

“How mining communities inspired me”

By PAUL HEATON

THE MINERS’ STRIKE taught me a lot about politics, about class and solidarity. The people at Hatfield Main, the men and the women on the picket line, inspired me. I took their politics and took their dignity with me wherever I went.

These people mean the world to me and their lives, their politics and struggle was not always appreciated by the record companies in London.

A couple of months ago I took part in the “Long March Back”, to mark the 30th anniversary of the return to work at Hatfield Main Colliery and had the honour of holding one of the pit’s banner.

I was with them 30 years ago when they marched, with dignity, back to work after the Great Strike.

These people went through so much and they still have pride and still have a sense of community. There is a sense that they have been abandoned by everyone, but I don’t think they have a friend in Nigel Farage.

I think people from mining communities are rightfully disaffected, but they should see through Farage. He has the stench, he has the whiff of a Conservative from 30 or 40 years ago. And if you listen to his interviews, he talks about keeping the flame of Thatcherism alive.

I see a vote for UKIP as a vote for legalising discrimination in the workplace. People in mining communities know only too well about blacklisting.

So it’s not for me to tell people who to vote for, but I think we should see through Farage and UKIP.

He has the interests of the stockbrokers, not the interests of working people – or people who should be working – at heart.

● Paul Heaton was the frontman for the Housemartins and the Beautiful South

“I’m the only politician keeping the flame of Thatcherism alive”

Nigel Farage

PAST AND PRESENT MINERS LEADERS SPEAK OUT

Mining communities were strong because of their tolerance and how they looked after each other. Something that comes from working down the mine where your safety depends on your work mates and theirs on you. We know too well the devastation caused by those that seek to divide and conquer.

Thatcher’s Tory party did it in 1984/5 and UKIP are now trying the same tactic in 2015.

Not a surprise given their leader admires Thatcher. Mining communities should reject UKIP and stay true to their working class roots.

CHRIS JR KITCHEN
NUM National Secretary

For 30 years, we have fought for justice for the men victimised in the Great Strike. All that time, we have had to contend with anti-union laws.

Now we see that the Tories and UKIP want to shackle working people even more. Nobody should vote for these anti-working class parties.

RICK SUMNER
Convenor, National Justice for Mineworkers Campaign

The Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign believes UKIP cannot give us the justice we want and neither will the Tories if they get back.

Vote for a party that best represents Truth, Justice, Tolerance, Respect for each other – values that we all hold dear.

BARBARA JACKSON
Secretary, Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign

I am mortified that working class people could even countenance voting for UKIP.

A vote for these “wolves in sheep’s clothing” is just like voting for the Tories. The only policy they have is one of division.

Only by sticking to our beliefs will we ever regain the trade union rights that properly ours, not by going pandering to outright Thatcherites like UKIP.

CHRIS SKIDMORE
Yorkshire Area NUM Chairman

Get involved, get active

Do you believe that:

- a civilised society should look after the poor and the sick?
- discrimination of any sort is wrong?
- we should be uniting rather than dividing our communities?
- Rotherham deserves strategic investment to create jobs, especially for young people?
- a fairer society?

If you’ve answered YES to these questions then you already share the values of HOPE not hate, so why not get involved and help spread the word

Contact us at rotherham@hopenothate.org.uk

Name

Email

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Return to: HOPE not hate, PO Box 67476, London NW3 9RF. Or fill in the form online at

www.hopenothate.org.uk

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**Roll of Shame:
UKIP's disgraced
officials**

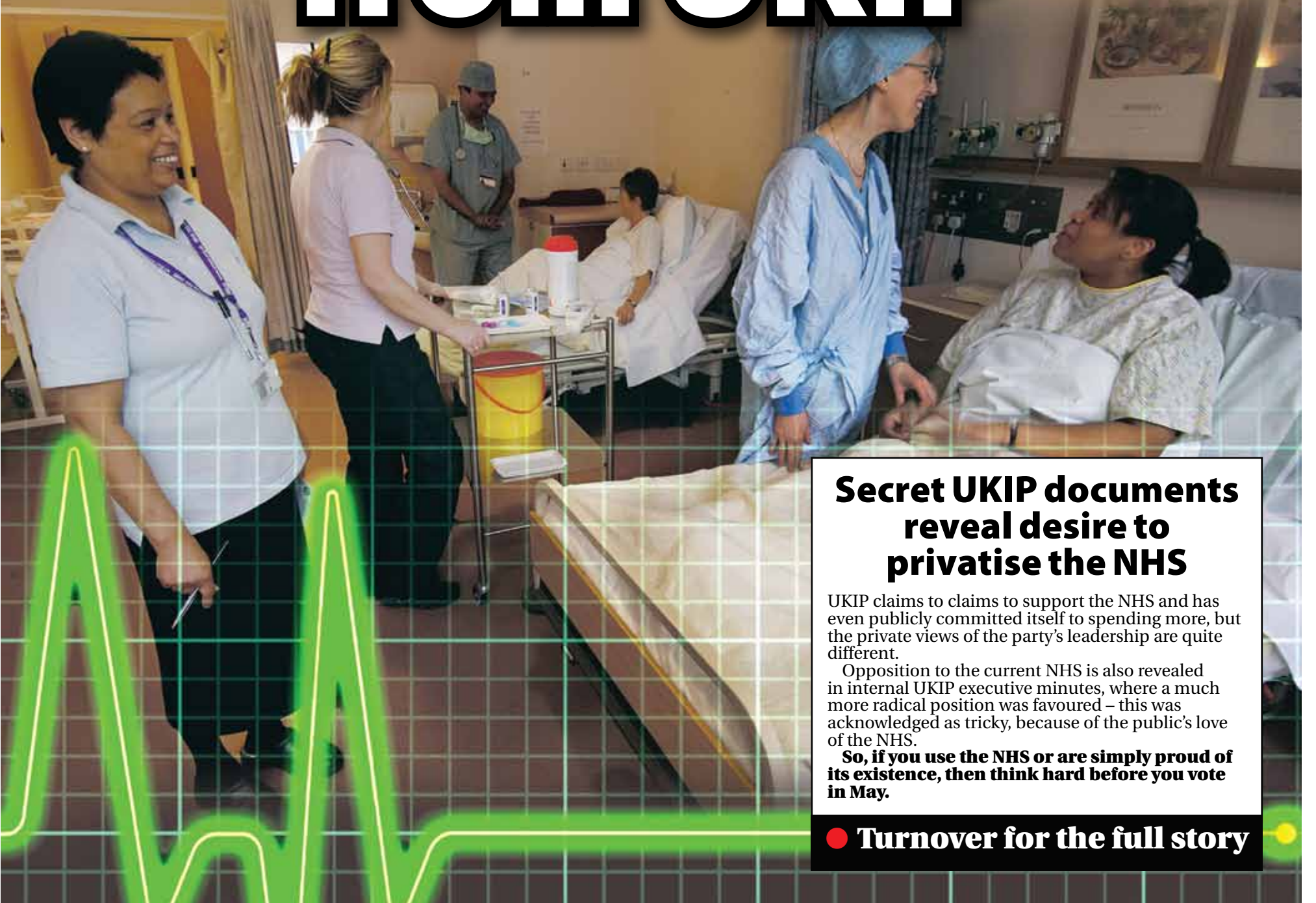
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**Paul Heaton
talks about UKIP
and the miners**



**VOTE 7 MAY -
EVERY VOTE
COUNTS**

NHS under threat from UKIP



Secret UKIP documents reveal desire to privatise the NHS

UKIP claims to support the NHS and has even publicly committed itself to spending more, but the private views of the party's leadership are quite different.

Opposition to the current NHS is also revealed in internal UKIP executive minutes, where a much more radical position was favoured - this was acknowledged as tricky, because of the public's love of the NHS.

So, if you use the NHS or are simply proud of its existence, then think hard before you vote in May.

● Turnover for the full story ●

NHS under threat from UKIP

The views of the UKIP leadership

UKIP is going into these elections promising to protect the NHS but what it says publicly is quite different from the private views of its leadership.

Four of the five leading UKIP officials, including party leader Nigel Farage, have openly supported privatising the NHS.

UKIP leader Nigel Farage has repeatedly called for a private insurance system to replace the current public funding. He has also said that he would much prefer business to run the health service than the state.

Opposition to the NHS in its current state was made clear at a meeting of UKIP's ruling executive council, which agreed that a government under Nigel Farage would consider plans to privatise the NHS and use current policies as a stepping stone to more "radical" change.

This meeting, in late 2012, unanimously agreed to support a pro-privatisation policy but recognised that the public's love of the NHS made such a position unpopular in the short-term.

"We cannot change it wholesale because the public love it," one UKIP executive member said.

It was agreed that a UKIP government would commission a cost-effectiveness study into privatisation while more minor policies were pursued.

"In the longer term we want a radical approach but we cannot do that in this time frame."

While UKIP public policy is to support the NHS, it is clear that the leadership has quite different views.

They range from those of party leader Nigel Farage, who believes that a private insurance system is preferable, to those of Neil Hamilton, the party's deputy chairman and disgraced former MP, who disgustingly thinks the NHS is a more effective killing machine than the Taliban.

Of course, the views of the UKIP leadership are not shared by the British public, for whom the NHS is a great institution. Yes, it has its problems and is always short of money, but very few of us would contemplate getting rid of it.

And it is because of the public's affection for the NHS that UKIP leaders have been forced to publicly say that they support it.

I think we are going to have to move to an insurance-based system of healthcare."

NIGEL FARAGE (UKIP leader)

Photo: Jennifer Jane Mills

"I would argue that the very existence of the NHS stifles competition, and as competition drives quality and choice, innovation and improvements are restricted."

PAUL NUTTAL (UKIP deputy leader)

"The NHS is a more effective killing machine than the Taliban". [It is] a "Soviet-style nationalised monolith" and a "substitute for religion".

NEIL HAMILTON (UKIP deputy chairman)

"The biggest waste of money of course in the United Kingdom is the NHS." He went on to compare the NHS to Nazi Germany and called for it to be privatised.

MATTHEW RICHARDSON (UKIP General Secretary)

Louise Bours MEP & UKIP health spokesperson has admitted "Honestly, I have no experience in health whatsoever".

FIVE reasons why women should reject UKIP

1 Breastfeeding

UKIP leader Nigel Farage has said that women should "perhaps sit in the corner" when they breastfeed so as not to upset other people.

2 Pregnant women

UKIP MEP Patrick O'Flynn says that pregnant women in the workplace are a "disaster".

3 Abolishing rights

UKIP has repeatedly called for the scrapping of legislation protecting women in the workplace and requiring equal pay.

4 Playing down rape

Demetri Marchessini, one of UKIP's major donors, said there was no such thing as marital rape, arguing: "If you make love on Friday and make love Sunday, you can't say Saturday is rape." He also claimed women should be banned from wearing trousers because they "discourage love-making".

5 Cuts to services

UKIP supports massive cuts to public services – services that many women and mothers rely on.



Photo: Jessica Pankratz

NIGEL FARAGE says women who take time off to take care of their children become less "valuable" to employers, and therefore get paid less than men, because they are not as committed to their clients.

He said that there is "no discrimination" against women as long as they are willing to sacrifice their family life and remain childless.

HOPE not hate comment

CHOOSE HOPE over fear



In just a few week's time you will be asked to choose who you want to represent you in Parliament for the next five years. It is an important decision and one that I know you will take seriously.

How you vote is of course between you and the ballot box, but I would urge you to choose HOPE over fear – a candidate who has answers for the problems rather than one who plays on your fears and offers simplistic solutions to some very difficult issues.

We need MPs who want to put pride back into the area rather than ones who always seems to talk the area down.

We want MPs who can offer us a positive way out of our problems, not ones who seem stuck in the past.

For all these reasons, we would urge you not to vote for UKIP.

We all know that there are many things wrong in Britain and many things that need changing, so what we need is a politician who will address these issues seriously and with the rigour they need.

Our area desperately needs jobs and investment, but UKIP's 'blame the immigrants for everything' policy may seem appealing to some but it is not a policy for economic revival.

So obsessed are UKIP with immigration, that the real issues facing us today – especially the need

for economic regeneration – gets ignored.

The same goes with the grooming scandal. We need everyone who has let down these girls to be held to account but more importantly, we need politicians who will ensure that this can never happen again.

UKIP does not offer a positive agenda for the town. The party simply like to moan, blame and abuse. Rotherham, Rother Valley and Wentworth and Deane deserve better.

So, when you vote in the forthcoming elections make sure you vote for the future, not the past. Please reject UKIP and its politics of division and – **and instead choose HOPE.**

Scrapping race relations laws is a recipe for disaster

NIGEL FARAGE recently told Channel 4 that he wants to scrap the laws designed to protect ethnic minorities from discrimination.

This is both dangerous and plain wrong.

The Race Relations Act was designed to stop people deliberately discriminating against people because of the colour of their skin.

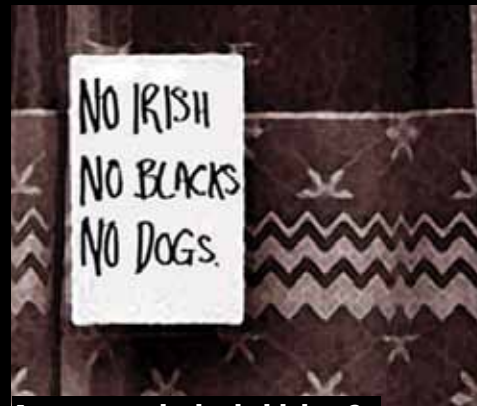
This has never been about special privileges for minorities but about fairness and decency. This is about how we treat – and do not treat – one

another as citizens living in the same country.

Farage's comments were both ignorant of why the laws were drawn up in the first place and dangerous: without these laws employers can pick on / exclude people because of the colour of their skin, their sex or even their sexuality.

Worse still, scrapping race relations laws would then give the green light to every racist and extremist group in the country to whip up hatred and violence in our communities.

That's surely something none of us want?



A return to the bad old days?

ROLL OF SHAME

UKIP IS AT PAINS to claim it has cleaned up its act but here are just a few of its MEPs, officials and parliamentary candidates who have hit the headlines in 2015

■ **Rozanne Duncan Thanet UKIP Councillor** – Sacked by the party after saying that she had a problem with "negroes".

■ **David Coburn MEP** – said Alex Salmond would now be hanging from lamppost if Scotland had voted Yes for independence.

■ **David Coburn MEP** – compared Muslim SNP minister Humza Yousaf to Abu Hamza.

■ **Lynton Yates Charnwood UKIP candidate** – said millions of benefits claimants should be banned from driving to ease congestion on Britain's roads and urged jobless to "catch a bus" rather than clog the roads with traffic.

■ **Donald Grewar Newport East UKIP candidate** – quit after praising a BNP website post which labelled gay people perverts and paedophiles.

■ **Ted Strike UKIP Stockton South Candidate** – questioned whether storms that battered the country were caused by same-sex marriage.

■ **Janice Atkinson MEP** – expelled from party after her chief of staff, Ms Hewitt, was secretly recorded appearing to ask the manager of a restaurant in Margate to more than treble the £950 cost of a meal before UKIP's spring conference.

■ **Jane Collins and Jill Seymour MEPs** – came under fire after it emerged that both claimed for office space in properties owned by their partners.

■ **Jeremy Zeid Hendon UKIP Candidate** – resigned as a candidate after calling for US president Obama to be kidnapped by Israel.

■ **Mark Rothery North Shropshire UKIP activist** – posted comments on Facebook praising Hitler, saying he was a hell of a leader who rallied the country.



ROLL OF SHAME: (top) Rozanne Duncan, David Coburn, Lynton Yates, (bottom) Ted Strike, Janice Atkinson and Jeremy Zeid

To see the full list, go to www.hopenothate.org.uk/ukip

Is UKIP really the party for you?