

Political Notebook by George Pascoe-Watson

Premier David Cameron is cruelly dismissive of a Tory backbench revolt being stoked by rival David Davis.

The PM is flying to India to drum up trade.

But grumbling Conservative MPs sign up to a mutiny called the Brokeback Club - in a dreary jibe at Mr Cameron's close friendship with deputy Premier Nick Clegg.

One number 10 figure joked earlier today: "The PM is working with the Indians whilst David Davis is playing with the cowboys."

Team Cameron are "relaxed" about talk of revolt and rebellion.

The PM is basking in a successful debut trip to Washington which helped forge a warm working relationship with Barack Obama.

Mr Cameron is the first to admit privately he blundered with his remarks about Britain being the "junior partner" in World War II in 1940.

Americans never took to Gordon Brown and our new Premier's main task was to make it clear in the US that Britain is under new management.

At home, George Osborne's emergency Budget has gone down universally well and growth figures showed the UK plc is on the road to recovery.

But it would be wrong to ignore the dangers.

There are many Tory MPs who should have been ministers but are languishing on the backbenches because of the coalition.

They had to surrender their ambitions for LibDems who are now enjoying the power of office despite LOSING a tenth of their MPs in the general election.

What a reward for failure.

Tories I spoke to last week have been told by their whips they have to bend over backwards to keep LibDem MPs happy.

Indeed, Tory backbenchers have been told their boss is seeing LibDem MPs one-on-one whilst only seeing groups of his own team.

One well-respected new MP said: "It's all very well worrying about the Liberals. Perhaps it's time we started worrying about our own."

There is a yawning gap between many on both sides.

LibDems will hate it when the cuts start taking effect this winter and next spring - when real people lose their jobs, when real benefits are axed, and state-backed organizations have to close their doors.

Yet Vince Cable, Chris Huhne and the rest will have nowhere to go.

They must stand shoulder-to-shoulder with their Tory colleagues as strikes and demonstrations turn nasty on our streets - or resign from government and face obscurity forever.

It will be fascinating to hear Mr Cable's speech to the Conservative Party conference in October.

David Davis is no longer a figure to strike fear into the leadership's heart - if he ever was.

He is a discredited figure who took the eccentric - and egocentric - decision to throw his political career onto the scrapheap for a one-man civil liberties crusade.

Mr Cameron has established good momentum and this is the secret to all good leadership.

Ploughing forward in government makes it hard, if not impossible, for revolt to take root. It is also what the nation wants - not some spat between disgruntled backbenchers denied a government job.

The Cameron-Clegg relationship remains strong. The coalition is working away remarkably successfully.

Officials say they are impressed by their ministers and there's a can-do attitude backed by number 10.

Plenty reasons for the PM to take his two week summer break in Cornwall without fearing his honeymoon is over.

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