

HOUSE GRIPPED AS GOVERNMENT FORMED

Birchington • *ad HOC* Editor

The most exciting coalition negotiations in recent years gripped an excited House of Commons last month.

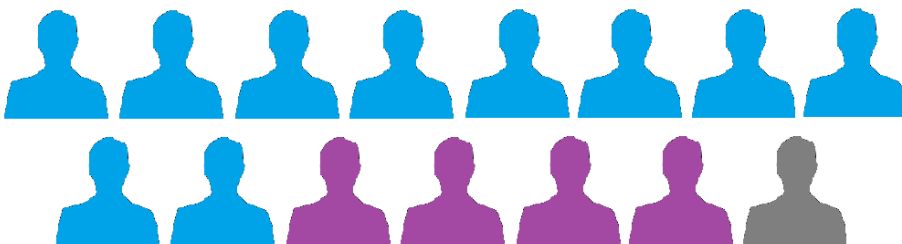
Parties had a week to fight it out and organise their plans for governing the HOC. Labour, who emerged strongest from the election with 14 seats, hoped to continue the Centre-Left bloc that had dominated the House since May 2011.

The support of the Liberal Democrats was heavily sought by both Labour and the Conservatives. However, an internal party vote resulted in the party's rejection of both coalition offers.

The Conservatives emerged victorious, entering into a coalition with UKIP and JPKC, an independent MP.

PAGES 3 & 4 • ELECTION RESULTS AND AFTERMATH

TSR'S NEW GOVERNMENT



Conservatives, in coalition with UKIP and JPKC (Independent)

PAGE 3 • INTERVIEW WITH THE PRIME MINISTER

WHAT'S ON

INTERVIEWS

Get to know some of the HOC's most influential members. Interviews on **PAGES 3, 5 & 6**

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE HOC

Unsure what the HOC is? Don't worry – you can find a beginner's guide on **PAGE 8**

BILLS, BILLS, BILLS

A breakdown of the House's business on **PAGE 7**

GET INVOLVED
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from the EDITOR

Many thanks for reading the first ever edition of Ad HOC. Having been proposed and discussed for such a long time, it's fantastic to finally see it in print. It's a privilege to have been picked to serve as Editor, and I hope you find it an informative read.

Inside this month's edition, we've got a great selection of news, interviews and also a guide to the HOC, which will hopefully get many more members involved. If you want to get involved with the next edition of Ad Hoc, don't hesitate to get in touch!

DEPUTY EDITOR'S comment

Well hello there my fellow readers. I'd like to welcome you along to this new adventure we have! I'm Rory, Deputy Editor of the newspaper you're reading right now and I'm also Shadow Transport Secretary for TSR Labour in the Model House of Commons.

I only signed up to The Student Room last week when I was pretty bored of revising, and in the space of just a week I've become an MP for TSR Labour, represented a MUN country and started creating the content for a Parliament Newspaper. That's pretty good I have to admit.

At first when I wanted to join MHoC, it was a bit of a struggle. I was new to all this 'bill stuff' and didn't have a clue what was going on. But, after a bit of reading and a couple of PMs, I was in and I've loved every minute of it. I do have to admit, it's not been easy to draft bills. I throw myself into the deep end, already creating a bill or two and submitting it for my Labour Party colleagues to read, and they are pretty impressed and ready to publish them.

Anyway, enough about me. This newspaper is **yours** - you can do what you want with it. Getting our first issue out is a starting block, but we need your help for delivering quality news in future issues. If you have anything for us, please do not hesitate to send it in to us, either by email or PM.

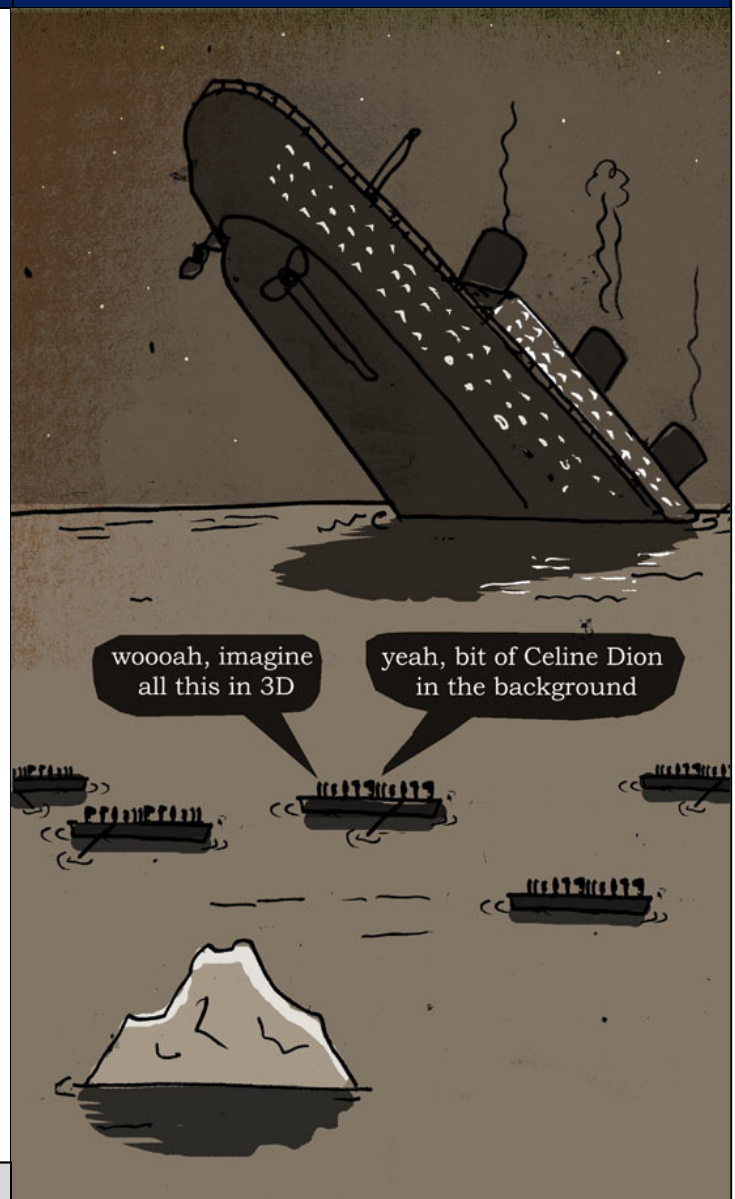
In the near future I'll probably set up a survey for to complete to get your feedback on how we're doing, stay tuned for that.

Enjoy, **RoryS**

Email: tsrhocnews@gmail.com • PM: u=946157

Best wishes, **Birchington**
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FUNNY JUNK



Jon & Mick/moderntoss.com

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Prime Minister's QUESTIONS

WE GRILL NEWLY ELECTED PM

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

Rakas21 is TSR's Prime Minister and Leader of the TSR Conservative Party.

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

My role within the TSR HOC is both to lead my party and the government. This involves being the figurehead for all outside questions unable to be answered by the relevant departmental minister.

I also approve bills or motions and gauge the need for them within the government sub-forum (allowing a bill to go out in which half the government would denounce publically is just stupid).

What will your party be focusing on in this Parliament?

The Conservative Party this term will be focussing on a number of issues but the prime focus will be around taxation which in many cases exists solely to negate consumption.

We will seek to simplify taxation thereby improving competitiveness and scrap those taxes which gain very little. Via taxation and other measures we will also seek to encourage growth within the primary and secondary economic sectors to close the trade deficit.

Which television programme can't you miss?

I rarely watch TV now as the Internet has made it largely obsolete (why pay for Sky when you can stream for free).

However, How I Met Your Mother and The Big Bang Theory I cannot miss along with the Daily Politics, Sunday Politics and Question Time.

Does anything make you cry?

Not really as I am not very sensitive and do not dwell on anything remotely sad (depression is often caused by negative feedback mechanism). However Gladiator, Titanic, Star Wars Episode 3 and Troy are my top four movies because they can almost make me cry.

Who's your favourite politician in real life and why?

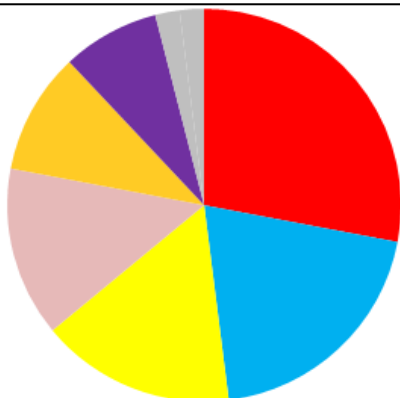
Boris [Johnson] - a classic Tory and one that speaks his mind, unlike the scripted Cameron.

Which real life politician would you kiss if you had to and why?

The Argentine President with a kiss of death, should they invade again.

ELECTION IN BRIEF

Party	Seats
Labour	14
Conservatives	10
Libertarian	8
Socialist	7
Liberal Democrat	5
UKIP	4
Barnetlad (Independent)	1
JPKC (Independent)	1



Cristina and Boris, getting to the point

If you'd like to be interviewed for the next issue, GET IN TOUCH!

House News

ELECTION DRAMA AS TSR GOES TO THE POLLS

Birchington • *ad HOC Editor*

Following the vote of no confidence in the Labour-Liberal Democrat coalition government in March, the House of Commons closed early as polls were opened by the Speaker.

Voting was held between the 21st and 31st of March, and the latter days of the third month were filled with excitement and debate as each party canvassed for votes. The election was unique as it featured two successful Independent candidates, JPKC and Barnetlad.

Primary concerns for voters included the NHS, education and taxation – issues which also featured heavily in most of the party manifestos.

Real life influences appeared to strongly influence the election results, as Labour won the most seats despite predictions from some HOC regulars that they would be beaten by their Conservative rivals, during the election campaign. UKIP and the Libertarian Party also made gains.

The total turnout of over 700 votes was a historically high figure, a cause of widespread satisfaction for regular HOC members.

Another successful election for the House of Commons has allowed the Conservative-UKIP-JPKC coalition government to form, and the House is now back to regular business.

WHO'S WHO

HOC Speaker

Metrobeans

HOC Deputy Speaker

TheCrackInTime

Prime Minister

Rakas21 (*Conservative*)

Leader of the Opposition

Davidmarsh01 (*Labour*)

Other Party Leaders

Libertarians

Jesusandtequila

Socialist Party

Unknown

Liberal Democrat

Morgsie

UKIP

Toronto353

TSR'S GOVERNMENT

Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury and Minister for the Civil Service

• Rakas21

Deputy Prime Minister, Lord President of the Council, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, First Secretary of State, Leader of the House of Commons and Foreign Secretary

• Toronto353

Chancellor of the Exchequer and Chief Whip

• Jarred

Home Secretary and Paymaster-General

• Ham and Cheese

Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain and Secretary of State for Justice

• Life_peer

Communities and Local Government

• Lipvig

Constitutional Reform

• Matthew_Lowson

Defence

• tufc

Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

• tehFrance

Education and Higher Education

• Bun

Health

• Moleman1996

Transport

• Internet Guru

Women and Equality

• JPKC

Interviews

TWO PARTY LEADERS, ON THE SPOT

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

Davidmarsh01 is TSR's Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the TSR Labour Party.

First things first - what's your role in the HOC?

I'm the TSR Labour Party leader, and currently Leader of the Opposition. This involves trying to keep activity within the party high by generally trying to encourage people to get involved and collaborating on bills and motions within the party and submitting them to the speaker so they can go through as party bills when they're ready.

As Leader of the Opposition currently my role is to try to pick holes in anything the TSR Government produces!

What television programmes can't you miss?

I have a few that I watch religiously, and now I think about it my taste in TV is pretty terrible. Currently I watch Desperate Housewives, Waterloo Road and when the new series comes out Russell Howard's Good News. I used to love Spooks when it was on though.

What is your guilty pleasure?

Probably listening to terrible Eurovision songs. I like a couple in particular - Dancing Lasha Tumbai by Verka Serduchka of Ukraine and Allez Ola Ole, France's entry for Eurovision 2010. YouTube them!

Morgsie is the Leader of the TSR Liberal Democrats, and he was also recently elected Member of the Term.

Who's your favourite politician in real life and why?

I'm not totally sure. I don't have a definite favourite politician, I agree with some on certain issues and some I like for the comedy value.

I like Alex Salmond, he knows how to get things done. Others that I like for the entertainment are Nigel Farage, Boris Johnston, and George Galloway.

Does anything in particular make you cry?

Only really personal stuff, like if something was to happen to someone I loved. I can get saddened by other stuff, but it doesn't really make me cry.

Which real life politician would you kiss if you had to? Why?

Nicola Sturgeon!

But being serious, probably Alina Kabaeva from Russia.

What's your role in the HOC?

I'm the Leader of the TSR Liberal Democrats and I speak for the Party on constitutional reform issues. My role as leader involves oversight of policy proposals, managing members' activity, dealing with other Parties, approving new Members and helping others out.

At the end of the day I am ultimately responsible for my party's leadership.

GET INVOLVED and join a TSR party today!
You can apply in the 'Usergroups' section

INTERVIEW CONTINUES ON PAGE 6

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

What will your party be focusing on this term?

This term we will not be focusing on just one area, we will be producing and submitting a wide range of legislation that we believe is in the best interest of the House.

Which TV programme can't you miss?

My usual viewing choices include EastEnders, Question Time, This Week, Holby City and Casualty. The West Wing is always good to watch in the evening.

Who's your favourite politician in real life and why?

I would probably pick four politicians that I admire. They are Hillary Clinton, David Laws, Vince Cable and Sir Graham Watson.



The Three Morgsieteers

Opinion and Debate

TIME TO PAUSE FOR THOUGHT OVER QATADA EXTRADITION

Jsb123 • Liberal Democrat MP

The first motion of the new government was one expressing a desire for the extradition to Jordan of Abu Qatada.

This is an issue which has been talked about at length in the news, and has been debated animatedly in the HOC. It has been argued that a dangerous man is a dangerous man, and if he poses a threat to our country and its people, then he should not remain here.

The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) has ruled that he should not be extradited due to possibility of torture in Jordan. The very fact that this ruling of the ECHR is in opposition to that of the UK Supreme Court is a reason in itself for opposition - who is the ECHR to overrule British courts?

This, in turn, was countered by the argument that all people, whether criminals or not, have human rights, and that nobody, however heinous their crime, should be subjected to torture.

Or have terrorists waived their human rights in the pursuit of the destruction of all that they oppose (which may well include our system of human rights)? Or do we, in removing their rights to the rights we claim to uphold, only become as barbaric as they are?

If we care naught for humanity, and destroy what we purport to be our own values, in the pursuit of vengeance, then do we need terrorists? We will destroy our society on our own.

I offer no answers or my own views on the matter; I only ask that you think about what your views are. What you may think of the powers of Europe, and whether you believe that the man many people would see tortured is a threat to society, are views which must constantly be challenged.

It is only by looking past our knee-jerk reactions and into the reasoning for our beliefs that we can ever hope to understand what it is about ourselves and our society that we value, and see, without deluding ourselves, whether we are undermining it faster than it can be knocked down.

If so, then we must seek to change ourselves, for only then can we try to change the world.

**Do you disagree with this?
Send us your response!**

House Business

WHAT'S BEEN SAID SO FAR

BILLS

Proposals to Change or Introduce Legislation

PROVISION OF DEFIBRILATORS BILL

Proposed by Labour

Designed to ensure all schools provide defibrillator equipment, to assist those suffering from heart problems when they arise. This has since been withdrawn

TRANSRACIAL ADOPTIONS BILL 2012

Proposed by the Government

Designed to standardise the adoption process, this Bill is currently in cessation.

IMMIGRATION BILL

Proposed by MacCuishy MP

Designed to ensure immigrants are legally required to pay tax. This Bill was rejected in the final vote.

UNSUPERVISED TANNING SHOP BILL 2012

Proposed by the Liberal Democrats

Designed to ban the unsupervised use of tanning booths in order to prevent skin cancer rates and to improve safety.

STOP TAX PERIOD BILL 2012

Proposed by the Liberal Democrats

Designed to end the charging of VAT on feminine sexual hygiene products.

SECURING OUR BORDERS BILL 2012

Proposed by Internetguru MP

Designed to make immigration laws stricter. The Bill has since been withdrawn.

ELECTED MAYORS BILL 2012

Proposed by the Government

Designed to introduce elected mayors to Britain's largest cities.

BLOOD DONATION AMENDMENT BILL

Proposed by Labour Party and the Liberal Democrats

Designed to change laws on blood donation by homosexual men.

PASSPORT REFORM BILL

Proposed by the Government

Designed to add a 'third gender' option to passports.

FAIR PAY BILL 2012

Proposed by JPKC, Liberal Democrats, Labour and the Socialist Party

Designed to expand pay transparency for workers.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND REFERENDUM BILL 2012

Proposed by the Government

Designed to create a referendum on the Monarchy.

IMMIGRANT WELFARE BILL

Proposed by MacCuishy MP

Designed to reform access of migrants to welfare.

HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES SAFETY BILL

Proposed by the Labour Party

Designed to improve the safety of HGVs and prevent road deaths.

TAX INTEREST PARITY BILL 2012

Proposed by the Libertarian Party

Designed to prevent overcharging by HMRC.

MEDIA PRIVATIZATION BILL 2012

Proposed by Internetguru MP

Designed to privatise the BBC and its assets.

MOTIONS

General Statements or Proposals

EXTRADITE ABU QATADA MOTION

Proposed by the Conservatives

Encourages and promotes the deportation of Abu Qatada, this motion is now in cessation.

DIAMOND JUBILEE 'BIG LUNCH' MOTION

Proposed by the Government

Promotes the organisation of 'Big Lunches' to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.

CONDEMNATION OF DEPORTATION MOTION

Proposed by Labour, the Liberal Democrats, the Libertarian Party and the Socialist Party

Condemns the government's proposal to deport Abu Qatada.

CHARITABLE GIVING MOTION

Proposed by Labour

Encourages the reform of taxation of charitable donations.

ROCHE RELEASE OF INFORMATION MOTION

Proposed by Labour

Encourages the release of information on drugs trials, held by a manufacturer of pandemic vaccinations.

MOTION ON PUNISHMENT OF COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

Proposed by the Government

Designed to promote the changing of the laws surrounding copyright theft.

SYRIA CEASEFIRE MOTION

Proposed by the Liberal Democrats

Condemns the Syrian government and promotes further diplomatic assistance for the Syrian crisis.

PETITIONS

Proposals Submitted by the Public

OBESITY PETITION

Proposes the introduction of extra tax on food with high saturated fat. This was rejected by vote.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS PETITION

Proposes the outlawing of private or fee-paying schools.

EDUCATION PETITION

Proposes changes to education law and introducing compulsory English lessons for non-English pupils.

PRODUCTIVITY AND RESEARCH PETITION

Proposes to increase science funding and a Government-funded utilities price comparison website.

PETITION TO RESTRICT THE COMFORTS OF PRISONERS TO BASIC SURVIVAL REQUIREMENTS ONLY

Proposes to change prison facilities.

If you've got a burning issue you want to raise, post a petition in the HOC forum

adHOC extra

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE HOC

WHAT IS IT?

The TSR Model House of Commons is a forum where members can pitch ideas and write bills to change laws, solve problems and improve the UK. Members and parties write bills to change the laws of the UK, which are debated and voted on.

It is a democratically elected chamber (forum on TSR) and is made up of 50 MPs selected by their Parties and party leaders. Seats are allocated following a TSR-wide 'General Election', which takes place every six months and consists of several varied political parties (and some Independent candidates).

The largest party or coalition of parties forms the TSR Government, which consists of a Prime Minister and a number of cabinet positions (**PAGE 4**), whose are responsible for answering questions on their specific departments, reporting to the House and developing legislation within the government.

The second largest party or coalition of parties is Opposition, which can have a number of shadow cabinet positions. Other parties can also assign Spokesperson positions.

The Speaker is responsible for everything surrounding the House of Commons, and is a point of call for advice or assistance.

The main activity which occurs in the Model HoC is the writing and debate of bills which change the laws of the hypothetical UK.

The TSR Model Parliament was started in 2005 following the 2005 General Election in the UK. In the run up to that election a series of political parties had been set up on the forums.

These parties fought each other for the votes of the forum members by writing and debating statements on topical issues. This culminated in an election on the forum, which was held to coincide with the real election, held in early May.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

The best way to get involved is to join a party! The HOC has the big 3 parties (Labour, Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats), as well as others: The Libertarian Party, Socialist Party and UKIP.

By joining a party, you get access to their hidden sub-forum where they draft bills, plan for elections and discuss a range of other things. Once you've joined, you can meet your party colleagues, get involved in developing bills and help your party succeed in the HOC.

You can also start your own petitions, or get stuck into any of the open debates in the forum.

WORDSEARCH

G	T	R	I	G	H	T	S	O	W	Z	V
D	R	F	F	N	O	I	T	A	X	A	T
N	O	I	T	A	C	U	D	E	K	P	Y
R	C	A	N	D	I	D	A	T	E	V	V
W	E	S	T	M	I	N	S	T	E	R	O
D	M	C	A	M	P	A	I	G	N	W	T
G	O	P	P	O	S	I	T	I	O	N	E
Q	D	E	M	O	C	R	A	C	Y	Z	I
W	H	N	O	I	T	C	E	L	E	A	T
S	E	H	C	N	E	B	K	C	A	B	D

**BACKBENCHES
CAMPAIGN
CANDIDATE
DEMOCRACY
EDUCATION**

**ELECTION
OPPOSITION
RIGHTS
TAXATION
VOTE
WESTMINSTER**

ANY QUESTIONS? PM METROBEANS (THE SPEAKER)

AD HOC EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Birchington

Deputy Editor: RoryS

"The ballot is stronger than the bullet"