What people said about the inaugural *Freedom Festival*

14-16 March 2014, Days Hotel, Bournemouth

Unsolicited thank you letters etc. from those who attended



Sunny Bournemouth today *[see photo, left]* @FreedomFestUK pic.twitter **Alex Deane**

Having a great time at the *Freedom Festival* on such a warm day in Bournemouth. **Nicholas Best**

Thank you so much for all your hard work on putting on the conference. It was outstanding. **Lucy Bostick**

The @FreedomFestUK is what a party conference should be like. Debating big ideas, socialising. #freedomfestuk **Ryan Bourne** *Head of Public Policy, Institute of Economic Affairs*

Congratulations on the weekend, which worked much better than a first stab at something could have been expected to do. Great triumph. **Dr. Eamonn Butler** *Director, Adam Smith Institute*

Just a quick note to thank you and the team for organising such a fantastic Festival. Everything was perfect: the speakers, food, hotel, weather (especially the weather), entertainment and company. I suggest next year we have the option of spending an extra night to take advantage of Bournemouth's attractions as well. **Councillor Ann Carter**

Thank you for an excellent and most informative weekend. **Graham Child**

A great weekend. Great event, very well done all. **Ian Edwards**

I never had a chance to tell you how much I enjoyed Bournemouth! Thank you for inviting me. It was inspiring to see and hear such a large number of young enthusiastic libertarians. It gave me hope for the future. **Carroll Forth**

Your *Freedom Festival* was a triumph! Mary and I enjoyed an intellectual feast for the whole weekend, addressing freedom. It was so reassuring to meet so many people that share our views on the subject. It also supplied many facts we were not aware of, and also innovative intellectual approaches to old problems. For us, as pensioners, it was also very pleasing to see so many young people sharing our views, and making positive contributions. Our especial thanks and congratulations to the team that produced such a successful and enjoyable event. With many thanks. **Michael and Mary Furness**

Back home after a superb weekend at #FreedomFestUK! Great speakers, great debates and a shandy or two to boot… **Jonathan Isaby** *Chief Executive, The TaxPayers' Alliance*

Huge congrats again on putting on such an enjoyable and thought-provoking weekend. I know how much effort you put into making sure it all went according to plan. The Freedom Association should be rightly proud of making it such a success. There is clearly an appetite for turning this into an annual event and I dare say that the success of the first *Freedom Festival* will allow you to be even more ambitious in planning an even bigger and better second one!

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You really did pull a blinder with this one. **Jonathan Isaby** *Chief Executive, The TaxPayers' Alliance*



On my way (via replacement bus service) to @FreedomFestUK in Bournemouth (the replacement Conservative Conference). **Daniel Hannan MEP**

What a pleasure to see Norman Tebbit at *The Freedom Festival,* full of good campaigning tips for the party he still loves. **Daniel Hannan MEP**

Lord Tebbit, now 82, makes a brilliant anti-EU speech, and finishes: "Young Hannan, I'll be with you while I'm here". *[see photo, left]* pic.twitter.com/5Dx8IK7DAA **Daniel Hannan MEP**

Just a short note to say thank you for the splendid *Freedom Festival*. The whole event was so incredibly interesting and most of the speakers excellent. Thank you again for organising such a superb event. **Patricia Hunt**

Just a note to thank you very much for organising a fantastic TFA Festival weekend - it was all superb and I could see a lot of planning had gone in to it. I particularly liked the seaside supper event. I hope you managed to have a good rest afterwards. See you at the next event. **Fiona Keen**

I cannot thank you enough for such a splendid weekend in Bournemouth. The whole event was excellent - brilliantly planned, superbly executed and striking just the right balance between grassroots emotion and intellectual rigour. I thoroughly enjoyed the topics chosen for discussion, and was delighted that the programme was so strongly libertarian-leaning! It was also a huge treat to be able to mingle with so many movers and shakers on the political scene, something that I imagine would simply not be possible for ordinary mortals like me at the larger conferences. It was almost surreal chatting to people from US think-tanks who had met people such as Rand Paul – this was a real thrill for me, as I had avidly followed his father's 2012 campaign (and the outrageous bias against him by much of the mainstream media) on the internet. *The Freedom Festival* was undoubtedly enjoyed greatly by all who attended, but I feel its significance goes well beyond that. It feels like something bigger is stirring here, the moment when libertarianism in the UK comes of age, the moment when the more savvy politicians really sit up and take notice. I believe that the libertarian set of beliefs - economically conservative, socially liberal and militarily restrained – possibly has the biggest single support bloc in the UK, and as such will be increasingly significant in future elections. Thank you again, and very best wishes. **Philip C. Kenyon**

Congratulations on a very successful weekend about such an important and often ignored subject. Congratulations to all at The Freedom Association, especially for getting The TaxPayers' Alliance, Centre for Policy Studies, IEA, Big Brother Watch and others involved. **Peter Lloyd**

Thank-you again for the splendid and well organised Festival. **Janet Loryman**