



Dear Constituent...

It has been a very busy year since my last Annual Report and an important part has been meeting many of you and hearing about the issues and concerns of the people of Heeley. Where I have been able to help I have done so.

This year my office has handled over 2000 problems and concerns for local people, including hunting with dogs, child support and trade justice issues. Many people contacted me about the location of phone masts, a Government consultation about community pharmacies and military action in the Gulf. It is indeed a varied postbag.

This year I have been encouraged at the continued fall in unemployment in the constituency and the consequent increase in most people's income. Things in the constituency and the city at large appear to be on an up!

If you want to contact me about an issue, you can phone, write or e-mail me. To keep up to date with my work on your behalf visit the news section of my website.

Yours sincerely,

Contact Meg Munn

- Meg Munn MP
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- Telephone: 0114 263 4004
- E-mail: munnm@parliament.uk
- Website: www.megmunmp.org.uk

Surgery times

- **Friday prior to second Saturday of each month**
Jordanthorpe 4.45 - 5.45 pm
- **Second Saturday of each month**
Heeley 10.30 - 11.30 am
- **Friday prior to fourth Saturday of each month**
Gleadless 5 - 6 pm
- **Fourth Saturday of each month**
Woodseats 10 am to 11 am
Manor Top 11.15 am to 12.15 pm

For an appointment – contact my office on 263 4004

Please note that times may change.

This Annual Report is paid for from Meg Munn's Parliamentary incidental expenses provision.

Hannah's card a winner!

HANNAH SMITH, a 9 year old Brownie Guide in the 173rd (St Peter's – Greenhill), won a competition to design a Christmas card for Meg.

The Brownies were each asked to draw a special picture and Meg, an Ambassador for Girlguiding in Sheffield, then chose her favourite to make into a Christmas card.

Hannah's winning design showed a jolly blue snowman with a red hat and scarf.



Bin it!



Litter picking with members of the Batemoor and Jordanthorpe Neighbourhood and Safety Forum, local families and staff from McDonalds (and the Lord Mayor).

News from Meg Munn

Member of Parliament for Sheffield Heeley

New Local Schools

MANY OF OUR CHILDREN will soon be attending new or refurbished schools in the constituency thanks to the increase in Government funds.

New schools, fit for the 21st century, include Valley Park, Norton Free and a replacement for Bluestones and Norfolk Schools. Lower Meadow has a new extension and there are also plans for replacements at Woodthorpe, Arbourthorne and Anns Grove. It is many, many years since we have seen such a large investment in our schools.

Education has also remained one of Meg's priorities as a member of the Education and Skills Select Committee. Whilst on the Committee she has over the past year investigated topics such as student tuition fees, a new curriculum in secondary schools and the creation of more specialist schools. In June Meg was appointed as Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Department for Education and Skills. She is delighted to be able to work with Ministers to continue the improvement of our children's education.



Meg Munn outside the extension to the newly merged school on Batemoor, Lower Meadow

Listening with Meg Munn!

FOLLOWING some work she did to help one of the staff members there, Meg was invited to Chantreyland Children's Nursery at Bunting Nook.

Meg spent time talking to Janice Bell, the owner of the nursery about some of the issues around running her business. She also had lunch with the children and then read them a story.

I enjoyed my visit to the nursery, discussing serious issues with Janice and her staff, but I really enjoyed meeting the children, especially when I read "Bear Hunt" to them. They were a happy and well-cared for little group and it was a bright spot in my week.'



Annual Report 2003



...working hard for Beauchief, Heeley, Intake, Norton and Park

Meg Munn in our community...



Meg Munn with a campaign supporter from Latin America and some Fair Trade coffee beans.

Hard-working Specials Rewarded

IN FEBRUARY Meg was delighted to be asked to present certificates to hard-working Sheffield Specials recognising the hours they have put in.



Meg presented Chief Officer Alan Richards and Special Constable Sarah Murdoch with certificates commemorating 985 hours of service by Special Constables in the last 6 months of 2002, 264 of those by Sarah herself.

Alan told Meg that his team 'deal with all sorts of things from lost children to sudden deaths. One Special Constable recently caught and arrested a burglar while he was actually breaking into somewhere, and stayed with the case until the burglar came to court, where he asked for a further 20 cases to be taken into consideration. The role might be unpaid but the officers are working just as hard and on a wide range of things.'

Fair Trade Can Make A Difference

MEG SHARED a cup of coffee and some campaign ideas with Oxfam recently.

As part of their Make Trade Fair campaign, Oxfam is concentrating in particular on the crisis in the world coffee industry where massive overproduction has pushed prices down to an all-time low. 25 million coffee producers face ruin. The four giant coffee companies make huge profits while paying coffee farmers less than it costs to grow it.

Speaking at a special Oxfam Coffee Morning, Meg Munn, who always buys Fair Trade coffee, said "In coffee growing countries, if there is no revenue from sales of coffee beans then there is no money to send children to school or to buy medicines. Buying basic foodstuffs is becoming a problem for coffee growers now. It is difficult for ordinary people in the West to feel that they can make a difference to situations like this but buying Fair Trade goods is one way in which everyone can get involved."

Visit their website at www.maketradefair.com

Tap-dancing for Macmillan Cancer Relief



Meg took part in the Macmillan Cancer Relief Parliamentary Palace of Varieties, in January, tap dancing, with a small group of other women MPs who call themselves the Division Belles, raising money for this important charity.

Adopting New Ideas

AS A FORMER SOCIAL WORKER in children's services, Meg strongly supported changes to the law which now allow unmarried couples to be considered as adoptive parents. Previously legislation allowed single people and married couples to adopt but not unmarried couples.

All adults applying to be adopters are subject to rigorous assessment to ensure that they can meet a child's

needs. This is the most important issue, not whether they comply with an idealised view of a family.

Crucially there are many more children needing families than there are adopters. It's a shocking fact that a boy over the age of 5 is very unlikely to find someone to give him a permanent home. These new measures will give all of our children a much better chance of finding a family.

Animal Cruelty Must Be Stopped!

MEG HAS ADDED HER SUPPORT to a campaign to increase the penalties for illegally trading in wildlife right here in the UK.



'We think of ourselves as a nation of animal-lovers but this campaign has exposed double standards in our laws. A person can be arrested for selling a common frog, which is a protected UK species, but can't be arrested for selling a tiger or rhino – some of the world's rarest species. They can be charged and taken to court, but because selling tigers is not an "arrestable offence" the police cannot take a suspect into the police station for questioning and find out where the animal came from or how it was obtained.

The law needs to be strengthened, giving it stiffer penalties and making offences arrestable to help Police stop this scandalous trade.'

Building Links with Small Business



Meg and D&D Services discussing abandoned vehicle recycling.

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY asked Meg to take on the role of sponsor for small businesses in the North of England. Over the year she has visited lots of different companies and met regularly with Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and other business organisations.

'It is very important to the DTI that they keep in close contact with the needs and views of small business and my role has been to ensure that those businesses in the North are heard by Ministers.'



Daniel Hindle

Hidden Dangers

PROMISING MUSICIAN Daniel Hindle, 17, died in December last year of septicaemia - two months after he visited a Sheffield studio to have a ring fitted to his lip.

The A-level student, who had battled against a potentially fatal heart condition since birth, fell ill just days after the piercing.

Since being contacted by Daniel's mum, Christina, Meg has been fighting for a change in the law to regulate piercing studios and for a public health campaign on the potential dangers of body piercing.

Dan's family have set up a website to promote their campaign at www.danaid.com

