

TSR HOSTS HISTORIC REFERENDUM

Birchington • *ad HOC* Editor

The HOC recently hosted an historic referendum on the monarchy, the first time one has been held in the UK.

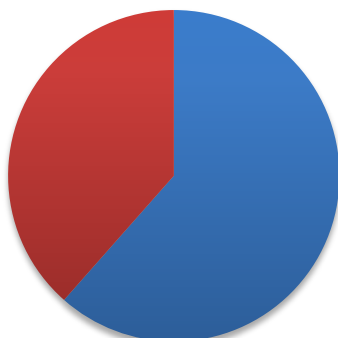
Originally proposed by the TSR government, the referendum saw all parties unite for the respective monarchist and republican campaign groups.

The debates and voting took place over a week at the end of May, resulting in over 60 per cent of voters choosing to retain the monarchy. The republican vote share was noted as being much greater than predictions in various national polls, a cause of celebration for some republicans despite their unsuccessful campaign to abolish the monarchy.

The success of this vote has created hope that further referendums on topical issues will be held in the future.

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REFERENDUM RESULTS



■ Yes

■ No

Over 450 votes were cast as TSR users went to the polls.

Voters were posed the question: *'Do you wish to retain the UK's monarchy?'*

Following a vigorous debate, TSR users decided to keep it.

WHAT'S ON

INTERVIEWS

More interviews with the HOC's most influential members. Interviews on **PAGES 3 and 5**

CAPTION COMPETITION

Enter Ad HOC's caption competition on

PAGE 7

HOUSE BUSINESS

A breakdown of HOC activity on

PAGE 4

GET INVOLVED

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from the EDITOR

Welcome to the second edition of Ad HOC.

It was fantastic to see the first edition finally go to print, and I am pleased that it was warmly received by regular HOC users. Despite a little initial controversy that was soon rectified, I really hope Ad HOC becomes a regular fixture in the HOC, with content of the excellent quality I believe you both expect and deserve.

On a final note, I would like to invite everyone to continue sending in content! Submissions have so far been warmly received, and it would be great to see Ad HOC become a hub of quality content generated by every reader.

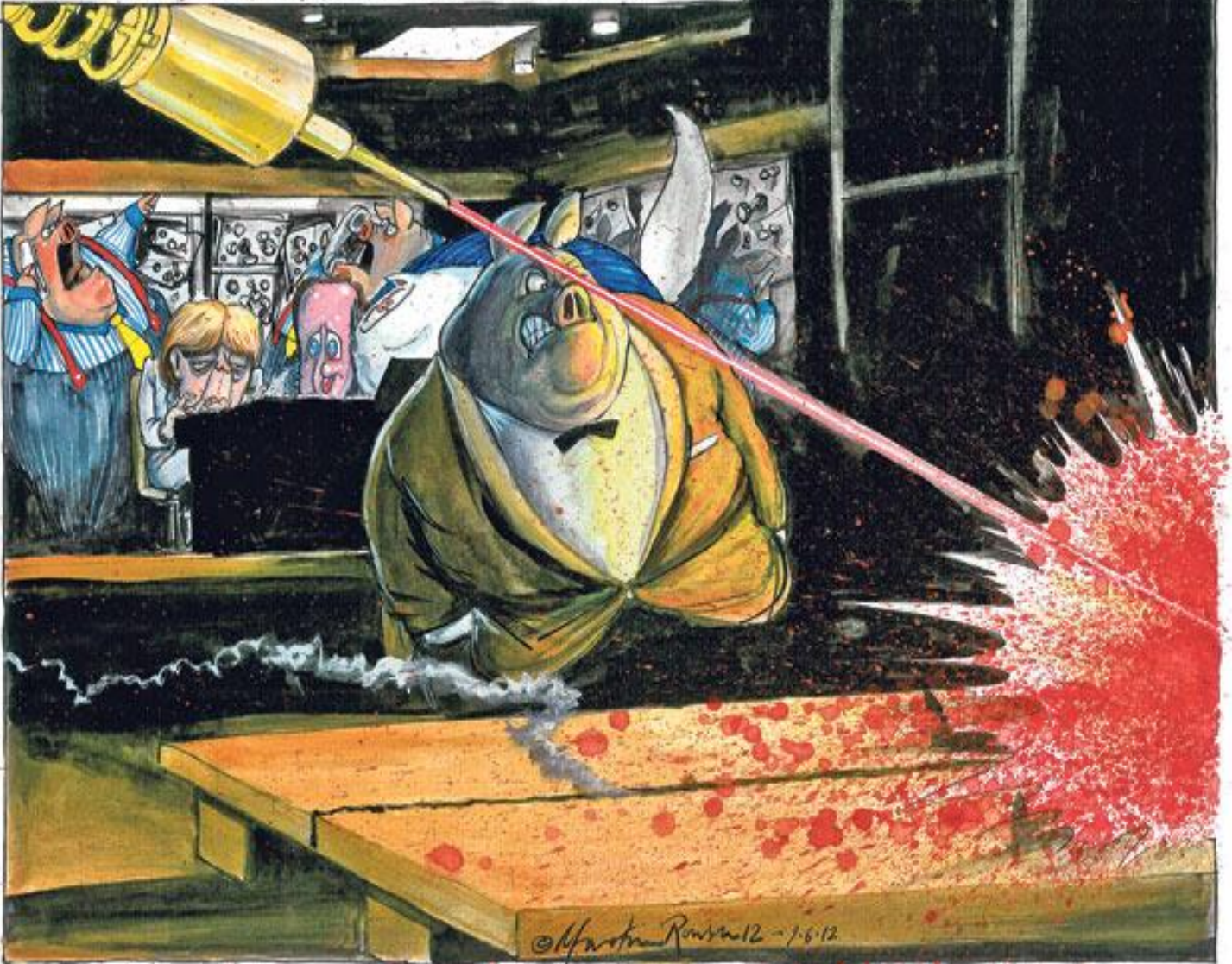
I hope you enjoy reading this edition. Please get in touch if you want to contribute in whatever form!

FUNNY JUNK

Best wishes, **Birchington**

Email: tsrhocnews@gmail.com • PM: u=169550

The name's Bond... Spanish Government 10 Year Bond!



Martin Rowson

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Question Time

MORE INTERVIEWS WITH PARTY LEADERS

Interviews by **RoryS** • *ad HOC Deputy Editor*

Abiraleft is an MP for the TSR Socialist Party and Commissar for Recruitment and External Affairs.

So then, what's your role in the HOC?

I'm a member and MP of the Socialist Party. Oh, I'm Commissar for Recruitment and External Affairs for the party as well, which basically means I carry out some administrative stuff.

What are your plans for the rest of the Parliament?

Although activity still isn't at the level it once was and we would like it be, I do feel it has picked up recently: we got a great little group of dedicated people, and we're beginning to produce legislation again, which I'm very happy with.

I think my concern for the rest of this term would simply be to try and facilitate the continuation of this standard, and maybe push to raise it as well.

What is your favourite sport?

Easily football - I don't particularly follow any other sport very closely, though I might have a watch now and again.

Why? It's the most popular game in the world - not particularly difficult to get hooked into. It was dictated by history and my environment, I suppose.

What is the funniest video you've come across on YouTube?

Lady Gaga's Poker Face read by Christopher Walker. Google it!

Toronto353 is the leader of TSR UKIP, and he serves as Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary in the HOC.

What is your role in the HOC?

Well where do you start? I've got several roles within the HOC. I'm leader of TSR UKIP, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary along with several other roles.

My roles primarily see me running TSR UKIP on a day-to-day basis along with helping to oversee the work of the Government and representing the House and the Government in the Model United Nations.

What are your plans for your party for the rest of this term of Parliament?

TSR UKIP has got a big piece of legislation coming up which we hope to complete soon.

I'm not going to say what it is, but it's sure to stir up lots of debate - perhaps even more than usual. I'm also hoping for a few more amendments to the Constitution along with finishing off my reforms of the MUN which I have set out in my Secretary of State Report.

Are you watching or visiting any of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations?

I'll be watching the celebrations and then I'll be going to a street party on Tuesday. God Save the Queen!

What's your favourite TV programme and why?

Tricky, but I'd say Big Bang Theory. The characters are well written and work well together.

**TURN TO PAGE 5
FOR MORE INTERVIEWS**

House News

JPKC LEAVES COALITION

Birchington • *ad HOC Editor*

The TSR coalition witnessed the resignation of independent MP JPKC, last month.

JPKC was involved with a minor controversy in late April, where questions had been fabricated in an interview with the Labour leader.

He has since joined the TSR Socialist party, and the coalition government now comprises of the Conservative and UKIP parties.

HOC MEET NEEDS YOU!

HOC speaker, Metrobeans, has recently launched a poll calling for HOC users to vote for the date when they would like to meet this summer.

Meets have been a successful fixture in the HOC calendar for several years, giving members a chance to meet in real life. The event will take place in London in the next few months, and the final date will be announced once the poll has concluded.

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

Liberal Democrat

Morgsie

UKIP

Toronto353

House Business

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

The TSR Libertarian Party enjoyed wide support for the Welfare Bill, which proposed the widespread reform of the welfare system to improve efficiency. The bill passed into law with 63 per cent of the vote.

The Libertarians also successfully legislated to legalise euthanasia, and to reform the laws surrounding the genital mutilation of male children. Both these bills passed with support

from over 70 per cent of all HOC MPs.

Former independent MP JPKC successfully introduced a carbon tax to the House.

The government's attempt to reform the rating system within the NHS was unsuccessful, although they did introduce successful legislation to expand investment in national research and development with the support of the Labour party, currently in opposition.

Interviews

WE CONTINUE TO QUIZ KEY MEMBERS

Interviews by **Birchington** • ad HOC editor

Metrobeans is the current Speaker, and he has been the HOC's head honcho since July 2010.

How did you get involved with the HOC and become Speaker?

I got involved in early 2008. I saw an "Ask Labour" thread, thought it looked interesting and decided to join.

I became Speaker in July 2010, but had previously done the Speaker role for about 3 days in Jan 2010 when cover was required at very short notice!

What is your role within the HOC?

I'm the Speaker of the House, which means I'm responsible for the day to day running of the Model House of Commons. This includes organising debate, ruling on the constitution and admin work keeping our records up to date.

I also work with TheCrackInTime, D&CA supermods and the Administration team to make the MHoC better for existing members and easier to get involved with for new members.

What are your plans for the summer?

I don't really have any plans this year. I'm working over the Olympics and have got a couple of other things lined up, but unfortunately, I'm staying in London throughout the summer!

What TV shows can't you miss?

I don't watch TV as it is being broadcast, but I do catch-up on TV shows that I've missed or never got around to watching when originally aired.

At the moment, I'm catching up on Mad Men, Homeland, Frasier and The West Wing.

What politicians do you admire in real life and why?

Three come to mind. John Bercow, who despite his flaws has done more than any other Speaker to try to make Parliament relevant and accessible to the public.

The second is Robert Halfon, the Conservative MP for Harlow. I've met him a few times through my IT placement at Parliament and he's a top guy. He's a tireless worker for his constituents and also founded the Parliamentary Academy which provides young people with a paid apprenticeship with an MP and a qualification.

Lastly Dennis Skinner, who is simply fantastic!

What are your plans for the HOC in the next few months?

I hope the MHoC will become a more integral part of D&CA with more members who post in D&CA sub-forums coming here to debate our bills, start petitions or join our community.

What advice would you give to people looking to get involved within the HOC?

I'd advise people to join a party and get to know their colleagues.

The TSR parties are a major part of what makes us such a vibrant community and once settled within a party, contributing in the main forum becomes easier!



The Speaker's Choice

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Jesusandtequila is the leader of the TSR Libertarian Party***What is your role within the HOC?***

I'm the leader of the Libertarian Party, simply. I'm guessing you all want a little bit more than that, so, I've been around for a while and I like to think that having been here a couple of years I've seen the House change a fair bit. I'd like to keep influencing it in a positive way and stop us from going in the wrong direction.

What are your plans for the summer?

I haven't really made them. Enjoying some time off after exams, might head over to Bilbao for a music festival, and look at little bits and bobs of politics internships but I really haven't thought beyond 8th June at the moment. I'll plan on a day by day basis.

What politicians in real life do you admire and why?

David Davis, since he sticks to his principles and is willing to sacrifice personal career ambitions in order to stand up for what he believes in – resigning his seat over civil liberties and standing in a by-election. Essentially that's it, I admire it when people stick to their principles in spite of what they might think is popular. It really narrows it down and I don't really admire many politicians at all.

What does the TSR Libertarian Party hope to achieve this term?

Well, we aim to keep putting out Bills we think would improve TSR-land, stimulating some good debate and seeing which ones get passed. It's far too easy for this game to get way out of hand - with people caring about who's in government and titles and Bills passing and so forth. Sure, I get fired up but that's at the abhorrent ideas. We shouldn't make this place too political, as paradoxical as that sounds.

What advice would you give to people looking to get involved in the HOC?

Two things. The first is be patient. The second is jump in and get involved. Be patient that although you may be brimming with enthusiasm and have written your first Bill, don't be discouraged that people are pointing out problems or it doesn't go up straight away - be patient in both things going up and learning the skills of Bill writing and also a hell of a lot about politics. The second is just jump in, don't be nervous and don't be discouraged. I think I speak for all parties when I say that all new members are welcome, so just keep coming up with ideas, take on board improvements and get involved.

It's amazing how quickly you become part of the furniture here.

Opinion and Debate

IN DEFENCE OF CENTRISM

Js123 • Liberal Democrat MP

What does it mean to be a centrist?

Centrism is a position which can mean a whole range of things, depending on the person defining it. Some may consider it a position in which one constantly sits on the fence in a delirium of indecision; a political state that one should grow out of, in favour of a more concrete ideology.

There may be some truth in this notion of indecision; or perhaps it could be better termed withholding judgement? For me, the idea of centrists as ditherers does not ring true, for a decision is made, eventually. A judgement on an issue is reached. Perhaps it takes longer to come to a decision, but that does not make the decision any less valid.

For me, then, centrism is the antithesis of a philosophy of indecision – it is all about decision; decisions made continually on different issues, in an attempt to evaluate the

sides of each argument before reaching a conclusion.

The one decision a centrist does not make is that to align himself to a side of the political spectrum, and therefore not to view a debate from that side. A centrist should attempt to enter into an analysis of a situation neutrally, and follows no creed. Sometimes he fails, but to err is human, after all, and there may be times when our feelings on an issue are strong.

Above all, though, a centrist should be prepared to treat each proposition equally, and will, without doubt, come to the decision which he feels is appropriate.

This is my view of centrism; it is what I attempt to practise, but, as I have written, centrism is about decision, so, perhaps, everyone professing to be a centrist should reach their own conclusion on the matter.

adHOC extra

JOIN OUR CAPTION CONTEST!

WHAT IS IT?

Suggested by various people following last month's edition, Ad HOC is running a caption competition.

All you have to do is decide on a witty, clever or downright rude caption suggestion for the pictures posted here, and all entries will be posted on the soon-to-be-launched Ad HOC website. You will then be able to decide who should be crowned the winner.

All you have to do is PM the Editor with your suggestions! No prizes are sadly up for grabs, but you will win bragging rights for the rest of the month.

HAPPY CAPTIONING!



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

AD HOC EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Birchington

Deputy Editor: RoryS