

# ON-SITE

SPRINGFIELD NEWSLETTER ISSUE 28 August 2010

## We're Making a 'Splash' At Forres

WITH mid-summer upon us and our construction squads busy on projects around the area Springfield Properties can be proud of one specific job in the heart of Forres.

Progress on the town's new hydrotherapy pool – which we are building free of charge for the charity group behind the idea – is moving ahead with foundations in and walls beginning to rise.

Elsewhere in issue 28 of 'On-Site' you can read about an uplifting prize that could see you rising high above Moray in a classic biplane.

The other big news is our head office move to Southfield – a major flit that was completed last month.

Management is continuing to move ahead with cautious optimism in the light of the difficult economic situation. They are taking a steady approach to our expansion into Perthshire and the Central Belt accessing new challenges and site opportunities as they emerge.

Remember, our four-page format is available to you for advertisements. Page 4's advertising space is for you!

'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.

### Piotr's Prize!

OUR monthly supermarket prize draw winner travels all over our construction area erecting fences. Piotr Duda has been working with us as a fencer for some time and will be easing his monthly grocery shop bill with the £100 Tesco voucher. Congratulations!

## Easing The Pain

THE focus of this month's Site Profile is unique – a project that is firmly community based and is being erected by Springfield Properties free of charge.

The Moray Hydrotherapy Pool next to the town's public swimming pool, will provide a specialist service to people with mobility problems and deliver a type of physiotherapy which has brought thousands of sufferers relief at similar facilities around the country.

Hydrotherapy can ease pain, increase mobility and speed rehabilitation. It can give relief and respite from painful and debilitating illnesses and conditions such as arthritis, backache, stroke, multiple sclerosis and cerebral palsy.

Anyone in Moray requiring this treatment currently faces a round trip of over 100 miles to Dingwall. The reality for many is that they receive no treatment at all. The relaxing warmth and buoyancy allow painful limbs to move again bringing increased mobility and pain relief which allows exercise to speed recovery and improve fitness and wellbeing.

Our involvement goes back to 2006 when fundraisers approached Springfield to ask if we could help with building costs. We went one step better and offered to meet the cost and provide the skills to build the structure. We also became involved in fund-raising and Anne Adam, a Springfield director and wife of our chairman, joined the charity's group.

In 2007 we hosted a charity dinner that raised £25,000 for the fund.

Chairman of the hydrotherapy charity, Dave Neely, is full of praise for Springfield.

"We are very grateful to Springfield," he said. "Both the management and staff have been fantastic. They've stuck with us since the start and I can't praise them enough for their support and great generosity."

The charity have raised £270,000 since they started but even once completed the facility will need £25,000 a year to help keep it running.

"So the fund-raising will go on," said Dave.

That will mean more work for the charity's fund-raising convener, May Taylor of Forres.



Springfield labourer Norman McLeod busy in the pool pit as the Moray Hydrotherapy Pool takes shape alongside Forres Swimming Pool.

## Stan Oversees Our Forres Pool Project

"We've had lots of support," she said, "and Springfield have done us proud. Since the company has become involved they've been a tower of strength and when I pass the site I cannot tell you how grateful I feel to Springfield and its so supportive staff."

Site manager Stan Scott expects the job

to be completed by the end of this year.

"It's an unusual and interesting project," said Stan. "We are making steady progress and everything is on schedule."

Once completed the new hydrotherapy facility will have a depth of one metre at its shallowest point and 1.5 metres at its deepest.

## Gerry Does It Again!



No stranger to these columns – August's Site Manager of the Month, Gerry Devine.

HE'S been here before.

Moravia Site Manager Gerry Devine has scooped the August title just two months after picking up the June award and a £150 Tesco voucher prize.

Like the other winners in the monthly Springfield competition, he had to satisfy 10 criteria laid down by the judges that reflect the skills needed to manage a site efficiently – good site housekeeping, programme delivery, health and safety issues, customer focus, attitude and approach, presentation, initiative, working environment, maintaining product quality and, not least, leadership.

It's not as easy as you might think and means our Site Managers have to juggle many different demands to be sure of ending up with a formula that works.

Congratulations!

## And Runner Up?

FOR the past month Stan Scott has been running the Moray Hydrotherapy Pool site in Forres – but made the move after successfully site managing our new office complex at Southfield.

Now this former winner of the Site Manager of the Month competition has picked up the August Runners Up award and collects a £50 Tesco voucher as his prize.

Stan is a time-served joiner who hails from Buckie and has been part of the Springfield team for more than 12 years.



Runner Up in this month's Site Manager award is Stan Scott.

## Springfield Site Profile 8 – DUNKITY

# Dunkinty Delivers!



Springfield's James Adam collecting the Daily Telegraph Premier Guarantee British Homes Build Quality award from PG's chairman Gary Devany at a dinner venue in London's Grosvenor Square.

OUR unique bespoke development at Dunkinty has won the annual British Homes Build Quality Awards' prize for developments of up to 50 units.

Nestling in magnificent extended garden grounds of a Victorian mansion, the twelve acres of landscaped woodland form a perfect backdrop for nine detached luxury homes.

The high-quality architecture, inspired by grand Scottish country homes reflects a bygone age. The award recognises the excellence of the location, design, craftsmanship, materials and customer service along with a price tag that delivers outstanding value and comes just months after Springfield Properties were named the Premier Guarantee UK Developer of the Year.

The nine luxury homes were planned around a central cherry avenue headed by two giant Sequoia redwoods and the entire site benefits from a deep perimeter of trees.

Our sales manager, Joyce Napier, was delighted with the award and described Dunkinty as Springfield's flagship luxury

## Elgin Development Is Tops For Build Quality

development.

"This was a fabulous opportunity for us to offer clients unique homes in an unrivalled setting. The four and five bedroom house styles offer four basic layouts ranging in size from 230 square meters to 280 square meters. The homes are sold off plan and built to order, so beyond the basic layouts the homes offer clients a great deal of flexibility in design and as always we aim to exceed clients expectations in terms of choice, quality, specification and service."

The spectacular specification includes slate roofs, wet dash rendering, sandstone base courses, and magnificent window arrangements. Internally comfort is maximised with exceptional levels of insulation and underfloor heating throughout.

The first new residents at Dunkinty were

already living in Elgin and were looking for a new home in the town which would comfortably accommodate their growing family and are delighted with their new home.

They told On-Site: "With three growing boys we need space inside and out, this house is perfect for us and we all love it! We were able to choose all the fixtures and fittings to suit the interior style we were trying to achieve. The service we've had from Springfield has been exceptional."

The Daily Telegraph Premier Guarantee British Homes Build Quality Awards recognise and endorse build quality in construction and complement the established categories for design, promoting projects that best achieve the creative aspirations of the architect. The winners in six categories from around the UK were selected by an independent panel of judges.

## It's Home Sweet Home At Southfield

WE all felt a little bit like our clients in mid-July when we moved into a spacious and modern new home – Alexander Fleming House.

And as you can see here the staff seem pretty pleased with the flit!

The move to Southfield in Elgin went smoothly and the head office staff are now ensconced in an airy and well appointed building designed precisely for the job.

Everyone is pleased with their new surroundings in Alexander Fleming House which was named by our chairman, Sandy Adam, after he conducted a straw poll asking which Scot had made the

biggest, positive difference to our lives today – Scottish biologist and pharmacologist Dr Alexander Fleming, who gave the world penicillin, was the top choice.

We now have upwards of 40 staff based at Alexander Fleming House – our old home at Pentland House on Grampian Road is due to be demolished to make way for the new Elgin Flood Protection Scheme.

The move has helped cement the success of our Southfield site that is now home to a community medicine facility, shops, deli and other highly-valued public access services.



Welcome home! Managing director Sandy Anderson with some of Springfield's head office staff outside our new company headquarters at Southfield, Alexander Fleming House.

### Fly High With This 'On-Site' Prize!

NEXT month a Springfield employee will be 'flying high' thanks to a generous offer from A Falconer and Sons who run Kirkhill Quarry.

Our supplier is providing the lucky winner of a special On Site Prize Draw with a seat in a Tiger Moth (G-ANFV) owned by Moray businessman Robin Falconer and based at the Shempston Airstrip close to RAF Lossiemouth.

This pristine aircraft was built for the RAF in 1942 by Morris Motors and after its military service as a trainer passed into private hands.

For a while it was one of the exhibits at Sir Willie Roberts former Strathallan Aircraft Collection near Auchterarder and was purchased by Robin Falconer when the collection closed in 1980. It has been based at Shempston ever since.

Keep your eyes peeled for the biplane flight winner's name in next month's On-Site.



Your aerial carriage awaits – the Shempston Tiger Moth.

## As Busy As A Bloom Bee!

WHEN the junior wing of the Forres In Bloom group were looking for some quality topsoil to help establish their horticultural projects, we were delighted to dig something up for them.

Recently we delivered a load of topsoil to the Wee FIBbees – youngsters who want to do their bit to help floral-winning award town Forres continue to bloom.

Throughout the year they meet every Monday evening to prepare, plant and care for horticultural features that help beautify their town. Their commitment carries over the school holidays when you'll find them with Forres In Bloom adult supervisors tending their plants and regenerating a former Moray Council garden in Forres that they took over two years ago.

The Wee FIBbees do their bit for recycling too and make use of discarded materials to help turn their garden into a colourful work of art that is "blooming" great for Forres.



Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to work we go! These six Forres In Bloom 'Bloom Bees' get to work shifting some of the nutrient-packed topsoil we donated for one of their projects.

## Good News In The Affordables Pipeline

A SCOTTISH Government announcement that substantial funding has been released to provide more council homes is good news for Moray and Springfield. It means £3million of funding is heading for housing projects which, in turn, could generate good business for Springfield Properties. The detail of the funding package and how it will be applied to the Moray construction scene is still being negotiated but as On-Site went to press it looked as if the situation could mean 80 new homes for Elgin, 14 homes for Keith and 30 in Buckie. Watch this space for more details.

## John's A High Flier!

HE'S a scaffolder extraordinaire! A master of the skeletal framework. And a dab hand at reaching those places the rest cannot!

John Morrison is part of Springfield's vital scaffolding team and winner of our occasional prize for outstanding work.

John, currently working at our Letterfourie site, was nominated for the award by Iain Hadden because of the scaffolder's commitment to his job.

Construction manager Brian Hadden said: "John is dependable and dedicated. He's always there when he's needed – this recognition is very well deserved."

## Golf Stars!

EIGHTEEN Springfield golf stars took to the fairways at Elgin Golf Club on the evening of July 15.

The weather stayed dry and construction manager Brian Hadden came out cream of the crop with a return of 35 points, pipping Innes Smith and Alexander Mackie on 34 points.

A big thank you to Elgin Golf Club and all those who donated prizes.

# Busy on August 15?

WHAT are you doing on August 15? Fancy pushing a bed around Elgin's Cooper Park to help raise cash for a new patient feature at Dr Grays?

Good! All you need to do now and before August 6, is form a team of five and register with NHS Grampian HR officer Helen Thompson on 01343 567449 and you could help build funds for the Dr Gray's Sensory Garden project that Springfield is already helping bring to life.

Teams need to generate at least £25 each and try and attract sponsorship.

The bed push, due to start at around 2pm, is just one of the fund-raisers to help bring this £50,000 project to fruition.

Helen is grateful to us for offering expertise and labour in creating the Sensory Garden which will stand at the heart of the hospital in a courtyard adjacent to the main covered corridor.

"It will give patients, visitors and staff somewhere to go and sit quietly and enjoy the open air while protected on four sides," said Helen.

This week the project is waiting to have hard core laid then it's on with the provision of a pergola, fencing, seating and other detail features.

"We'd like to see it ready to open in early September," added Helen.

"Springfield have been very generous and we appreciate the skills and labour they've offered. In fact lots of local businesses are helping us



*This is the enclosed area at Dr Gary's that Springfield is helping transform into a Sensory Garden – until now it has been an inaccessible gravel-covered feature that is now being put to good use for patients.*

## Springfield Staff Help Dr Gray's Garden Plan

and we're sure Dr Grays' patients and staff will benefit greatly from the finished job."

The team behind the Sensory Garden need help with another aspect of the project – finding a name.

If you can think of an appropriate name drop Helen a line or give her call at the hospital... and don't forget that bed push entry!

## Steady Progress at Knockomie



*The showhouse at Knockomie Meadows is nearing completion as our squads press ahead with the rest of this attractive Forres site. The site sales office is now opening five days a week.*