### Email update

Have you provided us with your email address? If you provide us with your email address you We will be corresponding with tenants via email where possible.

are in with a chance of winning a £20 voucher!

Call us on 0161 272 6094 or email customerservices@arawakwalton.com.

## Christmas Day Meal

Do you know anyone who may be lonely this Christmas and would enjoy some company?

The Bridging the Gap project are holding a Christmas Day meal at St Mary's Primary School, Adscombe St. Alexander Park, M16 7AQ from 12-4pm. Christmas Dinner will be

served at 1pm and will be free to those who register in advance.

For more information and to request a referral form, please contact Evelyn on 07825 283 227 or email evelynasante-mensah@hotmail.co.uk

Please note transport can also be arranged.

### Bridging the gap - Christmas collection

We are collecting for hampers that the church will put together. If you would like to donate some items please bring them into our Head Office, Margaret House.

Donations could include the following:

Biscuits, Chocolates, Mince pies, 'Smellies' nice shower gels etc. Socks, Hats, Gloves.

NO FRESH FOOD—but anything that you would expect to see in festive hamper.

If you would like to make a donation, please do so before the items are collected on the 14th December.

### Staff News

### We have recruited two new members of staff!

We would like to introduce Rashid Yaman, our IT Analyst who has a wealth of IT and Finance experience and comes from Arcon Housing Association.

We would also like to introduce our new Housing Trainee Marcus McCluskey who was a Neighbourhood Services Apprentice at Eastland's Homes Housing Association.





Marcus McCluskey, Housing Trainee



On behalf of everybody at Arawak Walton, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

November 2015

# **ARAWAK WALTON NEWS**



### **HOT TOPICS**

Card payments -Christmas Closing Times—Community on Solid Ground -Time to Change-Tips on keeping your home free from damp & condensation

\* Breaking News \* Breaking News \* Breaking News \* Breaking News \* Breaking

## We take card payments!

We can now take rent and other payments by debit or credit card. To do this, just phone us on 0161 272 6094 or visit the office with your debit or credit card, we will take your details and email or post a receipt.

Many of our tenants find this a much more convenient way of paying their rent than trying to find a Post Office or payzone outlet that's open.

You can also pay on our website www.arawakwalton.com at a convenient time to you

\* Breaking News \* Breaking New

### **Arawak Walton's Christmas Opening times**

The Office will be closed on Friday 18th December for the Staff Conference.

The Office will close for Christmas on Thursday 24th December 2015 at 12:00pm and will re-open on Monday 4th January 2015 at 9.00am.

Our emergency repairs service will operate throughout the holiday period. Please remember we will not act on routine situations.

Any non-emergencies/ non-urgent repairs should be reported to our office on Monday 4th January 2015.



**Emergency Repair Telephone** Number:

0800 389 4616





# Getting to grips with IT at Bougainvillea

### Gardens!

"As part of Arawak Walton's mission to support and promote the communities we work in, the Association in partnership with a local community group, Community on Solid Ground, has been delivering IT classes to some of our tenants at Bougainvillea Gardens, Sheltered Scheme.

The IT classes are delivered as part of a 12 week programme, one afternoon per week and are tailored to meet the needs of each participating tenant. The classes range from basic computer knowledge to more day to day computer

IT class mentors. Karis Tottoh had the following to say "The IT classes provided by CSG are very popular and tenants have found them very productive. For some of the tenants IT was completely new and with CSG's help they are now IT friendly with their own email and social media accounts. The tenants have learnt new skills and can now do many other things most of us use every day. We have thoroughly enjoyed our time at Bougainvillea Gardens supporting the tenants and they have been a pleasure to teach!"



Above: Silver Surfers!

The Association hopes that in the future we will continue to work with Community on Solid Ground to deliver many more successful projects in our communities!

To support the great work of CSG, you can follow them on Twitter: @COSG UK and Facebook: YouthOnSolidGround or check out their website for regular information on current projects at www.yosg.org.uk"

## Time to change

Whalley range Self Help and Wellbeing Group JNR8, 82 Cromwell Avenue, M16 0BG

Phone: 0161 881 3744 /0778885554 Carol packham@uk2.net



It's free and volunteer led. Meet new people and join in with fun activities. Offering:

- Pool
- Table tennis
- Tai Chi
- Food
- Good company
- And much more...



let's end mental health discrimination

# Keeping your home from condensation, damp and mould

#### What is condensation?

There is always some moisture in the air if you can't see it. When the air gets colder, it can't hold all the moisture and tiny drops of water appear - • this is condensation. You may notice it when you see your breath on a cold day or when the mirror in the bathroom mists over when you have a bath or shower.

Condensation mainly occurs during cold weather regardless of whether it is raining or dry. It tends to appear on cold surfaces and places where there is little or no movement of air, in the corners of rooms near windows or behind cupboards and wardrobes.

#### What you can do to prevent condensation?

These simple steps will help to prevent condensation occurring in your home:

#### Put less water into the air

- Put lids on saucepans
- Dry clothes outside
- If using a tumble dryer make sure it is vented to the outside
- Put a small amount of cold water in the bath before you turn on the hot tap
- Do not run your shower for longer than needed
- Mop up any condensation or water everyday

### Stop water vapour spreading

- Shut kitchen and bathroom doors when bathing and cooking
- Use cooker hoods and extractor fans or open a window

#### Heating your home

- Apply more heat
- Heat more evenly i.e Low level of heating rather than quick blasts when necessary-

this should also reduce your heating bills

- Use thermostats to control your heating
- Avoid using bottled gas or paraffin heaters



### Ventilate your home

- Keep a small window ajar or trickle vents open at all times
- Ventilate kitchens and bathrooms when in use by opening windows to remove the humid air
- Use extractor fans if you have them
- Close kitchen bathroom doors when in use
- Make sure other doors are closed. especially bedrooms as they are normally slightly colder and will attract moisture
- Ventilate cupboards and wardrobes and avoid putting too much in them as this stops the air circulating
- Keep furniture away from walls and allow air to circulate

#### Dealing with mould

Treat any mould you have in your property by washing walls and window frames with a fungicidal wash that carries a Health & Safety Executive approval number. Follow manufacturers' guide lines.

If you do this and follow the other advice given above, mould should not reappear. The only lasting way to avoid sever mould is to reduce the relative humidity and condensation by properly heating and ventilating your home.