

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US



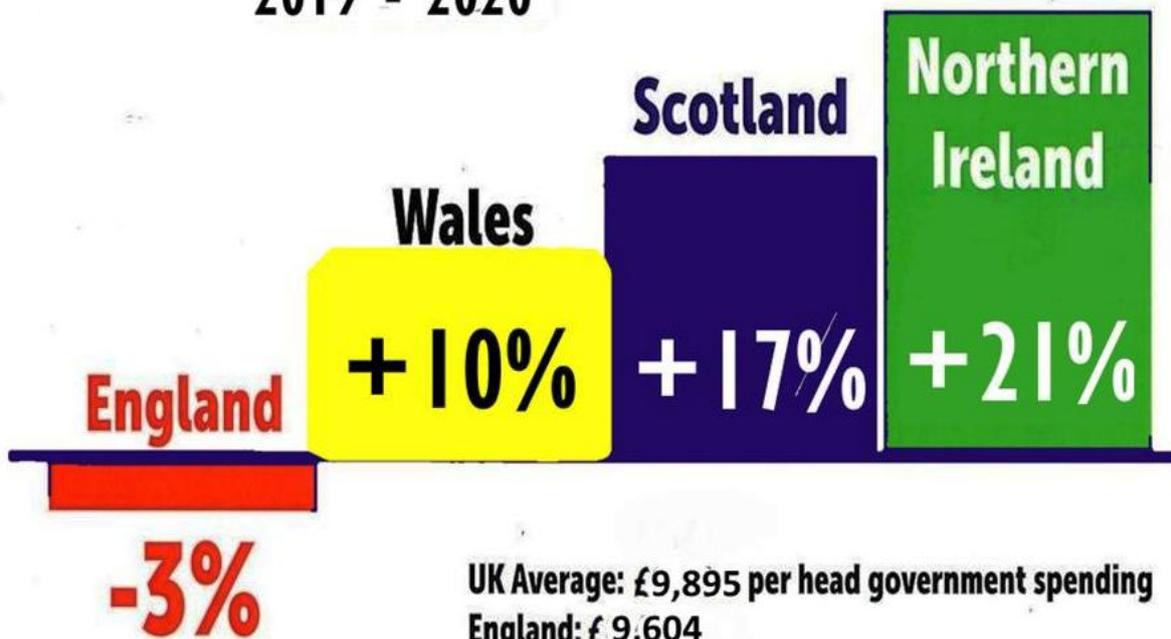
Campaign for an English Parliament

Think of England

Number 112: August 2021

UK government spending on services

2019 - 2020



UK Average: £9,895 per head government spending
England: £ 9,604
Wales: £ 10,929
Scotland: £ 11,566
N. Ireland: £ 11,987

Source: HM Treasury 2021

PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US

Number 112 August 2021

Contents:

Editorial

Campaigning for England :

Current English Affairs: Roads and Transport, Health and Welfare.

Governing England:

England's hero: George Stubbs

England's history: Pendle Witch Trials

English culture: Morris dancing

English produce: Tea

Recipe: Tea loaf

Frontispiece: England's deficit

RECOMMENDED READING: An economic history of the English garden by Sir Roderick Floud published by Allen Lane (penguin)



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: The UK parliament thinks that EVEL created two tiers of MPs but does not think that the West Lothian question is about the creation of two tiers of MPs following devolution? What Orwellian doublethink!



Henry Hall of Conservative Home's polemic against an English Parliament (EP) appears to want a return to the situation pre-national devolution to the rest of the UK. Has he not noticed that that horse has bolted? He does not want an EP as that 'would lead to dysfunction'. I did not remember him or anyone else making the point that a Scottish or Welsh parliament would have an effect on the health and coherence of the Union more widely, which they clearly have done. Nowhere does he offer an answer to the West Lothian question now more prominent since his party's government have abolished EVEL.

Of course an English parliament would bring power closer to the people, its very name indicates that since domestic affairs in England would no longer be run by a supra-national government. That is not to say that powers cannot be further devolved. Moreover removing MPs of English constituencies and their hangers on, as indicated in the article, from the UK Parliament would create a more balanced central government for the whole of the UK.

The Barnett formula is not only unfair to England but also to Wales and NI since the population share has changed during the last 50 years of this supposedly temporary measure. It was an embarrassment to the late Lord Barnett and urgently needs to be reformed

Please sign up on the website via the dialogue box shown below and increase our follower numbers.

Follow the CEP via Email

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join other followers

Follow

PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US

Campaigning for England:

<https://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/explainers/barnett-formula>

Barnett formula: The Barnett formula is used by the UK Treasury to calculate the annual block grants for the Scottish government, Welsh government and Northern Ireland executive. It therefore determines the overall funding available for public services in the devolved nations. In 2019/20 the Barnett block grant amounted to £32bn in Scotland, £16bn in Wales and £12bn in Northern Ireland. This reflects differences in population size as well as the range of devolved public services in each nation.

The formula was first introduced ahead of the 1979 general election by Labour. It was initially intended as a temporary solution for determining funding allocations between the UK's nations, but has remained in use ever since.

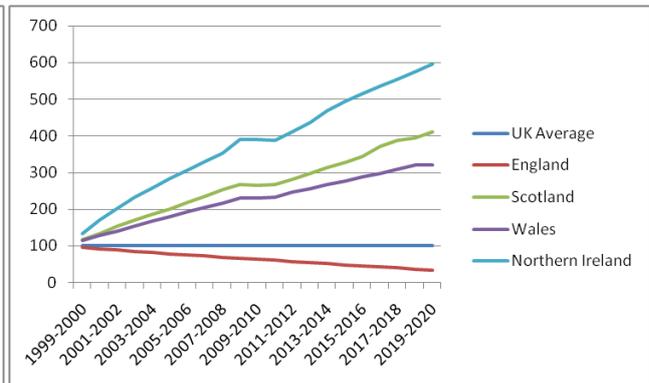
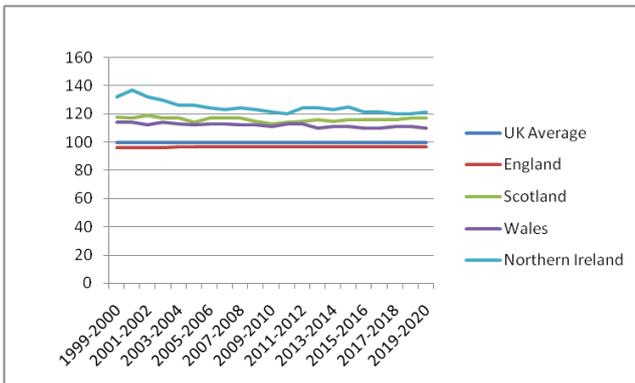
The Barnett formula calculates devolved budgets by using the previous year's budget as a starting point, and then adjusting it based on increases or decreases in comparable spending per person in England. For example, if spending on healthcare in England increases by £100m, the Scottish government's budget would increase by £9.7m since Scotland's population is 9.7% of England's. Similarly, the Welsh government's budget would increase by £5.6m and the Northern Ireland Executive's budget would increase by £3.4m.

The Barnett formula only applies to public services that are devolved. The graphs below, from the Office for National Statistics, Public expenditure Survey for 2021 show the continuing disparity in the funding of



Year on year deficit in funding of England per head

Cumulative effect of underfunding of England



England by British governments compared with the funding it enables Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (NI) to spend on services. This is enabled by the iniquitous Barnett formula, which does not reflect current populations, is not based on need and has never been reviewed.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-57828406>: Published 14/7/21

Commons scraps English votes for English laws

MPs have scrapped a system that gave English MPs a veto over laws only affecting England.

The government's motion to remove the English votes for English laws procedure in the Commons was approved without the need for a formal vote.

Leader of the House Jacob Rees-Mogg told MPs the procedure had "added complexity and delay to the legislative process". He said Evel had "undermined" Parliament and all MPs should be represented equally. English votes for English laws - known as Evel - was introduced in 2015 by former Prime Minister David Cameron following the Scottish independence referendum.

It allowed English - and sometimes English and Welsh - MPs to accept or veto legislation only affecting their constituents before it passed to its final Commons stage.

It was an attempt to address the so-called "West Lothian Question" - in which English MPs could not vote on matters devolved to other parts of the UK, but Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland MPs could vote in Westminster on England-only matters.

He rejected accusations the move was to appease nationalists and said the government was "trying to restore the beauty and the uniformity of our constitution so that it will work properly".

But some English Conservative MPs raised concerns.

Former cabinet minister John Redwood said "England deserved better" and that it was a "sad occasion".

He said it was the "only modest devolution ever offered to England".

PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US

Shadow leader of the House, Labour's Thangam Debbonaire, welcomed the decision to abolish Evel. She said the procedure "undermines democracy" and helped feed "the SNP's indignation". Creating two tiers of MP, she added, had done "nothing to preserve the union".

England is denied the voice it deserves by elites who would rather Englishness didn't exist

Telegraph : Nick Timothy 4 July 2021 • 9:30pm

England has its own unique and complex identity, and it should have a parliament of its own, too.

For the English do have traits and tendencies, just like any other nationality. And yet, for many England's identity is something best denied. It is, they believe, too dangerous, too embarrassing, or too exclusive. Even those now debating what they call "Englishness" are doing so, they admit, with reluctance.

Among them, a common contrivance is to pretend that English culture is, as one commentator puts it, "thin", an identity that "has arisen not because of a positive movement to adopt the identity, but scorn for other forms of collective belonging". It suits many to pretend that English identity is non-existent or negative because it excuses their own failure to respect the English and the status of England. They seem to hope that if "Englishness" must be appeased, they can make sure that whatever follows is an elite-led project in which they can keep everything civilised.

But that is not how identity works. It is an organic thing, encompassing history, language, traditions, collective memories and shared places. Just as a family's identity is about memories, achievements, jokes, holidays and joy and arguments and tragedies and loss, so a national identity is formed along similar lines.

England is the mother of parliaments. It is the land of Shakespeare and Dickens, Elgar and Holst, the Beatles and Stones, the Cotswolds and Cumbrian hills, London and Liverpool, Oxford and Cambridge. It is Stonehenge and St Paul's, football and cricket, the local church and village pub, Isaac Newton and Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

It is cream teas and Cheddar cheese, a pint of bitter and a cup of tea, farms and factories, honest coppers and straight judges. It is the Wars of the Roses and the Reformation, Roundheads and Cavaliers, rebellions and strikes, Industrial Revolution and a Glorious Revolution. It is the home of Magna Carta, Locke and Burke, Churchill and Attlee, and long lines of kings and queens.

Certain places and stories will matter more to some than others. Some stories are of failure not success, and some are embellished and spun. But that does not matter: what matters is they are all identifiably English, and they inspire us to be the best we can be. From philosophy to science, inventions to the arts, English culture is rich with significance. It is needlessly destructive to ignore, denigrate or misrepresent it.

For this all matters, profoundly. Shared identity is what allows us to recognise familiarity in strangers, and that familiarity, psychologists attest, encourages trust and solidarity and the willingness to make sacrifices for others. You and I might never have met, but we have language, places, habits, customs and shared history, culture and stories to help us to trust one another. This shared national identity means we can look beyond the narrower identities – racial, religious, regional, whatever – that can divide us.

The problem with English identity, then, is not that it does not exist, nor that it is vague, nor that it is impossible to understand. It is that, for decades running into centuries, English identity was subsumed into a broader British identity.

But that British identity has weakened as Devolution, and nationalistic policies pursued by the SNP and Welsh Labour, pulled the nations further apart. So too have different decisions made by the English, Scottish and Welsh electorates.

The problem is not English identity but a failure to provide the democratic, institutional and political voice the English deserve. Devolution to Scotland and Wales but not to England means Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish voters decide the government of England. A UK government elected by mainly English voters thinking of issues that are devolved elsewhere makes no sense to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. If one day we end up with a UK government elected with no English majority, but expected to determine policies in England that are devolved elsewhere, we will face a constitutional crisis.

"English votes on English laws" does not resolve this issue. And there can be no return to the unitary state of old. The only sustainable remaining solution is an English parliament and English government within a federal UK, supported by a political culture that respects and cherishes pride in England and shows a more serious commitment to the government of England's regions.



PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US

An English parliament would create a devolutionary circus

Henry Hill, news editor at ConservativeHome: July 16 2021, 12.01am, The Times

A summer of sporting success can do funny things to the mind. So it is worth remembering that an English parliament is a really terrible idea. There are two axes on which we can measure the awfulness of the proposition. First, its merits as a means of improving local government in England. Second, its effect on the health and coherence of the Union more widely.

On the first point, the most obvious objection is simply that an English parliament would not perform the same function as its counterparts in Scotland and Wales; it would not bring power meaningfully closer to the people. For all their many shortcomings, those institutions at least represent a very distinct electorate from that represented by parliament.

An English legislature, by contrast, would simply be excluding fewer than one in five British voters. It would thus create the full devolutionary circus — legislators, researchers, think tankers, journalists and the whole algal bloom of civic hangers-on that grows up around power — to no obvious benefit to the many distinct regions and communities within England.

In fact, if the examples of Scotland and Wales are anything to go by then an English administration would be worse for localism than Westminster and aggressively centralise in a bid to force everything into an 'English' shape. That's also why it would likely have such a dire effect on the United Kingdom as a whole. Any first minister of England would have almost as much prestige as the prime minister. They would also, unlike their Scottish and Welsh counterparts, have a direct political interest in agitating against fiscal transfers and the Barnett formula.

It should not take much political imagination to see how extraordinarily dangerous this combination would be. It would almost certainly turbo-charge English nationalism, just as devolution has in Scotland and Wales. If the next Boris Johnson rose to power through England, rather than London, he or she could well be our own Boris Yeltsin.

But if an English parliament isn't going to do anything to secure England for the Union, might it at least ease the danger in Scotland and Wales? No. Obviously not.

Set aside for a moment that the demands of the nationalists in either country have nothing to do with how England is governed. It is simply a fact that the SNP, in particular, are not good-faith partners in the Union. They do not want the United Kingdom to work. Replacing British governance with intra-home nations horse-trading, under the rubric of "shared rule", risks giving them unending opportunities to pour sand in the gears of the state — and then cite the resulting dysfunction to make the case for independence. Likewise, winnowing the scope of the British government to a handful of portfolios such as foreign affairs and defence is no means to defend it. It can't be said often enough that we will only be able to make a positive case for a Union that actually does things, and is seen to do them well, in policy areas that voters actually care about. That means education, healthcare, welfare, and so on. Federalism is a recipe for an emaciated and near-invisible British state which does too little, and does it badly.

It is the sort of policy you end up with if you need to admit that devolution hasn't worked as a unionist strategy, but can't bring yourself to admit devolution might have been wrong — the constitutional equivalent of diagnosing a patient with an imbalance of the humours.

Nothing in the practical experience (as opposed to the abstract theory) of devolution gives us any reason to think that federalism will save the Union. We won't persuade voters to reject the nationalists' conclusions by conceding the nationalists' premises ourselves.

Current English Affairs: Roads and Transport, Health and Welfare.

Return of hard shoulder on smart motorways 'risks 25 extra deaths'

Graeme Paton, Transport Correspondent: Thursday July 01 2021, 12.01am, The Times

More than 400 miles of "all-lane running" smart motorway have been opened

In evidence to the Commons transport committee, which is carrying out a review of smart motorways, Baroness Vere, the transport minister, said that analysis by the Department for Transport suggested that bringing back a permanent hard shoulder would cut overall motorway capacity by a quarter. This would exacerbate congestion costing motorists an estimated £2.85 billion a year in lost time and pushing drivers on to "less safe" local roads, which would directly lead to an additional 25 deaths and 224 serious casualties annually.

She also admitted CCTV cameras on smart motorways were "not always monitored" by Highways Eng-



PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US

land officials, raising further fears over their safety.

Her comments were criticised by road safety campaigners. Claire Mercer, whose husband Jason was killed on a smart stretch of the M1 in South Yorkshire two years ago, told The Times: “These figures are just rubbish. I’d love to see the maths because I don’t believe they can simply make this assumption when it comes to the hard shoulder. It’s biased guesswork.”

MPs on the transport committee criticised the slow introduction of radar technology to detect broken down vehicles. The work will not be finished until September next year. Huw Merriman, the committee’s Tory chairman, said the response was “not good enough”.

Low-traffic zone fines make millions

Graeme Paton: Monday July 12 2021, 12.01am, The Times

Drivers are being fined millions of pounds for entering low-traffic neighbourhoods because they fail to understand road signs, it is claimed. Campaigners have called on the government to overhaul rules on signage because existing warnings lack clarity, leaving tens of thousands of motorists with penalties of £130. Figures suggest that motorists have paid 250,000 fines worth £14 million for driving in the zones in London over the past year. Hackney in east London has collected £2.7 million, with its analysis showing 82 per cent of those fined were from outside the borough, suggesting they were unfamiliar with the roads.

Angry drivers no reason to remove cycle lanes, councils told

Graeme Paton Thursday July 29 2021, 12.00am, The Times

There has been fierce debate about the expansion of “low traffic neighbourhoods” in the past year. The government has awarded £425 million to councils in England since May last year for projects that allow people to exercise and walk while maintaining social distancing. This includes blocking traffic from residential streets using bollards, giant planters and cameras as well as introducing cycle lanes and widening pavements.

On Friday the government is expected to announce further funding for the programme as part of a new walking and cycling strategy. More than 200 schemes are already in place. However, they have proved controversial because of concern about a rise in traffic, lack of access for emergency services and damage to businesses.

Tory-run Kensington and Chelsea installed a mile-long cycle lane through the borough with a £320,000 taxpayer-funded grant. It used bollards to separate bikes from traffic but the lane was removed late last year. A ban on vehicles using Keyhole Bridge in Poole was introduced last August but councillors decided in January to remove the order. This was despite advice to the contrary from officials and an impact assessment recommending it remained.

Both decisions are subject to legal action from residents’ groups. Cycling UK applied to the High Court for a judicial review of West Sussex council’s decision to remove a cycle lane in Shoreham. It was unsuccessful but says it intends to appeal.

Chris Heaton-Harris, the transport minister, said that councils’ “performance in delivering active travel infrastructure” would be taken into account when funding allocations were made. This suggests that councils hastily ripping out lanes will receive less cash.

Jack Cousens, AA head of roads policy, said many councils had quickly introduced cycle lanes without consulting residents. “This in turn led to many schemes being ripped out almost as fast as they were installed as some schemes created congestion rather than eased it,” he said. “Local democracy should decide whether they stay or go, with the debate properly informed from reliable statistics on use and knock-on effects.”



Care firm made £24m profits as Ofsted branded its children’s homes ‘inadequate’

Simon Murphy Social, Affairs Editor George Greenwood: Saturday July 17 2021, 12.01am, The Times

An investigation by The Times has found that Cambian Childcare posted pre-tax profits of £24.45 million — a year-on-year increase of 112 per cent — in accounts published last month. Meanwhile, in the weeks before and after, several of its homes were rated among the worst in the country.

Analysis of Ofsted reports shows that nine of its children’s homes were given “inadequate” ratings — the lowest — in reports of inspections carried out between April 14 and May 28, recorded a litany of failings including:

- Children assessed at high risk of sexual exploitation repeatedly went missing. An earlier report noted

PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US

that on “numerous occasions children have told staff they have met unknown adult males and engaged in sexual activities to gain money”.

- Despite medical advice to stop a child’s medication at the same home, record-keeping errors meant that some staff continued to administer it.
- Elsewhere, at a home in Halton, Cheshire, staff failed to seek immediate medical attention for a 12-year-old found heavily intoxicated, taking action only after several hours when the child’s health deteriorated.
- At a separate home in Halton an on-call manager failed to provide assistance to staff when a child barricaded two employees in different rooms through the night. Staff were unable to support the child or respond to their threats that they would set a fire.
- Staff failed at a home in Oldham to obtain any details from a taxi driver who returned a child late one night, demonstrating a “significant lack of safeguarding awareness”.

As of March 31, Cambian, which receives public money via local authorities that contract it to provide care, had 173 children’s homes registered with Ofsted in England.

Cambian Childcare is a wholly-owned subsidiary of CareTech Holdings plc. Farouq Sheikh, CareTech’s co-founder and executive chairman, who is also a director of Cambian Childcare Ltd, is a Labour Party donor. He personally gave £45,000 to the Labour Party in March 2016, with the funds understood to have been put towards Sadiq Khan’s mayoral campaign. Separately, in 2015 he gave two donations worth a total of £15,000 directly to Khan for his mayoral election campaign.

He gave another £5,000 to Rosena Allin-Khan, the shadow minister for mental health, in March last year, according to Electoral Commission filings. He also donated £5,000 to the Liberal Democrats in 2019. Farouq Sheikh’s total remuneration package, including pension contributions and benefits, was £833,000. His brother, Haroon, CareTech co-founder and CEO, received a total remuneration package worth £971,000. Awarded an OBE for services to specialist social care in the Queen’s birthday honours last year, Farouq Sheikh, 62, founded CareTech with his brother, Haroon, in 1993

~~~~~

### What will I have to pay if I go into a care home?

Kate Palmer, Saturday July 24 2021, 12.01am, The Times

Social care is provided to adults who need support because they have a disability or who are older and need assistance at home or in a care home.

It looks as if the national insurance increase will go towards care home costs rather than funding care for people in their own homes, but the details aren’t yet clear. Most social care is means-tested. People with more than £23,250 in property, savings and investments have to pay the full cost of their care if they live in England or Northern Ireland. Those with less than £14,250 do not have to pay anything, and these thresholds haven’t changed since 2010.

However much you pay towards your care, you will be allowed to keep a personal expenses allowance of £24.90 a week in England and £27.19 a week in Northern Ireland. This amount is disregarded from the assets on which you are means-tested, so your weekly income won’t drop below this amount.

In Wales only those with £50,000 or more in assets have to pay for their care. The minimum income amount, Wales’s version of the personal expenses allowance, is £32 a week. In Scotland the threshold for paying the full cost of care is £28,750, but if you have more than £18,000 you will be expected to pay something towards it. You are entitled to a weekly income of £29.30

The specifics of the raise in National Insurance, which is set to bring in £10 billion a year are yet to be sorted out, but the increase, which is being called a new health and social care tax, will initially address the backlog of NHS treatments that have been put off during the pandemic. Later it will be used to plug the funding gap in social care.



~~~~~

Abandon NHS power grab, former chairman tells Javid

Chris Smyth, Whitehall Editor, Friday July 30 2021, 12.01am, The Times

A bill introduced to parliament this month aims to undo much of the controversial 2012 market-based reforms of the health service but also gives ministers significant new powers to issue orders to NHS England, which has had operational independence for a decade.

Professor Sir Malcolm Grant, founding chairman of NHS England, today warns against a ministerial power-grab over the health service. Grant says the appointment of a successor to Lord Stevens of Birmingham as chief executive is the time for a rethink of controversial health reforms.

Grant says it would be “foolish to imagine this is to be innocent intervention”, after Lord Stevens often stood up publicly to the government and succeeded in pressing the Treasury into several multi-billion

PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US

pound budget increases

Amanda Pritchard was this week appointed Stevens's successor and Grant says "her appointment marks the moment for a serious discussion about the role of Sajid Javid".

~~~~~

**Governing England:** Westminster, regulations and laws applying to England only

### SNP 'should be worried' about Lord McInnes joining No 10

Kieran Andrews, Scottish Political Editor: July 09 2021, 12.01am, The Times

Lord McInnes of Kilwinning announced yesterday that he is quitting as director of the Scottish Conservatives to take up the full-time Downing Street position. Ruth Davidson the former Scottish Tory leader said that McInnes was a "brilliant hire" and that his pragmatic approach to the constitution would boost unionist sentiment if the UK government followed the course he set. "Mark is really tuned in across Scotland," Davidson said.

McInnes, 44, a former Edinburgh city councillor, is already a "constitutional adviser" to Alister Jack, the Scottish secretary, and has previously given frank advice on the state of the Union.

One source said that McInnes would "champion the UK and Scottish governments working together closely wherever possible" and demonstrate "the benefits of the Union by co-operation, not conflict".



~~~~~

Expanding the No 10 machine won't give us better PMs

Anthony Seldon: Friday July 16 2021, 12.01am, The Times

Britain is trying to tackle 21st-century problems with a 20th-century government apparatus that was designed in the 19th century. It's no surprise we are struggling. This week's report by the Commission for Smart Government, chaired by Lord Herbert, is thus timely and inspired.

Whitehall departments need to be re-purposed, with a ministry of health that promotes physical and mental health, an education department that educates students not for the past but for the future world and a Home Office that makes the country feel like a home to all its citizens.

Sir Anthony Seldon is the author of *The Impossible Office? The History of the British Prime Minister*

~~~~~

### UK Statutory Instruments that regulate England

The Technical Education Certificate (England) Regulations 2021 No. 822

The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development etc.) (England) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2021 No. 814

The Home Loss Payments (Prescribed Amounts) (England) Regulations 2021 No. 841

The Calorie Labelling (Out of Home Sector) (England) Regulations 2021 No. 909

The Fisheries Act 2020 (Scheme for Financial Assistance) (England) Regulations 2021 No. 908

~~~~~

Laws for England:

Committee stage: Health and Care Bill, Government Bill, Originated in the House of Commons, Session 2021-22, Last updated: 27 July 2021 at 14:01

Long title: A Bill to make provision about health and social care.

2nd reading: Judicial Review and Courts Bill, Government Bill, Originated in the House of Commons, Session 2021-22, Last updated: 22 July 2021 at 09:56

Long title: A Bill to Make provision about the provision that may be made by, and the effects of, quashing orders; to make provision restricting judicial review of certain decisions of the Upper Tribunal; to make provision about the use of written and electronic procedures in courts and tribunals; to make other provision about procedure in, and the organisation of, courts and tribunals; and for connected purposes

Report stage: Skills and Post-16 Education Bill [HL], Government Bill, Originated in the House of Lords, Session 2021-22, Last updated: 22 July 2021 at 09:31

Long title: A Bill to make provision about local skills improvement plans; to make provision relating to further education; to make provision about functions of the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education and relating to technical education qualifications; to make provision about student finance and fees; to make provision about assessments by the Office for Students; to make provision about the funding of certain post-16 education or training providers; and for connected purposes

2nd reading: Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill, Government Bill, Originated in the House of Commons, Sessions 2019-21, 2021-22, Last updated: 21 July 2021 at 14:38

PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US

Long title: A Bill to make provision about the police and other emergency workers; to make provision about collaboration between authorities to prevent and reduce serious violence; to make provision about offensive weapons homicide reviews; to make provision for new offences and for the modification of existing offences; to make provision about the powers of the police and other authorities for the purposes of preventing, detecting, investigating or prosecuting crime or investigating other matters; to make provision about the maintenance of public order; to make provision about the removal, storage and disposal of vehicles; to make provision in connection with driving offences; to make provision about cautions; to make provision about bail and remand; to make provision about sentencing, detention, release, management and rehabilitation of offenders; to make provision about secure 16 to 19 Academies; to make provision for and in connection with procedures before courts and tribunals; and for connected purposes.

Committee stage: Elderly Social Care (Insurance) Bill [HL], Private Members' Bill (Starting in the House of Lords), Originated in the House of Lords, Session 2021-22, Last updated: 19 July 2021 at 09:24

Long title: A Bill to establish a publicly owned body to provide insurance for home owners at cost against selling their homes to pay for elderly social care; and for connected purposes

Extent: This Act extends to England and Wales.

Home owners in England who have already reached state pension age on the day on which the Body is established may, within two years of the Body being established, purchase an insurance policy from the Body on the condition that if they enter elderly residential social care within two years of the policy being purchased, the charge would be cancelled and they would be subject instead to the existing regulations regarding the provision of social care.

England's hero: George Stubbs: ARA (25 August 1724 – 10 July 1806) was an English painter, best known for his paintings of horses and reckoned by many to be the greatest of all horse painters. Stubbs

learnt his skills independently from other great artists of the eighteenth century such as Reynolds or Gainsborough. Stubbs' greatest skill was in painting animals, perhaps influenced by his love and study of anatomy.



self portrait

Stubbs was born in Liverpool, the son of a currier, or leather-dresser, John Stubbs, and his wife Mary. Stubbs worked at his father's trade until the age of 15 or 16, at which point he told his father that he wished to become a painter. While initially resistant, Stubbs's father eventually acquiesced in his son's choice of a career path, on the condition that he could find an appropriate mentor. Stubbs subsequently approached the Lancashire painter and engraver Hamlet Winstanley, and was briefly engaged by him in a sort of apprenticeship relationship. Having initially demonstrated his abilities and agreed to do some copying work, Stubbs had access to and opportunity to study the collection

at Knowsley Hall near Liverpool, the estate where Winstanley was then residing; however, he soon left when he came into conflict with the older artist.

Thereafter as an artist he was self-taught. He had had a passion for anatomy from his childhood, and in or around 1744, he moved to York, to pursue his ambition to study the subject under experts. In York, from 1745 to 1753, he worked as a portrait painter, and studied human anatomy under the surgeon Charles Atkinson, at York County Hospital. One of his earliest surviving works is a set of illustrations for a textbook on midwifery by John Burton, *Essay towards a Complete New System of Midwifery*, published in 1751.

In 1756 he rented a farmhouse in the village of Horkstow, Lincolnshire, and spent 18 months dissecting horses. He moved to London in about 1759 and in 1766 published *The anatomy of the Horse*. The original drawings are now in the collection of the Royal Academy.

Stubbs's drawings were seen by leading aristocratic patrons, who recognised that his work was more accurate than that of earlier horse painters. In 1759 the 3rd Duke of Richmond commissioned three large pictures from him, and his career was soon secure. By 1763 he had produced works for several more dukes and other lords and was able to buy a house in Marylebone, a fashionable part of London, where he lived for the rest of his life.



Whistlejacket, c. 1762, National Gallery, London.

His most famous work is probably *Whistlejacket*, a painting of the thoroughbred race horse rising on his hind legs, commissioned by the 2nd Marquess of Rockingham, which is now in the National Gallery in London. He also accepted commissions for portraits of people, including some group portraits.

Stubbs also painted more exotic animals including lions, tigers, giraffes, monkeys, and

PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US



Painting of a kangaroo, 1772

rhinoceroses, which he was able to observe in private menageries.

His painting of a kangaroo was the first glimpse of this animal for many 18th-century Britons.

Also in the 1770s he painted single portraits of dogs for the first time, while also receiving an increasing number of commissions to paint hunts with their packs of hounds. In the early 1790s he enjoyed the patronage of the Prince of Wales, whom he painted on horseback in 1791. Stubbs's died at the age of 81 on 10 July 1806, in London. He was buried in the graveyard of Marylebone Church, now a public garden.

den.

Stubbs remained a secondary figure in British art until the mid-twentieth century.

England's history: Pendle Witch Trials

The trials of the Pendle witches in 1612 are among the most famous witch trials in English history, and some of the best recorded of the 17th century. The twelve accused lived in the area surrounding Pendle Hill in Lancashire, and were charged with the murders of ten people by the use of witchcraft.



Statue of Alice Nutter in Roughlee

The official publication of the proceedings by the clerk to the court, Thomas Potts, in his *The Wonderfull Discoverie of Witches in the Countie of Lancaster*, and the number of witches hanged together – nine at Lancaster and one at York – make the trials unusual for England at that time. It has been estimated that all the English witch trials between the early 15th and early 18th centuries resulted in fewer than 500 executions; this series of trials accounts for more than two per cent of that total.

Six of the Pendle witches came from one of two families, each at the time headed by a woman in her eighties: Elizabeth Southern (a.k.a. Demdike), her daughter Elizabeth Device, and her grandchildren James and Alison Device; Anne Whittle (a.k.a. Chattox), and her daughter Anne Redferne. The others accused were Jane Bulcock and her son John Bulcock, Alice Nutter, Katherine Hewitt, Alice Grey, and Jennet Preston. The

outbreaks of witchcraft in and around Pendle may demonstrate the extent to which people could make a living by posing as witches. Perhaps because they were in competition trying to make a living from healing, begging, and extortion they accused each other.

Roger Nowell of Read Hall, on the edge of Pendle Forest, was the JP for Pendle. It was against a background of seeking out religious nonconformists that, in March 1612, Nowell investigated a complaint made to him by the family of John Law, a pedlar, who claimed to have been injured by witchcraft. Many of those who subsequently became implicated as the investigation progressed did indeed consider themselves to be witches, in the sense of being village healers who practised magic, probably in return for payment, but such men and women were common in 16th-century rural England, an accepted part of village life.

One of the accused, Demdike, had been regarded in the area as a witch for fifty years, and some of the deaths the witches were accused of had happened many years before.

Nine were found guilty during the two-day trial and hanged at Gallows Hill in Lancaster on 20 August 1612; Elizabeth Southern died while awaiting trial. Only one, Alice Grey, was found not guilty.

Anne Whittle (Chattox) pleaded not guilty to the murder of Robert Nutter. She, but the confession she had made to Roger Nowell—likely under torture—was read out in court.

Elizabeth Device vehemently maintained her innocence of three murders but found guilty. Potts records that "this odious witch" suffered from a facial deformity resulting in her left eye being set lower than her right. The main witness against Device was her daughter, Jennet, who was about nine years old. She said her mother had a familiar called Ball, who appeared in the shape of a brown dog.

James Device pleaded not guilty to two murders by witchcraft. However he had earlier made a confession to Nowell, which was read out in court. That, and the evidence presented against him by his sister Jennet, who said that she had seen her brother asking a black dog he had conjured up to help him kill, was sufficient to persuade the jury to find him guilty.

Alice Nutter was unusual among the accused in being comparatively wealthy, the widow of a tenant yeoman farmer. She made no statement either before or during her trial, except to enter her plea of not guilty to the charge of murder by witchcraft. The only evidence against Alice seems to have been that she may have called in on a meeting of the others on her way to a secret (and illegal) Catholic service, and refused to speak for fear of incriminating her fellow Catholics. Alice Nutter was found guilty.

Alison Device, whose encounter with John Law had triggered the events leading up to the trials, was

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US

charged with causing harm by witchcraft. Uniquely among the accused, Alizon was confronted in court by her alleged victim, John Law. She seems to have genuinely believed in her own guilt; when Law was brought into court Alizon fell to her knees in tears and confessed. She was found guilty.

Anne Redferne faced trial, for the murder of Christopher Nutter to which she pleaded not guilty and gave no evidence against any others. Witnesses were called to testify that Anne was a witch "more dangerous than her Mother". She was found guilty. Jane Bulcock and her son John Bulcock, were accused and found guilty of the murder by witchcraft of Jennet Deane.

Katherine Hewitt (a.k.a. Mould-Heeles) was charged and found guilty of the murder of a child, Anne Foulds.

Pendle was part of the parish of Whalley, an area covering 180 square miles too large to be effective in preaching and teaching the doctrines of the Church of England: both the survival of Catholicism and the upsurge of witchcraft in Lancashire have been attributed to its over-stretched parochial structure.

English culture: Morris dancing

Morris dancing is a form of English folk dance usually accompanied by music. It is based on rhythmic stepping and the execution of choreographed figures by a group of dancers, usually wearing bell pads on their shins. Implements such as sticks, swords and handkerchiefs may also be wielded by the dancers. In a small number of dances for one or two people, steps are near and across a pair of clay tobacco pipes laid one across the other on the floor. They clap their sticks, swords, or handkerchiefs together to match with the dance.

The earliest known and surviving English written mention of Morris dance is dated to 1448 and records the payment of seven shillings to Morris dancers by the Goldsmiths' Company in London. Regarded as an ancient tradition even in the reign of Elizabeth I, these 'madde men' with their 'Devils dance' were banned by the Puritans following the Civil War. The name is first recorded in English in the mid-15th century as Morisk dance, moreys daunce, morisse daunce, i.e. "Moorish dance". The term entered English via Flemish mooriske danse. The modern spelling Morris-dance first appears in the 17th century. An alternative derivation from the Latin 'mos, moris' (custom and usage) has also been suggested. It is unclear how the dance came by this name, "unless in reference to fantastic dancing or costumes", i.e. the deliberately "exotic" flavour of the performance. The attestation of the English term from the mid-15th century establishes that there was a "Moorish dance" performed in England decades prior to 1494.

While the earliest records invariably mention "Morys" in a court setting, and a little later in the Lord Mayors' Processions in London, it had assumed the nature of a folk dance performed in the parishes by the lower classes by the later 16th century.

By the mid 17th century, the working peasantry took part in Morris dances, especially at Whitsun. Morris dancing continued in popularity until the industrial revolution and its accompanying social changes. Four teams claim a continuous lineage of tradition within their village or town: Abingdon (their Morris team was kept going by the Hemmings family), Bampton, Headington Quarry, and Chipping Campden. Several English folklorists were responsible for recording and reviving the tradition in the early 20th century, often from a bare handful of surviving members of mid-19th-century village sides. At the time, there was often heated debate over the propriety and even legitimacy of women dancing the Morris, even though there is evidence as far back as the 16th century that there were female Morris dancers. Today, there are six predominant styles of Morris dancing, and different dances or traditions within each style named after their region of origin.



Morris dancers and a hobby horse: detail of Thames at Richmond, with the Old Royal Palace, c. 1620

English produce: Tea

English tea plantation bags bumper crop in heatwave to rival Kenya and India

Will Humphries, Southwest Correspondent: July 29 2021, The Times
Tregothnan tea garden in Cornwall prides itself on being the first in hundreds of years to grow tea leaves on home soil.

The soaring temperatures over the past weeks have coincided with a flush of leaves on the tea bushes to create record volumes of tea per bush. Tregothnan has recorded temperatures hotter than India and Kenya and the rain forecast is perfectly timed to promote even more growth, with 300mm shoots of tea expected this month.



PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE

IF YOU AGREE WITH US-JOIN US

Jonathon Jones, Tregothnan's managing director, said: "The growth is just phenomenal. In India and Kenya you might get two tonnes per hectare but we are probably going to exceed that massively.

"It's due to a combination of high temperatures and the ground being already wet. The roots were well watered before the high temperatures came along."

Jones said the bumper growing conditions meant the tea would take on a "strong Assam tea flavour — much less like a Darjeeling, which is what we normally do".

The microclimate at Tregothnan was first noted in the 19th century as being suitable for tea but it was only developed commercially at the site from *camellia sinensis*, the "Chinese tea plant", in 2001. The first "English tea" was then sold in November 2005 to Fortnum & Mason. Tregothnan is now the largest tea garden in Europe and is open to visitors by appointment.

However, Jones said the unique combination of a warm body of seawater seven miles inland, perfect soil, slopes, and rainfall, are not equalled anywhere else in Europe.

The Tregothnan estate is owned by Lord and Lady Falmouth and has been in their family since 1334. Jones began working there as head gardener aged 26 and when Lady Falmouth handed over the reins to her son Evelyn, he sent Jones all over the world looking for specific trees and plants.

True tea can only come from the *camellia* bush and they can take five years to reach maturity. Only about half ever make it to the full five years, but once they are fully established they can last for more than 400 years.

Recipe: Tea loaf, By Esther Clark

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/tea-loaf>

Preparation and cooking time

Prep: 20 mins, Cook: 1 hr and 30 mins plus overnight soaking

Serves 10

Enjoy a classic, fruity cake, packed full of plump tea-infused sultanas and raisins. Slice it into thick wedges and spread with salted butter for a satisfying treat

Ingredients

170g sultanas

170g raisins

1 orange, zested

200g light soft brown sugar

300ml hot strong Earl Grey or Lady Grey tea

2 medium eggs, lightly beaten

250g self-raising flour

butter, for greasing, plus extra to serve



Method

Mix the sultanas, raisins and orange zest in a large mixing bowl. Pour over the tea and cover the bowl. Leave to sit for a minimum of 6 hours or ideally overnight to allow the dried fruit to soak up all the liquid.

Heat the oven to 180C/160 fan/gas 4. Grease and line a 900g loaf tin. Add the eggs, flour and sugar to the soaked fruit, ensuring everything is well combined. Spoon the mixture into the tin and place in the centre of the oven for 1 hour 30 mins or until firm to the touch. Leave to cool in the tin for 15 mins before transferring to a wire rack.

Cut into thick slices and serve with butter. To store, wrap tightly and keep in an airtight container for up to five days. The loaf will taste even better after a few days.

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

The Campaign for an English parliament is a Company limited by guarantee, Registered in England number 03636739. It is a not-for-profit organisation with no shareholders and limited liability.

The views expressed in Think of England are not necessarily those of the editor or members of the National Council

Think of England is published online. Hard copies will cost £3.00 with £1 pp and may be obtained by contacting 0845 6346108 or emailing scilla.cullen@dsl.pipex.com

PLEASE PRINT OUT AND CIRCULATE