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Early Day Motions tabled on Monday 19 October 2020

Early Day Motions (EDMs) are motions for which no days have been fixed.

The number of signatories includes all members who have added their names in support of the Early Day Motion (EDM), including the Member in charge of the Motion.

EDMs and added names are also published on the EDM database at www.parliament.uk/edm

[R] Indicates that a relevant interest has been declared.

New EDMs

1030 Ardnamurchan lighthouse brought into community ownership

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 1

Ian Blackford

That this house warmly congratulates Ardnamurchan Lighthouse Trustees on successfully securing ownership, through Community Asset Transfer, of the lighthouse site, which sits at the most westerly point of the UK; recognises the endeavour and achievement of trustees over the past 21 years in preserving and promoting Ardnamurchan lighthouse, both as a historical monument and as a tourist attraction for visitors to this remote rural peninsula; applauds the dynamic and enterprising plans for developing the visitor centre and cafeteria at this iconic landmark, which attracts in excess of 18,000 visitors each year, and its important role in preserving the local history and culture; acknowledges that ownership of the site will allow the Trust to access to new funding opportunities to enable these forward-thinking plans to be developed; and wishes the project well for the future.

1031 Young designer creates Skye flag

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 1

Ian Blackford

That this house warmly congratulates 9-year-old Kilmuir schoolboy Calum Alasdair Munro on designing the first-ever official flag for the Isle of Skye which was unfurled at the Nicolson Memorial earlier this month; commends the first class design, which draws on Calum's love of flags and interest in the island's history and heritage, and cleverly reflects the five areas of Trotternish, Waternish, Duirinish, Minginish and Sleat/Strath as well as local clan colours; recognises the tremendous achievement of this youngster in a contest which drew many entries; and applauds

contest organisers The West Highland Free Press for developing the idea to raise funds for Skye and Lochalsh Young Carers.

1032 Fiona McAvoy MBE, headteacher of Newton primary school

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 1

Allan Dorans

That this House congratulates Fiona McAvoy, the Head Teacher at Newton Primary School, Ayr on being awarded the MBE as part of the Queen's Birthday Honours List for her services to education over three decades; notes particularly her inspirational leadership and determination to reduce the effects of poverty and disadvantage by supporting children and young people in North Ayr, where she has worked tirelessly to ensure children and families receive the right help, at the right time from the right people; further notes her commitment, above and beyond her role as an educator to partnership working with parents and the wider community to ensure that before and during lockdown, that children and families had access to food, clothing, bedding, toiletries, energy top ups and essential household items; and wishes Fiona and all of the staff at Newton Primary School continuing success in reducing the impacts of poverty and disadvantage in the local community.

1033 Jonathan Rea sixth straight World Superbike crown

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 2

Jim Shannon

Paul Girvan

That this House congratulates Jonathan Rea on his sixth straight World Superbike crown in Portugal; highlights what many are calling his long-standing dominance of the championship; notes that he is tantalisingly close to further rewriting the record books by achieving an incredible, ground-breaking 100th race win to further cement his legacy as the most successful rider in the history of the series; and wishes him every success in the future as he continues to represent Northern Ireland at the highest level throughout the world.

1034 Baby loss support

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 2

Jim Shannon

Paul Girvan

That this House notes the end of baby loss awareness week UK; highlights that for so many the pain continues on; underlines the statistic that 1 in 4 suffering from loss does not include the wider pain and grief of loved ones and family; encourages women and partners to mourn as they need to and understands that their loss matters and is worthy of voicing and remembering; and further underlines that Government must enhance counselling services and other help available to families devastated by the loss of their little child and the promise of a future that will not happen.

1035 Splash of Colour - Which? trusted trader of the year

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 1

Alison Thewliss

That this House congratulates Splash of Colour, a painter and decorators based in Glasgow Central, on being named Trusted Trader of the Year at the annual Which? Awards this year; notes that this award recognises Splash Of Colour's commitment to consumers and the community; appreciates that this year's awards also took into consideration how organisations have responded to changes in consumer needs as a result of covid-19; recognises that Splash of Colour has been a Which? trusted trader for just over three years, twice receiving Trader of the Month in December 2018 and January 2020; acknowledges that Splash of Colour has been recognised with this award after receiving consistently excellent customer feedback, as well as being involved in projects and charities within the local community; and wishes Splash of Colour every success in the future.

1036 Anniversary of the invasion of Famagust

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 1

Bob Blackman

That this House supports the comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem based on a bi-communal, bi-zonal federation with political equality, as set out in the relevant Security Council Resolutions and the High Level Agreements; endorses the Declaration of the European Parliament of 14 February 2012 on the return of Famagusta to its lawful inhabitants; notes that the city of Famagusta in the Republic of Cyprus was captured by the invading Turkish forces in August 1974, that a section of Famagusta was then sealed off and remains uninhabited, under the direct control of the Turkish military, and that the return of Famagusta to its lawful inhabitants would facilitate efforts toward a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem; further notes the 1979 High Level Agreement and UN Security Council Resolutions 550 (1984) and 789 (1992) and the 2008 Report of the Committee on Petitions of the European Parliament on Petition 733/2004; calls on the government of Turkey to act according to those UN Security Council Resolutions and Report Recommendations and return Famagusta to its lawful inhabitants, who must resettle under conditions of security and peace; agrees to forward this Resolution to President Nicos Anastasiades, Mr Mustafa Akinci, the UN Secretary General and the government of Turkey; and urges the Government, as a guarantor power of Cyprus, to call for Turkey's cooperation.

1037 Tax-free shopping

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 1

Jon Cruddas

That this House expresses its alarm at the decision to end the VAT Retail Export Scheme commonly known as Tax-free shopping at the end of 2020, apparently without any assessment of the direct and wider impact on the retail, hospitality and tourism sectors in Edinburgh and across Scotland; notes that visitors to Edinburgh and Scotland from international destinations such as China, USA and other countries make a valuable contribution to our economy including through the purchase of iconic Scottish goods and holidaying here; further notes that the UK would be the only country in Europe not to operate tax free shopping if the scheme ends; acknowledges that the Scottish Retail Consortium, Scottish Tourism Alliance, Essential Edinburgh business improvement district and others have voiced their concerns over the end of tax free shopping; and calls on UK Ministers to reconsider or postpone the ending of the tax relief until a full impact assessment is undertaken and discussions are held with industry on possible alternative solutions.

1038 Minister for Travel

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 1

Lloyd Russell-Moyle

That this House recognises that the travel trade is a crucial sector of the British economy and furthermore an industry now facing an existential threat as a result of the coronavirus pandemic; regrets that many travel businesses have closed with many more on the brink of collapse due to the Covid-19 crisis with at least 90,000 jobs already lost or at risk across high street travel agents and the wider travel trade sector; welcomes the recent call by the TSSA transport and travel union and others for the creation of a Minister for Travel to arrest this trend and champion the industry; and calls on the Government to act without delay to save Britain's travel trade by providing bespoke sector-specific government support while reconsidering an extension of furlough for the industry.

1039 Unionlearn

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 3

**Grahame Morris
Mike Hill
Ian Mearns**

That this House recognises the exemplary and invaluable role played by Unionlearn in helping people acquire skills and qualifications to boost their job prospects and make a valuable contribution to the economy; applauds Unionlearn for aiding hundreds of thousands of learners at all levels, from basic numeracy and literacy to degree level qualifications; notes that during the past 12 years more than 40,000 Union Learning Representatives have been trained, and over a quarter of a million people are being given training and learning opportunities through their union every year; is appalled that the Government intends to axe this vital resource at such a challenging time for education, employment and the economy; and calls upon the Government to reconsider and reverse this damaging decision.

1040 Support for tourism, leisure, hospitality and the arts

Tabled: 19/10/20 Signatories: 1

Liz Saville Roberts

That this House recognises the importance of the tourism, leisure, hospitality and arts sectors; further recognises the severe impact Covid-19 has had on their earnings; acknowledges that many of the businesses in these sectors had viable business models and were flourishing before the pandemic and must be supported so that they are ready to open as soon as restrictions can be lifted; notes that outdoor education centres are a specific example of a sector which has been forced to shut down during this crisis; further notes that outdoor education centres are reliant on school residential visits for significant amounts of their funding and so will continue to struggle whilst necessary precautions are in place; recognises the essential role of outdoor education centres in promoting children's health and the necessity of ensuring that such facilities survive the Covid-19 emergency in order to be able to improve young people's opportunities to experience the well-being and health benefits of outdoor activities in future; and calls on the UK Government to underpin health measures with economic support and urgently put packages of support in place to support these sectors, including a further targeted expansion of the furlough scheme.

Added Names

Below are EDMs tabled in the last two weeks to which names have been added. Only the first 6 names and any new names are included.

957 **Black History Month and the British Hotel and the Scots Jamaican Nurse Mary Seacole**

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 20

Anne McLaughlin
Patrick Grady
Sir Peter Bottomley
Owen Thompson
Brendan O'Hara
Jonathan Edwards

Alison Thewliss

That this House notes October is Black History Month; welcomes the opportunity to highlight some of those people largely forgotten in history but who have made a significant contribution nonetheless; celebrates the tale of Scots Jamaican nurse Mary Seacole who set up her own convalescent home named The British Hotel, to tend wounded soldiers with traditional herbal remedies in the Crimean war of the 1850s; considers it all the more impressive that she did so after being rejected by the War Office and by fundraising for the costs herself; understands she was so well loved for the voluntary work she carried out that when she returned to London in 1857, destitute, and a fundraising gala in her honour on the banks of the River Thames attracted 80,000 guests; understands that Mary Seacole then disappeared from history books for over a century; finds it inexplicable that when her contribution began to be acknowledged in more recent times, there were campaigns against doing so; and considers it fitting that she is now considered one of the greatest black role models and has been remembered with a community hospital named after her in Surrey and a statue erected in her honour outside St Thomas' Hospital.

958 **Scotland Malawi Partnership virtual AGM 2020**

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 9

Patrick Grady [R]
Owen Thompson
Drew Hendry
Chris Stephens
Jonathan Edwards
Steven Bonnar

Alison Thewliss

That this House congratulates the Scotland-Malawi Partnership on its 2020 Annual General Meeting event, held virtually for the first time; notes that over 280 participants joined the event from Scotland, Malawi and elsewhere, the largest gathering for an AGM in the organisation's history; thanks the President of Malawi, Dr Lazarus Chakwera, and the First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon, for presenting keynote addresses to the meeting, as well as the many participants who led discussions on the impact of coronavirus in Malawi and how the two countries can build back better from the pandemic; notes that the event closed with a performance from Malawian comedian Daliso Chaponda; thanks all the staff and volunteers of the partnership who contributed to a successful event; and looks forward to ongoing use of virtual and remote technology to enable

as many people from both countries as possible to contribute to the work of the Partnership in the future.

963 Down's Syndrome Awareness Month

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 15

Dr Lisa Cameron
Patrick Grady
Sir Peter Bottomley
Brendan O'Hara
Jonathan Edwards
Drew Hendry

Alison Thewliss

That this House celebrates World Down's Syndrome Awareness Month, which commences on October 1st 2020; recognises the remarkable contribution people with Down's syndrome bring to our families, workplaces, communities and society at large; and welcomes the support of organisations, such as Down's Syndrome Scotland, for raising awareness and providing help, encouragement and advice to families, schools and wider institutions to make sure that every citizen has the right to reach their full potential and campaigns tirelessly to end discrimination against individuals with Down's syndrome.

964 Anniversary of the Battle of Cable Street

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 19

Apsana Begum
Sir Peter Bottomley
Jonathan Edwards
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Stephen Farry
Chris Stephens

Alison Thewliss

That this House marks the 84th anniversary of the Battle of Cable Street on 4 October when in 1936, Oswald Mosley and members of the British Union of Fascists were blocked from marching through East London by the Jewish community, trade unionists, socialists and others; recognises the continuing importance of the Battle of Cable Street in inspiring communities uniting together in solidarity in the fight against the far right; pays tribute to the rich cultural and political history of the Jewish community in East London; and reaffirms its commitment to the fight against racism, fascism and antisemitism.

965 Supporting open-access rail operators during the covid-19 outbreak

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 25

Ian Mearns
Caroline Lucas
Apsana Begum
Kate Osborne
John McDonnell
Mick Whitley

Rachel Hopkins

That this House notes that, unlike the franchised train operating companies, the UK's open-access rail operators, including Hull Trains and Grand Central, have received no financial support package from the Government; further notes that passenger footfall and revenue across the railways remains below pre-covid 19 outbreak levels; is concerned that as a result of the covid-19 outbreak, Grand Central has announced the closure of its North West Project and commenced a restructure which puts a number of posts at risk of redundancy; and calls on the Government to agree a support package as a matter of urgency for open-access rail operators to enable those operators to continue to operate and to protect the jobs and conditions of all their staff.

967 10th anniversary of Woodlands Community Garden Project

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 6

Patrick Grady
Drew Hendry
Chris Stephens
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
Alison Thewliss

That this House congratulates Glasgow-based Woodlands Community Development Trust in celebrating the 10th Anniversary of its Woodlands Community Garden Project; recognises that their original project to clear a derelict site in Glasgow's Woodlands area has grown into a thriving community space; notes that in addition to their flourishing garden, they have also developed a community café serving free healthy and nutritious meals, and a community workspace building that is currently being utilised to aid the Woodlands Community's response to the covid-19 outbreak; commends the enormous contribution Woodlands Community Garden has made to the community through initiatives focused on conservation, education, and creativity; respects the cafe's focus on a positive model of participation by actively involving beneficiaries in the preparation, cooking and serving of food; is grateful to all the staff and volunteers who work hard to provide a sanctuary in the garden and who bring the community together, especially during the current pandemic; and wishes Woodland Community Development Trust every success for the future.

968 Graham's The Family Dairy

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 6

Neale Hanvey
Patrick Grady
Chris Stephens
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
Alison Thewliss

That this House congratulates Graham's The Family Dairy on becoming Scotland's number one chosen brand, overtaking the iconic Irn Bru which has held the top spot for decades, as well as surpassing Nestle, Cadbury's and Pepsi in Scotland's global food brand preferences; notes that 70 per cent of Scottish households now buy Graham's products; celebrates the family-run firm's 80-year history, growing from delivering by horse-drawn cart the milk produced by just 12 cows, to a respected Scottish business with 700 employees across seven Scottish sites, including Cowdenbeath, and 100 farming partners; and recognises the steps taken by the business in response to climate change, including working with Scottish Government through their flagship Low Carbon Innovation Transition Programme to utilise process waste at their Fife dairy for heat production - a first for Scotland's dairy industry.

970 National Minimum Wage

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 16

John McDonnell
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Claudia Webbe
Olivia Blake
Clive Lewis
Ian Lavery

Navendu Mishra

That this House notes that the Low Pay Commission (LPC) will shortly be making its recommendations to Government for the April 2021 increase in the National Minimum Wage; further notes that the LPC consulted on a 49p rise to £9.21 per hour in April 2021; is concerned by reports that this proposed increase may now be significantly reduced or minimum wage rates frozen; notes estimates that suggest 21 per cent of UK workers are paid less than the real living wage, as set by the Living Wage Foundation; believes that increasing wages for low paid workers is an essential part of reducing poverty and increasing economic demand; and therefore calls on the Chancellor of the Exchequer to authorise a significant increase in the minimum wage preferably to at least £10 per hour for all workers.

972 Tackling child food insecurity

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 16

Robert Halfon
John McDonnell
Mohammad Yasin
Tracey Crouch
Andrew Selous
Holly Mumby-Croft

Patricia Gibson

That this House believes no child should go hungry; welcomes Government action to provide Free School Meals over the school summer holidays; recognises that families are still struggling to afford food, that 11 per cent of parents and 6 per cent of children have directly experienced food insecurity in the last month and that food bank usage is expected to be 61 per cent higher in winter 2020-21 than last year; believes that further action to protect vulnerable children is needed; calls on the Government to implement the recommendations in the National Food Strategy Part 1 to increase the value of and expand eligibility for Healthy Start vouchers, expand eligibility for Free School Meals, and extend the Holiday Activities and Food programme; and notes that alongside minimising child food insecurity these recommendations will also address inequalities, improve the long-term health and resilience of the population, reduce childhood obesity, improve children's academic performance, support parents to stay in work during the holidays, and ease the strain on the welfare system.

973 Justice for Osime Brown

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 39

Jamie Stone
Wera Hobhouse
Anne McLaughlin
Layla Moran
Clive Lewis
John McDonnell

Alison Thewliss

Tony Lloyd

That this House acknowledges 21-year-old Osime Brown's autism and the behavioural challenges that come with it; further acknowledges the Home Office's plans to deport Osime to Jamaica where he has not lived since he was four years old and has never returned to; notes Osime's mother's words that if they deport him, he'll die; further notes that, although a friend testified that Osime was not directly involved with the crime, Osime is currently in prison where he is self-harming to the point that he has hundreds of scars on his body; recognises the Citizen's Advice Bureau's advice which states that if one is detained despite being vulnerable, one should apply for bail; calls on the Government to acknowledge Osime's autism, dyslexia, learning disabilities, and PTSD; further calls on the Government to release Osime on bail rather than being moved to a holding facility that is not properly equipped to meet his needs, remove the call for Osime's deportation, and see that Osime finally receives the support he needs for his disabilities.

974 Tron St Mary's Church and the Cannae Sing Choir

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 6

Anne McLaughlin
Drew Hendry
Allan Dorans
Patrick Grady
Chris Law
Alison Thewliss

That this House congratulates Tron St Mary's church for its tireless efforts during the covid-19 lockdown to ensure that local residents did not go without; appreciates the efforts both before and during the pandemic to foster a spirit of inclusion and togetherness in the community through its work with the Chinese community and those for whom English is a second language; applauds its commitment to both community resilience and climate action with its home growers projects and repair workshops; welcomes the support from the Climate Challenge Fund and the Scottish Government's Greener Scotland fund; thanks the church for the hundreds of wellbeing phone calls to local people; celebrates the decision to take the Cannae Sing choir online during lockdown; and looks forward to the continued success of the Wee Church with the Big Heart.

976 Kilcreggan primary school UNICEF rights respecting award

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 7

Brendan O'Hara
Martyn Day
Steven Bonnar
Drew Hendry
Allan Dorans
Chris Law

Alison Thewliss

That this House congratulates the pupils and staff of Kilcreggan primary school in Argyll and Bute on receiving the prestigious Silver rights respecting school award from UNICEF; notes that the award was made in recognition of the excellent progress that the school has achieved in embedding the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child into its ethos and curriculum; commends the great work of the pupils who, among a variety of activities, rewrote the words to the school songs, made posters for display around the school and wrote articles all about the importance of respecting the rights of the child; acknowledges the significant role played by the school's steering group which organised an event on World book day to raise money for the Save the Children campaign to provide books to children throughout the world; thanks the staff of Kilcreggan primary school for the outstanding work they are doing; and wishes all the pupils every success in the future.

983 Financial support for football and rugby league clubs during the covid-19 outbreak

Tabled: 8/10/20 Signatories: 8

Jon Trickett
Claudia Webbe
Ian Lavery
Jim Shannon
Mike Hill
John McDonnell

Mohammad Yasin

Ian Mearns

That this House is concerned about the future of football and rugby league clubs without fans being able to attend stadiums; notes that the majority of football and rugby league clubs including Frickley Athletic FC, Wakefield Trinity and Featherstone Rovers in Hemsworth Constituency are heavily reliant on gate receipts as their main source of income; pays tribute to the vital role these sporting institutions play at the heart of their communities, fostering a sense of togetherness and community spirit that spans generations, with Frickley, Wakefield and Featherstone sharing a combined 375 years of history; acknowledges that in April 2020 £16 million was provided to rugby league in Government loans; believes this is an insufficient sum that will not safeguard the long term future of the sport; notes that with England due to host the Rugby League World Cup in 2021 further financial support from the Government is imperative to both sustain and grow the sport of rugby league in England; and calls on the Government to introduce further financial support to ensure that football and rugby league clubs survive during the covid-19 outbreak.

984 Moratorium on the production and trade of weapons

Tabled: 8/10/20 Signatories: 11

Olivia Blake
Caroline Lucas
Claudia Webbe
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
John McDonnell
Kate Osborne

Tony Lloyd

That this House recognises that Article 26 of the Charter of the United Nations, which celebrates its 75th anniversary this month, seeks to promote the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources; notes the destabilisation and disruption arising from the covid-19 pandemic; recognises that peace and security, development and human rights are pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security; recognises that the catastrophic consequences of the use of nuclear weapons cannot be adequately addressed because they transcend national borders, pose grave implications for human survival, the environment, socio-economic development, the global economy, food security and the health of current and future generations; recognises that military modernisation, procurement and spending budgets of States are vastly disproportionate to contemporary sources of national and human insecurity; believes in the necessity to sustain and strengthen existing weapons control agreements and treaties, one aim of which should be nuclear disarmament; acknowledges that a moratorium on production and trade of weapons should not hamper international co-operation and legitimate trade in equipment and technology for peaceful purposes; recognises the voluntary and active role that civil society, including non-governmental organisations and industry can play in supporting the object and purpose of a moratorium, and in

supporting its implementation; and recognises the desirability of achieving universal adherence to such a moratorium.

986 Support for outdoor education centres

Tabled: 8/10/20 Signatories: 5

Tim Farron
Layla Moran
Jim Shannon
Daisy Cooper
Wera Hobhouse

That this House recognises the importance of outdoor education and residential centres in developing young people's confidence and teambuilding skills; understands the severe plight that jobs and businesses in the sector are facing as a result of the covid-19 crisis; urges the Department for Education to review the current policy of no residential visits as they are an essential part of children's education and establish a clear timeline for when residential visits are likely to resume; urges the Government to provide a Leisure and Tourism industry specific funding package, including residential outdoor centres for when the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ends in October 2020; and urges the Government to help protect outdoor education charities with financial support in 2021.

987 Homelessness (No. 2)

Tabled: 8/10/20 Signatories: 6

Tim Farron
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell
Layla Moran
Daisy Cooper
Wera Hobhouse

That this House notes the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government's promise on 18 March 2020 that no renter who has lost income due to Coronavirus will be forced out of their home; further notes the end of the moratorium on evictions on 20 September 2020; is concerned that 55,000 private tenants were served eviction notices between March and August 2020, that 320,000 private tenants have fallen into arrears since March whilst two-thirds of private tenants do not have any savings, and that the National Landlord's Association reports £440 million is owed in unpaid rent; further notes that the 3,022 orders for possession recorded by the Ministry of Justice between April and June masks the extent of this crisis because most Section 21 evictions do not proceed to court; believes the end of the furlough scheme on 31 October 2020 will increase the number of private renters facing eviction and result in a significant upsurge of homelessness, with catastrophic consequences for families in the run-up to Christmas; and calls on the Government to avert this impending crisis by bringing forwards the Renters' Reform Bill to end Section 21 no fault evictions, enabling judicial discretion over Section 8 repossession hearings to account for the impact of covid-19, providing grants or low-interest loans to cover rent arrears, and setting Local Housing Allowance at the 50th percentile.

988 VAT on period pantsTabled: **8/10/20** Signatories: **6**

Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Claudia Webbe
Ian Lavery
Jim Shannon
Sir Peter Bottomley
Marion Fellows

That this House recognises the work done by WUKA Wear who have worked hard to promote the use of reusable menstrual products; references research carried out by WUKA Wear which found that 4.3 billion menstrual products are used each year, all of which goes to landfill or ends up in the ocean; notes that reusable period pants, which are environmentally friendly are an effective method to combat this; believes that period pants should have the 20 per cent VAT removed; notes with regret the Government's recent announcement which suggests they will consider removing VAT on period pants for children under the age of 14 and with size limitations, which reinforces harmful body ideals and negates the reality that menstruation can occur after the age of 14; further recognises that all menstrual products are essential items and should be exempt from VAT; and calls on the Government to reconsider its position and remove the 20 per cent VAT on period pants and all other menstrual products.

990 Import and production of foie grasTabled: **8/10/20** Signatories: **9**

Sir Mike Penning
Caroline Lucas
Jim Shannon
Sir Peter Bottomley
John McDonnell
Alison Thewliss

Hannah Bardell

Stewart Hosie

That this House condemns the production of foie gras by force-feeding ducks and geese which causes severe physical and psychological pain for the animals involved, welcomes the continued ban on production of foie gras in the UK and calls on the Government to ban the import of this so-called delicacy as of 1 January 2021.

991 Livingston cyclist Josh Quigley breaks world recordTabled: **8/10/20** Signatories: **5**

Hannah Bardell
Allan Dorans
Jim Shannon
Chris Law
Marion Fellows

That this House congratulates Livingston cyclist Josh Quigley for breaking the world record of fastest cycle round the North Coast 500; recognises that his achievement took place just nine months after sustaining life-threatening injuries in a crash; acknowledges that he used the challenge to raise money for Baylor Scott and White Central Texas Foundation where he was treated after he was hit by a car at 70mph on a round-the-world cycling trip; notes that he completed the route in a

time of 31 hours and 18 minutes, five minutes faster than the current record; and finally wishes him good health and good luck in his future cycling ventures.

992 Clean Air Day 2020

Tabled: **8/10/20** Signatories: **10**

Mr Barry Sheerman
Claudia Webbe
Caroline Lucas
Andrew Gwynne
Sir Mike Penning
Jonathan Edwards

Navendu Mishra

That this House acknowledges Clean Air Day; recognises the danger that polluted air poses to the health of people across the UK; urges the Government to take more decisive and urgent action to mitigate the dangerous levels of air pollution in urban areas, further urges the Government to build partnerships with local government, schools and the private sector to seek consensus on the issue of air quality; and calls on the Government to ensure that upcoming legislation meets the highest of standards with regard to urban air quality.

993 Space Week

Tabled: **12/10/20** Signatories: **7**

Owen Thompson
Chris Law
Patrick Grady
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Marion Fellows

Alison Thewliss

That this House celebrates that 4 to 10 October 2020 marked Space Week; notes that Space Week celebrates at an international level the contributions of space science and technology to the betterment of the human condition; notes that this year the theme was Satellites Improve Life; celebrates the contribution of satellite manufacturers and the researchers and engineers behind them to the UK and Scotland's technological advancement; further welcomes the huge economic potential of this industry as international connectivity becomes more imperative than ever; and calls on the Government to support this industry at all available opportunities, and provide clarity on how the UK intends to replace the EU's Galileo system after the end of the transition period.

994 Debenhams redundancies

Tabled: 12/10/20 Signatories: 25

Andrew Gwynne
Rebecca Long Bailey
John McDonnell
Dame Diana Johnson
Mrs Emma Lewell-Buck
Yvonne Fovargue

Alison Thewliss

Navendu Mishra

That this House condemns the way in which Debenhams has implemented the redundancies of thousands of workers during the Coronavirus outbreak; notes that staff were told via conference call that they would be made redundant with 3 days' notice and 3 days' pay and that there was no consultation or criteria for redundancies disclosed to staff; further notes that Debenhams is engaging in the immoral practice of 'Fire and Rehire', giving workers who have been laid off little choice but to reapply for positions with worse terms of employment; stands in solidarity with all of those staff affected; believes that this is part of a worrying pattern of large employers using the pandemic as a gateway to break employment law; and calls on the Government to urgently address these practices and to defend workers from unscrupulous employers.

995 All In One Education

Tabled: 12/10/20 Signatories: 17

Amy Callaghan
Chris Law
Patrick Grady
John Nicolson
Martyn Day
Brendan O'Hara

Marion Fellows

That this House congratulates newly formed charity All In One Education on gaining membership of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations and achieving charitable status; notes the charity is formed of teachers, campaigners, university and cultural professionals who have come together from across Scotland to address the lack of intersectional teaching in schools across the UK; understands intersectionality refers to the nature of social categorisations such as race, class, gender and ability which create overlapping systems of discrimination in societies; commends All In One Education's aim to develop free lesson plans for educators and pupils to bring perspectives from BAME, women's history, LGBTQIA+, differently abled, colonial and other groups to light; recognises the importance of learning social studies from these perspectives in enabling young people to analyse complex issues and engage meaningfully with both their studies and the world they live in; thanks All In One Education for highlighting systemic inequalities and promoting diversity in education; and urges Governments across the UK to do more to support the development of teaching resources with intersectionality at the core.

997 Extension of Furlough Scheme

Tabled: 12/10/20 Signatories: 18

Christine Jardine
Daisy Cooper
Jim Shannon
Mike Hill
Jamie Stone
Layla Moran

Wera Hobhouse
 Zarah Sultana
 Alison Thewliss

Apsana Begum
 Sarah Olney
 Kim Johnson

Owen Thompson
 Nadia Whittome
 Andrew Gwynne

That this House welcomes the partial U-turn by the Chancellor in extending the furlough scheme to local lockdown areas; recognises that businesses ordered to close must be supported; notes that this new support is limited to only certain parts of the UK when it is needed across the country; further notes that support offered only accounts for two-thirds of income and many in the hospitality industry will be put in precarious financial positions as a result; and calls on the Government to produce a clear and proactive support strategy and to expand furlough as a matter of urgency across the whole economy until June 2021.

999 Treatment of football supporters during the covid-19 outbreak

Tabled: 12/10/20 Signatories: 32

Ian Byrne
Claudia Webbe
Apsana Begum
Kate Osborne
Ian Lavery
Mr Clive Betts

Rachel Hopkins

That this House is opposed to the introduction of a charge of £14.95 per game to view the 150 Premier League matches not part of the existing broadcast deal; notes that these matches are currently being televised free of charge; acknowledges that football is being played behind closed doors due to covid-19 and whilst this may be difficult economically for football clubs it is also an effective way to keep our communities safe; recognises that current measures mean that up to 380,000 match going fans are missing out on seeing their team each week which is reducing their usual social contacts and affecting their mental wellbeing; acknowledges that fans are being asked to pay to view additional games that they are legally prevented from attending; agrees that the introduction of this charge ignores the social, economic and welfare plight of many in our communities, especially those now faced with Tier 3 restrictions; recognises that the introduction of this charge ignores the magnificent initiatives set up by football fans across the country during this pandemic such as foodbank collections, shopping deliveries, PPE production and distribution; agrees that football supporters have been exemplars of public citizenship in their communities during this crisis; calls on the Government to challenge and lobby the Premier League, it's Member Clubs and the broadcasters to provide access to the 150 fixtures on free to air channels; and further calls on the Government to commence it's promised fan led review on football governance as a matter of urgency.

1001 Gift Aid Emergency Relief Campaign

Tabled: 12/10/20 Signatories: 24

Patrick Grady
Chris Law
Sir Mike Penning
Martyn Day
Owen Thompson
Stuart C McDonald

Deidre Brock

Marion Fellows

Alison Thewliss

That this House marks the annual Gift Aid Awareness Day which fell on 8 October 2020; appreciates that Gift Aid Relief is the practical application of the long-established principle that donations to charities should not be taxed; recognises that the charitable sector is in the middle of the biggest financial crisis it has ever faced, with huge falls in income at the same time as increased demand for services; considers that a Gift Aid Emergency Relief Package would go a long way to keeping vital charitable services running; calls on the UK Government to increase Gift Aid from 20% to 25% for two years from the start of the 2020-21 tax year; further calls on the UK Government to introduce changes to the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme to remove barriers for entry to ensure wider access across the voluntary sector and increase the amount that can be claimed from £8,000 to £10,000; and believes that the cost of such measures need not be prohibitive given that the National Audit Office estimates that £560m of eligible Gift Aid is unclaimed each year and that charities are likely to see an overall fall in donations in the current challenging economic circumstances.

1002 Planning White Paper and Communities

Tabled: 12/10/20 Signatories: 11

Layla Moran
Tim Farron
Sarah Olney
Ed Davey
Jamie Stone
Daisy Cooper

Caroline Lucas

That this House condemns the deeply problematic Planning White Paper published by Her Majesty's Government; recognises that the proposed legislation will push for a top-down planning approach, leave the problem of land banking unresolved, and risk environmental standards being lowered; notes the importance of pushing for developers to build homes that have already been approved which are more accessible to the most vulnerable in our society; and therefore urges the Government to build at least 100,000 homes for social rent each year, while increasing overall house building to 300,000 a year, substantially help finance the large increase in the building of social homes, build new houses to zero-carbon standards, and devolve full control of Right to Buy to local councils.

1003 Future of Hull-Zeebrugge Ferry Jobs and Services

Tabled: 12/10/20 Signatories: 11

Ian Mearns
Paula Barker
Ian Lavery
Grahame Morris
Kate Osborne
Jim Shannon

Rachel Hopkins

That this House is concerned by P&O Ferries' plans to close the Hull-Zeebrugge route on which it is the sole operator and sell four roll-on roll-off ferries with the potential loss of eighty-one seafarer jobs in Hull and Dover; notes that P&O Ferries signed Critical Freight Grant contracts with the Government worth £14.5m to maintain six roll-on roll-off ferry routes during the Covid-19 lockdown, including a £1.2m payment to keep the Hull-Zeebrugge route running; further notes that over six million passengers and an estimated twenty million road freight units have been moved on P&O's Hull-Zeebrugge fleet since 2001; is concerned by the lack of investment by the Port of Hull owner, ABP in lock and other infrastructure that would improve the viability of Hull-Zeebrugge freight and passenger services; recalls that P&O Ferries cut 1,000 maritime jobs from their UK operations in the summer; believes that the loss of this route would have dire economic and environmental consequences for Hull and the UK's continental supply chain; and calls on the Government to use all policy levers, including a re-designed Waterborne Freight Grant to save UK seafarer jobs and critical freight capacity by attracting a new operator on this route.

1004 Service Medal for British nuclear test veterans

Tabled: 12/10/20 Signatories: 12

Carol Monaghan
Jonathan Edwards
Chris Law
Patrick Grady
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans

Marion Fellows

That this House honours the UK service personnel who participated in the British nuclear testing programme in Australia and the South Pacific from 1952 to 1967; notes that over 20,000 British personnel were present during the atomic tests and were exposed to ionising radiation with little or no personal protective equipment; acknowledges that British nuclear test veterans have long campaigned for the official recognition of their great and ongoing sacrifice, and compensation for health conditions resulting from exposure to the high-levels of ionising radiation; understands that the UK is the only country which performed nuclear tests that is yet to formally recognise the contribution of its nuclear test veterans; and urges the Government to award service medals, without delay, to our nuclear test veterans, whose numbers are now sadly dwindling.

1005 Hair DiscriminationTabled: **12/10/20** Signatories: **12**

Wera Hobhouse
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Jamie Stone
Sarah Olney
Ed Davey
Layla Moran

Alison Thewliss

That this House believes that hair policies enforced by schools and employers either officially or unofficially are an all-too-prevalent form of racial discrimination; notes with alarm cases of black children being sent home from school because of their afros, black boys being told to cut off their dreadlocks, black women being turned down for jobs because they wear their hair in braids or cornrows, and black employees being told to chemically straighten their natural hair; calls on the Government to develop new guidance for schools and employers to prevent hair discrimination in policies and practices; further calls on the Government to launch an awareness campaign to help schools and employers understand their obligations not to discriminate in relation to hair, and to help individuals understand how to uphold their rights not to be discriminated against; and urges the Government to conduct a review to determine whether any further changes, including legal changes, are necessary to prevent hair discrimination.

1006 National Hate Crime Awareness WeekTabled: **12/10/20** Signatories: **9**

Jim Shannon
Paul Girvan
Claudia Webbe
Bob Blackman
Sir Mike Penning
Allan Dorans

Marion Fellows

Alison Thewliss

That this House notes the commencement of National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2020; takes the opportunity to remind people that there is always a choice to be kind and further encourages an understanding that a gentle answer turns away wrath; underlines our intention to ensure that social media platforms grasp the responsibility to prevent bullying and hate speech by any means possible whilst balancing the right to free speech; and supports the aims of saying no to hate crime and supporting our communities.

1008 Kinghorn RNLI lifeboat crewTabled: **13/10/20** Signatories: **6**

Neale Hanvey
Jim Shannon
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Jonathan Edwards
Marion Fellows

That this House pays tribute to the heroic efforts of Kinghorn RNLI lifeboat's volunteer crew Mike Chalmers, Matthew Mulligan, Blair Henderson, Fraser Soutar, Kim Chapman, Rob Douglas and Joanne Wibberley in the recent rescue of two men who got into difficulty in a small sailing dinghy

and a kayak 2.5 miles out to sea; welcomes the recovery and safe return of the two men who were then assisted by Kinghorn coastguard at Pettycur; notes the importance of RNLI volunteers in continuing to save lives at sea; and commends the Kinghorn crew, in particular, for their continued hard work, courage and selfless efforts over 55 years to keep people safe whilst in Fife's waters.

1010 **Uyghur asylum seekers**

Tabled: **14/10/20** Signatories: **10**

Mr Alistair Carmichael
Layla Moran
Jim Shannon
Sir Peter Bottomley
Wera Hobhouse
Stephen Farry

Alison Thewliss

That this House notes reports from human rights groups which state that the Chinese Government is interning over one million Uyghur people in re-education camps across the Xinjiang Autonomous Region; further notes reports from the camps which allege that detainees are being kept in squalid conditions and are forced to renounce their religion or face torture; expresses serious concern at emerging research which alleges that the Chinese state is forcing Uyghur women to be sterilized; condemns the detention of Uyghur diaspora returning to Xinjiang by the Chinese Government; notes that other European Governments such as the Government of Sweden has announced that it will grant refugee status to all Uyghur asylum-seekers from China; calls on the Government to automatically grant refugee status to all Uyghur people fleeing to the UK as a result of religious persecution from the Chinese state.

1011 **Dundee Year of the Older Person**

Tabled: **14/10/20** Signatories: **6**

Chris Law
Stewart Hosie
Allan Dorans
Jim Shannon
Stewart Malcolm McDonald
Alison Thewliss

That this House celebrates Dundee's Year of the Older Person; commends those at Dundee Volunteer and Voluntary Action and Dundee City Council who have worked to bring this celebration together; notes that it is believed to be the first celebration of its kind ever in Scotland; recognises that 2020 has been particularly tough for older people; further recognises the important contributions that older people make to our society every day; and hopes that the Year of the Older Person will help involve more older people in the process of building a city that is more in touch with the needs of its older population.

1012 East Lothian resident given honours for Scottish-Italian relations

Tabled: 14/10/20 Signatories: 4

Kenny MacAskill
Allan Dorans
Jim Shannon
Chris Law

That this House congratulates Mary Contini of Dunbar on being appointed an OBE in the Queen's birthday honours; understands that Mary has been recognised for her services to the Scottish Food Industry and Scottish-Italian Relations; notes that Mary is the Herald's Magazine food columnist and runs a weekly column in the local East Lothian Courier sharing her expertise of the food sector and insight into the industry; further notes that her businesses which have included Valvonna and Crolla Caffè Bar focus on using ingredients sourced from artisan producers and farmers in both Italy and Scotland that support high welfare practices; notes her positive contribution to the food industry and her community; and wishes Mary all the best in the future.

1013 Child poverty

Tabled: 14/10/20 Signatories: 24

Apsana Begum
Claudia Webbe
John McDonnell
Jim Shannon
Stephen Farry
Ian Byrne

Rushanara Ali
 Rachel Hopkins

Jeremy Corbyn

Clive Lewis

That this House expresses concern that new child poverty data, published by the End Child Poverty Coalition on 14th October 2020, reveals that more than half of children in some constituencies are living in poverty after housing costs are factored in; notes that the highest rates of child poverty are in London and Birmingham and that there were high levels of children in poverty in working households before the pandemic; and calls for an urgent Government plan to end child poverty including an uprating of housing assistance in line with inflation, retaining the £20 uplift in universal credit introduced at the start of the pandemic, ending the benefit cap and the two-child limit on benefits, investing in all children with an increase to child benefit, and extending free school meals to all families in receipt of universal credit and people with No Recourse to Public Funds.

1014 Democratic process and attacks on Kurds in Turkey

Tabled: 14/10/20 Signatories: 7

Chris Stephens
Allan Dorans
Jim Shannon
Sir Peter Bottomley
Jonathan Edwards
Owen Thompson

Chris Law

That this House notes that the Turkish authorities have issued arrest warrants for 82 members of the pro-Kurdish People's Democratic Party (HDP), including current and former democratically elected mayors, and the party's current Central Executive Board; further notes that the HDP is the

third largest political party in Turkey; notes that in 2019 the HDP won 65 municipalities in local elections and that the Turkish State has arbitrarily taken control of 51 of those municipalities; is deeply concerned that at least 200 democratically elected HDP representatives including 7 MPs are imprisoned; believes that this mass incarceration amounts to a violation of fundamental rights including the rights to political association, political participation and freedom of expression; is further deeply concerned that this undermines the rights of the Turkish people to have their democratic will upheld; and calls on the Foreign Secretary to express these concerns to his Turkish counterpart as a matter of utmost urgency.

1016 **Effect of sodium valproate and foetal valproate syndrome**

Tabled: 15/10/20 Signatories: 5

Jon Trickett
Ian Lavery
Mick Whitley
Alison Thewliss
Paula Barker

That this House is concerned that 300 children every year are born with foetal valproate syndrome as a result of the drug sodium valproate being prescribed to women during pregnancy; expresses shock that between 1973 and 2016 no explanation of side effects linked to the drug, such as kidney and heart malformations in children, were provided to these pregnant women before they were prescribed sodium valproate; notes that despite the introduction of a Valproate Toolkit in 2016 to provide information about the drug to patients and healthcare professionals, the Independent Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Review of July 2020 found that women are still becoming pregnant while on Sodium Valproate without any knowledge of the risks; pays tribute to the work of the Independent Foetal Anti-Convulsant Trust for its work raising awareness of this issue; and calls on the Government to apologise to the thousands of families affected and to immediately establish a task force in order to implement the recommendations of the Independent Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Review 2020 in full.

1017 **Dr Ken Thomson OBE and Institute of Directors Scotland Director of the Year Awards 2020**

Tabled: 15/10/20 Signatories: 3

Martyn Day
Chris Law
Marion Fellows

That this House congratulates Forth Valley College's Principal Dr Ken Thomson OBE who has won the Regional Director, Central Scotland award at the coveted Institute of Directors Scotland Director of the Year Awards 2020; recognises that the awards acknowledge the best in business across 12 key director categories, as well as seven regional and two special awards; further congratulates Mr Thomson who was awarded an OBE for services to education, economic development and the communities of central Scotland in 2019; notes that Mr Thomson was also shortlisted for the Public Sector Director of the Year award at the event; and wishes Mr Thomson and all the winners every success in the UK finals.

1018 Brass for Africa

Tabled: 15/10/20 Signatories: 4

Owen Thompson
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
Marion Fellows

That this House congratulates Brass for Africa on its inspiring work to transform the lives of disadvantaged children and young people in Uganda, Rwanda and Liberia through brass music and life-skills education; applauds the work of the charity's Composer in Residence Alan Fernie in composing and recording a special lockdown piece called *As One* in support of the charity; notes the inspiring video brings together young musicians from Brass for Africa with Loanhead Brass Roots and Newtongrange Junior Band, all playing from their own homes; and welcomes the ongoing efforts of musicians to use their talents to lift spirits in these difficult times and recognises the huge educational, community and personal benefits of music.

1019 East Lothian businessman appointed MBE

Tabled: 15/10/20 Signatories: 3

Kenny MacAskill
Allan Dorans
Chris Law

That this house congratulates Bruce Turner, managing director and chairman at PureMalt in Haddington on receiving an MBE; understands that the award is recognising his services to business and the economy in East Lothian; notes that Bruce started at PureMalt in 1972 and has committed ever since to his team and creating products to be enjoyed across the world; and wishes Bruce and his team at PureMalt all the best for the future.

1020 Dunbar resident awarded medal for 40 years of service to the RNLI

Tabled: 15/10/20 Signatories: 3

Kenny MacAskill
Chris Law
Marion Fellows

That this house congratulates Dunbar resident Ian Wilson for being awarded a medal recognising his 40 years of dedication to service to the RNLI; notes that Mr Wilson has served across the UK and has taken part in a number of rescue missions including a mission in East Lothian during dangerous stormy conditions which resulted in the safe return of two young surfers; and understands that Mr Wilson's commitment and hard work as a volunteer over the years has made a positive difference to the communities he has served in and wishes Ian all the best.

1021 East Lothian GP appointed MBE

Tabled: 15/10/20 Signatories: 3

Kenny MacAskill
Allan Dorans
Chris Law

That this house congratulates Dunbar resident Dr Carey Jane Lunan GP on being awarded an MBE as part of the Queen's birthday honours; understands that Dr Lunan has been recognised for highlighting that the covid-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected people living in Scotland's

most deprived areas and advocated a need to emphasise access to general practice services and care building trust between GPs and patients to allow for greater understanding of the complex challenges that may be faced and supporting patients with the care they need; notes Dr Lunan's contribution in the role that general practice can play in addressing inequalities during the covid-19 pandemic and how her work supported many people across Scotland who required the most support during the challenges that resulted from the pandemic; and wishes her all the best in the future.

1022 Drug deaths

Tabled: 15/10/20 Signatories: 10

Grahame Morris
Ian Lavery
Jeremy Corbyn
John McDonnell
Caroline Lucas
Apsana Begum

Alison Thewliss
 Paula Barker

Navendu Mishra

Rachel Hopkins

That this House is concerned that deaths related to drug poisoning registered in England and Wales rose to a record 4,393 in 2019; notes that two-thirds of drug poisonings are due to drug misuse; further notes that half of the deaths involved an opiate, although cocaine deaths are also rising at an alarming rate; recognises that the highest death rates are in areas suffering greatest deprivation; and calls on the Government to tackle the problem through immediate increased investment in treatment services, encouragement of harm reduction initiatives and expansion of opiate-overdose antidote Naloxone provision.

1024 Assassination in Malta of journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia

Tabled: 16/10/20 Signatories: 3

Sir Peter Bottomley
Caroline Lucas
Alison Thewliss

That this House again condemns the assassination of Maltese investigative journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, who was killed by a car bomb three years ago on 16 October 2017; calls again for full justice for her murder; commends her courageous investigative reporting exposing corruption in Malta and beyond; underscores the importance of protecting the independence and impartiality of the ongoing public inquiry into her assassination; urges Prime Minister Robert Abela to cease efforts to interfere with it; calls on the Maltese government to request a Europol Joint Investigation Team to assist with the case; urges the government of Malta to implement all outstanding recommendations of the 26 June 2019 resolution of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe entitled Daphne Caruana Galizia's assassination and the rule of law in Malta and beyond: ensuring that the whole truth emerges; notes with concern the fact that Malta has dropped 34 places in Reporters Without Borders' World Press Freedom Index since Caruana Galizia's assassination and is now ranked 81st out of 180 countries; and calls on the government of Malta to take immediate steps to improve the broader press freedom climate in the country.

1025 Musselburgh resident receives British Empire Medal for contribution to finance sector

Tabled: 16/10/20 Signatories: 3

**Kenny MacAskill
Allan Dorans
Chris Law**

That this House congratulates Christopher Bell on receiving a British Empire Medal for services to the financial sector during covid-19; notes his line of work has supported many who have experienced financial hardship caused by the coronavirus pandemic; understands his role extended beyond providing financial relief and included helping organise and deliver food parcels to those who needed it most and found themselves in difficulty during the coronavirus crisis; thanks Christopher for his dedication to his community and others; and wishes him all the best.

1026 East Lothian video game founder awarded CBE

Tabled: 16/10/20 Signatories: 4

**Kenny MacAskill
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
Jonathan Edwards**

That this House congratulates Chris Van Der Kuhl on being awarded a CBE; notes Mr Van Der Kuhl is the co-founder and chairman of 4J Studios, a video game development studio based in East Linton and Dundee, which produced the hit Minecraft; understands the businesses presence is within East Lothian; commends his dedication, contribution to his local community and beyond; and wishes Chris Van Der Kuhl and his team all the very best in the future.

1027 North Berwick RNLI volunteer given British Empire Medal

Tabled: 16/10/20 Signatories: 3

**Kenny MacAskill
Allan Dorans
Chris Law**

That this House congratulates North Berwick RNLI volunteer Stewart Auld for over 50 years of service and his recent British Empire Medal award; notes Stewart has been recognised for his many years of commitment and dedication to his local RNLI through the North Berwick Lifeboat Station; recognises his commitment to his community, his fellow team members and volunteers at North Berwick RNLI; and wishes him all the very best for the future.

1028 Ceasefire between Armenia and Azerbaijan

Tabled: 16/10/20 Signatories: 2

**Sir Peter Bottomley
Jonathan Edwards**

That this House is deeply concerned at the recent escalation of tensions between the armed forces of Armenia and Azerbaijan; notes with concern the clashes that took place both in the Tavush Province of Armenia and the Tovuz District of Azerbaijan on 12 July 2020, the further skirmishes on 13 July 2020 and, with great concern, the resumption of hostilities along the Nagorno-Karabakh Line of Contact on 27 September 2020 and the resulting military and civilian casualties reported

by Armenia and Azerbaijan; and urges the Government to join in the United Nation's strong condemnation of the conflict and call on both sides to deescalate tensions with the immediate resumption of the May 1994 ceasefire and of meaningful negotiations without delay.

1029 G20 Summit in Saudi Arabia and Human Rights

Tabled: **16/10/20** Signatories: **5**

Kenny MacAskill
Stephen Farry
Marion Fellows
Alison Thewliss
Jonathan Edwards

That this House notes that Saudi Arabia currently holds the presidency of the G20 and will be hosting the G20 Summit virtually on 21-22 November 2020; is deeply

concerned about Saudi Arabia's on-going serious and systematic violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, particularly the crackdown on non-violent activists and critics since Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman came to power in 2017, which includes the arbitrary detention and torture of women human rights defenders and the brutal murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, as well as the apparently indiscriminate and disproportionate airstrikes on civilians and civilian infrastructure by the Saudi-led coalition in the conflict in Yemen which may amount to war crimes; and calls on the Government to publicly and privately urge Saudi Arabia to take concrete steps to improve its human rights record in the lead up to the G20 Summit, including immediately releasing all human rights defenders and prisoners of conscience, providing full accountability for the murder of Jamal Khashoggi and ending the war in Yemen, and to reconsider the level of its participation in the Summit if these steps are not taken.