

ON-SITE

SPRINGFIELD NEWSLETTER ISSUE 15 March 2009

Hope Springs Eternal

LAST month's upbeat view of the year continues in 'On-Site' Issue 15 with Springfield forging ahead and making the best of the current economic climate.

Despite a country-wide slowdown in new-build, we are thankfully bucking the trend with encouraging signs as Spring gets going.

Sales are healthy and interest in all of our sites is brisk with clients keen to buy in a wide range of property types from compact flats to bespoke homes.

Predicting the future in such volatile times is impossible – but the feedback our sales team is getting is good and helps reinforce that all important feelgood factor.

Sales are moving ahead with more than 30 sold by early March and ahead of the same period in 2008. While caution is still the byword, the business outlook is not quite so bleak as some might have imagined.

Southfield is making excellent progress and we are moving closer to that special day when the company will be able to move its main office into our purpose-built headquarters on the site.

In the story below you'll see who won our new £100 monthly draw competition – a draw for all Springfield site and office staff.

Remember '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.

Colin Draws Ahead to Win

WINNER of the February draw is labourer/fork lift driver Colin Kemp who has been with the company since last May. Colin is working at our Dunkinty site and says the £100 worth of Tesco vouchers will come in very handy as he and his fiancée, Springfield receptionist Dianne Hadden, are getting married on April 25 at Elgin High Church.

Springfield? Just Magic!



All Smiles as Springfield surveyor Tom Leggeat and site manager Stan Scott help Magic Roundabout director June Franklin and two young members of the nursery cut the ribbon.

MORAY'S most impressive nursery is fully operational at Elgin – and in the words of director June Franklin it would never have happened without Springfield Properties.

The Magic Roundabout's purpose-built building at Thornhill Drive was officially opened in March and its all thanks to Springfield.

June summed up our role in one short sentence:

"Just one phone call to Springfield and my whole life changed!"

That's all it took to turn the popular Elgin nursery facility into a top flight provision that can now cope with up to 100 youngsters – three times more than before.

"I really can't praise Springfield and their staff enough," said June. "They were Magic!"

"The whole team were a delight and they've given us a building that is just wonderful to work with, attractive, roomy and bright. We've got everything and the children have a nursery that's second to none.

"I'm delighted".

June and her team worked closely

One Call to Us Changed Elgin Nursery's Life

with our site manager Stan Scott and quantity surveyor Tom Leggeat.

"We'll never forget the guys who worked on the building. Stan was fantastic and all of the teams who helped build the Magic Roundabout have a special place in our hearts. Nothing was any trouble to any of them and they went out of their way to make sure we had everything we needed. "Tom, Stan and all of the guys were

brilliant and have given us something that we could not have dreamed about until Springfield got involved."

The Magic Roundabout was started 15 years ago and has built up an enviable reputation for nursery provision in Elgin. Now, thanks to Springfield, they have trebled in size and operate from an attractive, modern base in an area where their service is highly valued.



A "Magic" place! The new Magic Roundabout building on Thornhill Road.

ON-SITE

Buckie's Blooming Marvel!

WORK is forging ahead at Buckie High School's new garden feature as Springfield's efforts begin to show results on site.

It's been a real team effort. Digger driver David Grant moved huge rocks, Moray Council laid new turf and our Brian Hadden played a key role too.

Our earth-moving has transformed the area and removed heavy concrete structures and a pond that will make way for the school's new horticultural attraction.

Over the next few weeks the person leading the effort, school librarian Sara Marsh, will continue to oversee pupils and staff as they begin the intricate task of laying out the feature and start planning a planting programme that will turn the area into a colourful attraction.



Buckie High School's new look garden feature.

Blood Donors Wanted

THE Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service is in constant need of new supplies.

Existing donors and others contemplating giving blood are a vital part of the national network of stations regularly set up by the SNBTS and the organisation is keen to attract as many people as possible.

Many Springfield staff already give blood – but more are required.

To help encourage existing donors to maintain their visits to local sessions and persuade new volunteers to join them, On-Site will be publishing details of blood giving sessions in our area so you can decide to take advantage and help keep the national blood bank topped up.

The next sessions are scheduled for:

Forres - April 7 (Town Hall)

Lossiemouth- April 23 (RAF Lossie 12.15-2.30pm and St Geraldine's Primary School 5pm- 7.30pm)

Elgin - May 8, 10 and 11 (Town Hall)

Our New Look for Portsoy



The attractive front elevation with its upper balcony planned for Plot 6 at the former Portsoy mill site.



Bright rendering and contemporary design will single out Portsoy's new Springfield homes.

WE are due to start work on an important regeneration project that lies at the heart of a historic Moray Firth port.

By late summer Springfield squads should be on site at Portsoy where we have been granted planning approval by Aberdeenshire Council to create an attractive scheme of 12 apartment homes on the site of a disused former mill that has become a local eyesore.

Final negotiations are under way with the local authority and we hope to have full planning permission soon.

The old building has blighted the centre of the town for many years and spoiled an otherwise architecturally attractive area.

But thanks to our planning staff things are about to change and the

dozen apartment homes that are planned will transform the local landscape.

A development of one and two storey homes with two and three bedroom accommodation have

been specially designed to reflect the local architecture in this unique Royal Burgh which is a visitor magnet and home to Scotland's most important annual Traditional Boat Festival.

Macduff's 'arty' Gateway

MACDUFF will gain more than just new homes thanks to our 90-house Golf View development.

As part of the planning conditions set out by Aberdeenshire Council, we will be creating a "gateway feature" for the famous fishing town that will take the form of a piece of public art.

The person charged with turning the concept into reality is Lisa Mackenzie, a landscape architect

who is currently working on plans for the new campus of the University of the Highlands and Islands.

The plan is at the fledgling stage but Lisa will draw her inspiration from local primary school children during a workshop event and the "feature" will be constructed by us for the enjoyment of everyone arriving at Macduff.

Flying the Flag for Springfield



Our managing director John Main.

WE have two key nominations in this year's Homes for Scotland People Awards – after sales manager Ann Wojcik and managing director John Main. Between them Ann and John are flying the flag for Springfield with Ann nominated in the Customer Care Category and John in the Construction Category. The annual competition is designed to recognise the talents and promote the achievements

of people in the industry who individually help deliver the many new homes Scotland still desperately needs. Both Ann and John are worthy nominees having been responsible at the front line for ensuring these homes are delivered and are up to the highest possible standards. The winners are due to be announced at a special presentation lunch on May 1.



After sales manager Ann Wojcik.