

2022–23) – which itself was written to correct an error in the report of the History Group’s meeting on ‘The Two Davids: Owen versus Steel’ in issue 115 (summer 2022)!

The letter stated that Simon Hughes MP summed up the debate on the amendment to the defence motion at the Liberal Assembly at Eastbourne in 1986. In fact he spoke in the middle of the debate; it was Michael Meadowcroft MP who summed up for the amendment.

# Letters to the Editor

## Lincoln Liberal Club

I’ve just been to historic Lincoln for the weekend and was saddened to see the local Liberal Club boarded up and derelict (see photo).

Given its state of disrepair, the handsome red brick building dating back to the 1890s, must be under threat of demolition. I just wondered if anyone locally knows the state



of play? Hopefully it can be saved.

*York Membership*

## On This Day ...

Every day the History Group’s website, Facebook page and Twitter feed carry an item of Liberal history news from the past. Below we reprint three. To see them regularly, look at [www.liberalhistory.org.uk](http://www.liberalhistory.org.uk) or [www.facebook.com/LibDemHistoryGroup](https://www.facebook.com/LibDemHistoryGroup) or follow us at: **LibHistoryToday**.

### March

*2 March 1852:* Amidst fears that the Corn Laws may be reintroduced by the newly formed Conservative administration led by Lord Derby, a meeting is held in Manchester to revive the Anti-Corn Law League. The meeting is addressed by Cobden, Bright and Milner-Gibson and £27,700 is raised within half an hour. In the House of Commons Bright repeatedly challenged Disraeli, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to state the government’s policy on protectionism but the Chancellor, fearful of the fragility of the government’s position, refused to oblige.

### April

*3 April 1908:* Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman resigns as Liberal Prime Minister. After signing his resignation letter to King Edward VII, Campbell-Bannerman says to his private secretary Vaughan Nash, ‘That’s the last kick my dear fellow, I don’t mind. I’ve been Prime Minister for longer than I deserve’..

### May

*11 May 1940:* Churchill forms his all-party coalition government. Liberal leader Sir Archibald Sinclair becomes Secretary of State for Air. Other Liberals joining the government include Harcourt Johnstone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Overseas Trade Department), Gwilym Lloyd George (Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade) and Dingle Foot (Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Economic Warfare). Leader of the National Liberals, Sir John Simon, accepts a peerage and becomes Lord Chancellor. Lloyd George declines an invitation to join.