

Your Local Green Team



**Robin Harper,
Green MSP
for Lothians**



**Alison Johnstone,
lead Green candidate
for Lothians in 2011**



**Gavin Corbett, Green
spokesperson for
Fountainbridge and
Craiglockhart**

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Greens back Alison for Scottish Parliament

Local Greens have selected Alison Johnstone as Robin Harper's would-be successor in the Scottish Parliament.

Alison, who is Green councillor for the Meadows and Morningside Ward in Edinburgh, has been selected to be the party's top candidate in Lothian in next year's Scottish Parliament elections. Her selection follows Robin Harper's decision to stand down next year, having served as Green MSP for Lothians since 1999.

If around 7% of voters back Alison then she'll follow in the footsteps of the hugely popular Mr Harper. If, however, 12% of people vote

Green with their second vote, then the Greens will have two MSPs in Lothian, just as they did in the 2003-2007 Parliament. This would mean fellow Green councillor, Steve Burgess joining Alison in Holyrood.

Alison said "I am delighted to have been selected. Of course, I realise that the hardest work is only now beginning: to persuade voters that I am worth backing as Green candidate

in just the same way as Robin has done over the last 12 years.

"However, I've worked in Parliament, with Robin, since 1999, so I have a good understanding of the challenge ahead.

"I am sure that people in Lothian will respond to the importance and urgency of the Green message and see through the weak choices that other parties offer. I am confident



Green MSP candidate, Alison Johnstone backs local traders in her council ward in Edinburgh

Picture: David Rintoul

that record numbers of people will vote Green."

Robin Harper gave Alison his full backing: "Scotland's Parliament needs Green MSPs, to challenge and inspire: campaigning

effectively on securing clean green energy; on efficient transport; on tackling pollution and waste; and delivering thousands of quality green jobs. I can think of no better successors than Alison and Steve."

The Scottish Parliament elections are on 5 May 2011. If you can help in any way with Alison's campaign please contact "Green Action".

Contact your local Greens

Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart Green Team is made up of Scottish Green Party members and other community-minded people in the area stretching from

Fountainbridge, west to Craiglockhart and Chesser.

You can contact us at

Fountainbridge–
Craiglockhart@
edinburghgreens.
org.uk

Or write to us at 22
Briarbank Terrace,
Edinburgh EH11 1SU

You can also contact
your Green MSP,
Robin Harper on
robin.harper.msp@
scottish.parliament.uk
or 0131 348 6421

This newsletter is also
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Green campaign success on Water of Leith Centre

Green campaigners have helped secure funding for the threatened Water of Leith Centre at the foot of Lanark Road.

Earlier in 2010, the much-loved centre faced a massive cut in its grant from the City Council. However, members of the Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart

Green Group launched a campaign of emails to local councillors and set up an online petition for residents to sign. Within weeks the City Council announced that the budget cut would not go ahead, to the delight of the centre's staff, volunteers and many visitors.

Community vision on housing praised by local Greens

A group of residents on Slateford Road have been praised by local Green activists for their forward vision on housing. The so-called "Flower Colonies" have been facing the prospect of a new development of high density flats quite out of keeping with the character of the nineteenth century colony houses in the area. However, on this occasion, residents have not simply opposed plans; they have actively sought to build consensus on an alternative plan for housing, drawing on skills and experience of professional designers.

Spokesperson for Fountainbridge /

Craiglockhart Green Group, Gavin Corbett, backed their efforts. Gavin, who is also Head of Policy at housing charity, Shelter Scotland, said:

"We are supposed to be in a new era of community planning. But often local residents are forced into having to react to developers' plans, drawn up with little heed to local views.

"The Flower Colonies residents have shown that another path is possible. Such genuine grass-roots community planning should be the norm.

To contact the group email FCARA@hotmail.co.uk.

Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart Greens need your help!

Can you help us in our campaigns? Is there an issue that affects where you live? Contact us at fountainbridge-craiglockhart@edinburghgreens.org.uk or at 22 Briarbank Terrace, Edinburgh EH11 1SU

- I can help deliver **Green Action** in my street
- I'd like more information about the **Scottish Green Party**
- I'd like to make a donation to **Edinburgh Green Party**

(cheques payable to Edinburgh Green Party)

Name _____

Address _____

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