



05.10.12

The Week that was

Economy

In the week that it was conclusively confirmed that Ed Miliband was not strange – or as strange – we found out that Liam Byrne has again upset his pals in the Labour hierarchy by stating that under Labour, middle class pensioners could lose their free bus passes and winter fuel payments. Ed Miliband wasn't having any of it and *apparently* muffled Mr Byrne;

Education

When is a first class degree not a first? we learned on Wednesday that universities are phasing out FIRST class degrees.... no, no, they are not issuing below standard degrees, just changing the allocations i.e. they do not wish to see so many 'A' students....

Welfare

Isn't it surprising to learn that under

Millions of middle-class families receive state services and benefits worth nearly £5,000 more than they pay in taxes.

When Labour came to power in 1997, the families on the middle fifth of the earnings spectrum paid £220 more per year in taxes than they received in cash.

On our blog we have done a quick overview of the challenges of [Universal Credit](#)

Facebook

In a surprising move, under plans to be unveiled later this month, Facebook users will be able to use their Facebook login details to access public services online. This is completely bonkers.... Quite apart from the inherent risks involved, this serves simply to increase the value of social media companies at the expense and risk of the taxpayer and is likely to open the floodgates for cybercriminals... However, if this is what the government is planning, we should all buy shares in Facebook et. al... because the company is about to go up in value.....

The speech maketh the man... According to political pundits, Ed Miliband's speech at the labour party conference now means that he is being taken serious as a potential prime minister.... indeed it seems that a good speech – but no policies - maketh the man.... let's hope he doesn't wake up tomorrow with policies but an awful speech. ☺

Have a great weekend

Floyd