

Edition 3 • July 2012

HOC TO IMPROVE LINKS WITH MUN

Birchington • *ad HOC Editor*

It is hoped relations between the HOC and the model United Nations are to be strengthened, following proposals to promote greater links between the two groups.

Toronto353, the current Foreign Secretary, has submitted proposals to create state visits, where MUN delegates will visit and address the HOC.

Designed to promote and increase debate in both forums, the proposals have largely been welcomed.

It is hoped state visits will begin in the coming months, providing an opportunity to test these interesting new proposals for the first time.

PAGE 4 • ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM YOUR HOC

TWITTER COMES TO THE COMMONS

June saw a big development in the Model House of Commons, as a Twitter account for the HOC was created to make the community more integrated with social media.

The Twitter account allows the people who use Twitter to follow the developments of the house via their account. The Twitter account will also see an elected member from each TSR political party tweeting their thoughts on what's going on in the House as well as general UK politics.

The Twitter account is ran by Ad HOC, this very newspaper and had

had some criticism from members of the House and party supporters – we hope that they will see the benefits of using this growing way of interaction between people.

This new development may also see new members not already registered on the Student Room coming along and joining in the fun in the Commons which will be great for political parties and the welfare of the sub-forum.
Follow the latest developments from the Commons and Ad HOC or get in touch @MHoCNews

WHAT'S ON

INTERVIEWS

More interviews with the HOC's most influential members. Interviews on **PAGES 3 and 4**

OPINION AND DEBATE

Check out a submission from one of our readers on **PAGE 6**

HOUSE BUSINESS

A breakdown of HOC activity on **PAGE 5**

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from the EDITOR

Welcome to the third edition of Ad HOC.

Many thanks to everyone for their continued support and suggestions, as Ad HOC celebrates another publication.

My deputy, RoryS, has created a Twitter account, which will greatly improve Ad HOC's accessibility and integration with social media. We both hope it

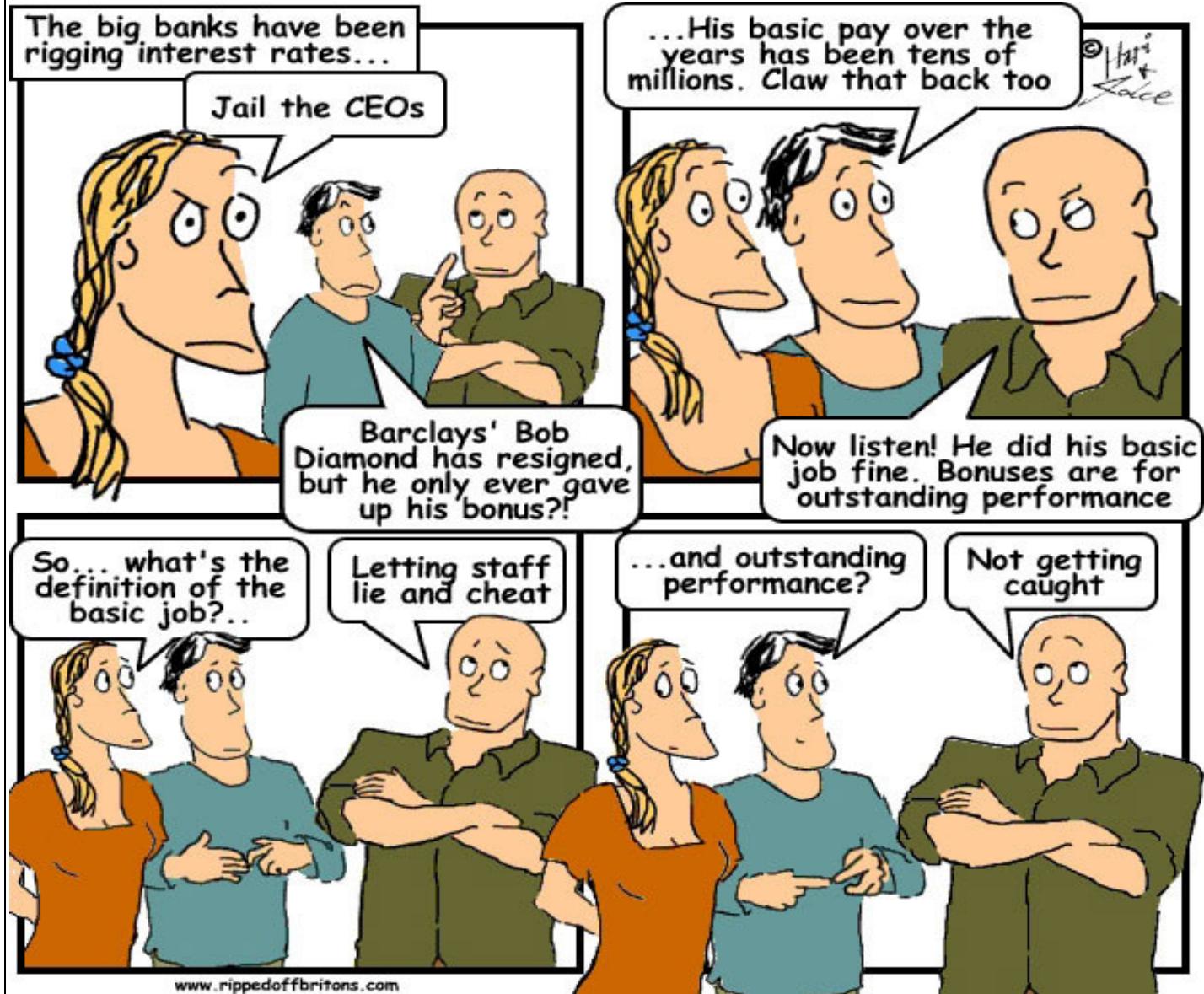
will be a success, and urge all to get involved.

Thanks must go to those who have submitted content for this edition, but I still urge everyone to send in articles or features. It's your newspaper!

I hope you enjoy reading this edition. Please get in touch if you want to contribute in whatever form.

FUNNY JUNK

Best wishes, **Birchington**
Email: tsrhocnews@gmail.com • PM: u=169550



Ripped Off Britons

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Interviews

WE QUIZ SOME OF YOUR MPs

Interviews by Birchington • ad HOC Editor

TehFrance currently serves as an MP for TSR's Conservative Party.

First things first, how did you discover the HOC and why did you join?

Accidentally and I don't know, I love to argue... so the HOC is the perfect fit aside from.

What real life political figures do you admire?

Angela Merkel, Jacques Chirac, Margret Thatcher, Nicolas Sarkozy, Ronald Reagan... in all honesty there are a fair few past and present I admire and I cannot be bothered to write a full list so you shall have a partial list.

What would you like the TSR Conservatives achieve whilst in government?

Various policies that are still in the discussion phases thus cannot openly state however on a personal level, I do like the idea of eugenics being used to sort out the flaws of mankind.

However the bunch of leftist pansies will most likely come out in outrage in which case, I'd like legislation to ban left-wing parties.

Do you fear your party could be damaged by certain extremist coalition legislation, such as the motion to ban trade unions?

Is it extremist to ban trade unions? When they start recruiting children they have too much power thus they should be banned. I come from France, have you seen the **** that we have to put up with?

Yes, I enjoy strike days sometimes as it is now tradition however I get increasingly fed up when it ruins my holiday plans!

Are you concerned about the impact of the unpopularity of the RL Conservatives on TSR's equivalent?

What unpopularity? I see the Liberal Democrats being the unpopular ones not the Conservatives, don't confuse the coalition and parties popularity... that said, Labour are still very unpopular so once again, what Conservative unpopularity?

Finally, what is your favourite political quote?

"One picture is worth 1,000 denials" by Ronald Reagan, as it is so true. The way things are run in most countries if someone is pictured doing something they shouldn't the first thing they do is deny it is them.

That said I am also fond of Sarkozy's gaffes of which there are too many to pick one from.

JPKC is currently an MP for the TSR Socialist Party, having previously served as an independent.

First things first, how did you discover the HOC and why did you join?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

I was perusing the site for UCAS reasons and saw something about the Labour Party, so I clicked a few buttons and ended up admitted to the TSR party's subforum.

I wasn't interested immediately, I only got involved when a private message from the Speaker informed me of the VoNC in DayneD89 last January.

The Libertarian's 'Blast That Mofo' Bill certainly kept me interested.

What real life political figures do you admire?

Newt Gingrich and James Purnell.

What does the TSR Socialist Party hope to achieve in the next few months?

We don't hope to achieve anything. I mean, we'd like to, but it's nigh impossible to get the House to rationally consider even the most compromising bill we put out.

So I guess we'll just keep Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay.

Are you concerned that the TSR Socialists risk isolation in the House by a lack of willingness to co-operate with other parties both with legislation and in government negotiations.

I am concerned, but not for those reasons. The Socialist Party is proudly left-wing, and that puts us at a disadvantage in a House where the conservative centre dominates.

It's my belief that we're being taken advantage of by parties like Labour and the Lib Dems who use their positions closer to the centre to dictate terms to us.

Socialist MPs will vote 'aye' for bills that they don't totally agree with if they perceive them to be closer to the left than to the right - our support for anything even mildly left-wing means that we're taken for granted by Labour as instant support - it means that we've never received a serious coalition offer from any party, and although we're fine with being the pariahs, we don't want to be accused of intentionally being isolationist.

Your own career in the HOC has seen you go from Labour member, to independent and finally a Socialist MP. Do you feel this rapid change of allegiances has damaged your reputation?

Indeed, I am the HOC's political slut. To explain why I should probably (once again) repeat that this is hardly true of me in real life. I've been a Labour member for 5 years. The reason for joining the Socialists on TSR is that I am a democratic socialist - up North that's basically 80% of the population and 100% of the Labour Party. I'd be lying if I didn't say I was disappointed by TSR Labour; the TSR Party is not at all reflective of the real-life Party - I'd go as far as to bet that its entire membership had fewer RL Labour members than the TSR Socialist Party does. There are certain members on TSR that are just bonkers, flag-obsessed Blairites - you'd be hard-pressed to find a "New Labour" supporter in the modern Labour Party, speaking as someone that's attended a few party conferences. It annoys me that people in the MHoC care more about labels than policy - my manifesto in the last election was authentically left-wing, why are people so surprised that I've joined a left-wing party?

Do you believe that the TSR Socialists are being damaged by a lack of activity that means many members are unaware of your party?

No. As I say, the Party is the most disadvantaged there is in the House, attempts to say that this is our fault are misguided. We actually have good activity in the sub-forum - the phenomena is that members active within the Party tend to stay out of debates in the wider HOC because the wider HOC is practically McCarthyist in the way it treats us.

Finally, what future do you believe socialism has in a world where mainstream parties of both right and left support the cuts agenda?

The last century was marked by a dedicated campaign against all forms of collectivism in all countries and the result of that is quite obvious; the World's two superpowers are controlled by industrial elites, the working class are facing a crisis in political representation, millions are starving to death across the world, dying from curable diseases, democracy has assumed a torpor, normal individuals are completely unable to affect change. The ideology that has brought this about is sold to everyone on a daily basis, it's one that you cannot avoid buying. Thinking about the future is very hard, I just don't see how socialism can reach enough into people to get them to work with one another to object to what's happening - we'd much rather ignore it and talk about minor matters as if they mattered. I think the largest chance is with climate change. Horror and disaster on an unprecedented scale will kill millions in the next century and see living conditions plummet for everyone - the question is whether capitalism can adapt to this as it has to past threats, or whether some 'Dictatorship of the Air'-esque epoch is entered into.

House News

GREENS SEEK HOC PRESENCE

Birchington • ad HOC Editor

The HOC has recently seen a spate of threads calling for the creation of various parties.

Although some of the suggestions have been written off by the Speaker due to a lack of commitment from their proposers, the proposal to resurrect a TSR Green Party has gained some support from members.

New parties must have a minimum of 10 active members to be considered for creation by TSR moderators.

NEW PETITIONS HIT HOC

HOC speaker, Metrobeans, has recently changed the process members can use for submitting petitions to the House.

Any member can send their ideas in to be debated by MP and regular HOC users, and recent petitions have proposed a range of legislation ideas for consideration.

Recent petitions have ranged in topic, from proposals to nationalise Dulux to suggestions for licence fee reform.

WHO'S WHO

If you want to get involved in the HOC, get in touch with the following people!

HOC Speaker

Metrobeans

HOC Deputy Speaker

TheCrackInTime

Prime Minister

Rakas21 (*Conservative*)

Leader of the Opposition

Davidmarsh01 (*Labour*)

Other Party Leaders

Libertarian Party

JesusandTequila

Socialist Party

Abiraleft/Stricof

Liberal Democrat

Thunder_Chunky

UKIP

Toronto353

House Business

The HOC has seen several successful pieces of legislation in the last month.

xXedixXx's Armed Forces Day motion, commemorating Armed Forces Day, has also seen recent success.

The TSR Liberal Democrats had success with their Training Bill, proposing to increase investment in employment training, and also the Disestablishment Bill, which removed the Church of England as the official state church.

The government's proposals to introduce a points based system to the allocation of council housing was rejected by MPs.

MacCuishy, a TSR Libertarian MP, had success with his Politics Education Bill, proposing to reform political education in our schools.

Attempts by the TSR Labour Party to change the flag for Northern Ireland were also rejected by MPs.

Opinion and Debate

DO WE REALLY LIVE IN A DEMOCRACY?

MacCuishy • *Opinion and Debate Editor and Libertarian MP*

Democracy: A system of government represented by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives.

The current system in Britain, FPTP by constituencies, allows the candidate with the most votes to represent their constituency in the House of Commons. Simple.

We're in the constituency of North South. Let's say Bob from the Monster Raving Loony Party gets 4,000 votes (A bit optimistic at a glance) in the general election he is from the smallest party. Gary from the Hip-Thrusting party is second with 10,000 votes and Dylan from the Gym-Monkey Party gets 12,000 votes, meaning that he can represent his party and his constituents in Westminster.

This is quite obviously not to scale and is just an example, but, is Dylan from the Gym-Monkey Party representing all his constituents?

Quite evidently not. Not only did a majority NOT vote for him, nearly 14,000 people are not being represented by their choice of candidate and party in parliament. Let's put this on a national scale – millions are not represented in Westminster. This is what we see with the likes of the BNP and UKIP.

There are certain advantages in the fact of having FPTP and constituencies, how they deliver strong majorities and allow ordinary people to have their concerns raised in parliament by their MP's. Not only is FPTP reliable, other methods often result in coalitions and generally weak governments. However, with all this in mind, is it really fitting that we call ourselves a democracy – as I have clearly shown that millions of people do not have their views represented in parliament.

Is our whole population represented by our government? The answer is no, and until there are any kind of reforms it will continue to be that way.

**AD HOC WILL SOON BE EXPANDING OUR DEBATE SECTION:
MACCUISHY, AD HOC's DEBATE EDITOR, WILL KEEP THE HOUSE POSTED WITH
OUR EXCITING PLANS.**

CAPTION COMPETITION

As we have only received two submissions for the competition so far, the deadline will be extended until September.

PM the Editor with your entries!

AD HOC TO LAUNCH SISTER PAPER

It is hoped Ad HOC's success can be replicated in the MUN, where proposals are being discussed to create a newspaper for the Model United Nations.

If you're interested in taking part with this exciting new publication, please get in touch.

**ANY QUESTIONS? PM METROBEANS
(THE SPEAKER)**

AD HOC EDITORIAL TEAM
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Deputy Editor: RoryS