

BUSINESS EYE

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Already counting cost of Brexit

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I am an entrepreneur, which means I tend to live in the future and I am generally an optimistic soul tending to see the bright uplands ahead and to miss the dark dangerous ruts in the journey still to be made.

With this in mind it should worry us all that I am scared, because while no fan of the European Union in particular, not being a political federalist and hating waste and inefficiency, I can see no light at the end of the Brexit tunnel.

I voted Remain, but I'm now in the 'that was a big-mistake but we'd better get on

with it to limit the damage" camp.

My prediction today is that this is going to get ugly.

We were so closely split on leave/remain that this will divide people more and more as time passes because a lot of people will experience a lot of pain in years to come.

Unless we vote again to be sure we want this, it is going to eat away at us for decades.

For example, Brexit has not even happened yet and as a small business it has already cost us £750,000 in lost profit just because of the exchange rate collapse.

I've had to explain to my team of fifty that their 20 per cent bonus payment pot has been reduced by £150,000 already...so each person has already lost £3,000.

This hurts.

So much, in their cases for this to be a positive change.

We are just six months away from Brexit.

Unless you are a blind dumb fool or have fallen for

the puerile Trumpian "fake news" conspiracy rhetoric that the world's experts are somehow lined up as an underground elite to lie to us all, you have to conclude this looks very bad.

Mark Carney is suggesting a possible 35 per cent collapse in the housing market, business organisations and the Treasury are predicting a major hit to growth and jobs, the International Monetary Fund are predicting nothing but variants of a doomsday scenario if we crash out with no deal on World Trade Organisation terms.

If, for good measure you might also be worried, as am I about the impacts of the global trade war that Donald seems determined to trumpet and the dire warnings all around us of a global financial crash because of the most extreme imbalances of debt the world has ever seen, then it might be time to batten down the hatches.

I predict many companies



Alex says his staff are already worse off because of Brexit

will go to the wall and thousands of jobs will be lost.

It is perhaps no wonder

then that gin sales in the UK have doubled in the past 12 months, and Coca Cola are in-

roducing a new marijuana-infused drink to calm the nerves.