

ON-SITE

SPRINGFIELD NEWSLETTER ISSUE 7 FEB 2008

Another Busy Year

WELCOME to 'On-Site' 7 as Springfield gets off to a rollicking start to the new year with excellent growth prospects in view.

Our current sites are progressing fast while other major developments like Elgin's Waulkmill have won high praise from Moray Housing Partnership's delighted new tenants.

And just months after our second top showing in the Sunday Times Virgin Atlantic Fast Track 100 listings Springfield are on target once again and into the finals of the Scottish Home Awards as Best Medium Size Housebuilder.

But there's plenty more to feel upbeat about in 2008.

A start has been made on our high-end development at Dunkinty on the south-eastern fringe of Elgin while further west our Riverside Apartment project on the banks of the River Ness at Inverness is under way and we are looking forward to seeing our Southfield retail development completed soon.

Never forget – 'On-Site' is your newsletter. If you hear of something you think could be of interest contact us by calling Jane Innes at the Head Office or drop her a line at Pentland House.

Tailor Made...!

PROGRESS is being made on our new Head Office at Southfield and staff have been asked what they would like to see in layout terms at the new Springfield facility.

Specialist Division boss Grant Edmonstone called for individual ideas so that where possible the spacious new offices can be tailor made for staff needs. He says the response was excellent.

Work is now under way and will see us on the move from Grampian Road late this year.

The plan is for Springfield Properties to occupy the upper floors of the two-storey building that has a pair of identical wings.

High Praise at Waulkmill



Springfield's workmanship and attention to detail has gone down brilliantly with new tenants at Waulkmill.

THE chairperson of the Moray Housing Partnership has praised Springfield's high standards as the final 30 homes in our large Waulkmill project were handed over to tenants.

MHP chair Laura Grant said the final handover of the 101 shared equity, rental and special needs homes at Elgin ran as smoothly as silk with keys delivered to all thirty delighted tenants in just one day.

"It was amazing to see such teamwork," she said. "Springfield handed the keys over at 8am and by 9.30am MHP staff had let the first

house and handed the keys to the first tenant. All the remaining properties were let by 5.30pm that day.

"I was on site to hear the lucky tenants express their delight with their new homes and must say how impressed I was with the standard and design of the properties."

The smooth handover of keys was impressive and appreciated by all concerned.

The director of MHP, Clare Bradley, said thanks were also due to other organisations involved in the successful completion and handover. "We have to thank Communities

Scotland for their investment in Moray and to the Dunfermline Building Society for funding MHP's development programme.

"Overall the project has brought £8.5 million of funding to Moray and created both jobs and homes.

It's an all-round success story and brings MHP's total stock of affordable homes for rental in Moray to an impressive 427.

But the story is not over yet.

Springfield and MHP are completing another 21 new homes at Reiket Lane and are about to start on a further 22 new homes in Lossiemouth soon.

Top Ranking

WE are through to the finals of a prestigious Scottish construction award.

Springfield Properties won its place along with four other leading builders in the 2008 Scottish Homes Awards Springfords Medium Housebuilder of the Year category.

The competition features 35 house builders from across Scotland in various categories and we have won our place for our varied developments and their quality.

It's quite a feather in the cap for the firm and a tribute to everyone on the staff and our subbies.

The winners in the Dunfermline Building Society sponsored awards will be announced at the Scottish Home Awards Dinner 2008 April 10 in Edinburgh.



Springfield has reached the finals.

Inverness Is Go!

AFTER lots of holdups due to technical planning problems in the Highland capital we have now started work on our Riverside Apartments development.

The delays are regrettable but with good spring weather hopefully on the way progress on the 14 Inverness apartments overlooking the Black Isle and Kessock Bridge from a commanding position on the banks of the lower River Ness should be brisk.

Inverness is still the fastest-growing city in the UK so there should be little problem in finding buyers for this prestigious location.

Southfield Retail Rising



CF4 is about to deliver its first retail units

THE first fruits of Springfield's ambitious plans to create a diverse and socially-integrated site on CF4 at Southfield are about to come on stream.

Project Surveyor Dave Main is looking forward to the first retail units being ready for use in March – a tangible indication of our innovative and far-seeing development that will eventually deliver shops, a medical centre, nursery facilities, playing fields, sports pavilion and our own new Head Office.

The first steelwork appeared on site last summer and progress has been swift.

Seven retail units with floor areas ranging from 117 to 300 square metres are just weeks away from handover. The first, the biggest, has already been let and shop-fitters will move in before the end of March.

"The construction of the Retail Units has been a new and exciting challenge for myself, Stan Scott, site manager, and Springfield," said Dave.

"It's great to see them nearing completion after many months of hard work by our team and is a testament to the workforce that we can deliver such a visually striking building which has been built to the highest standards of construction for our clients."

Keep 'em Coming!

GOOD ideas are worth their weight in gold - and Springfield harler Willie Paterson has come up with a corker.

He's suggested the company could host a Blood Donor session later this year and deliver a boost to the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service.

It's a great idea and one we are working on with the Service.

If it goes ahead we could be looking for up to 70 volunteers keen to give a pint each – but for now it's still at the planning stage. Keep your ears tuned for updates.

And if you have any similar suggestions of how Springfield staff could help the wider community – let us know.

SPRINGFIELD'S

ON-SITE

SPRINGFIELD NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 7 FEB 2008

COMPETITION...



A few weel-kent faces – but how many people do we have on the staff? Do you know?

EVERYONE knows Springfield Properties is growing – but how good is your knowledge? Employee numbers have been rising steadily over the past few years and our permanent staff has now reached record levels. But how many permanent staff do you think we employed on February 1 this year?

It's not that hard!

If you're not sure why not take a guess and look out for the answer in next month's issue of 'On-Site'.

The person who gets closest stands to win a £50 Marks and Spencer voucher – and in the event of a tie the winner will be the first name drawn from the post bag.

Entries to Jane at Head Office –complete with your name and contact number.

And the Winners are....!

THE Christmas issue of 'On-Site' geared its competition to the children of staff.

The Festive Season Crossword attracted a good post bag of entries and three lucky winners each received £30 vouchers to spend at Junners Toy Shop in Elgin.

The delighted trio are: Aran McWilliam, Craig Shewan and Kirsty McBeath.

Well done – enjoy your visit to Junners!

Street Wise Footy

SPRINGFIELD is sponsoring one of the most successful youth initiatives in Scotland – Street Football.

It's helping young people in Moray and delivering skills and a lot of fun – but the organisers could do with some volunteer help and that's where YOU come in!

Over the past two years the project to reduce anti-social behavior among youth by providing them with a chance to play football on a portable pitch has grown dramatically and up to 70 youngsters can turn up on any one night at the 25 or so venues it has visited in Moray.

If you are interested in youth or football or simply community minded and would like to help out – get in touch with www.yourmoray.org.uk and find out how easy it is to be part of this valuable project.

We've been involved on the sponsorship front for two years and organiser Roy McPherson is delighted with our involvement. The individual time commitment is not great and you can help Roy out by getting in touch by calling him on 01343 548040.

Helping Shirley Help Others

SPRINGFIELD is not only involved in new home construction in Scotland – we're helping generate vitally-needed homes in other less-fortunate parts of the world.

How?

By sponsoring a member of staff from the Forres branch of the Bank of Scotland to take part in an international project to erect basic homes for families in South Africa.

Our representative on the Habitat for Humanity is Shirley Luxon who is the only Scottish HBOS staffer taking part in the project. She will spend a week with 39 other HBOS employees in Cape Town where the team will be building simple breeze block homes for poor families.

Although HBOS will pay for Shirley's travel and accommodation costs, Springfield is helping the volunteer out with funds she needs to help meet the cost of the construction project she will be working with in South Africa.

"I've been told the experience of helping put up these houses can be life-changing," says Shirley. "I'm really looking forward to it and delighted Springfield are helping me. When I get back I'm planning to visit schools and other organisations to promote the work of Habitat for Humanity.

If you want to know more about the project log on to www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk and you can help build more homes by donating at

www.justgiving.com/shirleyluxon

Exclusively Dunkinty!

The area around Elgin's Dunkinty House is being carefully prepared to make way for the nine exclusive new homes we're putting on the attractive site.

Marketing is due to start in March with sales confidently expected to be strong for these fabulous new homes.

Glassgreen Gardens Releases

THERE are strong sales at Glassgreen Gardens where a mix of two-bed apartments and three and four-bed semis and detached were released late in February.

The development of Elgin South continues to be a roaring success, building homes in Elgin's most popular locations.