

Over one hundred and thirty people enjoyed a great night's entertainment at Malton & Norton Rugby Club, on Friday 30th May, when the four tenant associations of Ryedale Housing celebrated their 'European Neighbours Day Event.' The Chairman of the Joint Officers of the four associations, Mr Stewart McCann, welcomed everyone and told them that 'European Neighbours Day was originally created in France in 1999 and is now celebrated across 28 countries in Europe by over 7 million people.' He said, 'its aims are to combat indifference, foster community cohesion, create nicer neighbourhoods and fight social exclusion.' He added that Yorkshire Housing had joined forces with many other housing associations across England to celebrate the occasion and that the 2008 edition of European Neighbours Day was recently endorsed by the European Commission and launched on the 12th May in this years European Capital of Culture, Liverpool.

The evening events began with presentations from three guest speakers. Mr Audie Sellars (RTAWA Treasurer & NYPSO) showed a short film (Beware The Bogeyman) followed by some advice on how to minimise the risk of distraction burglary. Miss Sophie Smith (Energy Saving Trust) gave advice about ways to be more energy efficient and environmentally friendly. Mrs Judith Denniss (RTAWA Secretary) talked about how important recycling is to the environment and the economy. This was followed by a free bingo flyer with prizes of £10, £15 and £25. Then after a pie, new potato and pea supper it was dance music straight through till the end of the evening.

The first event of the occasion actually kicked off earlier in the evening at the Gannock football ground where under 14s teams from Brooklyn and Pickering Town played for the 'RHA European Neighbours Day Trophy.' A very entertaining match ended in a no score draw, but Pickering Town went on to win the trophy in an equally exciting penalty shoot out by 3 goals to 2. Mr Garry Smith (RHA Area Manager – East) presented the trophy to Pickering Town captain, Mark Williams, and also handed out commemorative medals to the players of both teams.

Footnote.

Football trophy and medals were purchased from: 'Trophy & Print' shop 30 Commercial Street, Norton, Malton YO17 9ES Tel: 01653 691535

Bunting purchased from 'Flags of The World' 41 Fisher Street, Stranraer. Tel: 0845 466 4111

Teabag gift box purchased from Taylors of Harrogate.

Environmentally Friendly Cotton Bags, provided by Gillian McLaren (TPAS), Ryedale District Council and Safer Ryedale.

Yorkshire Water supplied 'BeCool' Save Water Flush Saver.

Energy Saving Trust supplied, Energy Saving Light Bulbs.

Special Thanks to the above for their help and advice.

A very Special thanks to Mr Rob Holtby (Malton & Norton Rugby Club) and his staff for the excellent service that they provided.