# RADIUS MAL Providing our tenants up-to-date news & advice

## **ISSUE NO. 054**

## **MAY 2025**



## THE RADIUS COMMUNITY AWARDS ARE NOW OPEN FOR 2025



Following the success of last year's Community Awards and Tenant Celebration, we are delighted to announce that nominations for this year's Best Kept Garden Categories are OPEN!

This year the gardening awards will be judged under the following categories:

Best Kept Communal Garden

Best Kept Communal Urban Garden

Best Kept Individual Garden within schemes and general homes

Best Kept Sustainable/Biodiverse Garden area

#### **Best Kept Hanging Baskets/Planters**

You can make your nomination online from Monday 5th May up until the closing

date of Friday 30th May by emailing the Tenant Engagement team for a nomination form or using the accompanying QR Code.





The following two remaining Award Categories will open Monday 2nd June and close for judging on Friday 27th June.

#### **Good Neighbour**

Awarded to an individual living within a Radius community that makes a difference where they live through their contributions, commitment, support they offer and /or acts of kindness to others.

#### **Positive Impact Award**

Awarded to a group of individuals living within a Radius Community who have made a positive difference working together to contribute to a better community for all.

These awards will all be presented at the Tenant Conference later this year. Further information will be shared in the June Newsletter and nearer the time. **Good luck everyone!** 

#### **TENANT ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS 2024-25**

The past year has seen our work in Tenant engagement recognised with the Tenant Participation Gold Standard Accrediation and the CIH Beyond Housing Award 2024.

Some highlights of the past year include:

The **Community Chest Fund 2024-25** supported 40 projects within Radius communities with over £26,000 funding.



Our teams carried out 38 **Estate Walkabouts** with 141 tenants identifying issues that require attention in Radius Communities.

Our tenants voices were heard loud and clear, through **Panel and Tenant Executive Committee Meetings, Service Improvement and Working groups, and Community Consultations** with 68 participants, who generously volunteered 426 hours of their time.

10 Radius schemes have active **Tenant Associations** which has enabled them to organise events, fundraisers, outings and successfully apply for external funding, along with training and administrative support from Tenant Engagement.

## Thank you to all tenants who got involved this past year.

Your involvement is crucial to ensure tenants remain involved and continue to have a say in shaping our services.

If you are interested in opportunities to get

- involved this year, contact your Scheme
- Coordinator or Tenant Engagement Team.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Repairs Working Group Action Plan Meeting Tuesday 6th May @ 11am

#### Would you like to feature in the next Radius Mail newsletter?

Please speak to your Scheme Coordinator, Housing Officer or email us at: tenant.engagement@radiushousing.org

## **HELP STOP ONLINE BEING THE ONLY OPTION**

Age UK is campaigning to make sure everyone can access the services they need - so that being offline doesn't mean being overlooked.

Public services are rapidly "going digital", and, if like 2.3 million older people in the UK you aren't an internet user, it's becoming harder and, in some cases, impossible - to access day to day necessities such as banking, NHS appointments or even just paying for car parking.

But it's not just those who aren't online, plenty of people would prefer to handle their finances, their bills or their health

### IMPROVE YOUR DIGITAL SKILLS

We continue to partner with AbilityNet delivering Digital Awareness Training to our Independent Living Schemes.

Last year 93 tenants took part in this training, designed to boost confidence and enhance digital skills, with topics covered including email and text messaging, browsing the internet safely, and staying connected with friends and family online.

If you would like to find out more about Digital Skills Training, speak to your Scheme Coordinator or contact the Tenant Engagement Team at: tenant.engagement@radiushousing.org

## **GROUNDS MAINTENANCE 2025 UPDATE**

ESTATE WALKABOUTS ······

All our Independent Living & **Care Schemes should now** have the Communal **Grounds Maintenance** and Estates Services **Summer Schedule** displayed on their noticeboards.

This will outline the duties included in the Grounds

Maintenance Contract for both the summer and winter months. We have launched a pilot programme involving a number of schemes who will begin monitoring the current Grounds Maintenance contractors. Tenant involvement in monitoring the service delivered to our tenants plays a vital role in ensuring high

standards from our contractors.

Friday 9th May 11.30am

**Dunowen Court** 

Friday 9th May 1pm

**St Pauls Fold** 

Wednesday 21st May 11am

**Glentoran House** 

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Wednesday 7th May 11am **Orby Court/Park** Wednesday 7th May 11am **Ebrington Oaks** Friday 9th May 10am **Clifton House/Mews** 



matters in person or over the phone, no one should feel forced to perform important tasks online if they don't feel

comfortable.



Age NI has created a petition to stop online being the only option, sign the petition and demand that everyone has the right to a guaranteed, easy to use offline alternative.

Sign the petition online or ask

your scheme coordinator to print a template of the petition, or write to FREEPOST Age UK Campaigns





#### Providing advice, support and advocacy on all aspects of benefit entitlement.

**Welfare Advice** 

Radius Welfare Advice Officers are on hand to support and assist you with: Benefits

- **Universal Credit**
- Budgeting

Get in touch with your Scheme Coordinator or Housing Officer if you would like a referral.

#### **Report a Repair** Online To report a repair, visit our website and fill in our online

**Report a Repair form** 

or scan the QR Code.



You can also contact the Radius Office directly on 0330 123 0888 or speak to vour Scheme Coordinator.

For Emergency Repairs, contact us immediately on 0330 123 0888



## FUNDRAISING IN ACTION



Well done to everyone who has helped fundraise for Action Cancer, our charity partner, including:

Blaris Fold who hosted a Cake & Craft Sale raising £1050, Cromlyn Fold who held an Afternoon Tea and Raffle raising £395, and Cairnshill Fold who also held a Tea Party and raised £500.

#### Find us online

Why not keep up to date with Radius Housing news through Facebook? Simply search for "RadiusHousing"

If you have an emergency repair while our offices are closed, call us on 0330 123 0888

