

SENATOR MARK DALY

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A Fairer, Stronger Ireland

July Monthly Email

Ireland's Most Westerly Parish Says Yes to Europe Thanks to Cllr Breandán MacGearailt's Door to Door Canvass in Ballyferriter

On yer bike.. and vote YES

Reasons for the Treaty

MICHAEL MARTIN
DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER
WRITTEN EXCERPT FOR THE
MONTH END OF THE WEEK

MANY people have been asking me, "without targets or quotas, how can we be sure of the benefits of the Lisbon Treaty to create growth and jobs in the future?"

My answer is simple: Ireland can't afford to wait. Times are getting tougher for everyone. The reality is that a lot of our present difficulties come from worldwide issues like a shortage of energy supplies or rising food prices. Ireland is a small country at the edge of a large continent — and we can't deal with these problems by ourselves. This treaty was actually mostly put together when Ireland was chairing the EU.

We secured a number of key demands such as protection for local tax rates, a guarantee on our neutrality, real action against cross-border crime and reform of how EU laws are enforced.

If we vote No it will be a huge setback for everyone who wants an EU that works better. If we vote Yes we will secure our equal rights in Europe and be voting for an EU which works with Ireland to create jobs. That's why we should vote Yes on Thursday.

COWEN CALL TO PUBLIC

BRIAN COWEN made a final push for the Lisbon Treaty yesterday as he urged the public to vote Yes in Thursday's poll.

The Taoiseach warned that a No vote would be a disaster for Ireland, and urged the public to get on their bikes and vote Yes.

Speaking during a canvassing in Killybegs, Co Kerry, he said: "The EU needs reform. It needs a 21st century model, and that will be good for Ireland, both in Europe and around the world."

Effective

"That's why we need to vote yes, because a more effective EU means Ireland can take advantage of the opportunities that come our way. I ask people to look at the experience they've had in the EU over the past 35 years."

Mr Cowen is rallying his troops ahead of the crucial vote after a disappointing poll on Friday showed the No side five points ahead on 39 per cent.

The Yes side are on 30 while the undecideds are at 31.

When asked yesterday about the No campaign, the Taoiseach said: "There's been a lot of confusion raised by different groups from the extreme left and the extreme right."

"But that confusion is now starting to dissipate as people focus on the issues. I would also like to point out that many of the issues raised by the No side are not even in the treaty at all."

The Taoiseach's schedule over the next four days is set to be his most hectic since taking over from Bertie Ahern.

One source said: "The campaign wing, O'Donoghue."

DECLAN FERRY said: "It's back to the wall. Everyone is going to have to do their bit, and the party faithful are relying on Biffo to get us over the line."

"But they will also have to hold up their end of the bargain in their constituencies."

Defence Minister Willie O'Dea also weighed in behind the Taoiseach and blasted the No camp for claiming a Yes vote would destroy Ireland's neutrality.

He said: "The Lisbon Reform Treaty does not reduce or change our country's military neutrality. That is a basic fact."

"No amount of scaremongering by the No side can change this simple truth."

Respect

Former UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan — who has expressed his respect for the role Irish troops play in UN peacekeeping — has urged Ireland to vote Yes.

However, Sinn Féin MEP Mary Lou McDonald said the Government was just trying to "buy and sell out."

She said ratifying Lisbon will mean "increased military expenditure and support for nuclear power."

DECLAN FERRY @mto.ie

While South Kerry voted no to Lisbon there were a number of interesting lessons from the Tallies. In Europe's most Westerly parish, Ballyferriter, 197 voted YES and 98 voted NO.

This was due to an old fashioned door to door canvass by local Councillor Breandan McGearailt who used his own leaflets explaining why a yes vote was good for Ireland.

In Sneem Village which was canvassed by local Cumman members and I, the Yes side won both ballot boxes. In my home town of Kenmare we won 2 of the 4 boxes (losing the 3rd by only eight votes).

Overall the lesson learned was that in areas like Caherciveen, Killorglin, Milltown, Glenbeigh and others where a good campaign was ran the Yes vote was a majority in some of the boxes. Councillor McGearailt's campaign is an example to us all. (see appendix 1,2)

Oireachtas members and Legends of Irish Sport Raise Funds for Crumlin Children's Hospital Beat the Media Team for the first time in 15 years



Senator Mark Daly, Packie Bonner, Jimmy Deenihan TD, Brendan Teahan Kerry U21

As manager of the Oireachtas soccer team, Deputy Niall Blaney scored a huge victory which ended an Oireachtas 15 year losing streak on the 17th June. Blaney fielded a team which had 5 All Ireland medals on it (all held by Deputy Jimmy Deenihan) made up of four Fianna Fail and five Fine Gael TDs and Senators.

Blaney opened the scoring with a beautiful chip that lobbed the keeper. And with yours truly putting in what were described as "robust tackles" we managed to go into the break 1-0 ahead.

The addition of Packie Bonner in goals for the second half ensured a clean sheet and despite massive pressure, the Oireachtas members held out. Brian Cowen's Programme Manager delivered a killer two goal tally, one scored after a mesmerising dribble through six defenders. A great event for a great cause. *(see appendix 3)*

General Tom Barry's Commemoration in Cork Attended by Mayor of Cork, Michael Ahern TD, Senator Mark Daly and Councillor Frank O Flynn



Mark and the Group at General Tom Barry's Commemoration

Along with the Mayor of Cork, Michael Ahern TD and Councillor Frank Flynn, I attended the General Tom Barry Commemoration at the Republican plot in St Finbarr's Cemetery.

A hero of the War of Independence, General Barry was by far and away the most successful Flying Column leader of the period.

The General Tom Barry National Commemoration Committee are currently fundraising to erect a Bust of General Barry. The Committee has commissioned Seamus Murphy RHA to design and create the Sculpture.

Funds are still needed to pay for the Monument which is hoped to be unveiled on the 28TH of November 2008- the Anniversary of the most famous of Barry's ambushes at Kilmichael.

If you would like to donate please contact Con O'Farrell-Kingsway, 8 Marble Hall Park, Ballinlough, Cork

Kenmare is Best Kept Town in the 32 Counties Senator Mark Daly, Chairman of Community Employment Scheme (FAS) sends Congratulations



Main St. Kenmare

Kenmare was named the Best Kept Town in Ireland at a Presentation in Belfast Castle on Tuesday 1st of July.

Ireland's Best Kept towns is an all- Ireland competition organised by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and Northern Ireland Amenity Council where towns that have reached the highest standards in Tidy Towns in the Republic of Ireland and Best Kept Awards in Northern Ireland are invited to compete against each other. All entrants were marked against strict adjudication criteria that included cleanliness, the outward appearance of buildings, the presentation of roads and public facilities and the natural environment and Kenmare came out on top.

My first achievement as Senator was to get the local Community Employment Scheme numbers increased from 9 to 13. The Community Employment Scheme is vital to the Tidy Town efforts in Kenmare and around the country, as well as providing training for the long term unemployed it also allows community to improve their areas with works that otherwise could not be done

Football Legend Mick O'Connell Watches Mark Daly Score Points at Transport Committee



*Mark with Members of the Oireachtas,
Representatives from Valentia SOS Group and football legend, Mick O'Connell*

Football legend Mick O'Connell came to Leinster House this week to attend a meeting of the Transport Committee discussing the proposed closures of Valentia and Malin Marine Rescue Centres.

John Fearon, the author of the Report conceded much ground in the meeting, admitting that he did not rely on an ESB report for his negative comments on the electricity supply rather he used reports he compiled himself. I brought his attention to a letter to the Department of Transport from the ESB which I obtained under Freedom of Information which states that "During the time in which we had the voltage recorder installed in your premises, your voltage was within standard". Fearon was unable to deny this point.

Nor did Fearon have a response to questions on a major discrepancy between the recommendations of his report and a statement from then Minister Pat the Cope Gallagher who stated in 2006 that "As part of the review of the Irish Coast Guard management the 24 hour, 7 days per week services at Malin Head and Valentia will remain".

Chair of the Meeting, Deputy Paul Connaughton has criticised the Report on which the decision is based. Deputy Connaughton acknowledged the meeting was "the best attended Committee meeting" in 2008 and admitted there were still many questions to be answered on the Report which the Committee will have to return to. See <http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2008/0703/1214949347303.html>, <http://www.rte.ie/news/2008/0702/coastguard.html>

Cork City Temporary Ban on Phone Masts Welcomed by Senator Daly

Cllr Chris O'Leary of the Green Party introduced a motion which was passed by Cork City Corporation which places a moratorium on planning decisions for mobile phone masts until it is proved beyond reasonable doubt that they are not harmful to people's health. This is exactly the type of safety provision promoted by the Precautionary Principle. I raised the matter in the Seanad and hope to encourage all other Councils to adopt a similar approach to phone mast planning applications.

(see appendix 2)

WWW.SENATORMARKDALY.COM

New Website Launched Today

My new website, www.senatormarkdaly.com, was launched today. The site includes an overview of all the issues I am working on and will be regularly updated with news.

On the left of the homepage you can see that you can become a member of the site which will allow you to comment or ask questions about any news item.

Appendix 1



An Taoiseach Brian Cowen TD stepping it out with local councillor Brian O'Leary and Sen. Mark Daly during his 'Yes' campaign visit to Killarney on Saturday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin



An Taoiseach Brian Cowen TD calls to Dermot and Paudie O'Callaghan with former Deputy John O'Leary at the Falte Hotel during his 'Yes' campaign visit to Killarney. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin

Richard Behal on the 'No' election trail around south Kerry this week. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin



An Taoiseach Brian Cowen TD with a street entertainer during his 'Yes' campaign visit to Killarney on Saturday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin



KERRY'S NO TO LISBON

ALL THE NEWS, VIEWS, REACTION, ANALYSIS AND RESULTS FROM THE REFERENDUM COUNT CENTRES

The people have spoken but what are they saying?

BY EVE KELLIHER

THE Kerry South electorate returned a decisive No vote to the Lisbon Treaty on Thursday.

After a morning spent watching the counters, there was scant surprise when returning officer Padraig Burke revealed the majority of voters in the constituency had turned down the treaty.

Casting aside the 117 spoiled votes, a total of 15,571 voted No, as opposed to 11,569 in favour of the treaty among the valid vote of 27,140.

Of a total electorate of 51,338 just over half (53.09 per cent) or 27,257 turned out to cast their vote.

This was more ore less in line with the national trend as Irish voters rejected the Lisbon Treaty.

Generations came together to chew over the No verdict at the election count in the Aras Phádraig in Killarney last Friday.

Michael Pat O'Donoghue, son of the Ceann Comhairle John O'Donoghue, and former Fianna Fail senator Tom

Fitzgerald kept a close eye on the tallying from the early morning.

"Looking at the boxes coming out this morning I won't say it was a surprise to see the No vote. What was a surprise was the majority of the No votes. Some of the boxes had four No votes to one Yes," said Mr Fitzgerald.

The No campaigners helped confuse many, maintained Mr O'Donoghue, who is a student at the Quinn School of Business at University College in Dublin where he has been involved in student election campaigns.

"Most people are confused err on the side of caution. The information was there but the No side managed to confuse the issue. The No result definitely wasn't against the government or Fine Gael or other parties in favour of Yes," said Mr O'Donoghue.

"I don't think it was people taking retribution on the government or any other party. If people don't understand they err on the side of caution and some did so thinking they might get another chance.



FF tradition: Michael Pat O'Donoghue, son of Ceann Comhairle John O'Donoghue chatting to former Fianna Fail senator Tom Fitzgerald at the count centre in Killarney. Picture: Valerie O'Sullivan

"I feel 95 per cent of politicians were for the treaty and the media has to be 50/50 in its coverage, so people at home watching coverage on television see it coming across as 50/50 either way."

Adding that he felt most young people are pro-Europe, Mr O'Donoghue said: "We've grown up with it. Ireland has got so much out of it. Many people who are in favour of the treaty are away, many of the college crowd simply weren't around to vote."

Kerry Fine Gael senator Paul Coghlan said the No vote was due to what he termed "irrele-

vancies, inaccuracies and issues that had nothing to do with the treaty".

"Thousands of people voted No because of issues that had nothing to do with the treaty," he told The Kingdom.

"I don't blame anybody for it. There was a multiplicity of factors at work in bringing about the No vote. We did get definite information from the Commission and the pro-parties did their best to summarise it."

It is also widely believed the No campaign played on fears that a Yes vote would be a risk to the Irish Constitution, he

added.

"We so value our written Constitution that if we perceive any threat to it we react in a negative way and there wasn't any threat to it," said Senator Coghlan.

And he felt some could have felt they may get a second chance to vote on a slightly amended form of the treaty by voting No in this instance.

"Perhaps Nice 2 could have been at play in some people's minds," he said.

Kenmare-based Fianna Fáil senator Mark Daly added he felt confusion led to a No vote.

"I met one businessman

while canvassing in Kerry South who told me he had tried to read the treaty and got 60 pages into it and just couldn't understand it. This man was pro-Europe but voted No," said Senator Daly.

"I think the comment has been used in many elections before - the people have spoken but we don't know what they said."

And it was a case of all or nothing for some voters, he felt.


"In order to vote Yes you had to be for everything or be neutral, whereas to vote No you had to be against one element," said Senator Daly.

Appendix 3

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WINNERS: Senator Mark Daly, Kenmare, and Deputy Jimmy Deenihan were amongst the members of the Oireachtas soccer team to take on the media in a challenge game in Dublin on Tuesday in aid of Our Lady's Children's Hospital. The politicians hammered the media 3-1. Also pictured is manager Packie Bonner and Sneem's Brendan Teahan.

Appendix 4

Seanad Transcripts 25/06/08

Senator Mark Daly:

I commend Cork City Council on passing a motion by Councillor Chris O'Leary of the Green Party, which places a moratorium on all planning decisions for mobile phone masts within the city until evidence is produced that they are not harmful to people.

The moratorium will not be lifted until the council is satisfied that the European environmental protection agency's precautionary principle is applied. That principle is that we should err on the side of caution when it comes to public health. If it is believed that mobile phones and masts cause cancer, we should apply the highest possible precautionary principles to them.

I have received information from Genevieve Maul, Communications Director, the University of Cambridge on the link between mobile phone usage and cancer. Last year, a Swedish study showed that one has double the risk of contracting a brain tumour if one uses mobile phones for over ten years.

In light of this growing evidence, I call on the Acting Leader to ask the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources to implement the recommendations of the Committee on Communications, Energy and Natural Resources in the last Dáil. That committee's wide-ranging recommendations were not implemented but they should now be introduced in light of the growing evidence I have cited.

Appendix 5

Seanad Transcripts 25/06/08

Seanad Transcripts

Senator Mark Daly:

My uncle, Austin Daly, who lives in South Africa, sent me a report of friends of his, William and Annette Rogers, who on 7 May were terrorised in their home in Zimbabwe during the hours of darkness. They were tortured by 15 thugs who wanted to make sure they left the farm. This is not a one-off incident. Robert Mugabe himself has been quoted as saying: "We are no longer going to ask for the land but we are going to take it without negotiating." This policy of forcing people to leave their land, whether they be white farmers, which they mostly are, or others, has turned Zimbabwe from the bread basket of Africa into an economic basket case.

This is an example of how Robert Mugabe has changed one form of terror government, that of the white government he replaced, into his own form of terror government where he has terrorised not only the white farmers he so hates but also anyone who opposes him.

Any man who says he would like to be associated with Adolf Hitler is a person one would wish was not in power in any country. When he was compared to Hitler, Mugabe is quoted as saying:

This Hitler has only one objective: justice for his people, sovereignty for his people, recognition of the independence of his people and their rights over their resources. If that is Hitler, then let me be a Hitler tenfold.

This is the man that we wish would leave Zimbabwe and let democracy rule in that country but, as the Minister is aware, the key is South Africa. However, South Africa's policy of quiet diplomacy is not quite working. While President Mbeki has been gently urged by the international community to do more, he fails to do so. The more he fails to recognise that quiet diplomacy is not going to work, the longer the situation will continue.

Ireland's role as a non-colonial power has been recognised by Senator Feargal Quinn and we must do more. There is not a lot we can do, but through the good offices of our ambassador in South Africa, we can place pressure on the South Africans, who are the king-makers in the situation, to ensure Robert Mugabe leaves office.