

Lister Co-Operative newsletter

November 2025

Lister's 50th Birthday

There is still time to enter the art competition to design a cover for our planned 50th Birthday book, as mentioned in the flyers which we recently sent to all tenants.

You must use the words 'LISTER' and '50' in your entry, and it should be in landscape. A good suggestion would be a normal piece of A4.

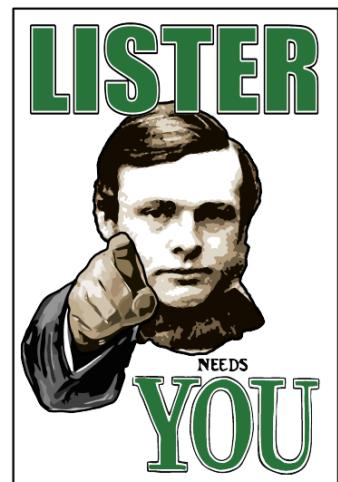
The closing date will be 21st December, and there are 2 prizes of £50 up for grabs, one for those aged 16 and under and one for those aged 17 and over.

We would also love to hear from you with any anecdotes or stories you may have about life at Lister. If you are interested in sharing your stories please let us know.

Further information on sharing your stories, or entering the art competition, can be obtained by contacting the office or checking out the flyer which has been published on our website.

Lister is proud to be Scotland's oldest tenant-led Housing Co-operative, please take this chance

to get involved in your Co-op and your community!



Tenant Survey 2025

Every three years Lister conducts a survey of all our tenants, to ask you what you think of our service, so that we can review and improve it wherever possible. We are now due to complete another survey, and we will be back in touch in the near future with more information in relation to how to take part.

Please complete the short questionnaire when you get a chance, it will be a great opportunity for us to review how are doing, and once again this year there will also be prizes to be won if you choose to take part!

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Welcome to Lister!



Our new Housing Officer, Robert Foggo, joined the Lister team at the end of August. Robert brings with him many years of experience in the field of social housing, and has already been out and about meeting tenants, and getting to know Lister.

Please join us in welcoming Robert to Lister!



AGM 2025

This year's Annual General Meeting (AGM) was once again held in the Lauriston Hall, which is a spacious Hall situated very close to our community, on Lauriston Street.

We were very pleased to welcome 36 tenant members, an increase on last year (and thanks also to those people who helpfully sent in a proxy form this year).

People were able to gather socially

and meet with friends and neighbours. Refreshments were also on offer, and after the formal business a raffle was held, and prizes were won by new and long-standing tenants - well done to the winners.

There were no new people standing for election to the Management Committee at this year's AGM, but 3 members of the Committee were re-standing, and were re-elected without the need for a vote, as

there were more vacant places than people standing. One co-opted Member also stood down, and chose not to stand for re-election.

The re-elected Management Committee members were Louise Alexander, Colleen Littlewood and Angus McDonald, and the co-opted member who stood down and did not seek re-election was Shirley Bell.

Management Committee 2025-2026

At the first Management Committee meeting after the AGM, the Office-Bearers for this year were elected and this year our Chairperson is Louise Alexander, our Secretary is Jennifer McCuaig, and our Treasurer is Angus McDonald.

The Committee for 25-26 is: Louise Alexander, Angus McDonald, Colleen Littlewood, Jean-Luc

Addams, Lucille Bald, Susan Baxter, Joanna Dydak, Carol Goodwin, Jacquie Leith, Jennifer McCuaig, and Jennie Renton.

Although elections only take place once a year, our Committee is able to co-opt new members between AGMs, should it decide to. Co-opted members are able to serve as Committee members in the same

way as the rest of the Management Committee (subject to certain minor restrictions) until the next AGM.

If you are interested in supporting your Co-operative community by joining the Management Committee, and would like more information, please contact the Lister Office, we would be happy to discuss.

Maintenance Update

We are nearly at the end of the Main Site works in relation to the external painting programme, and are looking forward to the last of the scaffolding being removed! We are very grateful to all Main Site tenants for accommodating these works, which have been a significant investment in our homes.

The Committee has taken the decision that, rather than proceeding straight to external painting works on the New Site through the winter months, and given

the long period of time that delivery of the Main Site works has taken, it would make sense to agree with the contractor that they will not take forward the work on the New Site windows. This will mean that a new contractor will be appointed to take forward the New Site external painting works, once the colder months have passed, and in the meantime will of course also mean no further disruption over the coming winter months and festive season. We will keep you posted in future

Newsletters and mailshots.

In terms of the scaffolding in Heriot Place, good progress has been made with the window upgrade work there, and this scaffolding will soon be removed. Again we are grateful to all affected tenants for accommodating these works.

Finally, in relation to the planned structural works to the tenement at 12 Keir Street we are now taking forward the tendering process for these works, and affected tenants will be kept updated.



Cargo Bikes to Borrow Free



There is a local free service available to all our tenants and

their families, run by BANZAI (the Bruntsfield Area Net Zero Action Initiative). Banzai have 2 cargo bikes available for those in the local

community to borrow **for free!**

They are a great alternative to cars for transporting children, groceries and other medium-sized loads within the city. By using a cargo bike, you're helping to decarbonise transport as well as making the city more liveable.

More information on the BANZAI

bikes service can be found at: <https://banzaiedinburgh.org.uk/banbai-cargo-bike-library/>



Welfare Rights and Debt Advice Energy Advice

Lister has teamed up with one of our local Housing Association Partners, Harbour Homes (Formerly known as Port of Leith Housing Association), to offer free Welfare Benefits advice to our tenants.

If you are interested in this service please a member of the team for further information.

We also offer a free, independent debt advice service for our tenants,

which is provided confidentially by the Community Help and Advice Initiative (CHAI).

If you are interested in accessing this service please contact the office. However, if you prefer to self-refer you can contact CHAI direct by calling them on 0131 442 2100, or by email: chai@chaiedinburgh.org.uk

Finally, our shared Energy Advice service, is funded until early next year, to support tenants with any energy or utility issues they are experiencing.

If you would like some help in this area, you can make contact with the service directly:

energy@harbour.scot

or via a member of the Lister team.

Charis Let's Talk Energy Fund



Charis manages support schemes, foundations and charitable trusts for utility companies and not-for-profit organisations.

They are currently running a Fund called 'Let's Talk Energy' which provides free energy-efficient appliances and advice to eligible

households who are struggling to pay their energy bills.

The Let's Talk Energy Fund makes available two free appliances to eligible customers, helping to stretch their household budgets a little further.

Appliances on offer include, Fridge Freezers, Fridges, Freezers, Electric Cookers, Gas Cookers, Washing Machines, Washer dryers, and Tumble Dryers.

To be eligible for the appliances you must be in receipt of means tested benefits or have a gross annual household income below £20,328, and not already have the type of appliance you're applying for, or, have an existing appliance that's more than 8 years old or broken.

Further information, and the application form, can be accessed here:

<https://charisgrants.com/partners/charis-lets-talk-energy-fund/>



Grit Bins

As we move from Autumn towards winter, a reminder that grit bins are available on the Lister site.

These grit bins are accessible for all tenants and residents to grit their paths, stairs or other outdoor areas during colder weather.

4 grit bins have been placed around the Lister site, 2 at either end of the Main Site back garden, 1 in the New Site garden, and a smaller one at the foot of the Lauriston Terrace steps.



Bike Storage

We have been in contact with the Council Department which leads on the installation of on-street cycle hangars for bike storage. They said that there were no current plans to install any hangars in and around the Lister site in the next round of work.

Future locations are determined by several factors, including resident requests. If you would like your street to be considered for future phases, please complete this form:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/xfp/form/376>

Bins and Brown Bins

Please ensure that you use the litter bins that are allocated to your flat, and that you place all rubbish inside the bins, rather than leaving items on the street beside the bins. Please also ensure that dog-waste bags are not placed in recycling bins, but rather in the main bins.

If you witness any fly-tipping in and around the Lister community, this can be reported to the City of Edinburgh Council here:

<https://webforms.edinburgh.gov.uk/site/portal/request/litter>

Lister also has a small number of Brown Bins which we use for garden waste. If you use these, please remember to return them to either the front garden of the Lister office or to the garden compound area in the Main Site back green.

Stairs/ Cellars and Play Areas

Please ensure that stairs and cellars are kept clear in the interests of Health & Safety. Please review, and remove/ dispose of any items belonging to you which have been placed in these areas.

Unfortunately it is not possible to leave children's toys and bikes etc in and around the Lister play are-

as, as our specialist playground inspectors have advised that these pose a potential health and safety risk if left lying around. If you have left any toys in and around the play areas please collect them if you want to keep them, otherwise they will be removed and safely disposed of.

Housing Perks

A reminder that Lister is a member of the Housing Perks scheme, which offers you discounts, cashback and free items from over 100 national retailers, with a focus on the everyday essentials such as groceries, petrol and clothing. Participating retailers include Sainsbury's, Iceland, Asda, Greggs, Boots, Primark, Cineworld and many more.

If you are interested, please contact the office for more information, and we will help you get up and running.



Site Security

Some tenants have advised that they have witnessed potential issues with drug-use/ dealing in the streets around the Lister site, for example next to the vehicle access gate at Keir Street.

Please remember that suspected criminal activity such as this should be reported to the Police, who can be contacted using the 101 number for non-emergencies and of course 999 for an emergency.

Works Surveys

If you receive a survey asking for your feedback at the same time as our contractors do some work for you, please take a minute to complete this, and drop it back to us. Your feedback helps us to keep the services that we provide under review.