

Marina Yannakoudakis



Conservative MEP for London



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MARINA'S FISH FIGHT



Marina and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall

Marina and Conservative MEPs voted for a package of measures which will put an end to the practice of dumping fish in the sea if fishermen catch more than their quota. In a speech in Strasbourg, Marina paid tribute to the importance of fisheries for London even though it is an inland constituency. She spoke about how Billingsgate market is worth £200 million a year to the London economy. The reformed EU fisheries policy will which will allow fish stocks to grow. It will help protect marine resources for the future so that we can have not only more fish but more jobs and more prosperous communities.

THIS MONTH MARINA HAS:

- Taken up her new position as the Vice-Chair of the European Alzheimer's Alliance
- Given an interview to LBC radio on how she voted to end discards of unwanted fish and to reform the EU Common Fisheries Policy.
- As a member of both the Food Safety Committee and the Organised Crime Committee, asked the European Parliament to look into the horse meat scandal.
- Made a speech in Strasbourg condemning all forms of violence against women.
- Organised a packed bus to take London activists to campaign in the Eastleigh by-election

FOR THE LATEST INFO...



Marina is on Facebook, YouTube & Twitter.

LABOUR MUST NOT UNDO EU BUDGET CUT



David Cameron got an agreement in Brussels that we can all be proud of. The EU Summit agreed a deal which will, for the first time ever, see the EU budget cut. The £29 billion cut will mean that the European Union will be forced, like national and local governments, to reduce spending at a time of austerity. However spendthrift MEPs are planning to scupper the deal by calling for a secret ballot on the budget. Also Ed Miliband has refused to say if Labour MEPs will back the reduced budget. Citizens deserve to know how their MEPs voted. They also deserve a decrease in wasteful spending. Marina will be proud to vote for the budget cut.

ALZHEIMER'S



■ Marina and Dr Simon Ridley of Alzheimer's Research

■ Marina was appointed the new vice-chairwoman of the European Alzheimer's Alliance this month. She believes in supporting the exchange of best practice between EU member states in the care and treatment of Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's is a disease and not a natural part of ageing. In London alone, 68,000 people are suffering from the dementia and another 40,000 people do not realise they have the condition. Raising awareness can lead to an early diagnosis and life-extending early treatment.

AROUND LONDON



February was a busy month for council by-elections with voters going to the polls in Hammersmith, Harrow and Kingston. Marina was on hand to support local candidates including Mike Head, who came close to unseating the Liberal Democrats in the Berrylands by-election. Marina also joined Sutton and Cheam prospective parliamentary candidate Paul Scully for his first canvassing session in Belmont Ward. Marina also attended association events this month in Chipping Barnet, Richmond, Greenwich, Westminster, Tottenham and Enfield Southgate.

WORKING ALL YEAR ROUND FOR LONDON

HORSEMEAT



■ The horsemeat scandal has shown that consumers are being misled on a massive scale. Some of the horsemeat products labelled as beef were sold in the UK by Swedish

company Findus, manufactured by a French firm in Luxembourg and sourced from Romanian abattoirs through Cypriot and Dutch intermediaries. As a member of both the food safety committee and the special committee on organised crime, Marina is looking at the horsemeat scandal from the point of view of both public health and organised fraud.

FGM



■ Marina organised an event highlighting the rise in cases of Female Genital Mutilation across Europe and specifically in London. Female genital mutilation is a horrific and violent act committed against young girls and children. In the UK FGM was criminalised in 1985, but in the past 28 years there has not been a single prosecution in Britain. Marina talked about the different approaches to FGM across Europe including France, where there is no specific law against FGM, but there have been a number of successful prosecutions. The UK has already followed the Netherlands' lead by introducing an FGM passport to help girls speak out against the practice. The event was attended by Battersea MP Jane Ellison who is chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on FGM and anti-FGM activist Efua Dorkenoo OBE of Equality Now.

CWO



■ Marina attended the annual conference of the Conservative Women's Organisation where she met with the party's female activists and elected representatives and took a particular interest in the conference session on Ageism and Inclusion organised in co-operation with Age UK and chaired by Margot James MP.