

WITH BANNERS HELD HIGH

Celebrating the spirit and courage
of the miners' strike



UNITY WORKS WAKEFIELD

Saturday 7 March 2015 11.00am–11.00pm

An event celebrating the courage, resourcefulness, strength and spirit of the miners, their communities and supporters on the 30th anniversary of their return to work after a year-long struggle

Donation £1



WHY WE ARE HERE TODAY

The last three collieries in Britain – Kellingley in North Yorkshire, Hadfield in South Yorkshire and Thoresby in Nottinghamshire – are under imminent threat of closure.

Coal will still be burnt in Britain's power stations but it will be imported. The UK relies on coal to generate about 40% of its electricity – sometimes as much as 50% in the winter when generators using coal can quickly respond to increased demand – but the coal will come from Colombia, the USA and Russia.

So here's the puzzling thing. As an industry, which at its peak employed one million men, is threatened with extinction, why is it that over the last year there has been an amazing outpouring of films, plays, music, books and a series of events remembering the epic year-long miners' strike of 1984-85 which ended in a return to work on 5 March 1985?

One clue is in Beth Steel's play *Underground* performed in the summer of 2014 in London's Hampstead Theatre.

Beth Steel admits she avoided dealing with the miners' strike, until she reflected on 'the empty shops and houses in my village; working in call centres or on zero-hours contracts becoming the norm, the lack of a sense of worth from the jobs people do; the CEOs earning hundreds of times more than the average worker' and asked: 'where did it all take off and how did we get here?'

There is a direct link between when the Conservatives were in power from 1979-1997, and the kind of Britain we have today.

The economic policies pursued by Thatcher and successive governments have tipped the balance of power decisively in favour of employers and the super-rich. An economy shaped by full employment, strong trade unions and rising real wages has been replaced by one with a small number of highly paid jobs and more and more people in insecure, badly paid jobs.

The great strike and the sacrifices which the miners, their families and communities endured, and the principled defence of jobs and communities, were part of a bigger battle, but one that it was right to fight.

And that is the reason why we have seen since March 2014 up and down the country all sorts of events which celebrate the sheer staying-power, courage and solidarity on display during the year-long strike. And that is the reason why we are here today.

But there is also unfinished business. The policing of the miners' strike, and particularly what happened at Orgreave on 18 June 1984, demands a public inquiry. This is the focus of the Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign which I urge you all to support.

Granville Williams

Chair With Banners Held High

The making of the film **WITH BANNERS HELD HIGH**, which will have its first public showing today, was made possible through the support of the following organisations and individuals. I am really grateful for your generous response to our appeal, which has enabled Judi Alston to make a film which I am sure you will be pleased to be associated with. GW

ORGANISATIONS

BECTU
 NUJ – Leeds and Wakefield Branch
 NUT – Yorks and Midland Council
 RMT – Yorks and Lincs Council
 Thompsons Solicitors
 Unison – Mid – Yorks Health Branch
 Unison – Yorks and Humberside Regional Council
 Unite the Union – NE Geo 9 Branch
 Unite the Union – Retired Members Newcastle Branch
 Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
 Raymond Williams Foundation

INDIVIDUALS

Jimmy Barnes 1966-2008: In Memory
 Mike Beaken and Kate Rutter
 David Bell
 Charles Birdsall
 Lynne Bovey
 Dr Elaine Carter
 Rick Collet
 Ellie Griffiths
 Duncan and Annie Heining
 Len and Marion Holden
 Carla Holden and Alex Pilsworth
 Chris and Nikki Holden
 Sean McGowan
 Irene Roper and Dave Beetlestone
 Hannah Trinder
 Phil West
 Granville and Sue Williams



Celebrating the humour and resilience of the 1984/85 Miners' Strike 30 years on

With Banners Held High explores the resilience of Miners and Women Against Pit Closures through their sense of humour, camaraderie and community spirit in the 1984/5 Miners' Strike. The ability to laugh and share funny moments or observations in times of adversity was important during the year-long strike. Stories from the strike capture a legacy of contemporary history and offer a profound insight into the culture and heritage of the former coalfield communities. Being asked to make the With Banners Held High documentary film has been a great honour and privilege for One to One Development Trust. I would like to offer my thanks to all the funders especially the main funder, Wakefield Council, and to all the participants who have contributed their very special stories, music and photographs. **Judi Alston** – Director

The film will be on sale today for £10.00 and you can buy the film online from www.cpbf.org.uk for £12.50 (inc P&P). We welcome enquiries about showing the film. Contact: wbhh@talktalk.net.

With Banners Held High



Wisdom of our Own:

Living and Learning since the Miner's Strike tells the story of the award-winning Castleford Community Learning Centre.

The Castleford Women's Centre was born when women who had been involved with the Women against Pit Closures movement decided to stick together after the strike and find ways for people to learn new skills on their own doorstep.

The book, compiled by local author Ian Clayton and Principal of the centre, Margaret Handforth, contains the stories of nearly one hundred people who have been involved with the centre and is a heart warming tale of working class nous and the journey you can go on when you blend common sense and everyday decency with community spirit.

Buy the book today, price £15.00, or from Castleford Community Learning Centre, York Street, Castleford. T. 01977 511581.

Orgreave Justice album

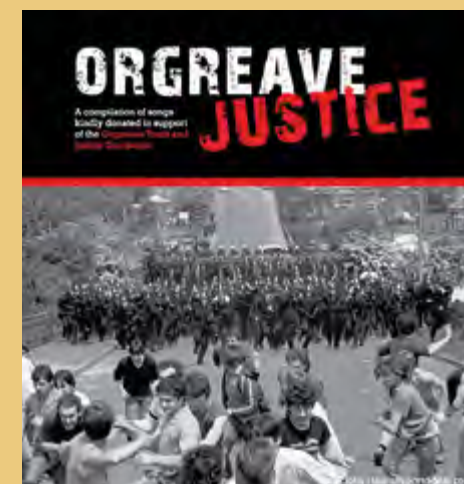
The Orgreave Justice album features a superb line up of acts who support the *Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign*.

They have all gladly given their music or words free of charge, all coming together to be part of the best and most significant political album for many a year.

I want to thank the acts and everyone involved for the patience and the willingness they have shown over the last few months.

Special thanks should go to John Harris for allowing us to use his superb and iconic images of what happened at Orgreave, and also to Philosophy Football for playing such a key role in raising the money needed to fund the album.

The unbelievably strong line up of acts shows things are changing and music, the spoken word and the arts in general have a vital role to play in



that. Let's keep working together to make the things we want to happen become reality!

Tony Wright The Hurriers

The album will be on sale today for £10, or online from www.philosophyfootball.com or check out the OTJC website for a list of independent record stores stocking the CD.

With Banners Held High

NUM / Unite
Community Centre

“Do you need help or support with Benefits in or out of work?”

Contact the Barnsley Unite Community Centre on 01226 215 557”



<http://barnsleycsc.com/>

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Open Wednesday, Thursday 10am to 3pm

“Reconnecting the Community with Trade Union Values”



Our warm appreciation and thanks to all the unions and organisation who have supported WITH BANNERS HELD HIGH. Thank you for responding so generously to our appeal.
Kate Flannery

NATIONAL UNIONS



Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union



Communication Workers Union



Prison Officers Association



Fire Brigades Union



Musicians' Union



National Union of Mineworkers

REGIONAL

- ASLEF – District No 6
- ASLEF – Hull Branch 104
- ASLEF – Knottingley
- ASLEF – Longsight 126
- GMB – Yorks and North Derbyshire
- GMB – A55 Asda Stores
- NUT – Wakefield
- NUT – Yorks and Midlands
- Trades Council – Blackpool Fylde and Wyre
- Trades Council – NE Lancs
- Trades Council – Notts
- UCATT Yorkshire Region
- Unite the Union – GPMU Retired Members Association
- Unite the Union – North East, Yorkshire and Humberside

HULL & DISTRICT
TRADES UNION COUNCIL

PROUD TO SUPPORT THE MINERS IN THE GREAT STRIKE 84-85

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Andy Reed President
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 Fax: 01256 474567
 Email: branch@cwuse5.org.uk

30 YEARS ON



STILL INSPIRING TRADE UNIONISTS TODAY



General Secretary: Mick Cash

www.rmt.org.uk

President: Peter Pinkney



THE ORGREAVE TRUTH AND JUSTICE CAMPAIGN:

“We Could Have Sunk Without A Trace”

Barbara Jackson took the initiative to set up the Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign (OTJC) in November 2012. Whether it is people wearing the distinctive black T-shirts, seeing the impressive Orgreave banner on marches, hearing OTJC speakers at events up and down the country, or following the lively Facebook and Twitter activity – all these have since built up powerful awareness of the OTJC’s work.

Barbara reflects, ‘Looking back, after we launched the Campaign, I often think that we could have sunk without a trace. But we rode on a wave of opportunities, from the Hillsborough revelations about South Yorkshire Police, the *Inside Out* programme on fabricated evidence by the same police force at Orgreave and then their self-referral to the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC).’

The procrastination of the IPCC as it has carried out a tortuous ‘scoping exercise’ for over two years, gave the OTJC another focus. ‘We were dismayed at first because we were log-jammed behind the IPCC,’ Barbara says, ‘but in retrospect this gave us an issue which has allowed us to grow and strengthen because we could get our teeth into it, riding on the IPCC’s bad reputation and its failures.’

Two lively demonstrations were held in November 2013 and March 2014 outside the IPCC offices in Wakefield.

Reflecting on the amazing range of OTJC activities during the 30th anniversary of the miners’ strike Barbara says, ‘The one thing I would select would be the Orgreave picnic on Saturday 14 June 2014 which was a year in the planning and Bridget Bell did a marvellous job. People latched onto the idea fairly quickly, organisations were fantastic with donations. I think people realised what we were about and really appreciated the day.’

And another one was the very successful, well-supported pavement demonstration outside the IPCC offices in London on 14 November 2014, and a positive meeting with IPCC chair Dame Anne Owers, which produced a timetable for action.

Looking forward Barbara thinks, ‘We have got to hold ourselves together as a campaign group and stay motivated. The key things will be the IPCC announcement which will be coming very soon, and the May election when, if we get a Labour government, we need to press on with our demand for a full public inquiry into what happened at Orgreave and more broadly into the policing of the miners’ strike.’



Contact the campaign [f](https://www.facebook.com/OrgreaveTruthAndJusticeCampaign) OrgreaveTruthAndJusticeCampaign [@orgreavejustice](https://twitter.com/orgreavejustice)
[w](http://otjc.org.uk/) <http://otjc.org.uk/> [e](mailto:orgreavejustice@hotmail.com) orgreavejustice@hotmail.com Donate using [PayPal](#) on our website

With Banners Held High

WITH BANNERS HELD HIGH

Daytime programme

Main Hall

Room 1

Room 2

Room 3

Room 5

10:30
Wakefield Youth Brass Band

11:00 – 11:30
Ian Clayton introduces: Wakefield Mayor Cllr Sandra Pickin, Jean Gittins, Poet, Speeches - Nicky Wilson NUM, Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign, Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom

11.45 – 12.30
Theatre:
Red Shed Players
'Snow White and the Seven Pit Closures'

12.30 – 13.00
Book Launch:
'Wisdom of Our Own'

13:00
Poet

13.15 – 13.45
Music:
Sentimentalists

13:45
Poet

14.00 – 15.00
Music:
Red Ladder Theatre
'We're Not Going Back'
15.00 – 15.30
Music: Kahunas

15:30 – 16:00
Dennis Skinner

16.00 – 16.30
FILM PREMIER
'With Banners Held High'

16.45 – 17.15
Music: Free Range

THIS WILL BE IN MINOR HALL

11.30 – 12.00
Film:
Bands and Banners

12.15 – 13.15
Film:
Battle for Orgreave

13.15 – 14.15
Debate: Law & Miners' Strike
Gareth Peirce
Yvette Vanson
'Inky' Thomson, NUM
Chair: Barbara Jackson, OTJC

14.30 – 15.30
Film:
Dirty Thirty

16.45 – 17.45
Film:
Miners Shot Down

11.30 – 12.45
Debate:
Miners' Strike and the Aftermath
Prof David Waddington, Dr Geoff Bright, Dr Cilla Ross, Chris Skidmore, NUM
Chair: Karen Waddington, OTJC

13.00 – 14.00
Debate: Inequality – the Real Enemy Within
Bill Kerry, Equality Trust
Joe Rollin, UNITE
Chair: Peter Hirst

14.15 – 15.30
Debate: Energy Policy
Matt Carmichael
Dave Douglass
Chris Kitchen, NUM
Chair: tbc

MINOR HALL (all day) Reunion Room
A place to meet up for a chat and a drink.
Display of Miners' Lamps (Charles Birdsall)
Exhibition Dearne Valley History Society.
Photo displays: "Thanks, Maggie" by David Severn and "Thirty Years On" by Dave Hanvey & Eileen Young

11.30 - 13.00
FILM: Going Through the Change
Introduced by Bridget Bell, OTJC

13.15 - 13.45
FILM: We Are Women We Are Strong
Introduced by film-maker Judi Alston

14.00 - 14.45
Houghton Main Pit Camp
Slide show and talk with Caroline Poland

15.00 - 15.30
Film: Not Just Tea and Sandwiches
Introduced by Karen Waddington

Exhibitions around UnityWorks
ReportDigital.
Classic photos from the strike.
Martin Jenkinson. The official photographer for Yorkshire NUM during the strike.
Paintings by former miner Harry Malkin.
Powerful images of pit life

11.30 – 12.30
Debate: Cabinet Papers
Nick Jones
Introduced by Granville Williams, CPBF

12.40 – 13.55
Debate: Media and Strike: Alternative Voices
Tony Harcup, Julian Petley, Alice Nutter
Chair: Ann Field, CPBF

14.05 – 15.20
Debate: Surveillance
Steve Dorril
Helen Steel
Bruce Wilson, NUM
Chair: Mark Metcalf, OTJC

Evening programme

**NEW
MODEL
ARMY**

Main Hall	19:00 Doors open	19.15 – 19.40 The Hurriers	19.50 – 20:20 ROUGHNECK RIOT	20.30 – 21.15 Louise Distras				
Room 5	19.15 – 19.45 John Young	Pitman Poet	20.00 – 20.30 Orgreave Trial Transcripts	Pitman Poet	20.45 – 21.15 FULL ENGLISH BREAKFAST	Pitman Poet	21.30 – 22.00 REDGRASS	FLAMIN' NERVE

Programme correct at time of printing

THANKS TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH SHAPING TODAY'S EVENT

Judi Alston, One to One Development Trust
 Catherine Boothman, Wakefield Trades Council
 Kate Flannery, Orgreave Truth & Justice Campaign
 Paul Hardman, NUM
 Peter Hirst, Red Shed
 Barbara Jackson, Orgreave Truth & Justice Campaign
 Chris Kitchen, NUM
 Chris Peace, Orgreave Truth & Justice Campaign
 Rosemary Preece, National Coal Mining Museum
 Joe Rollin, Orgreave Truth & Justice Campaign
 Ken Rowley, Red Shed

Chris Skidmore, NUM
 Granville Williams, Campaign for Press & Broadcasting Freedom
 Sue Williams, With Banners Held High
 Tony Wright, The Hurriers

Thanks also to Jemma Conway, Barnsley MBC – Arts, Museums and Archives Service, and Dean Freeman and the Unity Works team. AV equipment for *With Banners Held High* film supplied at discount by Firefly Audio Visual Solutions Ltd.
 website: www.fireflyav.co.uk T: 0113 3320042

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For train drivers, trade unions & the Labour Party since 1880

REMEMBERING THE MINERS' STRIKE

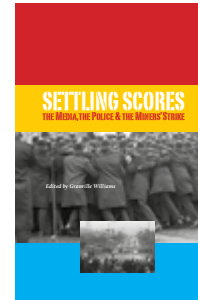


Thirty years ago ASLEF drivers stood shoulder to shoulder with Britain's miners during the bitter strike of 1984-85. Not one shovelful of coal was moved, by train, during that dispute and the miners came within a week of winning. Today we remember the courage of the miners, their

struggle, and the solidarity shown by working people in every coalfield of this country.

**Mick Whelan, general secretary,
Tosh McDonald, president**

ASLEF THE TRAIN DRIVERS' UNION



WE WERE THERE THEN

And we are here now.

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Published for the 30th anniversary of the miners' strike

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email: freepress@cpbf.org.uk facebook & twitter www.cpbf.org.uk



GOTCHA!

Miners reply in the Sun



ASLEF Gateshead & Newcastle Branch



express solidarity and best wishes to the NUM



“The Miners’ Strike of 1984-85 is the most cataclysmic, divisive event in post-war British history. The many legacies of the Strike, and of the defeat of the National Union of Mineworkers, are spectres that still haunt Britain in 2015, and ruptures that still divide Britain, to an extent that is often difficult to comprehend, such as the enormity of the changes that the defeat of 1985 has wrought upon British society. But despite the destruction of the industry, the suffering of the mining communities, and the violence wrought upon ordinary men and women across the country by the State, the Strike should not be remembered simply as a history of defeat, failure and loss. It is a history of resistance, resilience and sacrifice which should be an example and an inspiration, and which should never be forgotten, now more than ever. WITH BANNERS HELD HIGH is the only way to remember, the only way to learn and go forward together.”

David Peace Author GB84 and The Damned Utd.

[www.spanglefish.com/
berwicktradesunioncouncil](http://www.spanglefish.com/berwicktradesunioncouncil)



FIGHTING RACISM AND FASCISM



LONDON MAGAZINE BRANCH

Is proud to support the
Orgreave Truth and
Justice Campaign.

<http://www.nujlmb.org.uk>



THE NATIONAL JUSTICE
FOR MINeworkers
CAMPAIGN (JMC)

was formed in 1985 to keep the issue of victimised miners at the forefront of the labour and trade union movement and to raise money to alleviate hardship among the families of the victimised.

“When the Miners’ Strike ended in 1985 we had over 960 men who had been sacked. Today we are left with just 20 men who have not received a wage since March 1984. The Justice Campaign is able to help in many ways – a burst boiler – a leaking roof – but most of all we try to make sure that they and their families always have a decent Christmas. Any help at all is very welcome and much appreciated.”

Rick Sumner, Convenor. Justice for Mineworkers Campaign. 103 Cliff Road, Hornsea HU18 1JB



“ Why do we remember the '84-'85 Miners' Strike? Because there are lessons to be learned. Future events depend on our analysis of past events. Our fate lies in our history. Capital knows this, which is why it writes the history we are all taught. Labour should honour but not just sentimentally remember. It must write its own history and then control its future.”

Tony Garnett Producer *Cathy Come Home* (1966), *Kes* (1969), *Days of Hope* (1975) and *The Price of Coal* (1977)

Orgreave Truth and Justice Picnic 14 June 2014. 95 balloons released to represent the miners arrested and charged at Orgreave on 18 June 1984.



**Support then.
Support now.**

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During the '84 – '85 Miners' strike, Thompsons stood alongside miners and fought tirelessly to protect their interests. Thirty years on, we celebrate the courage the miners displayed in standing up for their livelihoods, families and a whole community that was ravaged by the year-long strike.

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© Keith Pattison, 'No Redemption' 1984-85 Miners' strike.

WITH BANNERS HELD HIGH
Celebrating the spirit and courage
of the miners' strike



UNITY WORKS WAKEFIELD
Saturday 7 March 2015 11.00am–11.00pm

An event celebrating the courage, resourcefulness, strength and spirit of the miners, their communities and supporters on the 30th anniversary of their return to work after a year-long struggle

www.thompsons.law.co.uk

standing up for you

Donation £1

STILL DIGGING DEEP



For those whose principles have endured the test of time, a thirtieth anniversary shirt in classic **'Coal not Dole'** colours. Free Orgreave Justice CD when t-shirt purchased at solidarity price, with all profits to the **Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign**.

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FIGHTING FOR WORKERS' RIGHTS
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Matt Wrack FBU General Secretary

Alan McLean FBU President