

## 'BREXIT'

Many clients have asked for the CWLB opinion, expecting it to be outspoken, informative and perhaps amusing.

I shall say very little, as I fear the whole Referendum situation is an unmitigated disaster.

Cameron has come back from Europe with some garbled 'negotiated agreement' with something to do with 'immigration and fundamental human rights'. In other words:

3/4 of 5/8 of Sweet Fanny Adams

while Osborne and Boris appear to have shot their leadership chances in the foot and Jeremy laps up his new found popularity.

In the 1975 Referendum to stay in Europe under Harold Wilson, Caroline and I voted on the issue of European Trade and European Peace. I remember it very well, Caroline was 18 and this was her first vote. We used this as an excuse to drive over to her home village of Ingoldisthorpe for her to vote, but of course the real reason was to ask Caroline's father's permission. Thank God he was more interested in the size of the fish he had just caught!

Caroline and I have had a blissfully happy 40 years, but in Europe they have never stopped bickering, and we are now looking at the 'legal and economic implications of divorce' ... how sad.

We are now being asked to vote on a subject very few understand, and very few care about, while politicians shirk their responsibility of making a decision.

The OUT campaign have put forward good arguments  
The IN campaign use the fear of 'if it ain't broke, don't fix it'

But put into a nutshell:

IN, whose arguments state that if we leave:

- Possible tariffs on imports and exports
- Loss of access to a single market
- Damage to the City of London
- Drop in foreign investment
- Market worries on uncertainty

OUT:

- Less regulation and more sovereignty
- Savings on EU contributions

Ability to strike a new trade deal  
Skills based migration policy

And please remember, SOVEREIGNTY is nothing to do with the Royal Family, it is actually 'the State (in this case, the UK) being able to govern itself'.

I have actually studied the 'pros' and 'cons' in great detail and can honestly say 'I am still a floating voter' and shall await making a decision until I have attended a debate at the end of April.

Some people are passionately **IN**  
Others passionately **OUT**

Good for them – but if I came out with an opinion I would upset just as many as I would please, and even I will not do this.

I heard John Major (who is strongly IN) speak very eloquently regarding

How the US needed the UK to stay IN so that our 'shoulder to shoulder' relationship would give the US a word in Europe.

Under the present situation it is becoming more and more likely that

Donald Trump and Jeremy Corbyn

will be standing 'shoulder to shoulder' and then the fireworks of complete opposites could fly.

**CWLB**  
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