

Village shows some bottle

TONY Robinson won't be the only high-profile visitor to Muirkirk in the coming months.

For Green Party leader Robin Harper has agreed to come to the village to officially open the Coalfield Environment Initiative's unique environmental greenhouse - made entirely of plastic bottles!

The leading MSP is expected to be joined by list MSP Chris Balance when they perform the official duties in April.

The scheme, which was launched in November last year, has been designed to demonstrate what can be done with things like bottles

which have in the past gone straight to landfill because they can be difficult to recycle.

Paul Sutherland of the Coalfield Environment Initiative, said: "We have the wooden frame up and people have been coming to the IFE Wing and helping cut up the bottles which will be used.

"The thing is it's been quite a difficult task because there are 1500 bottles which need to be cut, but the whole community has come together, and it is a great credit to them."

The work will culminate in a huge event this Friday, March 18, when children from Muirkirk Primary will be on-site in groups

of 12 throughout the day to put the plastic bottles into place. Cathy Jamieson MSP has agreed to come along and muck in.

Mr Sutherland added: "Hopefully this shows to people that there are other ways to use plastic bottles once they are finished, rather than just chucking them in the bin. We also hope that having someone like Robin Harper opening the greenhouse will not only raise the profile of this project, but other projects we are trying to do in the Cumnock and Doon Valley area."

Robin Harper will officially open the environmental greenhouse on Wednesday, April 13.



Muirkirk Environmental Greenhouse Project bottle cutting at IFE Wing
Clockwise from left Walker Frew, Coalfields Environment Officer Paul Sutherland, Morag Goldie Weir, Jim Currie and Billy Kirk