

Watch my Election Campaign video on: www.youtube.com
Visit my website at: www.jimmyharte.com or contact me on: 087 2511037 / 074 9120469

Watch my Election Campaign video on: www.youtube.com
Visit my website at: www.jimmyharte.com or contact me on: 087 2511037 / 074 9120469



Vote Harte No.1

www.jimmyharte.com



Public Against Road Carnage

Following the PARC meeting (Public Against Road Carnage) in Malin on the 2nd of February, Harte suggests that practical steps need to be taken in order to reduce the rate of fatalities on our roads. "As someone who has over 20 years experience in the motor insurance industry, I am aware of the issues that exist on our county's roads. Trends in collisions show approximately 30% of road fatalities occur between 10pm and 4am, and that the crash rate is five times higher when there are two or more passengers in the car," he says.

"In the UK, plans are being drawn up to offer cheaper premiums to those who don't use their vehicles between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. by using existing blackbox technology. We also need to consider reducing the number of passengers that young motorists can carry during these hours". He congratulated Susan Gray and Ursula Quinn on setting up the PARC initiative. I fully support PARC's call for mandatory drink/drug testing of drivers at road traffic accidents as is the case in Northern Ireland.

Jobs Investment

Google recently announced they will be creating 500 jobs in Dublin. Yet again, these jobs are clustered towards the East Coast and the Government have also failed to deliver on their promise of decentralisation. I set up my own business in Donegal at the age of 24 so I know about the creation and preservation of jobs in this county. I propose that state agencies such as Enterprise Ireland and the I.D.A. form a link with successful Donegal business people living abroad. The objective would be to create a communication mechanism and promote the economic benefits of the county.

adopt a longterm view of the present Leisure Centre in Letterkenny. The present facility should be retained in conjunction with the planned new Complex at Sallaghagrane, and this issue is something I have been rallying for extensively in recent months. Dr Christine Mc Master from the HSE recently wrote an article to a local newspaper entitled 'Action on Obesity' and it read, "I am appealing to politicians and council administrators to keep the leisure centre pool open... what is needed first and foremost and found sadly lacking is political leadership. Who will show the necessary courage and foresight?"

Obesity is a major economic burden and consumes 8% of our overall healthcare budget. The prevention and management of obesity requires a shared responsibility between the HSE and the council. If the council decide to close the Leisure Centre, it will be a short-term economic gain for the council, but a long-term economic burden for the health service. If we are concerned about the welfare of our children, then we must ensure that we provide them with healthy choices and this includes keeping the Leisure Centre open.



Jimmy presenting a cheque to Eric Pierce from Iona Schoolboys football team.



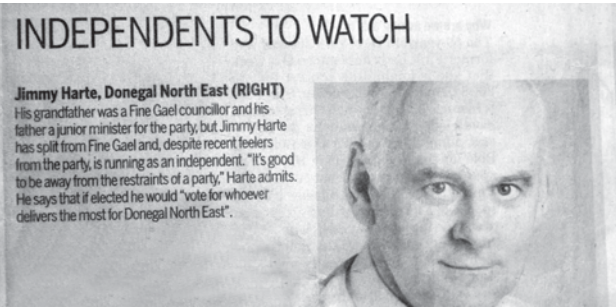
Jimmy with Deirdre Bradley, Buncrana Chamber of Commerce, Martin Farren, Director of Elections and Mike Mullins from OM Charity.

Leisure Centre is an investment in health

The threatened closure of Letterkenny Leisure Centre is of great concern to me. The HSE and the Letterkenny Town Council need to

Independents to watch

The Sunday Tribune identified Jimmy as one of three Independent candidates to watch in Ireland for the 2007 Election. In the article, which appeared in their Election Countdown Special in January, Harte said that if elected "he would vote for whoever delivers the most for Donegal North East".



What it says in the papers...

News of the World, November 12th 2006

"A COUNCILLOR is demanding that private landlords be held responsible for unruly tenants. Letterkenny election candidate Jimmy Harte said that while council tenants are provided with rules governing behaviour, the same does not apply for private rentals. The independent added that unruly tenants are responsible for anti-social behaviour."

Daily Mail, June 30th 2006

"SOME gardai are reporting in sick at weekends rather than turn up for duty because they fear for their safety on the streets of Letterkenny. The claim was made by local councillor Jimmy Harte after a vicious assault on an off-duty garda sergeant in the town on Monday night....Cllr Harte said that law and order needed to be restored to the town. He also called on the relevant authorities to curb late night drinking at weekends."

Irish Independent, March 15th 2006

"A PRIVATE consortium stands to make up to 3m from the sale of a disused mart after buying out the leasehold for just €800 yesterday...The prime development site situated near the Cathedral and a number of schools is currently zoned for "parking and residual housing" but if it was rezoned as residential it could be worth 3m or more, according to local councillor, Jimmy Harte."

Tirconail Tribune, June 25th 2004

"THIS was the election in which Jimmy Harte also had a fine result. He has 1,553 votes and in a general election situation that would be a very important factor. Harte has increased his vote significantly in Letterkenny."

Irish Independent, April 29th 2005

"COUNCILLOR Jimmy Harte got unanimous support in the county council chamber two years ago when he proposed that a tax be levied on holiday homes. But the Department of the Environment did not give the initiative the green light. "I own a holiday home in Donegal myself, but I believe there should be a tax," says Cllr Harte."

Community Groups

I have contributed to the following local community groups through the County Council and Town Council Members Development Fund:

Solomons Hill Residents Association	Ard O Donnell Mass Celebration
Letterkenny & District Caledonian Pipe Band	Ard na Ri Residents Assoc.
Slieve Sneacht / Errigal Road Residents Assoc.	Garage Court Residents Assoc.
Downs Syndrome Association	Letterkenny Senior Citizens Video Project
The Red Door Project	Ard O Donnell Mass Celebration
Glencar / Dr Mc Ginley Rd Residents Assoc.	Ard na Ri Residents Assoc.
Mc Neely Villas	Garage Court Residents Assoc.
Beechwood Avenue	Churchill Community Playgroup
Donegal Surf Lifesaving	Letterkenny Tidy Towns
Willowbrook/The Elms	Donegal Hospice Fund
Community Youth Band Letterkenny	Donegal Vintage Club
Letterkenny Community Development Association	Ard Bathin Residents Assoc., St.Johnston
Donegal Canoe Club	Lagan Harps FC Schoolboys
Upper Fernhill Residents Assoc.	HOPE International
Hillview & Hillgrove Residents Assoc.	Mount Southwell Social Club
Parkview Drive Residents Assoc.	Letterkenny Womens Centre
Sylvan Park Residents Assoc.	Old Letterkenny Reunion
Oldtown Celtic FC	St Johnston & Carrigans Community Playgroup
St Bernadettes Special School	Muff Branch - Red Cross
Quigleys School of Irish Dancing	Donegal Youth Service
Multiple Sclerosis Association (Donegal Branch)	New Brook Court Residents Assoc.
Fairgreen Hill Residents Assoc	Thiepval Memorial Pipe Band
Knocknamona Park Residents Assoc.	Irish Pilgrimage Trust
Letterkenny Swifts FC	Buncrana Accordion Band
Iona Schoolboys FC	Somme Youth Project
Dyslexia Association	Conwal Parish Church
Glencar FC	St.Johnston & Carrigans Resource Group
Letterkenny Community Playgroup	Danzone
Letterkenny Athletic Club	People In Need - Telethon
Blue Ribbon Group	St.Johnston Social Services Committee
Carolina Park Residents Assoc.	Donegal Mountain Rescue Team
Letterkenny Lawn Bowling Club	Abbey Park, Manorcunningham
Letterkenny Non Nationals Assoc.	Residents Association
Trocaire	Gaeltex Drive, Residents Assoc.
Leck Cottages Residents Assoc.	Tsunami Appeal
Letterkenny Amateur Boxing Club	Glenwood Park Residents Assoc.
Y Zone	Ramellon Community Hall Development Co.
Ballymacool Development Committee	Cairde Le Chelle Special Olympics
Doorway Community Project	Errigal Writers Group
Thomdale Residents Assoc.	North West Charity 10k
Beinn Aobhinn Residents Assoc.	Willow Park Residents Association
Hazelwood Drive Residents Associ	St.Bathin's Parents Association, St.Johnston
Garlan United Ladies Soccer Club	Letterkenny & District Anglers Assoc.
Ashbrook Residents Assoc.	Special Olympics
Croagh Patrick Residents Assoc.	Donegal Community Games
The Diabetes Federation of Ireland	East Donegal Underage Soccer
Knocknamona Crescent Assoc.	Donegal Pet Rescue
Letterkenny Gaels GAA club	Illistrin National School
St Eunans GAA club	Round Ireland Swim
Glenoughy Close Residents Assoc.	Donegal Canoe club
Conwal Parish Church	Donegal Concerned Parents Against Bullying
Letterkenny Scouts	RAMellon Action Group
Letterkenny Senior Citizens Video Project	GROW Mental Health Support
	Irish Countrywomens Assoc. (ICA)

Jimmy's message

A chairde,

I would like to welcome you to my newsletter and take this opportunity to ask you for your No. 1 vote in the forthcoming General Election. My years of involvement in community, business and political affairs have given me the name recognition and background that is necessary to be a viable candidate in the next Election. I am a member of Donegal County Council since 1999 and the Letterkenny Town Council since 1994. In the last County Council election in June 2004, my vote increased by 24.5%.

I live at 3 Sylvan Park, Letterkenny and am married to Mary (nee Galligan), who was born in Carrigart. We have a family of four. I graduated from University College Dublin with a B.A. in Psychology and set up my own business at the age of 24, with offices in Letterkenny and Raphoe.



Jimmy Harte with Sir Gerry Robinson, former Donegal Person of the Year, his wife Heather and Mary Harte-Nolan at the launch of Jimmy's Election Campaign in November.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Election Launch
- Letterkenny Leisure Centre
- Hospital Crisis
- Law and Order
- Public Against Road Carnage
- Town Council Issues

NEXT ISSUE

- Health
- Education
- Environment and more...

As the Managing Director of Harte Insurances, I am the only General Election candidate in Donegal North-East who has a background in business. I am also a member of the Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce.

I am running as an independent because the people of Donegal deserve a public representative that will put people ahead of politics. I may have left a political machine but I have not left behind the values that were handed down to me through generations of my family. If you value your vote, vote for your values. If you really want to put Donegal first for the next five years your contribution will be your No 1 vote for Harte on Election day.

Yours faithfully
Cllr. Jimmy Harte



Marion Harkin T.D. MEP for Connaught-Ulster officially opened the Jimmy Harte Election Office in Letterkenny on the 17th of February.

Election Office Opens

The Jimmy Harte Election Office is situated in Letterkenny opposite the Central Library at: 23 Oliver Plunkett Road, Letterkenny.

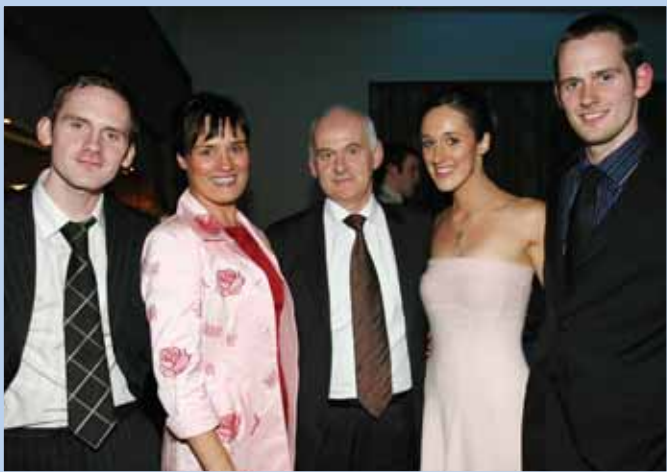
Opening hours will be:

Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
To contact the office, please call:
(074) 9120469/20470

Watch my Election Campaign video on: www.youtube.com
Visit my website at: www.jimmyharte.com or contact me on: 087 2511037 / 074 9120469

Watch my Election Campaign video on: www.youtube.com
Visit my website at: www.jimmyharte.com or contact me on: 087 2511037 / 074 9120469

Watch my Election Campaign video on: www.youtube.com
Visit my website at: www.jimmyharte.com or contact me on: 087 2511037 / 074 9120469



Jimmy and his wife Mary with their sons Michael and Lochlainn and their daughter Amy.

Harte Launches Election Campaign

Over 300 people attended the official launch of Jimmy Harte's General Election campaign in the Radisson Hotel, Letterkenny on Friday the 17th of November. The gala dinner and jazz evening was a resounding success with many prominent Donegal figures in attendance. Among the guests were Sir Gerry Robinson, Donegal Person of the Year in 1997, and Dr. Kieran Deeney MLA., who was elected to the Northern Ireland Assembly in 2003 as an independent candidate. Former Shelbourne and Finn Harps FC soccer manager Dermot Keeley also attended the evening. MC for the night was local journalist and broadcaster Frank Galligan. Speeches were followed by a brief audio-visual presentation based on Jimmy's campaign.



Jimmy, his wife Mary, and Rory Kavanagh (Donegal Gaelic Player).

"The unique launch of Jimmy Harte's Election Campaign, probably the first of it's kind in Donegal, had all the hallmarks of a US style presidential campaign...he has set a high bar for others to follow...it was refreshing to see such a cross county support for his cause and Cllr Harte's imagination and drive will stand him in good stead."
Donegal on Sunday - 19/11/06

Harte Raises over €25,000 for local charities

Jimmy has completed nine marathons over the last four years, and in doing so, has raised over €25,000 for the following charities: Donegal Autism Services, GROW, Aware, MS Ireland, Diabetes Federation, Spina Bifida



Donegal, Cairde le Cheile and Letterkenny Hospice. Jimmy is also a Director of the Simon Community North West and a member of the North West Region Cross Border Group. A keen sportsman, he is a former chairman of Finn Harps FC and has also played soccer for UCD and GAA at County Minor level.

Flight Of the Earls a boost for Milford area

Cllr Jimmy Harte has welcomed the 400th Anniversary celebrations of the Flight of the Earls, which are taking place this year. He says that the event has huge tourism potential for Rathmullan and its surrounding areas. "The Flight of the Earls was one of the most significant periods in Irish history, and it led to a huge amount of Irish diaspora settling around the world. The 2007 programme provides endless tourism possibilities for Donegal, allowing the county an opportunity to showcase itself on an international stage", he says. Harte also urges people to log onto the recently launched website www.flightoftheearls.ie, "The website is a great source of information for historical facts about Flight of the Earls and also for the calendar of events for the year ahead. It also makes the celebrations more accessible to our younger generation who may not be familiar with this significant piece of Irish history."



Jimmy with a table of Gartan supporters at the launch of his Election Campaign in the Radisson Hotel in November.

Law and Order

We need a three-pronged approach - legislation, policing and values. While we have many good pieces of legislation to deal with anti-social behaviour and road safety, we are much weaker implementing it. Secondly, I firmly believe in the role of the community police officer. The force needs to have roots in every community, and people need to start engaging with gardai on a non-conflict basis. Finally, underpinning any society is its value system and anti-social behaviour spawns from the lack of a value system.

Health Service

We need an equitable and efficient health service. The radiation link-up service with Belfast is not the best solution to Donegal - the solution is the provision of the service here in Letterkenny.



Currently, Letterkenny General Hospital has the longest operation waiting list in Ireland. According to figures published by the National Treatment Purchase Fund last October, 1,158 adults were waiting more than 12 months for treatment. This contradicts the Government's

target that no patient should wait more than three months for an operation. Recent official figures also show that in 2005, Letterkenny General Hospital had the highest level of cancelled elective procedures in the HSE West region (79%). The Donegal Action Cancer Care group had to take to the streets last year to secure a permanent breast surgeon in Letterkenny General Hospital. This would not have been necessary had the local government representatives done the job they were elected to do. We deserve better.

In light of the unacceptable developments in our health service, we need to ask ourselves whether we want a

continuation of the same inadequate representation for the future. When the most vulnerable people in our county are treated with complete disregard, it says a lot about the values of this Government.

Planning

It is wrong to say that the Celtic Tiger hasn't arrived in Donegal. It has - look at the magnificent developments that have taken place over the last twenty years. Letterkenny, in particular, has seen unprecedented growth and I have contributed to this growth in my role as town and county councillor over the last 12 years. Growth and development are welcome, and while we can't halt development, we can manage it.

Childcare

As a father of a 3 year old I am only too aware of the costs of childcare, I support the idea that there is free pre school for one year for our children. This will involve significant investment and support to existing providers. In turn this will help parents during those crucial years. This is an investment in the future of our children, money well spent.



Jimmy and his daughter Saidbh

Farming

The continued buoyancy in the construction sector is contributing to higher labour costs in farming throughout rural areas. I support the idea of farm apprentice schemes for foreign workers which would train them in farm skills and language skills. This would not only alleviate the shortage in labour for farmers but it would also provide opportunities for real integration.



A selection of minutes from recent Town Council meetings...

Lights at Glenard Park - Oct 06

In answer to his question, Cllr. J. Harte was advised that the provision of lights in Glenard Park can be considered as part of the Takeover Programme with works due to commence in current year. Cllr. J. Harte requested that a letter to be issued in this regard.

Unauthorised developments – Oct 06

In answer to his question Cllr. J. Harte was advised that there are currently approximately 10 unauthorised developments in the Town Council area and a list will be forwarded.

Roundabout at Unifi – Sept 06

Cllr. J. Harte proposed that we expedite the construction of the roundabout at UNIFI plant. On proposing his motion Cllr. J. Harte outlined that this was a very busy junction since the opening of the new Business Park Road. A brief discussion followed with Cllr. C. Brogan, Town Mayor asking that a report be sought from Senior Roads Engineer in this regard.



Jimmy's supporters gather outside his Election Office with Marian Harkin TD MEP

Long lane junction – Sept 05

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Brogan seconded by Cllr. J. Harte it was agreed that the Council give consideration to the widening of the road at bottom of Long Lane junction with Circular Road to achieve right and left turning lanes to alleviate traffic congestion at this location.

Footpath Gortlee road – Sept 05

In answer to his question Cllr. J. Harte was advised that initial works have now been completed under the 2005 Roadworks Programme. Additional works can be considered under the 2006 Roadworks Programme following consultation with local businesses in the area.

Gateway Status - July 05

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Harte it was agreed that the Council ask the Government to allocate extra funding to help infrastructure in view of our Gateway status.

Meadowbank – July 05

In answer to his question Cllr. J. Harte was advised that the works in Meadowbank will be completed on a phased basis over a 3 year period. 2005 will see 30% of roads and footpaths complete to required specification.



Jimmy at the Peace Tower at the Island of Ireland Peace Park, Belgium. The park was built to commemorate Irishmen who were wounded or missing in World War One. Jimmy's father, Paddy Harte OBE, co-initiated the creation of the Park under 'A Journey of Reconciliation Trust' organisation.

School in Gortlee Area – Feb 05

Cllr. J. Harte proposed that the Council contact the VEC with a view to the establishment of a school in the Gortlee area. The motion was agreed.

Long Lane – Nov 04

Cllr. J. Harte proposed that the Council widens the junction at the bottom of Long Lane to incorporate an extra lane saying that, "following the installation of traffic measures that the Council widens the junction at the bottom of Long Lane to incorporate an extra lane". This motion was adopted.

Traffic Calming: Ashlawn / Sylvan Park Junction – Nov 04

In answer to his question Cllr. J. Harte was advised that a design has been carried out to improve vision lines and reduce speed at this area of town as part of a development at Gortlee.

Roundabout at Ballyraine Road.

New student halls - Jan. 2005

Cllr. J. Harte proposed that the Council complete the roundabout at Ballyraine Road, it was now the opinion that a roundabout would be the best option and it was hoped that same would commence in March 2005.



Jimmy was instrumental in the completion of Ballyraine Roundabout in Letterkenny.