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March 2011  
www.unitewales.org.uk  
tel: 07704 356 894

# unite against fascism

**As Britain's Nazis target the Welsh Assembly in the May 2011 elections. Join us to...**

# Keep fascists out of Wales

**The BNP wants to grab a Welsh Assembly seat. We can stop them on Thursday 5 May**

ELECTIONS to the National Assembly for Wales are due to take place on Thursday 5 May and the fascist British National Party (BNP) will be seeking once again to establish a foothold in mainstream Welsh politics — as they have already done in English local councils and in the European Parliament.

The party will try to exploit people's anxieties about economic crisis and Coalition's cuts to blame scapegoats such as asylum-seekers, migrants and Muslims, for our problems.

Their efforts to present a more respectable face in the search for electoral credibility have begun to pay off in Wales in recent years.

The party wants to capitalise on the decline of industrial areas, as well as growing disenchantment with mainstream political parties.

While the BNP did not put up candidates

in Wales in the 1997 elections, only one in 2001 and two in 2005, last year they stood 19 candidates—averaging 1,215 votes a seat.

This is not enough to win a seat in Parliament or in the National Assembly — but the Assembly has 20 regional 'top-up' seats, which aggregate votes over a large area gives the BNP a chance of winning a seat.

### Threat

At the last Assembly elections in 2007, the BNP won 9,986 votes in the North Wales region (5.1 percent), putting it within 2,580 votes (0.6 percent) of winning a seat.

A fascist voice in Cardiff Bay would be a massive blow to our multi-cultural society.

There is an urgent need for everyone who is concerned about this threat, to join our campaign all-out to expose the BNP for what they are, and stop them in our Assembly.

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**Revealed:  
what the BNP  
really stands for.**

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**No to racism, fascism and Islamophobia!**

# BNP: BRITAIN'S NAZIS EXPOSED

## The Nazi BNP was humiliated in the May 2010 elections, but it still has its eyes on the Welsh Assembly

IT IS amazing that within three years of the end of the Second World War a fascist stood in an election in London's East End — he was soundly defeated.

But for 25 years after the war a long economic boom, rising living standards and little unemployment gave no ground for any fascist revival.

The return of economic crises and higher unemployment in the 1970's encouraged several fascist splinter groups to unite together to form the National Front (NF).

Their racism was mainly aimed at immigrants from the West Indies and their children.

Some of these immigrants were ex-servicemen who stayed in Britain after the war — others had been encouraged to come settle by ministers such as Enoch Powell in order to fill jobs during the 1950s.

The NF had some initial success — but were defeated by the growth of a huge antifascist movement able to attract some 100,000 people to Rock Against Racism gigs and counter demonstrations organised by the Anti Nazi League (ANL), the precursor of Unite Against Fascism.

The ANL exposed the violence of the NF skinheads and the Nazi past of the NF leadership.

### Growth of the BNP

One of the splinter groups that emerged out of the NF was the British National Party (BNP). This was founded in 1982 by John Tyndall. It made little headway until in 1993 when a leading BNP member Derek Beacon won a council seat on the Isle of Dogs in London's East End.

This was the same year young student Stephen Lawrence was murdered by racists in south-east London — the third such murder following the established of the



BNP founder John Tyndal in his Nazi uniform

BNP head office in the area.

A united campaign swept Beacon out of office in 1994. The BNP continued to stagnate during the rest of the 1990s.

### Griffin

The party's next success was in May 2002 — winning three council seats — and in May 2003 a further 13. Griffin claims that it was all due to his taking over the BNP leadership in 1999, but there is a bit more to it.

Griffin and other BNP leaders had realised that they could not escape from the extremist ghetto as long as their Nazi image persisted.

He learned from the success of Front National (FN) in France to present a respectable image by distancing his party from the boot boys and Nazi paraphernalia.

Cosmetic changes in policy were made: for example forced repatriation of non-whites were replaced by "voluntary repatriation".

Not that this meant Griffin had changed his views from when he was a NF youth organiser.

After all it was only in 1998 he was of convicted of inciting racial hatred, and received a two year suspended sentence for publishing anti-Semitic literature.

### Hysteria

In 1998 immigration the media began whipping up hysteria about asylum seekers being given luxury accommodation at public expense, and Britain being "flooded".

All nonsense of course, in reality asylum seekers were not allowed to work and received minimal benefits.

But this racist media campaign the BNP won some 100,000 votes in the 1999 Euro elections.

### Oldham

Another set of events were to benefit the BNP even more. In January 2001 the Oldham Chronicle reported local police claims that there had been a huge rise in race attacks on white men by Asians.

The beating of a white pensioner was highlighted as a racist

attack — although his son said it was not race issue. False claims were made that white areas got less government money than Asian area.

As the racial tension was whipped up, the BNP and NF began attempting marches — one of which was to spark the Oldham riots as Asian youth defended their communities. In the June General Election, Griffin got 16 percent of the vote in Oldham — the highest ever for a fascist party.

In the 2002 May council elections this series of events enabled the BNP to win three seat in Burnley and over 20 percent of the vote in 19 other seats. A year later they won 13 more council seats.

### The Peak

Over the next few years the BNP continued to pick up councillors in England, at one time reaching over 50.

In Barking, east London, and in Stoke they reached double figures and had hopes of taking control. But the icing on the cake was winning two seats in the 2009 European Parliament elections.

Griffin won in North West England and Andre Brons (at one time the chair of the National Front) in Yorkshire and Humberside.



BNP leader Nick Griffin (right) with his minders

Both scraped in on a low poll but nevertheless it gave them a great boost. It allowed sections of the media — in particular the BBC — to treat them as mainstream politicians.

It brought considerable financial gains in terms of salaries and expenses. But it also brought them to their peak.

### Decline

They did not stay long at the top. Wild claims were made that Griffin would win the Barking seat at the general election, that the BNP would take over Barking and Stoke councils.

They put up a record 339 candidates spending almost £170,000 on deposits, nearly all of which were lost.

The election results were a disaster. There had been a brilliant campaign by anti-fascists. Hundreds of UAF supporters were in the constituency every week.

Griffin was humiliated in Barking and they lost all of their councillors. In Stoke they lost all councillors up for election.

At the same time he spent tens of thousands more fighting the Equalities Commission trying to

maintain what amounted to a "white members" only policy.

### Splits

Not surprisingly much of the membership was upset. Calls were made for Griffin's resignation but he only promised to stand down in 2013.

In theory the BNP constitution allows for a challenge to the leader each year. But fascists are not big on democracy.

Ordinary BNP members do not automatically have a vote in internal elections — you have to be an activist and pass certain tests. Then if you want to stand you need hundreds of signatures

from voting members.

Not surprisingly none of those who tried to stand against Griffin succeeded and all have now been expelled or left. A series of BNP councillors also resigned.

### Is it over?

It could be — but let's make sure. In last elections in Wales they were able to put up paper candidates — who did no work in the constituency but still pick up an average 1,215 vote per candidate.

The BNP cannot win Assembly seats with a vote like that. But if they stand on the regional list — which adds seven

or eight constituencies together and uses a proportional representation system — they can come a lot closer. That is how they won the MEP seats.

### Let's make sure

Let's not allow the Assembly elections to give the BNP and their allies in the English/Welsh Defence Leagues (EDL/WDL) a lifeline.

We need to make sure that voters know what they really stand for and we discuss with anyone who are tempted to vote BNP as a protest.

Use your vote. Keep the fascists out of Wales.

## Welsh Defence League has close links to Nazis

OVER THE past year the Welsh Defence League (WDL) has attempted five demonstrations in Wales. The WDL is an offshoot of the English Defence League (EDL) that since March 2009 has organised marches around the country in an attempt to terrorise Muslims and anyone who opposes them.

The EDL is an alliance of fascists and football gangs combined in anti-Muslim demonstration which ended up in a rampage through Luton's Asian area in 2009.

Aided by Alan Lake, the EDL have attempted to muscle their way onto our streets in order to terrorise Muslims and other minorities. Lake is a millionaire who backs the fascist Swedish National Democrats.

He told a racist conference that he wanted to build an "anti-Jihadist" organisation the would be willing "to go out onto the streets". He recruited football hooligans into the organisation, saying, "This is a dirty, nasty, difficult struggle and you have to work with what is available."

### Political glue

Many EDL members are in it because they enjoy the violence. But others are drawn in on the lie that Muslims are to blame for unemployment, poor housing, and growing inequality.

This anti-Muslim racism has been fostered by the right wing media and the electoral propaganda of the BNP. But this is the same old story. At different times in history the scapegoats have been the Irish, Black people, Jews, Travellers — whoever the fascists can intimidate.

Today anti Muslim hatred has become the political glue that brings together the hooligan and the fascist — the EDL and the BNP.

### BNP

The EDL have close contacts with the BNP. EDL leader Tommy Robinson (real name Stephen Lennon) has a family membership of the BNP; Chris Renton who ran the EDL website, is a BNP



A thug gives a Hitler salute at an EDL rally in Birmingham

member, as is Richard Price who organised the EDL's Birmingham demonstration. (Price was recently convicted of child pornography).

And BNP councillors were seen directing operations during the EDL rampage through Stoke last year. What we are seeing the overlap of two wings of the same movement.

### Target

All fascist groups have their scapegoats but they also recognise that the left, trade unions and any form of workers organisation is their enemy. It is not surprising that Tommy Robinson recently threatened to attack student demos, or that WDL tried to attack a May Day rally in Swansea.

### Wales

The WDL has tried demonstrating five times over the last 15 months. In Swansea, Newport, Wrexham, Cardiff and again in Swansea. Each time they have been heavily outnumbered by anti-fascists. The one time they manage more than 100 was in Cardiff — with the help of EDL supporters bussed in from Bristol. On that occasion UAF Wales organised a successful 1000 strong counter demonstration.

●As EDL activists from Cheshire marched through Shotton, Deeside on 22 January against plans to convert an old social club to an Islamic Cultural Centre, the BNP were leafleting a nearby estate calling for a "protest" outside the same club.

## Joining BNP 'a mistake' says former member

In 1997 Patrick Pattison was co-opted onto Llysfaen Community Council as an Independent. He joined the BNP, but quickly discovered the truth about the party.

"We all make mistakes in this life and this is how we learn. My mistake was joining the BNP.

"They assured me that they were a



non racist party. Well, they are racist. They refer to anybody who is not white as 'Pakis'. This shows their ignorance.

"At first when racial remarks were made at meetings, I put this down to sheer ignorance and bigotry but the situation soon became intolerable.

"The last straw came when I tried to help a Pakistani family. The BNP hate all Muslims with a vengeance.

"All you need in the BNP is to be a racist. They are a highly dangerous and misleading organisation."

"The NASUWT Cymru teachers' union supports Unite Against Fascism in its commitment to ensure that fascist and racist organisations, such as the British National Party (BNP), are kept out of Wales and out of the Welsh Assembly.

"We believe that children and young people should be protected from exposure to the vile agenda of the far-right.

"Members of these extreme right wing groups are banned serving in the police, armed forces and probation

service, and they should be banned from becoming teachers.

"The role of the teacher should never be used as a cloak of respectability for those who engage in such activities.

"The NASUWT believes the views and beliefs of those active in the BNP are at variance with the ethos and values of public service and therefore are incompatible with serving as members of governing bodies.

Rex Phillips  
Wales Organiser, NASUWT Cymru

## Wales Region

"The Wales Region of the CWU send fraternal greeting to all reader and opposes any form of fascism or Racism and will campaign to keep Wales a Nazi free zone. United we stand – Divided we fall."

Gary Watkins Regional Secretary



"In these tough economic times working people across Wales will see their public services come under attack from the Con-Dem Government at Westminster. The far-right in Wales will try to use this situation to present themselves as the defenders of working class people.

"We must do everything we can to expose this sham and expose these fascists as the racist thugs that they truly are. If they had any political power the BNP and their supporters would do all that they possibly could to eradicate the trade union movement.

"It is our movement that has promoted fair pay, workers rights and decent public services for the people of Wales. This is alien to the right wing fascists and any pretence that they are the friend of decent working people must be exposed as the lie that it is.

I urge all trade unionists to support this important campaign to keep the fascists out."

Andy Richards, UNITE the Union, Wales Regional Secretary



# unite against fascism

## Stories of 'Asian grooming' are wildly exaggerated, say experts

by Sabby Dhalu

Secretary of One Society Many Cultures

IN THE wake of recent convictions for sexual grooming and rape in Derby three myths have been fostered by sections of the media and some politicians.

Firstly, that young Muslim men have a tendency to be paedophiles, sexual groomers and rapists due to their cultural background; secondly, that citing ethnicity as a causal factor for sex crimes stops racism, and finally, that there has been a "conspiracy of silence" on the issue.

These myths do nothing to protect the victims of sexual violence.

Sexual predators and paedophiles exist in all communities, as do their victims. And sexual abuse and violence is a crime irrespective of who is the perpetrator. Everyone has a responsibility and a duty to challenge such crimes and support the victims.

Convictions of individuals do not show any link between background or religion and these crimes.

Authors of the first independent academic analysis looking at "on-street grooming" have said they were concerned that data from a small, geographically concentrated, sample of cases had been "generalised to an entire crime type".

Helen Brayley and Ella Cockbain, from Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science, said they were surprised their research, confined to just two police operations in the North and Midlands had been cited in support of the claims



that such offences were widespread.

They said that the real finding of their research is that "that convenience and accessibility may be the prime drivers for those looking for new victims."

### Vulnerable

This has been by echoed by Martin Narey, from Barnado's. He said, "I don't think this is so much about targeting white girls – because black girls are also victims – it's about targeting vulnerable, isolated girls."

Sheila Taylor, from Safe and Sound Derby has explained that, "This model of street-grooming is going on in many places.

It is just that the recent spate of prosecutions against Asian men in the north of England and Midlands makes it look like

it is concentrated in these communities."

Those who choose to make an issue of the identity of the perpetrators of sex crimes as Muslims or Asian are not de-racialising the debate, nor are they being brave.

On the contrary, they are feeding the myth that race is an important factor. After all, no one uses terms such as "white grooming" or "white paedophilia."

The attempt to explain sex crimes by ethnic origin is inaccurate and irresponsible. It provides credibility to the racist views of groups like the BNP and the EDL who attempt to suggest that Islam is founded on and spread through sexually aggressive behaviour, including rape and paedophilia.

On EDL marches a common chant is "Allah is a paedo", and the BNP is now campaigning with the slogan, "Our children are not halal meat" (picture left).

It should also not be forgotten that the BNP won four council seats seven years ago in Bradford on the myth of so called 'Asian grooming'.

It is likely that once again, Pakistani and Muslim communities that are already subjected to increasing racism and Islamophobia, will bear the brunt of the consequences of the legitimacy given to racist ideas and groups by irresponsible 'insights' offered by high profile politicians and sections of the media. That is why we must always use the facts to challenge myths that associate any one community with a particular crime.

● For the full article go to [www.onesocietymanycultures.org](http://www.onesocietymanycultures.org)

## BNP trawl for 'soft support'

NICK GRIFFIN wants BNP members to step up local activism and "connect" more with the voters as part of the BNP strategy to turn "soft support" into "activists and BNP leaders in their own communities".

The BNP leader has ordered his activists to tour our shopping centres and neighbourhoods with petitions on issues such as Afghanistan, fuel prices, and the so-called "Asian grooming" of girls.

He hopes that those who sign the petitions will become the "soft supporters" that can be turned "into activists and BNP leaders in their own communities".

### Target list

BNP foot soldiers will trawl our towns and cities to collect names and addresses for their "target list".

Griffin has ordered his followers to write personal letters to those who sign the petitions and "keep targeting them until the job is done".

Unite Against Fascism intend to warn people not to be hoodwinked by these "petitions" or hand over their names and addresses.

The BNP in Wales are ready to roll out these plans as part of their "drive to take a seat in the Welsh Assembly elections at the start of May".

They will kick off their election campaign in South Wales on the weekend of 5-6 March and in North Wales on 12-13 March.

● To help keep the BNP out of your town centre or neighbourhood, contact UAF on **07704356894** or email: [unitewales@live.co.uk](mailto:unitewales@live.co.uk)

## Greetings from PCS Wales

*Fighting racism and fascism.*

*Campaigning for equal opportunities for all.*

**Peter Harris, PCS Wales Secretary**  
**Katrine Williams, PCS Wales Chair**

Transport House, 1 Cathedral Road,  
Cardiff, CF11 9SD  
Email: [wales@pcs.org.uk](mailto:wales@pcs.org.uk)  
[www.pcs.org.uk/wales](http://www.pcs.org.uk/wales)  
Tel: 02920 666363



## Join the campaign!

*'The threat from the BNP and fascist groups in Wales is real and immediate. They bring division to our communities and all thinking, compassionate people should oppose them. Now is the time to mobilise on an all-Wales basis, to meet the threat from these racist, fascist thugs as it arises.'* **Peter Hain MP**

Name/organisation ..... Email.....

Address.....

Phone ..... Union .....

**UAF Wales annual membership fees are: Individuals: £5 and £2 for concessions**  
**Organisations: Local £20, Wales unfunded £40, Wales funded £100**

I attach..... Membership fee for UAF Wales for 2010 Signed.....

Return to: Amarjite Singh c/o CWU271 Cowbridge Road East, Cardiff, CF5 1JB ● [Unitewales@live.co.uk](mailto:Unitewales@live.co.uk) ● [www.unitewales.org.uk](http://www.unitewales.org.uk)

To find out about local activities or get more copies of this paper to distribute, email or phone with your name and constituency to [unitewales@live.co.uk](mailto:unitewales@live.co.uk) or tel **07704 356894**

## Spread the word!

Use your vote stop the BNP

The more people know about the fascists the more they will oppose them! Help us to spread the word. Distribute the tabloid at work, college, and to your friends and neighbours.

For 12 copies of this edition, and the March and April issues — £5 (including postage). Union or other organisations: £5 for 100/£40 for 1,000.

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tel: 07704 356894

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Don't forget to give us your contact details and the constituency you live in. Please make checks payable to Unite Against Fascism Wales, PO Box 36871, London WC1X 9XT