



CHANGING THE FABRIC OF BRITAIN A FUTURE FREE-FOR-ALL THE MANIFESTO OF THE FANCY DRESS PARTY 2010

It is said that politicians are like nappies – they should be changed regularly and for the same reason. If you listen to them all you can draw your own confusions. So, with the major party leaders going round the country stirring up apathy, there has never been a better time to vote for a real alternative. We, in the FDP, think that generally speaking policies are quite a good idea. So, let us be absolutely clear that the FDP will go forward to reverse perverse policies, not back to front-up backward plans or back out of going forward to back-up sideways moves that would put the recovery at risk. 'A Future Fair for All' cries Labour. Well, we'll go one better than that and offer a future circus for all as well.

Law and Order

Crime, especially violent crime, continues to grab the headlines. Binge drinking is of growing concern, particularly as it costs so much these days. Our spokesman on Crime and Punishment can say with real conviction (or perhaps even two or three) that our prisons are bursting at the seams with offenders often banged up for the most trivial of crimes. We intend to create a new Government cell to address this issue of overcrowding. The FDP will:

- Conduct a giant séance to contact all deceased policemen so that we can maintain a uniformed presence on the streets.
- Allow officers to cut their paperwork by introducing make your own doily classes.
- Equip all Police Stations with state of the art lavatories so that, whatever the crime, the police will always have something to go on.
- Double police numbers; in future, PC49 will be known as PC98.
- Reform the Police and send them on a world tour; preferably with no UK dates.
- Increase prison sentences to at least twenty words.
- Introduce ID cards, which will be available from Clintons to be sent on a newly created ID Day. Voters need have no fear of this measure creating a Big Brother society, although immediately after its introduction we will set a weekly food budget and you may be required to come to the Diary Room.
- Reduce the overuse of the stop and search facility. Recent figures have revealed that the number of searches has risen to more than 1.5 million and that a Briton is now stopped every 20 seconds. Needless to say, he's getting pretty fed up with it.
- Combat habitual falsification and persistent harassment of members of the general public by requiring politicians to carry a National Nonentity Card.

If by some quirk of fate crime figures should actually go down, we will unashamedly boast that this is as a direct consequence of our policies. If, on the other hand, they should go up, we will simply adopt the standard practice of arguing that this is as a result of new ways of recording the figures.

Education

We continue to place education at the very top of our agenda, just below law and order. Past international studies have shown that our ten year-olds are the third highest achievers in the world in numeracy, not far behind fifth placed Albania and seventeenth placed El Salvador. Where the Dickens we are on classic literature we haven't a clue, but do not intend to rest on our laurels or Hardy's. For our education system to be effective, though, it is essential that schools have the right spirit. Accordingly, in our first term we will replace all school Bells, in our

second term we will provide more Teachers and in our third we'll drink the lot. Even bigger measures will follow. The FDP will:

- Add spelling to the national kricklum.
- Put an end to the dumbing-down of exams by replacing A-levels with jolly hard colouring tests.
- Rapidly build new schools using revolutionary inflatable classrooms. This should make it far easier for delinquent pupils to let down the entire school.
- Have all children reading by 7 and in bed by half past.
- Reduce class sizes to 3'x2'6".
- Further reduce classroom overcrowding by introducing a new scheme called 'truancy'.
- Give all schools compulsory new targets, although if there aren't enough of these to go round, apples placed on heads of specky four-eyed first formers should provide a viable alternative.
- Put an end to secondary school classes of over 40 by only accepting children under 39 years of age.

Recent figures have revealed that over a fifth of students fail to finish their degrees. Former polytechnics at the forefront of a Government drive to expand higher education are losing up to 45% of their undergraduates each year. We believe that to lose one student may be considered a misfortune; to lose 45% looks like downright carelessness. The FDP will:

- Expand the student population by putting high-pressure hoses up their bottoms.
- Double the number of pupils going on to higher education by 2015, although most will have cleared off to the pub by half past.
- Abolish student top-up fees; students should be entitled to full pints the same as everyone else.

Health and Diet

We, in the FDP, believe that food is a reasonably important part of a balanced diet, just below a damn good drink. Further, we recognise the effect of our children's diet on learning and behaviour and the poor standard of school dinners, as was highlighted a few years ago by TV chef Jamie Oliver. Building on the Oliver initiative, the FDP will ensure that every schoolchild is served food, glorious food, hot sausage and mustard and while they're in the mood cold jelly and custard. We'll then introduce an indigestion charge.

Cleaning Up Politics

We would never claim excessive expenses or redact or sex-up any document to mislead the public although [redacted] see [redacted] through [redacted] under [redacted] wear [redacted] abreast [redacted] flipping [redacted] second [redacted] home [redacted] moat [redacted] duck [redacted] house [redacted]. Indeed, any MPs caught fiddling on their expenses will have their violin confiscated. Furthermore, instead of awarding peerages to MPs who lose their seats we intend to present ousted Parliamentarians with garden ornaments such as frogs in repose as a reminder of their days as lying toadies.

Europe

The Government reneged on their promise of a referendum and ratified the Lisbon Treaty. Nevertheless, the FDP will continue to support a reformed Europe as we think that 'The Final Countdown' was a wonderfully cheesy tune. We will also reduce EU over regulation. Our objective is to be reflective to determine what is defective and to introduce an effective directive for selective corrective action. This we will regulate, setting exacting targets for reducing the number of regulations and targets.

Defence

We will ensure that before embarking on any future military campaign, full consideration is given to planning for the aftermath of war. Without such planning, there is a real prospect of creating a huge power vacuum, although one by-product is that this could be deployed, possibly in as little as 45 minutes, to Hoover up the mess. For the foreseeable future, though, there will be no more overseas engagements and marriage is right out.

Unemployment

Recent figures have revealed that unemployment has risen to a 16 year high of around 2.5 million. We believe that such a high rate of unemployment is largely due to the number of people out of work. We would reduce the size of unemployment figures by using smaller print.

Equal Opportunities

We remain fully committed to equal opportunities and to stamping out any kind of discrimination on grounds of race, sex, age or physical disability. Indeed, within three weeks of taking office we will appoint an Equal Opportunities Minister. Interested individuals should respond to the following advertisement:

Equal Opportunities Minister required. Must be female, 18-25, Caucasian, bubbly, attractive and buxom. May be required to wear swimsuits and to trampoline.

Electoral Reform

The FDP's Electoral reform spokesman, Gerry Mander, utterly refutes claims that Britain now has an electoral system that would grace a banana republic and rejects past proposals of overseas monitors from some dodgy despotic state. In fact, we wholehearted support the expansion of postal voting, which helps to increase interest and turnout. Indeed, so successful have we been in encouraging our supporters to take advantage of postal voting that in certain areas of the constituency we can reasonably expect twice as many votes to be cast for the FDP as the number of people who actually live there.

Taxation

The FDP firmly believes that the current system of taxation is inherently unfair on those in the lower income bracket. Nowhere is this more keenly felt than in the level of duty on alcohol. We advocate a system based on ability to pay. Under our proposals, higher duty would be charged to toff's tipples, such as Pimms, vintage claret and Dom Perignon, while much smaller amounts will be levied on the humble pint. For the more regular drinker, a system of tax credits will be introduced. If, though, you don't drink, smoke or drive a car, you will be prosecuted for tax evasion.

Transport

The FDP will:

- Seek Public Private Partnerships to improve traffic management starting with a scheme to relieve congestion in conjunction with Vicks Sinex.
- Speed up road repair by introducing new pneumatic drills in a groundbreaking move.
- Provide all pensioners with free off-peak bus travel, so long as they are accompanied by their grandparents.
- Back our commitment to making cycling more attractive by banning the obese from wearing cycle shorts.

Green Issues

The FDP will:

- Reduce Britain's carbon footprint by introducing solar powered sun-beds.