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

Think of England

Number 84 : October 2018



**Championing England
& Challenging Prejudice**

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Number 84 October 2018

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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: Not many people know this but I am keen needlewoman. This month I am going on a weekend course on crewel work embroidery. We Englishwomen have been famous for our style of needlework. We



were perhaps at our zenith in the early middle ages and were especially renowned for the working of the Bayeux tapestry. It is an embroidered cloth nearly 70 metres (230 ft) long and 50 centimetres (20 in) tall, which depicts the events leading up to the Norman conquest of England concerning William, Duke of Normandy, and Harold, Earl of Wessex, later King of England, and culminating in the Battle of Hastings. It is thought to date to the 11th century, within a few years after the battle. It tells the story from the point of view of the conquering Normans, but is now generally agreed to have been made in England as it is are thought to be encoded with secret messages meant to undermine Norman rule. We have had some dealings with the Federal Trust and Brendan Donnelly is certainly not a supporter. It will be interesting to hear his lecture and hopefully obtain a transcript. It is an absolute scandal that, not only are our young people leaving school without basic literacy and numeracy skills but that they are qualified to attend university and graduate unfit for a working life. The highly respected OECD analysis is apparently unrecognised by Universities UK and the British Department for Education that controls English education. In the same vein the British Government looks the other way as England progresses towards anarchy.

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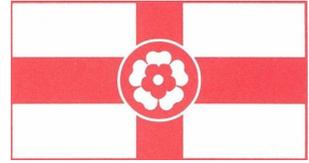
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Campaigning for England :

The Campaign for an English parliament Annual General Meeting: The CEP is a Company limited by guarantee. As such it is required by law to make returns to Companies House and to hold an annual general meeting, which takes place in November. At the meeting, after the Company business is completed, we are open to a meeting at which other items may be discussed. If you would like to attend the meeting please let us know as it will determine the size of the room to be booked.



Stephen Haseler Memorial Lecture: Will Brexit destroy the United Kingdom?

Joint event by the Federal Trust and Global Policy Institute

Professor Stephen Haseler (9 January 1942 – 20 July 2017) was the founding director of the Global Policy Institute and a Council Member of the Federal Trust until his death in 2017. In honour of his memory, the Federal Trust and the Global Policy Institute host an annual lecture. These focus on themes and issues that were close to Stephen's heart.

Thursday, 4th October 2018

17.30 - 20.00 (registration from 17.15)

Broadway House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NQ

The lecture will be delivered by Brendan Donnelly, Director, The Federal Trust

17.15 - 17.30: Registration

17.30 – 18.45: Lecture

18.45 – 20.00: Canapé Reception

In this lecture the Federal Trust's Director Brendan Donnelly will take stock of the Brexit negotiations. He will argue that the painful progress of these negotiations is largely due to the fundamental weaknesses of the current British state about which Stephen Haseler wrote so eloquently. Prominent among these weaknesses are national exceptionalism, constitutional immobility and over-centralisation. Brexit is submitting the U.K.'s institutions to an existential test which they have no guarantee of surviving intact. RSVP to events@fedtrust.co.uk, or ring the Federal Trust on 020 8065 0324

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

Current English Affairs:

Graduates 'lack basic maths and literacy skills'

September 12 2018, , The Times: Nicola Woolcock, Education Correspondent

Graduates are in school-leaver jobs due to poor numeracy and literacy, according to a global figure in education.

Tens of thousands of students are graduating from British (*sic*) universities without basic maths or literacy skills, a global figure in education suggested yesterday.

England has almost the highest proportion of graduates in school-leaver jobs of any developed country, and many are in those jobs because they lack basic numeracy and literacy, according to the education director of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, which published its annual education report.

Andreas Schleicher said at its launch in London that questions should be raised about quality assurance at British (*sic*) universities. It was astounding, he suggested, that students with poor maths and writing ability were being recruited by universities, let alone graduating.

The report showed that 28 per cent of graduates in **England** were in jobs requiring skills no higher than a school-leaver, second only to Japan, on 29 per cent, in a list of almost 30 countries.

Mr Schleicher said: "Lots of people get university degrees but are in a job that doesn't require it . . . for some of them the wage premium is not particularly good."

This was not because there were not enough graduate jobs, he said. Instead, skills tests of employees had highlighted the discrepancy.

"They are labelled over-qualified but they're not overskilled," he said. "They don't have the maths and English needed for a graduate job. The lack of numeracy skills is pretty basic, I'm not talking about someone doing advanced analysis. You ask yourself how someone could leave the school system with these skills, let alone getting into and even out of university."

Mr Schleicher said some graduates ended up unnecessarily accruing tens of thousands of pounds in tuition

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fee loans. “The quality assurance in the system should ensure value for money is adequate and should be more stringent, in cases of consumer protection you would not be allowed to buy a dangerous product and if you did you could ask for your money back.”

The report said that university tuition fees were the highest of any country apart from the United States, but there was also a good financial support system. The net financial return from a degree was lower in the UK than in many other countries.

Teachers in Britain (*sic*) were among the youngest of any country at primary, and second youngest at secondary, and earned less than average at the start and end of their careers.

The report also suggested that 40 to 45 per cent of the value of tuition fee loans will not be paid back, with the public sector picking up the cost. Mr Schleicher said: “People don’t get the salaries they expect so they don’t pay back the loans.”

The charity National Numeracy said recent research found that only a quarter of more than 700 social science undergraduates across nine universities had the essentials of numeracy needed for daily life and the workplace, even though almost all had passed GCSE maths.

Mike Ellicock, its chief executive, said: “As such, most students are unlikely to have the numeracy skills needed to understand the quantitative elements of their course, to progress successfully into a career, or to confidently manage their personal finances at university and in later life. Qualifications do not equate to skills and Mr Schleicher is 100 per cent right — there is no guarantee that graduates in the UK are functionally numerate.”

A spokesman for Universities UK said: “The ability to think critically and to analyse and present evidence are skills that enrich graduates’ lives, and last for life. To meet future challenges, the government should develop new policies to make part-time study more appealing, upskilling easier and encourage lifelong learning among our ageing population.”

The Department for Education welcomed the report’s recognition that the UK was in the top three countries for education spending as a proportion of GDP, and that it attracted so many international students. Damian Hinds, the education secretary, said: “As the report recognises, we have high levels of young people in education or employment, the financial gains from going to university outstrip the cost and people are more likely to continue learning throughout their lives.”

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### **Met Police dropped more than 34,000 criminal investigations within 24 hours of them being reported**

By FIONN HARGREAVES FOR THE DAILY MAIL: PUBLISHED: 10 September 2018

More than 34,000 criminal investigations were dropped on the day they were reported to the Metropolitan Police last year, figures reveal.

This is more than double the 13,019 investigations 'screened out' within 24 hours in 2016.

Critics say it means huge numbers of criminals – including rapists, thugs and burglars – have escaped justice and are free on the streets.

Data obtained by The Guardian under the Freedom of Information Act also shows that 18,093 inquiries were dropped within 24 hours between January and May this year, including 32 allegations of sexual offences. Almost 50 investigations of sex crimes were screened out last year, up from 20 in 2016.

Under the controversial 'screening out' policy, resources are directed at cases where there is a prospect of catching an offender, for example if there are witnesses or CCTV evidence.

Former police officers expressed their concern over the figures last night, which come less than a week after Home Office data revealed four in five burglary cases are closed without a suspect ever being established.

One said budget cuts meant some crimes had ceased to be a priority.

Retired officer Chris Hobbs told The Guardian: 'It's not just sexual offences, but all offences – what used to be regarded as a serious offences, burglary for example – they have now slipped right down the ladder.' Last week figures revealed hundreds of thousands of recorded crimes are never solved. In 57 per cent of robberies and around 14 per cent of violent offences or sexual attacks, a perpetrator was not identified. Four out of five burglaries, three-quarters of vehicle thefts and half of shoplifting cases were closed without a suspect being established. For some offences such as criminal damage, arson and theft, as many as seven in ten investigations were shut without anyone being caught, according to Home Office data. In total, 47.5 per cent of crimes were written off as 'no suspect identified'.



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In May it was reported police are abandoning inquiries into thousands of crimes without sending an officer to see the victim. Chief constables are setting up 'phone investigation' teams that screen out hundreds of reported offences before they reach detectives.

One force aims to close down more than half of the crime report calls it receives, according to the BBC's Panorama.

The Metropolitan Police's new guidelines around 'screening out' crimes were first announced last October.

The force said it had to save £400million by 2020 and it was 'not practical' to investigate crimes such as shoplifting and criminal damage.

A spokesman told The Guardian: 'The Met deals with nearly 800,000 allegations of crime every year. Investigations must be proportionate and timely – to utilise the best possible evidential opportunities.'

Just because an investigation has been completed 'this does not necessarily mean [it] is over. For example, forensic evidence ... may result in investigations being reopened.'

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Lack of officers is a 'fraud on public'

Police forces are so overstretched and underperforming that it amounts to a fraud on the public, a senior officer claims.

Everyday operations now depend on officers working long hours and their days off unpaid, and working for two forces at the same time, Chief Superintendent Gavin Thomas will say.

The criticism from Mr Thomas, president of the Police Superintendents' Association, comes amid deepening alarm over the failure of forces to cope with crime.

Mr Thomas will tell his organisation's conference tomorrow there are 'genuine fears' for the future of policing in England and Wales.

'The delivery of routine policing functions should not be dependent on officers effectively giving their time for free by staying past their shift times or working on leave days,' he will say. 'That exploits police officers and defrauds the public.'

'I would now suggest that this great service is on the verge of crisis in many areas. There is a void in the long-term strategic vision for the police service of the future.'

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### **Once-a-month bin collections for thousands**

September 25 2018, The Times: Ben Webster, Environment Editor

Local councils are considering collecting waste less often to save money and encourage recycling

More than 50,000 homes will have their bins emptied only once every four weeks under a local authority plan to save money and increase recycling.

Conwy county borough council in north Wales has become the first in England and Wales to cut collections of waste destined for landfill or incineration to once in four weeks. Many other councils are considering reducing the frequency of collections, with less than a quarter of English councils still collecting residual waste once a week. Fifteen per cent of UK councils plan to collect waste once every three or four weeks, according to a survey.

Conwy council said the change could save £390,000 a year and persuade more people to put waste in the correct bin. A year-long trial involving 10,000 homes led to a 14 per cent increase in recycling and a 31 per cent reduction in the amount of residual waste.

Some residents and councillors condemned the decision, saying the trials had resulted in piles of uncollected rubbish attracting rats, flies and seagulls. Some people have burnt rubbish to get rid of it. One resident told the BBC: "It festers. The area is plagued with flies in the summer. We've bought an incinerator so we burn the majority of rubbish, which is not good for the environment."

The council will still collect paper, card, cans, glass, plastics and other recyclables each week and will continue weekly collections of food waste and free weekly collections for disposable nappies or incontinence products.

The council admitted, however, that animal waste and cat litter would only be collected once every four weeks and it advised residents to put it in tightly-wrapped bags "to help minimise unpleasant smells".

Donald Milne, Conwy's cabinet member for environment, said: "The key to making this a success and making sure there is enough space in your rubbish bin is to make the best possible use of the recycling collections, particularly the weekly service for food waste. I'd encourage everyone to check the list of things that can be recycled because it is quite extensive."



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“Most people in Conwy recycle, but before the trial we found over half the contents of people’s bins could have been recycled. Those lost materials ending up in landfill cost the community £1.6 million every year.”

Many problems which people had feared would happen with the change, such as an increase in fly-tipping, had not materialised in the trial, he said.

On its website, the council sought to blame the Welsh government for the move. In the “frequently asked questions” section about the change, it said: “We recycle 64 per cent of our waste, which is good, but we need to recycle 70 per cent by 2024-25 to meet the Welsh government’s targets. If these are not achieved the council may be fined.”

Fife and Falkirk councils in Scotland have four-weekly bin collections and Belfast city council has included this as an option in a consultation on the future of its waste and recycling service. Bury and Wigan councils have three-weekly residual waste collections.

Waste waits

- Seventy-six per cent of councils in England only collected general rubbish fortnightly from some or all households last year.
- Some pick up household rubbish one week, with recycling collections picked up the next, while others collect recycling weekly.
- Gwynedd council in Wales was one of the first to collect every three weeks, in 2014. Recycling rates rose.
- A north Devon trial found that the proportion of waste going to landfill fell from 77 to 41 per cent where bins were emptied every three weeks.

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### English politics:

#### Standards watchdog head Sir Kevin Barron resigns over cover-up fears

September 5 2018, The Times: Dulcie Lee

Sir Kevin Barron said keeping details of MPs accused of sexual harassment and bullying secret was a backward step. The head of the Commons standards watchdog has resigned and accused parliament of “sacrificing transparency” by banning the identification of MPs who are under investigation.

Sir Kevin Barron announced yesterday that he would step down next month after eight years of chairing the standards and privileges committee. “I am proud of the changes made to the code of conduct over the years, including the recent introduction of a new system of investigation into bullying and sexual harassment,” he said. But he took a swipe at his fellow MPs, adding: “It is a shame that some of those changes had to come with the sacrifice of transparency.”

In July members voted in favour of plans to keep secret the details of all MPs under investigation.

The change was part of reforms being pushed through in response to reports of sexual harassment and bullying at Westminster.

Sir Kevin fiercely opposed the motion, describing it at the time as a “step backwards in transparency”. Lay members of the committee said that the move was “a detrimental step in continuing to build the credibility of the reputation of the House”. Less than two hours after the vote passed, the parliamentary standards commissioner had removed the list of current inquiries from its website.

Since 2010 details of MPs under inquiry, as well as rulings, have automatically been published. The new rules mean that the commissioner will no longer automatically publish verdicts.

Sir Kevin said: “I feel that now is an ideal time for me to move on and focus on other projects.” He commended the work of the lay members of the committee.

Jeremy Corbyn was reported to the standards commissioner last month for allegedly failing to declare his contentious trip to Tunisia or reveal who paid for it. If the commissioner were to rule that he broke Commons rules on declaring an overseas trip, he would have to apologise to MPs. Under the new system, however, the public would not automatically know of the details of the investigation. A spokesperson for Mr Corbyn has said: “The cost of the trip did not meet the declaration threshold.”



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#### Letter from The Right Honourable David Gauke MP Lord Chancellor & Secretary of State for Justice To Bob Neill MP Chair, Justice Select Committee House of Commons

HM COURTS & TRIBUNALS COURT CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT: On 24 July the Government announced the outcome of the five separate consultations on proposals to close eight courts in **England**.

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As you know, both the Government and the judiciary are committed to supporting HM Courts & Tribunals Service in undertaking a reform programme to transform the justice system and how it is accessed. The investment of over £1 billion will enable us to deploy modern technology, enhance our capabilities and make access to justice quicker, easier and fairer. The Lord Chancellor and I have given careful consideration to all points raised during the consultation process before making our decisions. We have considered whether the closures would prevent effective access to justice, whether they offer a saving that is both real and significant, and whether this will allow HM Courts & Tribunals Service to maintain high quality service provision. Following a detailed assessment of the responses to the consultations on specific court closure proposals, I have decided that the following seven sites meet the principles for closure - maintaining access to justice, improving operational efficiency, and delivering value for money - factoring in that mitigations will be in place to maintain access to justice: • Banbury Magistrates' and County Court; • Maidenhead (East Berkshire) Magistrates' Court; • Chorley Magistrates' Court; • Fleetwood Magistrates' Court (Family Hearing Centre); • Northallerton Magistrates' Court; • Wandsworth County Court; and • Blackfriars Crown Court.

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Government does not understand impact of funding cuts on local policing

COMMONS 11 September 2018

Public Accounts Committee Chair Meg Hillier MP has commented on today's National Audit Office report examining the financial sustainability of police forces in England and Wales.

The Committee Chair, Meg Hillier MP, comments:

"Sustained funding cuts have resulted in almost a fifth fewer police officers and staff than eight years ago, yet the government does not seem to understand the impact of this on local policing.

The police funding formula isn't working and the Home Office still has no immediate plans to change it, despite pledging to reform it three years ago.

The Home Office needs to get a grip on police funding to make sure it is not only sustainable, but also that funding is getting to where it is most needed."

England's heroes/heroines: Henry Cavendish

Henry Cavendish FRS (10 October 1731 – 24 February 1810) was an English natural philosopher, scientist, and an important experimental and theoretical chemist and physicist. His mother was Lady Anne de Grey, fourth daughter of Henry Grey, 1st Duke of Kent, and his father was Lord Charles Cavendish, the third son of William Cavendish, 2nd Duke of Devonshire. The family traced its lineage across eight centuries to Norman times and was closely connected to many aristocratic families.

Henry attended Hackney Academy, a private school near London and entered the University of Cambridge in St Peter's College, now known as Peterhouse, but left three years later without taking a degree (a common practice). He then lived with his father in London, where he soon had his own laboratory. Lord Charles Cavendish spent his life, first, in politics and then increasingly in science, especially in the Royal Society of London. In 1758, he took Henry to meetings of the Royal Society and also to dinners of the Royal Society Club. In 1760, Henry Cavendish was elected to both these groups, and he was assiduous in his attendance after that. He was active in the Council of the Royal Society of London (to which he was elected in 1765).

He published no books and few papers, but he achieved much. Several areas of research, including mechanics, optics, and magnetism, feature extensively in his manuscripts, but they scarcely feature in his published work.

He published his discovery of hydrogen or what he called "inflammable air". Cavendish found that it was produced by the action of certain acids on certain metals. This gas was, in fact, hydrogen. He described its density, which formed water on combustion and correctly guessed was proportioned to two in one water, in a 1766 paper "On Factitious Airs". Antoine Lavoisier later reproduced Cavendish's experiment and gave the element its name. Although others, such as Robert Boyle, had prepared hydrogen gas earlier, Cavendish is usually given the credit for recognising its elemental nature. The Scottish inventor James Watt published a paper on the composition of water in 1783; Cavendish had performed the experiments first but published second. Controversy about priority ensued.

A notoriously shy man Cavendish was nonetheless distinguished for great accuracy and precision in his researches into the composition of atmospheric air, the properties of different gases, the synthesis of wa-



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ter, the law governing electrical attraction and repulsion, a mechanical theory of heat, and calculations of the density (and hence the mass) of the Earth. His experiment to measure the density of the Earth has come to be known as the Cavendish experiment.

Cavendish also made "fixed air" (carbon dioxide), which he collected, along with other gases, in bottles inverted over water or mercury. He then measured their solubility in water and their specific gravity and noted their combustibility. Cavendish was awarded the Royal Society's Copley Medal for this paper.

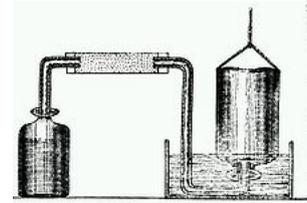
In 1785 Cavendish investigated the composition of common (i.e. atmospheric) air, obtaining impressively accurate results. Working within the framework of Newtonian mechanism, Cavendish had tackled the problem of the nature of heat in the 1760s, explaining heat as the result of the motion of matter. In 1783 he published a paper on the temperature at which mercury freezes and in that paper made use of the idea of latent heat, although he did not use the term. He went on to develop a general theory of heat, and the manuscript of that theory has been persuasively dated to the late 1780s. His theory was at once mathematical and mechanical: it contained the principle of the conservation of heat (later understood as an instance of conservation of energy) and even included the concept (although not the label) of the mechanical equivalent of heat.

The most famous experiment, published in 1798, was to determine the density of the Earth and became known as the Cavendish experiment. The apparatus Cavendish used for weighing the Earth was a modification of the torsion balance built by Englishman and geologist John Michell, who died before he could begin the experiment. Using this equipment, Cavendish calculated the attraction between lead balls from the period of oscillation of the torsion balance, and then he used this value to calculate the density of the Earth. Cavendish found that the Earth's average density is 5.48 times greater than that of water. What was extraordinary about Cavendish's experiment was its elimination of every source of error and every factor that could disturb the experiment and its precision in measuring an astonishingly small attraction. The result that Cavendish obtained for the density of the Earth is within 1 percent of the currently accepted figure.

Cavendish wrote papers on electrical topics for the Royal Society but the bulk of his electrical experiments did not become known until they were collected and published by James Clerk Maxwell a century later, in 1879, long after other scientists had been credited with the same results. According to the 1911 edition of Encyclopædia Britannica, among Cavendish's discoveries were the concept of electric potential, an early unit of capacitance, the formula for the capacitance of a plate capacitor, the concept of the dielectric constant of a material, the relationship between electric potential and current (now called Ohm's Law) (1781), laws for the division of current in parallel circuits (now attributed to Charles Wheatstone), and the inverse square law of variation of electric force with distance, now called Coulomb's Law. Other examples of what was included in Cavendish's discoveries or anticipations were Richter's law of reciprocal proportions, Dalton's law of partial pressures, and Charles's Law of gases. A manuscript "Heat", tentatively dated between 1783 and 1790, describes a "mechanical theory of heat". Hitherto unknown, the manuscript was analysed in the early 21st century. Historian of science Russell McCormach proposed that "Heat" is the only 18th-century work prefiguring thermodynamics. Theoretical physicist Dietrich Belitz concluded that in this work Cavendish "got the nature of heat essentially right."

Cavendish died in 1810 and was buried, along with many of his ancestors, in the church that is now Derby Cathedral. The road he used to live on in Derby has been named after him. The University of Cambridge's Cavendish Laboratory was endowed by one of Cavendish's later relatives, William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire.

Cavendish was a shy man who was uncomfortable in society and avoided it when he could. He could only speak to one person at a time, and only if the person were known to him and male. He developed no known deep personal attachments outside his family. He only communicated with his female servants by notes. His only social outlet was the Royal Society Club, whose members dined together before weekly meetings. Cavendish seldom missed these meetings, and was profoundly respected by his contemporaries.



Cavendish's apparatus for making and collecting hydrogen

England's history: The battle of Hastings

The Battle of Hastings was fought on 14 October 1066 between the Norman-French army of William, the Duke of Normandy, and an English army under the Anglo-Saxon King Harold Godwinson, beginning the Norman conquest of England. It took place approximately 7 miles northwest of Hastings, close to the

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present-day town of Battle, East Sussex, and was a decisive Norman victory. In 911, the French ruler Charles the Simple allowed a group of Vikings to settle in Normandy under their leader Rollo. Their settlement proved successful, and they quickly adapted to the indigenous culture, renouncing paganism, converting to Christianity, and intermarrying with the local population. In 1002, King Æthelred II of England married Emma, his second wife, the sister of Richard II, Duke of Normandy. Their son Edward the Confessor spent many years in exile in Normandy, and succeeded to the English throne in 1042 although there were male progeny from his elder half brother, the exiled Edmund Ironside.



In 1057 childless king Edward, who had only recently become aware that his nephew, Ironside's son, Edward, was still alive, summoned him back to England with his family to take up his place at court as heir to the throne. His nephew died in uncertain circumstances shortly after his arrival in England. His nephew's son, Edgar, at only six years old, was left as the only surviving male member of the English royal dynasty apart from the king. However, the latter made no recorded effort to entrench his grand-nephew's position as heir to a throne which was being eyed by a range of powerful potential contenders including England's leading aristocrat Harold Godwinson, Earl of Wessex, and the foreign rulers William II of Normandy, Sweyn II of Denmark and Harald III of Norway.

However, there was a powerful Norman interest in English politics, as Edward had drawn heavily on his former hosts for support, bringing in Norman courtiers, soldiers, and clerics and appointing them to positions of power, particularly in the Church. Edward had also been embroiled in conflict with the formidable Godwin, Earl of Wessex, and his sons, and he may also have encouraged Duke William of Normandy's ambitions for the English throne.

King Edward's death on 5 January 1066 left no clear heir, and several contenders laid claim to the throne of England. Edward's immediate successor was the Earl of Wessex, Harold Godwinson, the richest and most powerful of the English aristocrats and son of Godwin, Edward's earlier opponent. Harold was elected king by the Witenagemot of England and crowned by Archbishop of York Ealdred, although Norman propaganda claimed that the ceremony was performed by Stigand, the uncanonically elected Archbishop of Canterbury. Harold was at once challenged by two powerful neighbouring rulers. Duke William claimed that he had been promised the throne by King Edward and that Harold had sworn agreement to this. Harald III of Norway, commonly known as Harald Hardrada, also contested the succession. His claim to the throne was based on an agreement between his predecessor Magnus I of Norway and the earlier King of England Harthacnut, whereby, if either died without heir, the other would inherit both England and Norway. William and Harald Hardrada with Harold's own brother Tostig immediately set about assembling troops and ships for separate invasions.

Hardrada and Tostig defeated a hastily gathered army of Englishmen at the Battle of Fulford on 20 September 1066, and were in turn defeated by Harold at the Battle of Stamford Bridge five days later. The deaths of Tostig and Hardrada at Stamford Bridge left William as Harold's only serious opponent. While Harold and his forces were recovering, William landed his invasion forces in the south of England at Pevensey on 28 September 1066 and established a beachhead for his conquest of the kingdom. Harold was forced to march south swiftly, gathering forces as he went.

The exact numbers present at the battle are unknown; modern estimates are around 10,000 for William and about 7,000 for Harold. The composition of the forces is clearer; the English army was composed almost entirely of infantry and had few archers, whereas only about half of the invading force was infantry, the rest split equally between cavalry and archers. Harold appears to have tried to surprise William, but scouts found his army and reported its arrival to William, who marched from Hastings to the battlefield to confront Harold. The battle lasted from about 9 am to dusk. Early efforts of the invaders to break the English battle lines had little effect; therefore, the Normans adopted the tactic of pretending to flee in panic and then turning on their pursuers. Harold's death, probably near the end of the battle, led to the retreat and defeat of most of his army.

William expected to receive the submission of the surviving English leaders after his victory, but instead Edgar the Ætheling was proclaimed king by the Witenagemot, with the support of Earls Edwin and Morcar, Stigand, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Ealdred, the Archbishop of York. William therefore advanced on London, marching around the coast of Kent. He defeated an English force that attacked him at Southwark but was unable to storm London Bridge, forcing him to reach the capital by a more circuitous route.

When William crossed the Thames at Wallingford, he was met by Stigand, who now abandoned Edgar and

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submitted to the invader. As the Normans closed in on London, Edgar's key supporters in the city began negotiating with William. In early December the remaining members of the Witan in London met and resolved to take the young uncrowned king out to meet William to submit to him at Berkhamsted, quietly setting aside Edgar's election. Edgar, the last King of the English line, alongside other lords, did homage to King William at his coronation in December.

There continued to be rebellions and resistance to William's rule, but Hastings effectively marked the culmination of William's conquest of England.

English culture: English needlework had become famous across Europe during the Anglo-Saxon period (though very few examples survive) and remained so throughout the Gothic era. The Bayeux tapestry is believed to have been embroidered by Englishwomen. A Vatican inventory of 1295 lists over 113 pieces from England, more than from any other country; a request by Pope Innocent IV, who had envied the gold-embroidered copes and mitres of English priests, that Cistercian religious houses send more is reported by the Benedictine chronicler Matthew Paris of St Albans: "This command of my Lord Pope did not displease the London merchants who traded in these embroideries and sold them at their own price." The high water mark of style and refinement is normally considered to have been reached in the work of the 13th and early 14th centuries. An influential exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum from September–November 1963 displayed several examples of Opus Anglicanum from this period alongside contemporary works of wood and stone sculpture, metalwork and ivories.



Survival rates for Opus Anglicanum are low (especially for secular works) as is clear from comparing the large number listed in contemporary inventories with the handful of examples still existing. Sometimes ecclesiastical garments were later modified for different uses, such as altar coverings or book covers. Others were buried with their owners, as with the vestments of the mid-13th century Bishops, Walter de Cantilupe and William de Blois, fragments of which were recovered when their tombs in Worcester Cathedral were opened in the 18th century. The majority however were lost to neglect, destroyed by iconoclasts or else unpicked or burnt to recover the precious metals from the gold and silver threads. Although fragmentary examples can be found in a number of museums, the most important specialised collections of Opus Anglicanum garments are at the Cloisters Museum in New York, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London and in the Treasury of Sens Cathedral.

Only a few Anglo-Saxon pieces have survived, including three pieces at Durham that had been placed in the coffin of St Cuthbert, probably in the 930s, after being given by King Athelstan; they were however made in Winchester between 909 and 916. These are works "of breathtaking brilliance and quality", according to Wilson, including figures of saints, and important early examples of the Winchester style, though the origin of their style is a puzzle; they are closest to a wall-painting fragment from Winchester, and an early example of acanthus decoration. The earliest group of survivals, now re-arranged and with the precious metal thread mostly picked out, are bands or borders from vestments, incorporating pearls and glass beads, with various types of scroll and animal decoration. These are probably 9th century and now in a church in Maaseik in Belgium. A further style of textile is a vestment illustrated in a miniature portrait of Saint Aethelwold in his Benedictional, which shows the edge of what appears to be a huge acanthus "flower" (a term used in several documentary records) covering the wearer's back and shoulders. Other written sources mention other large-scale compositions.

One particularly fine example is The Adoration of the Magi chasuble from c. 1325 in red velvet embroidered in gold thread and pearls at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. It depicts a nativity scene with emphasis on decorative motifs, flowers, animals, birds, beasts, and angels. The Butler-Bowden Cope at the Victoria and Albert Museum is another surviving example; the same collection has a late cope made for a set of vestments given by Henry VII to Westminster Abbey.

Embroidered bookbinding for the Felbrigge Psalter in couched gold thread and split stitch, likely worked by Anne de Felbrigge, a nun in the convent of Minoreesses at Bruisyard, Suffolk, during the latter half of the fourteenth century.

Promotion: Celeriac growing

This vegetable got well and truly hit with the ugly stick, but appearances can be very deceptive. Celeriac may not look very special but it tastes divine. Thanks to the wonders of our fantastic growers who plant

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different varieties and store it effectively, we can offer fresh celeriac for a tantalising 11 months of the year.

Perhaps best thought of as a sophisticated flavour alternative to potatoes and turnips, celeriac is a root vegetable with a distinctive celery-like taste. It's great cooked as a vegetable on its own (roasted as chunky chips with paprika is really good), or mashed in with potato for a refreshing change. Celeriac soup is a delicious winter warmer with some crusty bread and (optional) a wet dog by an open fire.



Celeriac seeds may be grown in modules under glass and delivered to the farm for planting using a planting machine. Once the plants are in the ground, the early celeriac is covered with polythene sheeting to help retain the ground temperature and moisture. The wind always blows and it takes an army of people to ensure it is dug into the ground securely.

Once the days are longer and the temperature has risen, the polythene is taken off. Covering the early crop of celeriac has ensured it can be harvested in August.

Over the summer the size and quality of the celeriac is constantly monitored as well as for pests and diseases, such as carrot root fly.

Celeriac is notoriously difficult to store and the main crop must be harvested in a narrow 'window' between maturity and hard frosts. The top is cut off with a topper machine which travels in front of the harvester. It is lifted with a harvesting machine and brought to the yard in trailers to be stored in bulk and or washed and packed straight to the wholesale markets and super markets

Celeriac can also be known as turnip-rooted celery or celery root. It tends to be lopsided and its rough, deep brown exterior looks rather like the surface of the moon.

Celeriac can be served blanched for salads or cooked. The classic French salad remoulade consists of blanched matchsticks of celeriac dressed with mayonnaise. It can be mashed with other root vegetables such as potatoes, turnips or parsnips or served as a purée flavoured with black pepper and garlic. Celeriac goes particularly well with beef and game dishes and is a flavoursome addition to hearty winter stews with beef or venison or chunky vegetable soups such as celeriac and blue cheese.

Celeriac can be blanched, boiled or steamed. To blanch celeriac matchsticks for salads (this helps remove a slightly bitter taste), bring a pan of water with a squeeze of lemon juice (to prevent discolouration) added to the boil, drain the prepared celeriac and add to the pan. As soon as the water returns to the boil, pour the celeriac into a colander in the sink and rinse under cold running water until well chilled. Pat dry before using.

To boil, bring a pan of water with a squeeze of lemon juice added to the boil, drain the prepared celeriac and add to the pan, boil for 15-20 minutes or until tender. To steam, place the prepared celeriac in a steamer and cook for 15-20 minutes or until tender.

Recipe: Celeriac and Fennel Soup with Orange Zest

<http://www.rushgroup.co.uk/category/growers/>

By David Liney

Serves 4

Ingredients

30g butter

1 tbsp olive oil

4 shallots

1/4 large celeriac (about 250g, untrimmed), peeled and cubed

3 large fennel bulbs (about 750g), trimmed and sliced (feathery fronds reserved)

Finely grated zest of 1 orange

500ml vegetable stock

Salt and pepper

4-6 tbsp crème fraîche

Method

Heat butter and oil in a large saucepan over a medium heat. Add shallots and sweat gently for a few minutes. Add the celeriac and fennel, stir well, then cover for about 10 minutes.

Add the orange zest, stock and season. Bring to the boil, then simmer for about 15 minutes until veg is tender.

Purée the soup in a blender until completely smooth, adding a touch more stock to loosen the consis-



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tency if necessary.

Reheat the soup if necessary, check seasoning, serve with crème fraîche and fennel fronds.

Comment/No comment:

In 2006 Researchers Meg Russell and Guy Lodge of the Constitution Unit, University of London, said: 'English votes on English laws' is unworkable, so the British may just have to learn to live with this constitutional anomaly, as they do with many others." But it is not the British that are required to learn to live with it, it is the English and we have not and will not do so! Ed.

www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/07/england-identity-politics-left-right

Don't let the right have its way. The left must speak for England

Martin Kettle

English identity is a cultural issue that requires more than just a constitutional answer. Nevertheless, England is the largest nation in Europe without its own parliament and it has become difficult to argue against one, with powers similar to those in the rest of the UK. An English parliament would force the progressive wing of politics to engage seriously with England's mood and England's needs. Compared with an English parliament, combined or regional authorities just don't cut it. (In response to the BBC survey 3 /6/18)

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/dec/19/britain-problem-not-europe-england-brexite-englishness> (paraphrased from his article)

Britain's problem is not with Europe, but with England: David Marquand

Unrecognised by Westminster politicians, the UK now confronts an English question.

The UK is to leave the EU because an English majority has voted to do so, ignoring the opinions of Scotland and Northern Ireland that voted remain. Myths, memories and rhetoric have transmitted a vision of Englishness of extraordinary power. There is a second England, which erupted into history with the 1381 peasants' revolt, one of whose leaders asked a question that has echoed through the centuries: "When Adam delved and Eve span, who was then the gentleman?"

(He seems to have problem with majority rule unlike supporters of majority rule in South Africa. He goes on to argue that this second England has more value than the first and, by implication, that it would have voted remain. I think he has got it wrong, the second England argues against undemocratic rule by unelected monarchs/politicians, which can equally be construed to explain a 'Leave' majority. The additional conclusion from his polemic, which I doubt he realises, is that England should be independent so that the rest of the UK can do as it likes, but without our support. Ed.)

PEAK PIQUE (from magazine of the Civil Service Motoring Association)

In his article Spirit of the Lakes, David Atkinson didn't get it quite right about Skiddaw's height. He refers to the 3,054ft peak as 'Britain's fourth highest mountain'. In fact, it falls very well short of that. What constitutes a 'mountain' is open to discussion, but there are at Least 250 Munros in Scotland of the same or greater height (plus about 200 Munro Tops of equal or greater height), there are also peaks of greater height in Wales and Ireland. I think you'll find that Skiddaw is England's sixth highest peak. Keith Bryers, Rack Isle, ScotLand

We should indeed have referred to England, many apologies. Skiddaw is the third, fourth or sixth highest mountain in England, depending on how you count the various peaks of Scafell and ScafeLL Pike - Magazine Editor's reply

OUR PRECIOUS UNION! Theresa May June 2017

(Sucking England dry)

Join at www.thecep.org.uk or send name and address with cheque for £20 (£15 concessions) made out to The Campaign for an English Parliament to Ms P Cullen, 9 the Meadows, Breachwood Green, Hitchin, Herts., SG4 8PR

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