

REMAIN!

Campaigning for Britain to remain

within the European Union

Help us turn the tide!



Despite what we are being told, Brexit is not a done deal. Article 50 can be revoked. We, the people, must become more vocal in our opposition to what would be a catastrophe for the country we love.

With each day, our divided government descends further into chaos and embarrassment. We are turning ourselves into the laughing stock of Europe and the world.

A new CBI survey indicates that with inflation rising, UK sales are falling at their fastest rate since the recession in 2009. We are pulling the plug on the British economy without having anything to replace it. Did those who voted Leave vote for food and petrol to become more expensive? Did they vote to lose their jobs?



Join us at these events

Remember, remember! **Pulse of Europe on Sunday, 5 November, 2 PM at Bath Abbey Churchyard.** Gather for speeches and a march through Bath. Tea and cake at the Friends Meeting House after.

Brexit: What the Hell Happens Now? Wednesday 15 November, 19:30 - 21:00 Church of St. Michael with St. Paul, Broad Street, Bath, BA1 5LJ. Ian Dunt, editor of politics.co.uk, will discuss his book *Brexit: What the Hell Happens Now?* and the current state of Brexit negotiations. He will be in conversation with author and journalist Celia Brayfield, Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at Bath Spa University.

Tickets are only £5.90.

Book yours on www.eventbrite.co.uk: search 'Ian Dunt'. Copies of Ian's book are available to purchase in-store and at the event courtesy of Mr. B's Emporium of Reading Delights.

Festive Flag Day and Carols, Sunday

3 December. A Pulse of Europe with a difference! Blanket Bath with Union Jacks and EU flags; gather to sing carols. Details soon on bathforeurope.com.



We've stepped up our outreach activities. Come out on **Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8:15 - 9:00 to leaflet commuters. Help out at our Pop-Up Street Stall in the city centre on Saturdays 12-2pm. Stock up on our popular EU-themed merchandise.** We'll also be leafleting at events around Bath. For more details on all these ways to get involved and more, check our Facebook pages or email bathforeurope@gmail.com. And sign up for our e-newsletter at <https://bathforeurope.com/join-us/>.

Article 50 - a Done Deal?

Amendments to the EU Withdrawal Bill tabled by Conservative MPs Dominic Grieve and Anna Soubry, requiring approval by Parliament for any Brexit deal, prompt the question: Does having triggered Article 50 already bind us to leaving the EU?

The answer is no! Article 50 is a non-binding notice of intent to leave the EU only. Determining on the legal challenge of Gina Miller and others, the Supreme Court ruled that the EU Referendum Act had done no more than allow the government to hold an advisory referendum. It did not provide a legal mandate to leave the EU.

The Grieve/Soubry amendments, if incorporated in the final Bill, would require that the prime minister cannot unilaterally take us out of the EU without the authority of Parliament.

Chris Grayling, interviewed recently by Andrew Marr, claimed that Parliament had "already voted for leaving the European Union". The reality is that Parliament has not done so; they have not yet been given the opportunity.

Given that opportunity, free of constraint by party whips, Parliament can instruct the prime minister of the day to inform the EU we will not be leaving.

Abstracted from 'Yes, we've thrown the wedding ring at the EU. But divorce isn't inevitable.' Helen Mountfield, The Guardian, 19 Oct 2017.

Voted Leave, but now want to Remain?

Feel your questions are not being answered? If so, we would love to hear your story. Contact Bath for Europe to share it in confidence. Your story could inspire others to reconsider.



From the business community – Do the maths!

The business community has been largely silent since Article 50 was triggered. They don't want to upset half their customers.

Recently, though, the usually factious CBI, Institute of Directors, Chambers of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses and the EEF wrote a joint letter to Government urging a transition deal before the end of the year so that struggling business won't move their operations to the EU. A Bath-based businessman has been prepared to explain why.

"I work for a multinational company, selling its wares all around the world. It employs 13,000 people, most in the UK. We trade freely with Europe with shared standards. Business has been good, growing steadily, resulting in job security and a positive outlook. But, working with well-respected consultancies, our estimate of the impact of Brexit is £12m per year.

"Why? Because trade won't be free outside the EU. We buy 90% of our goods outside the EU. Imagine our average cost to buy is £15. We pay the import charges that the EU has negotiated via the WTO of about 8% (£1.20), meaning the item now costs £16.20. We cover our internal costs, add some profit and sell to a wholesaler in the EU for £40, giving us a 10% net profit of £4. Once we leave the EU and fall under WTO rules, everything changes. We will have to pay an import charge of 8%-15% depending on the product. But this charge is on the £40 export cost; which is £3.20-£6.00. The original £4 profit has disappeared.

"There are extra administration charges for each trade once the UK is outside the EU. Every consignment will require a declaration, possible inspection, authorisation and extra time at borders to allow this to take place – further killing the profit. Since the referendum, the primary financial impact has been the weakening of the pound, resulting in 10-15% higher buying costs.

"Of course, smart companies aren't going to sit around, lose profits and see their efforts wither on the whim of a referendum driven by political opportunism and bad timing.

These costs can be offset by moving the business into Europe, probably Germany. We can buy from the same places and import direct to the EU through Germany. Great, all sorted, right? Yes – at the expense of jobs in the UK.

Of course, smart companies aren't going to sit around, lose profits and see their efforts wither on the whim of a referendum driven by egos..."

"Businesses are making decisions now that will affect their profitability in 2-5 years' time; they won't hang around forever. Business will take their activities to the EU because many of their jobs will no longer be necessary in the UK. Tax payments will decrease, Government revenue will reduce, leaving less money, not more, for welfare and the NHS."

So might we hope that the UK Government will heed this message and announce an early transition deal to secure UK jobs? Unfortunately, not. It has been made clear they will not agree transition arrangements until all is agreed on the long-term deal. By then it will be too late; many of our businesses will have upped and left.

This is why we must all fight Brexit now.

Join the resistance!

Bath for Europe is campaigning to save our country from the damage of a Brexit that only half of us voted for. It is non-party political and gives a voice to everyone who wants to remain in Europe.

Brexit risks destroying everything that has made Britain great. No-one voted to be poorer, more divided or politically sidelined.

The EU has said that Article 50 can be revoked. There is still everything to fight for.

It is far from being a done deal. One and a half unpredictable years lie ahead so there is still a huge need for us all to play our part to prevent this suicide and minimise any self-inflicted damage.

Please join us and make your voice heard.

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twitter.com/BathforEurope
www.bathforeurope.com
bathforeurope@gmail.com

All photos
by Clive Dellard