

Chris Harvie MSP

Parliamentary Liaison Officer to Alex Salmond, First Minister

## Chris Harvie MSP Mid Scotland & Fife

“A year ago, I was campaigning for the Kirkcaldy seat. Now, as MSP, I am part of a new era in Scottish politics, with an SNP government under Alex Salmond entering a future of **sustainable growth and social fairness**. Fife is in the frontline of the **renewables revolution**, allowing us to sell wind and wave power to Europe. In the upcoming Westminster election, the SNP now has an excellent candidate in Euan Dow.”

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT WORKING FOR SCOTLAND

### COUNCIL TAX FREEZE

For the first time, **council tax** will be **frozen** in Fife by the SNP-led administration, made possible by funding from the Scottish Government. Under the previous Labour administration, council tax had risen by 60% in ten years.

### PRESCRIPTION CHARGES

From April 2008, prescription charges will be reduced by £5, with further phased reduction towards the **total abolition** of charges **by 2011**.

### BRIDGE TOLLS REMOVED

Scotland's nationalist government made **scrapping bridge tolls** their first piece of legislation, freeing the people of Fife from this unfair levy after 40 years. On February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008, traffic crossed the Tay and Forth Bridge **free of charge** for the first time – something the Labour government had failed to achieve in eight years of power in Scotland. This **removes a drain** on local business, aiding the economic development of the area and benefiting over 1300 small companies.



### COALTOWN OF WEMYSS

Funding from the SNP Government and SNP-led Fife Council has **secured the future of social housing** in Coaltown of Wemyss with the transfer of 44 houses to Kingdom Housing. This has preserved one of Fife's strongest communities.

## INCREASE IN POLICE NUMBERS

The SNP Government has announced the recruitment of 1000 new police officers in Scotland. Recruitment will start immediately and will ensure more police officers on the beat, **making our streets safer**. Unlike Whitehall, the Scottish Government has also paid the police pay award in full.

## NEW FORTH CROSSING

The SNP Government's early decision to introduce the Forth Replacement Crossing, a **cable-stayed bridge** upstream of the existing road bridge, will safeguard the economy of Fife and the east coast of Scotland. A **new Hovercraft** link to Leith is scheduled for mid 2009 (to Portobello, late 2008).

## EDUCATION

- An extra £115 million will go to local authorities in 2008/09 to be invested in schools.
- 300 extra teachers have already been hired to start cutting class sizes.
- The 'graduate endowment' – effectively a tuition fee by the back door – has been abolished.



# YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS



### Burntisland, Kinghorn & Western Kirkcaldy



**George Kay**  
01592 - 872 901

### Kirkcaldy North



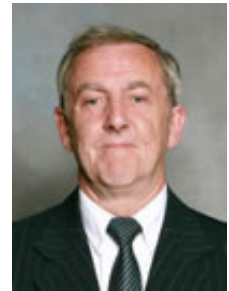
**Carol Lindsay**  
01592 - 640 199

### Kirkcaldy Central



**David Torrance**  
01592 - 265 903

### Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss villages



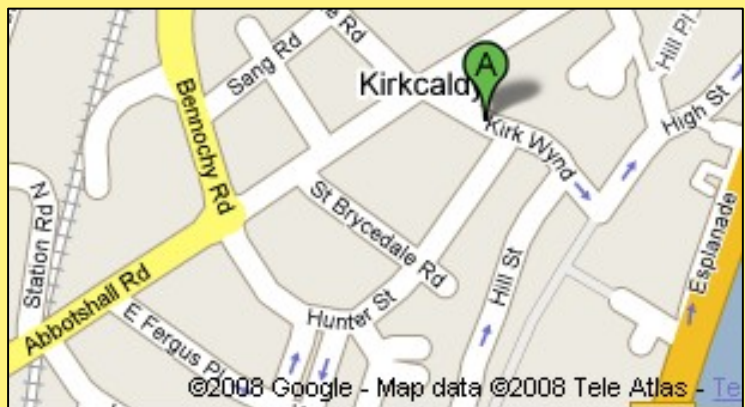
**Arthur Robertson**  
01592 - 714 589

## CHRIS HARVIE MSP SURGERY DATES:

**Saturdays, 11.00 am to 1.00 pm**  
53 Kirk Wynd, Kirkcaldy (see map)

*April 12<sup>th</sup>*      *July 12<sup>th</sup>*  
*May 10<sup>th</sup>*      *August 9<sup>th</sup>*  
*June 7<sup>th</sup>*

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