



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

# David Torrance MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Kirkcaldy Constituency



## Monthly Newsletter

**November 2016**



It's hard to believe it's November already. It's beginning to get colder in the constituency, so the heaters are on in my office and we're wrapping up warm. Still, my team and I are working away as hard as ever.

This is often the time when families start to notice their energy bills increasing and financial pressures begin in the build up to Christmas. The Scottish Government are aware of the challenges. I'm always heartened to see our local communities and charities offer help to those who need it.



*On Kirkcaldy High Street to promote the National Survey with local Councillors*

Don't forget that the 2016 National Survey is still running until St. Andrews Day. I've been out and about on the streets recently to help promote the campaign, so that your opinions on Brexit and Scottish Independence can be heard. Make sure to take part at [www.survey2016.scot](http://www.survey2016.scot).

Yours for Scotland,

## **Save Wemyss Ancient Caves Society: 30th Anniversary Conference**

I was delighted to speak at the 30th Anniversary Conference for S.W.A.C.S. in October, where I discussed my personal connection with S.W.A.C.S. as both an MSP and a member. It was a truly fascinating afternoon.

The Wemyss caves and their incredible carvings are a remarkable heritage asset, and I am determined we take all necessary action to preserve them for future generations.



## Levenmouth Campus & Windmill Community Campus



The new **Levenmouth Campus** of Fife College recently opened in Buckhaven, which has proven to be an excellent investment in the Levenmouth area.

I enjoyed meeting staff and pupils with my colleague **Jenny Gilruth MSP** to see the campus in action. The campus was supported with £25million of Scottish Government funding, and is situated with the new **Levenmouth Academy** for high school students. We'll both be returning to visit Levenmouth Academy soon.



I was also pleased to attend the opening of the new **Windmill Community Campus** in Kirkcaldy. This fantastic new facility offers a new home for both Rosslyn School and Viewforth High School, along with community facilities including a library and community use centre.

The Scottish Government is spending £1.8billion in the **Schools for the Future** programme, which will see a total of 112 schools rebuilt or refurbished by 2020, and it is great to see the positive impact of this locally.



## Befriending Network Pledge

I was proud to sign up to the **Befriending Network Pledge** at Kinghorn Library with **Lead Scotland** to help tackle the issue of loneliness in the constituency. The pledge was made at the start of Befriending Week.

I met with **Louise Andree**, the Fife Befriending Co-Ordinator, to sign the pledge and discuss the issues she raised. Loneliness and social isolation are hugely important issues in the constituency and across Scotland, and Lead Scotland are looking for more volunteers to spend around 1 to 3 hours of their time per week or fortnight with someone who feels isolated or lonely.

If you are interested, please contact Louise directly on **07950771875** or e-mail **landree@lead.org.uk**. Your support could go a long way to helping those suffering from loneliness.



From Left to Right: Attending the brilliant **Linktown Community Halloween Party**; At my first Christmas Fayre for **Save the Children**.



## Christmas Card Competition 2016



Previous competition winners from left to right: 2015 (Owen Baxter); 2014 (Cerys Dixon); 2013 (Taylor Holland).

Over the last couple of weeks I have launched my annual Christmas Card Competition with local schools in the constituency, in partnership with **Sainsbury's Kirkcaldy**.

I visited pupils at **Torbain Primary School, Pathead Primary School, Kirkcaldy West Primary School, Valley Primary School** and **Strathallan Primary School** to announce the competition to design and draw a Christmas card for the constituency. The winner will visit the printers to see the first card being printed, receive a signed and framed card from me, win a special prize from Sainsbury's and come with me to visit the Scottish Parliament.

I'm very excited to see what designs the pupils come up with, and would like to thank Sainsbury's and the schools for their help in organising this festive challenge. I'll be announcing the winner in my December Newsletter next month!





## In Parliament

A subject close to my heart this month, as I delivered a speech on the importance of the **Cub Scouts** and the Scout movement for the **100th Anniversary** of the Cubs. As a long-time member of the Scouts and someone who is still actively involved as a Scout Leader, it was great to be able to speak about how important the Cubs are for young people in Scotland to develop teamwork, discipline, friendships and leadership skills. I congratulate the Cub Scouts on their anniversary, and wish them all the best for the future. For my own part, I'd encourage all young people to take part in this great movement.

It was also great to have a visit from the local pupils at **Kirkcaldy West Primary School** recently. I always enjoy showing local schools, community groups, charities and individuals around the Scottish Parliament: particularly those who haven't had a chance to see it before. If you're part of a school or group who might be interested, please don't hesitate to contact my office and we'll see if we can organise a trip.



## Constituency Surgery Dates for November

### Friday 4th November

Raeburn Community Centre 6pm—6.45pm

### Saturday 5th November

St Clair Hall 9.30am—10.15am

Pathhead Parish Church 10.30am—11.15am

The Harbourmaster's House 11.30am—12noon

### Friday 11th November

Linton Lane Community Centre 6pm—7pm

### Saturday 12th November

Coaltown of Wemyss Village Hall 9.30am—10am

East Wemyss Rose & McDuff Hall 10.15am—10.45am

Methilhill Old People's Recreation Centre 11am—11.30am

East Fife Indoor Bowling Club 11.45am—12.15pm

Buckhaven Community Centre 12.30pm—1pm

### Monday 14th November

Chapel Neighbourhood Community Centre 6pm—6.30pm

Smeaton Community Centre Veronica Hall 6.45pm—7.15pm

### Friday 18th November

Torbain Parish Church 6pm—6.45pm

### Saturday 19th November

Philp Hall 10am—11am

Polish Club—11.15—11.45am

Constituency Office 12 noon—1pm

### Monday 21st November

ASDA Kirkcaldy 6pm—7pm

### Friday 25th November

Hayfield Community Centre 6pm—6.45pm

### Saturday 26th November

The Toll Centre, Burntisland 10am—10.30am

Kinghorn Community Centre 10.45am—11.15am

Auchtertool Village Hall 11.30am—12noon

14th Fife Scout Hall, Dunnikier Estate 12.15pm-12.45pm

### Monday 28th November

Sainsbury's Kirkcaldy 6pm—7pm

**My team and I are always here to help. If you have an issue, please get in touch.**



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