



# Allan Dorans

MP for Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock

September 2023 Newsletter



*Pictured above at the refurbished Ayr Fort Tennis Courts.*

## Foreword

Sadly, we all learned the tragic news that 9-year-old Naomi Ferrans lost her life in a road traffic incident in New Cumnock recently. I was deeply saddened to hear this news and my thoughts and condolences continue to be with her family, friends, and the close-knit community of New Cumnock.

In a moving tribute, prior to their international match against Belgium at Hampden on Tuesday, the Scotland Women's Football Team placed a bouquet of flowers behind one of the goals, along with a Scotland jersey with 'Naomi 19' on the back and held a moments silence in Naomi's memory.

## Re-Selected as SNP Candidate

I am delighted to confirm that I have been re-selected as the SNP candidate for Ayr, Carrick, and Cumnock at the next General Election.

It has been an absolute privilege to represent my home area for almost four years, and, if re-elected, will continue to represent you honestly and diligently in the Westminster Parliament. I will do everything I can to help you with information, advice, support, and assistance in matters which affect you and the constituency.



## Merchant Navy Memorial

I was privileged to make a speech and lay a wreath at the Merchant Navy Memorial in Girvan. The memorial commemorates the service and sacrifice of members of the Merchant Navy in both World Wars, and other conflicts. My thanks to Lorna and Ritchie Conaghan of the Girvan and District Great War Project who provided me with information for this.



## The Daily Mile

Delighted to meet with Elaine Wyllie MBE, former Head Teacher of St Ninians Primary School, when in Parliament. In 2012, Elaine was responsible for introducing the idea of encouraging children to walk or run a daily mile. The resulting levels of good physical and mental health, fitness, and wellbeing amongst the children since then has been phenomenal.



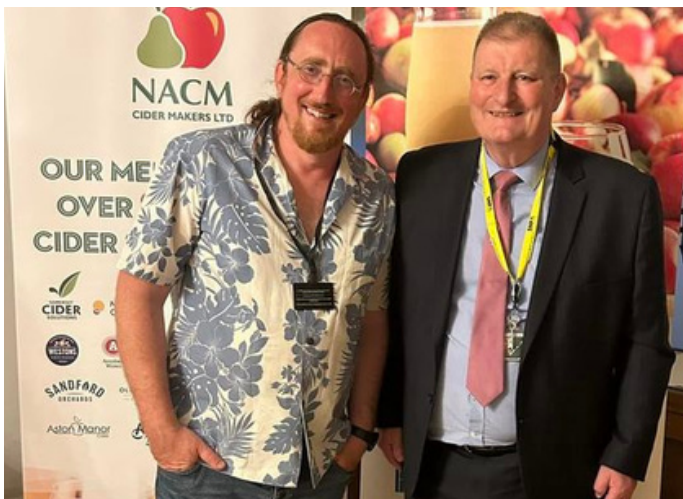
## National Racehorse Week

Having Scotland's premier Racecourse in our constituency in Ayr, it was good to have the opportunity to meet stakeholders and others in Parliament to discuss specifically the welfare of racehorses. For further information you can visit their website [www.nationalracehorseweek.uk](http://www.nationalracehorseweek.uk)



## Scottish Cider

It was great to have the opportunity, when in Parliament, to meet Peter Stuart of Thistly Cross Cider from Dunbar. I am always pleased to support Scottish Cider making and other Scottish products and promote them whenever I can. You can find more information about Thistly Cross on their website - <https://www.thistlycrosscider.co.uk>



## Festival of Flight

It was great to attend The International Ayr Show Festival of Flight. It was exceptionally well attended with many enjoying the spectacular aerial displays and the numerous activities available on the Low Green. Congratulations to all involved in the organisation and provision of this outstanding event which will benefit the local economy enormously.



## Primodos Debate

There is considerable evidence indicating that women who were given the drug Primodos (used as a pregnancy test in the 60's and 70's) gave birth to babies with devastating birth defects, or sadly had miscarriages or still-births. I spoke in the very emotional debate on Primodos in Parliament, on behalf of people everywhere affected by this horrific drug and specifically on behalf of my constituent and her daughter who have been denied justice for almost fifty years.



## Fit Fest - New Cumnock

I was pleased to be able to visit the innovative 'Fit Fest' at Greenhead Park, New Cumnock and meet with John Hunter (Chair) and Sheena Boyd (Trustee) of the New Cumnock Development Trust (NCDT). The Fit Fest was organised by the NCDT and Laura Pagan their Sports, Health, and Well-being Co-ordinator. A fantastic event which was very well attended and enjoyed by the local community.



## Ayr Fort Tennis Courts

I was delighted to visit the recently refurbished tennis courts at Ayr Fort and meet with Kris Henderson of the Lawn Tennis Association and Stewart and Janice Rogerson of Prestwick Tennis and Fitness. The revamp follows a joint investment designed to enable people of all backgrounds to play tennis and provide greater opportunities for children and adults to be active.



## Voluntary Action South Ayrshire (VASA)

I recently attended a lovely evening at Ayr Town Hall celebrating the 25th anniversary of Voluntary Action South Ayrshire (VASA) and the contribution of volunteers in our community. I was present not in my role as an MP (Member of Parliament), but as a 20+ year volunteer with VASA. Congratulations and thanks to all of those who have volunteered during those twenty-five years. Entertainment during the evening was provided by members of the fabulous Ayrshire Fiddle Orchestra.



## Scottish SPCA

Great to be able to show my support and learn about the work of the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SSPCA) and meet with their Chief Executive Officer, Kirsteen Campbell, veterinary staff and volunteers. If anyone is concerned about an animal, please do not hesitate to contact the SSPCA confidential animal helpline on 03000 999 999. For further information on their fantastic work, please visit [www.scottishspca.org](http://www.scottishspca.org).



## National Eye Health

For National Eye Health Week, it was good to visit Urquhart Opticians in Ayr and hear from Clinical Director and Optometrist, Alistair Duff and Dispensing Optician, Cheryl Aitken about the wide range of personal and professional eye care services they provide for the community. Good eye health is important to detect early signs of glaucoma, diabetes, and high blood pressure. Eye tests are free in Scotland, so it is always worth getting a check-up at least every two years.



## Save Straiton For Scotland

My thanks to 'Save Straiton for Scotland', for their invitation to attend their Annual General Meeting at the McCandlish Hall. The meeting was attended by over 50 local residents who are extremely concerned with the proliferation of Windfarms which are threatening the natural scenic beauty of the area, damaging the local environment, and causing other significant issues for the community. I will continue to represent the views of my constituents by objecting to other proposed windfarm developments in this area.

