



# UK Independence Party

*It's Time We Governed Ourselves*

Issue No. 23

Dorset North Newsletter and News Digest

January 2008

We hope you had a perfect Christmas and wish you well in 2008.

Well, that's the niceties dealt with: now back to work with a vengeance! We have a lot to achieve this year. We must publicise the **Treaty/Constitution**; point out that the Flag, Euro, National Anthem, EU President & Foreign Minister are all back on the agenda. Tell everyone who will listen and even those who will not! **Leafleting** must start again immediately to press home what is at stake. Our branch will shortly have 5000 shiny new leaflets to distribute to new addresses, i.e. new areas where we have not leafleted before. Those within striking distance of Bournemouth may like to help with and attend the **National Conference** which is at the BIC on the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> September. We want to make this the biggest and best conference there has ever been within UKIP. Additionally there is the **Annual South West Rally** at Exeter University on Saturday, March 8th 2008. Not to be missed. Please make the effort to attend both if at all possible. The **Referendum Rally** & march in London is also coming up this year [details to follow]. Let us also each do our best to increase branch **membership**: – think how good it would be if every member got just one other person to join the local branch. The committee would like to be expanded with officers in every possible job so that we do not miss a chance to capitalise on every opportunity. With the addition of a couple of keen active members, the committee would be able to achieve so much more than it does. If you are up for it, there will be a chance to be elected at the next AGM just before the summer, but if you would like to start helping before then we can co-opt you at any time.

The effects of the **boundary changes** will be felt soon. Branch membership lists and figures will soon be revised to reflect these. Two Dorset North Committee members are affected, and no longer live in the constituency they represent. This gives more urgency to the requirement of new blood on the committee. More of this in the next newsletter in February [all being well].



And so to reports of recent meetings. That is simple. Other than the **First-Thursdays** meeting in December when 12 intrepid members were introduced to the new tenant management [the jury, while it still exists, is out on whether any changes are for the better!], the main meeting of the month was in neighbouring **Salisbury**. At the Guildhall in early December a total of 100 people attended an open meeting chaired by Malcolm Wood. There were three speakers: the local PPC for Salisbury UKIP and Educationist Frances Howard [above left]; The Campaign Director for the Democracy Movement Mark Glendening [right] and UKIP's Nigel Farage [below left]. **Frances Howard** spoke on how British Christians were treated within their own country, with restrictions now being placed on their activities.



**Mark Glendening** emphasised how British politicians make endless empty promises and seem not to be held account for their actions. The Treaty of Lisbon would transfer 68 opt-outs to majority voting, and that the treaty would be self-amending and even contain new powers that would not be specified until after ratification. The EU,



currently a trading organisation, will become a legal personality i.e. a state, carrying out agreements with non-EU countries which would be binding on all member-states. Despite the PM's unfulfilled promise to consult the country with a referendum, when the vote in Westminster comes, MPs would be whipped to ratify the Constitution. Traditionally in the UK power is in the hands of the UK people thus giving **us** the right to decide – MPs powers are temporary as they can be voted out. Post-Treaty, the people do the bidding of the EU parliament. Now, to avoid the end of democracy, 85 MPs need to be won over to oppose the ratification, provided those who have stated they will vote against the treaty do so. They have the power to save the country. After all William Pitt the Younger [right] once said "England has saved herself by her exertions, and will, as I trust, save Europe by her example." Let's hope this can be repeated.



Finally **Nigel Farage** stated that UKIP is all about good, accountable government with transparency and democracy. What chance had the EU of producing such government when men like Jacques Chirac had been given an amnesty for embezzlement? Similarly José Manuel Barroso had been suspended for embezzlement and barred for life from holding public office. Nigel Farage had outed both in the EUP as neither had declared their offences when standing for office! The Lisbon Treaty is 96% of the old discredited Constitution, yet 16 countries will not have to ratify the new one because they have already ratified the old. The Flag and Anthem are not mentioned in

this version of the treaty – they don't need to be as they are already in existence. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, [he who on the 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2006 in London said “The rejection of the Constitutional treaty by voters in France was a mistake that should be corrected.”] and 12 other heads of State have said that the Treaty preserved the key elements of the Constitution maintaining all the contents of it whilst changing only the style. And still the Tories want to “reform” the Treaty!!!

Elmer Brock, the German MEP who chairs the European parliament's foreign affairs committee, a very powerful man, has said that the EU has to be bigger than the USA to be **THE World Power**. The true aim of the EU simply stated.

View the excellent and interesting videos featuring a series of interviews given during the Salisbury meeting by Nick Radford from Vision News TV on the Salisbury Branch website at [www.ukipsalisbury.org](http://www.ukipsalisbury.org) and follow link to “An interview with Nigel Farage” and “Why we need a Referendum.”

The usual stupid **Health and Safety** issues continued to debase tradition and our quality of life over the Xmas period:

Pupils at the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic primary school in Paignton, Devon, were told to clip the wings off their nativity play's angel costumes because of health and safety regulations. The decision to ban angel wings during the festive period's nativity play was taken because of a risk that the wings could catch fire. Linda Mitchell, headmistress at told parents they would have to get rid of the wings on their little girls' angel outfits or they would be banned from taking part in the Christmas play. She said the pupils could catch fire from candles and insisted the children's safety had to come first. One wonders if Ms Mitchell is a member of Common Purpose.

Margaret Russell is a Lollipop lady in Southampton. You may have seen that she has for 20 yrs out of the last 27 yrs dressed up at work near Christmas and raised thousands for charity [previous outfits include a Xmas Pudding & Cinderella]. This year she was told she would be sacked if she did so again. She had already made a gold bell dress. So she placed it on the pavement and still managed to collect something for charity. No doubt next year they will stop her putting things on the pavement in case someone falls over it!

We blame the **Health and Safety** regulations for the killjoy attitude of councils, schools and businesses in banning things such as public Christmas displays, and anything with the tinniest perceived risk. The reason may be more down to the government's reduction in the availability of legal aid for claims pertaining to virtually any minor accident or incident. This has resulted in ‘ambulance chaser’ lawyers, promising no win no fee cases. This in turn has caused major increases in the cost of insurance policies as policy holders now require multimillion£ cover in case of claims against them. This insurance is now so expensive that many can't afford it, thus the would-be organisers cancel or just don't hold events, nor provide external Christmas decorations [in case someone falls off a ladder or is at the receiving end of a falling decoration, and sues them for millions] etc. So it must be time to ban the practise of suing for minor or perceived injuries [e.g. implied racial or sexual innuendo etc], and keep this sort of legislation for more important cases. If this is done, then insurance rates would come down, and we would once again enjoy life much more.

I attended a local firm's Christmas Dinner just before the festivities. On noticing that the evening seemed quieter than in previous years, I chatted with the DJ. He confirmed things were very much quieter, and that the hotel was offering such dinners only on four evenings a week instead of the previous year's seven days, and most of these were clearly not fully subscribed. He cited the main reason to be that changes to regulations on employer liabilities. Apparently the employer is now liable for the employee attending such a function from the moment they leave their home to the moment they set foot on their home property afterwards. So if they fall down and break a limb etc or have a car accident the employer would be liable for damages. No wonder the bosses have cancelled the celebrations. What an increasingly dull, boring, bland country we are being forced to live in. Why does no-one in the other parties stand up against this nonsense?

You could be excused from realising that the momentous **Treaty/Constitution** was signed on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2007 in the Jerónimos Monastery in Portugal. Some newspapers gave reasonable coverage, especial the Daily Mail and Express, others virtually ignored it despite it being of such devastating importance to Great Britain & Northern Ireland.



Also you are unlikely to have read or heard any mention of the protests in the European Parliament.

Something in the region of 70 'Euroseptic' MEPs created mayhem whilst the remaining MEPs celebrated the signing of the associated Charter of Fundamental Rights the previous day. As you would expect, even though a significant size, the powers that be tried hard to censor TV coverage, to seize cameras and manhandle the protesters. Despite that, some footage survived and can be seen at the link below. Well done to the frustrated UKIP MEPs and their European colleagues for making this protest, which showed that freedom of speech is definitely not allowed in the EU. [http://www.ukip.tv/?page\\_id=138](http://www.ukip.tv/?page_id=138) to see this in action. You won't see it on ordinary TV.

On the subject of the '**Treaty**' I think it may be worth just clarifying why it has been written in a confusing and unreadable style. This is quite deliberate. Europe's leaders know that such a difficult text will never attract the same hostility as the old constitution because it is simply too difficult to understand. We know this is deliberate because the author of the defunct constitution, the former French president, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, has told us so. In an article in *Le Monde* in October 2007, Giscard wrote that the new treaty had been composed "by jurists" who had taken the content of the old constitution and simply re-formulated it in terms of amendments to existing treaties. "They started with the text of the constitution," he wrote, "took its elements apart one by one, and made them correspond by means of amendments to the two existing treaties, Rome (1957) and Maastricht (1992) [...]. What is the purpose of this subtle manoeuvre? First and above all, to escape from the constraint of having to hold a referendum by dispersing the articles and by renouncing the constitutional vocabulary." There – we have it clearly from the horse's mouth!

Brussels has appointed the European Union's first "**ambassador**" more than a year before the EU Reform Treaty even comes into force. The powerful dual role will involve Belgium's Koen Vervaeke representing both the European Commission and the EU's 27 member states in Africa. The position is part of a diplomatic corps created under the treaty signed by Gordon Brown in Lisbon last month amid claims by Euroseptics of a betrayal of Britain's national interests.

Brussels chiefs have pressed ahead with Mr Vervaeke's appointment to Addis Ababa even before any countries have begun ratifying the treaty, which is scheduled to come into effect in 2009 and sets up the collective embassies. Critics have accused the commission of riding roughshod over the ratification process, which in Britain will see the treaty subject to parliamentary scrutiny and votes over more than 20 days next year [2008]. One wonders what will become of the British Embassies currently in virtually every country in the world. Will they be taken over by the EU as holiday homes for officials or will they be relinquished to 'save' money to fund officials' pensions?

**Climate change**, despite all the rhetoric, is a naturally occurring phenomenon. It is increasingly clear that it is unstoppable. The various parliaments around the world should be turning their attentions to helping those affected to adapt to it, rather than pour millions into unfeasible and ultimately useless preventative measures.

1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 is a date that will be remembered by Euroseptics with sorrow in two of the EU states. The former independent countries of Malta and Cypress are now the latest states to have adopted the **Euro** as their currency. 15 out of 27 states now use the Euro. In Cypress the 10,000 British troops are also having to use the Euro within their military bases. In terms of population, this brings the number of Europeans using the currency to 320 million out of the 495 million known population. The next countries to fall to the Euro will be Slovakia in 2009, Bulgaria by 2011 and Romania in 2014.

The EU/EEC celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Let's make sure it does not celebrate many more!

#### **A quick look at the Newspapers and Media:**

- Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Environment Secretary Hilary Benn are believed to have ruled out introducing a tax on the use of plastic bags, opting instead for a law banning the use of all plastic bags in supermarkets and other retail outlets. A Bill outlining the new regulations is expected to be introduced in the House of Commons this year, to become law in early 2009. A report in the *Western Morning News* said.
- A leaked Government memo has revealed that the UK Government has "no interest" in deporting foreign prisoners who have served less than 12 months, despite Gordon Brown's promise to automatically deport all foreign criminals straight away. Shadow Justice Secretary, Nick Herbert, said at least 4,000 offenders could be benefiting from the policy every year. The *Mail* reports that part of the reason these criminals are not being deported is due to the EU's Free Movement Directive.
- *L'Humanité* looks at the Irish referendum and reports that "the [government] campaign is well underway. Just before Christmas, Prime Minister Bertie Ahern took an alarmist tone in the Irish Times: the Irish 'will isolate themselves' from Europe if they say no to the 'modified' treaty."
- The Scottish Parliament voted just before Christmas for a UK-wide referendum on the revised EU Constitution, with Labour members abstaining on - rather than voting against - the proposal. The *Sun* notes "Their refusal to block the demand left the PM red-faced". *Open Europe* is quoted in the paper arguing that the vote was "a huge embarrassment for Gordon Brown on his own turf. It is now unthinkable that he can push through the constitution without a national vote."
- The *BBC* says that Police in Durham have arrested eight people suspected of fraud involving £650,000 from the EU's structural funds. Det Insp. G. Smith said: "We believe money has been used to buy land, houses, a vehicle & building work. A large amount of cash is also thought to have been transferred abroad." [Yes £15 b+ a year! Ed]

## **FOR YOUR DIARY:**

### **TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 all day!**

A Very Happy New Year to all our readers! At last, a new year! How about a new Independent UK government? Getting out of the EU? Getting UKIP councils! We did the groundwork in 2007 so let us aim high for 2008. Time to roll our sleeves up and save the UK. "Ask not what UKIP can do for you — ask what you can do for UKIP." Thanks J.F.K.!

### **THURSDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2008 @ 7.30pm onwards:**

*North Dorset Branch Library and minishop available at this meeting.*

The first **FIRST-THURSDAY** informal evening get-together of 2008 at the Charlton Inn, Bournemouth Road, Charlton Marshall, DT11 9NH. Our regular informal evening of food, drink and chat. Do one or all three! Call John Baxter for further details if needed on 01202 897884. All are welcome – members and their guests or prospective members. Joint event with other local branches, making it always an excellent opportunity to network!



### **SATURDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2008 1.30pm onwards:**

Your chance to assist your branch on the basis that more hands make light work. No – nothing to do with solving the power crisis! An opportunity to help with collating the next round of flyer packs for delivery within the three branches of Poole, West Bournemouth and North Dorset. We need as many helpers as possible so if you can turn up, this will assist us greatly. The address is 1, Wallace Road, Broadstone, Poole, Dorset, BH18 8NF. Please let John Baxter know at the Greenacres address below that you will be there.



### **THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2008 @ 7.30pm onwards:**

*North Dorset Branch Library and minishop available at this meeting.*

Our informal evening get-together at the Charlton Inn, Bournemouth Road, Charlton Marshall, DT11 9NH. Details as per 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

### **ADVANCE NOTICE:**

### **SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2008 - ANNUAL SOUTH WEST RALLY**

UKIP's annual rally for the West Country will be at Exeter University. More details to follow.

### **FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> & SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008 - UKIP NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2008.**

Start booking your hotel places now! The UKIP national conference for 2008 will be held on Friday and Saturday the 5th and 6th of September at the Bournemouth International Centre. Fuller details will soon appear on the Bournemouth West website and will include a list of nearby hotels. Please support this enterprise and help to make our local conference the best yet, the one to set the standard of conferences to come!

## **Other Regular Events in Neighbouring Constituencies:**



### **WELLS BRANCH**

UKIP Wells Constituency Association meets regularly on the **last Monday of every month** in the downstairs room at the back of the Kings Head Pub, 36 High Street, **Wells**, Somerset, BA5 2SG. Contact Wyn Thomas on 'gb.thomas@ukonline.co.uk'



### **SALISBURY BRANCH**

A reminder that the Salisbury Lunch has a new venue and day. Now the **4th [last] Thursday of the month** [excluding August & December], UKIP **Salisbury** branch have a lunchtime social at the Green Dragon, Old Road, Alderbury, Salisbury, SP5 2AR. Phone Margaret Strange on 01980 623907 or contact David Dickenson on 01722 324146 for further details. The Green Dragon [Photo on right] may in part be the original Blue Dragon in Charles Dickens's 'Martin Chuzzlewit.'



### **EAST DEVON BRANCH**

Come and have lunch with UKIP in **East Devon** the **first Tuesday of every month** at the Maltsters' Arms, Woodbury, Devon. EX5 1LN Telephone John Kelly on 01395 276130.

**Branch Information: John L. Baxter, Chairman. Charles Upton, Treasurer.  
Betty Dandridge & Alan Haines, Committee.**

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If you need to contact our Headquarters these are the details:

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**Lexdrum House, King Charles Business Park, Old Newton Road, Heathfield, Newton Abbot, Devon.**

**TQ12 6UT.**