

Parliamentary Patter



September 2011 Issue 2 Parliamentary Report: John Mason MSP

MARY DOLL OPENS JOHN MASON'S NEW CONSTITUENCY OFFICE

Former Rab C Nesbitt star and East End resident, Elaine C Smith, has officially opened Glasgow Shettleston MSP, John Mason's, new Parkhead Constituency Office.

The SNP MSP who pledged to open a shop front Constituency Office if elected, said he saw the new office as part of his "open, accessible and available" agenda. During his two years as the Member of the Westminster Parliament for Glasgow East, John Mason opened a highly visible shop front office on Shettleston Road, where he and his team of staff dealt with over 2,000 constituency cases.

In campaigning to win the city's East End seat at Holyrood, John Mason pointed out that local Labour politicians often stand for election, and then quickly disappear into a business centre where no-one can see them.

The MSP's new office is at Parkhead Cross, right across the road from St Michael's Church and just along from Parkhead Citizen's Advice Bureau.

Speaking at the official opening of his office, local MSP John Mason said:

"My new, fully-staffed, Constituency Office is open Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm, and open until 7pm on a Friday for constituents who wish to attend my evening surgery.

"During the election, I pledged to be open, accessible and available to my constituents. Every constituent can phone me at the office or on my mobile and anyone can visit my Constituency Office during the week. Similarly, I am committed to delivering local newsletters around the East End – not just during elections, but throughout the year - and keeping people up to date with my activities in Holyrood and the East End.



Open for business: Local MSP John Mason and Elaine C Smith

"It is a privilege to be the local MSP for Glasgow Shettleston and I am here to serve the people as best I can. We all know the East End has its problems and people need help with a variety of issues, be it housing, social work, education or health. My office is open and my staff and I are here to help".

With John Mason working at Parliament in Edinburgh three days a week, his office is fully staffed by Office Administrator Anne McGlinchey, and his Parliamentary Officer, David Linden, who also works from Parliament midweek.

You can call the Office on 0141 550 4327.

EAST END MSP WELCOMES PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT

John Mason, Scottish National Party MSP for Glasgow Shettleston, has welcomed the First Minister's announcement of the SNP Scottish Government's Legislative Programme.

Commenting, the SNP's John Mason MSP said:

"The First Minister's announcements show that the SNP have made jobs our priority in Government, and provided a plan B to reassure businesses and the people of Glasgow.

"The SNP will deliver 25,000 modern apprenticeships every year of this parliament training up our future skilled tradesmen and women. In Glasgow, I hope we can use this to develop our next generation of engineers to harness our move to renewable energy.

"Our new commitment to provide a learning or training place for all 16 to 19 year olds should mean that no young person misses out on the opportunity to learn the skills needed for a modern developing Scotland.

"The Capital Investment programme will see the investment of a £400 million housing budget this year which is estimated to support over 15,000 jobs across the country.

The Shettleston MSP continued:

"The SNP Government will continue to support small businesses in Glasgow with the small business bonus scheme and our commitment to no compulsory redundancies will provide a reassurance to many residents in the East End that their jobs are safe.

"Today's announcement lays down the foundation of the SNP Government delivering our manifesto commitments which the public overwhelmingly elected us on, to provide a better economic future for the East End of Glasgow and Scotland".

JOHN MASON 'WEARS IT PINK' TO FUND CURE FOR BREAST CANCER

SNP Member of the Scottish Parliament for Glasgow Shettleston, John Mason, is joining forces with Breast Cancer Campaign to raise awareness of its award winning fundraising event, wear it pink day.

On Friday 28 October 2011 supporters in schools, colleges and businesses throughout the country are encouraged to don an item of pink in support of the campaign and each donate £2 to fund innovative world-class breast cancer research.

Last year hundreds of thousands people took part in wear it pink to help improve survival rates for the one in eight women who experience breast cancer during their lifetime.

Commenting, whilst 'wearing it pink', the SNP's John Mason said:

"It is estimated that there are over 41,000 women and 150 men alive in Scotland who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. I know people who have been affected by the disease and would like to encourage everyone in my constituency and throughout Scotland to support wear it pink on October 28th, to raise valuable funds for breast cancer research".



Parliamentary Patter is published by John Mason MSP to give members of the community a window into his parliamentary and constituency work. This newsletter is distributed monthly to those who have asked for an opportunity to read what their Member of the Scottish Parliament does and thinks. For further information and distribution enquiries, contact David Linden on 0141 550 4327 or write to 1335 Gallowgate, Parkhead, Glasgow, G31 4DN.

PUBLISHED BY THE GLASGOW SHETTLESTON PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE