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Campaign for an English Parliament

Think of England Number 126: October 2022



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Number 126 October 2022

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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: The Annual General Meeting of the Campaign for an English Parliament will take place by Skype on Saturday 26th November. Please let me know if you wish to attend remotely and I will send the joining instructions. We need to appoint a treasurer and replace me as newsletter editor.



Just how much our nation has been brainwashed to deny or taught to be ashamed of our nationality was exhibited to first hand on the social media platform 'Nextdoor' when someone stated that she had been accused of racism for saying that she was English.

Almost every day in the main stream media I see an article about England titled Britain/UK. The continual conflation of England with Britain/UK serves to make England invisible, which, of course is the purpose. This includes making the Englishry invisible as well. Only the other day the BBC was at it in the programme 'from ice to fire' when various English inventors were called British or from Devon but Lo! When another one comes into the story he is hailed as a Scottish inventor.

In its report the Select Committee on the Constitution initially acknowledges the West Lothian Question but fails to suggest an answer. The report does confirm the need to reform the Barnett formula. However don't hold your breath for any K government doing this as Scotland's voice would undoubtedly be the loudest heard. (Who speaks for England?) However the report continues to follow all UK governments' policy of destroying the unity of England by piecemeal decentralisation, their so-called devolution, creating mini fiefdoms.

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England and the rest of the UK:

Barnett formula quirks give a strange spin to Liz Truss's mini-budget

Kezia Dugdale: Sunday September 25 2022, 6.00pm, The Times

The consequences of Friday's mini budget for Scotland could be seismic in both financial and political terms. For starters, any cuts to taxes that lead to reduced tax revenue actually mean more money for Scottish public services. This a quirk of what is referred to as the block grant adjustment, a mechanism cooked up to maintain the Barnett formula when the Scottish parliament subsumed more powers over income tax. Without it, these powers would be almost meaningless. Where's the incentive to grow the economy if you don't see it in your bottom line? The block grant adjustment roots itself in the rate of growth in income tax revenues per head and there is a case to be made that it's inherently unfair to expect Scotland's economy to outpace England's when England contains the city of London and the southeast.



Yet here we have a lesser-considered scenario made real; a fall in tax revenue in England (caused by those tax cuts raising less) means that the adjuster kicks in. So on Friday the Tories boasted that Scotland will get an extra £600 million as a result of the tax cuts. For proponents of the union in Scotland, that is a neat sweetener, but if you're a Tory MP in the north of England, elected on a promise to level up your neck of the woods, you will be aggrieved that these tax cuts will lead directly to more public spending per head — subsidy if your dare — going to Scotland at the expense of your own community. This needs careful handling by the Conservatives and Labour alike.

So there is a constitutional dynamic to these fiscal decisions, but there are in-country challenges too. Medium to high earners in Scotland will look on with envy at their English counterparts who will soon take home more of their salaries. They will also pay less to move house, with a stark difference on what stamp duty and land and buildings transaction tax will demand on properties over £250,000 in value.

The SNP used to offset this narrative by pointing to the social contract of universal services, such as free tuition, prescription charges and personal care. Will voters stand for higher taxes and poorer public services in Scotland on the proviso those same services are poorer still in England?

Select Committee on the Constitution

Respect and Co-operation: Building a Stronger Union for the 21st century

10th Report of Session 2021-22 - published 20 January 2022 - HL Paper 142

https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld5802/ldselect/ldconst/142/14210.htm#_idTextAnchor080

The paragraphs reproduced here are a selection of the Committee's opinion. Ed.

Chapter 2: State of the Union: English Votes for English Laws

158. The principle of legislative consent is important in the English context, as it is to the devolution arrangements. English Votes for English Laws was an attempt to answer the West Lothian Question. It is widely accepted that the procedure used was flawed and the repeal of the EVEL standing orders was unopposed in the House of Commons. We note the Government's motivation for repealing the EVEL procedure was to strengthen the Union. That said, following its repeal, the Question remains unanswered.

Chapter 7: The governance of England

315. We continue to believe the Barnett Formula requires reform to introduce a fairer allocation of funding among the four nations. Pending reform, the Treasury's Statement of funding policy merits a higher profile and greater parliamentary scrutiny.

334. *Meaningful and thriving devolution within England will not be achieved if devolved authorities are not granted the financial means to exercise their powers effectively. We recommend the Government introduces greater fiscal devolution to devolved authorities, which will require the Treasury to relinquish a degree of control over taxation. As with the Barnett formula, there will continue to be a key role for the redistribution of resources by central government to ensure that existing regional inequalities are not exacerbated, and that future geographic inequalities are addressed, in the interests of the Union more generally. Central government's continued role in redistributing resources should not be used as a vehicle to impose its own policy preferences on English devolved authorities in areas that can be devolved.*

Summary and conclusions: The governance of England

54. England's place in the Union should not be overlooked, but there are no obvious governance changes to provide England with a distinctive voice that command political and public support. Establishing an English parliament would crystallise England's relative strength—in population and economic terms—vis a vis

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the existing devolved legislatures. This would destabilise the Union. It would also do little to address the need for greater decentralisation within England, which we believe has the greatest potential to resolve concerns about the governance of England⁵⁵. England is highly centralised, with greater regional economic inequalities, compared to most other Western European countries. The English regions—as do Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland—feel remote from central decision making in the United Kingdom. We strongly support the development of devolution within England, noting that a highly centralised state can have a negative impact on democratic culture and economic prosperity. Greater devolution within England can improve economic performance, service delivery and address regional inequalities.

56. We believe a greater degree of respect and partnership is required between the Government and sub-national government in England, as it is between the UK Government and the devolved administrations; per our recommendations in chapter 5.

60. Effective joint working between Government departments, particularly the Treasury, and local government will be key to the effective delivery of the Levelling Up agenda, including the expansion of devolution across England. We believe the Local Government Association's proposal to establish an English devolution task force to facilitate discussion between central and local government has considerable merit. We recommend that the Government explore further with local government how this might work in practice.

61. We note evidence of increasing public support for devolution within England, which is important ahead of its expansion. If effective devolution is achieved within England, to empower local government, we believe this will help to respond to concerns about the governance of England.

62. The current deals-based approach to devolution is not sufficiently ambitious. We recommend the Government develops a principled devolution framework, in co-operation with the Local Government Association and devolved authorities, to provide a clear baseline for further devolution of powers within England. This should allow devolved authorities to choose which powers they are capable of delivering and wish to adopt, and which should remain at the centre.

63. We recommend that to facilitate further devolution to devolved authorities in England the Government should provide them with adequate resources and support to build the necessary capacity to exercise additional powers, as well as the capability to deliver them. This will be critical to the successful extension of devolution within England to the counties.

65. As devolution within England develops, it will be important that English devolved authorities have an opportunity to influence discussions at the national level. English devolved authorities should be given greater prominence in the intergovernmental arrangements—either through a parallel forum or a sub-committee of the new Prime Minister and Heads of Devolved Governments Council—so they have an opportunity to contribute to United Kingdom-wide discussions. This could also facilitate greater dialogue between the nations and regions, therefore strengthening the Union.



English Affairs: Environment, Agriculture, Health and Welfare, Roads and Transport, Local government

Sewage detectors faulty or absent on dozens of beaches

Charlie Parker: The Times

One in eight seaside sewage monitors are faulty or not installed, analysis of environment agency data suggests and one in four sewage discharges went unmonitored last year because of it.

Event duration monitors (EDMs) measure the number and length of sewage dumps from storm overflows into rivers and seaside spots. Research by the Liberal Democrats has found that some water companies have not installed the devices at designated bathing locations. The party found no sewage monitor at Long Rock, Cornwall, Lee-on-the-Solent, Hampshire, or Littlehampton, West Sussex. One sewage overflow is next to Littlehampton Pier, which is popular with beachgoers, but there is no sewage monitor at the site. Beaches in East Sussex were closed after water companies pumped untreated sewage into the sea, polluting beaches from Brighton to Hastings. Southern Water said a “significant” electrical fault at the pumping station in Galley Hill was to blame as beaches in Bexhill and Normans Bay were shut.

The Lib Dems found that at Seaford, East Sussex, the sewage monitor was working only a third of the time. The researchers found that 1,802 monitors installed by water companies did not work at least 90 per cent of the time and that 1,717 storm overflows did not have a monitor installed.

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Invest billions to halt sewage spills, water companies told

Tom Whipple, Science Editor, Saturday, The Times
Water companies will be required to invest more than £2 billion a year for the next 25 years to drastically cut sewage discharge, under what the government described as the strictest targets ever imposed on the industry. Campaigners said, though, that it was unacceptable the programme would take so long. The plans will still allow discharges when there is “unusually heavy rain”.



According to the plans, which the government said would amount to the largest environmental infrastructure investment yet, water companies will be expected to pay £56 billion. By 2035 they will need to have improved all storm overflows next to designated bathing sites, with the rest following by 2050. “This is the first government to take action to end the environmental damage caused by sewage spills,” George Eustice, the environment secretary said. “We will require water companies to protect everyone who uses our water for recreation, and ensure storm overflows pose no threat to the environment.”

Discharges happen because the sewage system is often combined with drains carrying rainfall. When there is too much rain and the drains fill, the overflows release the pressure. Particularly where the infrastructure is older, the system has failed to keep up with increased population as well as greater surface run-off due to more concrete and tarmac. This puts the sewage network under increasing pressure, as has been seen after the storms of the past fortnight.

Sewage spills go undetected as water companies give watchdog faulty data

Rhys Blakely: Science Correspondent, The Times

The findings will fuel concerns that a £56 billion plan to reduce discharges will be undermined if water companies are allowed to continue monitoring their own performances.

The issue will be in the spotlight in a High Court hearing this week at which Ofwat, the water industry regulator, will be accused of ignoring its duty to protect the environment.

By looking at detailed data collected in 36 sewage treatment works (information that the Environment Agency (EA) can access but does not routinely check) 1,516 days were identified between 2018 and 2021 when it appeared that sewage was released in conditions that did not meet permits, making them illegal. The EA is supposed to be made aware of them but many were not reported. The analysis included the sewage treatment works at Henley-on-Thames, a noted rowing area. Thames Water, which operates the sewage works, told the EA there were no spills in 2020. The analysis suggests the plant released sewage in breach of its permit on seven days that year.

The analysis also looked at the Woodstock sewage treatment works which discharges into the River Glyme which flows through lakes in the grounds of Blenheim Palace. Thames Water told the EA in 2020 there were no spills but added that this was a mistake and the report would be corrected. The new analysis suggests the sewage plant, in a site of special scientific interest, spilled for about 363 hours that year.

The private utility company has not updated its 2020 report, which was submitted 18 months ago. The report also includes the Ambleside sewage plant in Cumbria, which discharges into the River Rothay and into Windermere, England’s largest lake. Pollution concerns were raised this summer because the lake suffered high levels of potentially toxic blue-green algae. Ambleside appears not to have submitted any data on spills to the EA for last year. Data supplied by United Utilities for the analysis suggests that it spilled for more than 900 hours. United said it did not agree with the analysis.

Overall, 16 of the 36 sewage works examined appear to have provided incorrect data to the EA. Professor Peter Hammond, of Windrush Against Sewage Pollution (Wasp), carried out the analysis.

There are about 13,350 storm overflows in England, discharging to rivers. A report commissioned by the government looked at 9,240 of them and concluded that they were used more than 340,000 times in 2020. The government plan calls for a 14 per cent reduction in these spills by 2030 and a 50 per cent reduction by 2040. The new analysis suggests, however, that the EA will not be able to monitor compliance if it continues to rely on water companies monitoring themselves.

Five of the ten water companies that were covered did not take issue with Hammond’s analysis of the performance of the treatment included in the study. However, United Utilities Severn Trent, South West, Anglian Water and Yorkshire said that they did not agree with his findings.

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Hammond's report also highlights the difficulty he has faced in getting some water companies to share data. "There are 40 STWs named [in the new report] but only 36 analysed because of data being withheld," he said. He said Severn Trent and United Utilities — judged by Ofwat to have met an "industry leading" standard for environmental performance — have refused to supply detailed data for sewage spills in 2020 and last year from 4,500 overflows, the other eight companies complied fully with the request. A spokeswoman for United said: "While there is an ongoing regulatory investigation into the performance of wastewater treatment works, it is right and proper that the relevant data is shared only with the investigating authorities."

UK drought leaves crops to wither, but farmers have cause for hope

Ben Cooke: Poppy Koronka, Tuesday September 20 2022, 12.01am, The Times
If British farmers are to prosper in a changing climate, ways must be found to secure their water supply. And yet at the same time that hotter summers are increasing their demand for water, the Environment Agency is about to reduce some farmers' supply.

Farmers apply to the agency for an abstraction licence, which permits them to take a certain amount of water out of rivers and aquifers. The agency, however, is concerned that "some older licences allow abstraction that can damage the environment". It believes about a fifth of farmers' licences might be doing so. Over the next six years it will be negotiating with farmers to change unsustainable licences, but from 2028 it will be able to change them without compensation. As such, many farmers who already had too little water this summer may soon find they have even less.

Actually, for much of the year, many of those same farmers have too much water. Tom Bradshaw cites the example of farmers in East Anglia who "pump millions of gallons ... into the North Sea to avoid flooding in the fens in the winter". If farmers could instead store that immense flow of water, it could help them to endure the droughts to come. Just outside Felixstowe in Suffolk, one of the driest and most irrigated parts of the country, six farmers are doing precisely that. In 2018, with support from the Environment Agency and Suffolk county council, as well as funding from the EU, they created the Felixstowe Hydrocycle, a project that saves drainage water from being pumped into the North Sea.

The hydrocycle is a pipeline. It begins near the estuary of the River Deben, a basin into which local farmers pump more than 1 million cubic metres of water a year to prevent flooding. Instead of allowing that water to flow into the North Sea, the pipeline carries some of it inland, where the farmers store it in reservoirs. In the year and a half it has been operational, it has pumped 875,000 cubic metres inland. Its operators are testing the feasibility of putting some of that water back into the local aquifer, which would obviate the need to build more reservoirs.

According to Water Resources East, demand for water in the east of England may double by 2050. Within that context, "the hydrocycle is a lovely example of people mitigating risk. But it's still relatively small in comparison to the overall challenge. We can't keep assuming other countries will feed us"

Peter Rabbit's in the headlights... alarm over novices blamed for Defra 'chaos'

Adam Vaughan, Environment Editor, Friday September 30 2022, 12.01am, The Times

The promise in the mini-budget of a review of farming rules and investment zones to override environmental protections led to an outcry. Ministers held an emergency meeting after a backlash from green groups fearful that the government plans to weaken environmental protections. The cross-party climate-action implementation committee met to discuss the "chaos" blamed by government sources on a lack of knowledge among politicians moved to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under Liz Truss.

In an introductory meeting with Defra officials, one minister said they had always loved gardening, and spent half an hour talking about their favourite Beatrix Potter characters. "There was no sense that they have any understanding at all of what it is they're messing with," a source said.

The promise in last week's mini-budget of a review of farming regulations, as well as investment zones to override environmental protections, prompted an outcry. The RSPB called the budget an "attack on nature", while the head of the National Trust called it a "free-for-all" on the natural world.

On the agenda was how to promote plans for economic growth, and what they mean for £2.4 billion in



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green farming subsidies. Also discussed were the EU-derived habitats laws that defend protected sites.

Forget the pandemic, NHS decline is ‘to blame for record waiting lists’

Eleanor Hayward: Health Correspondent, Monday September 05 2022, 12.01am, The Times



NHS logo in England

The number of people waiting for routine hospital treatment in England has almost tripled from 2.5 million in April 2012 to 6.78 million, after reaching 4.6 million in February 2020. While Covid accelerated this trend, analysis suggests that even without it waiting lists for elective care would stand at 5.3 million.

The Quality Watch report, by the Nuffield Trust and Health Foundation think tanks, says the NHS was “already stretched beyond its limits” before Covid struck. Analysis of performance figures show waiting times for scans, A&E and cancer care have been increasing for many years amid chronic staff shortages. This deterioration means thousands of cancer patients each month face unacceptably long waits for treatment — damaging their survival chances. In April 2012 about 88 per cent of cancer patients received treatment within this two-month target. This fell to 74 per cent before the pandemic and reached a record low of 61 per cent this May.

The report found waiting times for 15 key diagnostic tests, such as MRI or CT scans, had also rocketed. In April 2012 632,236 patients were on waiting lists for these tests. This backlog increased to one million by February 2020 before hitting 1.6 million this year. If pre-pandemic trends had continued, about 1.2 million would be waiting for these tests. Meanwhile some 26 per cent of patients are now forced to endure waits of longer than six weeks for a test — up from just 1 per cent in April 2012.

A&E waiting times, now the worst on record, were “deteriorating long before the pandemic” and the four-hour target for seeing patients had not been met since July 2015. Latest NHS performance figures, for July, show 1,000 people a day are waiting at least 12 hours in A&E, with just 71 per cent seen within four hours.

Jessica Morris and Sarah Reed, the report’s authors, wrote: “The government has set the NHS a target of bringing down overall waiting lists by March 2024, funded though a new health and care levy. But health leaders say this may be impossible due to record vacancies of 132,000 NHS staff and a collapse in social care capacity.

One in four elderly A&E patients waits at least 12 hours

Eleanor Hayward: Health Correspondent, Wednesday September 07 2022, 12.01am, The Times

Researchers at University College London interviewed 24 frail people over the age of 75 who had recently attended NHS accident and emergency departments in England. One in four had to endure waits of more than 12 hours before being admitted, with one patient waiting 15 hours for a bed.

“Several participants described very uncomfortable and even painful hours lying on hospital trolleys or beds unable to sleep or rest because of the discomfort,” the study said. Trolleys and beds were described as being too hard, too small and very uncomfortable.” It said many patients were “distressed” by a lack of food and drink, and said their basic needs were not met. Those going without food included patients with diabetes, who need to eat regularly to maintain safe blood sugar levels.

The research, published in the *Emergency Medicine Journal*, said that “treatment with dignity and respect often seemed to be missing”, with many participants struggling to get help to use the lavatory. In one case, an elderly woman asked for assistance only to be “effectively told it was acceptable for her to soil herself as she was wearing incontinence protection”.

Half of the participants in the study were over the age of 85 and two thirds were women. One in three had attended A&E after a fall, while others needed help for breathing difficulties, heart problems and stomach pain. The research revealed that most were reluctant to attend hospital, often due to previous negative experiences. It said that elderly patients struggled with communication in busy and noisy emergency departments, and were not given sufficient information about their health care. Some reported difficulties finding help or raising concerns about their care. One patient recalled feeling as though “if you were over 80 [the staff] didn’t want to know”, while another, 82, described being treated “as though I’m an idiot”.

In a linked editorial, Dr Mary Dawood, a consultant in emergency medicine at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, said “To our shame, these interviews have drawn into sharp focus just how disenfranchised

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and marginalised frail older people feel when using our services. Unlike younger, fitter patients, they are less able or inclined to complain or voice dissatisfaction when their needs are not being met.

“Older people are not asking for special treatment or something that is unrealistic or undeliverable, they simply want to matter,” she said. This is what all accident and emergency patients “expect and hope for”.

Governing England: Select Committees (with membership from outside England) on English affairs, primary and secondary legislation for England by the UK parliament

Committees: UK Parliament: Business Committees: Education Committee

27 September 2022: **MPs demand action from new Education Secretary as Children's Services found lacking**

Cross-party MPs have written to the newly appointed Education Secretary, Kit Malthouse, raising serious concerns about the failures in leadership at Solihull and Bradford Councils, following the murders of Star Hobson and Arthur Labinjo-Hughes in 2020. Following an accountability hearing with the Chief Executives and Interim Directors of Children's Services at both Solihull and Bradford Councils in June this year, the Committee condemned the 'inadequate' response of local authority leaders and called on the Department for Education and Ofsted to assess the progress made at both councils within the timeframes set out by the Councils' Executives.

Highlighting a 'clear deterioration' in standards at both Children's Services, predating the pandemic, under both Chief Executives' tenures, the letter asks Malthouse to consider whether the leaders are 'capable of continuing to try and establish significant change'.

The MPs also question the urgency with which the National Child Safeguarding Review Panel has sought to push forward improvements at the failing Councils. While a new Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub system is put forward as the silver bullet for future shortcomings, the Committee expresses concerns that such an approach would shift accountability between agencies, leaving no one person ultimately responsible for vulnerable children like Arthur and Star.

7 September 2022: **Education Committee to question University leaders on controversial research content and free speech**

Following the publication of research content which spurred “ethical concerns,” MPs are investigating the checks and balances English universities have in place to ensure that research carried out by students and staff is ethical and does not conflict with their wider regulatory, legal and moral obligations.

The session is also expected to examine alleged censorship in universities. University leaders are likely to be asked about reported decisions to remove books from reading lists and the validity of allegations that free speech is being restricted. How universities balance student wellbeing alongside free speech is also expected to be discussed.

Transport Committee

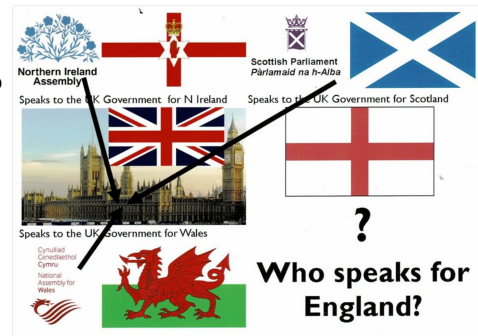
30 September 2022: **Time to turbo-charge the transport supply chain, urges Transport Committee**

The new Government's supply-side approach to boost growth will need to include a plan to keep the supply-chain resilient. Without fresh intervention, the UK won't have enough HGV drivers on the road to keep freight moving, warns the Transport Committee.

The Committee has just published the previous Government's response to its report, Road freight supply chain, in which MPs urged ministers to 'level up' the supply chain.

With Christmas just weeks away, MPs warn that the Government's approach is unlikely to prevent the periodic disruption seen in previous years. The Committee's inquiry was prompted by the failure of the logistics sector to supply essential goods to the UK's supermarkets, petrol station forecourts and other marketplaces.

The Committee's report recommended actions to overhaul the logistics sector and ensure the supply chain and its workforce are more robust and resilient. It called on industry – particularly large retailers, online service giants and fuel companies – to step up and take a role in delivering improved standards and resilience to the workforce which delivers their goods. The imposition of a financial penalty by Government, such as a Supply Chain Levy could improve compliance, said MPs. The Committee's recommenda-



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tions were largely rejected. The new Government is urged to think again.

6 September 2022: **Work of Active Travel England scrutinised**

The Government's stated ambition is to make walking, wheeling and cycling the natural choice for the public for shorter journeys, or as part of a longer journey, by 2040. In the interim, Government expects half of all journeys in towns and cities to be cycled or walked by 2030. Wheeling includes people who use wheelchairs and mobility scooters who may not identify with walking.

To deliver on these targets, the Government recently established Active Travel England - a Department for Transport agency with a mission to raise the standard of cycling and walking infrastructure and manage the £2 billion active travel budget for England.

Primary legislation concerning English affairs debated, considered, revised and reviewed by both Houses containing members from other countries.

NEXT STAGE: COMMITTEE STAGE

Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill: Government Bill: Originated in the House of Commons, Sessions 2021-22, 2022-23: Last updated: 30 September 2022 at 17:04

Long title: A Bill to make provision in relation to freedom of speech and academic freedom in higher education institutions and in students' unions; and for connected purposes.

Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: Government Bill: Originated in the House of Commons, Session 2022-23: Last updated: 23 September 2022 at 11:21

Long title: A Bill to make provision for the setting of levelling-up missions and reporting on progress in delivering them; about local democracy; about town and country planning; about Community Infrastructure Levy; about the imposition of Infrastructure Levy; about environmental outcome reports for certain consents and plans; about regeneration; about the compulsory purchase of land; about information and records relating to land, the environment or heritage; for the provision for pavement licences to be permanent; about governance of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors; about vagrancy and begging; and for connected purposes.

NEXT STAGE: REPORT STAGE

Social Housing (Regulation) Bill [HL]: Government Bill: Originated in the House of Lords, Session 2022-23: Last updated: 30 September 2022 at 12:24

Long title: A Bill to make provision about the regulation of social housing; about the terms of approved schemes for the investigation of housing complaints; and for connected purposes.

Public Order Bill: Government Bill: Originated in the House of Commons, Session 2022-23: Last updated: 22 September 2022 at 20:58

England's history: Mystery disaster spelt doom for King John's men

Long title: Make provision for new offences relating to public order; to make provision about stop and search powers; to make provision about the delegation of police functions relating to public order; to make provision about serious disruption prevention orders; and for connected purposes.

NEXT STAGE SECOND READING

House of Lords (Elected Senate) Bill: Private Members' Bill (Presentation Bill)

Originated in the House of Commons, Session 2022-23: Last updated: 8 September 2022 at 11:46

Long title: A Bill to replace the House of Lords with an elected senate; and for connected purposes.

NEXT STAGE : THIRD READING

Schools Bill [HL]: Government Bill: Originated in the House of Lords, Session 2022-23

Last updated: 7 September 2022 at 14:14: Lords

Long title: A Bill To Make provision for the regulation of Academies; about school and local education funding; about the attendance of children at school; about the regulation of independent educational institutions; about teacher misconduct; and for connected purposes

Secondary legislation (UK Statutory Instruments): Laid before the UK parliament often not read or debated.

The Food (Promotion and Placement) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 No. 1007

The Building etc. (Amendment) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2022 No. 984



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The School Admission Appeals Code (Appointed Day) (England) Order 2022 No. 975

The Wolverhampton (Electoral Changes) Order 2022 No. 967

The Bolton (Electoral Changes) Order 2022 No. 964

The Apprenticeships (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) (No. 2) (England) Regulations 2022 No. 949

The Food Information (Amendment of Transitional Provisions) (England) Regulations 2022 No. 938

The Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals (Amendment) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2022 No. 924



England's heroine: Frances Beatrice Bradfield OBE FRAeS (9 October 1895– 26 February 1967) was an English aeronautical engineer at the Royal Aircraft Establishment (RAE) Farnborough, Hants., where she headed the Wind Tunnels Section. Here she mentored many of the younger male engineers who joined the RAE.

Frances Bradfield was born in 1895, in Leicester, and in 1914 "came up" to Newnham College, Cambridge, graduating with a second class BA degree in Mathematics in 1917. Sometime after graduating from Cambridge, Bradfield joined the RAE, where she spent her entire career researching aeronautics and specialising in Wind tunnel research. Her earliest published research at the RAE was published in December 1919 on "Wind channel test of Bristol Pullman body." During her first decade and beyond, Bradfield published her wind

tunnel research prolifically, publishing two research papers most years.

In the early 1930s, Bradfield worked with George Douglas then Head of Wind Tunnels at RAE Farnborough as his mathematician. Her job was to liaise between Hermann Glauert, then Head of Aerodynamics Department, and Douglas. Glauert was killed in an accident in 1934 and so Douglas was appointed Head of Aerodynamics Department and Bradfield became the Head of Wind Tunnels, a role she held for the remainder of the 1930s and throughout World War II.

Not being an engineer, Bradfield insisted on having Charles Callen as her supporting engineer, in order to ensure that what they did in the wind tunnels was sound engineering. In March 1939, Bradfield in collaboration with D.L. Ellis presented a paper before the Royal Aeronautical Society on "The Use of Model Data in Aeroplane Design," published in *the Women Engineer*. In December 1941, Bradfield was one of the two female Associate Fellows of the Royal Aeronautical Society doing "important work" at the RAE. By 1946, when Johanna Weber joined the Low Speed Wind Tunnels division at the RAE, Bradfield was head of the Low Speed Wind Tunnels Division of the Aerodynamics Department. Bradfield's female colleagues at the RAE included Weber and Beatrice Shilling.

England's history: Mystery disaster spelt doom for King

John's men

Paul Simons: The Times

King John is possibly best known for putting his seal on Magna Carta on June 15, 1215 in an attempt to quell a rebellion from his barons and for losing his territory in France, then failing to win it back at great financial cost. By 1216 he was mired in civil war and forced to put down uprisings in the east of England.

That October he travelled through Lincolnshire from Lynn (now King's Lynn) with his treasures carried in wagons. The story goes that on this date, October 12, 1216, the royal baggage train tried to cross the Wellstream or River Wellester, thought to now form part of the River Nene, in the Wash. But the entire royal treasure was lost in some sort of natural calamity, although what remains unclear. The chronicler Roger of Wendover gave a dramatic account: "The land opened in the middle of the water and caused whirlpools which sucked everything in, as well as men and horses." The baggage train would have been slow and lumbering, and the chronicler Ralph of Coggeshall said the tide was to blame: "Many members of his entourage were submerged in the waters of the sea and sucked into the quicksand because they had set out foolishly and in haste before the tide had receded."

Recently there has been speculation that a tidal bore flooded the river, or a local tsunami from an under-



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water landslide swamped the area. It is also conceivable that a fog descended and the entourage lost their way in the estuary's treacherous creeks, streams, sands and mud. King John took a different route from his treasure train and made it to Swineshead Abbey in Lincolnshire. But he was now ill and when he moved on to Newark-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire, he died on the night of October 18-19 during a thunderstorm, a fitting end to his deeply unpopular reign. As for the lost treasure, there have been many claims of finding some of it, but with little evidence.

English culture: Association Football or Soccer

<https://www.historic-uk.com/CultureUK/Association-Football-or-Soccer/>

by Ben Johnson

Although there have been games recorded around the world involving balls being kicked around a field, the modern rules of Association Football, aka soccer, can be traced back to mid-19th century England. By standardising the many different rules that existed at that time, the great public schools of England could at last compete with each other on a fair and level playing field.

The history of football being played in England dates back many centuries. Medieval or mob football was often played between neighbouring towns and villages, with a mass of players from opposing teams clashing to deliver an inflated pigs bladder from one end of town to the other. Kicking or punching the bladder, or ball, was permitted, as was doing the same to your opponents ...these medieval matches were chaotic and had very few rules.

Disturbed by the adverse effect that football was having on the citizens of London, King Edward II banned the game from the city. Later in 1349, his son Edward III banned football entirely, concerned that the game was distracting men from practising their archery.

Known for his sporting prowess in his early years, Henry VIII is believed to have owned the first pair of football boots, when in 1526 the royal footwear collection is recorded as including "...45 velvet pairs and 1 leather pair for football". Henry later banned the game in 1548, claiming that it incited riots.

It was in the slightly more civilised surroundings of Cambridge University that in 1848, representatives from the major public schools of England met to agree the laws that would standardise the games played between them. The Cambridge Rules were duly noted and formed the code that was adopted by the football teams of Eton, Harrow, Rugby, Shrewsbury and Winchester public schools.

However, throughout the 1850's, many clubs not associated with the university or schools continued with their own version of football. Yet another set of rules, known as the Sheffield Rules were used by a number of clubs in the north of England.

It took a Yorkshireman, Ebenezer Cobb Morley, to finally produce the first comprehensive set of rules for the game. Born in Hull, he moved to London at the age of 22, to further his career as a solicitor. A keen sportsman and captain of the Barnes Club, Ebenezer instigated a meeting on the morning of 26th October 1863 at the Freemason's Tavern in Great Queen Street, London, that would ultimately lead to the formation of The Football Association (FA).

It took five further meetings at the Freemasons, between October and November that year, for the FA to produce the first comprehensive rules of football. Even then at the last meeting, the FA treasurer from Blackheath withdrew his club, angered by the removal of two draft rules; the first would have allowed players to pick up and run with the ball in hand, the other prohibited a player from tripping up and holding onto an opponent. Other clubs also withdrew their support from The FA and went on to join with Blackheath to form the Rugby Football Union.

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English produce: Raspberries

The raspberry is the edible fruit of a multitude of plant species in the genus *Rubus* of the rose family, most of which are in the subgenus *Idaeobatus*. The name also applies to these plants themselves.

Raspberries are perennial with woody stems.

Raspberry derives its name from *raspise*, "a sweet rose-colored wine" (mid-15th century), from the Anglo-Latin *vinum raspays*, or from *raspoie*, meaning "thicket", of Germanic origin. The name may have been influ-



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enced by its appearance as having a rough surface, related to Old English *rasp* or "rough berry".

Raspberries are an important commercial fruit crop, widely grown in all temperate regions of the world. Many of the most important modern commercial red raspberry cultivars derive from hybrids between *R. idaeus* and *R. strigosus*. Recent breeding has resulted in cultivars that are thornless and more strongly upright, not needing staking.

The black raspberry, *Rubus occidentalis*, is also cultivated, providing both fresh and frozen fruit, as well as jams, preserves, and other products, all with that species' distinctive flavor.

Purple raspberries have been produced by horticultural hybridization of red and black raspberries, and have also been occasionally found in the wild.

Golden raspberries or yellow raspberries; despite their appearance, retain the distinctive flavor of their respective species (red or black). Yellow-fruited variants of the black raspberry are sometimes grown in home gardens.

Red raspberries have also been crossed with various species in other subgenera of the genus *Rubus*, resulting in a number of hybrids, the first of which was the loganberry. Later notable hybrids include the olallieberry, boysenberry, marionberry, and tayberry; all are multi-generational hybrids.

Two types of raspberry are available for commercial and domestic cultivation; the summer-bearing type produces an abundance of fruit on second-year canes within a relatively short period in midsummer, and double or "everbearing" plants, which also bear some fruit on first-year canes in the late summer and autumn, as well as the summer crop on second-year canes. Raspberries are grown for the fresh fruit market and for commercial processing into individually quick frozen fruit, purée, juice, or as dried fruit used in a variety of grocery products such as raspberry pie. Raspberries thrive as a cultivated plant in moist, temperate regions, it is easy to grow and has a tendency to spread unless pruned. Raspberry leaves can be used fresh or dried in herbal teas, providing an astringent flavor. In herbal and traditional medicine, raspberry leaves are used for some remedies, although there is no scientifically valid evidence to support their medicinal use.



Recipe: Raspberry Sorbet

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/raspberry-sorbet>

By Esther Clark

Prep: 15 mins, **Cook:** 10 mins, Plus 5 hr 30 mins freezing, Serves 8-10

ingredients.

200g granulated sugar, 500g raspberries, plus more to serve (optional)

1 lemon, juiced

Method: Put the sugar and 270ml water in a saucepan over a low heat and stir until the sugar has dissolved. Raise the heat and simmer for 5 mins, or until the liquid has become a syrup. Set aside to cool. Put the raspberries and lemon juice in a food processor and blitz until smooth. Strain through a fine sieve into a bowl and discard the seeds. Combine with the sugar syrup, then pour into freezer-proof container. Freeze for 1 hr 30 mins, then whisk with a balloon whisk or a fork to break up any ice crystals that have formed and return to the freezer. Keep mixing the sorbet once an hour for 4 hrs to break up the ice crystals. Stop mixing when firm but scoopable. *Will keep in the freezer for up to a month.* Serve with extra raspberries, if you like.

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