



Published: Friday 22 March 2024

Early Day Motions tabled on Thursday 21 March 2024

Early Day Motions (EDMs) are motions for which no days have been fixed.

The number of signatories includes all members who have added their names in support of the Early Day Motion (EDM), including the Member in charge of the Motion.

EDMs and added names are also published on the EDM database at www.parliament.uk/edm

[R] Indicates that a relevant interest has been declared.

New EDMs

536 Teachers' Pension Scheme and universities

Tabled: 21/03/24 Signatories: 1

Mary Kelly Foy

That this House notes that employers' contributions to the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS), of which approximately 58,000 university staff are members, are soon to increase by 5% in England and Wales; further notes, with concern, that while schools and colleges will receive additional funding from the Department for Education (DfE) to cover these increased costs, higher education institutions will not; recognises that many post-1992 university employers who are part of the TPS are facing severe financial difficulties, already resulting in course closures and job cuts; believes this situation will worsen dramatically if the Government refuses to intervene, putting thousands of jobs at risk and harming the reputation of the higher education sector; and therefore strongly urges the DfE to commit to providing additional funding for universities to cover the increase in TPS contributions in order to prevent this crisis.

537 St Andrew's Secondary School fundraising

Tabled: 21/03/24 Signatories: 1

David Linden

That this House congratulates pupils at St Andrew's Secondary School for their tireless efforts in raising over £8000 for charities and causes across Glasgow East; recognises their selfless dedication in assisting St Andrews Hospice in their Ben Nevis Challenge, 6K fun run and participating in a Sleep Out for Shelter Scotland; applauds them for living by their school motto of Service not Self in volunteering for charities across the East End of Glasgow including The Wayside Club and local food banks; commends St Andrew's Secondary School for empowering their students to create positive social change in their local community; and wishes all pupils, teachers and staff at St Andrew's all the success in their future endeavours in promoting social justice.

538 One year anniversary of the kidnapping of Elizabeth Tsurkov

Tabled: 21/03/24 Signatories: 1

Tommy Sheppard

That this House notes that today marks the one year anniversary of the kidnapping of Elizabeth Tsurkov, a dual Russian-Israeli national, who is being held hostage in Iraq by the militant group Kata'ib Hezbollah; expresses dismay at her kidnapping and calls for her immediate release; extends solidarity to her family as they campaign for her safe release; further notes that the Iraqi Government has opened an investigation last year into the kidnapping and expresses hope that this will now move swiftly and without undue delay; notes that the Popular Mobilisation Force (PMF) consisting of Kata'ib Hezbollah and other militant groups is funded by the Iraqi government; expresses concern at the potential risk of UK Government funding to Iraq benefiting the PMF; urges the UK Government to ensure robust procedures are in place to ensure that funding is not diverted to these groups; and further urges the UK Government to use all diplomatic pressure and tools at its disposal to secure the release of Ms Tsurkov.

539 Town and Country Planning

Tabled: 21/03/24 Signatories: 3

Sir Edward Leigh**Priti Patel****Sir Christopher Chope**

That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, praying that the Town and Country Planning (Former RAF Scampton) (Accommodation for Asylum-Seekers etc.) Special Development Order 2024 (S.I., 2024, No. 412), dated 20 March 2024, a copy of which was laid before this House on 21 March 2024, be annulled.

Added Names

Below are EDMs tabled in the last two weeks to which names have been added. Only the first 6 names and any new names are included.

485 100th anniversary of Saltcoats, Ardrossan and Stevenston Branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland

Tabled: 7/03/24 Signatories: 8

Patricia Gibson**Alison Thewliss****Dr Philippa Whitford****Jim Shannon****Patrick Grady****Allan Dorans****Steven Bonnar**

That this House congratulates the Saltcoats, Ardrossan and Stevenston branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland on its 100th anniversary; understands that the branch was formed at Ardrossan Civic Centre, then called the Castlecraigs, on 10 April 1924; is aware that, at that time, servicemen and ex-servicemen having experienced the horrors of the Great War had no outlet in which to safely share experiences; acknowledges that the Legion assists veterans in the Three Towns and outside the area usually due to a referral by SSAFA, Poppy Scotland, other branches or Veterans First

Point or a plea for help directly from a veteran or their family; notes that the help can be practical with transport, medication or just company while it may also relate to signposting to welfare, finances, housing or funerals; further acknowledges that the Legion also organises and facilitates various Remembrance parades and services throughout the year; is further aware that this includes Holocaust Memorial Day, D-Day, Armed Forces weekend as well as their upcoming annual HMS Dasher service which remembers those lost in the disaster when HMS Dasher mysteriously exploded and sank between Ardrossan and Brodick in 1943; and wishes Legion chairman Paul Coffey and everyone involved with the Saltcoats, Ardrossan and Stevenston branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland, the very best for the future of the Three Towns British Legion.

486 ITC Hydraulic Services Limited

Tabled: 7/03/24 Signatories: 10

Richard Thomson
Allan Dorans
Drew Hendry
Stuart C McDonald
Dave Doogan
Dr Philippa Whitford

Steven Bonnar

That this House congratulates Oldmeldrum-based ITC Hydraulic Services Limited on being awarded the Family Business Award in the Federation of Small Businesses' Celebrating Small Business Awards 2024; notes that this year marks the twenty-fifth year in business of the firm; recognises the vital contribution made to the North East and Scottish economy of family businesses such as ITC Hydraulic Services Limited; further notes the firm is focussed on being a significant supplier to the growing renewables sector; and wishes management and the staff team continued success going forward.

488 Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership

Tabled: 11/03/24 Signatories: 9

John McDonnell
Jonathan Edwards
Kenny MacAskill
Rebecca Long Bailey
Zarah Sultana
Caroline Lucas

Richard Burgon

That the Protocol, done at Auckland and Bandar Seri Begawan on 16 July 2023, on the Accession of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CP 1107), a copy of which was laid before Parliament on 19 February 2024, should not be ratified.

489 World Kidney Day 2024

Tabled: 11/03/24 Signatories: 15

Daisy Cooper
 Jim Shannon
 Dr Philippa Whitford
 Mohammad Yasin
 Rachael Maskell
 Martin Docherty-Hughes

Steven Bonnar

That his House notes that World Kidney Day takes place on Thursday 14 March 2024; recognises that an estimated 7.2 million people in the UK are living with early- and late-stage chronic kidney disease; acknowledges that some patients are being told about their risk or their diagnosis too late, when their lives are under threat and treatment options are extreme and life-altering, rather than at the early stages when there are options to delay or stop the disease getting worse; commends charities, such as Kidney Care UK, for their work in advocating for an earlier diagnosis, testing for those at higher risk, improved primary and secondary care and greater support for kidney patients; and calls on the Government to ensure everyone who is at risk of chronic kidney disease is provided with information on how to reduce that risk, tested annually, monitored, and if diagnosed early, provided with support to prevent or slow down their condition getting worse.

491 World Water Day 2024

Tabled: 11/03/24 Signatories: 22

Mr Virendra Sharma
 Jonathan Edwards
 Jim Shannon
 Dr Philippa Whitford
 Mohammad Yasin
 Rachael Maskell

Richard Burgon

Dave Doogan

Nadia Whittome

That this House recognises that 22 March is World Water Day; acknowledges that 2.2 billion people in the world do not have safe water and 3.5 billion people in the world do not have a decent toilet of their own; notes that two-thirds of healthcare facilities in the 46 least developed countries do not have access to basic handwashing facilities; further recognises that women and girls are disproportionately affected by inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); further notes that that WASH is an essential component in work on addressing global challenges such as antimicrobial resistance; further acknowledges that the climate crisis is a water crisis and that investment in WASH provides a cost-effective adaptation measure to support communities on the front lines of climate change; notes that the UK's budget for WASH has been cut by approximately 77% since 2018, damaging the UK's ability to reach communities with life-saving clean water; is concerned that with just six years to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) deadline, progress on SDG6 is alarmingly off-track, and so and calls on the Government to increase investment in WASH and champion WASH on a global stage.

494 Vitamin B12 deficiency

Tabled: 11/03/24 Signatories: 11

Grahame Morris
Jim Shannon
Rachael Maskell
Kim Johnson
Christine Jardine
Claudia Webbe

Steven Bonnar

That this House welcomes the benefits of vitamin B12 therapy; believes that greater emphasis must be placed on recognising and treating B12 deficiency which can be a major cause of ill health and unemployment; recognises that the replacement of the missing nutrient can restore quality of life, enthusiasm and energy to the individual; notes that many of the drugs used to treat misdiagnosis are expensive and can have lasting adverse effects; and calls on the health community to recognise and research vitamin B12 deficiency to ensure the needs and symptom patterns of patients can be treated in a way that is cost-effective, without side-effects and completely safe.

495 Alleged comments by Frank Hester

Tabled: 11/03/24 Signatories: 64

Dawn Butler
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Layla Moran
Anne McLaughlin
Carol Monaghan
Mrs Helen Grant

Richard Burgon

Steven Bonnar

Nadia Whittome

That this House expresses its shock regarding the alleged comments made by Frank Hester reported by The Guardian about the hon. Member for Hackney North and Stoke Newington and all Black women; believes these alleged comments to be both racist and violent in nature; notes that Mr Hester is a regular and substantial donor to the Conservative Party; and calls on all leaders including the Prime Minister to condemn these remarks.

497 World Glaucoma Day 2024

Tabled: 11/03/24 Signatories: 14

Jim Shannon
Dr Philippa Whitford
Rachael Maskell
Stuart C McDonald
Jonathan Edwards
Christine Jardine

Richard Burgon

That this House notes World Glaucoma Day, celebrated on 12 March with this years theme of Uniting for a Glaucoma-Free World, focusing on bringing communities worldwide to fight together against glaucoma blindness; highlights that over 700,000 people in the UK have glaucoma and around 18,000 of these cases are in Northern Ireland; further notes that over half of these do not know they have it; underlines the aim to raise awareness and foster a better understanding of the condition so that it will spark conversations and discussions; thanks those charities such as Glaucoma

UK for reminding people to attend regular eye tests and prioritise their eye health; and urges Government to raise more awareness on the importance of supporting those living with glaucoma.

502 Stewart Brewing

Tabled: **13/03/24** Signatories: **7**

**Owen Thompson
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Patricia Gibson
Alison Thewliss
Chris Law**

Steven Bonnar

That this House congratulates Stewart Brewing brewery in Loanhead, Midlothian, for their recent success at the Midlothian and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce Awards; recognises their award for Food and Drink Producer of the Year 2024; acknowledges how this is a wonderful accomplishment and a testament to the dedication and hard work put into their brewery; further acknowledges how this award is a well-deserved recognition of the Stewart Brewing's team's efforts and the innovative products that they create for their customers; and wishes Stewart Brewing continued success and acclaim in the future.

503 Melville Golf Centre and the Midlothian and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce Awards

Tabled: **13/03/24** Signatories: **5**

**Owen Thompson
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
Steven Bonnar**

That this House congratulates Melville Golf Centre in Lasswade, Midlothian, for their recent success at the Midlothian and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce Awards; recognises their award for Best Innovation in Business 2024; acknowledges how this is a wonderful accomplishment and a testament to the dedication and hard work put into the business; further acknowledges how this award is a well-deserved recognition of the Melville Golf Centre's team's efforts and the forward thinking that they use to enhance their customers experiences; and wishes Melville Golf Centre continued success and acclaim in the future.

504 Detention of Palestinian human rights lawyer Diala Nader Ibrahim Eideh

Tabled: 13/03/24 Signatories: 10

Martyn Day
Allan Dorans
Dr Philippa Whitford
Jonathan Edwards
Claudia Webbe
Alison Thewliss

Steven Bonnar

That this House notes that, on 24 January 2024, the Israeli military issued an administrative detention order against Palestinian lawyer Diala Nader Ibrahim Eideh for a period of four months; condemns the degrading and humiliating treatment of Ms Eideh by Israeli soldiers throughout her initial ordeal; expresses grave concern at Israel's ongoing practice of administrative detention; believes that this practice is in breach of a number of international agreements and conventions, including the fourth Geneva Convention; further notes that Israel's use of administrative detention effectively circumvents due process and the principles of natural justice, using it as a tool of systematic persecution against Palestinians; also notes Israel's practice of deporting Palestinian prisoners from the Occupied Palestinian Territories to Israel and the subsequent isolation of detainees with denial of family visits and access to lawyers; expresses its view that extensive detention without charge or trial amounts to inhumane, degrading and punitive punishment of prisoners; acknowledges that the detention of Ms Eideh is solely because she is a human rights lawyer and an advocate for human rights; highlights that the frequency of administrative detentions has escalated recently, with the current number of administrative detainees reaching 3,558, the highest since the beginning of the occupation; regrets the Government's lack of any meaningful or substantive action against administrative detention; and calls on the Government to make urgent representations to the Israeli government to cancel this policy, restore rights to all Palestinian prisoners and to release all Palestinians being held without charge or trial.

507 Economic impact of cancer research in the West of Scotland

Tabled: 13/03/24 Signatories: 10

Amy Callaghan
Christine Jardine
Stuart C McDonald
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Patricia Gibson

Steven Bonnar

That this House welcomes a report by London Economics which shows the total economic impact on the UK economy associated with the Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Scotland Institute and the University of Glasgow's School of Cancer Sciences' activities in 2021-22 was estimated at approximately £503 million; notes that for every £1 million of research income received, Glasgow's research activities generate a total of £10.2 million in economic impact across the UK; recognises that the University of Glasgow's Gartnavel Campus in East Dunbartonshire is home to the CRUK Scotland Institute (formerly Beatson Institute) and the University's School of Cancer Sciences which support jobs and promote economic growth throughout the Scottish and UK economies, contributing to the growth of the region's burgeoning life sciences sector; notes the report outlines how the size and composition of the 2.8 million patient base in the West of Scotland has influenced Glasgow's approach to cancer research and commends the close collaboration between the core

cancer research institutions, local hospitals, clinicians, academics, funders and patients in the region; congratulates the University of Glasgow and all its partners on their success so far; and wishes them well as they continue to co-create innovative new approaches to cancer research for the benefit of patients.

508 Penicuik Storehouse and Best Community Impact in Midlothian 2024 Award

Tabled: 13/03/24 Signatories: 6

Owen Thompson
Stuart C McDonald
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
Steven Bonnar

That this House congratulates Penicuik Storehouse in Penicuik, Midlothian, for their recent success at the Midlothian and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce Awards; recognises their award for Best Community Impact 2024; acknowledges how this is a wonderful accomplishment and a testament to the dedication and hard work put into helping the community; further acknowledges how this award is a well-deserved recognition of the Penicuik Storehouse's team's efforts in helping to train and encourage local volunteers to help support others; and wishes Penicuik Storehouse continued success and acclaim in the future.

509 York Fair Trade Forum, 20th anniversary

Tabled: 14/03/24 Signatories: 3

Rachael Maskell
Ian Lavery
Richard Burgon

That this House congratulates York on its 20th anniversary of becoming a Fair Trade City; further congratulates the York Fair Trade Forum for its work in promoting fair trade in York and beyond, including through holding informative events to educate residents and businesses on the benefit of fair trade and how it ensures that workers across the world are treated justly with fair pay, better terms and are able to develop sustainable businesses; notes that as a city with a major footprint in the chocolate industry, it is important to ensure that fairtrade standards are adhered to throughout that sector in York; and appreciates the work of the Forum in holding a number of events in the city of York throughout 2024, not least at the Mansion House on 14 March to promote the achievements of the York Fair Trade Forum to date and to encourage people to make a positive choice to buy fair trade products, engage with Fairtrade Fortnight and learn more about how fair trade influences the supply chain, combating global poverty and improving healthcare and education for communities in developing countries.

510 Saltire Hospitality and Family Business of the Year in Midlothian 2024 Award

Tabled: **14/03/24** Signatories: **4**

Owen Thompson
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
Steven Bonnar

That this House congratulates Saltire Hospitality in Loanhead, Midlothian, for their recent success at the Midlothian and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce Awards; recognises their award for Family Business of the Year 2024; acknowledges that this is a wonderful accomplishment and a testament to the dedication and hard work put into the business; further acknowledges that this award is a well-deserved recognition of the Saltire Hospitality team's efforts and the wide range of food that they provide for events while staying committed to being green; and wishes Saltire Hospitality continued success and acclaim in the future.

511 Audio Light Systems and SME of the Year in Midlothian 2024 Award

Tabled: **14/03/24** Signatories: **6**

Owen Thompson
Allan Dorans
Alison Thewliss
Jim Shannon
Chris Law
Steven Bonnar

That this House congratulates Audio Light Systems in Dalkeith, Midlothian, for their recent success at the Midlothian and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce Awards; recognises their award for SME of the Year 2024; acknowledges that this is a wonderful accomplishment and a testament to the dedication and hard work put into the business; further acknowledges that this award is a well-deserved recognition of the Audio Light Systems team's efforts and the continued use of technology that they use to enhance and grow the business; and wishes Audio Light Systems continued success and acclaim in the future.

512 Clydebank Blitz 83rd anniversary

Tabled: **14/03/24** Signatories: **10**

Martin Docherty-Hughes
Allan Dorans
Patricia Gibson
Alison Thewliss
Jim Shannon
Dr Philippa Whitford

Steven Bonnar

That this House commemorates the 83rd anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz, which commenced on 13 March 1941 for two nights; notes that it was proportionally the heaviest aerial bombardment inflicted on any civilian population in the UK during World War II; recognises the official record of deaths caused by the two nights of bombing and those who died as a result of their injuries in the days, weeks and months that followed; further recognises the profound mental trauma inflicted on the population which remained untreated; salutes the courage of those in the fire, ambulance,

military and civilian services who acted so bravely, including the miners of Scotland who travelled from far and wide to dig for survivors; and acknowledges the work of the people of Clydebank who through 83 yearly acts of remembrance have sought to remind the world of the horrors of war, the devastation of aerial bombardment and the need for peace and reconciliation between all nations.

513 St Patrick's Day 2024

Tabled: 14/03/24 Signatories: 11

Martin Docherty-Hughes
Allan Dorans
Jonathan Edwards
Patricia Gibson
Alison Thewliss
Jim Shannon

Richard Burgon

Steven Bonnar

That this House notes that 17 March each year marks St Patrick's Day; recognises that 17 March is an opportunity to celebrate the diverse cultures and heritage of the island of Ireland, as well as celebrating the contribution that Ireland and its diaspora has made in shaping nations across the globe; understands that the people of Scotland, England and Wales, and in particular those within the village of Old Kilpatrick, West Dunbartonshire, have a strong connection to St Patrick as Old Kilpatrick, the most westerly fort of the Roman Antonine Wall, is believed to be Patrick's birthplace as denoted by the county and subsequent local authorities' use of the St Patrick's Saltire emblem, and that this represents just one of the many bonds that unite the people of these islands in friendship; and wishes all those in the isle of Ireland and the diaspora across the world health, happiness and peace as they celebrate St Patrick's Day.

519 World Down Syndrome Day 2024

Tabled: 18/03/24 Signatories: 9

Jim Shannon
Jonathan Edwards
Dr Philippa Whitford
Sir Mike Penning
Christine Jardine
Mary Kelly Foy

Richard Burgon

Steven Bonnar

Mr Virendra Sharma

That this House celebrates with pride, World Down Syndrome Day 2024, which is a global event that aims to raise awareness, and advocate for the rights of individuals with Down syndrome; marked each year on March 21st, this signifies the triplication of the 21st chromosome that causes Down syndrome; highlights the lots of socks campaign which aims to get a conversation started on raising awareness for people with Down syndrome and the importance of inclusion within society; recalls that the Down Syndrome Act 2022 makes provision for the needs and rights of people in the U.K. with Down syndrome; notes the necessity of ending stereotypes and empowering those diagnosed with Down syndrome; and thanks charities such as Down Syndrome UK for providing resources, training and support to parents and professionals in maternity, health and education to enable society to learn more about supporting people with Down syndrome.

520 100th anniversary of the Buddhist Society

Tabled: 18/03/24 Signatories: 5

Jim Shannon
Jonathan Edwards
Christine Jardine
Steven Bonnar
Mr Virendra Sharma

That this House notes the 100th anniversary of the Buddhist Society, one of the oldest Buddhist societies in Europe, founded in 1924 by Christmas Humphreys; further notes that the society presents the major authentic Buddhist schools and traditions holding lectures, classes, courses, and activities in the Theravada, Zen, Pure Land and Tibetan traditions; underlines the importance of religious self-governance for Buddhists; and urges the Government to raise this right at the United Nations and in its diplomatic relations with China.

522 Purple Day 2024

Tabled: 18/03/24 Signatories: 8

Kirsten Oswald
Jonathan Edwards
Jim Shannon
Dr Philippa Whitford
Christine Jardine
Chris Law

Steven Bonnar

That this House recognises that Purple Day, the international day for epilepsy, is taking place on Tuesday 26 March 2024; notes epilepsy is the most common neurological condition with an estimated 55,000 people living with the condition in Scotland; applauds the work of Epilepsy Scotland who fight to reduce the stigma experienced by people living with the condition and to influence public policy to ensure appropriate support is available; highlights the wide range of services provided by Epilepsy Scotland including a helpline, a check-in service, a youth service, a well-being service, and online support groups; understands that Purple Day is a time where thousands of people will come together across the world to raise awareness of epilepsy, dispel myths, and support those individuals living with the condition; acknowledges that Epilepsy Scotland is encouraging people to wear the colour purple and lighting buildings purple to mark the occasion and to take part in fundraising activities such as a sponsored run or hosting a quiz night or coffee morning; and wishes Epilepsy Scotland all the very best as they continue to advocate for people with epilepsy.

523 Roger Daltrey's 24 years of Royal Albert Hall shows for Teenage Cancer Trust

Tabled: 18/03/24 Signatories: 6

Amy Callaghan
Jim Shannon
Dr Philippa Whitford
Christine Jardine
Chris Law
Steven Bonnar

That this House celebrates 24 years of the Teenage Cancer Trust concerts at the Royal Albert Hall which have raised over £32 million, money that has helped fund specialist nurses, hospital units

and support services right across the UK; applauds the work of Teenage Cancer Trust's Honorary Patron and the concert's founder and curator, Roger Daltrey, who for 24 years has persuaded some of the most well-known artists from across the world perform special, one-of-a-kind shows to raise money for Teenage Cancer Trust; welcomes the unforgettable opportunity the shows also offer for young people being cared for at Teenage Cancer Trust units to experience going backstage at these concerts; and notes that every day seven young people aged 13-24 will receive a cancer diagnosis, that this number is rising, and that Teenage Cancer Trust provides specialist nursing care and support to get them through it.

524 Scottish Seabird Centre awarded National Lottery Heritage Fund grant

Tabled: 19/03/24 Signatories: 3

Kenny MacAskill
Jim Shannon
Steven Bonnar

That this House congratulates the Scottish Seabird Centre in North Berwick, East Lothian, on being awarded £249,685 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund; understands that they aim to provide the capacity needed for the Scottish Seabird Centre with their project entitled A resilient future: for people, nature and our charity, which will explore opportunities to strengthen sources of income; notes that this will also provide an opportunity to address requirements for environmental sustainability; commends the work of over 20 years that the Scottish Seabird Centre have been doing to educate people on Scotland's marine wildlife, habitats and iconic seabirds; and wishes everyone involved the very best for this, and any future projects.

525 North Berwick and the Sunday Times Best Place to Live Guide

Tabled: 19/03/24 Signatories: 3

Kenny MacAskill
Jim Shannon
Steven Bonnar

That this House congratulates North Berwick, East Lothian, on being named the overall winner for best place to live in the UK by The Sunday Times Best Place to Live Guide; acknowledges that North Berwick is the first Scottish town to be named winner by the Best Place to Live in the 12 year history of the survey; commends the work of the many independent shops on the town's thriving high street as a sign of the positive and welcomed effect that small businesses contribute to the community; further congratulates East Linton, East Lothian, on being selected as area winners in the survey; and wishes the communities of North Berwick and East Linton continued success with their futures.

526 Countdown to the reopening of the Levenmouth Rail Link

Tabled: 19/03/24 Signatories: 5

Peter Grant
Jim Shannon
Martin Docherty-Hughes
Chris Law
Steven Bonnar

That this House welcomes the installation of countdown clocks at Edinburgh Waverley, Cameron Bridge and Leven railway stations to mark the final 100 days until the reopening of the Levenmouth rail link; eagerly anticipates the arrival on 2 June 2024 of the first passenger trains in Leven

for 55 years; notes that providing low carbon transport options will make Levenmouth even more attractive for inward investment and will support growth in tourism and other industries, bringing both social and economic benefits to the whole of Levenmouth; commends the Scottish Government, Fife Council and Network Rail for their work in delivering the new rail link; commends in particular the volunteers from Levenmouth Rail Campaign who over more than two decades have worked to build support from the Levenmouth community and from Councillors, MSPs and MPs of all parties; and looks forward to long-awaited opportunities for creating employment, greater access to education, and improved connectivity for the area's people and businesses.

527 Auchmuty High School, Digital Schools Award

Tabled: 19/03/24 Signatories: 4

Peter Grant
Jim Shannon
Chris Law
Steven Bonnar

That this House congratulates Auchmuty High School in Glenrothes on recently earning their Digital Schools Award from Education Scotland in recognition of the school's excellence in integrating digital technology into learning and teaching; notes that the Digital Schools Award is a national awards scheme to promote, recognise and encourage a whole school approach to the use of digital technology in schools; highlights that the Digital Schools Award recognises best practice and builds on the progress already made, by providing a pathway and resources for schools seeking to do more with digital technology; further highlights that the programme also recognises those who achieve excellence and supports the efforts of schools, teachers and learners in making the best use of digital technology in the classroom; and thanks the partnership between Education Scotland, Hewlett Packard, Skills Development Scotland and AMD Processors for supporting this important initiative.

528 Fife Young Carers 25th anniversary

Tabled: 19/03/24 Signatories: 5

Peter Grant
Jim Shannon
Chris Law
Steven Bonnar
Dr Philippa Whitford

That this House congratulates Fife Young Carers on the 25th anniversary of the organisation; commends the work of the 30 staff and numerous volunteers in supporting Fife's young carers in their caring roles and importantly in providing service users with a range of advice, support and opportunities in order to empower these amazing young people to reach their goals; highlights that more than 1000 young carers are supported in a variety of ways by Fife Young Carers whether through respite, one to one support, peer support, education support, advocacy and so much more; thanks all of the staff and volunteers for all the work that they do in supporting Fife's Young Carers at this exceptional milestone; and wishes both the staff and service users all the best for the next 25 years of Fife Young Carers, and beyond.

529 St Pauls RC Primary School Glee Choir heat winners

Tabled: 19/03/24 Signatories: 4

Peter Grant
Jim Shannon
Chris Law
Steven Bonnar

That this House congratulates St Pauls RC Primary School Glee Choir on their fantastic win of their recent heat at the Scottish Primary School Glee Challenge 2024 held in the Alhambra Theatre in Dunfermline over two nights in March; highlights that St Pauls, of Glenrothes, rocked their way to the top spot to go forward to the Fife Regional Final; notes the importance of the event in highlighting the incredible talent of so many pupils in Scotland's schools, raising confidence and offering opportunities to shine; commends the Challenge, under the auspices of the Frisson Foundation, on being the largest most inclusive singing, dance, performance and choir initiative engaging with thousands of Scotland's primary school children; gives thanks to all of the teachers, school staff and especially the children of each and every school for taking part and making the event so exceptional; and wishes St Pauls Glee Choir all the very best for the rest of the Glee Challenge.

530 Treatment of Tibetan protesters in Dege County, Tibet

Tabled: 19/03/24 Signatories: 7

Chris Law
Jim Shannon
Jonathan Edwards
Martin Docherty-Hughes
Stewart Malcolm McDonald
Caroline Lucas

Steven Bonnar

That this House strongly condemns the recent brutal crackdown on peaceful Tibetan protesters in Dege County, Tibet; calls for an immediate and irreversible halt to the construction of Kamtok Hydroelectric Dam, as well as the forced relocation of more than 2,000 local Tibetans from their ancestral lands; acknowledges the courage of local Tibetans who have shared evidence, including videos, depicting desperate appeals, mass arbitrary detentions and the deployment of People's Armed Police, despite internet surveillance and the risk of detention and imprisonment for communication with Tibetans abroad, especially during protests; expresses deep concern over the police violence and ongoing restrictions on communication in Dege, as well as the looming threat of forced relocation and the destruction of six ancient monasteries with significant universal heritage value; recognises the lack of genuine and meaningful integration of Tibetans' profound knowledge and reverence for local sacred mountains in land-use planning and political decision-making; and therefore strongly urges the Government to call on the Chinese government to immediately and unconditionally release all individuals detained in connection with these events, provide medical treatment for all those injured until full recovery, immediately and irreversibly halt construction of all hydropower dams in Tibet without the consent of the local population and consideration of Tibetans' knowledge of social, cultural and ecological implications, and immediately end the security crackdown in Dege County.

531 Neurodiversity Celebration Week

Tabled: 19/03/24 Signatories: 11

Drew Hendry
Jim Shannon
Christine Jardine
Jonathan Edwards
Martin Docherty-Hughes
Chris Law

Sir Peter Bottomley
Nadia Whittome

Caroline Lucas

Steven Bonnar

That this House recognises Neurodiversity Celebration Week and the significance of fostering inclusive work environments for neurodiverse individuals; acknowledges the barriers faced by neurodivergent individuals in accessing employment opportunities and obtaining assessments for conditions such as autism and ADHD; notes the need to support employers in creating inclusive workplaces by providing resources for neurodiversity training; recognises the value of partnerships between businesses and neurodiversity support groups to enhance support for neurodiverse employees; commends local organisations for their efforts in raising awareness and providing support to neurodivergent individuals; and in doing so promotes understanding and inclusivity to ensure all individuals, regardless of neurodiversity, can thrive in the workplace.

532 Government legal advice on Israeli Government actions and international law

Tabled: 19/03/24 Signatories: 34

Richard Burgon
Imran Hussain
Claire Hanna
Caroline Lucas
Liz Saville Roberts
Chris Stephens

Steven Bonnar
Colum Eastwood

Tommy Sheppard
Beth Winter

Dr Philippa Whitford
Alan Brown

This House notes the remarks by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on 19 March 2024 that the Israeli Government's restrictions on humanitarian aid for Gaza may amount to the use of starvation as a method of war, which is a war crime; is alarmed at the mounting evidence that the Israeli Government's actions in Gaza are in breach of international law; is deeply concerned by the UK Government's continued and ongoing refusal to make available to all MPs the legal advice it has received relating to Israel's conduct in Gaza and its implications for the UK's fulfilment of its legal obligations under international law; and, given the importance of the UK Government, Ministers and MPs not being complicit in any violations of international law by the Israeli Government, calls on the UK Government to immediately make this legal advice available to MPs.

533 Shrewsbury to London Euston Avanti West Coast service

Tabled: 20/03/24 Signatories: 2

Helen Morgan
Grahame Morris

That this House understands that rail operator Avanti West Coast is intending to withdraw its daily direct service between London Euston and Shrewsbury from June 2024; notes with concern that if this service is withdrawn it would mean that the county of Shropshire has no direct rail service to London; further understands that the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce has voiced concerns that the removal of the service would risk isolating Shropshire businesses from the growth potential of having a direct connection to London, and has called for the decision to be reversed; is concerned that removing this rail link could disincentivise sustainable rail travel and increase carbon emissions; and calls on the Government to ensure that the planned service cuts are withdrawn and the London Euston to Shrewsbury service is protected.

534 Opening of Ukrainian Community Group Centre in South Ayrshire

Tabled: 20/03/24 Signatories: 5

Allan Dorans
Steven Bonnar
Dr Philippa Whitford
Dave Doogan
Alan Brown

That this House congratulates the Ukrainian Community Group South Ayrshire (UCG), a charity, on the opening of the Ukrainian Community Group Centre, in Ayr, which was officially opened by Mr Yevhen Mankovskyi, vice-consul at the Ukrainian Consulate in Edinburgh, on Friday 15 March 2024; notes the Centre will provide the more than 350 Ukrainian refugees resident in South Ayrshire fleeing from conflict with a safe place, where they can take part in numerous individual and collective activities including supporting families displaced by the devastating conflict in Ukraine, promoting language skills, social inclusion, new friendships, and facilitating mental health and wellbeing; further notes the outstanding contribution of the Management Committee and volunteers who have made this possible; recognises the benefits of such a Centre in providing support to maintain and reconnect with Ukrainian cultural ties and identities whilst integrating with the local community; further recognises and thanks local businesses, volunteer fundraisers, the National Lottery Community Fund, South Ayrshire HSCP and The Scottish Government Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund locally allocated through VASA, for substantial funding for this project; notes the Ukraine Community Centre in Ayr stands as a symbol of hope, resilience, and unity, offering a sanctuary for Ukrainian refugees in South Ayrshire to come together, share their stories, and support each other through the challenges of displacement and the ongoing crisis in their homeland; and, finally, reconfirms that the people of South Ayrshire, Scotland and the United Kingdom stand in unity and solidarity with the people of Ukraine.