

Federation Matters

February 2017

ETF Deputation at City of Edinburgh Council Meeting, Thursday 9th February 2017, 10.00am, City Chambers, Royal Mile

The City of Edinburgh Councillors are due to consider rent options for tenants on **Thursday 9th February 2017, 10.00am, City Chambers, Royal Mile**. ETF will have a deputation at the meeting and everyone is welcome to attend. It would be great to have a good turnout to offer support to ETF. Hope to see you there.

Free screenings of I, Daniel Blake, Monday 13th February 2017, 12.30pm and 5.30pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road

I, Daniel Blake, is a film which deals with the UK benefits system. Film critics have called it one of the most moving and powerful films in recent memory and you have the opportunity to watch the film for free. The Albion Trust is organising free screenings of the film on **Monday 13th February 2017, 12.30pm and 5.30pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road**. The lunch time film will be followed by a panel discussion, including ETF Convenor Betty Stevenson. If you would like to book a place, go to <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/free-screening-of-i-daniel-blake-tickets-31409039282?aff=es2> or phone 0131 475 2400. Refreshments will be available to all attendees. **Places are limited and must be booked in advance.**

ETF High Flats Meeting, Monday 13th February 2017, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Birnies Court, Muirhouse View

The next meeting of the ETF High Flats Group will take place on **Monday 13th February 2017, 7.00pm-9.00pm, Birnies Court, Muirhouse View**. The guest speaker will be Becky Cropper, Northwest Families and Household Team, City of Edinburgh Council who will be giving an update on the work she is currently involved in with the new localities. There will also be the chance for you to give an update on what is happening in your local area. For bookings contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email info@edinburghtenants.org.uk. You can also book online via www.edinburghtenants.org.uk. Please use public transport where possible. Assistance with transport and childcare may be available on request.

Federation Meeting and Quiz Night, Monday 27th February 2017, 6.00pm-10.00pm, venue to be confirmed

The Federation Meeting will take place on **Monday 27th February 2017, 6.00pm - 10.00pm, venue to be confirmed**. The meeting will consider a report highlighting members' views on the agreed principles of a new constitution for ETF and outline steps towards becoming a SCIO. Members will also have the chance to hear what ETF has done over the past few months as we discuss our quarterly Progress Report. After the meeting is where the fun begins as ETF will be hosting a Quiz Night, which is always popular with our members. Teams of between four and six people can be arranged on the night and we look forward to watching the more competitive teams pitting their wits against each other. For bookings contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email info@edinburghtenants.org.uk. Those who book a place will be notified of the venue as soon as it is arranged. Please use public transport where possible. Assistance with transport and childcare may be available on request. **Places must be booked in advance by Monday 20th February 2017.**

ETF Blog

ETF's blog this month comes from Marie Duguid, Business Development Officer, Social Enterprise Academy who will be focussing on our community leadership programme. You can read Marie's blog here

<http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk/learning-to-lead-creating-community-impact/>. In our last edition, Clare MacGillivray, ETF Development Co-ordinator asked whether we're lighting fires of change by talking about housing in human rights terms. You can read Clare's blog here <http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk/a-pebble-in-the-pond-or-igniting-the-fires-of-change/>. If you're interested in contributing a blog or would like more information, please contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 or email info@edinburghtenants.org.uk. Some useful hints and tips for writing blogs can be found at <http://www.edinburghtenants.org.uk/draft-blog/>.

Consultation on Universal Credit (Claims and Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 2017

The Scottish Government is currently consulting about how Universal Credit (UC) will be paid in the future. The Consultation is proposing two possibilities for claimants:

- Having the option of being paid UC twice a month rather than monthly and;
- Having the option of any UC housing element being paid direct to landlords.

ETF wants to hear your views, so we can present our members' opinions to the Scottish Government. We would be grateful if you could complete the survey on the link via <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SKSXXF3>. The survey should take around five minutes to complete and we would be grateful if you could complete it by **Wednesday 8th March 2016**. If you wish to complete a paper copy of the questionnaire, contact Mark at the Federation Office on 0131 475 2509 or email mark@edinburghtenants.org.uk. The following link provides more information on Universal Credit (UC):

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/universal-credit-toolkit-for-partner-organisations>.

Community Planning for People & Planet

Would you like to help set the environmental priorities for four Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plans 2017-2022? There will be a number of events taking place on the following:

- **Wednesday 8th February 2017, 5.30pm-8.00pm, City Chambers, Royal Mile.** You can register to attend by clicking <https://lip-8feb.eventbrite.co.uk>.
- **Wednesday 15th February 2017, 5.30pm-8.00pm, Wester Hailes Education Centre.** You can register to attend by clicking <https://lip-15feb.eventbrite.co.uk>
- **Wednesday 22nd February 2017, 5.30pm-8.00pm, North Edinburgh Arts, 15A Pennywell Rd, Muirhouse.** You can register to attend by clicking <https://lip-22feb.eventbrite.co.uk>
- **Wednesday 1st March 2017, 6.00pm-8.00pm, Craigmillar Library 101 Niddrie Mains Road, Craigmillar.** You can register to attend by clicking <https://lip-1mar.eventbrite.co.uk>.

If you don't have an email address or access to the internet please call David Somerwell on 07743 759 528 to register your interest in participating.

Help to get 'oot the hoose' with LOOPs

As we get older, the risk of social isolation becomes greater, which can also affect our mental and physical health. LOOPs (Local Opportunities for Older People) was set up to combat this. We run a city-wide phone line which helps over 65s to get out the house, meet like-minded people and enjoy everything Edinburgh has to offer. Over 65s, their families, friends and healthcare professionals can call **0131 603 8311** for free, to speak to a friendly LOOPs advisor about clubs and activities in their local area. Tailored to your individual requirements and interests, LOOPs has already connected over 600 older people to laughter, fun and friendships.

Edinburgh Tenants Federation Norton Park 57 Albion Road Edinburgh EH7 5QY

 0131 475 2509  info@edinburghtenants.org.uk  www.edinburghtenants.org.uk

Inspiring Volunteering Achievement Awards 2017

Do you know someone within your organisation who deserves an Inspiring Volunteering Achievement Award? If so, please read on, and consider nominating them. Nominations are now invited for this year's awards, and can be submitted online at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MGSGHCK>. Organisations are welcome to nominate up to **three individual volunteers** and **one team of volunteers**. Don't forget that there is also an award for Housing/Tenant Participation Champion, so if you can think of someone who deserves this award then why not nominate them? Edinburgh's Volunteering Ambassador the Lord Provost Donald Wilson will honour some of the dedicated volunteers who give their time, energy and commitment to the people of Edinburgh at a special awards ceremony to take place on **Wednesday 7th June 2017 at The City Chambers**. Nominations will close on **Monday 27th March 2017 at 10.00pm**. For more information please contact Lara Celini or Tyler Norrie, Volunteer Centre Edinburgh on 0131 225 0630 or email events@volunteeredinburgh.org.uk.

Diary Dates

Here are dates of upcoming events that may be of interest to you. Please pass them onto other members of your organisation.

February 2017

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| 8 February | Community Planning for People and Planet, 5.30pm-8.00pm, City Chambers, Royal Mile |
| 9 February | ETF Deputation to full Council Meeting, 10.00am, City Chambers, Royal Mile |
| 13 February | Screening of I, Daniel Blake, 12.30pm and 5.30pm, Norton Park Conference Centre, 57 Albion Road. Places must be booked in advance |
| 13 February | ETF High Flats Meeting, 7.00pm, Birnies Court, Muirhouse View |
| 15 February | Community Planning for People and Planet, 5.30pm-8.00pm, Wester Hailes Education Centre |
| 22 February | Community Planning for People and Planet, 5.30pm-8.00pm, North Edinburgh Arts, 15A Pennywell Road, Muirhouse, |
| 27 February | Federation Meeting and Quiz, 6.00pm-10.00pm, venue to be confirmed. Places must be booked in advance by Monday 20th February |

March 2017

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| 1 March | Community Planning for People and Planet, 5.30pm-8.00pm, Craigmillar Library, 101 Niddrie Mains Road, Craigmillar |
| 27 March | Deadline for nominations for Inspiring Volunteer Achievement Awards 2017 |

Please use public transport where possible. If required, assistance with transport and childcare may be available on request. Contact the Federation office on 0131 475 2509 for more information or to book a place.