 5th Communities Fun Day took place on Saturday 11th May 2024 with over 3,500 attendees enjoying the first Communities Fun Day since 2019.

Attendees enjoyed all the free activities on offer including some new attractions such as Canoeing, Sport Taster sessions, Inflatable Zone and the highly rated Zip Line. The information and advice stalls were bustling with attendees able to chat with a range of Council services, partner organisations and charities.

The vehicle display was the largest Communities Fun Day

Vehicle Display to date with a vast array of different vehicles including a 1980's Western Bus, 1940's Military Vehicles, Vintage Trucks, Vintage & Modern Cars, Motorbikes and a Council Gritter.

Feedback from attendees so far has been extremely positive with the new venue of Ayr Academy/Riverside Sports Arena being highly rated along with all the tickets, activities, attractions, information & advice stalls, parking and shuttle bus service being completely free.

The event is organised and run by staff within our Housing Service and Thriving

Communities teams and wouldn't be possible without all the organisations, partners, charities, vehicle owners, sponsors and volunteers supporting the event to ensure it's a free fun day out for the people living or working in South Ayrshire.

You can view the Communities Fun Day 2024 Recap Video at [www.youtu.be/sXobDw7i6fE](https://www.youtube.be/sXobDw7i6fE) or scan the below QR code



"Brilliant day, didn't even make it round everything".



Ariel Shot at the Fun Day

"Brilliant day! Very informative and educational, lots to see and do, kids had a great time with plenty to entertain them all day. We'll done SAC and volunteers"



Vehicle Display



Inflatable Zone

"It was so well planned, a perfect day out for families, so many things to see and activities to do, the staff were so friendly, a very inclusive event, so happy that we got to go!".



Lunch Hall



Bringing services and support
together under one roof

**Are you affected
by alcohol or drugs
and not sure which
way to turn?**

- Would you like somewhere you can drop-in for support?
- Would you like to speak to someone with lived experience of recovery?
- If so, drop into the **Compass** to speak to one of our dedicated Recovery Navigators

→ **Opening on
17th June 2024**

Address

7 – 9 James Street,
Ayr, KA8 0DH

Email

compass@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Telephone

07717 045 125

Opening Hours

*Monday, Wednesday
& Friday*

10am – 4pm

Wednesday

1pm – 4pm

Women Only Drop-In

Tuesday & Thursday

11am – 7pm

Saturday

10am – 1pm

SUMMER FEST '24

Crowds arrived on Ayr Low Green on Saturday 22nd June to enjoy an afternoon of activity and entertainment at Summer Family Fest.

Families and visitors enjoyed the numerous elements on offer – Fairground rides, market & charity stalls, military village, children’s fun dog show, flag raising ceremony, children’s zone, stilt walkers, open top bus, crazy golf course, a Highland Dance contest and a Pipe Band contest! Our Dance Arena was full all day showcasing the talents and variety of styles from 12 local dance schools.

Also, this year’s event included the Mobile Zip Line where visitors enjoyed a panoramic view of the Low Green and surrounding area. Team Extreme were also added for 2024 displaying impressive BMX, Scooter, In-line and Skateboarding skills as well as public ramp sessions where visitors could have a try themselves.



All images are by Derek McCabe.

New Builds Updates

Riverside, Ayr

The Riverside new build development is progressing well with the first phase at roof level and timber kit being constructed throughout the development.

Progress at the Riverside



Mainholm, Ayr

Works are progressing well with another 14 units to be completed towards the end of August. These units are situated along Mainholm Road and comprise of 2 and 3 bed semi-detached family homes.

Mainholm New Builds



Former St Ninians, Prestwick

The site at the former St Ninians Primary School is well underway with foundations in place and a number of the timber kits erected. Over the coming months adjacent residents will see a big change in the site once all timber kits are erected and the houses start to take shape.



St Ninians New builds underway

UC *Universal Credit*

Universal Credit is a single monthly payment to help with your living costs and provides support if you are working and on a low income, looking for work or unable to work.

The following benefits and tax credits are ending and being replaced by Universal Credit, under a single monthly payment:

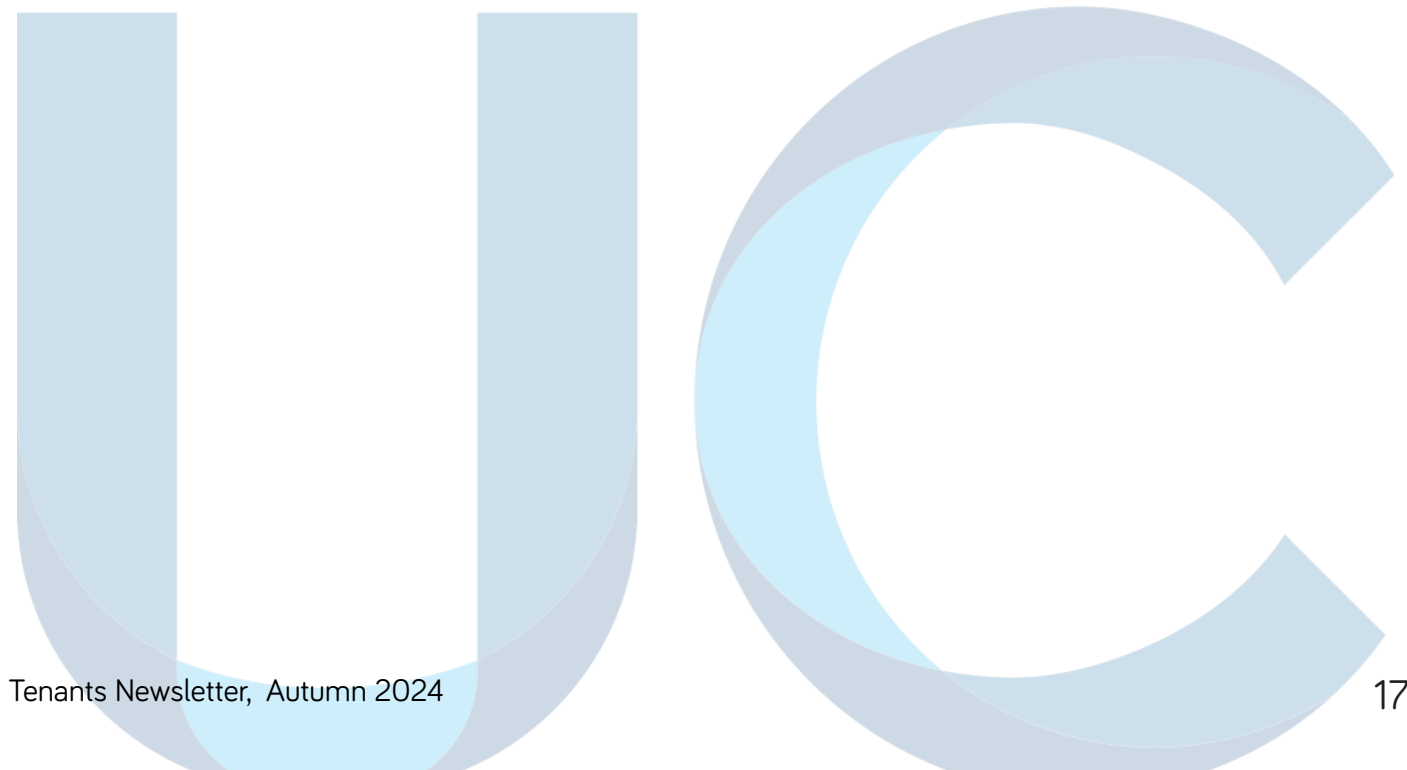
- ***Child Tax Credit***
- ***Working Tax Credit***
- ***Housing Benefit***
- ***Income Support***
- ***Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)***
- ***Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)***

From April 2024, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is writing to some people who receive these benefits to let them know that they need to claim Universal Credit instead. This letter - called a Migration Notice - explains what you need to do and when. It also provides information on the help

available to continue receiving support from the government.

Find out when you're likely to be asked to move to Universal Credit. It is important that you do not do anything until you receive your letter. You will not be moved automatically.

Once you've received your Universal Credit Migration Notice letter, you'll need to make a claim for Universal Credit to continue to get financial support. There will be a deadline in your letter. This is 3 months from the date the letter was sent out. Your current benefits will end as soon as you submit your claim for Universal Credit and you will not be able to go back to your existing benefit once you have claimed. If you want some help with your Universal Credit application or you're concerned about managing your income until you receive your first Universal Credit payment, there are different types of support available.



KIDS CORNER

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

Can you spot all 4 differences on the picture below?

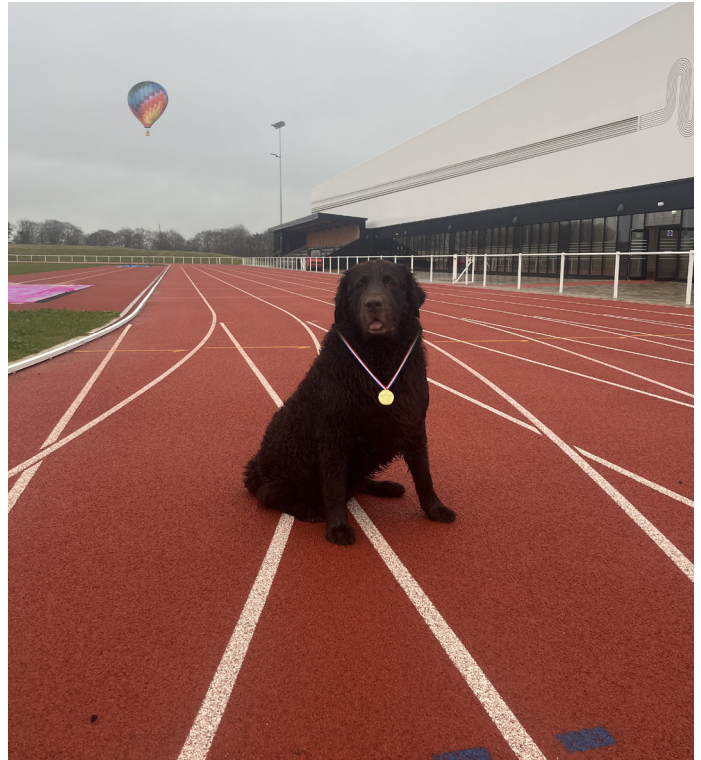
For your chance to win a copy of 'The Whit of Whiteley's Wood' children's book, circle the differences in the Spot the Difference photo, complete your details, cut out the freepost information on the back page of the newsletter and pop all your entries in the one envelope.



Original Photo



Spot the difference



PREFER TO EMAIL YOUR ENTRY?

Take a photo of your entry form and send it to:

tp@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

All entries should be received no later than 1st November 2024

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Postcode _____

Tel No _____

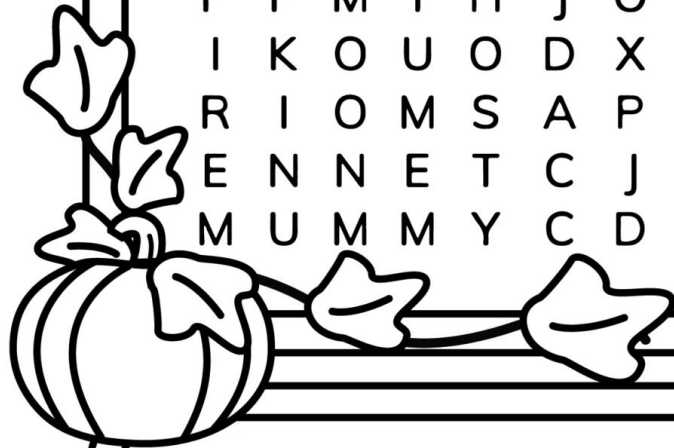


HALLOWEEN

WORD SEARCH



J C B E O X A O B S I V G D Q
E Q L D Y W T B A T P Q B G L
H A U N T E D P Q T R E A T D
X J R S C A U L D R O N X X I
M R I T K A S C R E E P Y V X
T P Y M R E P P V S P O O K Y
I G B O S I L E E S P D R A Q
V P I C U X C E Z L K I L W H
A U M O G C V K T Q L D D C X
M M Y S G H H U M O N S T E R
P P M T H J O S T F N I J C R
I K O U O D X U M L W E L A F
R I O M S A P H L A R D Y N C
E N N E T C J T F S P H R D B
M U M M Y C D Q U A C Y H Y L



BAT	CREEPY	MONSTER	SKELETON	TREAT
CANDY	GHOST	MOON	SPELLS	TRICK
CAULDRON	GHOULS	MUMMY	SPIDER	VAMPIRE
COSTUME	HAUNTED	PUMPKIN	SPOOKY	WITCH

COLOUR ME IN TOO!



Tenants Together Scotland

Regional Networks changes name to **Tenants Together** to reflect its bold new brand and vision.

The Regional Networks has unveiled its bold new identity, including a new name, logo, and vision as part of an extensive rebranding exercise, launched at their Annual General Meeting on Saturday 1st June 2024.

The organisation has now officially rebranded to **'Tenants Together'** to better reflect who they are: a national network of tenants, committed to empowering

the tenants of today and tomorrow, ensuring their voices are heard and influence decisions within the Scottish social housing sector, to protect tenants' rights and make a difference.

Funded by The Scottish Government, network members worked with the Tenants Information Service (TIS) to design and implement the new brand identity, mission statement, vision for the future, and core values. It was important that the approach was tenant-led to ensure the new identity embodied the key

priorities and ambitions of the network's members.

Colin Stewart – Chair of Tenants Together explained: ***"This is a major milestone for our organisation. With a clear vision and mission, we can move forward with our commitment to making sure the views of tenants and service users are listened to, acted upon, and are at the forefront of all housing and community developments. It is a very exciting time for us."***

The improved branding will provide the housing sector with a better understanding

of the aims of the network – who will speak up to protect tenants’ rights and offer a variety of opportunities for tenants and service users to influence national housing policy, work to ensure tenant participation is embedded within the culture of housing organisations operating throughout the sector, and share a unified voice for tenants and service users on national committees, boards, and taskforces.

The launch of the new Tenants Together brand was aptly timed, as Tenants Together, begin a recruitment drive to encourage tenants and service users of a Registered Social Landlord (RSL) or local authority, operating throughout the Scottish social housing sector, to get involved and sign up to membership – completely free of charge.

As a member of Tenants Together you can decide to get involved at a level that suits you, and will have the opportunity to:

- Be a part of a national network of like-minded tenants and service users who share a commitment to empowering the tenants of today and tomorrow.
- Work in partnership with the Scottish Government and other key decision makers to

ensure the interests of tenants and service users are at the heart of policy development.

- Become a champion for the organisation and promote the work that they do at local and national events and conferences.
- Share your views on national housing policy and development, and best practice relating to tenant participation and engagement.

- Come together with Tenants Together peers to review information and discuss some of the biggest challenges facing the sector.

- Engage directly with the Scottish Housing Regulator on the issues of key importance to tenants and service users in relation to the regulation of social landlords.

- Participate on national committees, panels, boards, task forces, and at ministerial meetings.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Tenants Together, please email info@tenantstogether.scot to find out more or alternatively, stay up to date with the latest work by signing up to their newsletter at www.tenantstogether.scot



MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

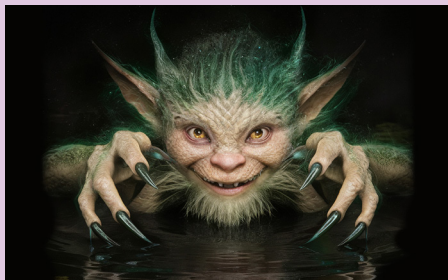
To explore our busy calendar of events and exhibitions please visit: south-ayrshire.gov.uk/galleries or X: [@samuseums](https://twitter.com/samuseums)

FATHOMS OF FEAR at Rozelle House Museum and Galleries

16 October – 31 October 2024

A chamber drama touring a private museum of curious creatures as it takes a dark turn into troubled waters. Are you brave enough to enter?

*Ticket information
available soon*



DALMILLING PUBLIC GARDEN

In April 2024 work was completed in the area next to the Dalmilling shops to provide the community with a new public garden. To get the garden looking wonderful certain work was carried out, which included removing old metal seats, repairing the boundary fence, painting the new fence and installing new seats and metal planters. The gardens have been open for a few months and have been enjoyed by many so far.



LIBRARIES Events & Activities

JOIN US FOR TEA AND TALK – Free, drop in events

Sip on a warm cuppa, tuck into some treats, and have a good blether. It's the perfect opportunity to unwind, catch up, and share stories. Whether you're a regular library visitor or it's your first time stepping in, you are warmly welcomed to be a part of our Tea and Talk community.

Alloway Library First Thursday of the month, 1.30pm – 3pm

Carnegie Library First Thursday of the month, 11am – 12 noon

Forehill Library First Wednesday, 2pm – 3pm

Girvan Library Every Wednesday, 2pm – 4pm

Maybole Library Second Wednesday of the month, 10am – 11am

John Rodie Library Second Thursday of the month, 10am – 11am

Tarbolton Library Every Thursday, 10am – 11am

Monthly 4pm – 5pm Monday: 30 September, 28 October, 25 November 2024

GIZMOS AND GADGETS

Come along to our free, drop in family friendly sessions. We will have a variety of techy gizmos and gadgets to have a go of.

Troon Library Saturday 14 September 10am – 11am

Alloway Library Monday 14 October 2.30pm – 4pm

Forehill Library Friday 18 October 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Visit our online events calendar or follow us on social media to find out more. To explore our busy calendar of events and activities visit:

Web: south-ayrshire.gov.uk/libraries X: [@salibraries](https://twitter.com/salibraries) Facebook: [@salibraries](https://facebook.com/salibraries)

EMERGENCY DEFIBRILLATORS INSTALLED AT SECONDARY SCHOOLS ACROSS SOUTH AYRSHIRE



South Ayrshire Council, in partnership with St John Scotland, have recently installed defibrillators at seven secondary schools.

Cabinets, which can be accessed 24/7, have been fitted to the exterior of Marr College, Kyle Academy, Ayr Academy, Queen Margaret Academy, Belmont Academy, Prestwick Academy and Southcraig School.

With Carrick Academy and Girvan Academy having defibrillators fitted previously, these recent installations mean that all Council secondary schools now have this potentially lifesaving equipment on site.

Following the install of the cabinet at Prestwick Academy, Colin McCormick Chair of St John Scotland Ayrshire and Arran and Archie Chalmers their PAD lead, visited the school as part of their “heart start” CPR awareness training. Pupils learned that defibrillators can be used to apply an electric charge or current to the heart to restore a normal heartbeat if the heart rhythm stops due to cardiac arrest.

St John Scotland has provided training at each of the seven secondary schools for pupils and teachers, as well as the wider community.

PRESTWICK LEISURE CLUB IMPROVEMENT WORKS

Prestwick Leisure Club is now closed to allow building improvement works to take place.

When the facility on Bellevue Road reopens in the spring of 2025, it will boast a new roof, new exterior wall cladding and an innovative Air Handling Ventilation System.

The building will also have an increased water supply along with improved water storage. Green credentials will also receive a boost thanks to the installation of solar panels.

Throughout the works, Club Fitness members will be able to access the gym and pool at the Citadel Leisure Centre in Ayr.

Troon Leisure Club and Maybole Leisure Club will also be accessible during the closure, as both these facilities can be used as part of the standard membership.

Customers who currently attend classes at Prestwick Leisure Club have the option to upgrade their membership for as little as £5 per month, so they can access Fitness Classes running at the Citadel.

WORKS ON HISTORIC NEWTON TOWER

South Ayrshire Council is carrying out repair work to Newton Tower in Ayr. The category B listed building, which dates back to 1795, will be treated with a new lime-based render, replacing the cement which is in poor condition.

The repair works started on Monday 12 August and will see the defective cement-based render removed and the sandstone prepared with a new lime-based render before being finished in breathable masonry paint. Scaffolding will be erected around the tower as part of the works,

which means surrounding roads will be affected:

- On King Street, west bound, heading towards Main Street, the lane closest to the tower will be closed. Traffic approaching Main Street will still be able to turn left and right.
- On King Street, east bound heading towards the roundabout, the lane closest to the tower will be closed up to the roundabout. Traffic will be restricted to the left-hand lane.
- If you are on Main Street, with Aldi on your left, the right-hand lane outside the supermarket will be closed. Traffic continuing on Main Street or turning right onto King Street will use the same lane.
- If you are approaching the tower on Main Street heading towards the river, the inside lane will be closed along-with the footpath. All traffic will turn left from the middle lane onto King Street with the bus lane unaffected (buses can proceed on Main Street past the tower).

An area of vegetation on the traffic island will also be removed to allow the installation of a site compound. The works are set to finish this December.





WHERE'S ERNIE?

Can you guess where Ernie has been visiting in this edition?

HOW TO ENTER THE COMPETITION:

Postal - Use the cut out entry form, attach the Freepost label to an envelope and pop in the postbox.

E-mail - tp@south-ayrshire.gov.uk - Take a picture of the entry form and email it to us.

Online - Visit www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/tenant-participation and complete the online entry form.

All entries should be received no later than 1st November 2024.



The Winner will receive a **£50 Love To Shop Local Voucher**

PREVIOUS EDITION:

In the previous edition Ernie didn't want to be left out of the Communities Fun Day buzz and took a visit to Riverside Arena, the new venue for the Fun Day. The staff were taken aback at first thinking a bear had gotten loose on the track but they soon realised it was just Ernie. He had a good look around and even tried to do a 100m sprint (only managing 10m before stopping for a treat and ear scratch).

Where's Ernie? Entry Form

Can you guess where Ernie has been visiting?

- A.** Troon Harbour
- B.** Ayr Harbour
- C.** Girvan Harbour

Name:

Address:

Town:..... Tel:



Freepost Plus RUCL-RUSR-LJBT
South Ayrshire Council
Housing Policy & Strategy Team
Riverside House
21 River Terrace
Ayr
KA8 0AU



All correct entries will be included in the prize draw and the winner will be notified after the draw.