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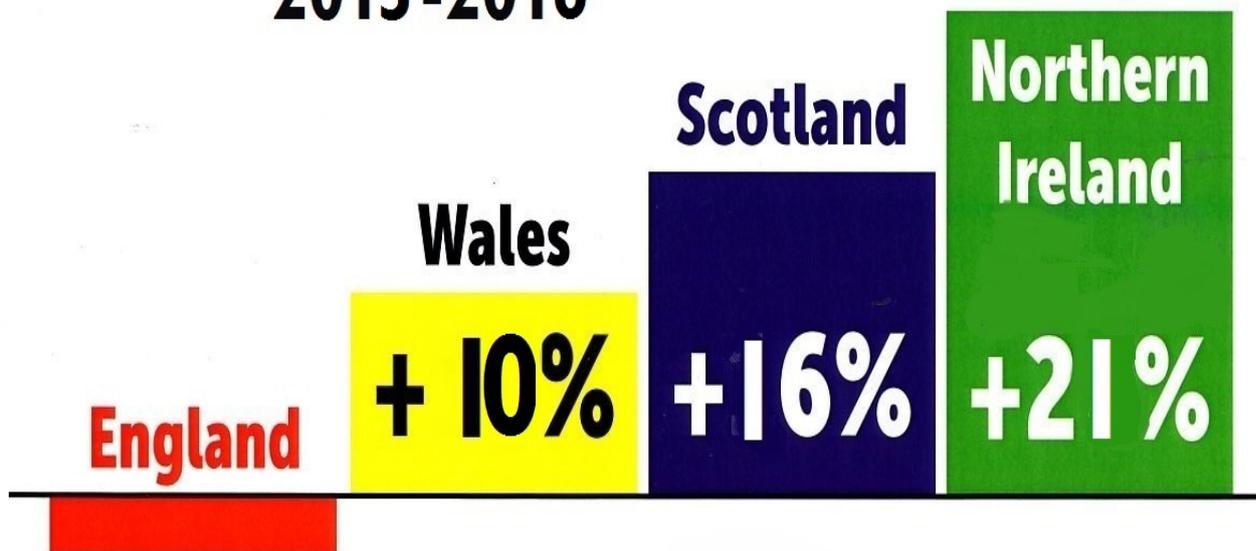
Campaign for an English Parliament
The Voice of England

Think of England Number 71 : August 2017

Championing England & Challenging Prejudice

UK government spending on services

2015-2016



-3%

UK Average: £9,076 per head government spending

England: £8,816

Wales: £9,996

Scotland: £10,536

N. Ireland: £10,983

Source: HM Treasury 2017

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Number 71 Month 2017

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Current English Affairs: National Statistics, funding, Barnett

English politics: Education, Brexit, DEFRA

England's heroes/heroines: Henry Hudson

England's history: Bagpipes are us

English culture: knighthood of the old green

Promotion: None!

Recipe: Apple tart with honey cream and butter-scotch sauce.

RECOMMENDED READING: Favourite Poems of England: Poems to Celebrate this Green and Pleasant Land; by Jane McMorland Hunter (Author, Editor): A diverse collection of poetry which celebrates both England and all that it means to be English



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: In this edition we are concentrating on

funding for the countries and province of the UK. As you know money allocated to the rest of the UK is decided according to that spent in England. How they must be rubbing their hands in glee with the spiralling cost of the Hinckley Point power station and HS2! Needless to say the rUK is jumping on the bandwagon trying to extract more from the English taxpayer, who funds them on the back of Theresa May's bung to the DUP. However we will all be funding abortions for the Northern Irish. Meanwhile English rural councils are beginning to react against their poor funding from central government but only suggest squeezing local residents for more.

There does seem to be more interest in England in academic circles so do please keep contacting them with your concerns. Frank Field made an excellent presentation to the British Academy stating that England's size is a red herring when used as an argument against an English Parliament. We reprint here two articles from Scottish papers, one clearly expresses the meaning of the Barnett formula and the other, unfortunately, shows how confused people are about the separation of Britain and England, blaming England and the English being the default position.

The House of Lords has noticed how unstable the UK is in the face of Brexit but is only concerned about the rUK.

In this month of the Edinburgh Festival We thought we would remind everyone that the still existing Northumbrian pipes predate the Scottish bagpipe.



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Campaigning for England : Governing England Newsletter

In July's Think of England we reported our exclusion from the **Governing England Conference: Devolution and Identity in England**, In association with Carnegie Trust UK, which took place on Wednesday 5 July 2017, at Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH. This is a British Academy policy project exploring constitutional issues of identity and the future of institutions in England. <http://www.britac.ac.uk/governing-england>



Below is a copy of an email sent to a member who had registered but was unable to attend:

From: Martin Rogers <martinr@britac.ac.uk> **Sent:** 07 July 2017 11:49

Subject: Governing England: Devolution and identity in England

We will be developing our plans for the second phase of our programme this summer; if you would like to be involved with our ongoing work please let us know, we would be delighted to keep you informed. We can also ensure that you are added to the distribution list for our Governing England newsletter; please let Martin Rogers know if you would like to subscribe to this by emailing m.rogers@britac.ac.uk.

Members, please email the above asking to be involved and to receive the newsletter. If this email address is, for some reason, 'undeliverable' as was my experience try these:

H.gibson@britac.ac.uk or +44 (0)20 7969 5287 ; **Alun Evans;** a.evans@britac.ac.uk

CARPENTER, Rebecca [rebecca.carpenter@parliament.uk]

We have received the publications from this event. Except that from our supporter Frank Field, MP for Birkenhead, copied below, they all support destroying England's unity.

<http://www.frankfield.co.uk/latest-news/press-releases/news.aspx?p=1021471>

England's cry for post-Brexit governance: its own parliament and a shared senate

Speaking today at the British Academy's conference, Governing England: Devolution and identity in England, Frank Field, made a plea that all the participants to this debate get over the normal get-out clause for serious discussion, namely that as England is so large there can be no satisfactory federal solution to the post-Brexit governance of the United Kingdom. He argued: 'It is only through a federal solution that England can gain justice on a par with the other members of United Kingdom. The model we should be aiming for is quite clear. How we get there is of course another matter.

The United Kingdom should move to a position where there are four autonomous parliaments. The English one sitting in Westminster, the Northern Irish one in Stormont, the Welsh parliament in Cardiff and the Scottish parliament in Edinburgh. One of the key questions to be decided is which matters can be devolved completely, which partially and which can only be decided with the approval of the newly established senate which will take the place of the House of Lords.

The principle should be that, wherever possible, matters should be devolved to be decided in each nation's parliament. Matters on the overall budget, and the redistribution from England to the other parliaments would need to be decided by discussion between the four parliaments but settled in the senate. Defence, and other major matters such as Brexit, should similarly be finally be decided in a newly established senate which would replace the House of Lords.

The size of England has always been played as a joker against this kind of new constitutional settlement. Instead of seeing it as a barrier, the size of England should be seen as a spur to action. But England needs to be generous in the allocation of each of the four parliaments and would need to come to agreement on the size of each parliament's representation in the senate.

The English Parliament should make clear at the outset that it doesn't expect to have senate representation based on population only. Population would play a part but it is crucial that the other smaller senate delegations should be able to block England's will. England will need a high degree of consensus to get policy through that affects all the nations of the United Kingdom.

I would suggest that the number of senators be divided into two. Half of them would be voted in by a designated list of organisations which make up the richest interpretation possible of civil society. So doctors, lawyers, teachers, artists, trade unionists would elect their slate through their professional organisation. The other half of the senate's membership should be elected directly on the basis of the new constitutional settlement decided by the four national parliaments. Here the political parties could compete for senators and the four parliaments could decide on a new voting system rather than the first-past-the-post system we have for election to the UK Parliament.

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

OUR PRECIOUS UNION! Theresa May June 2017
(Sucking England dry)

Current English Affairs: FUNDING: National Statistics

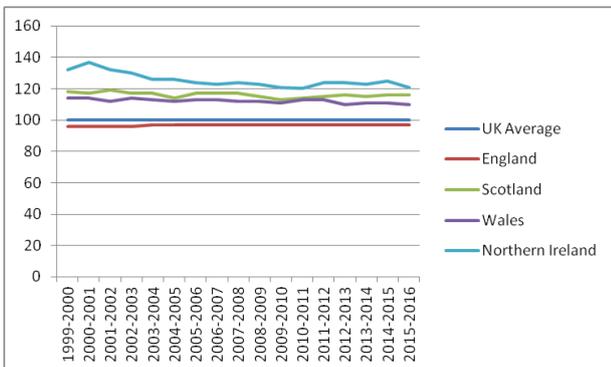
Every July the Office for National Statistics publishes its Public Expenditure Statistical analysis. Every year the least is spent on the people of England nationally. Many MPs and academics, with vested interests, try to hoodwink us with comparisons between cities or regions in the UK. The truth is that the cake is di-

	1. Gen-eral pub-lic ser-vice s	2. of which: public and com-mon ser-vices	3. Public order and safety	4. Eco-nomic af-fairs	5. of which: enter-prise and economic develop-ment	6. of which: science and technol-ogy	7. of which: employ-ment pol-icies	8. of which: agricul-ture, fish-eries and fore-stry	9. of which: trans-port	10. Envi-ronm-ent pro-tection	11. Hous-ing and com-mu-nity ameni-ties	12. Health	13. 8. Rec-reation, cul-ture and re-ligion	14. 9. Edu-cation	15. 10. Social pro-tection
2014-15															
England	89	88	407	558	69	69	35	48	444	165	123	2,106	102	1,266	3,893
Scotland	196	194	494	996	209	88	43	153	504	258	376	2,258	199	1,470	4,289
Wales	159	157	388	798	147	67	45	138	402	206	224	2,127	162	1,320	4,610
Northern Ireland	212	211	688	851	227	25	82	286	232	138	411	2,178	240	1,461	4,804
UK identifiable expenditure	105	103	421	703	89	69	37	68	441	174	157	2,121	117	1,291	3,986

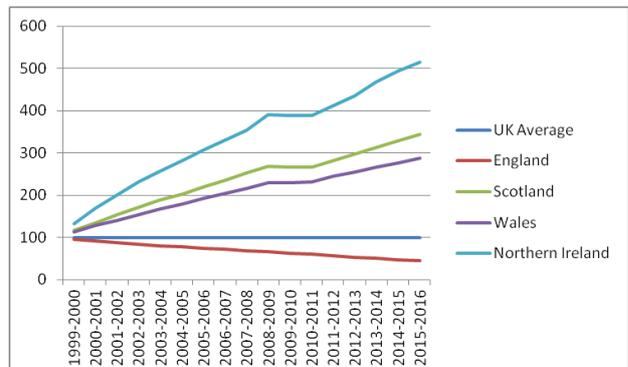
vided along national lines according to the truly evil, discriminatory and discredited Barnett formula. The graphs below have been drawn up to show the current deficit to us in England and the cumulative effect of this discrimination.

As usual we in England get least spent on us by the British Government in all services except transport, public order and safety and the science and technology portion of economic affairs, where the Welsh government spends the least. The British government's funding and constitutional policies allow the rest of the UK to spend much more on their citizens and choose where it is to be directed. This does not stop them whinging that they do not have enough. Meanwhile our services are in meltdown and we are powerless, as a nation, to influence British government policies. Below is the cumulative effect of this continuous discrimination against England.

% Current and historic deficits/benefits.



% Cumulative effect



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How taxpayers in London help subsidise most of the UK

Daily Mail 24/5/17: By Steve Doughty; Social Affairs Correspondent

TAXPAYERS in London and the South East are subsidising poorer parts of the country by thousands of pounds a head, an official analysis reveals.

A regional breakdown shows those in the capital paid about £3,000 more to the state on average last year than they claimed in services. In the South East the average worker paid £1,666 a head more.

And over the past year, the East of England has also crossed the spending line so it is subsidising other parts of the country. In the financial year ending March 2016, the average individual in that region paid £244 more in taxation than was returned in services like health, education and transport.

The average person in the rest of the UK took more from the state than they put back in, according to data for regional public finances released by the Office for National Statistics.

Those in the North East got an average of £3,824 more in services than they contributed last year, while the figure was £3,043 in the North West, £4,547 in Wales and £2,835 in Scotland.

The area most dependent on taxes paid elsewhere is Northern Ireland, on £5,438 per person. The region also profited from the highest level of state spending for each individual - £14,020 - while Scotland was a close second at £13,050 a head. The figures have been published by the ONS for the first time following years of independent studies that have suggested some parts of Britain have become so dependent on state spending that their economies resemble those of communist countries.

Traditional figures show only national spending, while the new statistics are based on surveys and population estimates as well as Treasury data. The ONS report said the analysis has potential uses including 'aiding the devolution debate'.

A study that emphasises high levels of state spending in Scotland and its deep reliance on southern taxpayers is likely to feature prominently if First Minister Nicola Sturgeon succeeds in her aim of staging a second independence referendum. According to the report, each Scot received £350 more in spending than a Londoner in the last financial year. They also had £2,472 more than those in the South East, which has the lowest level of state spending of £10,580 per head.

When it came to paying in to the public purse, Scots paid an average £10,320 each in taxes and fees, compared to the £15,756 paid by every Londoner and £12,249 by those in the South East.

The figures are likely to underestimate the real level of public spending north of the border, because they do not include money spent by the Scottish Government.

Contributions to the state were mainly taxes, but also included the earnings of public sector organisations and fees paid by the public.

English hospital won't treat soldier because he lives in Scotland

(Scottish) Daily Record; 28/7/17; Stephen Stewart



'This is the ultimate slap in the face' Former soldier lost his legs in Afghanistan but English hospital will no longer treat him because he lives in Scotland
Lance Corporal Callum Brown has been told the English NHS will no longer foot the bill for his treatment at a hospital specialising in military casualties

Lance corporal Callum Brown served with the 2 Scots, the Royal Highland Fusiliers. Callum Brown, 28, has been under the care of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham where he was treated when he was first airlifted home. It has dedicated and specialised facilities for military casualties.

He still endures horrific pain from injuries caused by a bomb blast six years ago. But now the former soldier is to lose the treatment and medication he has relied on. He said yesterday: "I am sitting here without my legs because I fought for this country. "This is the ultimate slap in the face. I am still in shock and can barely get my head around it. He said it was because the English NHS would no longer foot the bill for me there since I wasn't from England. "I couldn't understand it. Last time I checked, I fought for the British Army. It is absolutely disgusting.

I would not be here without them. I have paid my taxes for years so why shouldn't I continue to get my treatment and medication down there? We are supposed to be living in the United Kingdom, it feels more like the disunited kingdom. I have a huge amount of respect for the NHS in Scotland but they simply do not have the specialists to treat me."

His wife added: "We were told the English will no longer foot the bill for Callum's health care. Not just Callum's - but any other veterans not living in England. So, basically, they are happy to have him go to war for them but they are not prepared to give them the best care after that."

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“Many lads would not be here today without the specialists based down there. You fight for your country but your country will do nothing for you in return.”

The Daily record, a Scottish newspaper, sees fit not to tell its readers that, since devolution, the Scottish NHS is responsible for patients domiciled in Scotland and, moreover, that Lance Corporal Callum receives £2,258 funding compared with a Lance Corporal domiciled in England who only receives £2,106. This injured Scottish soldier could go on receiving treatment in England if the Scottish government were prepared to pay for it. The poor soldier and his wife are confused between England and Britain. GB/UK is not a country, for which he served, it is a political state. He did not serve England and the English did not deny him treatment. Nevertheless this is simply one of many examples where England/Englishry are blamed for issues that are not their fault and over which they have no control. Ed.

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<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jul/04/wales-scotland-offer-free-abortions-northern-irish-women>

The Welsh and Scottish governments will offer free abortions to Northern Irish women, their leaders have confirmed, after the UK government said last week it would fund the procedures in order to head off a Commons revolt on the Queen’s speech. The confirmation came as the Democratic Unionist MP Ian Paisley Jr said his party would not compromise its hardline stance on abortion, even if it meant risking the supply-and-confidence agreement with the Conservatives.

Carwyn Jones, the Welsh first minister, told the Welsh assembly on Tuesday that the Labour administration would match the government’s promise to fund abortions for women travelling from Northern Ireland.

Though the Department of Health fought a supreme court challenge to defend the charges, last week the UK government dramatically changed its policy in an attempt to head off a damaging Tory rebellion on the Queen’s speech, with as many as 40 Conservative MPs indicating they supported an amendment on the issue tabled by Labour MP Stella Creasy.

As pressure mounted, Justine Greening, the education secretary and equalities minister, wrote to MPs confirming the government would fund abortions for Northern Irish women in England, and Creasy withdrew her amendment claiming victory.

*The whole point of devolution was that each country/province could set their own, culturally appropriate, laws and regulations. This ruling flies in the face of that aspiration and means that the citizens of Wales, Scotland and England (for which decisions are made by the UK government) will have to pay for these abortions from the funds provided by their own governments or by the British government to England for health.*

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Nationalists should be careful what they wish for

The (Scottish) Sunday Herald; 27/7/17; David Torrance:

A few years ago, a House of Lords committee conducted an inquiry into the Barnett Formula. Among those invited to give evidence was the elderly Lord Barnett, a former Chief Secretary to the Treasury who had given his name to the funding mechanism in 1978. But as a peer involved in the inquiry later told me, it quickly became clear Joel Barnett was one of several people who did not actually understand how the Barnett Formula worked. Indeed, it’s the Schleswig-Holstein Question of its day, understood by very few people, some of them either dead, forgetful or simply not interested in figuring it out. And this group, remarkably, appears to include the Scottish and Welsh governments.

Last week those devolved administrations began a “formal dispute resolution process” with the UK Government over their “right” to receive “consequential funding” as a result of the Prime Minister’s deal with the Democratic Unionist Party. This, they argue, does not “respect” the “established funding principles and rules applied through the operation of the Barnett formula”. Had, therefore, Barnett been applied “in the normal way”, then Wales would have received an additional £1.67 billion and Scotland £2.9bn (strangely, they omit to mention that England would receive around £30bn). This, however, either deliberately misunderstands how Barnett works or displays a remarkable level of ignorance for the Scottish and Welsh finance secretaries, the latter of whom is a former professor of social policy at Cardiff University. But the “normal way” in which Barnett operates is that, as a civil servant put it back in 1978, Scottish expenditure is treated “as a block” and either increases or decreases “in proportion to that agreed for



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equivalent English programmes". It does not operate in reverse, so if Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland receives additional funds, then England gets nothing.

And despite arguments to the contrary, the Tory-DUP deal is not unprecedented. In the 2000s, Wales and Northern Ireland received extra funding to support capital investment or implement EU responsibilities. Even cash in return for votes isn't new. In 2008, Gordon Brown won a Commons vote on detaining terrorist suspects for 42 days without charge after agreeing to a shopping list of demands from the DUP. None of these examples involved Barnett, thus MSP Derek Mackay's letter includes a number of conscious or unconscious red herrings. His argument, for example, that because the £1bn for Northern Ireland will be spent on "devolved matters" then Barnett ought to apply sounds plausible, but only if the English "baseline" was being altered, which it isn't.

There's also the inescapable fact that Scotland has generally done very well out of Barnett. Before 1999, it habitually received non-Barnett funding boosts, indeed in 1978 a Treasury official complained that the Scots, Welsh and Northern Irish were able to "have it both ways", automatically receiving increases whenever English departments got more, and also additional cash for special circumstances.

The Scots and Northern Irish, that official added, had played "this game skilfully and effectively", the Welsh less so.

Among other Barnett myths and misunderstandings is the belief that it's somehow a "needs-based" formula. It is not. Rather it is based upon population, although even in 1978, when the current system was first formalised, Scotland's 10 per cent was more generous than its strict population share vis-à-vis England. But, as usual, Scottish Nationalists start with a grievance and then work backwards, thus the intellectual contortions in Derek Mackay's letter. Many otherwise intelligent people have convinced themselves that Scotland has been deprived of cash, despite that assertion being unsupported by either precedent or "normal" practice. The SNP should also be careful what it wishes for. By kicking up a stink about the Tories' "murky" deal with the DUP (even though it wanted its own murky deal back in 2015) and linking it, spuriously, to Barnett, they're unwittingly shoring up arguments to replace Barnett with a needs-based formula, something the Treasury and many Conservative MPs are itching to do.

The inquiry I alluded to at the beginning of this column recommended precisely that, a "new system" allocating "resources to the devolved administrations based on an explicit assessment of their relative needs". This, as last week's House of Lords report acknowledged, would be a "complex task", but it believes that the prospect of Brexit means reform of Barnett should "be delayed no longer".

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### **Rural Councils demand power to raise £2bn in tax**

The Times 19/7/17; Lucy Fisher, Senior Political Correspondent

Rural council leaders will today demand that Theresa May grant them powers to raise and retain tax of at least £2 billion after she gave £1 billion to Northern Ireland as part of her deal with the DUP.

The County Councils Network (CCN), which represents 37 authorities, will ask for a "fair share of national resources" and the power to retain income tax and council tax to address funding disparities between rural and urban areas.

The CCN says that rural county authorities receive £292 less than London for important services, including buses, children's centres and pothole repairs, and £166 less than metropolitan boroughs. Last year county councils and county unitary authorities were estimated to have received £2 billion less in national funding for health and social care services compared with the average, despite having the highest proportion of elderly people.

Council leaders said that "for too long funding inequality in the counties has been tolerated" The group will tell Mrs May that failure to address the disparity risks alienating rural residents.

Paul Carter, the Tory leader of Kent county council, said: "We cannot continue to deliver high-quality frontline services and push through innovation when we are the lowest funded authorities. If new deals are being agreed in other parts of the UK, then so should the areas that form the backbone of England's society and economy."



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### **English politics:**

#### **The Education (Student Fees, Awards and Support) (Amendment) Regulations 2017**

The regulations put in place arrangements to allow healthcare students in England to draw on loan-based

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support systems once NHS bursaries have been withdrawn by the (*British*) Department of Health (DH).

They make changes to the amount of support for tuition, living and other costs for students taking designated healthcare courses in higher education.

These regulations were subject to the negative procedure, meaning that they are not normally debated unless a member objects by putting down a motion. These regulations were laid on 9 February 2017 and the motion was debated on Thursday 27 April



### 19/7/17: **Brexit 'a fundamental challenge' to the future of the UK say Lords**

The European Union Committee publishes its report on Brexit and devolution, concluding that on the day of Brexit, all powers currently exercised by the EU will 'by default, be exercised in accordance with... pre-existing statutory provisions'.

The Committee highlights the complex 'overlapping and shared competences' within the devolution settlements, describing the supremacy of EU law as the 'glue holding together the United Kingdom's single market'. Brexit makes it more important than ever that any further reform of the devolution settlements should be underpinned by a clear and agreed framework of principles.

The Committee calls on the UK Government and the devolved Governments to work constructively together to deliver a Brexit that protects the interests of all parts of the UK.

The report also considers the impact of Brexit on Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland.

**Northern Ireland:** The Committee restates its previous conclusion that the unique circumstances of Northern Ireland will require unique, 'flexible and imaginative solutions'.

**Wales:** The Committee notes that the Welsh economy is heavily dependent on exports to the EU, and that Welsh manufacturing would be hard hit by a failure to agree a comprehensive trade deal with the EU.

**Scotland:** The Committee concludes that any Brexit deal should accommodate Scotland's particular needs, including its reliance upon EU migration to meet both labour market and demographic needs.

*(No interest in the effects on England, then? Ed.)*

### 18/7/17: **Can Defra and Natural England meet rural needs?**

The Lords Select Committee on the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 takes evidence from Defra and Natural England.

**Witnesses:** Tuesday 18 July, Committee Room 1, Palace of Westminster at 11.05am

Alan Law, Chief Officer for Strategy and Reform, Natural England

Shirley Trundle CBE, Director, Natural Environment Policy, Defra

**Areas of discussion:** Whether the needs of rural communities are being accounted for  
How the UK's exit from the European Union might affect environmental legislation.

**Possible questions:** Is it part of Defra's role to champion the needs of rural communities within government when dealing with other departments? What is Defra doing to ensure that policies across government are rural-proofed?

How does Natural England seek to balance its obligations to the environment while at the same time promoting economic growth? Is there a tension between these two objectives?

Is there anything Natural England would like to do more of that it cannot do at present due to a lack of resources or powers?

How does the biodiversity duty contained in the Act compare to similar duties on public bodies in Wales and Scotland in terms of impact?

### 25/7/17: **Is post-school education funding fit for purpose?**

The Lords Economic Affairs Committee has published a call for evidence for its new inquiry, "the economics of higher education, further education, and vocational training", and is inviting written submissions.

**Focus of the inquiry:** The Committee seeks evidence on the following two questions:

Is the current structure of post-school education and training, and the way it is financed, appropriate for the modern British economy?

What changes are required to develop a system that meets the needs of enterprise and the labour market whilst providing value for students and the Government?

**Chairmans' comments:** Lord Forsyth, Chairman of the Committee, said:

"Successive governments have committed to increasing participation in higher education. More recently the Government has pledged to increase the number of apprenticeships offered.

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"The cost of going to university is increasing, but many graduates do not end up in jobs requiring a degree and will not be able to pay back their loans. This year the total amount of student loans outstanding was £89 billion. This is projected to increase to £500 billion in the mid-2030s and £1 trillion in the late 2040s.

"For those who do not go to university, is the system of further education and vocational training funded fairly? Should there be a greater focus on technical qualifications in STEM subjects to fill shortages in the labour market?

"The Committee is keen to gather evidence from those with direct knowledge of these issues including students, recent graduates, and apprentices. We also want to hear from businesses and enterprise on whether the current system equips workers with the necessary skills for the modern economy.

"For our inquiry to be effective we need to hear as many views and experiences as possible. Written evidence will play an important role in informing our work and I would encourage anyone with knowledge, or an interest in this area, to return a submission by 14 September 2017."

### **Schools (Mental Health and Wellbeing) Bill (HL Bill 40): 1st reading 6/7/17**

A BILL TO Make provision for state maintained schools to promote the mental health and wellbeing of their pupils alongside academic attainment.

#### **1. Amendment to the Education Act 2002**

(1) Section 78 of the Education Act 2002 (general requirements in relation to curriculum) is amended as follows.

(2) After subsection (1)(b), insert—“(c) promotes the mental health and wellbeing of pupils alongside academic attainment.”

#### **2. Extent, commencement and short title**

(1) This Act extends to England and Wales only.

(2) This Act comes into force after the period of six months beginning with the day on which this Act is passed.

(3) This Act may be cited as the Schools (Mental Health and Wellbeing) Act 2017.



**England's heroes/heroines: Henry Hudson** (c. 1565–1611) was an English sea explorer and navigator during the early 17th century, best known for his explorations of present-day Canada and parts of the northeastern United States. Details of Hudson's birth and early life are mostly unknown. However he is thought to have spent many years at sea, beginning as a cabin boy and gradually working his way up to ship's captain. In 1607, the Muscovy Company of England hired Hudson to find a northerly route to the Pacific coast of Asia. At the time, the English were engaged in an economic battle with the Dutch for control of northwest routes. On May 1, 1607, Hudson sailed with a crew of ten men and a boy on the 80-ton *Hopewell*. They reached the east coast of Greenland on June 14, coasting it northward until the 22nd. Here the party named a headland "Young's

Cape". After turning east, they sighted "Newland" (i.e Spitsbergen) on the 27th, near the mouth of the great bay Hudson later simply named the "Great Indraght" (Isfjorden). On July 13, Hudson and his crew estimated that they had sailed as far north as 80° 23' N,<sup>[b]</sup> but more likely only reached 79° 23' N. The following day they entered what Hudson later in the voyage named "Whales Bay". They sailed north the following two days. On the 16th they reached as far north as Hakluyt's Headland thinking they saw the land continue to 82° N when really it trended to the east. Encountering ice packed along the north coast, they were forced to turn back south. The expedition returned to Tilbury Hope on the Thames on September 15.

In 1608, Hudson made a further attempt to find the rumoured Northeast Passage. In 1609 he landed in North America and explored the region around the modern New York metropolitan area, looking for a Northwest Passage to Asia on behalf of the Dutch East India Company. He sailed up the Hudson River, which was later named for him, and thereby laid the foundation for Dutch colonization of the region. Hudson discovered the Hudson Strait and the immense Hudson Bay on his final expedition, while still searching for the Northwest Passage. In 1611, after wintering on the shore of James Bay, Hudson wanted to press on to the west, but most of his crew mutinied. The mutineers cast Hudson, his son, and seven others adrift; the Hudsons and their companions were never seen again.

Hudson is also the namesake of the Hudson's Bay Company that explored and traded in the vast Hudson

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Bay watershed in the following centuries. It is twice the size of the Baltic Sea, and its many large estuaries afford access to otherwise landlocked parts of Western Canada and the Arctic. This allowed the Hudson's Bay Company to exploit a lucrative fur trade along its shores for more than two centuries, growing powerful enough to influence the history and present international boundaries of Western North America. Hudson Strait became the entrance to the Arctic for all ships engaged in the historic search for the Northwest Passage from the Atlantic side (though modern voyages take more northerly routes). Along with Hudson Bay, many other topographical features and landmarks are named for Hudson. The Hudson River in New York and New Jersey is named after him, as are Hudson County, New Jersey, the Henry Hudson Bridge, the Henry Hudson Parkway, and the town of Hudson, New York.

### England's history: The English blew Scotland's national instrument first

<http://theconversation.com/bagpipe-bandits-how-the-english-blew-scotlands-national-instrument-first-55403>

**Marc Horne:** For centuries their unmistakable sound has struck fear into Scotland's enemies and so became a symbol of its national identity. Now, however, it has been revealed that the bagpipes were used in England as a battle cry centuries before ever crossing north of the border. At a conference in Glasgow musicians and academics heard evidence that Edward II, who led the English forces at the Battle of Bannockburn, even had his own personal piper

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The Great Highland bagpipe is as central to Scottish identity as tartan and Robert Burns. Walk down Edinburgh's Royal Mile and you'll hear that familiar wail, while pipers gather each year to empty their lungs at everything from local competitions to the famous Edinburgh Military Tattoo in August. The pipes were not invented in Scotland, though. In fact, they are part of a much older tradition that some may find unpalatable: the English were playing the pipes hundreds of years before the Scots got their hands on them.

Bagpipes are actually a family of instruments, and most countries from India to Scotland and from Sweden to Libya boast at least one indigenous variety. They date back over 3,000 years, but appear to have been developed from the hornpipe, which goes back even further. Through the millennia, bagpipes have appeared in an incredible number of varieties – big like a zampogna gigante; small like a musette; droneless, or with two or more drones (or reeds); and with either one or two chanters (or pipes).

The drones can be vertical or horizontal, compressed into a little barrel or dangling on the piper's back, and the bag can be inflated by a mouthpiece or by bellows. The bag can be covered in brocade, tartan or left as a tanned skin. Each has its own scale, tone and sound, all of which tells a tale about their home country.

Early documents about bagpipes are scarce. Though literature featuring bagpipes in Ancient Greece is dubious, sources confirm that the instrument was known to the Romans. The ancient historian Dio Chrysostom described Emperor Nero as being able to play the pipe both with his mouth and by squeezing a bag under his armpit. According to the most widely accepted opinion, the Romans brought the instrument into Britain after their invasion in AD 43.

It is not until the Middle Ages that the bagpipe tradition took off in a significant way, however. By that time there are copious references all across Europe. A remarkable episode in British bagpipe literature is the Exeter Riddles, a manuscript containing Anglo-Saxon riddles possibly collected by bishop Leofric (1016 -1072). Riddle 31 tells of a beautiful, noble bird resting on a man's shoulder, with its beak facing downwards and its feet in the air. The answer to the name of the bird is the bagpipe, since its beak is the chanter and its feet are the drones.

The first time the term "bagpipe" appears in its English-language form is several hundred years later, in 1288 (albeit modified for a Latin text). It appears in an entry in the Book of the Treasurer of King Edward I, which translates as "a certain servant with a bagpipe who piped before the king was given two shillings" – a good sum, roughly the weekly income for an agricultural worker at the time.

The first unquestionable appearance of the bagpipe in Scotland is not until the 15th century, in carvings in Rosslyn Chapel and Melrose Abbey, respectively of an angel-piper and a pig-piper. It is reasonable to think that the tradition was absorbed into Scotland from the south, before developing its own characteristics. Of the English bagpipes the only continuous tradition is that of the Northumbrian smallpipes, although



*15th-century carving of bagpiper in Manchester Cathedral*

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bagpipes had formerly been used in other parts of England dating back at least to the Middle Ages. Bagpipes are mentioned in English literature as early as The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer, written between the 1380s and 1390s. Writing in the Prologue about the Miller, the lines read:

A baggepype wel coude he blowe and sowne,  
And ther-with-al he broghte us out of towne.

Stone and wood carvings of bagpipes of many different types began to appear in English cathedrals and churches beginning in the 14th century; examples of such carvings may be found in Cornwall, Dorset Devon, Herefordshire, Yorkshire, Cambridgeshire, Manchester, Norfolk, and Shropshire.

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### English culture: Knighthood of the old green

Southampton Old Bowling Green, situated on the corner of Lower Canal Walk and Platform Road, Southampton, England, is the world's oldest surviving bowling green. It was first used in 1299.

The Hospital of "God's House" was founded in 1185 for pilgrims who were going either to the shrine of St Swithun at Winchester or to Canterbury. The green adjoining the God's House Hospital had been established during the reign of Richard I the Lionheart for the recreational use of the Warden, and was first used for a game of bowls in 1299.

The club that plays there now is believed to have been established in the 17th century because of the history of a competition known as the "Knighthood". It is also the only club that has a "Master" in charge, a title carried forward from the earliest of days.

The unique occurrence called the "Knighthood" competition is held annually when the members play in top hats and frocked tails suits, the winner being allowed the title of "sir", (in lower case). Those who win are banned from future Knighthood competitions. This is the annual competition of the club with rules which are different from the normal variant of the game.

The competition used to start on 1 August but now starts on the third Wednesday of the month and is open to all members of the club, except the knights.

The game is played "roving jack" style in that the jack is placed on a penny anywhere on the green. Each player takes it in turns to bowl his two bowls at the jack. Each bowl when it comes to rest is measured and the distance from the jack is recorded before the bowl is removed. If a bowl moves the jack, the jack is placed back on the penny before it is measured. If the penny is partially covered by the bowl it is a toucher, if totally covered it is a lodger. After all the players have bowled the player with the closest bowl is awarded one point. If he also has the second nearest he scores two. The jack is then reset at a different position and the game continues until somebody has scored seven points.

The winner is made a "knight-of-the-green" and can never enter this competition again. It is a rarity for the knight to be declared on the first day and the competition has been known to last ten days.



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**Promotion: Members, please complain to the so-called English Apples and Pears Ltd company that regressively have their website emblazoned with the British Union Flag.** Despite using the email address on their site I have had no response to my complaining emails. (see below). Perhaps they don't answer embarrassing questions? <http://www.englishapplesandpears.co.uk/>

Dear Sirs,

Why do you have the British Union flag on your website and not the English flag? Scottish or Welsh growers never anonymise their country in this way. We see plenty of their flagged produce in English supermarkets, why do you not compliment England and English produce in the same way?

Kind regards, Scilla Cullen



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### English wine is on the menu at the beer festival

3/8/17 Daily Telegraph

English wine will be served at the Great British Festival next week for the first time, as home-grown brands increase in popularity.

The festival, run by the Campaign for Real Ale and taking place at Olympia London from Aug 8-12. will partner with wine firm Honest Grapes to offer a range of English wines.

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Festival organiser Ian Hill said: "While beer will always remain the centre focus of the festival, we wanted to make this year special."

Tom Harrow, co-founder of Honest Grapes, said: "It has never been a more exciting time for English wine."

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### Recipe: Apple tart with honey, cream and butterscotch sauce:

English apple pie recipes go back to the time of Chaucer. A 1381 recipe lists the ingredients as *good apples, good spices, figs, raisins and pears*. The *cofyn* of the recipe is a casing of pastry. Saffron is used for colouring the pie filling.

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/appletartwithhoneyed\\_84107](http://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/appletartwithhoneyed_84107)

By James Martin; from Ready Steady Cook

Preparation time: less than 30 mins

Cooking time: 10 to 30 mins

Serves 2

#### Ingredients:

#### Method:

Preheat the oven to 220C/425F/Gas 7.

Heat the butter, sugar and rosemary in a saucepan until the sugar has melted and it is a golden brown col-



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                       |
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| <b>For the filling:</b><br>knob of butter<br>sprig fresh rosemary<br>1 tbsp caster sugar<br>1 apple peeled, cored and finely sliced<br>ready-made puff pastry, cut into a 20cm/8in circle<br>honey, to drizzle | <b>For the sauce:</b><br>30g/1oz caster sugar<br>30g/1oz butter<br>110ml/4fl oz double cream<br><b>To garnish</b><br>sprig fresh mint |
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our. Add the apple slices, stir well and cook for five minutes, or until the apple is softened.

Remove the apple mixture from the heat and mash to a purée.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and lay out the puff pastry. Spread the pastry with the mashed apple mixture. Drizzle with honey and place in the oven to bake for 8-10 minutes, or until risen and golden.

For the sauce, melt the sugar and butter together in a clean saucepan. Once melted, turn up the heat and add the cream. Bring to the boil and cook until thickened.

To serve, pour the sauce over the tart and garnish with a mint sprig

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