

AROUND THE AREAS

Park & Drive

As you are aware, the District Council are to phase out the Rent Offices in Edinburgh including ours at Hailesland. In reply to our letter protesting at the closure the Housing Department have written back saying that the closures are part of a wider re-organisation of rent collection services.

It was pointed out to Housing that you can wait quite some time to be served in our Post Office and how much longer can you expect to wait once you are forced to pay your rent there.

The Housing Departments answer was that they have discussed the problem with the post office who have 'undertaken to review the needs of particular post offices should it appear that there are special difficulties'.

As far as I can gather, only Park and Drive and Moredun Residents Association have complained about the closures, so come along Wester Hailes, start protesting. We pay big enough rents, surely we are entitled to our own rent office!

We seem to be stuck with the harling, which is more than the harling is to our walls! It seems that work is not yet complete on block 74. The Housing Department seem to be dragging their feet on this, but we will continue to campaign until Park and Drive is restored to its original splendour.

Our base, which has been named 'The Pad' (Park And Drive) is coming along great guns, the big opening date will soon be set, so keep watching for an announcement of this.

So you see, Park and Drive is alive!

Hailesland

The new committee of the Hailesland Tenants Association is now very active, and is looking for a site for the Hailesland Community base. The secretary Roma Bobak has written to the Housing Department regarding the possibility of using their land behind the Community Workshop as a site for the community base, but has as yet received no answer.

The following group reps have been appointed:—

Sentinel: M. MacDonald Festival: E. Raeburn
Y.O.P.: N. Smillie W.H.U.R.P.A.C.: Bob Preston
Hailes Quarry Adventure Playground: D. McKendrick

The committee wish to remind tenants of Hailesland once again that they are very welcome to attend committee meetings and make known problems or suggestions concerning the area.

Dumbryden

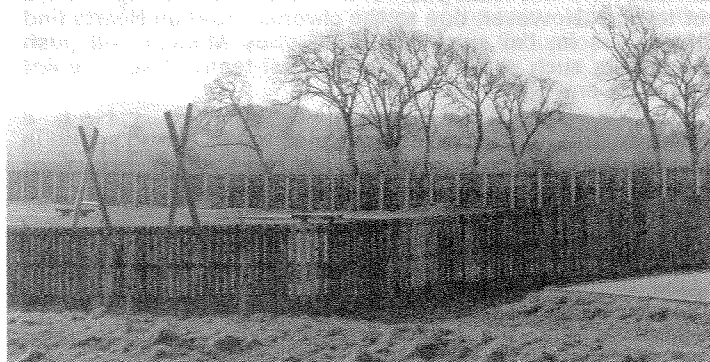
The final of the Dumbryden Princess Competition will be held on Sunday, 24th May. The judges will be Councillor Nigel Griffiths, Mrs Bagwell and Mrs Wilson.

The Dumbryden tenants apologise to the old folk for them being turned away from the hut. Access for their meetings will be

organised by the committee and sewing and hairdressing classes for the O.A.P.'s are starting on Friday afternoons.

Dumbryden Association of Tenants hold their weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the hut and on Mondays a weekly bingo session starts at 7.30 sharp with tea and biscuits served. All Welcome.

Calder's Adventure Playground



The Calder's Adventure Playground lies in an area of great natural beauty on the very edge of the Calder's housing development near to open fields and Union Canal. The site is already well known to local children as the venue for barbecue and fairs organised by the Calder's Adventure Group.

In 1979 the C.A.G. applied for a S.T.E.P. scheme to provide construction workers for the site. However, this idea was changed in favour of a Y.O.P. scheme sponsored by Lothian Region, consisting of one senior supervisor and eight young trainees.

This scheme finished in January 1981 after doing a considerable amount of work on the site. They erected a stout palisade fence, built a barbecue area and a sandpit, and did a lot of groundwork, laying out paths, contouring the land, turfing and sowing grass seeds. In addition they've been making benches, building small climbing frames and an open air chess and draughts board and are also starting to make a flying fox.

There have been no workers on the playground since the Y.O.P. scheme finished, but the community enterprise project that started on the 1st of April has been given an allocation of 4 playworkers who will soon be commencing work on the site. In the past there has been a lack of detail design plans, and also uncertainty on the part of the policy planning department as to the desirability of involving children actively in the sites development. The playworkers who will go to the site will be trying to encourage the children to become involved in the playgrounds construction, and to feel that the playground and its facilities are fully theirs.

The site in many ways has a similar potential to Hailes Park but at the moment is in an earlier stage of development. This spring and summer will see much new work on the site, and it's hoped that an extensive recreational facility for local people, with provision for all the family will be created.

CALDER NEWS

Calder's Gala Day will this year be on Saturday, 22 August. The theme is to be 'The Circus'. There is to be a meeting on 29 April at 7 p.m. in Calder Community Centre and we invite anyone interested in helping to attend.

Come to the Ceilidh in Calder Community Centre on Friday 26 April from 8-12. "Hooch" to Jimmy Greenans Ceilidh Band. Tickets £1.50 for non-members, £1 for members. There will be a bar and supper.