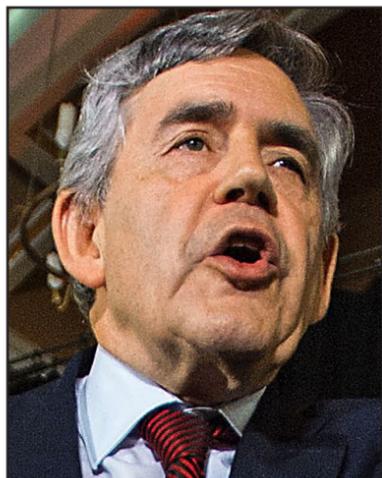


# Brown's war cry

Stand up and be counted, former British PM urges in fiery speech



Gordon Brown

By James Chapman

GORDON Brown electrified the No campaign yesterday as he invoked the shared sacrifices of two world wars in a dramatic appeal to the 'silent majority' in Scotland who reject separation from the United Kingdom.

The former Labour prime minister, who has seized control of the increasingly bitter fight for the 307-year-old Union, told an eve of poll rally: 'What we created together, let no narrow nationalism split asunder. Hold your head up high with dignity and pride - stand up and be counted.'

In a speech that was widely seen as the best of the referendum campaign, Mr Brown urged the crowd: 'Tell them Scotland does not belong to the SNP.' In his 13-minute oration, Mr Brown spoke without notes

## 'Hold your head up high with dignity'

and said the vote was about whether 'you want to break every last link with the UK and I say I don't want to end UK pensions, UK passports, the UK pound, the UK welfare state, the UK funded health service or the UK minimum wage.'

'So let us tell people of what we have done together. Tell them that we fought and won a war against fascism together.'

'Tell them there is no war cemetery in Europe where Scots, English, Welsh and Northern Irish troops do not lay side-by-side.'

'We fought together, suffered together, sacrificed together, mourned together and then celebrated together. And tell them that



Bid: A Yes rally in Glasgow yesterday

we not only won a war together - we built a peace together, we created the NHS together, we built a welfare state together.'

'We did all this without sacrificing within the union our identity, our culture, our tradition as Scots.'

Experts believe today's referendum could rival the turnout record for any UK-wide vote - even topping the 84 per cent voters in the 1950 general election. If the eve-of-referendum polls are right, then the margin of victory could be as little as 65,000 of Scotland's 4.3million voters. Mr Brown spoke out as:

■Church leaders pleaded with voters to go to the polls with 'cool heads',

■Police were accused of doing too little to prevent 'intimidation' of No supporters,

■Pro-Union campaigners seized on figures showing unemployment in Scotland has fallen again to 6 per cent - lower than the UK average,

■A cross-party group of former British EU commissioners warned an independent Scotland will be forced out of the EU,

■Scottish Secretary Alistair Carmichael said oil-rich Shetland, which is expected to deliver a strong No vote, could break away from an independent Scotland.

At Westminster, emergency plans were being made for a recall of parliament - currently in recess for the

party political conference season - on Saturday in the event of a Yes vote. It would be the first Saturday sitting of the House of Commons since the Falklands War in 1982.

## 'Underdogs have a habit of winning'

David Cameron again insisted he would not resign in the event of a Yes vote, despite rumours that at least two of his ministers are considering quitting in such circumstances. 'My name is not on the

## 'Don't knows' now key

A SURGE in support for Scottish independence meant the future of the United Kingdom was last night hanging by a thread.

A final referendum poll left the No camp with just a two-point lead.

The Ipsos MORI survey put support for Yes on 49 per cent against 51 per cent for No, once undecided voters are excluded.

Taking them into account, the No campaign is backed by 49 per cent, Yes on 47 per cent and 'don't know' on five per cent.

That represents a slump in support for the No campaign of five percentage points from August, while Yes is up seven points.

Turnout is now likely to

be high, with 95 per cent claiming they are certain to vote. While this figure is higher with those aged 55 and over who traditionally are more likely to turn out - 97 per cent - it is still very high across all age groups, including those aged 16 to 24, where 90 per cent claim they are certain to vote.

Mark Diffley, director of Ipsos MORI Scotland, said: 'With hours to go now it is clear that the result of the independence referendum is extremely close. Yes have made significant gains, to the extent that the outcome is finely balanced.'

'Both campaigns now will be entirely focused on persuading undecided voters and on ensuring that their supporters turn out to vote tomorrow,' he said.

## Pub party clashes fear

A DECISION to allow pubs in Scotland to stay open through referendum night has been described as 'absolute madness' by police officers.

Some venues are holding all-night parties as voters wait to find out whether Scotland will become independent.

But there are concerns that rival activists could get into fights and that police resources will be diverted from potential problems elsewhere.

One officer said a lot of

people were already getting 'very, very worked up' before today's vote, and that allowing them to drink through the night would be 'absolute madness'. He added: 'If it's a No vote, there is a concern among police that it will get ugly.'

Ten pubs across Scotland have been given special licences to open late. In Edinburgh eight extended licences have been granted with one pub allowed to serve alcohol until 5am.

ballot paper,' the prime minister said. In other developments on the final day of campaigning, independence supporters gathered in the centre of Glasgow where scorn was poured on the offer of further devolution of powers to the Scottish parliament.

Alex Salmond declared pro-independence campaigners the underdogs, but added: 'Underdogs have a habit of winning sometimes.' He said Scots 'for a few precious hours during polling day hold power in their hands'. He claimed an independent Scotland would be the 'closest friend' to the rest of the UK.

Comment - Page 14  
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## Criminals could be sent to jail at weekends only

OFFENDERS could be imprisoned on a weekends-only basis, under proposals to overhaul the country's overcrowded prisons.

Proposals drawn up for the Government also call for judges to be forced to give written explanations for sending someone to jail.

A group of civil servants, judges, top gardai, lawyers and prison chiefs has drawn up a report on how to revamp the sentencing system.

The Strategic Review of Penal Policy spoke to inmates, staff and victims for its findings.

It has warned Frances Fitzgerald that too many petty offenders are being put behind bars when they could be better dealt with using cau-

By Brian Hutton

tions, community service schemes or in rehabilitation programmes.

Alternatives to custody would cut the likelihood of reoffending for many criminals, make the nation safer and ease the burden on overcrowded prisons, it says.

The Justice Minister said: 'I am determined that serious offenders and serial offenders must continue to be imprisoned. Society expects and demands nothing less. While prisons must remain part of the answer, prison must not be the only answer.'

The group also called for gardai to be allowed to issue adult cautions for more offences.



Reform: Frances Fitzgerald

## Brush up on your Irish if you want to avoid the latest con

ITALIAN and Australian con-artists are targeting Ireland with fraudulent emails - as Gaeilge.

They are sending out emails pretending to be from Revenue officials with the words 'tax refund application' in the subject line.

Cyber protection firm ESET Ireland has estimated thousands of the emails are being sent to Irish mailboxes.

An ESET spokesman said: 'We've received a few dozen, which would suggest it has been sent in its thousands. And when there is one there are always similar copies also.'

'Cyber criminals are now specialising. They are going from being generic to actually specialising which

By Eamon Donoghue

means this is targeted specifically to Ireland.'

ESET, though, said the Irish text in the emails would be recognised by Irish speakers 'a poor Google translate job'.

The email prompts potential victims to fill a form which leads to an Italian website which then redirects to an Australian-hosted fake website.

In a separate fraud, scammers are ringing up householders and pretending to be from Microsoft or Eircom as a way of getting control over their computers or gathering personal information from them.