

# Charlie Gordon MSP Glasgow Cathcart Surgeries Calendar

# 2008



- Couper Institute  
84-86 Clarkston Road  
G44 3DA at 4pm
- Tinto Primary School  
57 Hillpark Drive  
G43 2BA at 4pm
- Local Holiday  
No Surgery
- Castlemilk Library  
100 Castlemilk Drive  
G45 9TN at 4pm
- Kennishead Community Hall  
10 Kennishead Avenue  
G46 8PR at 4pm

Serving the communities of :-  
Auldhouse, Battlefield, Carmunnock, Carnwadric, Castlemilk,  
Croftfoot, Crosshill, Earlsark, Eastwood, Hillpark, Kennishead,  
King's Park, Langside, Manswood, Merrylee, Mount Florida,  
Myrtle Park, Newlands, Old Darnley, Regent's Park  
Simshill, Thornliebank, and Wellmeadow.

Please note, all surgeries are for constituents only.

January 2008	February 2008	March 2008
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
April 2008	May 2008	June 2008
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July 2008	August 2008	September 2008
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October 2008	November 2008	December 2008
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For further information on any of this month's issues please email [Stuart.Donaldson@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:Stuart.Donaldson@scottish.parliament.uk)

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# Charlie Gordon MSP

# SPRING 2008

## Castlemilk Stables Wins Top Award



BEFORE



AFTER

Charlie Gordon MSP was delighted to learn that following an extensive renovation Castlemilk Stables won the Civic Trust Award for 2008. The Civic Trust is an independent, national organisation which acts as an umbrella body for over 800 civic societies, representing over 250,000 individuals committed to improving and caring for places where people live and work.

The renovation project, costing £4.2 million, began in 1998 was co-ordinated by Glasgow Building Preservation Trust (GBPT) and Cassiltoun Trust and was officially opened in 2007.

The stables has a fascinating history: In the 15th century Cassiltoun Tower tower house was built in Castlemilk by the Stuart family. They were related to Mary, Queen of Scots, and she stayed there the night before the Battle of Langside in 1568. During the 18th and 19th centuries a larger mansion house was built up around the tower house and other buildings including the stable block were added. Castlemilk House was inhabited until the 20th century. The heir to the last Laird of Castlemilk was killed in the First World War and subsequently the grounds and buildings were sold to the City.

The mansion was demolished in 1969 but the stables continued to be used by Glasgow City Council Parks Department as a plant nursery and offices until the building was set on fire by vandals in 1994.

*"This is one of the most impressive renovation projects I have ever seen" - Charlie Gordon MSP*

The regenerated Stables are now headquarters for some local businesses and community groups, including Cassiltoun Housing Association and is also used by various Community Groups.

Charlie lodged a Parliamentary Motion, congratulating the Stables Project, which was signed by 26 MSPs of all parties.

Charlie visited the Stables in March and met with Anne McClery, Director of GBPT and Charlie Millar, Director of Cassiltoun Housing. Speaking after the visit Charlie said "This is one of the most impressive renovation projects I have ever seen. I am particularly impressed at their use of ground source heat energy ensuring the sustainability of the building for many years to come".



Charlie Millar, Anne McClery and Charlie Gordon MSP

[www.charliegordonmsp.com](http://www.charliegordonmsp.com)

## Miller Primary School Pupils Grill MSP

Charlie Gordon MSP welcomed pupils from Miller Primary School in Castlemilk to the Scottish Parliament this week. The P6/7 pupils went on a tour of the building before watching First Minister's Question Time

Later the Class met with Charlie in a Committee Room and had a question and answer session with him over lunch. They grilled Charlie with a constant flow of questions, some of them very difficult, such as "What's the hardest question you've ever been asked?!" They must have liked the answers though; because their last question was "Can we have your autograph?!"

Commenting after the pupils headed back to Castlemilk, Charlie said "It is good to see young people engaging with the Scottish Parliament and I was delighted to host Miller Primary here at Holyrood,...but boy what tough questions!"



Charlie Gordon MSP with Miller Pupils

## In Parliament



Since the last edition of Charlie's newsletter in the Summer, he has lodged a variety of Parliamentary Questions and Motions as well as contributing to Debates in the Chamber.

He recently lodged the following question on the status of the proposals to enhance A&E provision at Hairmyres Hospital.

**Charlie Gordon (Glasgow Cathcart) (Lab):** To ask the Scottish Executive whether, in the event that proposals for enhanced accident and emergency services at Hairmyres Hospital do not proceed, it will consider the provision of full accident and emergency services at the New Victoria Hospital.

**Nicola Sturgeon (Minister for Health):** I have been clear that it is not our intention to undertake a general review of service changes that have been made in the NHS. It would be inappropriate to revisit these decisions, some of which were made several years ago, not least due to the uncertainty, instability, delay and cost this would engender in the NHS.

1st April was a very busy day in Holyrood for Charlie as he attacked proposals for a Local Income Tax, Questioned the mysterious extension of the ScotRail Franchise to FirstGroup and supported a successful amendment extending water rates relief for Churches and charities. Charlie also supported a Parliamentary Motion condemning Anti-Semitic comments on the website message boards of some newspapers. A copy of the Motion is below:

### Anti-Semitic Blogging in National Newspapers

That the Parliament abhors the publication in both The Scotsman and The Herald newspapers' online blogs of blatantly anti-Semitic rhetoric by individuals who hide their identities behind screen names; believes that any such racist statements have no place in national newspapers, in print or online, and calls on the editors of these two major newspapers to ensure that such foul-mouthed attacks on any section of society are removed from their blogs before publication.

## Around and About



Charlie debates with Hillpark Students

Charlie Gordon MSP spent a morning with S5 and S6 pupils at Hillpark Secondary School discussing the Scottish Parliament and democracy. The Higher Modern Studies asked Charlie a variety of questions on his work as their MSP and the role and responsibilities of the Scottish Parliament.

## Knife Crime Survey

Charlie has been campaigning for some years for automatic jail sentences for illegal knife possession and recently launched a new survey on his website to gauge public support for such a measure. He attempted to introduce such a Law in the Scottish Parliament in 2006, but did not get support from other MSPs.

Charlie said "There has been a concerted effort against knife crime over the past two years, but I want to see if there is public support for jailing those who carry knives illegally, as is the case with those who carry guns".

If you would like to take part in his survey, log on to his website [www.charliegordonmsp.com](http://www.charliegordonmsp.com). Remember if you do not have access to the internet at home, you can log on for free at any public library in Glasgow.

Of course, if you'd rather not tangle with a computer, you can always write to him or telephone his office.



Charlie Gordon MSP with Tom Harris MP, Councillor Stephen Curran and Members of Mansewood and Hillpark Seniors Forum



Carmunnock Village

**DATELINE February 15th 2008...**Charlie speaks at launch of Central College's re-branding...**DATELINE 20th February 2008...**Charlie votes to ban Snaring...**DATELINE 28th February 2008...**Charlie asks 3 Parliamentary Questions about the Industrial Dispute at the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency...**DATELINE 6th March 2008...**Charlie hosts Miller Primary School at the Scottish Parliament (see page 2)...**DATELINE 10th March 2008...**Charlie meets with Anne McChery of Glasgow Building Preservation Trust and Charlie Miller of Cassiltoun Housing Association at Castlemilk Stables (See page 1)...**DATELINE 10th March 2008...**Charlie meets with Graham Hyslop, Principal of Langside College...**DATELINE 14th March 2008...**Charlie attends Hillpark Secondary School to meet with S5 and S6 pupils (see page 2) ...**DATELINE 31st March 2008...**Charlie is interviewed by local University student...**DATELINE 4th April 2008...**Parkview Hotel confirms it will not appeal removal of HMO license...**DATELINE 9th April 2008...**Charlie hosts Tom Harris MP and Kevin Brennan MP at the Scottish Parliament...**DATELINE 17th April 2008...**Charlie attends public meeting in Mansewood to discuss transport issues (see picture)...**DATELINE 17th April 2008...**Charlie meets with Chief Executive of Scottish Parliament Business Exchange...**DATELINE 18th April 2008...**Alternative site suggested by Charlie to proposed cemetery at Carmunnock is accepted...**DATELINE 21st April 2008...**Charlie meets with Chief Executive of the Glasgow Housing Association...**DATELINE 25th April 2008...**Charlie attends Glasgow Caledonian University's Crystal (15th) Anniversary as guest of Aidan O'Donnell, Head of the University's Law Division...**DEADLINE**