



THE
NEWSLETTER
OF TRAFALGAR
HOUSING
ASSOCIATION



Trafalgar TIMES



Spring 2026

Welcoming in... *Spring*



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**SORRY WE'RE
CLOSED**

Office Closure Dates

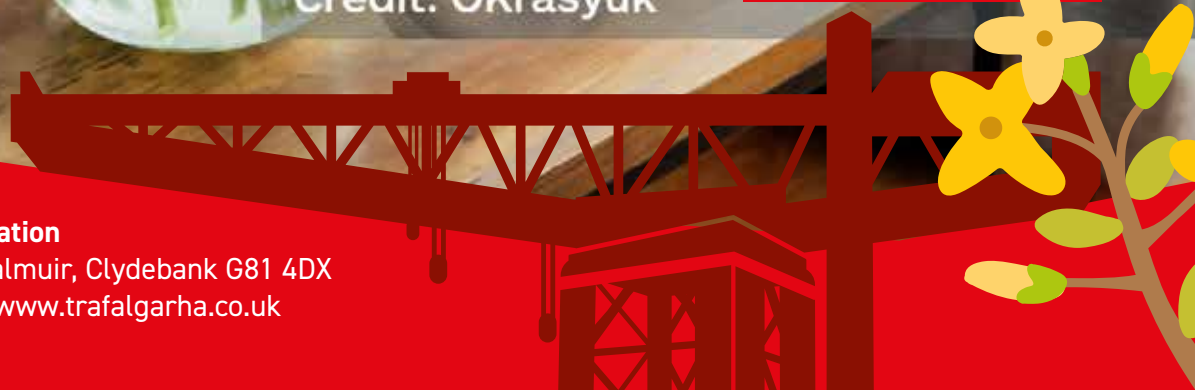
Please note the office closure dates below for the Spring period.

- Monday 4th May 2026 (May Day)
- Friday 22nd May 2026 (Spring Holiday)
- Monday 25th May 2026 (Spring Holiday)
- Monday 15th June 2026 (Additional Bank Holiday)

Should you have an **EMERGENCY REPAIR** during these times please contact our out of hours service Bield on **0800 783 7937**.

Trafalgar Housing Association

430a Dumbarton Road, Dalmuir, Clydebank G81 4DX
Tel: 0141 952 4676 Web: www.trafalgarha.co.uk



A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW DIRECTOR

We are delighted to announce that Alison Leabody has been appointed as the new Director of Trafalgar Housing Association. Alison has been acting up in the position since our previous Director, Paul McShane took ill and sadly passed away.

Alison has worked in housing for almost 40 years and has been with Trafalgar HA since 2001 building housing experience across all different departments and gaining an extensive knowledge of the sector. During her time with Trafalgar she has worked as Housing Manager (2001 – 2008), and then moved into the role of Property Services Manager (2008 – 2026).

We all wish her well in her new role with the Association.



Newsletter Preference

We are looking at the best way to modernise our communications to our tenants. From summer 2026 our aim is to digitalise our newsletter. Tenants will receive a text message with a link to our newsletter on our website where all the articles can be found. This action alone will save the Association over £1000 per year which will be invested back into the community, as well as doing our bit for the environment by reducing our carbon footprint.

We appreciate that some of our tenants prefer the traditional paper copy delivered through your door; if you wish to continue receiving a paper copy please contact the office to let us know and this can be arranged.

A text message reminder will be sent to all tenants requesting their preference for future editions prior to our summer newsletter being published.

GOOD NEIGHBOUR AWARD

Nominate your Neighbour for an Award

Is your neighbour one in a million? Do they make a difference to your life or the lives of people in your community?

This is a chance for you to say 'thank you' to a neighbour who goes out of their way to help you and others, someone who shows kindness and consideration.

The winner of this award receives **£50 worth of vouchers** and a certificate. We would also like the winner to be featured in an article on the award and why they won it in our next newsletter.

If you would like to nominate your

neighbour for this award please send an email to admin@trafalgarha.co.uk or write to our office at:

Trafalgar Housing Association
430a Dumbarton Road
Dalmeir, G81 4DX
Clydebank

In the email or letter please include the name of the person that you would like to nominate, the reason why you think they should win the award and their address.

Unfortunately, we cannot accept nominations from relatives or anyone living in the same property.

Please let us know!



Please let us know if there has been any changes to your household details – even if it is just your contact number.

It is important that we have up to date contact details to ensure that you are not missing out on any opportunities to engage with Trafalgar Housing Association or in the event that we need to contact you in an emergency! We will be increasing our use of text messages to advise

tenants of events taking place or to carry out surveys, therefore an up to date mobile number is essential.

It is also really important that you let us know if there are any changes to your household, such as someone moving in or out. This can have an impact on the amount of benefit you may receive as well as impact any tenancy changes you want to make. Please email HM@trafalgarha.co.uk or give us a call on **0141 952 4676** to ensure that your details are up to date.



Winterfest 2025

In December Trafalgar got the opportunity to work in partnership with Dalmuir Park Housing Association on their Winterfest event. This was a free community event which saw over 250 residents of Trafalgar HA and Dalmuir Park HA enjoy a Christmas filled evening. From Santa's grotto, to face painting, burgers and hot chocolate – it was a great event enjoyed by many.

A big thank you is extended to Dalmuir Park HA for welcoming us on board and to our tenants who turned up to make the event a great success.

We look forward to working with Dalmuir Park HA on future community events.



Trafalgar Housing Association

Quarterly Tenant Satisfaction Results

(4th Quarter - January to March 2026)

Every quarter the Association carries out tenant satisfaction surveys to obtain your views on the services we provide.

This information is reported back to the Scottish Housing Regulator and it will help us to continuously improve our services and ensure that they are designed and delivered to meet your needs and expectations.

We would like to say thank you to each person who has taken the time to provide us with feedback to help drive improvement on the services that we provide.

What you told us this Quarter



BECOME A GENERAL MEMBER OF TRAFALGAR FOR JUST £1



Anyone can become a General Member of the Association as long as you are aged 16 or over and meet the requirements set out in our rules which are available to view online at: www.trafalgarha.co.uk/becoming-a-general-member.

Membership costs just £1 and you will remain a member for as long as you reside within the area.

By becoming a member of the Association you are eligible to vote at the AGM, which takes place every September. This will allow you to influence how the Association operates.

To become a member of Trafalgar Housing Association please fill out the information below, cut out this application form and return it to our office.

I would like to apply for membership of Trafalgar Housing Association and I have enclosed £1.00 for one share.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

I would like to hear more information about joining the Management Committee

YES / NO

Committee Meeting Updates

Our last Committee meeting was held on Tuesday 24th March 2026 remotely over Microsoft Teams.

Items of interest discussed at our recent committee meetings:

- Consolidated Action Plan Update
- Qtr 3 Management Accounts
- Budget 2026/27
- Risk Register
- Long Term Projections 2026/27
- Directors Report

Where can I view the minutes from the Committee meetings?

The minutes from our Management Committee meetings can be viewed on our website at www.trafalgarha.co.uk under the 'Documents' section.

We are always looking for new members to join our Management Committee to take part in important decisions. Recently this has included deciding the future of Trafalgar Housing Association in our Options Appraisal. We are delighted to confirm that the Management Committee voted in favour of remained independence for the Association.



Prize Winners

Our repairs satisfaction winners of a £20 Asda voucher are as follows.

- **September** – Pauline Cairns
- **October** – Alan McDade (Mr McDade very kindly donated his voucher back to our food pantry)

Our winner of a £50 Asda voucher for the rent increase consultation was Theresa Stewart.



35th Anniversary Prize Draw

To celebrate our 35th Anniversary we have been holding a prize draw every month in which the winner will receive a £35 voucher for a place of their choice.

Our winners so far are as follows:

- **June** – Kellyann Duncan - £35 Asda Voucher
- **July** – Carol Cochrane - £35 Asda Voucher
- **August** – Mary Mullen – £35 Asda Voucher
- **September** – Elizabeth Murray – £35 Iceland Voucher
- **October** – Georgina Bainbridge – £35 B&M Voucher
- **November** – Mr & Mrs Mortimer – £35 Asda Voucher
- **December** – Annmarie Tucker - £35 Boots Voucher
- **January** – Shannon Hamilton - £35 M&S Voucher
- **February** – Charles Bisset - £35 Asda Voucher
- **March** – Audrey Tait & Brian Pollock - £35 Asda Voucher



Play Park Upgrade

As advised previously we are planning to upgrade the play park to add some wooden trimtrail items on the grassy area as part of our 35th Anniversary celebrations.

The pictures show some of the items we were considering for the area. We would welcome any feedback on these by either phoning the office on **0141 952 4676**, emailing admin@trafalgarha.co.uk or coming into the office to see us in person.





The Art of Recovery: Masking and Unmasking Domestic Abuse

Join us for this interactive survivor-led exhibition exploring the hidden realities, impact and hope for recovery from domestic abuse. Suitable for all ages.

This educational exhibition invites discussion, challenges stigma, and centres the voices of those with lived experience.

Join us to engage, to learn, and to stand in support of a future free from abuse.

DATE: THURSDAY 14TH MAY 2026

TIME: DROP IN ANYTIME: 10AM-5PM

LOCATION: CENTRE 81,
WHITECROOK
CLYDEBANK,
G81 1DP

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: WOMENSAFETY.SERVICE@WEST-DUNBARTON.CO.UK

What have we done



- WDC referral to inspect Trafalgar Street for multiple potholes
- WDC referral to repair damaged bollard at Trafalgar Street playpark
- WDC referral to inspect block drain on Crown Avenue causing ponding at speed bump
- Additional recycling bins ordered for 2 tenement blocks

Paint Contract

As you may have noticed close and fence painting has begun in the estate. JS McColl will be carrying out the paint contract which will take place throughout the year. The painting of closes and fences in phase one (426 – 434 Dumbarton Road) of the Trafalgar area was completed in March 2026, and work on phase two (2 – 8 Trafalgar Street) will commence shortly and will continue through the year.

We would like to remind all tenants to take care during this time and be mindful of their clothing on wet walls. Clear signage will be put in closes by the contractor to advise tenants when work is taking place.

Trafalgar Together

Emergency Food Cupboard

Please remember that our emergency food cupboard is available for those who are in need of food, toiletries or other essentials. If you find yourself in need of some emergency supplies, you can visit the office or call for delivery to your door if required. Please contact us if you are struggling and we will help you in any way we can.



Coffee Morning

In December 2025 we hosted a coffee morning in Singer Bowling Club. This was a free event where those who attended were able to enjoy some refreshments and a friendly game of prize bingo. Staff were also on hand to offer the opportunity to discuss any housing or community related enquiries. Thank you to all who attended and helped to make it a success. We are hoping to hold another community event like this in the coming weeks so keep an eye out for details.

We always welcome tenant feedback and this can be done at any time by contacting staff at the office.



Rent Increase



As you are aware, we recently completed our consultation process about our proposed rent increase and review of our service charges for 2026/27. We consulted with our tenants and received 83 responses in relation to this. We understand the importance of ensuring that our rents are affordable for our tenants whilst also continuing to

provide you with high quality and essential services. A rent increase of 5.6% has been agreed and was applied to rents from 28th March 2026. The service charge has increased to £15.80 per month and the estate charge has increased to £24.38 per month. Our rents remain well below the Scottish average.

Please see below for any action you need to take if you pay via the following -

Repayment Arrangement - If you are currently in rent arrears and have an agreed repayment plan, you should maintain the excess payments as well as the rent increase.

Universal Credit - you must update your claim through your online portal on or very shortly after the 28 March 2025. It is your responsibility to update your housing costs, and any delays could result in rent arrears.

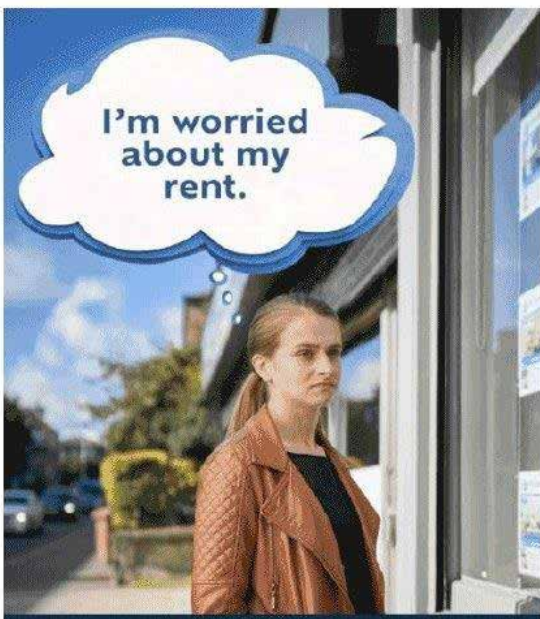
Housing Benefit - we have notified West Dunbartonshire Council Housing Benefit Team of this increase. You should check the correspondence you receive from them to ensure that you have been awarded the correct level of housing benefit.

Direct Debit - we will advise your bank of the revised amount. Please check any correspondence received from Allpay to ensure that the amount is the same as your new rent charge.

Standing Order - you must contact your bank to amend the payment details in line with your new rent charge.

BACS - you must ensure that the correct payments are made in line with your new rent charge.

If you are struggling to pay your rent we are here to help. Please get in contact with us by calling the office on **0141 952 4676** to arrange a chat with the Housing Management Team.



Find out about a range of payments you may be entitled to, ways to reduce energy and household costs, managing your rent, and support for families at gov.scot/costoflivingsupport



Residents Panel

Topics covered at our meeting in March included a breakdown of the service charges and estate management charges and an update on ongoing works.

Our next meeting date is scheduled for May 2026.

We are always looking for new members and all tenants/residents over the age of 16 are welcome. This is a voluntary unpaid role; but one that is very important to the ongoing success of the Association and to ensure your voice is heard. It can also allow you to meet your neighbours, enhance your skills and experience and positively impact your local community.

We appreciate your time is valuable, therefore the meetings will be every 2 months and we will try to make them at a time that suits you.

If you are interested in joining our Residents Panel please email us at admin@trafalgarha.co.uk, or you can call us on **0141 952 4676**.



Join our Management Committee

We are actively looking for local residents from Trafalgar Street/Dumbarton Road area and the Terraces/Radnor Park area to join our Management Committee.

You will join a fantastic group of members, take part in making important decisions for the Association and play your part to make a positive impact for your community

This is a voluntary unpaid role. New members will be provided with necessary equipment and comprehensive training. Meetings take place in the evening once every 4 weeks and are currently conducted remotely using Microsoft Teams.

How do I join?

If you wish to join the Management Committee you must firstly become a General Member of the Association (see page 9). If you apply you could be invited on to fill any 'casual vacancies' that exist. However, you would then need to be formally elected at the next AGM (Annual General Meeting) which takes place every September.

If you are interested in this opportunity please visit our website at www.trafalgarha.co.uk and download an application form and recruitment pack from the 'Get Involved' section of our website.

Have you thought about becoming a housing association committee member?

It's a great way to volunteer in your community and help change it for the better.

Local housing associations provide affordable rented housing for a wide range of people who need it. They provide quick, efficient repairs and other services, and some are also involved in building new homes.

Community based housing associations often provide all kinds of other services to support local people – such as benefits and fuel advice, help with getting into employment,

and places for people to hold meetings and community activities.

Housing association staff members are paid professionals, but associations are run by voluntary committee members, and usually the majority live in the local area.

Here are some of the benefits of serving on the committee...

Benefits for you

- Gain confidence, build a sense of achievement, improve your self-esteem and have a new sense of purpose.
- Develop your understanding, skills and knowledge, add to your CV, and potentially open new career paths.
- Be involved in a stimulating and mutually supportive environment where your views are heard.
- Meet new people, develop friendships, and socialise with others with a shared commitment.
- Attend social & networking events, as well as training courses, to build up your skills.
- Open up opportunities to apply to serve on important national/regional bodies in the housing sector.
- Become a part of one of the most important and effective movements for physical and social improvement that has happened in Scotland over the last 40 years.
- Get personal satisfaction from giving something back to the local community whilst making a real difference.
- Broaden your horizons and have fun along the way!

Benefits for the association and the wider community

- You'll help to raise awareness of the Association's work both within the local community and beyond.
- The time and energy you commit to the Association will directly contribute to its work in improving the quality of life for tenants and the wider community.
- You can help to ensure good quality housing and services.
- As a voluntary committee member you'll join hundreds of local people and other volunteers who play such a crucial role in taking forward the work of community controlled housing associations in Scotland.



Glasgow and West of Scotland
Forum of Housing Associations



supporting
social
employers

Online safety: top tips

Going online is a huge part of most young people's lives so it's important to talk to them about online safety. Here's our tips to get you started.



Chat to them about what they like to do online

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to talk to them and have regular conversations so that online safety is part of everyday discussion. Ask them open-ended questions like 'What's your favourite game or app to play on?'

- Listen to what they have to say and show an interest. They could give you a demo of their favourite app or show you their favourite YouTube or TikTok account.
- They will probably be able to teach you things you don't know! This will also give you an opportunity to chat about any safety settings they might already have in place.
- Regular conversations with your child will encourage them to come to you if they ever need support or advice.

Talk about who they are in contact with online

There are lots of different ways that children can talk to people online – messaging apps, on social media, and less obvious ways such as chat on online games. Talk to your child about who they are talking to and what they are sharing with them.

- Use settings to help limit who can contact your child.
- Remind your child that they shouldn't share personal information with people they don't know online.
- Let your child know they can come to you or another trusted adult if any conversation makes them feel uncomfortable.

Help manage what they see and do online

Parental controls and privacy settings can help you manage how your child spends time online and help to keep them safe.

- Device settings – manage things like location sharing, screen time and in-app purchases. Most tech and gaming companies have dedicated pages to support with setting these up.
- App or game settings – in-app tools that can help to keep your child's account private and manage who they're talking to. You can normally find information on these in account settings or directly on the platforms website.
- Mobile or network provider settings – help to manage browsing access and stop your child from visiting inappropriate sites or downloading apps that aren't suitable. Contact your mobile or broadband provider for more information about setting this up.

Make sure to talk to your child first before implementing any new settings and explain to them how they help to keep them safe.

Remember it's ok to ask for help!

Remember you don't have to be an online safety expert – that's our job! We're here to help, with resources and advice to help support you and your child.

If your child asks you a question you don't know the answer to, or speaks to you about a negative experience they had online, here are some of things you could do:

- Visit the NSPCC online safety hub: nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety
- Call the NSPCC helpline **0808 800 5000** to speak to an advisor
- Ask another parent
- Speak to your child's teacher
- If your child needs more support, they can contact Childline: childline.org.uk



How to Make a Paper Flower Wreath

1. Draw some flowers and leaves on to coloured card or paper. You can draw them on to white paper or card and get the kids to colour them in.



2. Cut out the leaves and flowers.



3. Cut out the center of the paper plate and paint green.



4. Glue the flowers around the paper plate.



Keep gluing flowers until the paper plate is filled.

As you are gluing the flowers down, fold the petals up to create a more 3D effect.



5. Glue some leaves around the flowers.

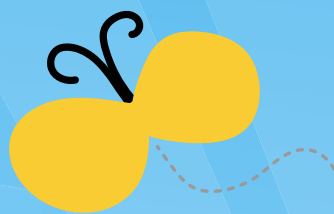


6. Tape or glue some twine or string to the back of the wreath for hanging.



These paper flower wreaths are a fun way to brighten up a space for spring!

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS



TRAFALGAR HOUSING ASSOCIATION 0141 952 4676

EMERGENCY REPAIRS (OUT OF HOURS)
Bield 0800 783 7937

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Breathing Space 0800 838587

CARA
(Challenging & Responding to Abuse) 01389 738595

Goldenhill Resource Centre 0141 941 4400

Primary Care Mental Health Team 01389 828203

Riverview Resource Centre 01389 812070

Stepping Stones 0141 941 2929

Samaritans 116 123

Vale Centre for Health and Care 01389 828200

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Emergency Homelessness 0800 197 1004

WDC Main Number 01389 737000

WD Carers Centre 0141 941 1550

WD Mental Health Forum 01389 742294

WD Welfare Rights 0800 980 9070

POLICE

Emergency 999

Non- Emergency 101

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Lomond & Argyll Advocacy Service 01389 726543

NHS 24 111

West Dunbartonshire CAB 0800 484 0136

West Dunbartonshire Advice Service 01389 776929

West Dunbartonshire CVS 0800 484 0136

Old Kilpatrick Food Parcels 07368 496836

West Dunbartonshire Community Foodshare 0800 345 7050

Crisis Counselling 0141 812 8474

Dumbarton Council on Alcohol - Clydebank 0141 952 0881

Alternatives - Clydebank 0141 951 2420

Women's Self Injury Helpline 0808 800 8088

Trauma Counselling Line 0808 802 0406

Women's Aid Clydebank 0141 952 8188

Y Sort It 0141 941 3308

Trafalgar Housing Association, 430a Dumbarton Road, Dalmuir, Clydebank G81 4DX
Tel: 0141 952 4676
www.trafalgarha.co.uk



SCAN ME

