

Wythenshawe Life

www.wchg.org.uk



Wythenshawe
Community Housing Group



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE | Platinum



Health &
Wellbeing
Award



Meet
Nick Horne -
new CEO



Hat-trick
for WCHG



Universal
Credit
latest



Newsletter
Going
Digital

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or anyone you know
would like this publication
IN LARGE TYPE
or audio format please
contact us on
0800 633 5500
0300 111 0000

BANK HOLIDAYS

Our offices will be closed on the following Bank Holiday
Monday, August 26: Summer bank holiday

To report an emergency repair please call
0300 111 0000 / 0800 633 5500



Welcome Nick Horne

- our new Group Chief Executive

We are delighted to welcome Nick Horne as our new Group Chief Executive.

Nick, who succeeds Nigel Wilson, has pledged:

"I personally look forward to enhancing and championing quality services contributing to the lasting legacy for Wythenshawe and its residents."

He was formerly the Chief Executive of Knightstone Housing Association in the South West of England, and an MBA student at the University



of Exeter and has over 25 years governance experience including being a member of the Bristol Homes Board, the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership and Chair of the Bristol Homes Commission.

Nick is a Fellow of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

He says: *"I am honoured and excited to be appointed as new Group Chief Executive for WCHG. The Group's strength is clearly its people, who are passionate about providing*

good quality homes and outstanding services for the Wythenshawe Community. I am looking forward to building on the impressive foundations of past achievements and successes."

Welcoming him, Chair of the WCHG Board, The Bishop of Manchester, The Right Revd Dr David Walker said: *"I am both excited and delighted to welcome Nick to be our next CEO. He brings to Wythenshawe a wealth of senior leadership experience both in Housing Associations and more widely. Crucially, he will be a first class ambassador for WCHG, as we continue to grow our work and fulfil our ambition to be one of the foremost housing organisations across Manchester and beyond."*

Hat-trick

for being one of the best!

We:

1 have been recognised by the Top Employers Institute as a Top Employer UK 2019 for excellence in employee conditions. This places us in the top 0.5% of leading organisations not only in the UK but across 75 countries.



2 joined an elite group of world class organisations across all sectors and were the very first Housing Association in the North

West of England to achieve Investors in People (IIP) Platinum status, for developing, supporting and leading people effectively to achieve sustainable results.

3 were named as a global leader in people management practice, having been awarded IIP Excellence in Health and Wellbeing for our pioneering employee health and wellbeing working practices.




Winner
www.tpasawards.org.uk @tpasawards #tpasawards19
 Headline sponsor **MEARS** An event by **ConnectIn**

Lucy Marshall won Inspirational Young Tenant of the Year at the 2019 Tenant Participation Advisory Service (TPAS) Awards.



We were also shortlisted for:

- **Community Focused Service/Product of the Year Award - Volunteering 4 Wythenshawe (V4W)**
- **Team of the Year - WCHG's Community Investment Team**



Ten great winners - our Youth Awards



The WCHG Youth Awards have recognised ten outstanding young people from ten organisations in an event held at the Woodhouse Park Lifestyle Centre.

The event was organised by WCHG's Youth Involvement team and co-hosted by Executive Director of Housing Jacque Allen and Assistant Manager for WCHG Youth Team Joe Amos on behalf of Wythenshawe's Children's & Young People's Alliance. Special guests included The Bishop of Manchester, Dr David Walker and the The Lord Mayor of Manchester, Cllr June Hitchen.

Winners were:

- Role Model - **The Proud Trust**
- Charity Fundraiser of the Year - **Once Upon a Smile**
- Young Carer of the Year - **Wythenshawe Youth Forum**
- Overcome Personal Challenge - **Simply Cycling**
- Service to the Community - **National Trust - LSC Garden Project**
- Transformer of the Year - **LSC Junior Youth Club**
- Sports Person of the Year - **Better Things**
- Outstanding Volunteer - **Wythenshawe Black Belt Academy**
- Team player - **Manchester Young Lives**
- Outstanding Individual Achievement - **Jimmy Egan Boxing Academy**

The awards were sponsored by WCHG, Real Lives Wythenshawe, City in the Community, Manchester City Council & The MU Foundation.

WCHG Interim Chief Executive, Kevin Lowry said,

"We heard some amazing stories on the night and had some worthy winners but everyone nominated in these awards is a winner in my eyes."

For other inspiring news on young people see what the WOW Zone has been up to on page 17!

Nominate your community champion!

Our 2019 Community Awards will recognise and celebrate all the hard work of local groups and individuals that make a difference in our communities. They will be presented at the Tenants Conference.

Nominate someone you feel should win:

- Paul Goggins' Lifetime Award
- Community Champion Award
- Community Group
- Diversity Award
- Youth Group Award
- Young Person's Award
- Good Neighbour Award
- Involvement Champion
- Staff Award

To nominate simply pick up leaflets in all our offices or contact Pedro in our Involvement Team on 0161 946 6403 or email getinvolved@wchg.org.uk

#tenantsattheheart



Hold the date!

Annual Tenants Conference
Thursday 31 October

Free lunch included

RSVP!

This event fills up every year. Get in touch early to avoid disappointment and secure your place!

Email getinvolved@wchg.org.uk

The conference is your opportunity to speak to our Executive Team and hear about everything going on at WCHG

follow us at @wythenshawe_chg



Fire alarms fitted

Fire alarms have been fitted to flats and communal areas in all of our high-rise blocks as part of our commitment to comply with the latest fire risk recommendations.



Access was crucial to completing this project and we had to refer 20 tenants to solicitors to gain access to allow for the works to go ahead. This resulted in three injunctions.

We are now planning to fit sprinkler systems into the high-rise blocks to further our commitment to keep safe our tenants and those people working in or visiting the blocks.

Waste and recycling at high rise sites

Manchester City Council has reduced the amount of mixed waste it will collect from bin chutes at all high-rise sites across the city to encourage more recycling, to support a low carbon Manchester and to reduce costs.

We are working closely with the 600 residents of the nine high rise sites we manage and with Manchester City Council to install new recycling facilities and provide advice, guidance and support through these changes.

We will monitor the levels of recycling and ensure all residents have the correct facilities and support to be able to recycle.

Help with downsizing



Do you live in a property that is too large for your needs now your family has grown up? Are you finding the upkeep of a house and garden is becoming a strain?

Did you know you can get help from WCHG to move from a house to a smaller property, such as a flat or a bungalow?

We can help you with:

- Finding a smaller property more suited to your needs
- Arranging the removals and reconnecting your utilities etc
- Paying for the removal and boxes
- Ensuring your new property is carpeted and ready for you to move into

If you currently live in a 3 or 4 bedroom house and would consider moving to a smaller property please let us know and we will do what we can to help you.

Contact 0800 633 5500 or 0300 111 0000 or email customerenquiries@wchg.org.uk



For more information contact the Tenancy Management Team on 0800 633 5500 or email TMAAdvice@wchg.org.uk

New funding nurtures new projects

Real Food Wythenshawe is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund and the project is managed by WCHG

Cooking with Confidence

Provides cooking support and demonstrates healthy 'one pot' cooking at the indoor market in Wythenshawe Civic Centre. New to the project is a Food School offering regular sessions to teach cooking skills like knife skills, food preparation, tips for budgeting and understanding food labelling.

Find out more on 0161 946 7554 or email RealFoodTeam@wchg.org.uk

The Pineapple Cooperative

At: Wythenshawe Park Walled Garden, Wythenshawe Community Farm

When: Any day up to 4pm

Fancy trying out a small allotment plot to grow your own food? The Pineapple Cooperative is a perfect way to begin food growing with frequent access to advice and tools to get you started!

Contact Kay Bamford 07580 869 747 to arrange a visit and have a chat.

Watch this space!!!!

We are developing some great new activities and workshops for you to get involved.

Real Food Wythenshawe is a Community Fund and project managed by WCHG.

Follow us at:

www.realfoodwythenshawe.com on twitter [@realfoodteam](https://twitter.com/realfoodteam) or call the team on 0161 946 7554.



The Green Doctor

Join us in Wythenshawe Park Horticultural Glasshouse Number One Wednesdays 1pm to 4pm and Thursdays 11am to 4pm (drop in session). No need to book.

Activities include

- Food growing
- Seasonal horticultural activities
- Growing advice and guidance
- Gentle exercise sessions like walking and relaxation techniques
- Occasional craft activities

Green Doctor sessions are also available at 'The Edible Interchange' at the Bus and Metrolink station. Meet next to the Forum Library (outside) every Monday afternoon from 1pm.

Contact Kay Bamford on 07580 869 747 for more details about any of our Green Doctor sessions.

Interested in discovering more about aquaponics and sustainable growing? Green Doctor sessions are available at the Geodome, situated behind Manchester College, Brownley Road Campus, M22 9UH.

Email RealFoodTeam@wchg.org.uk to find out more



How to be bee friendly!

Andy Burnham has ambitious plans for Greater Manchester to become one of the leading green-city regions in Europe - to get us to be carbon neutral by 2038.

As one of the biggest landlords in south Manchester we are supporting that plan and are working on a strategy to tackle six key areas of sustainability in Wythenshawe across our services as well as running campaigns on environmental issues affecting our community.

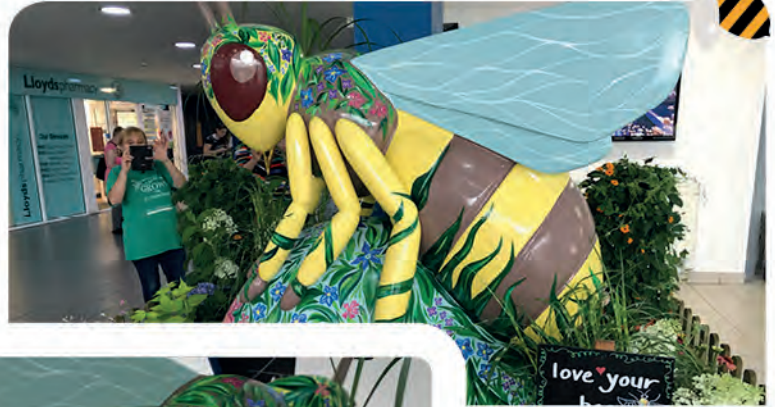
1. Energy
2. Ecology
3. Waste
4. Water
5. Transport
6. Materials

The first of our campaigns this year features a familiar face, the Manchester Bee.

Bee concerned

You can't get very far in this city without coming across a Manchester Bee. It's on lampposts, tote bags, tattooed on people's ankles...the list is endless. Wythenshawe Forum even designed a bee as part of the city's Bee Trail. As Mancunians the bee is an important part of our cultural heritage - they're on the Manchester crest as a symbol of our industrious spirit. As well as signifying hard graft, bees are an absolutely essential part of our ecosystem. The pollen that farmers rely on to grow the food we eat is spread by worker bees as they feed on flowers and shrubs.

Scientists are worried about declining insect populations fearing we could lose 40% of them in the next 50 years.



Bee active!

- ✿ **Raise the notches** on your lawn mower to lift the cutting blade a few centimetres. Leaving the grass to grow a little longer gives bees and other pollinators a place to live
- ✿ **Build a 'Bee hotel'** - See this easy guide for how to do it <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/bees/make-a-bee-house>
- ✿ **Use your garden** - hanging baskets or pots to plant things bees will love. Mint and thyme are just a couple of bee friendly herbs that you can also use in your cooking
- ✿ **Ask the council** to put pollinators first by signing this online petition <https://act.friendsoftheearth.uk/act/ask-your-council-put-pollinators-first>

Cracking down on ASB

WCHG has made legal history in Greater Manchester County Courts after taking steps to protect residents in Birch Tree and Edwards Courts from anti-social behaviour (ASB).

We successfully obtained the first “persons unknown” injunction order in Greater Manchester.

We take a zero tolerance approach to ASB and took these landmark steps in consultation with residents after they reported the behaviour of some visitors to the multi-storey blocks was impacting on them, but it was not easy to identify the perpetrators.

There was also an emerging concern over vulnerable residents whose tenancies were being taken over by drug dealers and local criminals.

Additional security has been implemented to prevent visitors who do not have a legitimate reason for their presence from entering the buildings. Injunctions have also been successfully obtained against named individuals.

Performance info

100% customer satisfaction with ASB service

751 ASB cases dealt with since April 2018

59 average numbers of days to resolve a case

60 legal actions secured to date

News from the courts



- A woman who had continually breached an injunction with power of arrest and was involved in criminal activity and serious ASB at Edwards and Birch Tree Court was held on remand for six weeks and given a six-month prison sentence at a Committal Hearing.
- Another tenant was detained on remand in prison for eight days and given an eight-week suspended prison sentence following breaches of an Injunction involving threats of violence.
- The ASB team has secured a Possession Order against a tenant who continued to breach an Injunction by allowing visitors to his property to use drugs.
- An Eviction was carried out at a property in the Brooklands area, where a tenant continually breached an injunction by verbally abusing and harassing their neighbour.

Security work to Brookway Court

A range of security measures are planned at Brookway Court to improve security following an increase in ASB and criminal activity at the block. The work includes additional CCTV cameras on each landing as well as access-controlled doors and a concierge controlled door entry system at the entrance to the block.





ARE YOU LOOKING TO PRIVATELY RENT?



Garden City Homes have properties in one of the most sought after areas in Manchester. We have an exciting range of two and three bedroomed houses and apartments ready for rental now.

To ensure you don't miss out, please register your interest or arrange for a viewing now by calling or emailing us on:

0300 777 7177 | enquiries@gardencityhomes.org.uk
or visit our website www.gardencityhomes.org.uk

All our properties;

- Are refurbished to an extremely high standard
- Have brand new fitted high-end kitchens and bathrooms
- Are fully carpeted/vinyl flooring throughout

THE FERNS

- GREENWOOD ROAD -

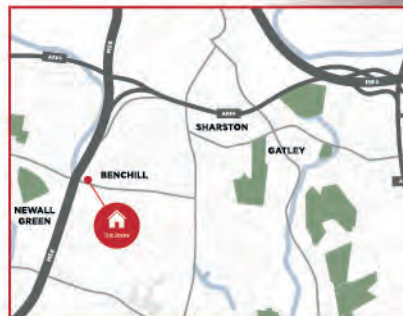
A STYLISH COLLECTION OF 2 BEDROOM HOMES

Available through Shared Ownership

2 Bedroom homes
from only £85,000*

Key features Include:

- Moores Minoco gloss kitchen units
- Integrated hob, oven and extractor
- Turfed rear garden
- Driveway
- Ceramic tiling to bathroom
- A-Rated boilers
- PV panels



TO ARRANGE A VIEWING OR REGISTER
YOUR INTEREST, PLEASE CONTACT US ON:

0300 777 7177
enquiries@gardencityhomes.org.uk
www.gardencityhomes.org.uk

*Based on a 50% share of sale price of £170,000,
Rent £194.79 PCM (Location: Greenwood Road, M22 8HB)

For more information on
homes to rent or buy

T: 0300 777 7177
E: enquiries@gardencityhomes.org.uk
www.gardencityhomes.org.uk

Creating new homes and opportunities

2019 has already been a busy year for the Development Team.

Tackling Homelessness

Homelessness in Manchester is on the rise. With the biggest cause being cited as evictions from private rented properties, we are happy to have joined forces with Manchester City Council. This new programme will help us to take homeless families off the waiting list by identifying empty 4 bedroom properties that we purchase and repair. Two properties have already been acquired.



Local apprenticeships

Casey, our contractor on the Scout Drive development recently took on a local apprentice, Charlie. We were so impressed that there are plans to get him back on the project, as well as an apprentice plasterer, plumber and electrician from the local area. If you practice

a trade and live in Wythenshawe, express your interest by email to apprenticeships@wchg.org.uk or see more on our centre pages about local opportunities.

New Developments

We have completed our development on Greenwood Road, providing 27 Affordable Rent apartments and 18 Shared Ownership houses. With our development on Woodhouse Lane already underway, a further 18 Affordable apartments will be provided.



As work at our Scholar's Fields Development continues, we will be launching the Show Room and Marking Suite this Spring. There will be a mixture of 2 & 3 bed houses and 2 bed apartments available for

Shared Ownership, Outright Sale and Rent to Buy.

Join the Great British Spring Clean
Be part of the pick

#GBSpringClean

KEEP BRITAIN TIDY.

We ran a number of events across Wythenshawe as part of the #GBSpringClean (22nd March – 23rd April).

This included a waste collection service and litter pick across various sites in Wythenshawe.

Thank you to everyone who took part helping to keep our communities clean and tidy.

SUMMERSONIC

A fantastic range of **FREE** sports & activities across Wythenshawe

FREE HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR PEOPLE AGED 6 – 19

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT NATALIE ON 07599 496 840

SUMMERSONICWYTHENSHAW



Opportunities for all Wythenshawe

The Employment and Enterprise Team at Wythenshawe Community Housing Group can help you get started in finding a new career or give advice on starting a new business.

Whether you are looking to move into a better job or need support in removing some hurdles in your life, the Employment and Enterprise team are here to help!

Mobile Estate Officer and Housing Positions

These roles are usually administration, office-based roles although the Mobile Estate Officer role gets you up and about maintaining the communal areas of our high rise blocks and helping ensure these are a safe place to live.

These roles enable you to get skills through an apprenticeship whilst at the same time earning £9 per hour. Learning on the job provides you with the skills you will need to forge a career and progress.

WE WILL TO BE ABLE TO OFFER **6 APPRENTICESHIPS** DURING 2019



Be Well



Be Well is here to help you find a way to live and feel well whatever twists and turns life brings. If you have a mental or physical health condition and would like support in staying in work or getting back into work then Be Well could be for you.

Contact the Enterprise Centre for more info.

30 INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ACROSS THE YEAR IN ROLES SUCH AS CUSTOMER SERVICE, FINANCE, HOUSING, ADMINISTRATION, STREET OPERATIVE AND MOBILE ESTATE OFFICER.

Need support to get back on track?

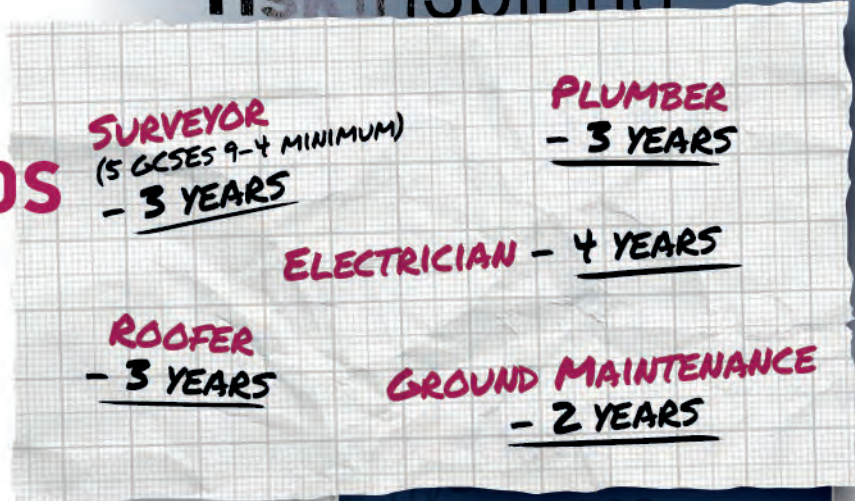
The Motiv8 team is based at the Enterprise Centre. Find out how you can get support from them on page 16, and visit www.motiv8mcr.org or call 0161 331 2048 to see if you are eligible for a referral. This project is funded by The National Lottery Community Fund and the European Social Fund.



Construction Apprenticeships

Fancy a role in construction but wondering how to get started?

In June we will start the recruitment process for our Construction Apprenticeship opportunities which will commence in September. These apprenticeships last between two and four years and you will receive £9 per hour while learning.



Real Jobs, Real Support, Real Opportunities

Real Opportunities sends out job opportunities every week. Some of these opportunities will only be seen by Real Opportunities members and will not be promoted on other platforms.

To help gain that next opportunity, the employment team are here to support with writing CVs, interview techniques and training.

Whether you are in work and looking to progress or if you are unemployed and seeking a new start, The Employment team via Real Opportunities can help. Simply complete the online form www.wchg.org.uk/realoppswyth/

KEY DATES TO NOTE

Mid June - Going live!

July Testing - Group Exercises

July/August - Interviews

September - Start!!

BEING YOUR OWN BOSS

Ever wanted to be your boss but don't know how to start? Have you a great business idea but are unsure of the next steps? Are you an existing Wythenshawe business that would like some advice on how to grow?

Come speak to our business advisors at The Enterprise Centre who can provide advice and support you into starting or growing your business.

For further information simply call 0161 946 1056 and speak to a member of the Employment and Enterprise team.





Woodhouse Park Lifestyle Centre

Woodhouse Park Lifestyle Centre
Portway (junction with Selstead Road), M22 1QW

Tel: 0161 436 0560

www.WoodhouseParkLifestyleCentre.co.uk

Facebook: Woodhouse Park Lifestyle Centre

Twitter: @WPLifestyleCent

Your local community centre with activities and events for all ages. Open 7 days a week. Membership is free and everyone is welcome. Come along and see what we have to offer - from sport and leisure, to kids activities, youth clubs, over 50's groups and a great on-site café serving hot and cold food and drinks.

Eric dances on

We were delighted to invite Eric Harrison's family and friends along to see the unveiling of the renaming of our Dance studio "The Eric Harrison Dance Studio" in memory of a much-loved volunteer who had led our afternoon dance sessions for many years.



What's on?

Here's a taster of just some of the fantastic activities you can enjoy at the Centre each week:

Mondays

Bowling 10.30am - 12.30pm £1.50

Young Parents Group 12.30 - 2.30pm Free

Arts Class 50+ 1.30 - 4.30pm £1

Tuesdays

Zumba 6.30 - 7.30pm £3.50

Exercise 50+ 11am - 12.30pm £1.50

Wednesdays

Adults and Toddler Group 9.30 - 11.30am £1.50

Sequence Dancing 10am - 12.00pm £2

Thursdays

Yoga 10 - 11am £3.00

Line Dancing 50+

10am - 12pm £2

Fridays

Social Computer Class

9.30am - 12.30pm Free

Junior Youth Club (10-13 years)

5.15 - 7.15pm Free

Senior Youth Club (13-19 years) 7.45 - 9.45pm Free

We also have football pitches and Netball/Basketball courts available to hire. Check out our Facebook page or website for all our full list of activities.



Party Time

From kids parties, to weddings and special birthday celebrations, the centre is the perfect place to hold your next event. We have a number of function rooms available to hire at competitive prices and can provide quality catering to suit all budgets. Check out our website or call in for more details.



Spring into action

As the weather gets better why not book a pitch at the Lifestyle Centre? Get yourself out in the fresh air, get fit, get healthy.

Or pop in and pick up one of our new activity sheets which shows all the latest activities available at the centre.

We have plenty going on for local residents of all ages. Call in to pick one up or check out facebook and Twitter

@wplifestylecent

Dining in Styles!

We have launched a new menu in our Styles Café, pop in and take a look at our new offerings, you won't be disappointed! All our food is cooked fresh and prepared on site.

Check out Website / Twitter for the menu each day.





Benchill Community Centre
Benchill Road, Benchill, M22 8EJ

Tel: 0161 945 0879

www.benchillcommunitycentre.co.uk

or Facebook benchillcommunitycentre

Twitter: @benchillcomcent

A centre for all the community, here in Benchill. With activities including after school clubs, health and fitness sessions, holiday play schemes, parents and tots clubs, computer courses and much more. We also have a sensory room and a floodlit Astro pitch available to hire. Check out our website or Facebook page for full details.

Computers made easy

Do you want to improve your computer skills? Overwhelmed with the internet? We have various FREE classes available at the centre to suit all abilities.

Whether you are a complete beginner or want to gain Level 2 or 3 ECDL (European Computer Driving License) qualifications pop in to find out more or call the centre.

"I used to think computers were hard to understand, but it's easier than you think."

Margaret (attends over 50's)

"I thought I couldn't do it, but I can!"

Ed (attends over 50's)

ECDL Level 2 & 3 Class Times

Monday: 9:30 - 12:30 & 15:30 - 18:30

Thursday: 9:30 - 12:30

Friday: 9:30 - 12:30 & 15:30 - 18:30

For more information contact us at benchillit@hotmail.co.uk or call us on 0161 946 9523

Beginners Drop-in Class Times

Monday: 13:30 - 15.30 (Over 50s class)

Tuesday: 9:30 - 12.00 (Beginners)

Thursday: 13:30 - 16.00 (Beginners)

For more information contact us at benchillit@hotmail.co.uk or call us on 0161 946 9523

Join in

We have a Parents and Tots group which takes place every Friday from 9.30am, come along, socialise with other parents while the kids have fun.



Celebrating Inspirational Women

Manchester Enterprise Academy celebrated Women's History Month in March through a project researching inspirational women at home and across the world.

Those featured includes Malala Yousafzai, an activist for female education and the youngest Nobel Prize laureate; Irene Sendlerowa, a nurse and social worker who served in the Polish Underground during World War II saving over 2,500 Jewish children and Yusra Mardini, a Syrian refugee, who was appointed the youngest ever UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador in April 2017.



Manchester Enterprise Academy Women in History Exhibition



Some students chose a family member who had inspired them. At an art extra curriculum club, students drew portraits and compiled a film sharing the stories of the chosen women.

A Manchester Enterprise Academy Women's History Month Exhibition premiered the

students' projects and the film and was attended by students, staff, parents and local councillors. Fatima, Year 7, opened the event with an inspirational speech on "empowering and educating everyone", which was followed by poetry readings from Year 9 students, Harry, Ayesha and Milly.

School Excellence Award Winner

Manchester Health Academy has awarded Safeguarding Officer Mrs Maguire its first ever MFT (Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust) School Excellence Award.

The Award is given to a member of staff at the Academy who makes an outstanding contribution to the lives of our students and Mrs Maguire is the Academy's super hero – unfazed by the most challenging of circumstances and always approachable. She works tirelessly to keep students safe and well.

Nominated by colleagues across the Academy, other shortlisted staff were Student Support Officer, Mrs Gill; Receptionist, Mrs Turner; Curriculum Leader of Global Education Ms Mullen.



MANCHESTER HEALTH ACADEMY

Learning for a healthy future



Sparking inspiration



The Science Club at Saint Paul's Catholic High School is sparking inspiration and fostering long-term interests in Science.

The Club gives Year 7 and Year 8 pupils the opportunity to explore the wonders of science in a stimulating and engaging environment. Recently it has seen them making "slime" and mocking up erupting volcanoes.

Mrs Daniella Murray, Science Teacher, at Saint Paul's explains:

"Science is central to our lives and we try hard to make it an interesting and fun subject to learn. At the club, we explore a wide variety of scientific topics making them as entertaining as possible."

Mr Alex Hren, Head Teacher at Saint Paul's, adds:

"It is an effective way of enriching and extending the curriculum taught in the classroom. We have tapped into our pupils' interests and demonstrated to them the relevance of Science to life outside school."



Megged – England's goal keeper!



A group of Year 9 Sport Leaders from Newall Green High School took part in the A Game Of Our Own programme at the Armitage Sports Centre in Manchester.

Delivered by children's charity the Youth Sport Trust with funding from the Football Association, the programme helps teenage girls in secondary schools learn leadership skills and ignite their passion for the game. It also enables them to deliver football sessions to girls their own age when they return to school and to their community to get more girls into the game.

The girls met some of the England Women's Football team and one, Demi, megged the England goal keeper! The project has been a huge success and the girls have really enjoyed it.



Real Neighbours. Wythenshawe.

VOLUNTEERING IN WYTHENSHAW

- could this be you?

We are proud to support the Real Neighbours volunteering program, which gives local people the chance to share their talents, time and energy with those around them.

Real Neighbours is part of a thriving network of volunteers who contribute to our community in many different ways – helping with events and groups all over Wythenshawe, including the Wythenshawe Games, Bideford Community Centre and the Grand Day Out group for people over 55.



Volunteers bring a wealth of skills and enthusiasm to these projects, and make lifelong friendships and great memories while they're doing it.

Real Neighbours has recently relaunched their Timebank, which is an online platform where volunteers can connect with community groups, find volunteering opportunities and earn Time Credits in exchange for the hours they volunteer.

If you want to learn more about the Timebank, you can get in contact with the volunteering team on 0161 946 6447 or email volunteer@wchg.org.uk.



Spring into action with Motiv8

www.motiv8mcr.org

If you would like more information, or to request a referral form, please email: info@manchesterbbo.co.uk or phone **0161 331 2048**

Aged over 25? Need support getting back on track?

We can help...

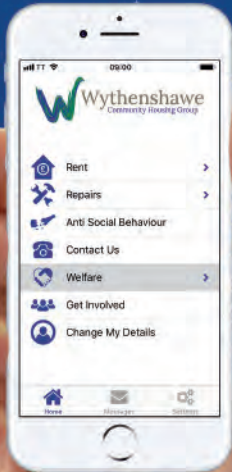
Motiv8 can offer you support especially if you are experiencing issues with your health, alcohol, drugs, domestic violence, debt, homelessness and other challenges.

We will support you with a personal action plan unique to your own needs, helping you to get back on track.

Motiv8 is funded by the European Social Fund and The National Lottery Community Fund.



WCHG App Launch Coming Soon...



Visit our website for more details and download the app:



Register your WCHG account to access key services such as:



Order a repair, check your repair history or book a Gas Service



Pay your rent, check your history or set up a Direct Debit



Report anti-social behaviour in your area



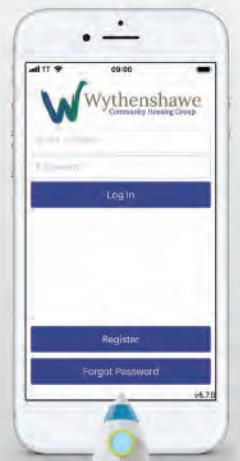
Get involved and help shape your services



Get help and advice on Universal Credit, Housing Benefit, Under Occupancy Calculator



Update your account details at any time



Peace of mind



Did you know?

Manchester City Council can install an alarm to help you remain safe and independent in your own home and have the peace of mind that in an emergency you can get help.

Community Alarm Service (CAS) provides services such as:

Monitor, Response and Lifting Service – trained Response Officers will attend to help you if you have tripped or fallen and need some help getting up off the floor.

Monitor Only – to summon the most appropriate help for you, it may be a nominated friend or family member or the emergency services.

Assistive Technology – such as smoke detectors, door contacts, falls detectors, bed sensor, Enuresis sensor, Epilepsy sensors, Flood detectors and more.

Medication Prompts – to remind you to take medication in a timely manner.

Tracker Service – a GPS tracking service aimed at people living with early dementia so that next of kin or police will be informed if necessary to bring the person back home safely.

SMS service – to remind people of appointments, to eat or just to say hello once a month to test the unit.

Charges start from **£2.83 per week**. Find out more at www.manchester.gov.uk and search **Community Alarm Service** or ring the contact service number on **0161 234 5001**.



WYTHENSHAW GAMES

WYTHENSHAW PARK

24TH TO 28TH JULY 2019
11AM TO 5PM EVERY DAY!

JUST
DROP
IN

5 DAYS OF FUN
IN THE PARK
FOR ALL AGES!



FREE



WWW.WYTHENSHAWGAMES.ORG.UK

FIND US ON:



PROUD OF PRIDE

Watch out for us again at this year's Manchester Pride (23-26 August). Once again our float will be sure to make a splash thanks to our Volunteer 4 Wythenshawe teams!

Look out for PRIDE month in JUNE



Things to do!

Mondays Sewing Group

1-4pm at Library, Wythenshawe Forum,
(contact Sheila 07747 10545
email sheila.fasoi@virginmedia.com)

Tuesdays Quilters Group

12-4pm at West View Court, Community Room

Wednesdays GRAND DAY OUT AT THE FORUM for Over 50's

Thursdays Bingo Club

7pm at West View Court, West View Road,
Northenden (contact Robert 0161 902 0096)

Fridays Craft Group

6.30-8pm at West View Court, Community Room

Saturdays Craft Group Avo

2-4pm at Library, Wythenshawe
Forum, All Welcome,
Over 16's

Pop in and give them a try!
α

Performance up to the end of March is:

- Current Rents Arrears – 2.68%
- Average time to relet a property – 20.08 days
- Percentage of repairs completed on time – 99.97%
- Percentage of repairs completed on first visit – 93.26%
- Customer satisfaction with repairs – 99.93%
- Percentage of phone called answered in 30 seconds – 87.43%



breathe better

A new type of social event for people with C.O.P.D. and breathing difficulties in South Manchester.

Activities for people with COPD or breathing difficulties who are looking for a change, want to meet people or just have fun. Socialise and relax in a friendly atmosphere or join one of our activities and get any advice you need from the expert Wythenshawe Respiratory team.

Sessions on the second Thursday of every month at the Woodhouse Park Lifestyle Centre, 1-3pm.

Dates
13th June, 11th July, 8th August, 12th September, 10th October, 14th November, 12th December

Wythenshawe Community Housing Group Tenant and Resident Group Contacts

TA Group	Contact for group	Times	Location	Contact No.
Newall Green T & RA	Wyn Casey	Last Wed of the month 2pm	Johannesburg Gardens Community Centre	0161 998 4970
New Baguley TARA	Pedro Odjidja	Call for information	TBC	0161 946 6315
West View Court	Robert Mckenzie	Last Monday Bi Monthly	West View Court	0161 902 0096
Northern Moor TARA	Pedro Odjidja	Call for information	TBC	0161 946 6315
Chagos Islands TARA	Louis Elyse	Call for information	St Andrews Church	07847 777882

Don't forget to ask for ID. Our staff and partners don't mind waiting while you check. Contact 0800 633 5500 or 0300 111 000 or email customerenquiries@wchg.org.uk

UC benefit changes for mixed age' couples

A 'mixed age couple' is when one person is over State Pension age and the other under that age. From **15 May 2019**, mixed age couples will no longer have the choice of being a pensioner couple for new claims to benefit.

Pension Credit and pension age Housing Benefit will only be available when both members of the couple have reached State Pension age, unless the couple were already receiving Pension Credit and/or pension age Housing Benefit on 14 May 2019.

Mixed age couples may be able to qualify for Universal Credit if they meet the capital, income and other entitlement conditions. The partner below State Pension age may be required to look for work to receive Universal Credit.

Things to think about when you first claim Universal Credit

- If you take an advance of Universal Credit (UC) when you make your claim your next payments will be reduced for 12 months. For example, if you get an advance of £600 your next twelve payments will each be reduced by £50.
- If you have an overpayment of Child Tax Credit, or other benefits, these can be taken automatically from your UC payments so you may get less money than you expected.
- Your UC will include money that is to pay your rent – remember to factor this in if you take an advance.
- If your current or recent benefits include a severe disability premium you won't be able to claim UC. Get advice if you aren't sure.

If you think you will struggle to manage your budget we can assist or you can get help from agencies such as the CAB.

If you have a query regarding your UC and want help/advice email us at moneyadvice@wchg.org.uk along with your address details and we will provide advice.



Based on customer demand, WCHG will be transferring 'Wythenshawe Life' into an online digital residents newsletter available on our website after this issue. However, if you still require a printed version you can opt in. Simply complete and return the prepaid postcard enclosed in this issue and we will continue to send it to you.

The benefits of going digital include our commitment to lowering our carbon footprint and will create efficiencies that can be further invested in the services providing effective Value for Money.



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8 Poundswick Lane, Wythenshawe M22 9TA.

Parkway Green House, 460 Palatine Road,
Northenden M22 4DJ.

Contact Us

0800 633 5500 | 0300 111 0000
customerenquiries@wchg.org.uk

FOLLOW US

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 Wythenshawe-Community-Housing-Group

www.wchg.org.uk



If you require assistance with translation of this newsletter, large print, braille, or an audio copy contact us by phone on: 0300 111 0000 or by email: communications@wchg.org.uk