



**Friday 15th October 2010**

## **Clydebank Housing Association Press Release**

### **CHA founding members retire after 26 years service**

Not many people have given up over 25 years of their time voluntarily to invest in their local area - but **John Hearn** and **Elizabeth Mackie** have done just that, playing an integral part in the success of **Clydebank Housing Association**.

After this long stint, both have decided to retire and take a well-earned rest. John and Betty were founding members of the Association and as part of the then Community Council, undertook to regenerate the central and east part of the town, focussing on the empty tenemental properties in Alexander Street and Kilbowie Road.

Their efforts on the Steering Group came to fruition in December 1984 when Central and East Clydebank Housing Association was registered with the Housing Corporation and thereafter; Clydebank District Council transferred the Tenemental properties in the Association's ownership.

They have been Clydebank residents for the best part of 70 years. Betty began her working career working as an office assistant in the town clerk's office and then a school teacher for 14 years. She retired in 1984. John began his working career as Junior Lab Technician and retired as a Chief Scientific Medical Officer at the Southern General in 1998. John achieved the accolade of Employer's in Voluntary Housing committee member of the year in 2001 In recognising his massive contribution to the voluntary housing movement including his services to Clydebank Housing Association.

Both John's and Betty's commitment was recognised recently at a presentation of long service awards at our offices as we celebrated the Association's 25 year milestone. John and Betty have clearly shown that they care a great deal about Clydebank's past, present and future and that their hard work and commitment has certainly paid off for the benefit of hundreds of Clydebank people and their families, placing the Association at the forefront of the regeneration of the town.

Fiona Webster said, "I know that everyone here at Clydebank shares my view that their endless passion has helped to oversee getting Clydebank to where it is today and their knowledge and experience will be missed around the boardroom table."

**Ends**

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