

NEWSLETTER

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January 2009

RETIRAL OF TOM HAY as FAL CHAIRMAN

“Justice does not march towards you and meekly surrender

It has to be fought for every inch of the way.”

Tom Hay, FAL's Chairman since it was established 13 years ago retired at the Board meeting on 5 December.

Sandy Patience who has been Vice Chairman for the last 2 years was appointed Chairman with Leslie Girvan, Vice Chairman of the Northern Ireland Fish Producers Organisation, the 2nd largest PO in the UK, being appointed Vice Chairman.

In announcing his retirement Tom said:

“It is with no little sadness that I have stood down as Chairman, and retired as a Director, yet it is in the sound knowledge that FAL's future in these difficult times is in the hands of two extremely well respected and very capable Directors.

With Sandy at the helm and Leslie as his next in command the Association will be well able to continue the attack on the real origins of the terrible disaster which has befallen our fishermen, i.e. the surrender of our fishing grounds, our fishing rights and our fish stocks to an unelected foreign power in Brussels. Until the true source of this intractable problem is removed forever, there is no future whatever for our fishermen,



Tom Hay

The last 12 years have seen many highs and lows but throughout these demanding times I have always been encouraged by the determination of the Board to support the principles on which FAL was established despite the virulent criticism and inconceivable adversity we have had to face.”

FAL stands for FACTS AGAINST LIES

FAL has been engaged in a long and bitter struggle for the truth. This was the issue that brought about the establishment through proper democratic channels, of this Association.

The truth was being deliberately withheld from British fishermen. That will never be forgotten.

Our cause has been just, the liberation of our fishermen from the domination of “Brussels” and released into the wonderful freedom of being once again Masters on their own seas. FAL has demanded justice for our fishermen, and will continue to do so, until we get it, but as I said many years ago at a meeting we attended in Newcastle University --- Justice does not march towards you and meekly surrender; it has to be fought for every inch of the way.

It has been a tremendous privilege to represent an organisation that can hold its head high in the so called “corridors of power”, and having the flag of truth constantly unfurled at the mast head.

My best wishes go to you all and your co Directors and members and all who helped FAL to achieve a station of honour in the annals of history, which shall never be removed.”

West coast fisheries saved from closure

From Scottish Government website 19 December 2008

Although the deal will be tough to implement for some vessels, overall it follows a series of achievements for Scotland over recent weeks. Importantly, for Scotland's top five commercial stocks, fishermen will be able to catch more than or the same as last year.

Coastal communities had been facing a bleak future due to European Commission proposals that would effectively have closed down west coast fisheries, including the sustainable prawn sector - Scotland's biggest and most valuable stock.



Fisheries Secretary Richard Lochhead said:

"The future of the west coast fishing communities dominated this week's negotiations and there will be huge relief that proposals to close the grounds have been successfully resisted.

"The bulk of the west coast fleet will now be able to make a living in 2009 although a number of fishermen face a huge challenge in delivering the agreed conservation measures and we will work hard to help them stay viable.

"The deal draws to a close the annual fisheries negotiations that have resulted in a number of breakthroughs but also some new challenges.

"We refused to accept the original deal on the table and, following a herculean effort and very tough negotiations, we overturned the Commission's original plans.

"As always the final deal represents a mixed bag and there are still some tough times ahead as the fleet adapts to these new measures but overall we have stood up for Scotland and our fishing communities."

The key parts of the deal reached today at the December Fisheries Council are:

- replacing the Commission's proposed closures with conservation measures developed in Scotland such as real-time closures and square mesh panels; this will safeguard cod, haddock and whiting stocks while allowing sustainable fisheries such as prawns and monkfish to continue
- the £100 million prawn fleet will be able to catch the same as last year
- an eight per cent increase for west coast monkfish
- a five per cent increase for west coast megrim

This deal comes on the heels of other recent results for Scotland achieved during this year's annual round of negotiations:

- a 33 per cent quota increase for the £70 million mackerel fleet
- a 30 per cent quota increase for the £14 million North Sea cod fleet
- the haddock fleet will be able to catch the same as last year
- a ban on the dumping of marketable North Sea cod

the adoption elsewhere in Europe of conservation measures pioneered in Scotland - such as conservation credits and real-time closures

Mr Lochhead added:

"Fishing is part of the social and economic fabric of Scotland. That's why this year we have invested a monumental amount of time and effort in the annual round of European talks to deliver the best possible deal for the industry and the communities they support.

"We have worked in partnership with the industry - this week they have been alongside us in large numbers - and together Team Scotland has secured a package of measures which are blazing a trail in Europe.

"In the current economic climate, a secure future for this vital industry has never been more important."

West coast fishing is worth around £85 million, with prawns by far the biggest and most valuable sector with 275 boats and a value of £45 million (the prawn sector across Scotland as a whole is worth around £100 million).

Initial proposals tabled by the European Commission were aimed at protecting vulnerable whitefish stocks on the west coast but would have effectively closed all fisheries, including the prawn sector. Such a blunt measure would have been wholly unfair as it would have severely hit the prawn fleet which, as the science shows, is already fishing stocks sustainably.

Communities along the west coast are heavily reliant on the fishing industry and prawns in particular. Support infrastructure such as haulage companies, ice manufacturers and processors would all have been hit by the Commission's plans. The companies involved in processing the prawns support around 500 jobs alone.

Scotland has pioneered sustainable fishing in Europe during 2008 and put forward more sophisticated measures for protecting west coast whitefish stocks which would not unfairly penalise the prawn fleet.

These included the use of different fishing nets which let more fish escape and real-time closures which shut parts of the sea when fish are in abundance.

Scotland's top five commercial stocks and fishing opportunities for 2009 are as follows:

- Prawns - £100 million - same as last year
- Mackerel - £80 million - 33 per cent increase
- North Sea haddock - £31.7 million - same as last year
- Monkfish - £25 million - 8 per cent increase on the west coast and the same as last year for the North Sea
- North Sea Cod - £13.6 million - 30 per cent increase

FALS Response to Fisheries Secretary

There is no doubt that you, the UK fisheries Minister and your respective officials were involved in extremely difficult and strenuous negotiations both during and leading up to the December Council. Like other fishing organisations FAL recognises and appreciates this but nevertheless the outcome especially for those vessels fishing off the west of Scotland is hugely disappointing.

You may well have seen Fishing News of 26 December/2 January and the Article entitled "Big disappointment for Orkney fleet". That sums up succinctly the views of FAL as regards not only the west coast agreement but also the impact on members operations of the North Sea arrangements. I attach a copy of that Article for ease of reference.

"Challenging" is a word that's been used to describe the measures that will be introduced to meet the terms of the agreement. A more accurate word is "demanding" as that is what the Commission continues to do – demand more and more until there are no Scottish vessels left because whatever we do to appease them will never be enough. They will use the conservation argument to justify their actions to reduce the size of the fleets of member states to secure their goal of a single EU fleet with in our opinion the greatest target continuing to be the Scottish fleet.

Sandy Patience met you briefly after the UK stakeholder meeting on 19 December and apprised you of his immediate concerns about the Agreement – the west closure was staved off but at what cost -- unworkable measures and little increase in stocks which are healthy to workable levels.

Big disappointment for Orkney fleet

From Fishing News 2 January

THE RESULTS of the December Fisheries Council were a big disappointment for the Orkney trawler fleet, reports Craig Taylor.

The agreement on the west coast will be at a heavy cost to Orkney vessels that fish in the area, said Orkney Fisheries Association secretary Alan Coghill.

He said the measures would make fishing in the area "unnecessarily difficult".

"The fleet had offered to introduce the raft of measures including mesh-size increases which have been successful in the North Sea in restoring the cod stock and this would have included a haddock management plan and the use of observers on board to improve scientific knowledge.

"These measures have been introduced, but the commission with the agreement of the UK government has embellished the proposal with further measures which are impractical and unnecessary.

"These include 120mm square-mesh panels which will allow the escape of more marketable fish - the 120mm mesh nets already provide for minimal discards and allow smaller-size marketable fish to escape - and a restriction on catches, which means that a catch composition of 30% cod, haddock and whiting is introduced."

Mr Coghill added: "This latter will at best severely restrict normal operations, given that relatively clean catches of haddock are a feature of some parts of the area.

The clandestine system of consultation on these issues was also a cause for concern and belies the normal claims of transparency.

"Combined with these problems on the west coast, the Orkney fleet faces a loss of quota opportunities in North Sea haddock, whiting and saithe which basically balance the much lauded cod increase.

"While we welcome the breakthrough in cod, the loss in species which are the main catches of Orkney vessels will provide an economic problem. Especially as there is also a need to meet the 25% mortality cuts in cod by effort restraints or days at sea and the new requirement to avoid high grading or discarding of marketable fish agreed with Norway the week before the most recent talks.

"All in all, 2009 is likely to provide really challenging times for our fleet."

SAFEGUARDING OUR Fishing Rights

Scottish Quota Management and Licensing System

Some 350 fishermen and stakeholders attended 25 meetings around Scotland. The Scottish Government state that "there has been strong support for their proposals and aspirations to put in place arrangements which are in the interests of Scotland". There will be a further round of consultation on the detailed management measures. An interim report is expected shortly. A report summarising the views received to the consultation is available online at

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/Recent>

In the first quarter of 2009 a Scottish licensing system will be established. The 2006 Licence Review Working Group recommendations will be implemented in full and a Scottish licence review group established.

Work will commence on reforming Producer Organisations along with an initiative to attract new entrants to the industry

EXTRACT FROM VIEWS RECEIVED TO CONSULTATION ON “SAFEGUARDING OUR FISHING RIGHTS

Chapter 5 - The Licensing System

Question 10: Do you agree with our proposals to identify Scottish vessels as part of establishing arrangements tailored to Scotland's requirements?

Summary of views received:

In general, the establishing of a Scottish Licensing System was supported with its creation viewed as central to the package of measures put forward. Though most supported, the proposals on recognising Scottish vessels did receive some opposition with some questioning the actual conditions of recognition. Concern tended to centre on the issue of PO membership in Scotland, It was suggested that commercial reasons were often behind the choice to belong to one PO over another and that the option to be part of a PO elsewhere in the UK should remain open.

- Would vessels registered and administered in Scotland be required to join a Scottish PO?
- What of vessels registered and administered outside of Scotland but resident in a Scottish PO: could some solution be found for them to continue in their current PO membership?
- In the future would a vessel administered and registered in the rest of the UK be able to join a Scottish PO?

Concerns were also raised about the possible negative impact on the ability to sell Scottish vessels to other parts of the UK. There were some fears that identifying all Scottish vessels could reduce the benefits of an open and permeable market.

Question 11: Do you agree that we should establish a Scottish economic link requirement to ensure a beneficial connection to Scotland's fisheries dependant populations and associated industries?

Summary of views received :

Proposals on economic link arrangements were the subject of lively debate though broadly supported.

On the first proposition: Scottish vessels having to land a percentage of their catch into Scottish ports, advocates saw this as a way of maintaining the economic benefit of fishing for the nation and helping to ensure secondary fishing jobs remained in Scotland's fishing dependent communities. Questions were asked though about the perceived negative business impact. The chief concern here was that vessel owners could be placed at a disadvantage by having to satisfy economic link criteria at the expense of market price- either in respect of landings or the price obtained for their FQAs. Questions of validity also arose given that most Scottish vessels are already dependent on Scottish markets.

To some extent or another the vast majority supported the general principle of delivering an economic benefit back to Scotland. There was some concern over its application in relation to having a potential devaluing effect on licences by some groups, but interestingly other groups with a significant crossover in membership were strongly in favour.

Supporters of attaching economic link criteria to Scottish FQA units saw this as a way of retaining at least some benefit of FQA units if they left fishing communities on a permanent basis. In broad terms the split arose between those who appear to be purely market focussed and those who were concerned with maintaining a link between business and community. It was notable for example that notwithstanding the split of opinion within the fishing industry, Local Authorities and community representatives, and onshore interests dependent on access to landings in Scotland, were entirely supportive of the proposal.

Question 12: Do you have any other views on our proposals for a Scottish licensing system?

Summary of views received:

There was near universal support for the intention to create management arrangements that maintained proper controls that were light touch, effective and business friendly.

A majority of those who responded on establishing a Scottish Licence Review Body did so positively and there was near universal support for the introduction of the recommendations made by the UK joint government/industry Licence Review Working Group (LRWG) with repeated comments that this was overdue.

Stakeholders were almost of one voice in supporting any arrangements to simplify licensing arrangements which were seen as having grown excessively complicated over time. There was also support for considering the continuing role of capacity penalties.

SCOTTISH SHIP CHANDLERS ASSOCIATION

RETIRAL OF BILL WOOD EURONETE

At the 53rd Annual meeting of the SSCA in December, Bill Wood, Managing Director of Euronete Aberdeen and a former chairman of the SSCA announced his retirement.

David Paterson of Alexander Paterson Macduff, presented him with a barometer on behalf of all the members.



The Association which is in its 53rd year, represents 14 member firms from Shetland to East Lothian, supplying Chandlery items and netting to the Scottish fishing industry. Members directly employ some 200 people.

The Chairman (on the extreme left of the photo) is James Buchan JSB Supplies, Port Seton, East Lothian. He is a Director of FAL.

Retiral of Chris Venmore as Hon secretary South Devon & Channel Shellfishermen

Stepping down but still fighting

Extract from Fishing News 9 January 2009

Chris Venmore, a Director of FAL, has been honorary Secretary of the South Devon and Channel Shellfishermen for almost 20 years. Although stepping down as Secretary he will still remain a member of his Association and a FAL Director but wants more time to catch lobsters and bass from his beach boat at Torcross. He will spend forthcoming winters with his son and family in New Zealand another factor underpinning his decision.



Chris has been a staunch supporter of FAL and the Save Britain's Fish Campaign since their respective formation. During that time he has pulled no punches in his condemnation of the former Prime Minister Edward Heath

“ It was Edward Heath who started the betrayal (of the industry) in 1972 when in spite of advice he was given he signed up to the equal access principle of the CFP. He ignored strong advice from fishermen saying that his moves would destroy our industry. He simply gave our fish and shellfish away.

Without exception every Government since then and every fisheries Minister has continued this betrayal yet all of them have been made aware of what is happening.

The British fishing industry has been totally and utterly betrayed by its politicians. When one considers that we have probably the finest fishing grounds in the world, our fleet is but a rump of what it should be and what was once a fine and proud industry.”

We have to take back national control of fishing.

FOUNDATIONS LAID FOR SUCCESS

RICHARD LOCHHEAD'S ARTICLE IN *Fishing News* 16/01/09

Response by Sandy Patience FAL's Chairman

What a contrast of opinions in last week's edition of the FN. In the Comments column entitled "A Necessary Evil", some very good points are raised viz:

"How much more does the fleet have to shrink before the fishery managers, scientists, environmentalists are satisfied;" and "Where does it end."

FAL's answer - It will never end until we get out of the Common Fisheries Policy and bring back national control of fisheries.

On the same page we read how the West Coast needs a scrapping scheme.

In stark contrast Mr Lochhead's article tells how the fishing deal struck at the December Council will deliver economic benefits for the whole of Scotland thus preventing huge economic dislocation on the West Coast and of how the trail-blazing conservation schemes are being adopted by other countries.

FAL would like the Minister to take off his rose-tinted spectacles and get a reality check. If foundations are being laid for success, why then are boat owners asking once more for a decommissioning scheme?

Why?

They are fearful under the New Cod Recovery Plan that they will have insufficient days to make their businesses viable and in some cases in the West Coast, where quotas are already at an unworkable level and over regulated, they will be faced with non-sustainability.

FAL opposed the adoption of the New Cod Recovery Plan as it has nothing whatsoever to do with conservation of cod. It has however everything to do with the further decimation of the fleet. The science **has** to be queried as there are indeed boundaries to which one can call micromanagement and what it can achieve without putting part of the fleet economically unviable.

Detrimental statements have already been made by leading lights in the fishing industry of "..... that those who created the problem in the first place suffer the consequences".

Surely having being in the business for so long they ought to know that this serves no purpose.

Enough will never be enough for the Commission. The bar is continually being raised to an insurmountable level. With the passing of each year the bar will be unable to be crossed.

A J Patience Chairman, FAL

Seafish Events



FISHING 2009 - 14/05/2009

SECC, Glasgow, Scotland
14 to 16 May 2009
For further information, contact:
Karl Coppack
Event Sales Manager
Fishing News Events
T: +44 (0)20 7017 50425
E: karl.koppack@intrafish.com
W: www.fishingexpo.co.uk

The Seafood Awards 2009 - 21/05/2009

Marriott Grosvenor Square, London
21 May 2009

This is the third time the Seafish initiative has run and it's designed to encourage enterprise and innovation throughout the seafood industry. Whether you are a processor, retailer, frier, fisherman, restaurateur, fishmonger or any other member of the industry, there is an award category to represent you.

To get involved in one of the most high profile events in your industry's calendar or for further information, contact:

Emma Doran
T: 01322 611249
E: emma.doran@nexusmedia.com

Chunky Seafish Chowder

From the Seafish Industry Recipe Bank

Ingredients

455g (1lb) coley, pollack or ling fillets, skinned and cubed
1 x 15ml spoon (1 tablespoon) oil
1 large onion, chopped
340g (12oz) potatoes, peeled and roughly chopped
4 sticks celery, chopped
4 rashers smoked back bacon, chopped
2 x 400g can chopped tomatoes with herbs
425ml (15fl oz) fish or chicken stock
2 x 15ml spoon (2 tablespoons) tomato purée
salt and black pepper
1 green pepper, deseeded and roughly chopped
parsley to garnish

Serves 6

Method

Heat the oil in a large pan; add the onion, potatoes, celery and bacon, cook for 5 minutes. Add the tomatoes and stock, bring to the boil; reduce the heat and cook for 12 minutes until the potatoes are tender. Add the tomato purée, seasoning, green pepper and fish. Return to simmering point and cook for 7 minutes.



Fishermen and restaurateur show Inverness Royal Academy scholars how it's done

PUPILS at an Inverness school were taught how to create a gourmet meal from fresh fish and shellfish by fisherman and a city restaurateur In November



Dozens of health and food technology pupils at Inverness Royal Academy watched as lobster, smoked salmon, crab, mussels and langoustines were prepared by Cafe 1 owner and former pupil Norman MacDonald.

Also taking part in the day were representatives from Fish Industry Training Association who had donated the fish and shellfish along with Mallaig and North-west Fishermen's Association (MNWFA)

The course had the personal endorsement of Rural Affairs and Environment Secretary Richard Lochhead.

MNWFA secretary John Hermse, who is also Chairman of FITA, said they were delighted to help with the training day which also included a talk on the fishing industry.

He added: "Many people don't realise the work and danger involved in getting the fish and shellfish on to the table. Many of them might also be uncertain about using fish and shellfish because they might think they won't enjoy the taste.

"But every time we do something like this, without fail, most of the people involved are pleasantly surprised at how good the final product is and they keep coming back for more."

Principal teacher of home economics Alison Macdonald said pupils were given information on how the fish and shellfish were caught and handled before it reached the restaurant.

She added: "We have had Norman in the school before, with one of his chefs and he is excellent at getting across the practical skills required, and how the food must be handled to observe health, safety and hygiene rules, and he does it while keeping the youngsters entertained and interested."

The people who make up FITA Ltd.

Lachie Paterson based at Carradale, Argyll is FITA's full time Training Manager mainly responsible for the sea-fish catching, and aquaculture sectors.

Sally Moore based near Inverness is FITA's Development Manager in processing and the food sector.

Roddy McColl - Secretary to FITA Ltd.

Directors

John Hermse - Chairman, Peter Davidson, Robyn Dutton, Robert Gillies, George Hodgson, John MacAlister, Alexander (Sandy) Patience



<http://www.fita.info/>



Scottish Industry /Science Partnership

The Scottish Government Marine Directorate has confirmed that funding will continue for joint industry/science research projects starting from April 2009

Calls for proposals under the scheme close on 6 February 2009.

Ideas are invited for projects which build on the existing valuable cooperation between the Scottish catching sector and fisheries scientists.

Applications are welcome from individuals within the catching sector, fishermen's associations, the relevant Regional Advisory Councils, NGOs and science providers for work which will either cover new research areas or enhance existing themes, allowing them to be completed more quickly or in greater depth than currently planned.

The 6 successful projects funded in 2008 were:

- A brown crab data collection and tagging study;
- The collection of fisheries and biological data on megrim in ICES Sub-area Iva;
- Investigations into the selectivity of North Sea *Nephrops* gear using 100-120mm square mesh panels;
- Assessment of the effect on selectivity of different mesh sizes and positions of square mesh panel for vessels of different sizes;
- An assessment of the selectivity of *Nephrops* gear using square mesh panels on small vessels on North Sea inshore grounds;
- A trial to reduce cod by-catch by modification of a commercial whitefish trawl to incorporate large meshes in the lower wings and belly sheet

As in 2008, ideas associated with the catching sector are invited in relation to the main Scottish fisheries. It is expected that proposals will involve biological or fisheries science but socio-economic work will also be considered. Fisheries conservation measures will continue to be a concern for 2009 and we welcome all ideas which are priorities for your own areas. FRS is keen that ideas are generated by all stakeholders.

The process will be implemented along the same lines as last year and the proposal form and further information on this process can also be found on the FRS website at

www.frs-scotland.gov.uk/sisp.

by email frompartnership@marlab.ac.uk or directly from

Joyce Petrie (FRS Marine Laboratory, PO Box 101, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen

Commission launches mid term review of EU fisheries policy

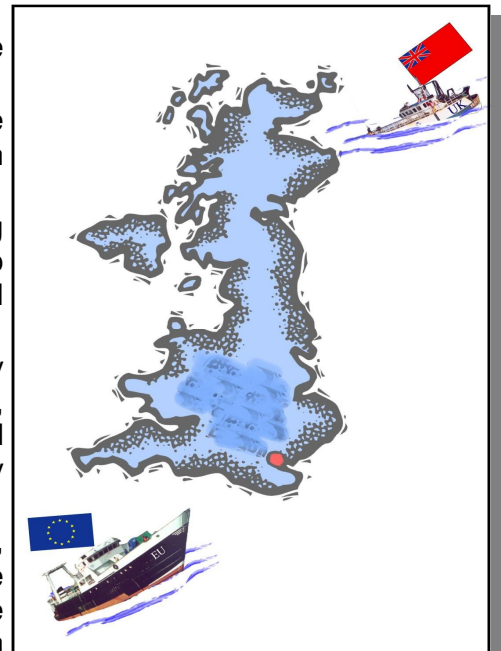
The Commission has launched a full review of the CFP in order to prepare the ground for a major reform of the institutional framework of European fisheries management.

A Green Paper is expected shortly to provide a basis for broad consultation with Member States and stakeholders

Commissioner Borg has commented: "There is no alternative to the Common Fisheries Policy when it comes to managing the mobile international resource that our fishing industry depends on. But, in its current form, the CFP does not encourage responsible behaviour by either fishermen or politicians. The management tools we use reward narrow-minded, short-term decision making, which has now undermined the sustainability of our fisheries. To produce a full diagnosis of what needs to change and determine a plan of action, will take time, and we need to involve all stakeholders fully in that process. That is why I have proposed that we launch a full review of the 2002 Reform as of now."

Continuing obstacles to truly sustainable fishing in EU waters must be tackled, such as:

- the overcapacity in the EU fleet: at present, the fleet is capable of catching between two and three times the maximum sustainable yield;
- fishermen must be made responsible and accountable for the sustainable use of a public resource.
- the goal of ecological sustainability must be placed before economic and social sustainability, since it is the precondition which makes them possible;
- there has to be a clearer hierarchy in the decision-making process between principles and implementation, so as to simplify regulation at EU level and encourage regional management solutions whenever possible;
- the CFP will have to be aligned with the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, which has recently come into force, and which obliges Member States to ensure the good environmental status of the seas under their jurisdiction by 2020;
- Europe needs a joined-up approach to fisheries management, which would include onshore and market dimensions of the industry alongside the capture sector and aquaculture, in line with the EU's new Integrated Maritime Policy and its focus on sustainable growth in coastal regions.



Editor's comment

Lets not pretend that this review will see any major changes in the way in which the EU fisheries policy is operated unless they are to the detriment of the UK industry.

That policy has been and will continue to be a noose around the neck of the industry.

The real CFP is equal access to the common resource and that cannot be reformed

You can rest assured that the current inshore protected area is being looked at enviously by our European partners and that Spain in particular will be marshalling its forces to secure access to areas to which it believes it has a legal right.

Serving Many Masters

Created to end smuggling, as a disciplined coastal force the **Preventive Water Guard** quickly acquired extra duties. In the 1820s officers were instructed to take responsibility at shipwrecks to safeguard cargoes and vessels from looters. In addition boatmen were to train with life saving equipment, supplied by the Board of Ordnance.



In 1816 the Preventive Water Guard had been withdrawn from part of Kent in favour of shore based naval crews. The Admiralty favoured this Coast Blockade as a reserve of trained seamen, and later extended it from the Isle of Sheppey to Seaford, Sussex.

In 1821 a Committee of Enquiry examined every aspect of the Customs service. It recognised the Preventive Water Guard as a major force against smuggling and recommended that it be again controlled by the Board of Customs along with the Riding officers and Revenue cruisers. On 15 January 1822 the Treasury accepted the proposal noting that the new force would be called the Coast Guard. The words Coastguard were linked in the twentieth century.

When, in 1831, it was decided that the Board of Customs Coastguard should replace the Coast Blockade on the whole coast the Admiralty made its own proposal. It won the right to appoint Coastguard officers and to select boatmen from paid off naval crews, so setting the scene for the Coastguard as a naval reserve and recruiting agency.

Within a decade Coastguard vigilance was praised for greatly reducing smuggling, though lower taxes helped end illegal trade. The Admiralty was already re-styling the Coastguard with naval style uniform and drill, and training on large guns for coast defence. The Coastguard continued to take charge at wrecks and to save lives. The Board of Trade issued life saving apparatus to Coastguard stations, thus fulfilling its responsibility for safety at sea imposed by the 1854 Merchant Shipping Act.

The role of naval reserve and coast defence force was sealed when the Coast Guard Act (1856) passed control from the Board of Customs to the Admiralty. Though still available for revenue protection, Coastguards trained to supplement naval crews. By 1900 advancing technology in ships and arms had outmoded this style of naval reserve and the Admiralty proposed reducing the Coastguard. This was opposed by the public, the Board of Customs and the Board of Trade who championed the need for life saving and revenue protection.

An enquiry in 1921 found that the Coastguard had become the eyes and ears of many organisations with coastal interests. For the Admiralty they provided visual signalling and telegraphy, reported fleet movements, rendered mines safe, undertook recruitment, and reported changes in navigation marks to the Hydrographer.

For the Board of Customs and Excise they searched vessels, supervised discharge of cargoes, collected dues from coastal vessels, kept shipping statistics, and patrolled the coast.

For the Board of Trade they assisted ships in distress, acted as Receiver of Wreck, and operated life saving apparatus.

In addition Coastguards: assisted the Post Office and Lloyds with telegraphy and wireless; provided the Fishery Department with statistics; enforced quarantine regulations for Agricultural Departments; made meteorological reports to the Air Ministry; passed distress calls to the RNLI; and reported faulty navigation aids to Trinity House.

How much does the European Union cost Britain? 2008

Gerard Batten MEP

Bruges Group

<http://www.brugesgroup.com/mediacentre/index.live?article=14036>



The price of the combined direct and indirect expenses of EU membership in 2008 costs Britain **£55.775 billion**.

Set out in the latest Bruges Group research by UKIP MEP Gerard Batten, the full financial burden to Britain has now been calculated.

£106,117 Per Minute Scandal

They show a dramatic increase in the costs of the EU - A price Britain cannot afford.

The facts:

- By 2008 Britain will have made total contributions to the European Community (EC) Budget of **£230.4 billion** gross or almost **£68.2 billion** net.
- By the end of the current EC budget period Britain will have made estimated total contributions to the EC Budget of **£315.4 billion** gross and **£101.4 billion** net.
- By 2007 Britain had an accumulated trade deficit with the other EU member states of **£383.7 billion**.
- The Common Agricultural Policy costs Britain at least **£16.8 billion** per annum.
- The Common Fisheries Policy costs Britain at least **£3.275 billion** per annum.
- Over-regulation on business costs Britain at least **£28 billion** per annum.
- In 2008 membership of the European Union costs Britain almost **£65.675 billion** per annum gross or almost **£55.775 billion** per annum net.

FRAUD:

- Due to the EU being riddled with corruption it is likely that the equivalent of Britain's entire net contribution to the EU is going into the pockets of fraudsters.

THE EFFECTS OF FREEING BRITAIN FROM THE EU:

- **A BOOST TO THE ECONOMY.** As EU red tape is holding back the UK economy by **£28 billion, 2% of UK GDP**, it is clear that freeing Britain from EU control will get Britain out of recession and get British people back to work.
- **COST FREE TAX CUTS.** As politicians of the three main parties are struggling to explain how they will deliver the tax cuts that the British economy needs they have failed to realise that this money can be found if we stop paying the EU billions of pounds per year of taxpayers' money. The 2% boost to economic growth created by leaving the EU and slashing its excessive red tape would also increase tax revenue by **£10.73 billion**. Combine that with the direct savings to the exchequer and it will allow for a **6p** in the pound cut in the basic rate of income tax.

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The European
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by

David Brown