

WELCOME TO MY

September 2024 Newsletter



Hello! I hope you are all well.

It's good to be back in Parliament and as usual it's been a busy time. We recently celebrated the 25th anniversary of the re-establishment of the Scottish Parliament, and it was a privilege to be there to represent my constituents.

As always, if I can be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

↓ **In this Newsletter you will find:**

My work in the Constituency, Parliament and Scottish Government updates.

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IN THE CONSTITUENCY

Cahonas Scotland

It was great to meet Ritchie and Paul from Cahonas Scotland (based in Clydebank) to hear about the work they do raising awareness of testicular cancer and supporting those with the disease. They celebrate their 15th anniversary this year so I was delighted to recognise this with a Parliamentary Motion.



Milngavie Walking Group

It was lovely to catch up with the Milngavie Walking Group earlier this month for one of their Monday walks. Despite the heavy rain they did actually achieve a really good turnout! They have various walks on offer across East Dunbartonshire. Visit this page to find out more - <https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/walk-project/ed-walk-well>

Recycle Room Re-opening

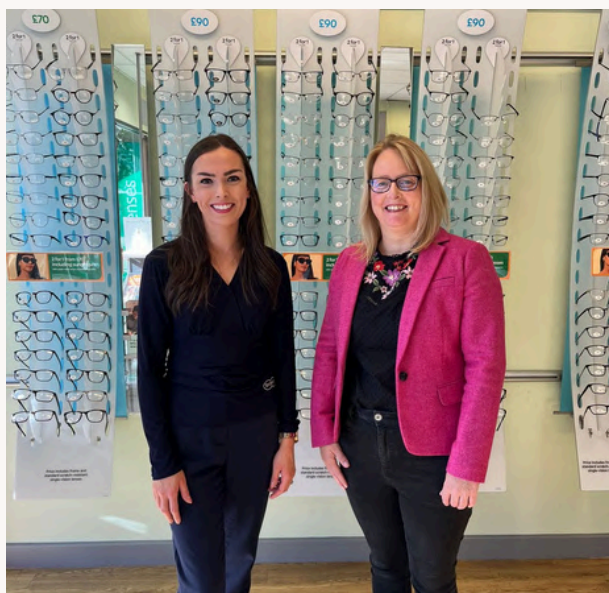
I caught up with Lucy and Nichola recently ahead of The Recycle Room's re-opening. They have both clearly put in so much work to get it to where it is now. They provide a vital service for our community, so if you can donate, please do consider them. They are starting their warm jackets campaign again so if you have any jackets not in use, please consider donating.



IN THE CONSTITUENCY

Getting the Steps Up

It was great to get out with the Team recently to deliver my Surgery Engagement Letters and Road Safety Survey across Clydebank and Bearsden North. If you received my Road Safety Survey in Bearsden, please do fill it out and send it back to me. The more views I can get on this, the better.



Milngavie Specsavers

It was nice to meet with Sarah and Charles from Milngavie Specsavers to discuss all the services they offer and how improvements could be made at a national level. This was a follow up visit after meeting earlier in the year with Specsavers representatives to discuss audiology services nationally and locally.

Dalmuir Plots Prize Giving

I was delighted to get back out with the Dalmuir Allotments Team for their competition prize-giving. During the Summer I was invited along to the allotment to judge the plots for various categories. It was a really tough decision but the winners are very well deserved! Well done to Billy McGregor for Most Improved Plot, Michael McCarron, Most Productive Plot and Colin Reid for Best Full Plot!



IN THE CONSTITUENCY

Constituency Advice Surgery

I had another successful Surgery Day recently at the Fraser Centre, Skoolz Out, Centre 81 and Clydebank Library. This included a joint surgery with my colleague Councillor Lauren Oxley at Centre 81. We have come away with a lot of casework to get on with! And we had a lovely lunch at Centre 81.



Day of Action

It was fab to get out with Team Clydebank SNP activists for a Day of Action delivering independence leaflets across Duntocher. We have a great team who are always ready to get out and about. We also have the Kilpatrick By-Election coming up soon, on 28th November. We'll need all hands on deck to win this, so if you can spare any time, it is so appreciated.

Glasgow Airport Meeting

I had a positive meeting with Glasgow Airport representatives, with my colleagues Cllr Traynor, Cllr Oxley and Cllr McHill to discuss the Noise Action Plan and Airspace Change Proposal. Glad to hear that if approved, the Noise Insulation Scheme would extend to make 650 homes eligible for funding to help insulate their homes against aviation noise - mostly in the Whitecrook area.



IN THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

MSYP's in Parliament

I was delighted to welcome the Clydebank and Milngavie MSYP's to Parliament last week. Arianna Gagnon attends Douglas Academy and Rebecca Ross attends Clydebank High. Both girls had a short tour of Parliament and watched FMQs before they put me through my paces asking me a whole host of questions about my role as MSP!



Members: Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)

FASD Awareness Month

I was pleased to support my colleague Rona Mackay MSP's debate on Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Month. This was an important debate to help raise awareness of the impact of alcohol consumption during pregnancy. It also helped bring greater attention to those affected and to call for their right to comprehensive support.

Local Hero

It was lovely to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the re-establishment of Parliament recently. All MSP's were asked to nominate a Local Hero who has made a real difference. I was delighted to nominate Jeannot Farmer, from Bearsden. Jeannot has campaigned tirelessly for many years for justice for women who had their babies taken from them during the Forced Adoption Scandal.



SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATES

Joint plan to secure industrial future of Grangemouth -
The Scottish and UK Governments have announced a joint investment plan for Grangemouth following Petroineos' decision to decommission its oil refinery and pledged to work together for an industrial future for the site.

New uniform guidance published - Following consultation with schools, families, uniform suppliers, pupils and councils, the new guidance also sets out key considerations to ensure pupil comfort, freedom and happiness.

Social media safety for young people - 'Quit Fighting For Likes' aims to get young people to think about and discuss attitudes and behaviours around the filming and sharing of violent incidents.

Growing Scotland's Space Sector - Space sector entrepreneur Daniel Smith takes up the newest position in the Scottish Government's international business network.

Growing Scotland's net zero economy - A focused strategy has been launched to place Scotland at the forefront of the net zero economy, with targeted actions to secure growth and investment.

2024 Cancer Patient Experience Survey - The results of the 2024 Cancer Patient Experience Survey, co-commissioned by the Scottish Government and Macmillan Cancer Support in partnership with Public Health Scotland (PHS), show that cancer patients across Scotland are largely positive about their care.

