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Campaign for an **E**nglish **P**arliament
The Voice of England

Think of England

Number 86 : December 2019

**A very merry Christmas and a prosperous
New Year to all**



**Championing England
& Challenging Prejudice**

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Number 86 December 2018

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RECOMMENDED READING: The English Meadow: A Portrait of Country Life by Yvette Verner published by Green Books



Campaign for an English Parliament Aims, Principles and Policies.

We campaign for an English Parliament, meaning a parliament for the people of England, for whom England is their chosen or inherited home and who are legally entitled to vote.

We campaign for an English Parliament with powers at least as great as those of Scotland's, i.e. a Parliament and Executive (Government) that can make Acts (primary legislation) on the same domestic issues (e.g. health, welfare & education) that are devolved to the Scottish Parliament.

The CEP works with academics, business groups, trades unions, think tanks and the media to create the conditions whereby UK MPs see that there is no alternative to the re-establishment of the English Parliament.

The CEP is a pressure group. It is not a political party. It does not contest elections.

The CEP is not and will not be affiliated to or formally linked with any political party

Editorial: One of the common epithets currently used to denigrate our forbears is 'pale, male and stale' or 'dead white males' Clearly racist and sexist but never engendering the sort of outrage one has seen when other nations or sexes are similarly denigrated. Well, without apology, this newsletter's editor is proud to highlight the inventions and achievements of our male (and female) ancestors. This month we celebrate the life of Joseph Whitworth. My father had a Whitworth lathe still with its treadle but with an added electric motor and my grand daughter received her degree in the Whitworth Hall in Manchester.



A civilised country is one of law and order. Well we have plenty of laws purportedly to protect the public but what use are they when they are not enabled to be enforced by those that govern us? When communities have to pay for private security or even 'hard men' to protect them because they have been abandoned by the UK Home Office it can be but a step to anarchy.

We also hear that there is a proposal to arm police when entering certain areas. How often have we been told that there are no 'no go' areas in England? Clearly if the police need arming they are certainly not locations open to the majority of the English public! Select committee reports are no panacea.

Reading between the lines of the post Brexit fisheries Bill it looks as though any remaining English fishing rights will be at the mercy of the UK government to distribute throughout the UK as it pleases.

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Campaigning for England : Routes to an English Parliament?

by [The Centre for English Identity and Politics](#)



DATE AND TIME:

Fri, January 11, 2019
9:30 AM – 5:00 PM GMT

LOCATION

The Paul Woodhouse Suite/Refectory
Visitors Centre
Winchester Cathedral
The Close
SO23 9LS

Free event

For 20 years, most English residents have said that laws that only affect England should only be made by English MPs. Recent polling shows majorities for an English Parliament and radical devolution within England.

But is there a plausible route to an English Parliament? When might passive public support become an active demand for change? Should reform to Westminster be radical or evolutionary, who should decide, and how might the people be engaged? How would an English Parliament sit with devolution within England and reform across the union?

This seminar will bring together experts in constitutional reform, political science, local government and public engagement with activists and campaigners to address these and other related questions.

Speakers include: Prof Dan Wincott (Cardiff), Stuart White (Oxford), Jane Suiter (Dublin), John Stanton (City), Sir Paul Silk (Constitutional Reform Group), Jack Sheldon (Constitution Unit, Cambridge), Mark Sandford (House of Commons Library), Craig Prescott (Winchester), Prof Mike Kenny (Cambridge), Arianna Giovannini (de Montfort), Jessica Garland (Electoral Reform Society), Prof John Denham (Winchester) Scilla Cullen (Campaign for an English Parliament), Prof Colin Copus (de Montfort), Elin Weston (King's College London).

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Member Veronica Newman drew my attention to this recently:

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/221871>

**It is very important to support every challenge to the status quo**

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A member sent this quote from Gerry Hassan in the Scottish Review :

“A similar picture can be found in constitutional affairs and the state of democracy in Britain. The UK political system is creaking (Sic! although we may well be up it! Ed.) and falling apart, and yet where is the Corbyn agenda to take that on, knock it down, and build something better? A key issue in the future of democracy is what happens to England, the only nation in the UK which lacks a democratic voice and institution. When I asked a senior member of Corbyn's leadership in the summer what they were thinking about England, they replied bluntly: 'We are not doing any thinking on England.'“

Red Labour will not then be continuing with the idea of a Minister for England., then!

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**English Affairs and English Politics are issues that should be decided only by an English Parliament**

### Current English Affairs:

#### **‘Irrelevant’ police forces struggle with rising crime, say MPs**

Richard Ford, Home Correspondent: October 25 2018, , The Times

Outdated technology and falling numbers have left forces “badly overstretched”

Police face becoming irrelevant to the public because there are so few officers on the beat and so many crimes are no longer investigated or solved, MPs have said.

Forces in England and Wales are “struggling to cope” as a result of their outdated technology, falling numbers and “fragmented” leadership, the home affairs select committee says in a report published today.

The number of crimes recorded by the police is growing, but arrests, charges and summonses have fallen to “shockingly low” levels for some offences. Some forces are so “badly overstretched” that they are unable even to investigate many crimes. The MPs say it is unsurprising that so few people bother to report fraud, now the most commonly experienced crime, because so few perpetrators are caught.

The surge in online fraud and a huge rise in sexual offences against children are cited as examples of problems that the police are failing to confront.

An outdated funding formula, a “culture of blame” and structures that have barely changed since the

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1960s are all said to have contributed to forces' failure to deal with the demands of the 21st century. The report accuses the Home Office of a "complete failure of leadership" in driving forward the effort to tackle new patterns of crime and provide police technology on a national basis. The MPs have now called on the home secretary, Sajid Javid, to hold a root- and-branch review of policing.

He should bring forward proposals by February for much greater pooling of resources at national and regional level to tackle online crimes and organised crime, county lines and modern slavery, the MPs say.

Calling for a fundamental overhaul of the way police deal with online fraud, the report also says global tech giants must do more to help police to deal with the crime as well as online sexual offending.

"We conclude that forces are badly overstretched: the number of traditional- volume crimes is rising but the number of arrests and charges brought by the police is falling," the report says. "Without significant reform and investment, communities will be increasingly let down."

The report comes amid growing concern over crime rates, which rose by almost 32 per cent in England and Wales between 2015 and 2018. Despite steep rises in robbery, theft and vehicle crime the number of charges and summonses fell by 26 per cent in the same period, meaning 153,000 fewer criminals were brought to justice. Only about 9 per cent of 22,000 crimes involving indecent images of children recorded in 2017-18 led to a charge, a 48 per cent fall on the previous year, although a precise proportion cannot be made on available evidence, the report says.

It adds that as little as 3 per cent of the roughly 260,000 alleged frauds reported to Action Fraud in 2016-17 resulted in a charge or summons. The proportion of fraud cases investigated is "shockingly low", it says, adding that it appears highly unlikely more than one in 200 victims sees the perpetrator convicted. A fall in officer numbers from 143,000 to 122,000 between 2010 and March this year and the closure of more than 600 police stations has led to claims that officers are retreating from the front line. Police are instead encouraging people to report crime online. The report said that without more officers being engaged with local communities, "policing is at risk of becoming irrelevant to most people".

Yvette Cooper, Labour chairwoman of the committee, said: "Crime is up, charges and arrests are down, and the police service is struggling to respond effectively to emerging and growing challenges, such as online fraud and online child abuse. Policing urgently needs more money."

A Home Office spokesman said: "The home secretary has already been clear that he will prioritise funding for the police."

- Police in England and Wales are "woefully under resourced" to investigate the near-epidemic levels of online child sexual abuse, the home affairs committee says. Some forces use officers without specialist training to investigate alleged offences and have insufficient resources to manage the risk from registered sex offenders. The MPs say that information sharing between agencies is poor and rehabilitation of offenders virtually non-existent.

### ADDITIONAL STATISTICS

75% of theft offences closed without a suspect being identified

385 people convicted of possession of indecent images of children in 2017

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Vigilantes patrol the streets of Hartlepool after police cuts hit officer numbers

November 20 2018, The Times: Gabriella Swerling, Northern Correspondent | John Simpson, Crime Correspondent | Ryan Watts

Empty chairs at Hartlepool police station have driven residents such as Stephen Picton and others to start patrolling the streets at night. Vigilantes are patrolling a northern town to prevent criminal behaviour and crime bosses are being called on to resolve disputes after claims that police cuts have led to a shortage of officers.

Residents of Hartlepool, County Durham, said that they had been forced to take to the streets at night to "protect what's ours".

Cleveland police had only ten officers working the night shift on a recent Saturday, and with officers having to make an hour-long round trip to the custody suite at Middlesbrough to put suspects in cells, at one point there were no officers in Hartlepool. The town has a population of 92,000.

The Police Federation said that shortages of officers were becoming increasingly common across the country, even on Saturday nights when violent crime tends to spike.

Since 2010 Cleveland has lost about 30 per cent of its warranted officers, falling from 1,724 to 1,211. Na-



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tionwide, forces have lost more than 22,000 frontline officers. Hartlepool's custody suite is often unmanned at night and is due to be mothballed as a cost-cutting measure. Adrian Roberts, Cleveland's assistant chief constable, confirmed the plan and said that officer journey times had been tested, while more money had gone into the Middlesbrough suite. "We feel that this can be managed appropriately against our demand, while providing the best service we can to the public," he said.

Data analysis by *The Times* shows that the second busiest spot for violent crime in Hartlepool is "on or near" the police station. Although this will in part be explained by reports of violence committed by suspects after arrest, other towns do not show the same situation around police stations.

Stephen Picton, 47, patrols the streets of Hartlepool as part of the Foggy Furze Community Watch group. Mr Picton, a taxi driver, said: "One of the lads started patrolling the streets of Hartlepool because of the rise in crime. He reported a few incidents and the police never came back to him. The council never responded. A few of us decided to join him. There are no police in the area so something has to be done. "Sometimes I finish my taxi shift at 2am and spend an extra two hours driving or walking around. I would rather be in bed fast asleep." He said the group of five, who have been active for more than three months, did not consider themselves vigilantes. He added that a female member had begun compiling a database of incidents and said that much of the problem was theft, with car doors and vans being forced, as well as break-ins and lead being stripped from roofs.

"I'm hoping that the government will realise what's happening and give us some more police time on the streets because it can't go on like this," Mr Picton said. Paul Timlin, 57, called Cleveland police after thieves broke into his van and stole tools worth £1,500. "We expected somebody to come out and visit us, particularly when we said we had CCTV, but that didn't happen" he told the BBC. Mr Timlin said that for nearly two weeks he asked police to investigate, but they never did. "It's a low-grade crime to them," he added. "To me it's £1,500-worth of tools." He said that he ended up contacting a local hard man for help, adding: "We basically know a few people who know a few people and phone calls were made and the tools, or three quarters of those tools, appeared."

John Apter, national chairman of the Police Federation, said: "The struggles officers are facing in Hartlepool sadly reflect the state of policing across the whole of England and Wales."

Cleveland police told the public not to take matters into their own hands or take on the role of officers

Scared residents hire private bobbies to walk them home

November 24 2018, *The Times*: Fiona Hamilton, Crime Editor

Residents in one of London's wealthiest areas are paying for private "bobbies on the beat" to escort them home in response to rising robberies and violent crime.

The "meet and greet" service is offered by My Local Bobby (MLB), a private company that households pay to patrol their neighbourhoods.

David McKelvey, the company's managing director and a retired Scotland Yard detective, said that residents in Belgravia had asked for their local "bobby" to walk them home after a series of knifepoint robberies for high value watches. He said that people were "very, very scared" because police numbers had been hit by austerity cuts.

Individual homeowners in patrolled areas, which consist of more than one street, pay a fee of between £100 and £200 a month for the service. Clients are escorted to their front doors after being dropped by chauffeurs outside their homes. The service was requested after one resident was robbed at knifepoint on the porch of his home. In Chigwell in Essex, where householders pay MLB for a similar service, its staff have escorted children home from school, or met them en route.

Mr McKelvey said: "The bobbies have got nightly arrangements to meet the children because of concerns about their safety. There's a fear out there about crime happening and there's been a number of nasty knife robberies in a particular area of Chigwell."

He said that he received regular emails from around the country from concerned parents who wanted MLB to patrol parks because their children were being targeted by muggers. However, the scheme is primarily aimed at residential households who are provided with a security guard in uniform who patrols their area every day. The guards will confront people in the neighbourhood they do not recognise and residents can contact them to alert them to any issues. If crime occurs they will work with the police to solve it. In one street in Chigwell that had been plagued with burglaries, Mr McKelvey said there had been no crime since MLB had been recruited.

"The biggest concern that people have is about burglaries and car crime. Most of the people that hire us



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are looking to protect their homes, their valuables and their cars. In recent times police have withdrawn from that whole area of business," Mr McKelvey said. Increased numbers of private security patrols have been operating across the country in response to reduced police resources and falling officer numbers, although MLB is the only company to offer a local bobby,

A third of neighbourhood police officers — more than 7,000 in total — have been taken off the streets in the past three years as forces divert funds to investigating more complex crimes such as fraud, sexual offences and violent crime. This year the total number of police in England and Wales hit a record low of just under 122,000 officers, while recorded offences including violent crime and burglary have been rising. Community groups have also begun to patrol areas, exasperated at the lack of a police presence. It emerged this week that residents of Hartlepool, Co Durham, were carrying out nightly patrols to prevent criminal behaviour and to "protect what's ours". Members of the Foggy Furze community watch group said they compiled a database of incidents such as break-ins and theft. Koon Wai To, 53, one of the bobbies who works for MLB in Belgravia, said that local residents had welcomed the scheme: "People come up to me in places like Sloane Square and say how nice it is to see me around, because they don't see anyone anymore, and they mean the police. I'm there, actually walking, interacting, just being a presence. It's a case of being on the ground listening to people and acting upon their concerns."

English politics:

07 November 2018: Commons Select Public Accounts Committee:

Financial pressures undermining confidence in the police: Public confidence 'severely dented' as forces reprioritise work in response to funding cuts. The Home Office needs to improve its understanding of the demands on police – and act on it.

The police funding formula must be reviewed urgently and replaced as soon as possible: Funding for police forces is down

by nearly a fifth since 2010-11 and there are nearly a fifth fewer officers and staff. Inevitably there are consequences and forces are under increasing strain. Forces cannot do everything and are prioritising their work by cutting back in some areas, such as neighbourhood policing meaning fewer officers on the street. Public confidence in the police is declining and officers' personal resilience is under pressure with this reduction in visibility.

Forces feeling pressure of 'cost shunting': Violent crime and sexual offences have increased and forces are dealing with more incidents which are not crime related, at the same time as coping with fewer frontline staff. Forces are feeling the pressure of 'cost shunting' as cuts to other areas of public spending, such as health, are passed onto policing because it is so often the first line of response.

Policing by consent relies on public confidence and this is being severely dented. Despite the pressures facing forces, it is disappointing that the Budget did not address the financial sustainability of police forces, particularly in relation to neighbourhood policing which has borne the brunt of cuts.

Tough choices needed in priorities for policing: At a time when funding is tight, the Department must make tough choices about its priorities for policing. But it is not showing strategic leadership of the policing system and has acted too slowly in response to known financial sustainability problems.

It does not have a national picture of demand for police services and so has a limited understanding of what resources forces need.

The Department's formula for distributing funds has long been acknowledged as unfit for purpose, as this Committee reported in 2015, but has still not been updated.

In the absence of a proper formula, central government funding to local forces has been subject to crude cuts across the board, which do nothing to take account of the complexities of local circumstances. Local taxpayers are paying more to fund police services, compensating for the 30% central government cuts, while seeing less local policing.

We last looked at the sustainability of police forces in 2015 and it is depressing that the Government still has a poor understanding of the on the ground reality of its funding regime.

Chair's comments: Public Accounts Committee Chair, Meg Hillier MP, says: "The 'thin blue line' is wearing thinner with potentially dire consequences for public safety. Public confidence and trust that the police will respond is breaking down. "Funding reductions of nearly a fifth have placed severe strain on police forces, which have in turn been forced to cut back. The results are stark.

"The Police and Crime Commissioner for Merseyside told us that the impact of austerity had been im-



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mense, causing the loss of force-wide resources such as robbery and street-crime squads.

"In Devon and Cornwall, neighbourhood policing has been hit to the extent that the PCC believes 'our communities do not feel safe'. The Chief Constable of Durham told us the public feel let down.

"Last week, the Chair of the National Police Chiefs' Council added her voice to those concerned about what over-stretched forces can realistically be expected to do. "In this context it is not surprising that officers' personal resilience is under pressure, too – not least from serving as 'first responders' as cuts to other public services continue to bite.

"This cannot continue. Government must show leadership and get on with fixing the flaws at the heart of its approach to policing. "In particular the Home Office must improve its understanding of the real-world demands on police, and use this information to inform its bid for funding from the Treasury. And when it secures that funding, it must distribute it effectively.

"It is wholly unacceptable that, more than three years after accepting the police funding formula needs to change, the Home Office has no firm plans to do it. "If it is to convince police and the public that it is serious about addressing their concerns then it should set out a plan as swiftly as possible. "The messages from communities and police forces across the UK are clear. The Government must act now."

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### 15-11-2018: The Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee (House of Lords) for The United Kingdom Parliament: Thirty Ninth Report; Fisheries Bill

The Fisheries Bill was introduced in the House of Commons on 25 October 2018. It provides a legal framework for the United Kingdom to operate as an independent coastal state once the United Kingdom has left the European Union and the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). Given the significance of the Bill as part of the suite of Brexit-related bills, we have reported on it in time for Members of the House of Commons to consider it at committee stage in their House.

The strategic aim of the Fisheries Bill is essentially the same as that of the Agriculture Bill. In both cases, the Government is seeking to create a new domestic regime to replace a common EU policy, respectively the CFP and the CAP.

#### Clause 22—Sale of English fishing opportunities for a calendar year

We draw attention to one power in the Bill. Clause 22 allows the Secretary of State, by affirmative regulations, to sell rights to use English fishing opportunities for a particular calendar year. Currently, English fishing opportunities (total allowable catch, and maximum days spent by vessels at sea) are distributed according to an EU allocation. The power under clause 22 to distribute extra quota envisages increased fishing opportunities for British fishing boats once the UK takes back control of access to its fishing waters. Regulations made under clause 22 do not need to be preceded by a statutory consultation. Although the Government say that the sale of fishing opportunities exclusively on the basis of price is not intended, the Bill does not say so explicitly. The Government's aspiration that clause 22 would allow "some English quota to be allocated in a different way than under the current system" does not find adequate translation on the face of the Bill. **We recommend that this be clarified, that the exercise of the power in clause 22 be preceded by consultation, and that clause 22 should enshrine the Government's stated intention that fishing opportunities will not be sold exclusively on the basis of price.**

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From George Eustice MP Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to Neil Parish MP Chair Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee House of Commons 31st October 2018

The management of fisheries is devolved and will remain so. Leaving the EU will mean that the Devolved Administrations will see a significant increase in their decision-making powers in fisheries. The new legislation also proposes ways in which the UK government and the Devolved Administrations will work together to adopt common approaches to fisheries management in certain areas - including preserving UK vessels' right to fish across the four zones of UK waters and creating a consistent approach to managing any access for foreign vessels provided for in international agreements. common approaches to fisheries management in certain areas - including preserving UK vessels' right to fish across the four zones of UK waters and creating a consistent approach to managing any access for foreign vessels provided for in international agreements.

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As one of our members commented: *But the trouble is that much of the 'English' fishing fleet and the British*

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*fishing quota are owned by European fishing companies.*

*One of things we need to do if and when we exit the EU is to restore the relevant clause in the Merchant Shipping Act 1988 which, until it was struck down at the behest of the ECJ in the Factortame case, required all British-registered ships to be at least 75% British-owned.*

*Since then we have been presented with spurious statistics about the catches and landings of 'British' and 'EU' fleets. The organisation that provides these statistics admits that the distinction is meaningless and that what appears to be a British vessel landing a catch in Holland could well be a Dutch-owned, British-registered vessel.*

*Our real, residual fishing fleet is paltry when compared with its pre-EU size. There must be a figure somewhere of how many vessels it includes but I have not been able to find it. Therefore when we leave (if we leave) the EU we must count the actual British ships. We will almost certainly find then that we have to hire European fishing boats to catch some of the fish for us. I have read that a large chunk of 'our' quota has been 'sold' to the Dutch.*

*We will also need of course to separate out the English, Scottish, Welsh and NI fleets (if there is one) since fishing is devolved in the UK.*

*I can't help saying, 'What a pretty kettle of fish' that Mr Heath landed us with.*

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### **England's heroes/heroines:** Sir Joseph Whitworth

Sir Joseph Whitworth, 1st Baronet (21 December 1803 – 22 January 1887) was an English engineer, entrepreneur, inventor and philanthropist. In 1841, he devised the British Standard Whitworth system, which created an accepted standard for screw threads. Whitworth also created the Whitworth rifle, often called the "sharpshooter" because of its accuracy and considered one of the earliest examples of a sniper rifle.

He was born in John Street, Stockport, Cheshire, where the Stockport Courthouse is today. The site is marked by a blue plaque on the back wall of the courthouse.

He was the son of Charles Whitworth, a teacher and Congregational minister and at an early age developed an interest in machinery. He was educated at Idle,

near Bradford, West Riding of Yorkshire and his aptitude for mechanics became apparent when, after leaving school he began work as an indentured apprentice for his uncle, Joseph Hulse, a cotton spinner at Amber Mill, Oakerthorpe in Derbyshire. Whitworth was to become a partner in business.

From the outset he was fascinated by the mill's machinery and soon he mastered the techniques of the cotton spinning industry but even then was critical of the poor standards of accuracy of the milling machinery, which forged in him the ambition to make machinery with much greater precision. His apprenticeship at Amber Mill lasted for a four-year term after which he worked for another four years as a mechanic in a factory in Manchester. He then moved to London where he found employment working for Henry Maudslay, the inventor of the screw-cutting lathe, alongside such people as James Nasmyth (inventor of the steam hammer) and Richard Roberts.

Whitworth built up great skill developing various precision machine tools and also introducing a box casting scheme for the iron frames of machine tools that simultaneously increased their rigidity and reduced their weight. He also worked for Holtzapffel & Co (makers of ornamental lathes) and Joseph Clement.

While at Clement's workshop he helped with the manufacture of Charles Babbage's calculating machine, the Difference engine. He returned to Openshaw, Manchester, in 1833 to start his own business manufacturing lathes and other machine tools, which became renowned for their high standard of workmanship.

Whitworth is attributed with the introduction of the "thou" (one thousandth of an inch) in 1844.

Whitworth received many awards for the excellence of his designs and was financially very successful. In 1850, then a President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, he built a house called 'The Firs' in Fallowfield, south Manchester which still stands today, functioning as Chancellors Hotel & Conference Centre.

He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS) in 1857. A strong believer in the value of technical education, Whitworth backed the new Mechanics' Institute in Manchester later the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST) and helped found the Manchester School of Design.

Whitworth popularised a method of producing accurate flat surfaces during the 1830s. This led to an explosion of development of precision instruments using his flat-surface generation techniques as a basis for further construction of precise shapes. His next innovation, in 1840, was a measuring technique called "end measurements" that used a precision flat plane and measuring screw, both of his own invention. The system, with a precision of one millionth of an inch (25 nm), was demonstrated at the Great Exhibition of 1851.



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In 1841 Whitworth devised a standard for screw threads with a fixed thread angle of 55° and having a standard pitch for a given diameter. This soon became the first nationally standardised system; its adoption by the railway companies, who until then had all used different screw threads, led to its widespread acceptance. It later became a British Standard, "British Standard Whitworth", abbreviated to BSW and governed by BS 84:1956.

**Whitworth rifle:** Whitworth was commissioned by the War Department of the British government to design a replacement for the calibre .577-inch Pattern 1853 Enfield, whose shortcomings had been revealed during the recent Crimean War. The Whitworth rifle had a smaller bore of 0.451 inch (11.4554 mm) which was hexagonal, fired an elongated hexagonal bullet and had a faster rate of twist rifling than the Enfield, and its performance during tests in 1859 was superior to the Enfield's in every way. However, the new bore design was found to be prone to fouling and it was four times more expensive to manufacture than the Enfield, so it was rejected by the British government, only to be adopted by the French Army. An unspecified number of Whitworth rifles found their way to the Confederate states in the American Civil War, where they were called "Whitworth Sharpshooters". Queen Victoria opened the first meeting of the National Rifle Association at Wimbledon, in 1860 by firing a Whitworth rifle from a fixed mechanical rest. The rifle scored a bull's eye at a range of 400 yards (366 m).



Whitworth also designed a large rifled breech-loading gun with a 2.75 inch (69.85 mm) bore, a 12-pound 11-ounce (5.75 kg) projectile and a range of about 6 miles (10 km). The spirally-grooved projectile was patented in 1855. This was rejected by the British Army, who preferred the guns from Armstrong, but was used in the American Civil War.

While trying to increase the bursting strength of his gun barrels, Whitworth patented a process called "fluid-compressed steel" for casting steel under pressure and built a new steel works near Manchester. Some of his castings were shown at the Great Exhibition in Paris ca. 1883.

He was created a baronet on 7 October 1869.

At his death in 1887, he bequeathed much of his fortune for the people of Manchester, with the Whitworth Art Gallery and Christie Hospital partly funded by Whitworth's money. Whitworth Street and Whitworth Hall in Manchester are named in his honour. He directed his trustees to spend his fortune on philanthropic projects, which they still do to this day. One of the most prominent forms of his generosity was his development of the Whitworth Scholarships with the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. Still running they provide financial opportunities for young engineers with a strong blend of academic and practical abilities. Part of his bequest was used to establish the Whitworth Art Gallery, now part of the University of Manchester, and part went to construct the Whitworth Institute in Darley Dale.

By Whitworth's will, Richard Copley Christie, a friend of Whitworth's, was appointed one of three legatees, each of whom was left more than half a million pounds for their own use, 'they being each of them aware of the objects' to which these funds would have been put by Whitworth. They chose to spend more than a fifth of the money on support for Owens College, together with the purchase of land now occupied by the Manchester Royal Infirmary. In 1897, Christie personally assigned more than £50,000 for the erection of the Whitworth Hall, to complete the front quadrangle of Owens College.

The university's Whitworth Art Gallery (formerly the Whitworth Institute) and adjacent Whitworth Park were established as part of his bequest to Manchester after his death. Nearby Whitworth Park Halls of Residence also bears his name, as does Whitworth Street, one of the main streets in Manchester city centre, running from London Road to the south end of Deansgate. Near 'The Firs' a cycleway behind Owens Park is called Whitworth Lane. In Darley Dale is another Whitworth Park. In recognition of his achievements and contributions to education in Manchester, the Whitworth Building on the University of Manchester's Main Campus is named in his honour.

**England's history:** The Observer, the oldest Sunday newspaper in the world, was first published in England on 4 December 1791 by W.S. Bourne. Believing that the paper would be a means of wealth, Bourne instead soon found himself facing debts of nearly £1,600. Though early editions purported editorial independence, Bourne attempted to cut his losses and sell the title to the government. When this failed, Bourne's brother (a wealthy businessman) made an offer to the government, which was also refused, to buy the paper but agreed to subsidise it in return for influence over its editorial content. As a result, the paper soon took a strong line against radicals such as Thomas Paine, Francis Burdett and Joseph Priestley.



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In 1807, the brothers decided to relinquish editorial control, naming Lewis Doxat as the new editor. Seven years later, the brothers sold *The Observer* to William Innell Clement, a newspaper proprietor who owned a number of publications. The paper continued to receive government subsidies during this period; in 1819, of the approximately 23,000 copies of the paper distributed weekly, approximately 10,000 were given away as "specimen copies", distributed by postmen who were paid to deliver them to "lawyers, doctors, and gentlemen of the town." Yet the paper began to demonstrate a more independent editorial stance, criticising the authorities' handling of the events surrounding the Peterloo Massacre and defying an 1820 court order against publishing details of the trial of the Cato Street Conspirators, who were alleged to have plotted to murder members of the Cabinet. The woodcut pictures published of the stable and hayloft where the conspirators were arrested reflected a new stage of illustrated journalism that the newspaper pioneered during this time.

Clement maintained ownership of *The Observer* until his death in 1852. During that time, the paper supported parliamentary reform, but opposed a broader franchise and the Chartist leadership. After Doxat retired in 1857, Clement's heirs sold the paper to Joseph Snowe, who also took over the editor's chair. Under Snowe, the paper adopted a more liberal political stance, supporting the North during the American Civil War and endorsing universal manhood suffrage in 1866. These positions contributed to a decline in circulation during this time.

In 1870, wealthy businessman Julius Beer bought the paper and appointed Edward Dickey as editor, whose efforts succeeded in reviving circulation. Though Beer's son Frederick became the owner upon Julius's death in 1880, he had little interest in the newspaper and was content to leave Dickey as editor until 1889. Henry Duff Traill took over the editorship after Dickey's departure, only to be replaced in 1891 by Frederick's wife, Rachel Beer, of the Sassoon family. Though circulation declined during her tenure, she remained as editor for thirteen years, combining it in 1893 with the editorship of *The Sunday Times*, a newspaper that she had also bought.

Upon Frederick's death in 1901, the paper was purchased by the newspaper magnate Lord Northcliffe. After maintaining the existing editorial leadership for a couple of years, in 1908 Northcliffe named James Louis Garvin as editor. Garvin quickly turned the paper into an organ of political influence, boosting circulation from 5,000 to 40,000 within a year of his arrival as a result. Yet the revival in the paper's fortunes masked growing political disagreements between Garvin and Northcliffe. These disagreements ultimately led Northcliffe to sell the paper to William Waldorf Astor in 1911, who transferred ownership to his son Waldorf Astor, 2nd Viscount Astor four years later.

During this period, the Astors were content to leave the control of the paper in Garvin's hands. Under his editorship circulation reached 200,000 during the interwar years, a figure which Garvin fought to maintain even during the depths of the Great Depression. Politically the paper pursued an independent Conservative stance, which eventually brought Garvin into conflict with Waldorf's more liberal son David Astor. Their conflict contributed to Garvin's departure as editor in 1942, after which the paper took the unusual step of declaring itself non-partisan.

Ownership passed to Waldorf's sons in 1948, with David taking over as editor. He remained in the position for 27 years, during which time he turned it into a trust-owned newspaper. Under Astor's editorship *The Observer* became the first national newspaper to oppose the government's 1956 invasion of Suez, a move which cost it many readers. In 1977, the Astors sold the ailing newspaper to US oil giant Atlantic Richfield (now called ARCO) who sold it to Lonrho plc in 1981. It became part of the Guardian Media Group in June 1993, after a rival bid to acquire it by *The Independent* was rejected.

**English culture: Christmas crackers**—also known as bon-bons in some regions of Australia—are part of Christmas celebrations primarily in the United Kingdom, Ireland and Commonwealth countries such as Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa.

A cracker consists of a segmented cardboard tube wrapped in a brightly decorated twist of paper with a prize in the central chamber, making it resemble an oversized sweet-wrapper. The cracker is pulled apart by two people, each holding an outer chamber, causing the cracker to split unevenly and leaving one person holding the central chamber and prize. The split is accompanied by a mild bang or snapping sound produced by the effect of friction on a shock-sensitive, chemically impregnated card strip (similar to that used in a cap gun). One chemical used for the friction strip is silver fulminate. Assembled crackers are typically sold in boxes of three to twelve. These typically have different designs usually with



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red, green, and gold colours. Making crackers from scratch using tissue paper and the tubes from toilet rolls is a common activity for children.

Crackers are typically pulled at the Christmas dinner table or at parties. In one version of the cracker tradition, the person with the larger portion of cracker empties the contents from the tube and keeps them. In another, each person has their own cracker and keeps its contents regardless of whose end they were in. Typically these contents are a coloured paper hat, a small toy, a small plastic model or other trinket and a motto, a joke, and a riddle or piece of trivia on a small strip of paper. The paper hats, with the appearance of crowns, are usually worn when eating Christmas dinner. The tradition of wearing festive hats is believed to date back to Roman times and the Saturnalia celebrations, which also involved decorative headgear.

The *Oxford English Dictionary* records the use of *cracker bonbons* and the pulling of *crackers* from the early 1840s. Tradition tells of how Tom Smith of London invented crackers in 1847. He created the crackers as a development of his bon-bon sweets, which he sold in a twist of paper (the origins of the traditional sweet-wrapper). As sales of bon-bons slumped, Smith began to come up with new promotional ideas. His first tactic was to insert "love messages" into the wrappers of the sweets (cf. fortune cookies). Smith added the "crackle" element when he heard the crackle of a log he had just put on a fire. The size of the paper wrapper had to be increased to incorporate the banger mechanism, and the sweet itself was eventually dropped, to be replaced by a trinket: fans, jewellery and other substantial items. The new product was initially marketed as the *Cosaque* (i.e., Cossack), but the onomatopoeic "cracker" soon became the commonly used name, as rival varieties came on the market. The other elements of the modern cracker—the gifts, paper hats and varied designs—were all introduced by Tom Smith's son, Walter Smith, to differentiate his product from the rival cracker manufacturers which had suddenly sprung up. Tom Smith merged with Caley Crackers in 1953. A memorial water fountain to Tom Smith and his family stands in Finsbury Square, London.

Passengers on commercial flights in the United States are explicitly prohibited from carrying Christmas crackers on board.

**Promotion:** Stilton is an English cheese, produced in two varieties: Blue, known for its characteristic strong smell and taste, and the lesser-known White. Both have been granted the status of a protected designation of origin by the European Commission, which requires that only cheese produced in the three counties of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, and Nottinghamshire and made according to a strict code, using pasteurised local milk, may be called "Stilton". Thus cheese made in the village of Stilton which is now in Cambridgeshire (from where its name was derived in the 18th century) could not be sold as "Stilton".



Frances Pawlett (or Paulet), a "skilled cheese maker" of Wymondham, has traditionally been credited as the person who set modern Stilton cheese's shape and style characteristics in the 1720s, but others have also been named. A recipe for a Stilton cheese was published by Richard Bradley, first Professor of Botany at Cambridge University in his 1726 book *A General Treatise of Husbandry and Gardening*. Bradley records a letter from a correspondent, John Warner, which states the cheese is made in Stilton and that the Bell Inn produced "the best cheese in town".

The first known written reference to Stilton cheese appeared in William Stukeley's *Itinerarium Curiosum*, Letter V, dated October 1722. Daniel Defoe in his 1724 work *A tour thro' the whole island of Great Britain* notes, "We pass'd Stilton, a town famous for cheese, which is call'd our English Parmesan, and is brought to table with the mites, or maggots round it, so thick, that they bring a spoon with them for you to eat the mites with, as you do the cheese."

According to the Stilton Cheesemaker's Association, the first person to market Blue Stilton cheese was Cooper Thornhill, owner of the Bell Inn on the Great North Road, in the village of Stilton, Huntingdonshire, (now an administrative district of Cambridgeshire). Traditional legend has it that in 1730, Thornhill discovered a distinctive blue cheese while visiting a small farm near Melton Mowbray in rural Leicestershire – possibly in Wymondham. He fell in love with the cheese and made a business arrangement that granted the Bell Inn exclusive marketing rights to Blue Stilton. Soon thereafter, wagonloads of cheese were being delivered to the inn. Since a main stagecoach route from London to Northern England, the Great North Road passed through the village of Stilton he was able to promote the sale of this cheese and the fame of Stilton rapidly spread.

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In 1936 the Stilton Cheesemakers' Association (SCMA) was formed to lobby for regulation to protect the quality and origin of the cheese, and in 1966 Stilton was granted legal protection via a certification trade mark, the only British cheese to have received this status.

Blue Stilton's distinctive blue veins are created by piercing the crust of the cheese with stainless steel needles, allowing air into the core. The manufacturing and ripening process takes approximately nine to twelve weeks.

As of September 2016 just six dairies are licensed to make Stilton (three in Leicestershire, two in Nottinghamshire and one in Derbyshire), each being subject to regular audit by an independent inspection agency accredited to European Standard EN 45011. Four of the licensed dairies are based in the Vale of Belvoir, which straddles the Nottinghamshire-Leicestershire border. This area is commonly regarded as the heartland of Stilton production, with dairies located in the town of Melton Mowbray (Leics.) and the villages of Colston Bassett (Notts.), Cropwell Bishop (Notts.), Long Clawson (Leics.) and Saxelbye (Leics.). Stilton cheese has never been produced in the village that gave the cheese its name and is not in the three permitted counties.

Blue Stilton is often eaten with celery or pears. It is also commonly added as a flavouring to vegetable soup, most notably to cream of celery or broccoli. Alternatively it is eaten with various crackers, biscuits and bread. It can also be used to make a blue cheese sauce to be served drizzled over a steak, or can be crumbled over a salad. Traditionally, a barley wine or port is paired with Blue Stilton, but it also goes well with sweet sherry or Madeira wine. The "uncouth" practice of scooping a hollow into the centre of a Stilton cheese and pouring the port wine into it is deprecated; The cheese is traditionally eaten at Christmas. The rind of the cheese forms naturally during the aging process, and is perfectly edible, unlike the rind of some other cheeses such as Edam or Port-Salut.

"White Stilton" has not had the *Penicillium roqueforti* mould introduced into it which would otherwise lead to the blue veining normally associated with Stilton. It is a crumbly, creamy, open textured cheese and is now extensively used as a base for blending with apricot, ginger and citrus or vine fruits to create unique dessert cheeses and has even been used as a flavouring for chocolate.

**The Stilton Producers:** A) Colston Bassett Dairy: B) Cropwell Bishop: C) Hartington Creamery: D) Long Clawson Dairy: E) Tuxford & Tebbutt Creamery: F) Websters

**Recipe: Stilton and celery soup:** Serves: 4: Recipe by: Sarah Lai

### Ingredients

2 tablespoons margarine  
100g celery chopped  
100g Stilton cheese, crumbed and divided

1 onion, thinly sliced  
1 litre water  
4 sprigs watercress, for garnish



**Method:** Melt the margarine in a large pot over medium low heat. Add the onions and saute for 10 minutes or until onion is translucent. Add the celery and the water. Cover and bring to the boil, then reduce heat to low and simmer for 30 minutes or until celery is soft.

Add 2/3 of the Stilton cheese to the soup and mix well. Puree the soup in small batches in a liquidiser or food processor and return it to the pot. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Pour into individual bowls, sprinkle with the remaining Stilton and garnish with the watercress.

Prep: 15min > Cook: 40min > Ready in: 55min

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