

# Wingate Tenants and Residents Association Annual Report 2016

## Chairpersons Report

Welcome to the 2016 Annual Report of Wingate Tenants and Residents Association (WTRA). We have had another busy year working with the interests of our community.

Last year we were part of Dunbar in Bloom and received a Silver Gilt medal –this year hopefully it will be **GOLD!** We also received a certificate for entering ‘It’s your Neighbourhood’ competition and got to ‘Stage 3’. We are hoping this year we will go one better!

This year at the TIS Conference in June in Glasgow we were shortlisted for the Community Development Excellence Award - - we were in the final three from across Scotland. Unfortunately we did not win, but were delighted to be in the running for this prestigious award.



We had the concrete areas lifted last year to make room for more parking—this has been really beneficial to the local area and a much needed change.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee members who are all VOLUNTEERS for the support they have given over the past year. I would also like to thank ELTRP, TIS and East Lothian Council for their support because without them, we couldn’t operate as a TRA.

As a group if we keep calm and work together we will achieve results and that is the name of the game for Wingate TRA. WTRA teamwork will make things happen!

Please continue to support Wingate TRA in any way you can as it really makes a difference!

Chairperson, Elizabeth Wardhaugh

## Special Points of Interest

- Wingate TRA Resilience With Helping Hands
- Wingate TRA Represented On Housing Partnership
- Wingate TRA Represented On Area Partnership
- Estate Inspections For Wingate
- Represented on ELTRP Executive Committee
- Supported By Tenants Information Service
- Planters Brighten Up Wacky Wingate

## HELPING HANDS

Two years on we are still running the ‘Helping Hand Scheme’ and it is going from strength to strength. This scheme was developed to support vulnerable people in the local area.

This is a voluntary initiative which is about neighbours caring about neighbours and not an alternative to emergency services of any kind. The aim of this initiative is to give people a way of alerting their neighbours if they need a helping hand. For example: while you wait for emergency services to arrive and/or if you require assistance to call emergency services.

In the event that they just need some friendly assistance, a named person from Wingate TRA can be contacted to request support. Anyone provided with a Helping Hand will also be provided with the contact details of the Wingate TRA named person.

The Helping Hand must not under any circumstances be used as a convenience service to fetch and carry, and should only be used in times of genuine need and vulnerability due to power cuts or other circumstances. For more information please contact Wingate Tenants and Residents Association: **07947 723579**

## Annual Report Snap Shot

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Sixteen Positive Meetings /Events Held By WTRA | ✓ |
| Over 450 Hours Invested As Volunteers          | ✓ |
| Working With Sustaining Dunbar                 | ✓ |
| Goodbye and Thanks To Alex Graham              | ✓ |
| Teamwork/Persistence Creates Success           | ✓ |
| Get Involved — Win With Wingate                | ✓ |

## Local Issues : Local Action

Wingate Tenants and Residents Association are represented on the Area Partnership by Alex Graham and Dorothy Gordon. The Area Partnership meetings take place on a regular basis and involve various members and groups within the local community. An area plan has now been developed that reflects local priorities and takes spending decisions on local services and projects. Continuous monitoring of the plans delivery and resource allocation within the Dunbar area takes place.

Alex Graham is the representative on the Local Housing Partnership which may give grants of up to £30,000 for local initiatives to improve the area. These meetings can genuinely empower representatives to make decisions and improve their local communities.

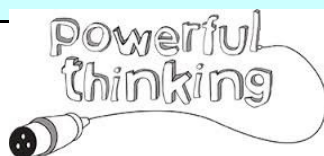
Group members are involved in the annual Estate Inspection process and monitor the issues that are raised. Members work with the Housing Department to ensure issues are addressed.

Wingate TRA are working closely with Herbert Coutts of the local Community Council in relation to taking 20s Plenty forward. Currently we have nearly 200 signatures.....

WTRA are also represented on various other sub groups by our Chairperson, Liz Wardhaugh.

## Local Issues : Local Action

**We are looking for more volunteers to become involved in this community led, vibrant and engaged tenants and residents association. Please contact [wingatetra@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wingatetra@hotmail.co.uk) or phone 07804 542 374 for more information.**



## Local Issues : Local Action : Final Words

Wingate TRA gets involved in many ways in the wider community — **we support St James Court TRA when they request it; we attend and are always working to influence the Police through the Community Police Partnership (CAPP); we carry out local estate inspections; keeping the flower planters in ship shape is an ongoing task and much much more.....** As members of the East Lothian Tenants and Residents Panel (ELTRP) and our Chair being on the Executive Committee of ELTRP, we are continuously monitoring and being involved in ways to influence policy and services by working in partnership with East Lothian Council.

Our Chairperson Elizabeth Wardhaugh has taken part in various mystery shopping projects to scrutinize Council customer services and made improvement recommendations. If you are interested in scrutinizing Council housing services just get in touch for more information.

Wingate TRA would like to thank everyone who has supported the group in any way as your support is appreciated and helps us to function as an independent organisation. Success is best served and shared with fellow volunteers and partners so if you can spare any time to help Wingate TRA contact :

[wingatetra@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wingatetra@hotmail.co.uk) or phone **07804 542 374**

**Win With Wingate TRA!**