



September 18th 2017

NEWSLETTER 9

#Stopping BREXIT in Brighton

B&H4E at the LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

Sunday 24th September: Taking Action

It's only a few days now to the biggest occasion our group has ever promoted and we need all our supporters here with us! We have two big events, on the eve of the Labour Party Conference, right here in Brighton. This is a critical moment in the development of the Labour Party position and in the trajectory of the Brexit schedule this autumn. On the afternoon of Sunday 24th September, we are hosting a big march and rally, passing the conference centre where the delegates will be, to be followed later by an evening of debate and entertainment at the Brighton Dome, the largest concert hall in the city.

#STOP BREXIT IN BRIGHTON
24 Sep @ The Labour Party Conference

March and Rally @ The Level / Hove Lawns
Assembly 12.30pm, march at 1pm for rally at Hove Lawns
Register at tinyurl.com/brighton-register

The People Are Speaking @ Brighton Dome
Political debate, comedy and music 7pm (doors open 6.15pm)
Tickets £4 at tinyurl.com/dome-tickets

Logos at the bottom: Scientists for EU, BRITAIN FOR EUROPE, Brighton & Hove for EU, European Movement United Kingdom, HEALTHIER IN THE EU.

Why we are lobbying the Labour Party (i)

“Labour is right to try to vote down the repeal bill; it should have no compunction about voting against the final deal either, if it delivers fewer benefits than the status quo. But in one sense, all politics – including Labour’s – are being formed in a vacuum until the moment either the Bank or the Treasury puts a provisional figure on the growth, tax and trade effects of the deal the government is trying to achieve. It is entirely possible, for example, that in a negative scenario the £49bn of tax Labour wanted to raise to boost health, education and welfare spending might have to be spent covering a post-Brexit collapse in revenues. And this raises a tantalising possibility. Suppose the Tory government were to fall before the Treasury publishes a single fiscal impact projection... Suppose, the day after the election, a Labour government discovers that the central projection of fiscal losses totally wipes out its social programme. At this point, civil servants would be obliged to tell Jeremy Corbyn: “You can either do Brexit or enact your own manifesto pledges”. In that situation it would be a no-brainer for Labour to put Brexit on long-term hold and begin negotiations anew.” *Paul Mason, Guardian, 11/9/17*

Our march will start at The Level, in central Brighton, at 1pm, and head to Hove Lawns for the rally. We have an impressive line-up of national and local speakers and performers. Critical to the event are our three local MPs (**Peter Kyle MP, Caroline Lucas MP and Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP**) all supporting our anti-Brexit position. We also have Mike Galsworthy (Scientists for EU); Richard Corbett MEP; Kelly-Marie Blundell (LibDem candidate in Lewes); Peter Owen Jones (Vicar of Firlle and TV presenter); Joan Pons La Plana (NHS campaigner); Elena Remigi (In Limbo: Our Brexit Testimonies); Madeleine Kay & Dominic Buxton (New Young Europeans); Drew Caldron (aka the Faux Boris Johnson); and Peter Cook (Rage Against the Brexit Machine).



To give us an idea of numbers, please register for the march at www.tinyurl.com/brighton-register

At the Brighton Dome we'll have an evening of political debate and entertainment, compered by comedian Dannie Grufferty. We'll start with a panel discussion chaired by Polly Toynbee, with panellists Ian Dunt (Guardian journalist, and author of *Brexit: What the Hell Happens Now?*), Jonathan Bartley

(Co-Leader of the Green Party of England and Wales), Seb Dance MEP and MPs Darren Jones and Catherine West. When you book your ticket, you can submit a question to the panel.

Why we are lobbying the Labour Party (ii)

“For Labour’s anti-austerity recovery strategy to succeed, it will be vital that the UK and the rest of the EU march in step with each other, with new policies for sustainable growth, greater social equality and improved workers’ rights. This, of course, will mean radical reforms both in Britain and throughout the union. This would be a constructive way to demonstrate that the European commission president Jean-Claude Juncker’s prophecy in Strasbourg – that Britain will “soon regret” Brexit – need never come to pass. It is hard to see a better way of pursuing this than for a Labour government to make it clear that it will fight any new election rejecting the Conservative government’s chaotic flirtation with disaster, and seek to retain (or recover) EU membership for the UK. However corrosive the UK’s tryst with Brexit has so far proved, a Labour determination to reverse it would be good news for Britain and for the European Union as a whole.” *John Palmer, Guardian, 14/9/17*

After an interval, we are joined by guest comedians Stephen Grant and Ava Vidal, each presenting us with their unique take on the train crash that is the Brexit policy of this government. We will end the evening with music from hot local band Electric Soft Parade and



what they tell us are our sexiest acappella super choir The Dulcetones. Tickets are a snip at £4 and are available at www.tinyurl.com/dome-tickets. More information can be found on our website: <http://www.stopbrexitinbrighton.com>.

Local groups from all around the country are coming and we're hoping for big numbers. But we need to keep spreading the word and get as many people here as possible. So please forward and share this newsletter with your friends, tell people about the big day on Facebook and Twitter. Let's make this the biggest anti-Brexit hullabaloo!

Why we are lobbying the Labour Party (iii)

"Team Corbyn needs to start with the fact that the majority of Labour supporters, Labour members and Labour voters are a long way from being Euro-hating Brexiteers. In fact, the reverse is true. It might also like to consider how it is increasingly clear that the majority of the country favours membership of the Single Market, even if it would rather we had a more arm's length relationship with the EU proper.

However, the Labour Party should also remember that, while Westminster might be obsessed with Brexit, the average voter is much more interested in the economy. For them, it's living standards. It's their job, and how much it pays and, after that, you can throw hospitals, and schools into the mix. They, all of them, come ahead of Brexit. The electorate might, therefore, respond rather well to a party that stood up and said: "You know what, we're going to talk. We're going to go out there and try and reach a consensus with our European partners. We're going to be pragmatic and we will put the best interests of the country and its economy first, second and third. A Labour policy reading "pragmatism" and "national interest" would allow the party to concentrate on highlighting their plight and on turning its fire on its opponents, while asking whether the public wouldn't rather have something better than a family sized tub of Liam Fox's chlorinated US chicken. The public might respond rather well to something like that." - *James Moore Independent 29/7/17*

We also need volunteers on the day (stewards, first aiders). If you can help, please sign up here: <http://tinyurl.com/brighton-volunteers>. And we're always open to more ideas for fun activities. Suggestions have been singing, dancing, maybe a small brass band. We would like people to fly their own colours, be it LGBTQ+ or those of your pro-EU organisation. We are all in this together and we need to show that through diversity we can #Stop Brexit. We want an internationalist position for the internationalist city we have always been.

So join us for our march and rally and our evening event at the Dome (doors open at 6.15pm, programme 7pm-10pm).

TOGETHER WE CAN STOP BREXIT



Why we are lobbying the Labour Party (iv)

The car crash that is Brexit can be stopped. Article 50 can be withdrawn. To do this would require a clear, unmistakable shift in British public opinion and an election to dismiss this gang of chancers and incompetents. And before that happens we need Labour to come to its senses, get off the fence, show some leadership, show some courage, show some regard for the futures of the young people who responded to Jeremy Corbyn's new politics and then tell the nation that the whole thing is an historical mistake and should be called off.

This is where pro Europe groups can make an impact. We at B&H4EU have a clear position that only if Labour changes its policy and abandons Brexit can the country have a real prospect of reversing this little Englander nightmare. We want to use events like those planned for the Labour Party Conference to develop real leverage with people who should be on our side.

Contacts

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