

# UK Independence NEWS

The National Newsletter of

Price £1: Free to Members



## UKIP Annual Conference

***This year for the first time, UKIP's Annual Conference was held in the north of England. Despite some prior concerns about the numbers likely to attend, the seaside Spa town of Scarborough proved to be a big attraction, and the conference a great success. 'UK Independence News' asked Derek Bennett to report:***

On Saturday 5th October I awoke and looked out of the window of my Scarborough hotel to see a large car in the road with a UKIP banner on the roof - what a good start to the day. The walk to the Spa Conference Centre through the splendour of Victorian architecture and fine municipal gardens provided an appropriate introduction to the first speaker of the day, the Mayor of Scarborough. Councillor Sheila Kettlewell was introduced to representatives by Party Chairman Mike Natrass who invited her to open the Conference. As an independent Councillor she had the freedom to give a very supportive talk, but she also took time from her busy schedule to stay for an hour or so to find out more about the Party.

Following an address from Mike Natrass, Neil Herron gave an update on the Metric Martyrs campaign and the shocking events regarding their appeal to the House of Lords which has accepted that EU law now overrides British law. Neil was followed by UKIP local councillor Dennis Brookes who described the techniques he used in winning his council seat in Shropshire. After him came Michael de Magarejo - a Gibraltar living in London, who revealed something of the utter betrayal which he and his fellow Gibraltarians feel over the way they have been treated by the British government.

The morning session came to an end with speeches from both the outgoing Party Leader Jeffrey Titford, and his successor Roger Knapman. We were all sad to see Jeffrey depart, such is the affection and respect we have for him. He brought much needed stability to our party. However, to everyone's delight he announced his intention to continue as an MEP, and he will re-stand during the next Euro elections. There was then an informal hand over to Roger Knapman, who officially became the party Leader the following day after an overwhelming endorsement from the delegates. Roger gave a rousing speech, joking about taking over from an undertaker (Jeffrey's profession) and also gave a serious talk about the direction of the party. Referring to the 1994 Euro elections his slogan was "Eighty weeks, ten MEPs", which he made us all repeat!



*Saturday evening: Jeffrey Titford with Freddie Truman*

### In this Issue.....

Leaders Report	2	Letters to Editor	8-9
Nigel Farage	3	EU Parallels	10
Around The Branches	4-5	Merchandising	11
Diary Dates	6	Noticeboard	12
Party Chairman	7		

During the afternoon Ashley Mote addressed Conference on the subject of immigration, John Walker of the Federation of Small Businesses spoke of the problems his members faced from the Euro, and they in turn were followed by Hendrik Dahisson of TEAM, Peter Rogers, and Bill Jamieson Editor of *The Scotsman*.

*(Continued on page 11)*

# Leader's Report

by Roger Knapman

***As the new leader of UKIP my first annual conference in Scarborough last month provided me with an ideal opportunity to meet many members from across the country, and to find out where their main interests and concerns lay. Elsewhere in this issue of Independence News you will find a fuller report on the conference, but my main concern here is to tell you something of my impressions on the mood of the party, and what I intend to do to meet members wishes.***

## Single Issue Party?

I very much enjoyed the conference, but it was apparent to me early on that there is a lot of concern amongst members that we are seen by the electorate as a single issue party. UKIP was set up originally as a party dedicated to getting the UK out of the EU, but from the earliest times the party has also had a whole raft of other policies, and details of these are always available to members (*See note on back page: ED*). These 'other policies' do not always fit easily into one slot on the a left-right political spectrum. Instead they reflect the fact that we are a broad church and include members who have come to us from across the political divide.

## Immigration

It rapidly became clear to me however that there is one area of policy where many members have strong feelings and would like to see the party adopt a more prominent line. That area is immigration, and in particular illegal immigration. This can be a highly emotive issue, and as such we should approach it with care. I will not for instance compromise on our policy of treating all legally resident British citizens as equals. Neither though do I believe that it is an area in which we should bow to intimidation from the forces of political correctness by maintaining a terrified silence. A recent poll for the Commission for Racial Equality found that 61 per cent of the population, including 46 percent of ethnic minorities think that Britain is accepting too many immigrants. If this is a topic of concern amongst such large sections of the population, then we in UKIP have a duty to produce firm clear and consistent policies on the matter.

## Unprecedented Levels

So what is our starting point? Last August 5th, *The Times* carried a report on the pressure group set up by former British diplomat Sir Andrew Green called *Migration Watch UK*. The gist of this report was that mass immigration was now running at levels never before seen in our country's history. By 2002, nearly 200,000 immigrants a year were entering the UK, and this excluded many tens of thousands of additional illegal entrants. A city the size of Cambridge every six months, or, if current rates continue, some two million people over the next ten years!

## Not a Worry?

But why should this worry us? After all, has not Britain always been a haven for refugees and others seeking a better life? What about the Huguenots from France, or Jewish refugees from Germany and Russia? Well yes of course we have a long and honourable tradition in this field, but the difficulty today is with the sheer numbers of people involved. As many immigrants now enter the UK in a little over one year, as all the refugees from these three groups put together.



## Family Friendly Policies

We live on a small but very crowded group of islands. The average population density of England for instance is twice that of Germany, four times that of France, and twelve times that of the United States. Our city centres are overcrowded, housing estates are marching relentlessly across the countryside, and our roads and railways are seizing up. The government claims that we need the mass immigration of workers from abroad in order to support an ageing population at home, but what they seem pathetically unaware of is that immigrants age too.

At nearly sixty million our current population stands at an all time record, but if, despite this era of automation we really do have a looming shortage of workers, then perhaps the best answer lies with family friendly policies which encourage British couples to have more children!

## Your Views

I say 'perhaps' because before we come to any firm decisions on these matters I want to hear your views. Time is short however so if you have opinions which you would like to share, then please write to me at Head Office (address on back page) before the end of December, marking the envelope 'Policy Initiatives'. I will be asking a small group of senior members of the party to help me to digest what I anticipate could be a very large response, and we will be making an initial report back to you in the next issue of *Independence News*.

***Of course our primary policy is and will remain to take back our country's independence from the European Union. This can never be a single issue however because we will always be asked the question "What kind of country is it that you want an independent Britain to be?". We should never have to answer "Don't Know."***

*Nigel Farage's speech to the to the European 'parliament' on European Union Third World partnerships.*

**The European 'parliament'.  
Strasbourg, 26 September 2002**

Mr President

*This report is on the face of it well-intentioned and recognises the need for ACP [Afro-Caribbean Partnership] countries to export their goods. There are many fine phrases such as: 'worldwide inequality must be remedied'. But, as ever, it is all hot air and naïve idealism. In fact, what really strikes me here is the large element of sheer hypocrisy. Agricultural produce is a large element of ACP exports. Yet, despite all the fine words, the tariff regime makes the EU a difficult market-place, with 16% being a fairly typical entry price for ACP goods. It also means that consumers pay far too much for food here. Of course, the solution to all of this - real reform of the common agricultural policy - is nothing more than a mirage.*



*How can we even talk about partnership agreements with these countries, given the*

*continuing scandal of the European Union fisheries deals? This 'parliament' continues to give its overwhelming endorsement to deals that involve huge sums of taxpayers' money going straight to corrupt African regimes: up to nearly £1 billion in the last few years alone, and little or none of it going to the local communities that need it. As a result of all of this, hundreds of indigenous black African fisherman are continuing to die. I have raised this point here before, and I am met with aggression from the Spanish and with indifference from Commissioner Fischler. To satisfy the greed of large companies in Europe, this place turns a blind eye to a humanitarian disaster.*

*I do not expect many people here to agree with my view about political integration in the European Union. On this one area of fisheries deals, please surprise me and let us see some reform and let us give these struggling African coastal communities some sort of chance. Since 1994 there has been repeated documentary evidence about all this and it is high time that something was done.*



## Editorial

by John Harvey

*At first sight Roger Knapman's report opposite, and Nigel Farage's speech on this page have little or nothing in common. The one is about immigration into the UK, the other addresses the plight of indigenous fishermen off the coast of Africa. Dig a little deeper however, and the link soon becomes apparent. In both cases the wishes of the EU juggernaut take precedence over the wants and needs of the people concerned.*



### Population

Many continental EU countries are suffering from a dramatic decline in birthrates presaging a big drop in their overall population. As a consequence, Jean Pierre Chevenment, French Interior Minister, was reported in the *Sunday Telegraph* of July 30th 2000, as sponsoring a document calling for the EU as a whole to admit up to 75 million immigrants during the next 50 years. No mention here that the UK however suffers from no such decline in its population. No reference to the opinion polls such as the one quoted by Roger Knapman, which show voters wanting to curtail further immigration.

*No EU concern here for the particular needs of individual European countries, and certainly never for the wishes of their people.*

It is UKIP's belief that British immigration policy should be the sole responsibility of the British government and Parliament. Withdrawal from the EU means that there will be no further moves towards a 'pan-European' immigration policy.

### African Fishermen

Nigel Farage's speech refers to the agreements that now allow large EU fishing fleets to trawl the seas off the coasts of Africa, and the dire consequences for the small fishing communities of the countries concerned. Some fifteen African countries suffer from the predations of these fleets. It is estimated that Mauritania alone now bears over 300 deaths a year amongst the people of its coastal fishing villages. In some cases the locals are forced, by intensive competition from the larger EU boats, to take their own lightweight native craft a lot further out to sea where they often succumb to the stormier weather. In others they simply become the victims of collisions with these powerful European boats.

*No EU concern here for the indigenous peoples of some of the poorest countries on the face of the earth.*

Just as the EU should give British fishing grounds back to British fishermen, so basic humanity demands that it should also return African fishing waters to those African communities who, for hundreds of years, lived off the bounty of their seas.

### Arrogance

These two examples highlight the arrogance of the whole EU project. It exists not to serve the people, but to master them. And you don't even have to live within its geographical boundaries to feel the sting of the master's lash.

***One final thought. The next time some puffed up EU politician calls for increased immigration into the EU in order to 'improve our skills base', you can be absolutely certain he won't have given a moment's thought to just what this will mean for the poor under-skilled third world countries from whom these skilled immigrant workers are to be taken!***



## Around the Branches

*The number of branches now holding regular monthly meetings continues to grow apace, as can be seen on the 'Diary Dates' page. Informal but regular meetings together with purely social get-togethers, help to build branch solidarity, and this in turn helps in getting the troops out at election time.*

### North Wales

It is always gratifying when prominent members of other parties come over to the UK Independence Party, but it is particularly satisfying when a number of members decide to come over together. This indeed was what happened in the North Wales branch recently, and there may be more to come. Pictured here are UKIP Wales chairman David Rowlands and his wife, welcoming aboard Mr Elwyn Williams a prominent Tory from North Wales, and leader of the Caernarvon Conservatives. Also joining us was Mr John Walker the press officer of the same branch.

Mr Williams followed his defection to UKIP with an excellent letter published in the regional *Daily Post* newspaper where he gave his reasons for joining UKIP. As our campaign in the Welsh assembly Elections gets under way, it is gratifying to see movement away from the established parties to UKIP, the only truly democratic national party. **David Rowlands 01633 875610.**



### Plymouth

On September 20th, Plymouth UKIPs were joined by members from across Cornwall and the South West, as well as members of the Democracy Movement in a vociferous demonstration held outside the Moat House Hotel in Plymouth where the EU Cohesion Funds were being discussed at a two day conference at great cost to taxpayers. It was attended by all the usual jobsworths from local-government and various quangos, and also by the European Commissioner for the Regions to whom we gave an especially warm welcome as you can imagine. Someone managed to distribute copies of *Choose Democracy*



throughout the hotel, and conference participants left after the first day with some interesting new anti-EU stickers on their cars. With three police vans and two patrol cars in attendance we received very good local press and TV coverage, and several of us were interviewed for the evening's ITV news.

The branch has been very busy recently leafleting in the city and surrounding areas, and we now intend to start taking advertising space on local buses and the Tamar ferry. **Denis McCallum** (Plymouth) **01752 404821** and **John Bass** (Cornwall) **01503 230055.**

### Burton on Trent

Sandra Robinson who chairs the Burton on Trent branch organised a public meeting on the Euro recently. Chaired by Austin Mitchell MP, the panel included Nigel Farage, Bill Cash MP, Brian Denny who gave the Socialist view of what is wrong with the EU, and Ian Baxter from Business for Sterling. Around a hundred people were in attendance, and the highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the rousing speech given by Nigel Farage which of course urged those present to reject not just the Euro, but the whole EU in its entirety. This highly successful meeting ended with a call for all local organisations present to campaign together against euro-Federalism. **Stuart Bavester 01283 569866.**

### Loughborough

We thought we would tackle a council by-election recently, so with the help of 3000 leaflets, 40 posters, and a touring loudspeaker with trailer we toured the Hathern ward. At this first attempt we gained 6.6% of the vote in what is a strongly Labour area. Next time, through familiarity, we will be getting many more votes. **Ron Burton 01509 212020.**

### Maidenhead

Denis Cooper reports that the branch held a public meeting on September 16th to celebrate "a decade of economic success since we left the ERM". Speakers were Nigel Farage, and Roger Nightingale, and the atmosphere amongst the audience of 90 was tremendous (wine helped). We recruited 15 new members and made a profit of £320 - the first time we've come out ahead on a public meeting. **Denis Cooper 01628 773235.**

### Folkestone & Hythe

With help from the neighbouring Maidstone branch, Folkestone and Hythe held a fundraising dinner on 8th October which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended. Not only was it a great social occasion, but it also achieved its target of putting branch finances thoroughly into the black, which stood us in good stead for tackling a district council by-election later in the autumn. **John Baker 01303 850684.**

### Totnes

Peter Wyatt, chairman of Totnes branch writes: "I had been sent an invitation about a month ago to attend a Lib Dem sponsored discussion on the Euro, which, of course I accepted. On the day of the meeting they rang me up and said "can you keep your speech to 10 minutes" to which I

replied "what speech". It then transpired that the format of the meeting was a panel of 4, of which I would be one, with each of us making a 10 minute speech followed by a question and answer session. I asked the names of the others, only to be told they were Graham Watson Lib Dem MEP, Mike Treleavan, prospective Lib Dem candidate for the Totnes Constituency, and an "economist" who had worked for the Treasury and just happened to be a Lib Dem part member! I quickly sensed that this was an ambush, and following good military practice where you always attack into an ambush, I got hold of Trevor Coleman and asked him to do my bit. Trevor, fresh from making the new video on the Euro, and with all the facts at his finger tips was quite superb and simply destroyed every argument they put forward. The meeting was well attended by members from both Totnes and Torbay branches who heckled to good effect and the end result was a resounding success for common sense with the Lib Dem MEP in particular being made to look an absolute fool! **Peter Wyatt 01803 0867015.**

## New Forest



The photo shows members manning the branch stall in New Milton High Street in the summer. As other branches have found, a street stall raised the local profile of the party considerably, and it also netted a fair bit of cash for our branch funds. **Norman Fancett 01425 621543.**

## Teignbridge

This last year we have made a point of holding monthly meetings in different parishes across the constituency - mostly coffee mornings with bric-a-brac sales and raffles - this gives us the chance to meet the general public whilst at the same time boosting our kitty for future election expenses. At all these events we usually have a table with leaflets, car stickers etc for sale, and the message is gradually spreading. We have also done a number of video presentations, and these have gone down extremely well. Our final event of the summer season was a Devonshire Cream Tea, as I suppose you might expect in this part of the world. **Joan Tiddy 01364 661368.**

## Tunbridge Wells

Our chairman Vic Webb, recently stood as UKIP candidate in a Kent County Council by-election for the Cranbrook ward. He issued an election statement in conjunction with 21 year old UKIP candidate Oliver Clement who was standing for a seat on the Borough Council. Although the election address stated boldly our main policy of withdrawing from the EU, there were also ten points of local policy ranging from the re-opening of Cranbrook Police Station to Asylum Seekers, to the local primary school and the rural economy. With help

from Maidstone and Herne Bay branches, our party stalwarts Walter, Derek, Margaret, and Pat delivered masses of leaflets, and on the night, Vic's pile of votes came to within just nine of the Labour candidate's. Next time we will beat them. **M. Martin 01892 525182**

## Staffordshire Moorlands

The photo shows the UKIP stand which we had at the recent Leek Agricultural Show. It was a really successful event, and we spent the whole day handing out UKIP newspapers and leaflets, and chatting non-stop to the huge crowd of people. The strangest thing was that almost everyone we spoke to said the same thing, "I didn't know there was a political party that thought the same way as me ~ you're doing a fine job". We were also surprised at just how many people wanted to make a donation to the party. We felt so proud representing UKIP - ambassadors for what we know is the best political party in the country. **Juliet Morris-Gell 01538 266440.**



## Maidstone

In their local party Newsletter, Maidstone branch report to members on their branch activities and alert them to coming events, including their participation in local County and Borough election campaigns. "We intend to provide candidates for all eleven wards up for election in Maidstone in 2003, together with the three wards that form the southern area of our constituency administered by Tunbridge Wells BC. Members interested in standing are encouraged to put their names forward for consideration as soon as possible. you will receive our full support." **Terry Kendall 01622 756551.**

**More and more branch reports now mention election activity and in the end this is why we are in UKIP. Maidstone for instance is already committed to a full slate of candidates next spring. In the next batch of reports, let us know how your branch is shaping up for the fights to come.**

What has your branch been up to recently? Submissions for **Around the Branches** can be succinct or chatty, political or social, and don't forget to include photos where appropriate. (NB. Electronic photos do not reproduce well.)

Material (Marked 'Around the Branches') should be sent to **John Harvey at 1 Drove Cottages, Rodmell, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3HD.**

**Tell/Fax: 01273 479563.**

**E-mail <ukip@rodmell.prestel.co.uk>.**

Please note copy date on back page.





## Diary Dates

Tell the members in your area about your meeting. Send details direct to the editor (See Back Page) for any **UKIP** event, or other event which includes **UKIP participation**, no matter how small, or how far in the future. Events must fall after the next publication date (see back page). For **Regular Monthly Meetings**, please give branch name and contact number only (as below). For **Single Meetings**, please list **Day and Date**, **Details of the event**, and the **Name and phone number of a contact**.

(Meetings are UKIP organised and open to all members and friends, unless otherwise stated)

### Regular Monthly Meetings

**Aldershot:** John Howe 01252 876095.  
**Bexley:** Bill Jenner 0208 304 4543.  
**Bognor Regis & Littlehampton:** Phil Skinner 01903 739874  
**Bromley, Kent:** John Youles 0208 658 3455  
**Burton-upon-Trent:** Sandra Robinson 01283 520502.  
**Cardiff Area:** Don Hulston 02920 623 903.  
**Chingford & Woodford:** Tim Parker 0208 559 3189.  
**Chichester, Sussex:** Geoffrey Collier 01243 820670.  
**Congleton, Cheshire:** A. D. Bracegirdle 01477 533787.  
**East Devon branch:** Sylvia Brownlee 01395 577993.  
**Folkestone & Hythe:** John Baker 01303 850684.  
**Great Yarmouth:** John Woodhead 01502 715410.  
**Gwent:** Neal Reynolds 01291 629807.

### 'Scary Movie'

*'The greatest abandonment of sovereignty since the foundation of the European Community' - former Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, on Spain's joining the Single Currency. This and many other quotes are all in the new video 'The Euro-the facts'.*

Meticulously researched by Nina Cooper, the video traces the 1970's deceit of Heath, Rippon and Wilson through to Blair's present day 'dissembling dishonesty'. The Government's five economic tests and the so-called advantages of membership are all examined and found wanting. Economically, membership of the euro is seen to be dangerous and unnecessary.

*But it is the massive constitutional change membership would bring about, denied by all three major political parties, that is the real message of this 26-minute film. Using utterances from politicians themselves, one is left in no doubt as to the true purpose of EMU. In the chilling words of Otmar Issing, 'Countries whose currencies have been replaced by the euro have ceased to exist as separate territories.'*

Written and presented by Trevor Colman and directed by Ashley Mote 'The Euro-the facts' devastatingly spills the beans. No wonder it sold 3,000 copies within the first fortnight. If enough people see it, this scary movie could well change the future of our nation.

Available in videotape or CD form. Send £6:00 to 'SANITY', P.O. Box 7242, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 0WH. For bulk orders and discount, phone 01803 - 557433.

**Liverpool:** Ken Crick 0151 260 0347.  
**Maidstone, Kent:** Terry Kendall 01622 756551.  
**Medway:** Pat Medford 01634 389686.  
**Newcastle upon Tyne:** Judith Wallace 0191 252 1598  
**North Wales:** Paul Seven 01248 713646  
**North West Surrey:** Michael Harvey 01483 770798.  
**North Yorkshire:** David Wright 01347 821837  
**Northants:** Derek Clark 01604 766064.  
**Nottinghamshire:** John Buchanan 01623 795332  
**Sedgefield and Darlington:** Peter Troy 01609 760624.  
**Shrewsbury & Atcham:** Peter Lewis 01743 791434.  
**Taunton & Bridgwater:** Stephanie Lukins 01823 443537.  
**Teesside:** Mike Landers 01642 823299.  
**Wells & Weston S. Mare:** David Willis 01934 732492.  
**Wirral:** Henry Crocker 0151 336 5790.

### Single Meetings

**Tue 3 Dec:** Taunton/Bridgwater. Possible meeting and social. 7.30pm at the Masons Arms, Taunton. **01278 641428.**  
**Thu 5 Dec:** Sedgefield. Public Rally on the EU at Sedgefield Racecourse. Roger Knapman, Chris Williamson, Peter Troy, Richard North. **Buffet from 7.00pm. Peter Troy 01609 760624.**  
**Fri 6 Dec:** Worcester. Christmas Social. 7.30pm at Powick village hall. Speaker Roger Knapman. Buffet and wine. £10.00. **Richard Chamings.**  
**Sat 7 Dec:** Stafford. Town centre campaigning and leafletting. **Branch Office 01785 212664**  
**Sat 7 Dec:** Stafford. Christmas drinks party at the home of Richard and Joanne Bradford, with Roger Knapman. 6.30pm. £12.50 which includes white wine and food. **Jill Crutchley 01785 602197.**  
**Mon 9 Dec:** Teesside. Branch AGM, 7.30pm at the Coronation hotel Middlesborough. **Mike Landers 01642 823299.**  
**Mon 9 Dec:** Shrewsbury & Atcham. Christmas Dinner. **Peter Lewis 01743 791434.**  
**Wed 11 Dec:** Maidstone. Christmas Social. **Terry Kendall 01622 210630.**  
**Thu 12 Dec:** Chingford & Woodford. 2nd branch Anniversary Christmas dinner and auction, with Roger Knapman. Ridgeway hotel. All UKIPs and guests welcome. **Tim Parker 0208 559 3189.**  
**Thu 12 Dec:** Nottinghamshire. Meeting at 'The Test Match' public house, West Bridgford. Andrew Clarke Stanley of the 'Keep the Pound' campaign. **John Buchanan 01623 795332.**  
**Fri 13 Dec:** Chester & District. Mulled Wine and Mince Pies at the chairman's home from 7.30pm. **Allan Weddell 01244 675089.**  
**Sat 14 Dec:** Bognor Regis. Christmas Lunch at the Beechcroft Hotel, Felpham 12.30pm. £13.75. **George Stride 01243 822042.**  
**Sat 14 Dec:** Southampton, Eastleigh, and Romsey branches. Joint Christmas Social. 7.00pm - 11.00pm. St Boniface Church Hall, Chandlers Ford. **Mike Cottrell 02380 775397.**  
**Sat 11 Jan:** Stafford. Town centre campaigning and leafletting. **Branch Office 01785 212664 .**  
**Sat 25 Jan:** Milton Keynes. Branch AGM at 2.30pm at the David Baxter Centre. **Mike Phillips 01234 711901.**  
**Sat 15 Feb:** Stafford. Town centre campaigning and leafletting. **Branch Office 01785 212664 .**  
**Sat 15 March:** Stafford. Town centre campaigning and leafletting. **Branch Office 01785 212664 .**  
**Sat 26 Apr:** Stafford. Town centre campaigning and leafletting. **Branch Office 01785 212664 .**  
**Sat 3 May:** Stafford. Town centre campaigning and leafletting. **Branch Office 01785 212664**

## Moving Forward

**Newly Appointed UKIP Party Chairman David Lott gives his thoughts on the way he wants the party to develop.**

### On the NEC

My duties as Party Chairman include chairing the monthly NEC meetings and developing the Party around the country. I hope to slightly change the emphasis in the way the National Executive Committee drives the agenda forward, which I think will lead to greater effectiveness. Rather than a Party run *by* the NEC, I see it as being run *through* the NEC. Let me explain.



Up until recently the NEC has had hands on direction of all aspects of party business, often considering the minute details of many administrative matters in addition to the minutiae of policy. This has sometimes led to initiatives becoming bogged down or delayed due to the sheer volume of the subjects being considered at any one time. In future I hope to make much more use of the talent within UKIP by involving members in a small number of sub-committees which will report to the NEC with completed projects for its consideration and approval or otherwise. Once a project is approved its implementation will be overseen by the sub-committee concerned. In this manner it should be possible to run numerous projects concurrently rather than the consecutive production of initiatives that have limited our progress to date.

### Out in the Country

In the Party at large we have members from Land's End to John O'Groats, but in only about a third of Parliamentary Constituencies are they organised into Constituency Associations. In order to increase this number we need to substantially increase the membership. There is also a direct correlation between the total number of members and the size of our vote. Increasing the membership leads to a proportionate rise in the UKIP vote.

Upping activity levels will retain our current members and bring in new blood. This means more public meetings, more video presentations, more candidates for local council by-elections and next May's local elections, more letters to local papers and more publicity generally. I urge all local groups to hold regular committee meetings to explore ideas and then to go out and put them into effect. Regular monthly meetings will often re-invigorate a tired branch.

Remember too that other branches have a lot of experience that you can call upon. For instance, I was recently told of two branches which have each increased

their memberships by over thirty souls, simply through the enthusiasm generated by holding a good public meeting. This did not happen by chance but was a direct result of the professional and meticulous manner in which they went about the exercise. If each of our branches and constituency associations did the same we would gain some 6000 new members brimming with fresh enthusiasm!

***If you think I can help you in any way, please give me a call on 01983 853211.***

**David Lott**

### Elections to the National Executive Committee

In accordance with the Party Constitution the annual elections for the National Executive Committee will be held in February 2003. There are seven vacancies and the five top-polling candidates will serve for three years. The next two will serve for one year, extendible up to three should mid-term vacancies occur.

NEC meetings are held monthly, currently on the first Monday, usually in London, and successful candidates will take up their place in March. As the Party's highest management committee it is responsible for planning strategy and taking decisions covering a wide range of Party activity.

In addition, NEC members undertake specific tasks and responsibilities, requiring considerable time and energy. The Party needs candidates with political instinct, and the resources to meet these demands, who are able to view their office as a service to the Party as a whole.

The Party is entering a crucial period with preparations under way for the all-important Euro Elections in 2004. In addition, there are many local elections next year, as well as the Elections for the Welsh Assembly, where we are making a major effort. If you believe you can make a significant contribution at this critical time then please consider making an application.

All Party members in good standing are entitled to seek election, subject to the constitution and party rules, and nomination forms are available now from the General Secretary at Head Office. The papers will include copies of the Election Rules but it should be noted at this stage that nominations require the signatures of a Proposer, a Secunder and eight assenters.

The closing date for receipt of nominations will be noon on Monday, January 6th 2003. Bearing in mind the Christmas Postal service, prospective candidates should send for details without delay, and are advised to return their nomination forms as early as possible.

**Derek Clark, Party Secretary.**



## Letters to the Editor

### Scarborough Conference

The party has come of age. The conference at Scarborough was quite excellent - a smooth turnover to Roger as our new leader, good presentations, no backbiting or angling for position, a very friendly and cheerful atmosphere, lots of facts and hopes that can only point our way, and with Fred Trueman as one of the best Music Hall comedy acts I have ever seen!

Well done to outgoing Chairman Mike Natrass and members of the organising committee.

**Peter Wyatt**  
*Totnes, Devon.*

### Only UKIP

There is a feeling amongst many members of the Party that there is strength in diversity. Hence they give active support to organisations outside UKIP such as CIB, Democracy Movement and other 'Eurosceptic' groups. To be sociable and attend their meetings is one thing. To give them money and be actively engaged in the management of such organisations is counter to the best interest of UKIP.

For a long time, Eurosceptics have promoted people such as Iain Duncan Smith, Sir Teddy Taylor and Theresa Gorman in the erroneous belief that they were on the same side as UKIP. In fact these people do no favours to UKIP, because they are Tories through and through. The Tory Party, even under IDS is in favour of the EU and its enlargement. When William Hague was plugging the mantra "In Europe, not run by Europe", Theresa Gorman and her Constituency Association were stating their belief that the only way not to run by Europe was to be out of the EU. Strange then that they continued to support a party with views that were totally opposed to their own.

Let us get some sense into the matter.

UKIP needs all the support it can get, both in manpower and money. Therefore, all those who seriously believe that we are "Better Off Out" should concentrate on building up UKIP into an efficient vote winning machine.

**Brian Lee**  
*Hadleigh, Essex.*

### Support from Aussie

When we emigrated to Australia in April 2000, we were horrified to discover that our British Old Age Pension would no longer be index linked to the cost of living increase, despite us having contributed for more than forty years, and now ceasing to be a burden on the British Taxpayers in regard to health and age care.

We have just returned home from a holiday in Devon, where we were able to read a copy of the UKIP 2001 manifesto, and were extremely impressed with its content, particularly the references to the UKIP policy to institute index linking of ex-pats pensions. We trust that this letter will inspire others to ask to see and read it.

Why is this document not in all the public libraries country wide?

We will be writing to the UK National Press and the Australian Press informing them of UKIP's policy, as this is a hotly contested and on-going dispute between the British government and the several Commonwealth countries where ex-pats reside who are not eligible to receive annual pension increases. All the main British political parties refuse to address this iniquity.

Good on yer UKIP!!!

**Bernard & Christine Shrubsole**  
*Frankston, Victoria, Australia.*

### EU Costs

Fridge mountains, tyre mountains, dead fish mountains and all sorts of other costs flow from European commission regulations. Surely the simple way to save the taxpayer's

pockets is to offset these amounts against payments made to the EU. As a paymaster they need us more than we need them and it is time the piper player started to call the tune.

France has shown that the commission has no effective sanctions it can use against a member country, and simple methods are often the most effective. The government should bear in mind that they were elected to look after the interests of the UK only.

**Derek Rose**  
*Harrogate, Yorks.*

### French Opinion

I was interested to read the letter about France in the last issue.

While it is true to say that the change-over from Francs to Euros went very smoothly the French have found that they have had to bring back dual pricing in Francs and Euros long after the six-month deadline! They are also waking up to the massive price rises and the added transaction charges when changing currencies across the borders within Euroland.

They are learning too that France has now lost its control of its economy, interest rates and money supply!

Most people, in our part of France at least, want a Common Market of freely co-operating sovereign states, and *most definitely not* the building of a single, massive European Superstate.

**(Dr) Bernard Juby**  
*Armaille, Maine et Loire, France*

### Numberplates

Several weeks ago I spotted a Wiltshire Constabulary vehicle with the treasonous blue flash on its number plate. I wrote to the Chief Constable to the effect that I thought this was a political statement which I did not think the police should be making. Did they serve us or Brussels etc. I had a phone call a few days later to the effect that it was not the Force policy to display the blue flash, and by implication, that I



must have been mistaken. I thanked him very much for that.

By sheer coincidence, the very next day I spotted yet another, and was able to confirm that it was Wiltshire Constabulary and to take its registration number. Needless to say, a further letter went to the Chief Constable. Today, I am happy to say that I received a written confirmation that a) they won't do it again, and b) that the few vehicles bearing the flash (which they didn't know about) would have their plates changed. Perhaps this minor victory could be pursued by our members with any other errant county forces.

**Tony Gatling**  
Salisbury, Wilts.

## Referendums

Our percentage of the vote is too low. Unless we inspire the electorate we may as well return to our hobbies. But how to inspire them?

Voter turnout in general is dropping steadily. The electorate knows voting is a waste of time: the government does exactly as it pleases and to hell with the voter's wishes.

The solution is Swiss-style compulsory "bottom-up" referendums, which over-ride Parliament. Once a petitioner obtains a constitutionally-stipulated number of signatures calling for a referendum on a specified subject, a referendum must be held. The result takes precedence over any existing laws.

"Bottom-up" referendums avoid the criticisms of "top-down" referendums. They are called when the voters choose, not to suit politicians. The wording is chosen by the petitioners, not the Prime Minister. Politicians hate them!

They are used to repeal unpopular laws and create laws the government does not want. (Maastricht would have been repealed within days . . .)

They are used to fire politicians and civil servants. (Imagine if burglary and mugging victims could sack Chief Constables!)

Why not adopt them as part of the

UKIP manifesto? We will strike a chord with the voters, gain valuable publicity, and put the big parties on the spot in public debates.

A marvellous booster to UKIP's electoral fortunes.

**Bill Tomlinson**  
Woking, Surrey.

*(An increasing number of members seem to be talking about this form of 'Direct Democracy' but it is not yet party policy at national level. I am interested to know what other members think, so why not drop me a line - for or against: ED)*

## TV Monitoring

You are right to urge UKIP members to monitor TV programmes. It is not only the current affairs and news bulletins one has to study however.

On one evening recently, BBC2 at 8.30pm in an otherwise excellent programme 'What the Tudors did for us', Adam Hart Davis kept referring to the immigrants of those days as 'Asylum Seekers'. Maybe the Flemish fullers and the Dutch clock makers etc. were asylum seekers, but not in the context of today.

One has to be on ones guard at all times, even when watching seemingly innocent programmes, as that is when one is most susceptible to 'brainwashing'.

**R. H. Witchell**  
Kingswood, Bristol.

## Letter Writing 1.

I am writing to encourage members to keep up the campaign of letters to local newspapers. It is an excellent way of getting our message across to the public who are reading local newspapers in increasing numbers.

Here in Chester an inaugural meeting of a pro-Euro group was held recently which was attended by a number of UKIP supporters. My impression was that the pro-Euro speakers on the platform were in a very defensive mood. They readily acknowledged the hard task they had to convince the

voters to abandon the pound. If our message is constantly on display in the local press, then it will help to keep people like this on the defensive. The pen is mightier than the sword!

**Peter Lowe**  
Chester, Cheshire.

## Letter Writing 2.

This morning I received the October issue of *Independence News* and would like to congratulate you on your excellent editorial.

Knocking eighty, a lone parent with a son of thirteen and still painting etc. I have little time to solicit for members, but do try to mention UKIP whenever possible. Apart from comment on the local scene I have quite a high hit rate in the local paper regarding subjects such as the Metric Martyrs, Tiny Blah and his speech to the Royal Society (posing as an expert on GM foods), and Tiny Blah at the EU meeting in Spain.

I wonder therefore if you would permit me to try the editor with an abbreviated version of your editorial?

**Bernard Cotes**  
Bexhill, East Sussex.

*(Yes of course Bernard. Members who want to quote anything from 'Independence News' are free to do so, but please remember that material from individual contributors is not necessarily a reflection of party policy - and don't forget to mention UKIP in your letter: ED)*

*Please note editor's postal and e-mail addresses, and copy date on back page. Letters should be kept to a reasonable length for this section, although longer articles may be published separately. Total submissions always exceed the space available, but everything submitted is read with interest.*

# Back in the USSR

***In the last issue of 'Independence News', I drew attention in the editorial to a few of the curious parallels between the old Soviet Union, and today's European Union. This clearly seems to have struck a chord with many readers. There is of course no suggestion of some grand conspiracy to recreate the USSR in the West. What seems to be the case however is that the professional politicians and bureaucrats involved in each of these entities are possessed of a similar psychology, and those who think the same end up creating the same. In this article, UKIP member John Butler analyses this eerie parallel a little more fully: ED.***

*One of the most revealing (and little reported) remarks of modern times came at a dinner hosted in the mid nineties by Tory party grandees, and attended by the last leader of the Soviet Union, Michael Gorbachev. The most puzzling development in politics during the last decade he said, was the apparent determination of Western European leaders to re-create the Soviet Union in Western Europe.*

*So what was it that Gorbachev saw?*

1. The centralisation of all European political power, and its concentration in the hands of a self-selected political elite; a specific caste of people who govern largely through unaccountable central institutions (the European Commission, the Council of Ministers, the European Central Bank, the European Court).
2. The outward adherence to democratic forms and procedures (such as the European 'parliament'), which give the public the *appearance* of democracy, whilst denying them any real say in how they are governed.
3. Strict adherence at all official levels, to a utopian ideology, that of creating a uniform state within which all national and economic differences, inequalities and 'disharmony' are banished forever,
4. A deep seated belief in big government; that the answer to all problems is an ever greater level of government interference in citizens lives.
5. The creation of a bloated, bureaucratic class of officials (*the nomenklatura in Soviet terms*) to run the system; people who are rewarded by the system with small, but significant privileges which set them apart from the masses (*Euro-officials in Brussels have their own special shop with greatly reduced prices. Soviet officials had similar 'Berioshka' shops*).
6. The stark contrast between the reality of institutionalised corruption which pervades all levels of the government apparatus, and the fictitious utopian dreamworld presented by its spokesmen.
7. A paranoid fear of genuinely free-markets and of genuinely pluralistic democracy, and an insular 'fortress' mindset that denies reality. Nothing illustrates this better than a recent remark by a member of the EU commission to the effect that it does not matter what the value of the Euro is in the outside world, it is only its value "within Europe" that counts. The Soviet rouble was always a stable currency within the USSR but beyond the fantasy land of the communist economies it was worthless.

8. An intense ideological hostility towards any form of nationalism, and the deliberate skewing of administrative structures and funding to frustrate any attempts at national self-government. (As events in Eastern Europe in 1989-1991 showed, national democracy is a powerful antidote to tyranny).

9. A fetish for titles, anti-national symbolism, anthems, awards, summits; anything which involves pomp and ceremony, and gives the participants the chance to indulge in orgies of public posturing and mutual ego massaging.

10. The systematic use of state propaganda, disseminated through state education and the state media. We haven't yet seen stuff to compare with '*Comrade Stalin invented the first internal combustion engine*', but we have seen '*The EU has been responsible for keeping Europe at peace*'.

11. Elevation of the legal 'rights' of the state above those of the citizen. The Maastricht Treaty contained sinister echoes of Article 58(1) of the Soviet Constitution, on which the whole apparatus of Communist terror was based: "It is every citizens duty to uphold the Union". "Corpus Juris" and the Human Rights Act are the tip of a very nasty iceberg which should thoroughly alarm anyone who cares about the future of civil liberty in Europe.

12. A totalitarian mindset amongst its officials and functionaries: an inability and/or unwillingness to think freely and openly; to consider, or even admit to the existence of ideas or facts which might contradict the official line. The obsessive and institutionalised secrecy found within the organs of the EU by the Parliamentary Commission is symptomatic, and it is strikingly similar to the culture of state secrecy which shrouded the apparatus of government throughout the former USSR.

13. The cumulative 'ratcheting' of political power; power that once gained is never to be given up. "*Acquis Communautaire*" is simply a latter day version of the Brezhnev Doctrine of "*What we have we hold*".

14. Ritual denunciation of all those who do not tow the official line, by means of extreme and inflammatory rhetoric: eg "*anti-European xenophobia*" or in the USSR "*anti-Soviet activity*". The systematic 'rubbishing' (including the suggestion that they are suffering from mental illness) of those few brave Commission officials who have had the courage to reveal the truth about the system, has disturbing echoes of the use of penal psychiatry against dissidents in the former USSR.

15. The application of political power through 'front' organisations; bodies which sound superficially benign, but are in reality vehicles for accelerating the cancerous growth of the Euro-bureaucracy. Examples are seen in the rising numbers of regional and sub-regional 'Quangos'; bodies which have considerable powers and finances, but are not subject to any form of democratic control, and are usually filled by nominees who are often under the direct patronage of the EU.

***One could go on, but I think the main point is made. A disturbingly strong similarity exists in Big State Ideology between the EU and the old USSR. As a direct result of this, the very foundations of popular democracy are now at risk on the self-same continent where democracy first saw the light of day.***

***John Butler***



## UKIP Conference Report *(Continued from p.1)*

A very polished performance from twenty-one year old UKIP member Jonathan Arnott, preceeded a talk by incoming Party Chairman David Lott on campaigning in local elections. He in turn was followed by Godfrey Bloom, Cornish fisherman Mick Mahon, and of course the event without which no UKIP conference day could be complete - a rousing speech from Nigel Farage.

In the evening it was back to the Spa Centre for a drinks party which was held as a thank-you from Jeffrey, and then over two hundred of us sat down to enjoy a splendid meal of Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pud. A fine cabaret performance was provided by the 'UKIP Girls' who sang such old time music hall favourites as 'Oh Mr Prodi', and they were followed by ex-Yorkshire and England cricketer Freddie Truman OBE, who rounded off the evening by entertaining us all hugely with his wild and witty stories of cricketers and cricket matches past.

Sunday was Party business day. Mike Natrass, John de Roeck Party Treasurer, and Party Secretary Derek Clark all gave their reports, following which there was an open Question and Answers session from the floor. Two further contributions on party development followed, after which members of the Disciplinary and Conference committees who had been nominated from the floor were voted into office.

The afternoon session was devoted to the six policy motions for debate. The first of these from Birmingham UKIP called upon branches to campaign vigorously in favour of Gibraltar's desire to remain British. This was carried overwhelmingly. Motion two from the Stafford Association, which argued that asylum seekers should only be allowed to remain in Britain if indeed Britain was the first safe country they had arrived in, was passed by 65% to 35%. The third motion, proposed by the Pennine branch, and which sought to commit the party to oppose the introduction of identity cards was passed by a ratio of nearly four to one.

Motion four from Hull and East Yorks branch produced an overwhelming majority for its opposition to reverse discrimination, or 'affirmative action', not least because such measures tend to demean members of the very minority groups at whom they are aimed. The fifth motion, from Loughborough branch, which passed by a majority of 55% to 45%, called for the replacement of VAT by a modernised version of Purchase Tax. The final motion, which was defeated, had seen Rutland and Melton Constituency Association calling for the direct election of senior members of the judiciary, by the public at large.

It fell to Roger Knapman to make the final rousing speech of the day, before we all headed off back to our constituencies reinvigorated by Scarborough air, and confident in our belief that UKIP is now the only moderate party in Britain which will fight for Britain's freedom.

## News from the UKIP Merchandising Department

**New Car & Envelope stickers.** This new simple, striking design incorporates our logo, main message, 'phone number & web address. We hope it will become the official 'UKIP' sticker; if used widely on cars, envelopes, notepaper, etc., it will greatly promote the party identity in the build-up to the 2004 Euro elections. For just £1 you get either 80 one and a half inch envelope stickers, or one 6" cling-style 'film' sticker for inside window surfaces (e.g., of cars). Now, if every member had one on their car and put one on all their outgoing mail...



**Car Number Plates.** We have already supplied several pairs of 'non-EU' number plates, which we offer in the English, Scottish, Welsh & Great British (see illustration) versions, with numerous letter combinations. The easiest way to pay and order is through the website - [www.ukip.org](http://www.ukip.org) - but if you have no computer, just ring or write to the Merchandising office (see below) for a simple order form



### Two New Books:

*Firstly*, a new novel about the Evil Empire *The Ever Closer Union* written by UKIP member, Michael Knight, it costs £8.50 (inc P&P), and can be ordered by post from the address below or from the UKIP website.



*Secondly*, a work by newspaper columnist Vernon Coleman, who has written very supportively about UKIP in the Sunday People. *England Our England – A Nation in Jeopardy* consists of almost three hundred punchy little snippets of anti-EU ammunition and sentiment. Published at £7.99 - we offer it at £6.50, incl. pp - its style makes it ideal for sending to those who have yet to be 'convinced'. If you are quick, and order via the website, we will send it to any UK address you specify in time for Christmas - with your own message tucked inside it!



**UKIP Merchandising. 1 Home Park, Oxted RH8 0JS. Tel 01 883 714 625.**

Why not try to visit the merchandise display on the UKIP website at [www.ukip.org](http://www.ukip.org)

There are **dozens** more articles now available!



# EDITOR'S NOTICEBOARD

## ■ Party Manifesto

As mentioned by Roger Knapman on page 2, the current Party Manifesto containing a complete set of UKIP policies is available from Head Office for the price of £2.00. From time to time - usually in the run up to major elections - policies will be changed or updated, but a copy of the current edition is an essential aide for party campaigners nationwide.

## ■ Local Elections Coordinator

Tom Wise who is based in Jeffrey Titford's Eastern Region office, has taken over as Local Elections Coordinator. Aspiring, potential, and prospective candidates are asked to pass their details to him. He needs your name, the name of the council, and the ward (in that order). If it is a by-election, Tom asks that you get the result to him as soon as possible. *Tom Wise, UKIP Office. 145 New London Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0QT. Tel: 01245 266466. Fax: 01245 252071. ukipeast@globalnet.co.uk*

## ■ Euro Elections 2004

In a change to UKIP's 2004 Euro election timetable published in last April's edition of *Independence News*, the closing date for receipt of candidate applications had, due to the amount of interest shown, been put back from October 31st to November 30th 2002. That date has now passed, but any further changes to the timetable will be reported here.

## ■ Youth Manifesto

Jonathan Arnott is researching a new party manifesto for young people. Policy suggestions which do not contradict the current manifesto are welcome. Contributions from younger members or anyone with experience working with young people will be especially valued. Please reply to Jonathan at [jwauk02@aol.com](mailto:jwauk02@aol.com) or 19 Athelstan Road, Sheffield S13 8JB. Responses will depend upon submissions.

## ■ BBC Bias

Led by Vladimir Bukovsky, and coordinated by UKIP, the

campaign against BBC bias on the EU is gaining momentum following reports in *The Daily Telegraph* on November 8th, and elsewhere. For more details ring 09012 702 414 or log on to [www.bbcbias.org](http://www.bbcbias.org)

## ■ Telecanvassing Campaign

More volunteers are needed to extend this successful project, run from Head Office, which in its first month raised over £5,000 for election funds, and re-signed 200 ex-members back into the party. Please call Head Office (details at foot of page) if you can spare a few hours to participate in this scheme on a weekday evening 6-9pm and/or Saturday 10am-1pm or 1-4pm.

## ■ Video Special Offer

The merchandising division of UKIP offers the two 'Sanity' videos (Britain & The EU - The Facts, and The Euro - The Facts), for just £10 the pair. *UKIP Merchandising 1 Home Park, Oxted RH8 0JS., or via [www.ukip.org](http://www.ukip.org)*

## ■ Countryside March

Many thanks to leafleters who helped to distribute nearly 100,000 flyers at the Countryside March in London. The campaign yielded many new members and supporters, and generated numerous inquiries. Head Office still has a limited stock of the recruitment leaflets used, which are also suitable for other countryside events.

## ■ Healthcare

'Freedom of Choice' magazine helps protect our rights to choice in healthcare by stopping EU Directive mlx282. 'Freedom of Choice' gives cutting edge information on treatment for major diseases, and the truth about the European Union. The only solution is withdrawal from the EU. For your free copy ring 01626 854722

## ■ Seasons Greetings

The NEC, UKIP office staff, and your editor wish all members the very best for Christmas and the New Year. Head Office will be closed from Mon 23rd Dec to Wed 1st Jan inc.

**Publication** Please send letters, articles, or other materials for publication to the editor **John Harvey**. **1 Drove Cottages, Rodmell, Lewes, E. Sussex BN7 3HD**. Materials can be sent written or typed. Alternatively they can be e-mailed to [ukip@rodmell.prestel.co.uk](mailto:ukip@rodmell.prestel.co.uk) All electronic communication should be PC compatible and produced in **WORD**. Anything for publication should be marked "For publication". Articles may be edited where necessary to fit the format of the newsletter, but every effort will be made to preserve the intentions of the author.

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Bridgeman House, 54 Broadwick Street, London W1F 7AH  
Tel: 020 7434 4559 Fax: 020 7439 4659  
E-Mail: [mail@ukip.org](mailto:mail@ukip.org)  
The official UKIP website is at [www.ukip.org](http://www.ukip.org)



(This box uses the official Party logo and colours)