

# SENATOR MARK DALY

## NEWS



## Ambulance Response Time Putting Lives at Risk



CAMPAGNING FOR THE RETURN OF EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICES TO KERRY

After encouraging the calling of a public meeting to fight for the retention of ambulance services in the area, we were all delighted to be a part of the successful campaign by the Community which resulted in the retention of the Ambulance service in the area. However, by subsequently removing the second emergency ambulance from Killarney the Government is putting lives at risk in all of South Kerry. People are suffering, as the Kenmare ambulance has had to cover the loss of ambulance services in Killarney and in Millstreet. I am fighting, through the HSE, for the return of emergency ambulance services that have been withdrawn from the county.

## Wife of President Higgins, Mrs Sabina Higgins Invited to Dedication of Cumann na mBan Park

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of Cumann na mBan, the most important women's organisation of the revolutionary decade.

Women from the areas of Kenmare, Lauragh, Ardea, Bonane, Templehoe, Blackwater, Sneem, Tahilla, Kilgarvan and Morleys Bridge joined Cumann na mBan in large numbers, putting their lives at risk during the War of Independence. As well as playing a vital role in the struggle for freedom Cumann na mBan also demanded equal status and voting rights for women. To celebrate the lives of all those women, Mrs Sabina Higgins, wife of the President of Ireland, Michael D Higgins has been invited again to dedicate the land at Cromwells Bridge, Cumann na mBan Parkland on the banks of the Finnihy River after the land was transferred



PRESIDENT MICHAEL D HIGGINS WITH MEMBERS OF THE COTTER FAMILY AT THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE ASGARD GUN RUNNING. ORIGINALLY FROM THE OLD BLACKWATER POST OFFICE. THEIR GRANDFATHER HELPED TOW THE ASGARD ASHORE INTO HOWTH.

into public ownership for the first time. I would like to thank Councillor Dan McCarthy and Councillor Norma Moriarty for successfully ensuring the motion was tabled and passed by Kerry County Council on this occasion. As a result of my work on the Governments All-Party Consultation Group on

Commemorations, the Tunnel under the Shannon in Limerick, and the Bridge at Athlone are due be named after Cumann na mBan in the coming weeks. The new ring road around Tralee was recently named after Cumann na mBan following the motion put forward by Councillor John Brassil and I.

**Transfer of burial ground to council**

CAHERDANIEL'S Abbey Island burial ground, located near the home of the Liberator Daniel O'Connell and resting place of his wife Mary, is to be transferred to Kerry County Council and expanded after a 40 year campaign.

The transfer of the site from the OPW to the local authority comes after four decades of campaigning by members of the Caherdaniel Development Association, and will now allow for the much needed expansion of the cemetery.

Senator Mark Daly, who worked with the group to progress the project, confirmed this week that the chairman of the OPW will transfer the deeds before Christmas, paving the way for the expansion of the burial ground. He said the move was a tribute to the hard work done by the local community who kept working on this issue for over 40 years.

Senator Daly also paid tribute to Eileen Creedon of the Chief State Solicitors office, the staff of the OPW and Kerry County Council senior engineer, Colm Mangan, who have been working on this issue for many years.

**CAHERDANIEL/ CASTLECOVE**

**Abbey Island new Burial Grounds Progress after 4 Decade Campaign**

Having eventually secured the transfer of ground from the Office of Public Works to Kerry County Council a process that took 4 decades there has been progress with the new graveyard. The €40,000 secured from the Council is to enclose the area and provide access.



**ABOVE: JOHN JOE O'LEARY FROM CAHERDANIEL AT ABBEY ISLAND IN 2013**

**LEFT: KERRYMAN NEWSPAPER ARTICLE DECEMBER 2013**

**RIGHT: PROGRESS AT ABBEY ISLAND BURIAL GROUND**

**The Motion for the Restoration of Right of Way at the Pier Kenmare Successfully Passed by Kerry County Councillors despite one local councillor objecting**

Despite dozens of local people signing an affidavit saying that they had used a right of way from the pier to the point at the mouth of the Finnihy at the Peninsula. It was disappointing to see one local councillor not supporting the restoration of a right of way. The council has asked for members of the public to make submissions regarding public right of ways throughout the county. Many locals contacted me to ensure that the best interest of the community was represented. I was delighted that others councillors supported the right of way and the motion was passed.

**SNEEM**

**Government vote to charge half Commercial Rates on vacant properties**

Recently in the Seanad, I put forward a motion to annul a Ministerial Order which will effectively charge commercial rates on vacant commercial properties. The commercial rates could decimate rural towns and villages. No Regulatory Impact Assessment on this Ministerial Order has taken place. Owners who are currently unable to conduct business in the vacant

properties or receive rent may be forced to demolish their premises as they are unable to pay the commercial rates that will be imposed. Kerry County Councils do not currently charge Rates for properties which are vacant, a change to this may jeopardise any hopes towns and villages have of recovering and enticing businesses to set-up again. This move by the

Government is another attack on rural Ireland, there have been numerous unfair policies implemented which adversely affect rural people. For instance, rural Post Offices have been closed, over 100 rural Garda stations were shut, rural bus routes have been curtailed and small schools have been forced to close.

**LAURAGH/ TUOSIST**

**Government Minister confirms that there Will be no Improvement in Broadband Services Job Creation in Rural Ireland affected as a result**

On the 1st of October in reply to my question on the governments broadband plan for Kerry and nationally the Minister of Communication confirmed our fear that “there will be no change to the level of service of speeds provided” by broadband providers. The Government has failed to draw down funds from the EU Investment Bank. As Seanad Spokesperson on Energy, Communications and Natural Resources I am working on a policy which aims to allow local communities access to infrastructure



for fibre-optic broadband in the same way as the group water schemes which has been implemented.

The lack of broadband is hurting job creation, as currently 40% of business is conducted online yet only a quarter of Irish Businesses are engaged in e-commerce.

**KILGARVAN**

**Water Rates Unfair on Families, the Elderly and the Vulnerable**

The new water charges for domestic users introduced from 1 October 2014 have hit the most vulnerable in society, families and the elderly. The Government and Regulator have failed to put in place a fair scheme. Free water allowances for children have been unfairly cut by a massive 44%, from 38,000 litres to 21,000 litres. The first bill will be issued in January 2015 in respect of the period October-December 2014. If you have any queries or questions please feel free to contact me.

**TEMPLENOE/BLACKWATER/TAHILLA :**

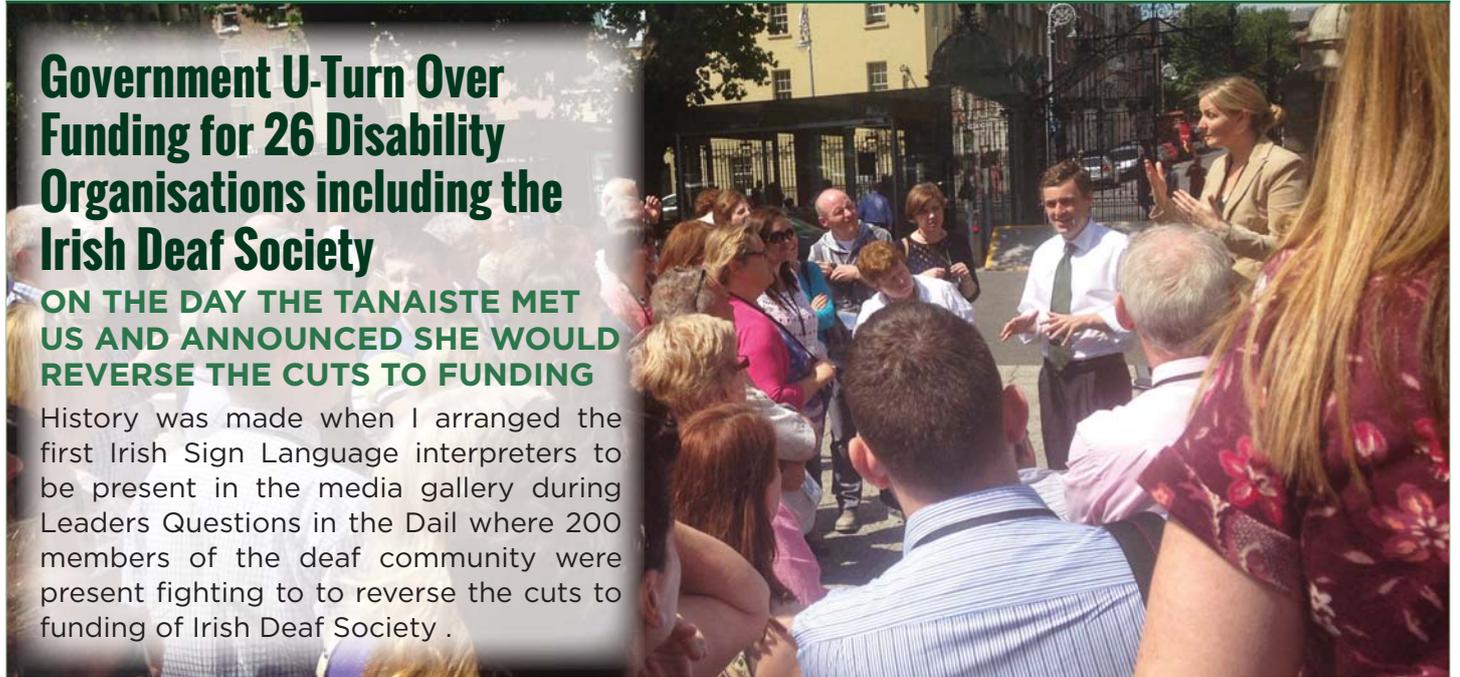
**NPPR Non Principal Private Residence Unfair to Second Home and Holiday Home Owners**

The unfair billing process of the Non Principal Private Residence charge has been raised with the Ombudsman and the Council. Many of those with second homes or holiday homes in the area have been levied with enormous bills despite the fact that they were not made aware that they had to pay. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

## Government U-Turn Over Funding for 26 Disability Organisations including the Irish Deaf Society

**ON THE DAY THE TANAISTE MET US AND ANNOUNCED SHE WOULD REVERSE THE CUTS TO FUNDING**

History was made when I arranged the first Irish Sign Language interpreters to be present in the media gallery during Leaders Questions in the Dail where 200 members of the deaf community were present fighting to to reverse the cuts to funding of Irish Deaf Society .



US AMBASSADOR TO IRELAND KEVIN O'MALLEY AND SENATOR MARK DALY

## Immigration Reform for US citizens living in Ireland Bill

I have recently proposed an Immigration Reform for US citizens living in Ireland Bill which will facilitate employment permits for 10'500 US citizens in Ireland. .

## Fire Services in Kerry and Nationwide

I asked the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, to outline the proposed changes to the Fire services in Kerry and Nationwide. Updates will follow



## Street Trading

I am continuing to work with the Council to resolve the street trading issue in Kenmare.

## Smoking Bill

I have worked with Professor John Crown and Senator Jillian Van Turnhout, on the Protection of Children's Health (Tobacco Smoke in Mechanically Propelled Vehicles) Bill 2012. Which will ban smoking in cars while children are present.

# SENATOR MARK DALY

### ADVICE CLINICS

<b>Kenmare</b>	<b>Sean Daly's Office, 34 Henry Street.</b>	Every Saturday morning
<b>Kilgarvan</b>	Kilgarvan Village	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month
<b>Caherdaniel</b>	Blind Piper & Freddie's Bar	
<b>Castlecove</b>	Staigue Fort Hotel	
<b>Sneem</b>	Sneem House	
<b>Blackwater</b>	Blackwater Tavern	
<b>Templenoe</b>	Pat Spillane's Bar	
<b>Dowros</b>	The Sailor's Bar	
<b>Ardea</b>	The Lake House	
<b>Lauragh</b>	Kilmackilloge	
<b>Bonane</b>	Bonane	

**Call Mark's Mobile to arrange a time suitable to you.**

*If you would like an Irish Sign Language Interpreter for your meeting, text or email Mark to make an appointment*

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