

WELCOME TO MY

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**May 2024
Newsletter**



Hello! As we now know there will be a General Election on 4th July and we have the Clydebank Central Ward By-Election on 13th June.

We have such excellent candidates in Martin, Amy and Marina, who we all need to get behind. If you have spare time, please do join the branches and get out chapping doors and delivering leaflets - we need all hands on deck. Wishing our candidates all the best of luck - lets get them back to Westminster and into local government!

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

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

Promoted by Marie McNair, c/o Unit 11, Clyde Street Business Centre, Clydebank G81 1PF



IN THE CONSTITUENCY

Bearsden Art Club

It was great to pop in to see the Bearsden Art Club to show my support for their artists at their latest exhibition in the Lillie Art Gallery. I was so impressed by the range of excellent artwork they had on show. Their exhibition is finished but we now have the fab Milngavie Art Club exhibition running - so still a chance to see and buy some great local artwork!



Out Campaigning

It's been good to get out in Clydebank campaigning for Marina to be our local councillor for the Clydebank Central Ward for the By-Election on 13th June. Marina will be a fantastic and dedicated local councillor. I look forward to joining our amazing Westminster candidates Martin and Amy on the campaign trail soon - lets get them re-elected for a strong voice in Westminster!

Road Safety Survey

Due to the General Election, my road safety survey has been put on hold. This is because of election laws that dictate what can and can't be distributed. The last batch went out across Milngavie on 28th May, so if you have received one, please do fill it in and post it back. After the Election, I will be back out delivering the survey to more areas across East Dunbartonshire, so keep an eye out for this!

MARIE MCNAIR MSP'S ROAD SAFETY SURVEY

I would greatly appreciate your participation in this survey. Your responses will inform what next steps I will take as your MSP.

Personal information

Name

Address

Question 1. Have you ever felt unsafe on the roads in Milngavie and Bearsden North?

Question 2. If so, where in particular do you feel unsafe on the roads?



IN THE CONSTITUENCY

Clydebank Town Board

It was a pleasure to be asked to join the Town Board to decide how the £20m funding will be spent on our town. It's so important we get this right, to ensure lasting impact for the town. I recently attended a really positive meeting with other stakeholders to discuss first steps. I look forward to joining them again soon to move forward with the plan to improve our town.



Chief Inspector Higgins

I was pleased to meet with Chief Inspector Aidan Higgins, who has recently been appointed Local Area Commander for East Dunbartonshire to discuss the work they are doing in the area. It was great to hear in particular, how proactive they have been regarding a recent scam incident and the work they are doing to improve road safety in the area.

Braidfield BESS

I know many in the constituency have concerns about the recent plan to build another BESS in the constituency, this time in the Braidfield Farm area. I recently held a meeting with the developers, Intelligent Land Investments Group (ILI), with my colleagues Cllr Gordon Scanlan and Cllr Sophie Traynor. This allowed us to put to them concerns constituents have raised. I will continue to engage on this matter.



IN THE CONSTITUENCY

Clydebank Football Club

It was great to chat with Bill Abraham, Commercial Director of Clydebank FC at the start of May to discuss all things football and discuss how I can help them. I am a regular supporter of the Clydebank Ladies and try to get to the matches when I can. I was delighted to receive a bag to represent the club!



Foster Care Fortnight

For Foster Care Fortnight, I was delighted to welcome Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise, Natalie Don MSP, to Mugdock Park to support foster carers on their family walk. This was a great day and it was lovely to get the chance to chat with foster carers about their work and what more we can do to support them.

Constituency Surgeries

I had another day of successful Constituency Advice Surgeries across Milngavie, Bearsden North and in Faifley and Duntocher with my colleague Councillor Gordon Scanlan. We had a lot of engagement for this surgery and came away with several new cases to work on to help deliver for the people of Clydebank and Milngavie.



IN THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

LGBTQ+ History Month

I spoke in this debate recently shining a light on domestic abuse in LGBTQ+ History Month. Unfortunately, domestic abuse can happen to anyone, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. No one should ever feel fearful in their relationship, so please contact Scotland's Domestic Abuse & Forced Marriage Helpline on 0800 027 1234 if you need help.



Foster Care Fortnight

I was glad to speak in this debate to shed a positive light on foster care and to celebrate the hard work, dedication and commitment of foster carers across the constituency. As a former Councillor I sat on the Foster and Adoption Panel for 15 years. Being a part of this panel was a real privilege and gave me a greater insight into the real importance of good foster care.



National Epilepsy Week

I was pleased to have secured a debate during National Epilepsy Week to raise awareness of epilepsy, the challenges that those living with the condition face and to promote greater understanding, inclusion and support for those living with the condition. By raising awareness we foster empathy and break down stigma to help those living with the condition in our communities.



IN THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

British Liver Trust

I sadly lost my friend Linda to non-alcoholic liver disease. So I was pleased to join the British Liver Trust in Parliament recently to pledge my support for the Trust's calls to improve early diagnosis, treatment and care for people with liver disease. Some of the symptoms are: feeling very tired and weak all the time, loss of appetite, yellow skin and whites of the eyes and itchy skin.



Motions submitted

- Clydebank's Caleb Stirrat Receives Child of Courage Trophy
- CardioFunk Raises Over £15,000 for Beatson Cancer Charity
- Bearsden and Milngavie Ladies Lunch Raises Funds for St Margaret of Scotland Hospice
- Success for St Peter the Apostle High School Football Teams
- Carleith Primary School Celebrates 50th Anniversary
- Clydebank's Champion Dance and Cheer Achieve International Success
- Clydebank Girl Guide Leader's Extraordinary Service
- Clydebank Ladies Choir Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Alzheimer Scotland

For Dementia Awareness Week I joined Alzheimer Scotland in Parliament to bring attention to the condition. It's also important to highlight the amazing local groups that support people with dementia and their loved ones. We are lucky to be supported by Alzheimer Scotland resource bases in Clydebank and Bearsden, which I have had the privilege of visiting in the past.



SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATES

Recruiting and retaining childminders - Plans to grow Scotland's childminding workforce by 1,000 and provide more support to childminders have been announced.

Events to mark 80th anniversary of D-Day - First Minister John Swinney will represent the people of Scotland at national commemorations honouring the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings.

Off-Peak All Day Rail Trial Extended - The Scottish Government has extended the off-peak rail trial until September.

Apology to victims of infected blood scandal - First Minister John Swinney has formally apologised on behalf of the government to everyone who has been infected or affected as a result of infected NHS blood or blood products in Scotland.

Cancelling School Meal Debt - The Scottish Government has opened a new £1.5 million fund to help councils cancel school meal debt.

New training facility for NHS Scotland workforce - Health Secretary Neil Gray has opened the NHS Scotland Academy Skills and Simulation Centre at Clydebank's Golden Jubilee University National Hospital.

National mathematics specialist appointed - A former mathematics teacher has been appointed to lead a new approach to driving improvements to Scotland's maths curriculum.

