

# Meadows & Morningside green news



**scottish  
green party**

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**Winter 08-09**

## Your local Green Team

*Your Voice in the  
Scottish  
Parliament*



**Robin Harper,**  
Green MSP  
for Lothians

*Your Voice on  
the Council*



**Alison Johnstone,**  
Green Councillor  
for Meadows and  
Morningside

www.  
edinburghgreens.  
org.uk

## Local action on climate change

**What can we do locally to tackle climate change? Community groups across Edinburgh have been looking at what they can do to make a difference.**

In 2007 Green MSPs pledged to set up a Climate Challenge Fund to support community-based action on pollution, waste and energy efficiency. As part of the first budget discussions with the SNP, led by local Green MSP, Robin Harper, the Greens won a commitment to get the challenge fund in place by 2008.

Already over 150 community groups

have registered interest with the fund. Here in Edinburgh Green councillors hosted a meeting towards the end of 2008 for community groups to explain how they could put their exciting ideas into action.

Local Greens are delighted that this has prompted a number of queries here in Meadows and Morningside ward which we hope bear fruit.

For further details of the Climate Challenge Fund go to [www.edinburghgreens.org.uk](http://www.edinburghgreens.org.uk) and see the special Climate Challenge page or phone 01786 471333.

## The Big Green Fair comes to Bruntsfield

Put the date of 7 February in your diaries! From 10:30am-3pm the first "Big Green Fair" takes place in the Barclay Church Hall on Barclay Terrace, off Bruntsfield Place.

Entry is free and there will be stalls from some of Edinburgh leading green organisations, from traders to campaign groups, from face-painters to advisers on reducing your energy costs; and with tea and home made cakes thrown in.

**7 February 2009 10:30am-3pm  
Barclay Church Hall, just  
up from Tollcross.**

## Support your community shops

We have some of the very best local shopping in Edinburgh but times are hard for all small businesses at the moment, so do remember to shop local – this keeps money within the local community. If shopkeepers know that they can rely upon our support they can ride out the tough economic times.

We are also delighted that traders in both Tollcross and Marchmont are actively pursuing alternatives to plastic bags. We will do all we can to support them and other groups seeking to reduce the use of unnecessary packaging and waste.

# Contact Your Green Councillor

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This leaflet is  
also available  
in large print

Printed and  
promoted by Andy  
Saunders on behalf  
of Meadows and  
Morningside Green  
Team, both at 37  
Comiston Drive,  
Edinburgh, EH10 5QS

## Council latest from Cllr Alison Johnstone

### *Recycling in our parks and streets*

Last year, Greens on the Council called for better recycling facilities in the city's parks. We know that people want to recycle when they're out and about, and Greens are pushing hard for better facilities. I'm also contacted frequently by constituents who report bulging recycling bins. Do let me know if this is an issue in your area and we will look into doorstep collection or more frequent uplift of communal bins.

### *Meadows and Morningside Environmental Forum*

Over the past year I have thoroughly enjoyed chairing Meadows & Morningside Environmental Forum – a gathering of representatives from all local Community Councils, forming a sub-group of the South Central Neighbourhood Partnership. The group aims to improve the environment throughout the ward. A wide range of topics have been covered and the input from Community Councillors and other interested residents has been invaluable. Contact me for details.

### *Car parking update*

Car parking continues to be a challenge in our densely-populated part of Edinburgh. An increasing number of residents are asking me about city car clubs as a way of trying to reduce competition for spaces. Research shows that each city car club bay can reduce the number of cars by ten or twenty. The scheme in Edinburgh is constantly assessing options for new bays so if you think your area could benefit please let me know.

### *Greens listen*

Local Greens have been surveying Tollcross shoppers about the Council's performance. Comments ranged from "too much traffic", "poor litter collection", to useful information on poorly maintained pavements. We had also had very positive comments about local shops. We intend surveying people throughout the ward, and feeding our findings into local Community Councils and the Neighbourhood Partnership.

If you want us to survey your area then let me know!

### *Meadows & Morningside Greens would like to hear from you!*

Is there an issue that affects where you live? Let us know about it and what we can do to help. Contact us on [m&m@edinburghgreens.org.uk](mailto:m&m@edinburghgreens.org.uk) or write to us at 37 Comiston Drive, Edinburgh, EH10 5QS.

- I can help deliver **Green News** 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Information on this form will be kept private and used only for Green Party contact