

# Hundreds of 'green' bottles

RESIDENTS from Muirkirk have been showing their bottle - hundreds of them to be precise.

Over the duration of a week the community was putting the finishing touches on the unique Environmental Greenhouse project, initiated by the Coalfield Environmental Initiative. The scheme, designed to create a greenhouse from used plastic bottles, has been a major success and has involved everyone from the community, especially pupils from Muirkirk Primary School, who were on-site in groups of 12 to help put the bottles in place to the wooden frame. Prior to that came the time-consuming task of cutting all the bottles collected before they could be put into place.

Helping the schoolchildren put the bottles in place was MSP Cathy Jamieson, who was delighted to muck in.

Ms Jamieson said: "I was fascinated by the idea behind the greenhouse and it is a great way of recycling fizzy drink bottles. Along with the young people from Muirkirk Primary who came along to help, I had a great time constructing the greenhouse."

The greenhouse will be officially opened on April 13 by Green MSPs Robin Harper and Chris Ballance.



**ABOVE:** The hard work gets underway to construct the unique plastic bottle greenhouse. Cathy Jamieson MSP and pupils from Muirkirk Primary pupils are pictured here with, back row from left to right, Community Service by Offenders Assistant Marion Dick, Coalfields Environment Officer Paul Sutherland, Muirkirk Enterprise Group members Billy Kirk, Alex Currie and John Kennedy, Community Services by Offenders Supervisor David Hopes and, kneeling left, Muirkirk Enterprise Group member Morag Goldie Weir.

The vote of thanks was given by Mrs Rita Wilson and the meeting was brought to a close by singing a hymn and the benediction.

**Muirkirk W.R.I** - Unfortunately at the monthly meeting of the W.R.I on March 8 the speaker for the evening was unable to attend due to illness. Mrs Currie was able to rearrange the programme at short notice.

Mrs Essex from the Post Office spoke in great detail of the many services available from that office. A beetle drive was played while other members tried to guess the mothers of the children in the photographs displayed. Mrs Mathieson won the beetle drive and Mrs Blackwood won the 'guess the mother'.

The spring outing was discussed and Mrs Currie intimated that seats were also available to join in a trip to Edinburgh Tattoo in August.

Competition Winners - Animal Ornament: 1st Mrs Forsyth 2nd Mrs Wilson 3rd Mrs Cowan. Butterfly Cakes: 1st Mrs Hillditch 2nd Mrs Cowan 3rd Mrs Currie.

The next meeting of the W.R.I will be on Tuesday, April 12 at 7.30pm in the IFE Wing.

● **Muirkirk Cross Country Rally** - page 28



**ABOVE:** Muirkirk Enterprise Group members John Kennedy and Billy Kirk get to work on putting the finishing touches on the greenhouse.



**ABOVE:** Cathy Jamieson MSP helps young Muirkirk Primary pupils make tubes out of the plastic bottles.