

North Prospect Regeneration News

Summer 2021



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WELCOME

to the summer edition of this North Prospect newsletter.

As lockdown eases, community groups are beginning to meet up again. Our Beacon is a great hub for resident activities and also a great place to pop in for a drink and something to eat at its Coffee House.

Please call our Communities team on 0808 230 6500 to find out what's happening and how you can get involved.

Work continues on Phases 4 and 5, the last two phases of our redevelopment and you will soon see the hoarding around Phase 4 brightened up thanks to the creative efforts of local primary school children. More about that on page 4.

Meanwhile, at Phase 5, we've chosen a name for the apartment block which will be home to over 55 year olds. See what it will be called on page 7.

On page 3, we pay tribute to a North Prospect husband and wife who have shown the true meaning of community spirit.



Nick

Nick Lewis, Chair of the Board

**NEW NAME
FOR PHASE 5
CONTRACTOR**



Kier Living has become Tilia Homes following the successful completion of its sale from the Kier Group to Terra Firma.

Tilia is responsible for building the 143 homes at Briarwood.

You may notice the new branding in and around Briarwood.





LOCKDOWN LEGENDS SHOW SELFLESSNESS OF RESIDENTS LIKE MALCOLM AND SUSAN

We knew that the past year had been tough for many people due to Covid.

Illness, redundancy and social isolation played its toll on many people's physical and mental health.

Which is why we decided to honour those who stepped up and made life that little bit better for their friends, neighbours and local community.

So we launched our Lockdown Legends competition earlier this year, asking residents to nominate those who went the extra mile – and we're glad we did.

We were bowled over by the sheer outpouring of love and support the nominees showed to others over the past few months.

Some of the nominees and winners were going through incredibly difficult times themselves – but that didn't stop them from reaching out to others.

Beacon residents Malcolm and Susan Stredwick were two of the winners. They were put forward for the award by Communities Worker Leigh Ferguson in acknowledgement of the help they give to their neighbours at the flats, in Lark Hill.

Nothing is too much trouble for the couple, who have been married for 49 years.

They rushed up to check on their upstairs neighbour in the middle of the night after hearing a loud banging coming from his flat.

Thankfully, it only turned out to be a bottle of water that had fallen off a table but the couple are ever alert to others' needs.

The pair have passed on their phone number to fellow residents and told them to call if they need anything.

They've helped people who've fallen ill, done shopping and assisted with paperwork.

The Stredwicks have also maintained the Beacon's roof garden, using their own money to pay for paint and plants, spending hours tidying it up and improving it.

Susan also regularly cleans the sun room so it can be used safely by the community.

Malcolm said: "We love it here. We try and get people involved. We don't mind helping anybody. Everyone needs help at some time."

They also organise prize draws at Christmas and bingo. Susan added: "It keeps us busy. We try and coax people out of their flats."

Leigh Ferguson, Communities Worker, said: "Malcolm and Susan do a lot for their community anyway but during the pandemic and the lockdowns they went above and beyond of what you'd expect from good neighbours. They work hard to make sure everyone feels a part of their community and made sure that during difficult times everyone felt like they had someone they could call upon for support."

Malcolm and Susan were two of seven winners who won a £50 Love2Shop voucher. A further 29 highly commended received a £20 Love2Shop voucher.

COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCED



A slide and a reptile cage are just two of the things that Mollie Barwick would love to see in the garden of her dream home.

Mollie is the winner of our competition with Vistry Partnerships to get local schoolchildren to design their ideal home.

Mollie, pictured with her entry, also includes what must surely be every child's wish – a sweet garden.

Mollie, who attends Weston Mill Primary School, will see her design displayed on hoarding at Phase 4, which is being built by Vistry, and will also win a £50 One4All shopping voucher.

We invited pupils from local primary schools, PCH residents and those living in the immediate vicinity of the North Prospect regeneration to enter the competition and we received more than 40 entries.

Nick Jackson, PCH's Director of Business Services and Development, and Josh Harris, Vistry's Regional Social Value Co-ordinator, judged the contest.

Nick said: "There was a great selection of entries – it was difficult judging a winner. It's been a delight to see what the children's idea of home is and while we can't promise sweet gardens, we hope that kids and families moving in to our new homes at North Prospect will soon feel like they have found the perfect home."

Josh said: "On behalf of Vistry Partnerships, thank you to all those that took the time to come up with such brilliant designs. It really was a hard job to pick a winner! I look forward to seeing the designs displayed on the hoarding for the whole community to enjoy."

Nick and Josh also chose five runner up entries who all attend either Weston Mill Primary or Ford Primary.

The runners up will also have their designs shown on the hoardings.

Phase 4, known as Mayflower Leat, will have 196 homes – 87 for affordable rent, 38 for shared ownership sale through SO Living and 71 for private sale through Linden Homes.

It is due for completion in Summer 2024.



Magdalena Panek, pictured.



Ollie Acton, pictured.

SOUTH WEST RESIDENTS' DESIGN CONFERENCE

Our annual residents' design conference is due to return this year after a year off due to the pandemic.

The yearly event is a chance for residents to give their feedback on the design and layout of new homes and hear what housing associations are up to.

Residents are invited to attend and there are also speakers from PCH and other South West housing associations as well as housing experts.

This year's event is due to take place on Thursday 21 October.

We'll be updating our website, social media channels and future newsletters with more information about the event when we have it.



“ At Vistry Partnerships, we recognise the skills shortage in our industry and strongly believe in a proactive approach. We have collaborated with a number of our suppliers to launch the 'Vistry Partnerships Skills Academy' - an initiative designed to create opportunities for work placements, full-time work and apprenticeships via training providers and further education providers. ”

- Stephen Teagle | CEO

Partnerships

Build Your Career With Us

BEACON BITS

Communities Team back at The Beacon

The Communities Team have resumed some of their activities at The Beacon including the Tea and Toast group and the gardening sessions.

North Prospect Communities Worker Leigh Ferguson said: "Residents have told us how pleased they are to be back using The Beacon and we hope to welcome many more of you over the coming months."

To find out what's happening at The Beacon contact Leigh Ferguson on 01752 388467 or email leigh.ferguson@plymouthcommunityhomes.co.uk.

Beacon Coffee House improvements... coming soon

In the coming months, we're due to upgrade our facilities at the Beacon Coffee House which will mean we'll be able to offer a wider range of hot food and drinks.

We'll also be offering healthier options and looking to take on another assistant.

The coffee house is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 1.30pm.

The Amazon lockers are now available to collect any Amazon parcels.



TITCHY PARK

You may remember us asking for your views on how we could improve Titchy Park.

We've already started to make some changes. You will have noticed the old, damaged shelter has been removed and we've also removed the old concrete bank and steps which served no purpose.

We're now exploring ways we can improve the equipment in the park and are hoping to also be able to put on activities for young people.

We've been working alongside local partners including Plymouth City Council, the police and our contractors Tilia Homes and Vistry Partnerships to explore how we can make the park better for the community.

For more information, contact the Communities Team on 0808 230 6500.

BRIARWOOD HEIGHTS



Trees inspired the name for our new apartment block at Phase 5 of North Prospect.

The building, which will have 33 flats for over 55 year olds, is at the junction of Cookworthy and Foliot Roads.

We can now reveal it will be called Briarwood Heights, a name put forward by PCH resident Jan Kings.

We had dozens of suggestions from people – thank you for all your ideas.

Jan said: “One of the names I suggested was Briarwood. There are some roads in the area with tree names and I thought this would keep the tree connection going.”

Briarwood is also the name of the phase in which the building sits. It is the penultimate phase of the regeneration and is being built by Tilia Homes.

When complete next Spring, it will have 143 homes, 43 for affordable rent, 31 for shared ownership through SO Living and 66 for private sale through Tilia.



FANCY A CAREER IN CONSTRUCTION?

ARE YOU 16-24?



Tilia Homes and Building Skills Plymouth are holding an open day on Monday August 23

There will be information on apprenticeships, training and jobs and include a tour of Phase 5 (Briarwood), currently being built by Tilia.

For more information email skillslaunchpad@plymouth.gov.uk.



Sign up to My PCH today!

Check and pay your rent, report a repair and update your details online from the comfort of your PCH home

mypch.plymouthcommunityhomes.co.uk

We're always keen to hear what you're up to, so if you'd like to tell us about something we can include in the North Prospect Newsletter, we'd love to hear it.

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