UKIPpers Part 1: Preserving the village green

Introduction

I recently published a blog post about neo-Nazis in which I tagged several racist, right wing organisations including UKIP. As a result I was contacted by the chairman of my local UKIP branch to point out my ‘mistake’. My response was to explain that there really was no mistake and that UKIP deserve to be counted in the list of far right, racist organisations because of their repeated misrepresentation of minorities here in UK.

Rather unwisely my hapless correspondent asked me “What misrepresentation?”. Presumably he’d hoped I would be unable to demonstrate any particular illustrations of UKIP’s deceit and slink away with my metaphorical tail between my legs. No such luck. Instead I promised him a proper answer in a blog post. This is that answer.

I’ve taken a few days to think about this post because I don’t just want to stick out examples of deceit without giving the thing a context. Consequently this blog is a little later (and a little longer) than I’d originally planned. Sorry Mark – hope it was worth the wait.
This is what I plan to cover in this mini series.

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UKIP’s mindset

To really make sense of what follows it’s necessary to look at UKIP’s basic mindset and the predominant attitude of those to whom the party appeals.

Although UKIP’s painfully transparent leader, Nigel Farage likes to pretend he’s an anti-establishment ‘man of the people’, he’s actually an ultraconservative capitalist. He has about as much in common with ordinary working people as a kangaroo has with a leprechaun. He’s interested in money (the UKIP logo should be a ‘dead giveaway’ here) and he’s interested in exploitation. Farage knows that the best way to exploit working people in pursuit of his own wealth is to take the nation back a few decades...

- He wants to return to the days before workers understood that they had rights.
- Back to the days when bosses were free to pay peanuts without having to rely upon monkeys to grow their businesses.
- Back to the days when unemployment was so terrifying that people would accept any conditions and any abuses in order to avoid starvation.

That, incidentally is what the right wing means when it says that unemployment is a lifestyle choice. They mean that unemployed people don’t actually starve any more – except that sometimes they do in ConDem ruled 2015 (but that’s another story).

But for Farage to say that he wants a return to the heady days of unregulated labour in which the poor knew their place quite so blatantly won’t wash. Turkeys don’t really vote for Christmas – at least not knowingly. So dear old Nige and his cronies dress up their true intentions with talk of tradition and British values. At least they used to. These days they’re much more likely to say ‘English’ values. We’ll get to the reasoning behind that later.

Old UKIP

Most of UKIP’s supporters seem to be middle-aged or older, and they tend, on the whole to be drawn from the right wing of British politics. The party is full of former conservatives at one end and ex BNP and National front at the other. These are people who think of England as an idealised, imaginary time capsule full of white-skinned ‘decent’ folk with not a ‘darkie’ in sight. Not that they’ve anything against ‘darkies’ per se – they really haven’t (on the whole). They just don’t want them cluttering up the village green.

Their is the politics of separatism but not necessarily of superiority. Yes – I know – that’s a contradictory position to take in practice but I’m convinced that most old UKIPpers genuinely would be horrified to think of themselves as racist. They value tradition and they value heritage. The fact that their imagined heritage doesn’t include non-white citizens means that their modern ideal doesn’t either but they don’t think of
themselves as racist. They just don’t like difference. They fear change and they’re terrified of cultures that they don’t understand and can’t feel in control of.

Above all, old UKIP voters think that England really means ‘them’ – the middle-aged, middle-class, middle-intellect, middle-management of middle-England. The mediocre middle, in other words. The muddled, middling administrators of class division and mid-twentieth century morality.

They dislike those who they see as ‘not quite cricket’ (including ‘Johnny Foreigner’ with his strange ways and unfamiliar customs) and they fear those who they see as above them (including those with more compassion or intelligence than them). They hark back to a post war ideal that almost certainly never existed – at least not in the way they remember from the Ealing comedies of their childhood. UKIP’s collective memory is of an imagined society where everyone knew their place and even the poor never went hungry. And, imaginary or not, they want it back!

**Not racist**

And that’s the real mindset of the old UKIP voters. They want to return to an England that never really existed. They’re frightened of change, of differentness and of cultural influences they don’t understand and never will.

*But what is really striking about supporters of both UKIP and the Tea Party is the fact that when they get to talk in depth about what concerns and motivates them, economic issues come a distant second to anxieties around generational change and, in particular, ethnic diversity.*


They think that if people who are different are allowed into the UK then the natives will somehow be forced to change to accommodate them. They expect newcomers to the country to force their ways on to the natives because that’s what they would do themselves – indeed it’s what they’ve tried to do all their lives.

These are the people who, when they leave the UK form exclusive ex-pat enclaves and refuse to mix. These are the ‘Brits abroad’ who look down on the locals in their adopted countries with disdain, never once stopping to consider the fact that in this context – they’re the ‘Johnny Foreigners’. These are the baby-boomer bigots. They’re concerned about investments and pensions and they’re terrified (understandably) that there might not be enough in the pot to keep them comfy until death, no matter how much national insurance they’ve paid before retirement. Essentially, UKIPpers are scared. And that fear makes them small-minded and mean-spirited.

It doesn’t make them consciously racist – but it does make them gullible.

It doesn’t make them exclusively racist – they’ll hurt anyone to protect their interests, regardless of colour or country of origin.

It doesn’t make them ideologically racist – but their misguided, exploitative ‘self-defence’ is likely to hurt immigrants most, simply because immigrants are the most threatening to idealised notions of ‘tradition’.

It doesn’t make them intentionally racist – but it does mean that they’ll support a party whose policies are racist (intentionally or not).
Old school capitalist

Enter Nigel Farage and his cohort of former Tories. These people are old-school capitalists with an eye for profit and not a care for where that profit comes from or for who might be hurt along the way. They’re the ideological descendants of nineteenth century mill owners and late twentieth century yuppies brokers. In fact many of them may well have been yuppies when the Thatcher years of dog-eat-dog greed and corporatism for profit. Farage certainly was. He went straight from public school to work in the city’s financial sector and then nipped off down to the village pub to bitch about ‘the system’.

UKIP’s leaders know very well that they need a narrative that will appeal to the nation’s small-minded traditionalists and a promise of small-minded traditional values will do very nicely. It provides the perfect smokescreen to roll back the clock, not just in a bid to recreate the idyllic village green but also to discard workers’ rights and dismantle the welfare state, all in the name of traditional English values. And a relatively large group of voters have taken the bait. These are the Daily Mail readers who, already used to a diet of xenophobia, ignorance and fear of ‘the other’ are easy meat for a real ale-drinking, Sunday paper-reading, village green-preserving exploiter like Nigel Farage.

Link here to UKIP election manifesto PDF on multiculturalism

In the name of traditional English values, UKIPpers make a lot of noise about European interference in our nation’s affairs. They claim the European Convention on Human Rights is a foreign millstone ousted upon us by Brussels without once acknowledging what it actually is for, how it was developed and indeed the role of the UK in its development after World War 2. They make up stories about pet cats because they haven’t enough genuine ammunition to attack the ECHR with (Farage came up with that particular deception before Teresa May stole it). They complain about Immigration and the economic burden it brings without ever mentioning the net financial benefit of immigration to the national purse. They complain that Johnny Foreigner doesn’t dress like us (as though that actually matters). They make up lies about Sharia law for foreign TV channels. They even blame immigration for Nigel Farage’s inability to organise his diary sensibly.

And on the back of all this grumbling about immigration they reveal their real agenda – to scrap the European Convention on Human Rights because that’s where our most important protections are found. The convention is not ‘hated’ by the majority of Britons as UKIP insist. Actually it’s only the right wing that dislikes it because the ECHR protects the majority from exploitation. The ECHR is supported by the Lib Dems, the Labour Party, The Greens and even quite a lot of the tories. It’s only as you move further to the right than many tories (yes those are the sordid depths we need to plumb) that you find UKIP and its insistence on the destruction of human rights. Here we see UKIP in league with its extreme right neoNazi colleagues in the European parliament in calling for an end to human rights as a way to open the door for abusive government. This is the company UKIP keeps and with good reason. These Euro fascists are their ideological soulmates.

“Ukip is part of the group Europe of Freedom and Democracy (EFD). The group includes representatives of the Danish People’s Party, the True Finns Party, the Dutch SGP and the infamous Italian Lega Nord – all of them far-right. Nigel Farage is co-President of the group along with Lega Nord’s Francesco Speroni, who described multiple murderer Anders Breivik as someone whose “ideas are in defence of western civilisation.”

(New Statesman 2013)

In the next post in the series we’ll begin to examine UKIP’s younger supporters, their links with the conservative right, the calibre of their leadership and the way they misrepresent vulnerable groups to lend an air of plausibility to their otherwise wholly transparent deception of the British public.

UKIPpers part 2: ‘Old-school’ exploiters

Young UKIP

As UKIPpers never tire of claiming that UKIP is the party of the young – a new, vibrant, anti-establishment approach to politics for a youthful, radical new electorate. But is that really true? Personally – I think not.

Those young people who do support UKIP seem to do so for very predictable reasons. After all, after all a tendency to rebellion and also to gullibility seem to be fairly typical characteristics of adolescents. So a party that claims to speak for change and a refreshing new politics really ought to appeal to naïve young people.

"It's the anti-establishment image," says Jake. "I lost faith in the mainstream parties and UKIP on immigration and education and the EU all had the right messages for me.

"It’s not the same politics we have been having for 10, 15 years, it's a new message and a new party really speaking out on British Politics. So that's what keeps me”.

UKIPpers themselves are well aware of the power of this sort of manipulation of young peoples’ rebelliousness.

“I asked Harry Aldridge, who founded Young Independence ten years ago, what first attracted him and his fellow young Kippers to join the party. 'I felt national politics was a bit stale. Everyone was arguing over minor details and there are no big ideas anymore. The radical idealism of younger people draws them towards Ukip,’ he says.”

It’s unfortunate that so many young people (and indeed older UK citizens) know little or nothing about the EU and its workings. That leaves them vulnerable to UKIP’s many distortions and misrepresentations of the European Union and its workings. This useful mythbuster from Labour’s Richard Corbett outlines the reality behind many of UKIP’s deceptions. Of course, UKIPpers will almost certainly scream that Corbett is biased because of his labour connections but the statistics are easy to find for those who care to know the truth. Unfortunately – most people
won't do that research.

Even so – the party’s appeal to the young is far less significant than they would have us believe.

Joseph Holt, project manager for Reconnecting UK Youth to Europe, Euclid Network, told Channel 4 News: “The reality is that young people in the UK receive very little information about the EU and its impact on their lives. With a lack of education and accessible information, it is unsurprising that there is a feeling of apathy among young voters and therefore a low-turnout.”

Mr Pearce added: “From what I can tell most young people don't identify with Ukip's message. I think it’s really shown the consequences of not voting - Ukip’s message was amplified by turnout being so low. So young people who disagree with Ukip's views will be more likely to vote to prevent that happening again.”

Even so, the happy fact is that the majority of young people have not fallen for UKIP’s cynical attempt to manipulate them. YouGov polling demonstrates just how little UKIP has to offer young people who have seen straight through their bigoted, divisive brand of sectarian politics. Encouragingly, the majority of UK youth disagree with UKIP that immigration is the largest issue facing the UK.

They understand instead that the economy, unemployment and educations are far bigger issues for their generation. And, it seems they haven't fallen for UKIP’s superficial attempts to portray all these issues are the results of European membership and Immigration. UKIP’s deputy chairwoman, Suzanne Evans recently admitted that the party has no appeal to educated young people – those best equipped to see through the superficial scapegoating behind the party’s hate-filled rhetoric.

It's reassuring to know that in spite of the concerted efforts of UKIPpers to manipulate our young people, the next generation of Brits is far more egalitarian and compassionate than many of those who have gone before.

**Links with the tory right**

UKIP tedious rhetoric is choc full of repetition, including the interminably predictable mantra that the party represents some sort of alternative to ‘old-boy's network’ politics. But is this really true? Their policies (such as they are) promote nepotism, privilege and sectarianism. Can we really expect their values to be any different?

Personally, I'd expect a 'people's alternative' political movement to be led by the people - by the grass roots majority of working people who, tired of conventional politics have decided to do something positive for change. But that's not UKIP. Just take a look at the party’s leadership.
The leader of UKIP, Nigel Farage likes to pretend that he’s a ‘man of the people’ who likes nothing better than a pint of real ale and a crafty fag in the village pub. And indeed these things may be true. But that’s not all there is to him. In many ways he’s a carbon copy of David Cameron. A self-proclaimed Thatcherite, Farage is of public school stock who made his considerable pile in the city before entering politics with the help of right wing money.

Suzanne Evans

Suzanne Evans used to be a tory councillor until defecting to UKIP. She runs a PR firm and used to be a BBC journalist. She’s the one who acknowledged the difficulty UKIP has in appealing to the educated and the young. It’s interesting that even a PR professional has to admit defeat when trying to convince educated people of UKIP’s message.

Deputy leader Paul Nuttall MEP

Traditionalist through and through, Paul Nuttall MEP is an active anti-abortionist who favours the death penalty and increased prison space. He is a climate change denier who opposes subsidy for green energy sources and was vociferous in calling to ban the burkha (as though other peoples’ choice of clothing is any of his business). He also opposes Sharia ‘courts’ but does not appear to have noticed that they are actually a form of religious arbitration, no different from other UK religious arbitration systems including Christian and Jewish ‘courts’.

Patrick O’Flynn MEP

Patrick O’Flynn used to be political editor for the right wing tabloid, The Daily Express. He’s a long-term Eurosceptic whose been likened in policy to the Express’ founder, Lord Beaverbrook. One of his most well-known journalistic quotes is...

“the leaders of British Islam still don’t appreciate the degree to which their behaviour is despised by the majority of the public”.

Mr. Flynn seems like a perfect choice for a traditionalist party that fully supports the old-order establishment.
Mark Reckless MP

This is the Conservative MP who defected to UKIP, triggering the recent by-election in Rochester and Strood. He’s the one who was supported so vociferously by extreme right wing, ‘British values’ party, Britain First, in spite of the fact they were fielding their own candidate, Jayda Fransen. Of course, UKIP has publically disassociated itself from Britain First and other fascist groups but, as we shall see in part 3 of this series – the links between them are difficult to ignore.

Steve Crowther – Exec Chairman

Another PR man, Crowther was a spin doctor and journalist during the Thatcher years. A former president of Bristol Poly’s student union, he has long been interested in political affairs and can hardly be said to be ‘new blood’.

Andrew Reid – Treasurer

Another former tory, Reid is a former lawyer who once chaired his local conservative association.

Janice Atkinson (South East England)

Janice (pictured) left the tories in 2011 because (astonishingly) she thought Cameron wasn’t sufficiently supportive of bankers! She has lied about her education, demanded the arrest of anti UKIP political demonstrators who call the party ‘fascist’ and called for restrictive changes to payments for those who “choose a lifestyle on benefits”.

There is, of course much more that I could write here but this should provide a ‘flavour’ of UKIP’s political, establishment, character. This is not a party of radical new blood – it’s a collection of disgruntled old school tories who want the UK to move even further right than it already has. After all, to assume that these former tories have all had some sort of Damascene epiphany and suddenly come out in favour of the working people of UK would be beyond naïve – it would be idiotic.

Can't just say so

So why don’t UKIP just come clean and admit their right-wing intentions? The simple truth is that they can’t. The current ConDem government is widely hated by the electorate and any party that admits to being more tory than the tories would be doomed to the same oblivion that beckons the LibDems. UKIP needs another angle. So they misrepresent their intentions, pretending to support working people whilst actually plotting to strip the majority of our citizens of employment rights. Nor can they afford to be honest about their plans to discriminate on grounds of race, religion or – well pretty much anything as it happens.
Once UKIP scraps equality and diversity legislation, combined with the extended time period before a worker becomes entitled to any employment rights whatsoever, the net effect will be an open door for whimsical bigotry and discrimination, regardless of actual merit.

This is the big con. By pretending to be anti-establishment, UKIP attracted a number of working class, blue collar workers who think their salvation lies in nationalism and ‘British jobs for British workers’. Now where have we heard that slogan before? BNP anyone?

In truth UKIP has no concern for British workers at all. Their only concern is profit for the establishment. That’s why they use low paid immigrants themselves, including their former party leader. It’s not really about nationality – it’s about exploitation.

**Target vulnerable groups**

So UKIP masks its real intent by rebranding their motives as patriotism. In truth, as I hope I’m beginning to demonstrate, it’s exploitation. And like all exploitative manipulators they hide behind populism and scapegoating. That’s how you persuade turkeys to vote for Christmas – you pretend that they’re under threat from someone else and then promise to defend them – all the way to the slaughterhouse.

Having already set out their stall as the party for Britain’s majority it’s a simple matter to find minorities to scapegoat. And how well they do it.

From Muslims to East Europeans (branded criminals), from Gay men and women whom they single out with abandon to disabled ‘scroungers’ for whom they even advocate euthanasia and the unemployed, UKIP’s spin doctors and political wannabes seem inexhaustible in dreaming up new ways to criticise minority groups.

Of course that’s not a new tactic and it’s not unique to UKIP. In part 3 we’ll take a look at the far right, neoNazi movement in UK, the similarity between their scapegoating rhetoric and that of UKIP. We’ll also look at the particular links between UKIP and domestic neoNazi groups like the BNP, Britain First, the EDL and the National Front.
UKIPpers Part 3: Nice or Nazi?

Here’s a question to think about.

Imagine you are the leader of a right wing political party that deliberately panders to xenophobic neo-Nazis to boost your numbers.

Imagine also that you need to maintain a non-Nazi, non-racist façade to attract respectable ‘village green’ types.

What will you do?

One possible answer is to make a big fuss about kicking out all the racists whilst secretly welcoming them so long as they’re not too noisy about their neo-Nazi sympathies. In my opinion this is exactly the solution that Farage et al hit upon as a way to keep both sides of their target demographic happy in their shared, xenophobic paranoia.

To be clear – I do not believe that the majority of UKIP supporters are Nazis. Nor do I believe that UKIP’s leadership are necessarily Nazi. It’s not that simple. If it was as easy as all that the party would have suffered the same fate as the British National Party, the English Defence League and The National Front (remember them?). The electoral oblivion that overtook Britain First (the latest in the not so illustrious line of UK neo-Nazis and white supremacists) would also have overtaken UKIP by now.

The threat that UKIP represents is different precisely because they’re NOT the BNP. Just as in 1920s and 1930s Germany there were many small groups of fascists, many even more brutal (at least at first) than the National Socialists (Nazis) So UKIP occupies a more moderate position, at least in comparison with the far-right wing of UK politics. They’re not the BNP and therein lies their strength.

UKIP is undeniably right wing – whether or not you’d describe individual UKIPpers as ‘far right’ is a matter of personal taste. Indeed, they’re such a broad church it’s difficult to make any such generalisation. Whatever your personal view, it’s clear that they have ‘plausible deniability’. It’s hard to understand why they dislike those who oppose fascism so much if they’re not though.

They share many of the same policies as groups like Britain First and the English Defence League but they do so with an air of respectability. Whereas Britain First approach their sectarianism with obvious neo-Nazi overtones, UKIP presents much the same message with a very different image. You might say that they represent the respectable ’delivery system’ of the extreme right. They certainly employ a very strange definition of ‘libertarian’. But then, if this letter from Farage’s schooldays is anything to go by, their leader always did.

Piggy back on populist nationalism

UKIP needs a ‘hook’. Like all political parties they need to find a target demographic and a way to appeal their chosen audience. Preferably they hijack an existing group by mirroring their concerns. That's always easier than starting from scratch to persuade
people to your point of view. Truly inspiring politicians lead but mediocre ones simply follow the crowd. And so it is with UKIP.

“If you apply professional marketing techniques and publicity to political fundraising – it’s a gift”

(Jim Dowson talking to Channel 4)

Professional marketer and fundraiser, Jim Dowson has done a huge amount of work raising funds for the white supremacist, neoNazi British National Party. By exaggerating concerns about immigration and propagating the myth of ‘white genocide' he instilled fear of 'the other' into a wide swathe of the British population. And then he jumped ship. His work with the BNP quickly dissolved in the aftermath of infighting within the party, briefly set Britain First on its course of self-destruction and disappeared (sort of), leaving a generation of British fascists with nowhere to go and with nobody to follow. Enter UKIP (stage right, of course).

There really wasn't much of a problem for UKIP when it came to hijacking BNP propaganda. The basic idea that Johnny Foreigner is bad for British values is home territory for Farage and company anyway. But in doing so they managed to court a new demographic. They could appeal to 'neoNazi' Britain too. Hordes of disaffected fascists, let down by ‘politics as usual' and desperately needing someone to blame had already been radicalised by Dowson and his racist buddies. In fact, Dowson himself told Channel 4 how happy he was that his work radicalising the Islamophobic, racist, British right wing had benefitted UKIP. Dowson went on to found Britain First. They’re the guys who go around playing soldiers and invading empty Mosques and intimidating old men whilst claiming to be Christian Patrols. Take a look at what Britain First had to say about UKIP’s recent win in the Rochester and Strood by-election. That’s quite an endorsement to receive from the half-baked fascist party whose ‘manifesto’ is a direct lift from Hitler's 25 point plan.

All UKIP needed to do was adopt the ‘respectable racism’ rhetoric of 'British jobs for British workers', throw in the odd scare story about Muslims and national identity (whatever that really means) and the racists flocked to their cause like American 'Crockers' to a KKK revival meeting. UKIP works hard to keep the fascists interested whilst still maintaining a public facade of reasonable, non-prejudiced ‘decency'. They feed the paranoia of both major demographics whilst maintaining plausible denial by throwing out (very publicly) those neo-Nazis who get a little too blatant about their Nazism.

Old UKIP members may or may not be racist as individuals. It probably varies although personally I imagine a fairly typical ‘bell curve’ spread. However it cannot be denied that in 2009 Lord Pearson won the party’s leadership precisely because he played up to Islamophobes within UKIP’s membership.
Lord Pearson was the one who invited Geert Wilders into the UK and who complained about the complacency of UK politicians over Muslim immigration. Wilders is the Dutch racist, much beloved of the English Defence League, the British National Party and Britain First. He leads the anti-Islamic Dutch PVV party and has vowed to reduce the number of Moroccans in the Netherlands. Indeed his anti-Islamic, anti-Moroccan stance is well known. He is currently facing charges of racial discrimination in the Dutch courts.

It is through their tacit endorsement of people like Wilders and their repeated use of far-right rhetoric that UKIP manages to maintain such a wide following among neo-Nazis. But is it really all just ‘playing politics’ or do UKIPpers really mean what they say? Britain’s neo-Nazis seem pretty convinced.

It seems unlikely that UKIP officials and supporters would make quite so many racist, neoNazi remarks if they didn’t really mean it. The litany of racism and fascist soundbytes really is toe-curling. For example...

"Islamic culture inherently rejects the Western way of life, more specifically the Protestant work ethic that has successfully built the economies of the West. The increase of Islam in the UK is going to be a problem for the welfare state."

"A removal of multiculturalism and assimilation of these people needs to done to save them from the abyss of exclusion and welfare. Above all, one should not shy away of contemplating forced repatriation, or threatening it to further assimilation, as a result of their lack of economic contribution to the UK."

Gerard Batten, immigration spokesman for UKIP wants to ban all new Mosques and force muslims to sign a charter opposing violence.

Kerry Smith is racist and homophobic. Farage stuck up for Smith anyway.

The Telegraph reports that William Henwood suggests Lennie Henry (a comedian from the West Midlands ‘Black country’) should go and live in an actual black country whilst Magnus Neilsen thinks that 70% of mosques have been taken over by fundamentalists. Neilsen stated:

"Islam is organised crime under religious camouflage. Any Muslim who is not involved in organised crime is not a ‘true believer’, practising Islam as Mohammed commanded."

Anne Marie Crampton – a UKIPper from East Sussex allegedly wrote on her blog...

"Holocaust means a sacrifice by fire. Only the Zionists could sacrifice their own in the gas chambers. The Second World Wide War was engineered by the Zionist Jews and financed by the banksters to make the general public all over the world feel so guilty and outraged by the Holocaust that a treaty would be signed to create the State of Israel as we know it today."

In fact UKIP officials are so poor at hiding their natural racism and neoNazi tendencies that the party has had to tell them not to use social media. They just can’t be trusted not to give the game away, even going so far as to recommend that all Africans should kill themselves. Then there’s the neoNazi activities of Scottish UKIPper Arthur Thackery who, in spite of the awful evidence of his association with the English and Scottish ‘Defence Leagues’ and his sectarian rants against Catholics and gays remained in post with Farage’s support until public exposure of his neoNazi forced the party to act. Predictably, Farage claims that such social media gaffes are the product of a few bad apples and they don’t represent the bulk of UKIP’s members. That might be believable were it not for the experience of black and Asian UKIP members themselves.
Sanya Thandi left the party in disgust at their inherent, populist racism.

There are many UKIPpers giving the game away, a fair few of which can be found here, on Richard Willis’ blog. It’s quite an eye-opener. As is this report from The New Statesman. Even Farage isn’t immune from neo-Nazi indiscretion (if only by association)...

"Ukip is part of the group Europe of Freedom and Democracy (EFD). The group includes representatives of the Danish People’s Party, the True Finns Party, the Dutch SGP and the infamous Italian Lega Nord – all of them far-right. Nigel Farage is co-President of the group along with Lega Nord’s Francesco Speroni, who described multiple murderer Anders Breivik as someone whose "ideas are in defence of western civilisation."

Mario Borghezio, another member of the group, declared in a radio interview that Breivik had some "excellent" ideas. Farage’s reaction was to write a strongly-worded letter to Borghezio, asking him to withdraw his comments or Ukip would pull out of the EFD. Borghezio not only did not apologise, but responded with an extraordinary speech in which he raged: "Long live the Whites of Europe, long live our identity, our ethnicity, our race... our blue sky, like the eyes of our women. Blue, in a people who want to stay white."

Nigel Farage did not withdraw from the EFD. He continues to co-preserve over it, along with the leader of the Lega Nord. MEP Nikki Sinclaire, however, was expelled from Ukip for refusing to take part in the EFD because of their "extreme views”.

Christopher Monckton has gone so far as to plead with members of Far Right groups to come and join UKIP whilst Cliff Dixon is extremely proud of his links with the English Defence League (EDL). As is EDL activist Chris Scotton. And he’s not alone. Whatever Farage’s official party line might be the grass roots members seem very keen to welcome neoNazi, white supremacists into their midst. Odd given their stance on banning anti-Nazis from their (not far right, honestly we’re not) party.

This isn’t too surprising given the striking similarities between UKIP’s policies (so far as they have outlined them coherently) and the aims of far right and neoNazi organisations. We’ll look at these policy similarities in some detail in part 5 of this series.

Whilst I don’t believe that the majority of UKIPpers actually are Nazis they do represent a ‘respectable’ political vehicle through which modern neo-Nazis might gain a foothold.

Like the National Socialist party of Germany between the wars, modern British Nazis are seeking to win a ‘hearts and minds’ competition among the British population. Groups like Britain First and the English Defence League are making some headway in this regard but they have no chance of winning elections. They’re just too overtly extremist. But the...
people they persuade, the people they’ve duped into believing their misrepresentations about immigrants, Muslims, LGBT, benefit scroungers and white genocide are easy meat for UKIP. Like UKIP, they want to curtail our human rights, like UKIP they push a nationalist agenda and like UKIP they play on mythical, idyllic notions of what it means to be British and the threat of Johnny Foreigner invading our soil by stealth.

Interestingly – these same ideological groups made exactly the same anti-immigration, xenophobic, rabidly generalised claims about Blacks, Catholics and even the Irish in relatively recent decades. They were small-minded and wrong then. They’re equally small-minded and wrong now. But UKIP courts their modern anti-Muslim (Islamophobic) anti-European, even anti-gay counterparts because in doing so UKIP gains support from the neo-Nazis without actually having to be neo-Nazis themselves. They do appear to engage in Nazi style tactics such as spying on political opponents though which is more than a little worrying for an aspiring, power-hungry party that claims to respect privacy and to oppose interference from the state.

**UKIP sees people as exploitable resources and plans to open the door for exploitation**

The bulk of UKIP's driving players aren’t actually Nazis, they’re old school conservatives, but what exactly does that tell us? What do 'old school conservatives' actually stand for? More to the point, what old school conservative policies does UKIP stand for?

In the absence of a coherent manifesto for GE2015 we need look at the old, abandoned (but actually remarkably revealing) manifesto from 2010 and party statements from the early years of the current government’s tenure. I have no doubt that many UKIPpers will object to this but in the absence of anything more up to date there seems little option. In any event – it seems more than likely that their early expressions of contempt for the rights of ordinary people are far more accurate than any later statements that came after they realised just how much of a ‘dead giveaway’ it was. It is here that we will find their true intentions and it is here that they expose their contempt for the working people of UK.

In 2012 Godfrey Bloom spoke of his hope that many NHS and welfare jobs would be lost. After all – if there’s no profit in it there’s no reason for UKIP to support it.

"They are public sector jobs, so they are taking money out of the economy and wealth creation. I hope hundreds, thousands of jobs will be lost... you will never understand UKIP until you understand this point. Public spending takes money out of the economy, it doesn’t put it in."

**UKIP wants to scrap the hard-won rights of workers**, another old school tory aim. Only by removing employment rights, including minimum wages, holiday entitlements, sick pay and redundancy payments can they open the door to the wholesale exploitation of working people that they so desperately want to facilitate.

"UKIP would put an end to most legislation regarding matters such as weekly working hours, holidays ... overtime, redundancy or sick pay etc. and provide a statutory,
standard, very short employment contract template ... those employers who offer relatively generous terms would be able to use this in their advertising and might be able to attract better candidates or pay slightly lower salaries, and the reverse would apply to employers who demand longer working hours, or offer fewer holidays or fewer days’ sick pay etc.”

They even want to make it more difficult to access tribunals for workers who have been unfairly treated by employers.

"UKIP would legislate to ensure the scope of claims which can be heard by tribunals will be greatly reduced. In particular, limits on unfair dismissal and discrimination claims will be re-instated and no unfair dismissals or discrimination claims would be admitted by the Tribunals in respect of employees with less than two years continuous employment.”

They’re no better when it comes to womens’ rights.

"UKIP would additionally scrap most ‘equality and discrimination’ legislation, cap all compensation payments and allow commonsense to prevail.”

"UKIP will oppose measures in the ‘Equality’ Bill to force employers in the public sector to discriminate against the indigenous male population”.

Speaking in 2014 UKIP’s employment spokeswoman outlined their views on zero hours contracts.

"UKIP will take action to prevent major employers using such contracts in an exploitative way against employees who lack other options. We will devise a code of conduct - with the threat of legislative action if it is not observed - that will give large employers a duty to offer a fixed hours contract to anyone who has worked on a zero hours contract for a year. Such employees will be under no compunction to accept a regular hours contract if it does not suit them, but must be offered the choice.”

This seems all fine and dandy until we recall the lack of employment rights until a year has passed. The trick is familiar- Thatcher used it in the 1980s where casual workers with no rights were employed for just under a year, summarily dismissed and then re-employed the next week to prevent them from ever gaining security. UKIP are planning to facilitate the same outrage under the pretense of ‘fairness’.

And of course – here’s a bone for the racists in the camp...

"I would like to see every employer keep in mind the social premium that comes whenever an unemployed youngster from their locality finds a job and be free to help that quest along without having to worry about whether they can be sued for being biased in favour of a British youngster."

Do you still think that UKIPpers are nice?
UKIPpers Part 4:

English – not British

Originally keen to seduce the whole of the UK’s xenophobes, UKIPpers are now painfully aware of the limits of their appeal in Scotland and for many rank and file English nationalists Wales and Northern Ireland just don’t count. The Scots are just too egalitarian by comparison with England, Welsh UKIP appears to have quite variable fortunes and Northern Ireland has a completely different set of sectarian problems to distract its bigots. But in England – oh in England...

England is the closest the UK comes to a neoNazi’s dream and the disarray of all the other far right groups has been nothing short of a gift for UKIP. So the rhetoric has changed. Now UKIPpers talk about England and focus more upon English rights than British rights – not least because that’s what many existing nationalists are doing anyway (and have done for years). There’s no point in demonstrating disagreement with your target demographic when a simple change in language will sidestep the problem.

England makes up around 80% of the UK population anyway so if you’re going to pander to any particular form of devolved nationalism – that’s the one to choose. So long as they get enough support to derail involvement in the European Union, who cares about internal UK geography?

Want out of Europe

The nonsense that UKIP spouts about Europe would be laughable if it wasn’t for the fact that so many people seem to have swallowed their lies hook, line and sinker. They witter on about European ‘red tape’ with no acknowledgement of the real, domestic cause of those delays. They make the outrageous claim that most of UK’s legislation is dictated by Europe – in fact the truth is wildly different as this House of Commons document reveals.

UKIP claims that British businesses want out of Europe. That’s British business except for those represented by the CBI, the Federation of Small Businesses and the EEF! But of course – these organisations are into reasonable trading practice – not the wholesale exploitation of the workforce. That’s why they support Europe whereas UKIP wants out. European membership prevents the more draconian aims of UKIP’s parasitic leadership – and they know it.

Opening the door to exploitation

In September 2014 Jane Collins (UKIP’s employment spokeswoman) announced a number of policies relating to employment. We have already discussed the deceitful way they claim to protect those on zero hours contracts and the party’s discriminatory ideas on job applicants in part 3 of this series. She claims that UKIP wants to remove those on the minimum wage from the income tax threshold (but since they dislike the fact that we have a minimum wage anyway that’s all a bit pointless).

The reality is that UKIP genuinely is ‘more tory than the tories’, be that a cliché or not. The party’s contempt for the poorest in our society is no great surprise though, given that Farage himself claims to be the only UK politician keeping the flame of Thatcherism alive. As those of us old enough to remember the dark days of Mrs. T.’s government know only too well, that’s nothing to be proud of. That flame was actually the funeral pyre for millions of jobs, the sacrificial fire into which so many working peoples’ hopes were cast. If you’re lucky enough not to be quite so old as I am then this might give you an idea of the damage Farage’s political heroine caused during her period in office.
Of course UKIP doesn’t come clean about their true intentions. That’s why there still isn’t a UKIP manifesto, just months before the country goes to the polls in GE2015.

So they misrepresent...

Their basic mindset

UKIP really can’t make their true intentions public. They know how horrified many of their potential voters would be if they knew the sordid truth. So we need to rely upon the many gaffes they make, gaffes which we can use to interpret the real meaning behind UKIP’s vague and largely uncosted policies.

Immigration

UKIP’s view on immigration is little different from that of the National Front. Here’s Victoria Ayling, UKIP parliamentary candidate demonstrating her National Front sympathies on video. In an unguarded moment she says “I just want to send the lot back but I can’t say that.” before joking about what might happen if that particular clip got out. Well Victoria – it did.

Amjad Bashir, allegedly a particularly unsavoury character in his own right, is pretty good at political ship-jumping. However, he’s also Asian and as such provided UKIP with the perfect ‘some of my mates are Asian’ tokenistic argument whenever their predominantly white officials said something racist. In the end however, even Mr. Bashir defected because of UKIP’s racist culture.

The party’s rants against Islam in general and UK Muslims in particular provide an interesting backdrop to their immigration policies, their insistence upon removing translations ....

"There must be one language used in national and political institutions and publicly funded places (excluding historical differences such a Welsh in Wales or Gaelic in Scotland). In England only English must be displayed in public buildings such as local and national government offices, universities, colleges, schools, hospitals, clinics etc"
And who could forget their (now defunct) intention to ban the Burkha from UK streets – you know, the same campaign that was so much in favour with the BNP, the EDL, Britain First and the National Front. They also use the same tired old arguments about cultural eradication of ‘real Brits’ (also beloved of the aforementioned neoNazi groups).

"Our traditional values have been undermined. Children are taught to be ashamed of our past. Multiculturalism has split our society. Political correctness is stifling free speech."

**ECHR And EU**

UKIP’s racism isn’t their main issue though – that’s just the populist bandwagon they use to further the real agenda – leaving the EU. That’s because more people are likely to support policies that pander to their petty prejudices than those which threaten to destroy their livelihoods.

But make no mistake – it’s the protection of working people that UKIP really objects to. Leaving the EU and scrapping the Human Rights Act (itself a direct result of the European Convention on Human Rights) would open the door to exploitation of working people on a scale not seen in UK for decades. That’s the real purpose so far as Farage and co are concerned (see above).

**Public services**

UKIP wants to scrap the NHS. Just look at Farage’s own comments to see the evidence of that. In fact there is much that UKIP opposes that they wouldn’t like you to know. This link outlines their intentions in their own words. Even the party spin doctors can’t make this look particularly hopeful for working people. We’ll unpick it in more detail in part 5.

**UKIPpers part 5: Not Nazi – honestly we’re not**

This might surprise some people. It’s become an easy cop out for commentators of all political persuasion to describe their opponents as Nazis without even the slightest justification. The term is thrown about with such abandon these days that it’s losing all meaning beyond that of a casual and essentially non-specific insult designed to discredit or silence the opposition. But that’s not how I use the term.

So far as I’m concerned Nazis are those who share their basic political principles with the National Socialist (Nazi) party of Hitler’s Germany. That’s very specific. When I point out UKIP’s Nazi tendencies I do so deliberately and in all seriousness.

UKIP have not yet published a proper manifesto. That’s interesting in itself. It means that those people who support UKIP do so without really knowing what they stand for. It’s as though they’re paying for a box in a jumble sale with little or no knowledge of what it contains.

People cannot possibly be supporting UKIP based upon reasonably costed and thought out policies because UKIP hasn’t published any. UKIP’s supporters then are reacting to a fairly superficial list of populist gripes and irritations with no real understanding of what the party proposes to do to change them or how realistic any such plans might be in practice.

All we have to go on is a fairly superficial list of intentions and a lot of public statements from individual UKIPpers. These are the focus of today’s post, compared for reference with the famous ‘25 point plan’ of Hitler’s Nazi party. The similarities are chilling. But don’t just take my word for it. See for yourself.

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## Comparing UKIP with the Nazi party of Hitler’s Germany

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nazi 25 point plan</th>
<th>UKIP</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong> We demand the union of all Germans in a Great Germany on the basis of the principle of self-determination of all peoples.</td>
<td>Regain control of our borders and of immigration - only possible by leaving the EU.  We believe Britain must get back control over its borders, so that it can welcome people with a positive contribution to make while limiting the overall numbers of migrants and keeping out those without the skills or aptitudes to be of benefit to the nation.</td>
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<td><strong>2</strong> We demand that the German people have rights equal to those of other nations; and that the Peace Treaties of Versailles and St. Germain shall be abrogated.</td>
<td>Demanding an English voice in Scottish devolution debate</td>
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<td><strong>3</strong> We demand land and territory (colonies) for the maintenance of our people and the settlement of our surplus population.</td>
<td>No obvious correlation here. UKIP is more isolationist then expansionist. There seems to be no desire to create another empire – just to recreate the basic social structure that went along with it here in UK.</td>
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<td><strong>4</strong> Only those who are our fellow countrymen can become citizens. Only those who have German blood, regardless of creed, can be our countrymen. Hence no Jew can be a countryman.</td>
<td>And in UKIP’s case – only those in employment too!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong> Those who are not citizens must live in Germany as foreigners and must be subject to the law of aliens.</td>
<td>Regain control of our borders and of immigration - only possible by leaving the EU.  Immigrants must financially support themselves and their dependents for 5 years. This means private health insurance (except emergency medical care), private education and private housing - they should pay into the pot before they take out of it. A points-based visa system and time-limited work permits.  Proof of private health insurance must be a precondition for immigrants and tourists to enter the UK.</td>
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<td><strong>6</strong> The right to choose the government and determine the laws of the State shall belong only to citizens. We therefore demand that no public office, of whatever nature, whether in the central government, the province, or the municipality, shall be held by anyone who is not a citizen. We wage war against the corrupt parliamentary administration whereby men are appointed to posts by favour of the party without regard to character and fitness.</td>
<td>UKIP believes in Britain becoming a democratic, self-governing country once again. This can only be achieved by getting our nation out of the European Union and reasserting the sovereignty of Parliament.  As a party we are unashamedly patriotic: we believe there is so much to be proud about Britain and the contribution it has made to the world. We believe that Britain is good enough to be an independent nation, trading and building harmonious relations with the rest of the world.  A vote for UKIP is a vote to leave the EU and recover power over our national life.  Free trade, but not political union, with our European neighbours. We are the EU’s largest export market: they depend on us for jobs -</td>
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<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td>We demand that the State shall above all undertake to ensure that every citizen shall have the possibility of living decently and earning a livelihood. If it should not be possible to feed the whole population, then aliens (non-citizens) must be expelled from the Reich.</td>
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<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td>Any further immigration of non-Germans must be prevented. We demand that all non-Germans who have entered Germany since August 2, 1914, shall be compelled to leave the Reich immediately.</td>
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<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td>All citizens must possess equal rights and duties.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td>The first duty of every citizen must be to work mentally or physically. No individual shall do any work that offends against the interest of the community to the benefit of all. Therefore we demand: Enrol unemployed welfare claimants onto community schemes or retraining workfare programmes.</td>
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<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td>That all unearned income, and all income that does not arise from work, be abolished.</td>
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<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td>Since every war imposes on the people fearful sacrifices in blood and treasure, all personal profit arising from the war must be regarded as treason to the people. We therefore demand the total confiscation of all war profits.</td>
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<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td>We demand the nationalization of all trusts.</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>We demand profit-sharing in large industries.</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>We demand a generous increase in old-age pensions.</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>We demand the creation and maintenance of a sound middle-class, the immediate communalisation of large stores which will be rented cheaply to small trades people, and the strongest consideration must be given to ensure that small traders shall deliver the supplies needed by the State, the provinces and municipalities.</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>We demand an agrarian reform in accordance with our national requirements, and the enactment of a law to expropriate the owners without compensation of any land needed for the common purpose. The abolition of ground rents, and the prohibition of all speculation in land.</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>We demand that ruthless war be waged against those who work to the injury of the common welfare. Traitors, usurers, profiteers, etc., are to be punished with death, regardless of creed or race.</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>We demand that Roman law, which serves a materialist ordering of the world, be replaced by German common law.</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>In order to make it possible for every capable and industrious German to obtain higher education, and thus the opportunity to reach into positions of leadership, the State must assume the responsibility of organizing thoroughly the entire cultural system of the people. The curricula of all educational establishments shall be adapted to practical life. The conception of the State Idea (science of citizenship) must be taught in the schools from the very beginning. We demand that specially talented children of poor parents, whatever their station or occupation, be educated at the expense of the State.</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>The State has the duty to help raise the standard of national health by providing maternity welfare centres, by prohibiting juvenile labour, by increasing physical fitness through the introduction of compulsory games and gymnastics, and by the greatest possible encouragement of associations concerned with the physical education of the young.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>We demand the abolition of the regular army and the creation of a national (folk) army.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>We demand that there be a legal campaign against those who propagate deliberate political lies and disseminate them through the press.</td>
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- All editors and their assistants on
newspapers published in the German language shall be German citizens

- Non-German newspapers shall only be published with the express permission of the State
- All financial interests in or in any way affecting German newspapers shall be forbidden to non-Germans by law

Newspapers transgressing against the common welfare shall be suppressed.

24 We demand freedom for all religious faiths in the state, insofar as they do not endanger its existence or offend the moral and ethical sense of the Germanic race.

The party as such represents the point of view of a positive Christianity without binding itself to any one particular confession. It fights against the Jewish materialist spirit within and without, and is convinced that a lasting recovery of our folk can only come about from within on the principle:

COMMON GOOD BEFORE INDIVIDUAL GOOD

"Ukip opposes multiculturalism and political correctness - aiming to create a single British culture embracing all religions and cultures"

NB: The German Nazis didn’t really mean ‘religious freedom’ and neither does UKIP  
As Paul Nuttall MEP has stated:

"The Christian identity is under threat from every angle. UKIP are the only party that now supports and will protect the fundamental rights of Christians. UKIP will speak out against the attack on our Christian heritage that has developed in this land for nearly 2,000 years."

25 In order to carry out this program we demand: the creation of a strong central authority in the State, the unconditional authority by the political central parliament of the whole State and all its organizations.

The formation of professional committees and of committees representing the several estates of the realm, to ensure that the laws promulgated by the central authority shall be carried out by the federal states.

The leaders of the party undertake to promote the execution of the foregoing points at all costs, if necessary at the sacrifice of their own lives.

There is no direct correlation here. Interestingly – this desire to effect totalitarian control by the state is the ‘evidence’ UKIPpers use to claim that the Nazis were akin to modern socialist parties. However, as this chart exposes, the accusation is far more appropriate to level at UKIPpers themselves. Mainstream modern socialism here in 21st century UK is very different from the extreme totalitarianism of the last century and has absolutely nothing in common with the extreme nationalism of Hitler and of UKIP.

Declaration of interest

Although a socialist by heritage and tradition I am not a member of any political party. I left the UK Labour Party when the Blair government led the country into an illegal war with no UN mandate and I have never returned.

Stuart Sorensen

February 2015