

# Stephen Kinnock MP

## October 2018 Newsletter



A Strong Voice For Aberavon

# News from the Commons



## Northern Ireland Backstop Has To Be Time-Limited, But Minister Can't Tell Us The End Date

Dominic Raab told the House that the Northern Ireland backstop has to be time-limited. I asked him to tell us which date he has in mind. Incredibly, with just a week to go until the crucial Brussels summit, he was unable to tell us.

You can watch the exchange at <https://bit.ly/2C4tk37>



## Democracy In The Crosshairs

Political money laundering has infiltrated the very heart of our democracy. I spoke at launch of the Atlantic Council and the Institute for Statecraft's inspiring report; "Democracy in the Crosshairs" which outlines why we need to reinstate integrity to our electoral system.



## Pressure Points If We Have A No Deal Brexit

The Committee for Exiting the European Union heard from Sir Amyas Morse, Comptroller and Auditor General, National Audit Office about Brexit preparedness and coordination across Whitehall. Sir Amyas talked about 'points of failure' and I asked him where these pressure points will be.

<https://bit.ly/2OXooE2>



## Certainty for Business and Friction-less Trade

Sir Simon Fraser, Deputy Chairman and Adviser to the Europe Programme at Chatham House, Julian Jessop, Chief Economist at Institute for Economic Affairs, and Jill Rutter, Programme Director at Institute for Government gave evidence on cross-Government preparations for Brexit, for no deal, and post-Brexit preparations. I asked them about the Chequers proposal and whether it provides certainty for business, and about friction-less trade.

<https://bit.ly/2RT1ige>



## Business Contingency Planning For A No Deal Brexit

Richard Burnett, Chief Executive of the Road Haulage Association, Martin McTague, Policy and Advocacy Chair of Federation of Small Businesses, Andrew Opie, Director of Food and Sustainability at British Retail Consortium, and Mike Thompson, Chief Executive of Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, gave evidence on contingency planning being undertaken by businesses large and small in the event of a no deal Brexit. <https://bit.ly/2OTyYMr>

# News from the Commons



## Surely Salzburg Summit Taught Her That The White Paper Was Completely And Utterly Dead In The Water

The Prime Minister keeps telling us that her Chequers white paper will deliver frictionless trade, post-Brexit. The Salzburg summit showed us all that Chequers is completely dead in the water, yet incredibly she just keeps on flogging that dead horse. Time for Plan B: an EEA-based Brexit.

<https://bit.ly/2PyftpD>

# News from Aberavon



## Junction 41

It's deeply disappointing to see a fresh threat to close junction 41 emerge. Last time the trial closure caused real chaos on the local road network and impacted on local businesses. Closing junction 41 will do little to reduce pollution, it will simply move in onto the local road network and into the town. The Welsh Government need to rule this out once and for all. Read my full statement at <https://bit.ly/2NzWRDJ>



## Unison Question Time

It was great to take part in the question time event organised by Unison Neath Port Talbot on fair funding for local services. The Council chamber was packed with Councillors and council workers, who are concerned over the levels of funding for local government and what that means for future of our valued and vital services.

<https://bit.ly/2y9X0sY>

## Tata Steel Visit

It was great to visit the steelworks in Port Talbot and wonderful to see the timeline of the history of the site dating back to 13th century, followed by visit to Comcast & the BOS plant. There is a long tradition of steel making in Port Talbot and the timeline shows the centuries of development of the steel making industry and how integral it is to the town. It was a real privilege to see the highly skilled workforce delivering an outstanding product for British industry. <https://bit.ly/2yjnRD1>



## Angela Rayner

It was great to have Angela Rayner, Shadow Secretary of State for Education at our Aberavon Labour Party annual dinner. She delivered an inspiring speech, and went down a storm with all!

# News from Aberavon



## NPT College Awards Evening

It was great to be with my colleague Christina Rees MP for Neath, Kev Johns and Mark Dacey, Principal and CEO of Neath Port Talbot College Group, at their Student Awards Ceremony. It was inspiring to see these brilliant students receiving the recognition they so thoroughly deserve. Well done to everyone. <https://bit.ly/2Cz75TR>

## Political Digest



### Europa Conference On Brexit

I was invited to speak at a Europa conference in Copenhagen on why an EEA based Brexit is now the only viable option.



### BBC News: May's Salzburg Speech

After Theresa May's speech on the Salzburg summit I was interviewed by BBC News, I spoke about how negotiating with EU is like building a house, first you need to agree the foundations, then you can negotiate on the doors, windows & colour of the curtains. The EEA has always been the only viable foundation for the house. <https://bit.ly/2ORDc70>



### To Win The Next Election We Need To Show Communitarians That We Genuinely Share Their Values And Priorities

I wrote an article for the House Magazine, based on my book *Spirit of Britain, Purpose of Labour*, about the need for Labour to show Communitarians that we genuinely share their values and priorities. For Labour to form the next government we need to be winning in our Communitarian heartlands as well as winning over Cosmopolitan seats. <https://bit.ly/2Oky7VD>



### Battle Of Ideas: All Change: Navigating The New Political Disruption

At a Battle of Ideas event I discussed some of the themes in *Spirit of Britain, Purpose of Labour* as we talked about shared citizenship, proportional representation and much, much more.

# Political Digest

“ I’ve always felt that there is going to be two possible deals on offer: a Canada-style free trade agreement or the European Economic Area. European Economic Area is clearly the better of the two, it does far less damage to our economy, and is the only option, I think, that can reunite our deeply divided country. ”

Stephen speaks John Pienaar on BBC Radio 5 Live about Brexit, 14 October 2018



## BBC Radio 5: Pienaar's Politics

I spoke with John Pienaar on BBC Radio 5 Live about Brexit and why an EEA-based Brexit is the best option. It would do far less damage to our economy and is the only option that can unite our deeply divided country.

<https://bit.ly/2NK1BXD>

The Prime Minister is flogging a dead horse and the only way through this is for us to assert our right to remain in the European Economic Area and to combine that with a form of customs union

Stephen speaks with James Whale on TalkRADIO following Theresa May's statement in Parliament on the Brexit negotiations, 15 October 2018



## TalkRADIO: Brexit

I spoke with James Whale on TalkRADIO following Theresa May's statement in Parliament on the Brexit negotiations. The Prime Minister is flogging a dead horse with the Chequers proposal, the only way through this is an EEA-based Brexit. <https://bit.ly/2pV2C5z>

## Party Conference



### Labour XI vs Press Lobby XI

Conference got off to a great start with the Labour XI vs Press XI match. We were managed by Dean Saunders and on the field we were joined by Robbie Fowler and Tony Warner. I'm delighted to say that the MPs came out on top in a hard-fought contest, 3-2.

You can watch the match highlights at <https://bit.ly/2A1q7Qf>



### Radix Panel: Can Globalisation Save Itself

I spoke on a panel about the impact of globalisation on communities like Aberavon and what Donald Trump's presidency and Brexit mean for the global economy.



### Centre For Progressive Policy Roundtable Discussion

At a roundtable on Lifelong Learning I drew on ideas from Dan Jarvis MP's chapter in my new book '*Spirit of Britain, Purpose of Labour*' which highlights the need for Labour to do as much for those who don't go to university as graduates. I discussed ideas such as Adult Education Funds and 'Right to Learn' days, which could help working people learn new skills.

# Party Conference



## UK In A Changing Europe

I joined an event on Brexit where I stressed the need for Labour to back a Brexit that can re-unite our country whilst protecting the jobs and livelihoods of people in Aberavon. I stressed the best option was therefore for Britain to be part of the European Economic Area (EEA), which combines economic stability with the option to reform EU migration rules. <https://bit.ly/2CLhOLc>



## Brexit: A Nation Divided

At an event on Brexit and devolution, held by the Repeal Bill Alliance, I heavily criticised the 'Westminster Power Grab', where the Tory government are appropriating powers from Europe which really should be shared with the Welsh Assembly and the other devolved administrations.



## PLP Departmental Chairs: Brexit

I joined Labour MPs Gareth Snell, Luciana Berger, and Ellie Reeves to speak on Labour's approach to Brexit. I stressed that it was not too late for Labour to back an EEA-based Brexit, and that if we did so we could simultaneously help re-unite the country and put us in a strong position ahead of the next general election.

## The Grey Vote: How Can Labour Re-Earn Older People's Trust

I then attended a Fabians and Independent Age roundtable on what more Labour could do to better represent older people. I stressed the importance that we recognise the challenges older people face later in life, and that we needed to show that we recognise people's desire for a sense of stability, security and community, while also offering policy solutions in the form of better health and social care.



## How Do We Create An Economy That Works For All

At a UK Youth event I highlighted how many of my young constituents are worried about the impact that Brexit will have on the economy, and the need to protect jobs. I also argued that the next Labour government can re-unite our country, by investing in the areas beyond the big cities and doing more to support those who don't go to university.

# Party Conference



## Prospect Labour Researchers Reception

At the Labour Researcher's Reception I thanked all MP's staff for their important work in a challenging climate, and spoke about how our divided society can only be healed by a whole nation Labour Party that looks to represent all communities across Britain.



## A Nation Divided: Building A United Kingdom

I was delighted to speak at the launch of the Young Fabians' excellent Nation Divided pamphlet which suggests ways in which we can re-unite our divided society. I noted the similarities between many of these policy suggestions and those ideas in my new 'Spirit of Britain, Purpose of Labour' book.



## A Final Brexit Deal: Which Way Will Labour Vote

I sat on a New Statesman panel with Ben Bradshaw MP, Caroline Flint MP and Professor Anand Menon where we discussed how the deadlock created by the Conservatives mismanagement of Brexit leaves Labour with an opportunity to back an EEA Brexit which will protect livelihoods, respect the referendum result and begin to unite our deeply divided country. <https://bit.ly/2PzdRMp>



## What Should Be Labour's Next Move On Brexit?

at an IPPR panel event I argued that the role of politicians must now be to reunite the country. Again, I stressed that an EEA-based Brexit – which offers opportunity to reform the rules around EU migration – would be the best way to do this.



## How Can Labour Win The Next Election

At a Labour Future panel I spoke about my new book *Spirit of Britain, Purpose of Labour* and how the Labour Party must take on responsibility for bridging our country's divides between young and old, graduate and non-graduate, and town and city. I stressed that we must do more to reflect 'Communitarian' values – community cohesion, stability, and playing by the rules – if we are to be a 'whole nation' party that is truly for the many. <https://bit.ly/2IYR4al>



## Labour Business Reception

I also spoke alongside John McDonnell and other MPs at an event about what Labour can offer small businesses. I endorsed some of the bold ideas that the party are putting forward, including the National Investment Bank.

# Stephen's Next Surgery

**Stephen Kinnock**  
**Member of Parliament**  
for Aberavon

## Coffee Morning

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November

9.30-11.30am

## Baglan Library

Laurel Avenue, Baglan  
SA12 8PA

## Advice Surgery

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November

4.00-5.00pm

## Bryn Community Centre

Maesteg Road, Bryn  
SA13 2RY

# Contact Stephen

My office is open Monday - Thursday between 10am and 1pm for a drop-in advice surgery with a caseworker.

Outside of these times you can call to make an appointment.

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StephenKinnock



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As your MP, I'd like to stay in touch and hear your views.

You can visit my website to sign up to my mailing list:

**[www.stephenkinnock.co.uk](http://www.stephenkinnock.co.uk)**

I send out a monthly newsletter and may also contact you to ask for your opinion on issues that may be important to you.

