



Federation Matters

January 2012

A very Happy New Year to you all from everyone at ETF. Please share this newsletter with others in your organisation who may be interested. If you or anyone in your group would like to receive Federation Matters by email, along with other updates about our work and opportunities to get involved, please send an email to info@edinburghtenants.org.uk.

ETF Repairs meeting, Wednesday 25th January 2012, Norton Park, 7pm-9pm

The next meeting of ETF Repairs Group will take place on Wednesday 25th January 2012 at 7pm in Norton Park. We are hoping that the guest speaker will be Alistair Latona from the Council and he will be giving an update on the Council's refreshed Repairs Policy. If you have any repairs issues in your area, please come along to the meeting. If you would like more information about the meeting or would like to be included on our Repairs Group mailing list, please contact the Federation office.

Federation Meeting, Monday 30th January 2012, Norton Park Conference Centre, 7pm

The Federation meeting which was supposed to take place on 28th November had to be postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. Our next quarterly meeting will take place on Monday 30th January 2012 at 7pm in Norton Park Conference Suite. Members will have the chance to hear about what ETF has done over the past six months, as we discuss our quarterly Progress Reports. This is an ideal opportunity to meet other tenants and residents from across the city, so it would be great to see you there. A full agenda and further information will be sent out in due course.

Reporting Antisocial Behaviour

Nobody should have to put up with antisocial behaviour. If you're faced with noisy neighbours, or you've seen someone littering, drawing graffiti, or committing other acts of anti-social behaviour, you shouldn't suffer in silence. If you are a victim of antisocial behaviour, then there are a number of steps you can take. You can phone the 24 hour Antisocial Behaviour line on 0131 529 7050 or you can complete the online form at https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/forms/form/24/report_antisocial_behaviour.

Edinburgh Tenants Federation on Facebook

Edinburgh Tenants Federation has a page on Facebook and we would like to encourage as many people as possible to become a fan. Either look us up on Facebook or click on the button from the front page of our website at www.edinburghtenants.org.uk. Our Facebook page contains information about forthcoming events and activities and there are discussion boards where you can swap ideas with other users. Feel free to take a look!

Student Placement for ETF

We are delighted to announce that Sarah Airlie, a third year student from Edinburgh University will be joining ETF on a three month placement, starting from Monday 23rd January. Sarah is studying Community Education and we are very much looking forward to Sarah joining ETF.

Edinburgh Tenants Federation Norton Park 57 Albion Road Edinburgh EH7 5QY

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Training and Information Needs Questionnaire

The return date for our Training Survey has been extended until Monday 9th January 2012. We would be grateful if you can return the questionnaire to the office by this date. This will allow us to assess which topics are the most popular and deliver a training and information programme of four sessions that best suits our members' needs.

Tenants Voice

All groups should have received a copy of the Federation's *Tenant's Voice* issue number 80. If you would like extra copies, please contact the Federation office. The deadline for material for the next issue is Monday 9th January 2012, so if there's anything you'd like to say, please speak up! Articles and letters for publication should be sent into the Federation office at Norton Park, 57 Albion Road, Edinburgh EH7 5QY, or can be emailed to info@edinburghtenants.org.uk. Alternatively, give the Federation office a call on 0131 475 2509 if you'd like help to pull an article together.

Stair Cleaning: Your Comments Please

ETF is represented at a group overseeing the work of the companies that carry out the Council's stair cleaning service, ISS and Tartan. We are keen to get feedback from tenants and residents that receive the service in order that we can present a customers' view of the service. Please call Mark on 475 2509 or email him at mark@edinburghtenants.org.uk with your feedback.

Free and Confidential Rent and Benefits Advice for Council Tenants

Are you a Council tenant struggling to manage your rent or worried you are not getting the correct benefits? The Council's Income Maximisation Advice Service can offer advice and assistance to claim Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit and also can assist with any other Welfare Benefits and help you claim what you are entitled to. For more information or to arrange an appointment please contact Joyce Boyd on 529 7304 or Isla Paterson on 529 7463 or alternatively you can e-mail the Income Maximisation Advice Service at incomemaximisation@edinburgh.gov.uk

Diary Dates

Here are dates for upcoming events that may be of interest to you. Please pass them onto other members of your organisation.

January 2012

16 January	Executive Committee, Norton Park, 7pm
25 January	ETF Repairs meeting, Norton Park, 7pm
30 January	Federation meeting, Norton Park, 7pm

February 2012

20 February	Executive Committee, Norton Park, 7pm
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Please use public transport where possible. If required assistance with transport and childcare are available on request. Contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 for more information or to book a place. Please share this information with other tenants and residents in your group.

Don't forget that Federation Matters, and other Federation publications, can be downloaded from our website at www.edinburghtenants.org.uk. That's all for this month – do get in touch if you need any more information from us about anything mentioned here.

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