



Hepburn at Holyrood

Jamie Hepburn MSP - Serving the People of Central Scotland



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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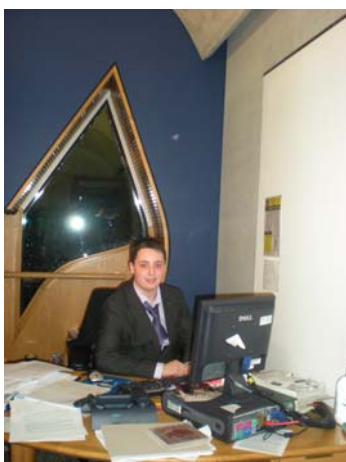
Parliamentary Newsletter 11 – December 2008

It's been a hectic few months in the Scottish Parliament and across Central Scotland this newsletter will give you some idea of what's been going on. There are also details of my surgeries and how to get in touch if there is anything you'd like to bring to my attention. With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,



Alcohol Awareness: At the end of October, Jamie visited Abronhill Spar to promote Alcohol Awareness Week. Like an increasing number of outlets, the store runs a 'No ID – no sale' policy, where customers who appear to be under 25 years old will be asked for proof of age before being sold alcohol. Jamie said "Dealing with Scotland's drink culture is an important issue, and it is clear there is a lot to be learned from this approach." The picture (left) shows Jamie meeting with some of the team at Abronhill Spar.

Cumbernauld - A Love Song: Jamie has congratulated singer-songwriter Carolyn McGoldrick on the release of her single, "Cumbernauld – A Love Song", with the following motion in the Scottish Parliament: That the Parliament congratulates singer-songwriter Carolyn McGoldrick on the release of her single, Cumbernauld: A Love Song; notes that money raised from sales of the song will be donated to young persons' cancer charity CLIC Sargent; believes that the song reflects the positive outlook that residents of Cumbernauld have for the future of their town, and encourages people across Scotland to buy a copy of the single in support of both Cumbernauld and CLIC Sargent. (S3M-02895)



Work Experience: Jamie's staff team had an extra recruit for one week in November – Greenfaulds High student, Christopher Edgar, who undertook his S4 Work Experience Placement in the office. As well as witnessing parliamentary business first-hand at First Minister's Question Time, Christopher helped in the office drafting parliamentary motions and with a letter to constituents affected by the closure of post offices across Central Scotland. He also joined Jamie on a number of constituency visits, including the launch of a new bus service in Cumbernauld.



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RSPB Scotland: Jamie met recently with representatives from RSPB (left) Scotland to discuss their work across the Central Scotland region. Of particular interest is the RSPB reserve at Fannyside Loch on the Slamannan

Plateau, near Falkirk. Jamie has been working with a number of people who live near this site.



Jamie is pictured with Stewart Stevenson MSP, Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change and Jon Hargreaves, Chair of British

Waterways Scotland Group at a reception at the Scottish Parliament which Jamie was happy to host on behalf of British Waterways.

Sign-tube.com: Falkirk-based company Sign-tube.com recently won an important business award, and Jamie marked the success with the following motion in the Scottish Parliament: That the Parliament congratulates Grangemouth-based Sign-tube.com on winning the Best Company Website/E-Commerce Award at the Falkirk Herald Business Awards 2008, held recently in Polmont, and considers innovative methods, such as making use of the internet to give a wider outlet for members of the deaf community to express themselves by use of British Sign Language, to be highly positive steps in the right direction and worthy of commendation.(S3M-02851)



Jamie at the launch of consultation by the **Big Lottery Fund** about their funding for organisations – contact Jamie’s office for more information.



Jamie meets Phyllis Colquhoun from the **Cumbernauld Bron Association** along with Councillors Alan O'Brien, Willie Homer. The Association fosters links between Cumbernauld and its twin town of Bron in south-west France.



Jamie is pictured with members of the **Falkirk branch of the Parkinson's Disease Society** at the Scottish Parliament. Jamie has written to NHS Forth Valley to see what additional nursing support they might provide Parkinson's Disease patients.

Jamie was pleased with the decision to make tours of the Scottish Parliament **free from September 2009**. Details of the tours available at the Scottish Parliament can be found by calling **0131-348-5200**.

Surgery Details: Jamie has announced details of his surgeries until the end of May 2009. These operate in a drop-in basis, although constituents are welcome to phone 01698 337 303 or 0131 348 6573/6574 for an appointment. Jamie can also be contacted through his website or using the details on the other side of this newsletter.

- Burngreen Hall, Kilsyth: 10.00am on Mondays 5th January, 2nd February, 2nd March, 6th April, 4th May
- Westfield Community Centre: 11.30am on Mondays 5th January, 2nd February, 2nd March, 6th April, 4th May
- Muirfield Community Centre: 1.30pm on Mondays 5th January, 2nd February, 2nd March, 6th April, 4th May
- Abronhill Community Centre: 3.00pm on Mondays 5th January, 2nd February, 2nd March, 6th April, 4th May
- Roadside Hall, The Village: 4:30pm on Mondays 5th January, 2nd February, 2nd March, 6th April, 4th May
- Caldercruix Community Centre: 10am on Mondays 19th January, 16th March, 18th May
- Four Isles Community Centre, Cragneuk: 11.30am on Mondays 19th January, 16th March, 18th May
- Glenmavis Community Centre: 1.30pm on Mondays 19th January, 16th March, 18th May
- Grangemouth Community Education Unit: 10am on Mondays 16th February, 20th April
- Bo'ness Community Education Base: 11.30am on Mondays 16th February, 20th April
- Grange Centre, Brightons: 1.30pm on Mondays 16th February, 20th April