

Dovecotes TMO



Dovecotes TMO's Big Easter Clean & Crafts Day

Wednesday 27th March 2024



11.00-3.00pm



Join one of our 4 litter picks to get a free Easter Egg
Get your creative skills going by visiting our Easter
crafting tables in our Community Room.

All children must be accompanied by a parent, litter picks will start from the office hourly beginning at 11am. All equipment will be provided.

HAPPY
EASTER



Mayor Visits
Santa



Ian's Do's &
Don'ts



Easter Spring
Clean

OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday, Tuesday &
Friday

9:00 - 4:00

Closed for lunch
1:00-2:00

CONTACT US



01902 552780

WRITE TO US



Dovecotes TMO,
Ryefield, Pendeford,
WV81UD

Dovecotes.TMO@wolve
rhampton.gov.uk



Become a Read
Easy Volunteer

A message from The Board

Welcome to the winter edition of your local TMO newsletter. It seems strange preparing a winter newsletter when the spring bulbs are beginning to blossom but, as you know there is nothing more strange than the weather.

We were delighted to have brought some festive cheer to the estate again this December with our annual Christmas event. Over 100 children from the estate visited Santa with the United Church Gospel Choir closing our event with an outstanding performance of Christmas Carols. We were also very fortunate to have been visited by the Mayor of the City of Wolverhampton, Councillor Dr Michael Hardacre.

Our mission is 'Together we will listen to our community to provide a safe, supportive, accessible and inclusive environment where people want to live'. We know that we can not achieve this alone. Over the past few months we have been working to develop new relationships with partners so that you, our community, can thrive on the estate. Recently we have built relationships with Energy Angels, an energy switching system, Wolves Digital who provide IT so that everyone can be online and Read Easy, a charity helping adults learn to read.

We have lots planned for 2024. In January this year we invested some of our surplus funds into



a high interest account. This means that we can generate income from this account and reinvest it straight back into the estate. We plan to use this extra income to provide more affordable community events and extra support for those who may be experiencing difficulty.

Over the past 2 years we have been fortunate to offer those living on the estate help and support through the UK Governments Household Support Fund. As this now comes to an end our Household Support Officer Claire will cease her work in this area. Claire will not be leaving us just yet and will provide maternity cover as a Customer Service Officer.

As always we encourage everyone to keep up to date with any new initiatives or events by following us on Facebook or visiting our website www.dovecotestmo.com

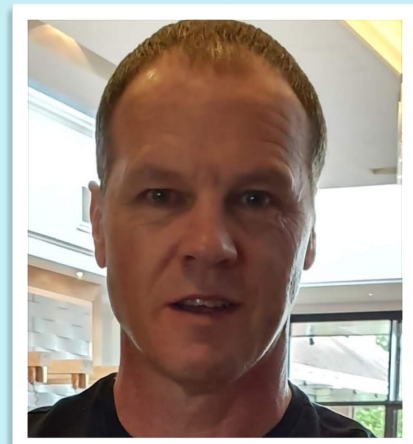
IAN'S DO'S AND DON'TS

Ian is back with his handy tips to ensure the pipes in your home stay plumbing repair free.

DO - Use bleach in your toilet and sink, this is a much cheaper and a more reliable option to keep your waste pipes clear.

DON'T - Put food or liquid fat in the kitchen sink, this will block the drain. I find lots of rice, peas and cooking fat completely blocking waste pipes.

REMEMBER - wipes are not flushable, even those that say they are!





Read Easy

Helping adults learn to read

We need your help!!!

Reading is a basic requirement of everyday life, and for many of us it is a skill we take for granted. Yet there are roughly 2.4 million adults in England who find reading difficult and at Read Easy Wolverhampton we are determined to do something about that. We are looking to offer our proven, confidential programme of free one-to-one volunteer-led reading coaching to as many adults in our City as we can.

We have a growing waiting list of people who want our help but **we need more volunteers**.

We are looking for local people who are willing to give up some of their time each week to become **Reading Coaches or Coordinators**.

Here's what a few of our Coaches have to say about their experience of volunteering with Read Easy;

'Working with the Readers I have supported has given me real pleasure. They have both been very keen to learn and eager to attend the reading sessions. When they grasp an aspect of the reading that they have found tricky it is great to celebrate with them.' Jeanette

'Volunteering with Read Easy makes me feel helpful and valued.....I enjoy meeting up with people who appreciate my input.' Tina

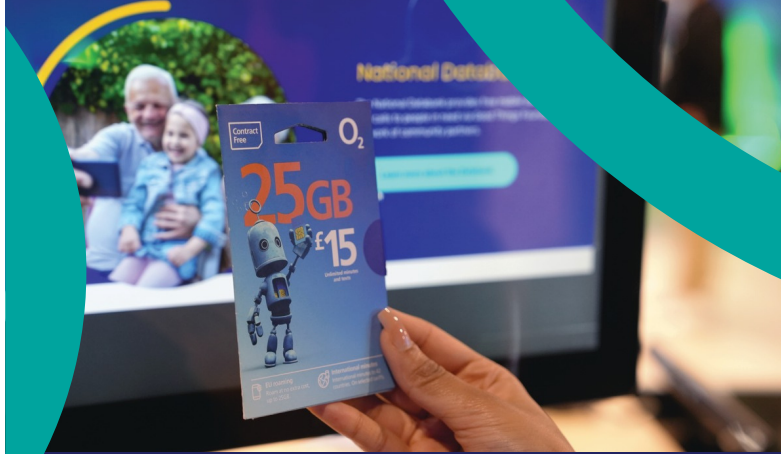
Liz has been working with her Reader for over 12 months. With her support P is making steady progress and is growing in confidence, so much so, that he is now contributing in meetings at work!

Becoming a part of the Read Easy team is fun and fulfilling but it requires commitment and passion. You'll be given lots of support and full training, meet a diverse range of people and be part of a genuinely life-changing organisation. From experience, we know that learning to read really does change lives and being part of that process is special.

Volunteering with Read Easy is an exciting chance to play a key role in your community and to make a difference! So, if you would like to find out more please visit Read Easy UK's website www.readeasy.org.uk or email Louise wtonrecruiter@readeasy.org.uk



We are excited to work with Read Easy and hope that you are too. Becoming a reading coach and supporting an adult to learn to read can be an amazing experience. We can offer support with IT and our community room is a private space where you can meet with readers.



Free mobile data for people in need

Like a foodbank but for mobile data, the National Databank provides free SIM cards to help people get connected.

There are over 1,700 local community organisations giving out free mobile data across the UK you can visit to get free and friendly help.

 Good Things



Report your Repairs

Keeping a home in a good condition isn't just about what we do in them. Reporting repairs as and when they happen is really important.

As a tenant living at Dovecotes you can be confident that your repair will be dealt with quickly and professionally.

Repairs can be reported via phone on **01902 552780**

email

dovecotes.TMO@wolverhampton.

gov.uk or

via our website

www.dovecotestmo.com

Reducing Damp, Mould and Condensation in Your Home

Mould spores are found everywhere, and are released in their thousands into the atmosphere. People living in properties with mould are more likely to suffer from respiratory symptoms, infections, allergies or asthma. Sneezing, a runny nose, red eyes or a skin rash are allergic reactions as a result of touching or inhaling mould spores. Mould can also trigger asthma attacks, coughing, wheezing and breathlessness putting young children, the elderly and those with a compromised immune system at a greater risk.

We know that one of the main causes of mould is condensation; when moisture or water vapour comes into contact with a cold surface creating damp. If left untreated the damp surface becomes the ideal condition for mould to grow.

Another reason for mould can be rising damp, this is a relatively rare issue but can be caused as a result of moisture traveling or being sucked up through capillary action (small tubes in bricks) from the ground. Rising damp is caused by a defect in the property and most commonly occurs when the damp proof course is breached. The signs of rising damp can be water stains, damp patches starting from the bottom of the wall or flaky paint and will always require an inspection by a trained buildings inspector.

To prevent mould growth in your home try taking shorter showers, open the window and wipe down wet surfaces after bathing, use your extractor fan in the kitchen and bathroom and when you wake in the morning air your property by opening windows for 10-15 minutes. Always report signs of damp or mould to us straight away, including leaking pipes or defective guttering and don't place furniture directly up against walls.

Pendeford Community Bike Hub Celebrates One Year with Pedalling Progress

Since its inception in August 2023 as part of Cycling UK's Big Bike Revival, the Pendeford Community Bike Hub has grown into a thriving hub of cycling activity and community engagement.

Participants involved

At our community hub, we have approximately 50 participants, ranging from 4 years old to 70 years old, representing a diverse range of cycling enthusiasts. Whether you are a novice or an experienced rider, there is a spot for you here.

Mission & Vision

The Pendeford Community Bike Hub is dedicated to promoting cycling as a healthy and sustainable mode of transport while instilling a sense of community spirit and empowerment. We strive to provide inclusive cycling opportunities that prioritise health and wellness, cycling skill development, bicycle safety, and enjoyment for all.

Highlighting success

Our journey has been marked by numerous accomplishments, including participation in Cycling UK's Big Bike Revival and collaborations with Active Black Country and Get Out, Get Active (GOAG). Notably, we launched British Cycling's Cites Academy programme, which provides a professional pathway for young cyclists in our community.

Our recent milestone was our participation in the winter Big Bike Revival, which included free Dr. Bike repairs and pop-up events, including sessions at the popular Oasis Café in Pendeford.

Inspirational Stories

Our efforts have resulted in inspiring stories of transformation, such as a local resident overcoming health challenges through cycling and a 69-year-old woman learning to ride for the first time. These stories demonstrate the profound impact of our supportive environment and personalised training sessions.

In the near future

Join us for our upcoming sessions catering to children ages 7–14 every Wednesday, as well as adult learn-to-ride sessions every Sunday from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., followed by group rides at 1:30. Our



sessions begin at the Pendeford Community Bike Hub, which is located at the Pendeford Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Other activities include guided rides, cycling skill workshops, road safety education, maintenance classes.

Become involved

We invite anyone interested in cycling to join us and discover the joy of riding in a friendly and encouraging environment.

For further details or assistance, feel free to contact us via WhatsApp, Facebook, or email: pendefordbikehub@gmail.com or 07757426895

Pedalling with Confidence, Connecting Communities.

Kelvin Gilkes
Director, Pendeford Community Bike Hub

Join us for our upcoming sessions

- ❖ Children 7-14 years Wednesdays 4:30pm - 5.30pm
 - ❖ Adult learn-to-ride Sundays 12 p.m - 1 p.m
 - ❖ Adult group ride Sundays 1:30pm - 2:30pm
- VENUE : Pendeford Seventh-day Adventist Church, Ryfield. They include guided rides, skill workshops, road safety education, maintenance classes, and other activities.

Become involved:

We invite anyone interested in cycling to join us and discover the joy of riding in a friendly and encouraging environment.

An Update from Your Local Councillors

Spring is in the air, the time of plans and projects, as we all look forward to getting outdoors again, into gardens and green spaces and meeting up with friends, old and new. Your Oxley Councillors have been busy, out and about, over the winter, but we are looking forward to the promise of spring's warmer weather and meeting even more of our residents.

We met Kelvin at the Pendeford Community Bike Hub in October last year and were incredibly impressed by the range of events and activities. It has been operational for close to a year, and participation and impact within the community has grown steadily. There are currently 50 active participants, from children to pensioners, of all different abilities.

Notably a local resident who initially lacked confidence in cycling due to her poor health, and another 69 year old lady who learned to ride for the first time, both now regularly participate in group rides. All three of your Councillors have donated from their ward funds to provide safe, secure storage for the bikes and other equipment to support this fantastic community project.

Councillor McGarrity was fortunate enough to attend the Christmas Grotto, run by the TMO. She said that it was an amazing event, with the grotto decorated with fairy lights, building up the anticipation of seeing a splendid looking Father Christmas. She extends her thanks to all involved and we look forward to the Easter Clean and Craft event. Again, we have all donated ward funds to support this event.

Dovecotes Primary continues to inspire the children with a wide range of events: taking up an invitation from the Music School to attend the newly opened Halls; taking part in the NSPCC Number day; taking part in a football competition held at Aldersley Leisure Centre; and dressing up in red, yellow and gold to enjoy Chinese New Year celebrations, practising their dance and drama skills and tasting the sweet and sour noodles as part of the celebrations.

In March 2024 Aldersley High School will be announced by the Youth Sport Trust as one of only six Research Insight Schools nationally. It is a huge accolade, as a Headteacher Ambassador, Mr Winzor is extremely proud and looking forward to the benefits it will bring to the wider community. The announcement will see Aldersley work closely with Manchester University as a research partner. The opportunity will increase provision for not only current students, but will enable the school to focus on wider community projects with families, feeder primary schools and the local sporting network.

Councillors Casework includes missed bin collections; neighbour parking area disputes; investigation into the viability of a one-way system; fly-tipping; requests for security cameras on a popular walkway; requests for bollards/fencing to prevent parking on grassed curb areas, potentially blocking access for emergency vehicles; and requests for tree and shrub pruning. All of these issues are currently work in progress, so we would like to reassure you that they are being addressed.

Remember we are here to help, so please contact your councillors if you have issues of concern

Councillor Alan Butt
07971327492

Councillor Jane Francis
07973664666

Councillor Barbara McGarrity
07811 752725

Alan.Butt@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Jane.Francis@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Barbara.McGarrity@wolverhampton.gov.uk



Tenants Contents Insurance Update

Do you purchase Home Contents Insurance through Wolverhampton Homes? Did you know that this scheme is coming to an end in March 2024?

Wolverhampton Homes has administered contents insurance to customers both tenants and occupying leaseholders, city wide for many years. Demand for insurance has fallen over recent years with many choosing to insure through alternative mainstream providers. As a result, from March 2024 the home contents scheme is coming to a close.

As a tenant living at Dovecotes you have exclusive access to home contents insurance through One Broker, an independent insurance broker who have developed a specialist Tenants Insurance policy, which provides high-quality cover at a great-value price. Accidental Damage is included as standard, which means your possessions (and those of your landlord) will be covered if you drop them or spill something on them, for instance.

For more information or a quote please contact Phil Smith on 01223 949006 or visit www.onebroker.co.uk



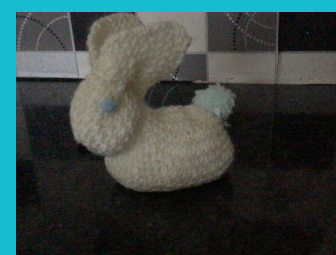
Dovecotes TMO Sit and Knit
Are you a skilled knitter?
Do you want to learn how to knit?



We need YOU!

Join us on a Tuesday at 11:30 - 12:30 for our sit and knit session.

We are looking for patterns and knitting materials and will be making items for babies to help those families who may be struggling this winter. If you have any materials to donate please bring them to our office during opening hours.



Have you received an orange bin tag?

Tags are being placed on any recycling bins that contain the incorrect items asking residents to remove anything that shouldn't be there.

Bins with the wrong items will not be emptied and residents will need to take their bin back in and remove the non-recyclable items and place them in the correct bin for disposal.

Collection crews will then check bins on the next scheduled recycling collection. If all the identified items are removed and there are no new incorrect items, the collection team will empty the bin.

When your bin has been collected you should return this to the boundary of your property. Bins should not block or be kept on the public footpath



What can go in your bin?



Food waste and non-recyclable food packaging



Polystyrene Nappies Thin plastic like cling film

As well as the following:

cigarette ends • broken crockery
bagged pet waste • plastic bags
rope and string • sanitary products • tissues

To check what other items can go in your bin, go to wolverhampton.gov.uk/recycling

What can't go in your bin?



Any waste that can be recycled



Soil and rubble Grass cuttings and garden waste Needles or medical waste



Batteries Gas bottles Electrical items

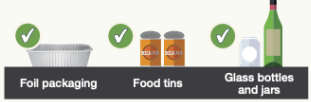
These items can be taken to our household waste and recycling centres. For more information, go to wolverhampton.gov.uk/recycling



What can go in your bin?



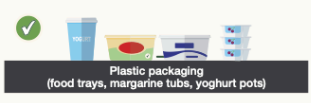
Aerosols Cardboard Drink cans



Foil packaging Food tins Glass bottles and jars



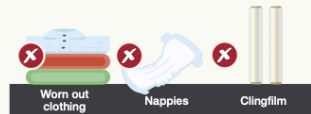
Household plastic bottles Newspapers, magazines & paper Plastic drinks bottles



Plastic packaging (food trays, margarine tubs, yoghurt pots)

Make sure all items in your recycling bin are emptied, dried and cleaned properly. To find out what other items can be recycled, go to wolverhampton.gov.uk/recycling

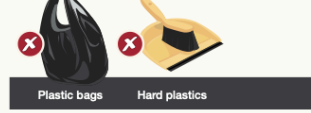
What can't go in your bin?



Worn out clothing Nappies Clingfilm



Polystyrene Electrical items Crisps and sweet packets



Plastic bags Hard plastics



Batteries Gas bottles Needles or medical waste

Find out other ways to recycle items by going to wolverhampton.gov.uk/recycling

GARDEN WASTE PURPLE BIN SERVICE

You can get your garden waste collected from your doorstep every two weeks. It is an opt-in payable service.

To find out more or to sign up to the service visit: wolverhampton.gov.uk/garden-waste-service



What can go in your bin

Leaves and grass cuttings
hedge clippings
small branches and twigs
tree clippings
real Christmas trees
plants, flowers and weeds

What can't go in your bin

Soil, animal waste, vegetable peelings, food waste, plant pots and grow bags.



Household Waste and Recycling Centres Open 7 days A Week



Our sites:

Anchor Lane
Lanesfield WV14 9NE

Shaw Road
Bushbury WV10 9LA

For information, go to: wolverhampton.gov.uk/recycling



City of Wolverhampton Council general enquiries: 01902 551155

Wolverhampton.gov.uk @WolvesCouncil WolverhamptonToday

Do you have a story you want to share? Are you part of a community group operating in Dovecotes and want to share information with the estate. Contact us on 01902 552780 for more information.