

Stirling Matters - February 2023  
News from Stirling's Parliamentary Team

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## [Evelyn Tweed MSP and Alyn Smith MP visit Made In Stirling EDITIONS collection](#)

Stirling shop and gallery, Made In Stirling, is hosting an exhibition showcasing the work of local creatives. SPRING EDITIONS brings together pieces from ten local artists who are all part of the Made In Stirling collective. The themes of the work include looking to a hopeful future, and taking inspiration from Scotland's landscape.

## [A Step Forward for Road Safety in Old Plean](#)

Local residents have celebrated the installation of a pedestrian crossing in Old Plean, after a long-fought campaign by the community and elected officials. The crossing, just outside the entrance to Newlands Court, had been one in a suite of road safety measures lobbied for in a bid to reduce speeding and improve the pedestrian experience.

## [Scottish Government Mitigates Tory Bedroom Tax in Stirling](#)

Stirling politicians have praised the Scottish Government for protecting the people of Stirling from the Tory Bedroom Tax, as fresh figures reveal the extent of financial support to Stirling. In the current financial year of 2022/2023, £724,000 in funding

has been allocated to Stirling Council to help offset the amount charged to council tenants. Further funding is expected later in the year to fully cover Stirling's total liability, estimated to be £791,489.

## [Stirling MP Backs Courier Fraud Awareness Campaign](#)

MP for Stirling Alyn Smith is asking communities to remain vigilant to a growing type of crime: courier fraud. Victims report calls from individuals pretending to be police officers, criminal investigators or even the victim's bank itself. The perpetrators will claim the victim has been the target of a fraud attempt, and try to find out further sensitive information such as bank account numbers or PIN numbers in an effort to steal funds.

## [MSP Takes Part in Electoral Reform Debate](#)

Evelyn Tweed MSP took part in the Electoral Reform consultation debate last week at [The Scottish Parliament](#). Evelyn looked at her experiences as a woman in politics and highlighted the areas she feels need to be improved to encourage more women to engage with politics.

## [Alyn Smith MP Backs Dunblane Community Safety](#)

Local Stirling MP Alyn Smith has called for Police Scotland and Stirling Council to consider further community safety measures in Dunblane, following the vandalism of a beloved local business. The Beech Tree Cafe in Dunblane suffered an attack in the evening of Friday 13th January, after 3 perpetrators threw a brick through the glass window of the cafe door – triggering a burglar alarm. The incident highlighted the need for a review of community safety measures in the area, including the potential for enhanced CCTV protection.

## [Stirling MSP Celebrates Local Family's Fundraising In Scottish Parliament](#)

MSP for Stirling, Evelyn Tweed, led a debate in the Scottish Parliament, celebrating the fundraising efforts of the Ferrier family, and raising awareness of

cardiomyopathy. The Ferriers, from Doune, tragically lost their son to cardiomyopathy in 2008. He was 16 years old, a tall, happy young man. He played shinty and had just taken up rugby. With hopes of becoming a motor mechanic, he had his whole life ahead of him. Callum went to bed with a sore head. He was found the next day by his father, having passed away in the night. His tragic and untimely death devastated his mother, father, and three brothers. Callum had cardiomyopathy, a condition affecting the shape of his heart.

## School Pupils Help Run Community Thrift Shop To Support Mental Health

Students from McLaren High School in Callander have been helping run a thrift shop, organised by Callander local Charlotte Middleton. Ms Middleton organised a similar pop up in December to raise money for The Canmore Trust. The Canmore Trust was set up in memory of Cameron Gibson, former head boy of McLaren High School, who sadly ended his life three years ago.