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Interim Deputy Chairman  Pete Muswell
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NEC

Nicole Bushill (until Dec 2022)
Freddy Vachha (until Dec 2022)
Mike Shaw (until Dec 2022)
Joel McGuigan (until Dec 2022)
Donald Mackay (until Jul 2021)
Marietta King (until Jul 2021)
Ben Walker (until Jul 2021)
Pat Mountain (until Jul 2021)
Elizabeth Jones (until May 2020)
Lawrence Webb (until May 2020)
Ian Garbutt (until May 2020)
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Publication: Letters, articles or photographs for publication in the magazine should be e-mailed to editor@ukip.org or sent by post to The Editor, Lexdrum House, Unit 1, King Charles Business Park, Heathfield, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 6UT.

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Editor: Mark Angelides
Firstly, may I welcome you to the first online Independence magazine. I hope you enjoy reading it and please share it far and wide.

I would also like to thank my colleagues from the NEC for trusting in me to help steer the party through the interim period following the departure of the previous chair. I am honoured and will do my utmost to ensure I do just that.

For too long, this party has been shackled to the concept that our internal structure is broken whilst we shuffle through a pile of failed leaders who feel attacking it is the only way they can bring an end to their own failures.

Without question, there is work to be done to re-organise, re-fresh and update our structures and internal operations, and my pledge to you is that they will be. This is an undertaking for the Chairmanship, the NEC and party staff.

For too long, this party has been shackled to the concept that our internal structure is broken ...

You will also notice that the party colours online are changing to just purple and white. This isn’t a logo or permanent change, but a trial that was agreed some time ago to alter the look of the party online. May I please ask that Branch Officers update their branch social media platforms to reflect the move and help us ensure uniformity throughout our online presence. All existing party merchandise can and should be continued to be used.

A copy of the logo is attached for download.

Our political survival rests on our ability to challenge the issues of the day, hold the government to account, and pressure for policy like we have done so successfully before. We simply can’t progress if we continually focus on internal matters and I respectfully ask that members now take this opportunity to come together and start fighting externally. Any internal actions are extremely costly to our party both financially and to our efficiency to operate as a political party. We now operate in an age where politics is more about perception than anything else. A party that is continually at war with itself isn’t one in which the electorate will place their trust. The support from you, our dedicated membership, has never been so important.

We have a brilliant new manifesto, which I’m sure you can all get behind and start to use in your campaigning for next year’s local elections. This manifesto clearly sets out the party’s direction and is a living document that will continually evolve through your input into the Spokes People and the party’s new Policy Team ... exciting details to follow.

We also need candidates to stand in the forthcoming local elections so, if you’re a sitting councillor up for re-election, a candidate ready to stand or a member who’s interested in standing up for your local area please inform your local branch and keep a look out for updates from the party following the Christmas period.

We know that it won’t take long for the Conservatives to renege on their pledges to the general public so we must be ready. I still believe our time to shine is still to come in an ever changing political landscape. Now is the time to organise for those local battles which we can only do when we train our cannon on our political enemies and not ourselves.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a New Year where we take our rightful place at the political table once again. British politics isn’t safe when there’s no UKIP threat. It’s our job to ensure we speak up for the silent majority.

Ben Walker
Interim Chairman
Christmas and the New Year are almost upon us and exciting times are ahead for UKIP.

The snap election gave us only weeks to organise, but we managed it! Well done to all the brave candidates, the campaigners, and to Freddy Vachha and his team for making it all happen.

UKIP has survived many ups and downs, membership dropping off, lack of funds, bad press, and of course the biggest problem of all, finding a replacement for Nigel Farage. We have had five leaders since Nigel Farage, not to mention the Interim ones. Since Nigel stood down as leader, we have struggled to replace him. Nigel is, after all, one of the most successful and charismatic politicians of his generation.

In February 2018, we had Gerard Batten as our leader; his leadership brought the party back from the brink.

Until last month we had Richard Braine. We all admired the way that Richard dealt with TV and press interviews in a relaxed and effective manner. He has resigned from UKIP, and I wish him well for the future.

We shall work on the leadership problem until it is solved. I will be in post as the Interim Leader until we have our Leadership Election, and will use this time to promote UKIP as best I can focusing on pressing problems within the party.

We have rival factions within the party and the difficult job to reunite UKIP members is high on my agenda. Pretty much everyone agrees that constitutional reform of the party is required.

However, we will not be an attractive option to the voters in May’s local elections if we cannot all work together and start to sing from the same hymn sheet.

It is true to say we are short of funds and membership is declining, but I am hopeful that when members study the latest excellent UKIP manifesto, they will be excited and remember the wonderful core values of UKIP. Our aims and intentions are clearly set out for Brexit and Beyond.

Our website is our main interface with the general public. We are developing our use of social media as a means of communication and recruitment. We have a dedicated team that is being expanded.

Managerial vacancies are being filled and new control initiatives have been implemented.

**The only way is by means of unconditional, unilateral withdrawal.**

I have received the best support from the team in Lexdrum House in Devon. David Challice, the Office Manager and his wonderful team really are stars. Without these staunch and dedicated people UKIP would not exist. The NEC has been very supportive, and senior members of the party have offered invaluable advice and support. Thanks also to the great number of members who have sent private messages of support and encouragement.

At the end of my tenure, I will be able to say, “I did my best”, and will continue to be an effective member of the NEC concentrating on my role as the South East Regional Officer, East Sussex County Officer, and Chairman of Hove Branch, while continuing to promote Britain’s complete and total exit from the European Union. The only way is by means of unconditional, unilateral withdrawal.

Please revisit our constitution:

2.3 The Party believes that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter “The United Kingdom”) should only be governed by her own citizens and that its governance shall at all times be conducted first and foremost in the interests of the United Kingdom and its peoples and that the only laws that should apply within the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom are those wholly made by the Parliament of the United Kingdom.

To that end it shall be the policy of the Party that the United Kingdom shall cease to be a member of the European Union and shall not thereafter make any Treaty or join any International organisation which involves in any way the surrender of any part of the United Kingdom’s sovereignty.

The Party further believes that the integrity of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter “The United Kingdom”) should be maintained.

Says it all really.

This just leaves me to say I wish you all a very happy and festive Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

For UKIP, a new year, a new Leader, a new manifesto. The future is bright; the future is purple.

My very best wishes to you all.

Patricia Mountain
Interim Leader
Beginning at grass-roots, then branch committee and then county level, I went on to win a series of contested elections to serve as UKIP Chairman of London Region for four years. I became the National Campaign Manager for GE2019, also the Science, Climate Change, Fisheries and Animal Welfare Spokesperson, and now General Secretary of the Party.

I’ve stood for UKIP in Euro elections, and multiple times in both Parliamentary and Regional elections. I’ve organised over a hundred UKIP events - both serious and fun ones - since 2013.

I’ve academic qualifications in Mathematics, Physics, with First Class Honours, Accountancy, with Distinction; in several examinations, my marks set a record. I’ve taught at secondary and tertiary level, trained with Ernst & Young’s predecessor firm, and started and run software, manufacturing, horticultural and finance consultancy businesses. I began earning when I was 15; I haven’t stopped since.

I’m a proud dad. We owe it to our kids to stop the nutters taking over.

I joined UKIP to get us out of the EU, understanding that this crucial war was going to be both protracted and unpleasant. I recognised the huge dangers posed to our way of life by extreme Socialist, even Marxist, ideologies, as well as by creeping religious intolerance and fundamentalism, with terrorism and other dangers to children lurking under the surface.

But while we remain trapped in the EU, there’s nothing we can do to fix our problems. That’s what we need to do first - what needs to be done first.

Steering UKIP through the choppy waters ahead, ensuring that a real Brexit is delivered and that we prosper in our post-EU era are things I look forward to doing. We have USPs aplenty, many involving our ability to tackle issues - ones like mass, uncontrolled immigration, with all its myriad side-effects, most of which are negative - which less honest or forthright political parties pretend don’t exist.

I learn quickly, acknowledge my mistakes, know how to work in a team (and the NEC has to be a team), and try my best to bring out the best in, and inspire, others.

Healing and conciliation must occur within UKIP, and I know how to accomplish this. However, when battle is inevitable, I’m your man. I do not shy away from unavoidable conflict.

Here’s the Hobbies & Policy Interests section of my abbreviated CV:

**Activism** - Against, e.g., wrongful murder convictions of mothers over cot deaths (gross abuse of statistical methods in ‘Meadow’s Law’); banning of UKIP couple from fostering in Rotherham by those who covered up systematic rape and sex-slavery of 1,400+ underage girls by 70-80% Pakistani-origin gangs; forcing-out from school governorship of a Whitby councillor on switching to UKIP; hypocrisy of claimed Eurosceptic MPs refuted by The Bruges Group’s Commons voting analyses; forced marriages, FGM (female genital mutilation); shariafication; indoctrination; Common Purpose infiltration.

**Charity** - Motivated to assist others, with 15+ years of free, pseudonymous work online, to help those who face financial, motoring law or science-related difficulties; placing into the public domain self-authored material to free victims of fundamentalist or high-control cults, and to refute cunning propaganda spread by resurgent Neo-Nazi / Holocaust-denial movements; exposing fraud, waste and stratospheric levels, part-concealed, of executive pay within registered charities.

**Conservation** - Saving Epping Forest from fencing-in, Leyton Marshes from building-over; applying to UNESCO for ‘World Heritage Site’ status for Matheran, a unique Empire hill-station founded in 1850 and serving as a time-capsule. I was Green long before it was fashionable to be Green.

**Games & Sports** - Chess (twice College Champion; thrice British MENSa Champion); Contract Bridge (Expert); Karate; Ice and Roller Skating; T.T.

**Hobbies** - Computer Programming; Photography; Graphic design; Breeding koi; Restoring old (1932-65) precision 35mm rangefinder cameras; Growing ultra-hot (>1m Scoville units) chillies; Prestidigitation; Politics and current affairs; WW2 History, Speed-reading; Travelling, especially in the Alps and Himalayas; Watching movies (collected 5,200); Writing - collegiate: edited 7 journals / magazines; technical: software manuals; works-in-progress: ‘Epping Forest Walks’, ‘Greatest Bludners of the World Chess Championships’, ‘How the Nazis Almost Won’, ‘Belgian Congo Holocaust’, etc.

**Science** - Astronomy; Biology; Biophysics; Cosmology; Cryptography; Analogue Electronics; Liaising with my former students in Boston, Cambridge, M.I.T., etc; Free mentoring for science Olympiads, STEP and competitive examinations.

We need confidence and energy, and I possess both of these in abundance. For more, see: Freddy’s CV
I was honoured and pleased to write the new UKIP 2019 Manifesto, with the help of our new team of party spokesmen and spokeswomen. I believe it is the best manifesto we have ever had, and therefore the best manifesto in British politics.

As well as building on previous policies, it contains many new and additional points and is much broader in scope that the Interim Manifesto of 2018.

Boris Johnson only took five days to copy us ...

Brexit is, of course, our number 1 priority, but immigration is also of great importance. Many people voted for Brexit because immigration has been far too high for far too long, and the era of rapid mass immigration has got to come to an end. Just as other parties have caught up with UKIP after having a headline policy of an Australian-style points system for 10 years, UKIP has moved on and improved this policy as it is not tough enough.

UKIP is now calling for time-limited work visas for scarce skills because we need to train up our own young people to do the jobs which need to be done in this country, rather than being forever reliant on taking skilled, trained migrants from other countries who need them to build up their own economies. This is the other side of the immigration coin which rarely gets mentioned. This time however, Boris Johnson only took five days to copy us and adopted time-limited work permits for unskilled workers as a policy the weekend after our manifesto launch!

It gets little attention in the mainstream media, but UKIP is committed to supporting our public services. The manifesto has a fully costed plan to

... it will be supplying the government with ideas for many years to come.

provide the finance for 30,000 more police officers, 30,000 more teachers, 30,000 more doctors, 40,000 more nurses and increase social care by £5 billion, using the money saved from cutting the wasteful overseas development budget, HS2 and ending our annual subscription payments to the EU. We would also have enough money to scrap inheritance tax and increase funding for our armed forces by £7 billion so they can take the lead on emergency and disaster relief.

The UKIP Manifesto is the only one with a specific section on Free Speech and fighting Political Correctness, which is suffocating the country. Of prime importance is abolishing the Equality Act 2010 and the quangos that enforce it, so that people are once again free to express their opinions and make jokes and banter without fear of being dragged through the courts by the police, who should be fighting real crimes like burglary and assault.

The UKIP manifesto has already won acclaim. The Conservative Woman recently published a piece lauding UKIP as ‘the conservative party this country has been crying out for’.

Campaigning group Christian Concern praised it for its strong family values and social conservatism.

It is titled ‘For Brexit and Beyond’. If the past is anything to go by, it will be supplying the government with ideas for many years to come.

David Kurten
UKIP Head of Policy
UKIP TREASURER POSITION

UKIP is looking for a Party Treasurer to replace the Interim Treasurer.

The successful candidate is likely to have:

- an academic and/or professional qualification in accountancy, and
- relevant experience in the capacity of a finance director, treasurer or similar, or at least of running one’s own business for some years.

However, for the right candidate, UKIP will be prepared to be flexible.

It goes without saying that the candidate must be honest, be a current member of UKIP in good standing, and have never been convicted of an offence involving dishonesty.

There are qualified accountants within UKIP who will be able to assist with guidance, if and when needed.

Initially, the post will be unremunerated, though reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

To apply, please email David Challice at Head Office (mail@ukip.org), writing “Application for Position of Party Treasurer” in the subject heading.

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The Labour Fallout

Caroline Flint (former Labour MP for Don Valley) lost her seat in the recent general election and is now in a legal dispute with Emily Thornberry, an MP who did not lose her seat in the same election. Unlike Caroline Flint, Thornberry is part of the metropolitan clique responsible for running the Labour Party into the ground.

Ms Flint appeared on the Sophie Ridge Show on 16th December, a few days after losing her seat, and bluntly accused Ms Thornberry of saying to a colleague: “I’m glad my constituents aren’t as stupid as yours.” (for voting Brexit in the Referendum).

Emily Thornberry vehemently denied it and threatened legal action, so we’ll wait developments. But I predict it will never get to Court. Too many other Labour MPs (or ex-MPs) will be queuing up to support Caroline Flint, given Ms Thornberry’s past comments, such as her infamous “White Van with Union Flag” tweet during the Rochester by-election in 2014, which caused her resignation. I’m afraid Ms Thornberry has form.

The other aspect is that she is now a leadership candidate to replace Jeremy Corbyn. I predict someone will have a discreet word in her ear, pointing out the “unwisdom” of suing a former MP of the very party you aspire to lead. Bad for morale.

But if you’re looking for a better example of Labourites apparently telling porkies, you won’t do better than this one. This is a real ‘slap you round the back of the neck with a large haddock’ proof of Labour’s dishonesty, anti-Semitism and refusal to deal with it. Please click this link:

MP Richard Burgon

It will take you to a YouTube video from the BBC Daily Politics show, where you’ll see Mr Burgon addressing a public meeting, shouting: “The enemy of the Palestinian people are Zionists, and Zionism is the enemy of peace and the enemy of the Palestinian people.”

When challenged by BBC journalist Andrew Neil, he flatly denied it, on record. The question is, why did Labour let him stand as a candidate when all this was in the public domain?

David Challice
UKIP Head Office
This summer, the former Leader had asked for my opinion on the likelihood of there being a General Election in 2019, and wanted me to devise an election strategy for UKIP.

The GE would be called in order to resolve the stalemate in the Commons and an unending series of Treason May wriggles, their stupidity matched only by their unacceptability.

I replied, “50-50”.

Why so low, given the prevailing impasse, was obvious, even to the likes of Mastermind David Lammy?

This was because, given the 2/3rds majority requirement in the Fixed Term Parliaments Act 2011 (time is ripe for this to be abolished), it could only happen with a high level of cross-party support.

A political party can’t survive failing to contest a general election.

Taking into account that the 7-strong PR-wing of the I.R.A. doesn’t vote, CON support by the DUP, Frank Field, Kate Hoey and perhaps a couple more LAB rebels (but there would be CON rebels too, like Ken Clarke, and defectors), there would still be more than 110 additional votes needed to reach the 2/3rds threshold.

While the SNP and LIBs might collude (and did), and despite the numbers of LIBs swelling in 2019 as a result of defections, it couldn’t get far above half the number needed.

Therefore, LAB co-operation would be needed to get an early GE. But why would the PLP collude? With the foam-flecked madman Corbyn and his gang (McDonnell and Abbott) ruling the roost, propped up by a Momentum Special Action Group, no other party (excepting possibly the equally demented SNP) would even begin to consider a pre-election pact. And so, on opinion polling, LAB MPs voting for a GE2019 would be turkeys voting for Christmas.

But Corbyn removed any lingering doubts that he was an idiot and eventually colluded. Happily, LAB was annihilated at the ballot box.

Back to the past. I went ahead to plan UKIP strategy for a GE2019, at a time we’d got far less than the Loonies (Brecon & Radnorshire by-election, 1st August 2019) and then UKIP was forecast by both YOUGOV and ELECTORALCALCULUS at less than 0.5% in almost every constituency.

The first decision was whether or not to field candidates for a GE2019. Approaching £600,000 had been spent on EU2019 this spring - appallingly badly. Our bizarre Election Address, underexposed images and an apparent celebration that Brexit had been betrayed, did not gain us but lost us support - and a wipeout resulted. There was little in the kitty. But if we boycotted GE2019, we’d be confirming to the wider public and media that the previous leaderships had reduced us to the status of a single-issue, street-protest cult, fixated upon dubious heroes.

So, I analysed every one of the 650 constituencies, looking at the two sites mentioned previously and also other opinion polls, and keeping my information up-to-date as public opinion shifted, to decide on where we should, or should not, field candidates.

When I was asked by the NEC to accept the role of National Campaign Manager, I wasn’t flattered. While a loony couldn’t do the job, only a loony would accept it! But someone had to do this, or UKIP would be immediately relegated to the dustbin of history. A political party can’t survive failing to contest a general election.

My numbers-based strategy was as follows - DO NO HARM.

Taking account of the 7-strong PR-wing of the I.R.A. doesn’t vote, CON support by the DUP, Frank Field, Kate Hoey and perhaps a couple more LAB rebels (but there would be CON rebels too, like Ken Clarke, and defectors), there would still be more than 110 additional votes needed to reach the 2/3rds threshold.

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The CONs got 365 seats. If, purely as a mathematical exercise, we pretend all BXP/UKIP votes went to them instead, it would have been 404 (38 at the expense of LAB, the other one from Plaid Cymru).

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My numbers-based strategy was as follows - DO NO HARM.

This means: UKIP’s participation should not harm the prospects of any Brexiteer incumbent or challenger. So, often, we did not contest our best seats. We genuinely did put the country first, and our strategy was more effective in this than was the BXP’s.

When the GE2019 was
announced, I immediately formed a strong team, including Colin Nicholson, George Pykov, Crispin John and Mark Angelides, who worked hard and are still recovering.

As more information trickled in (including as to who was standing - it was a right musical-chairs within the parties), I traffic-lighted all 650 constituencies.

The 80 seats I labelled RED meant “don’t stand here” - the projected battle was between a Brexiteer and a Remainer, and it was close, and UKIP’s participation might cost Brexit a backer in the Commons. In this assessment, with LAB standing squarely for Remain in GE2019, I deduced most of our votes would come from people who would otherwise vote CON (or BXP, where it ended up fielding candidates - some fast legwork was required by us when they changed their policy at nearly the last moment before nominations closed), and, up north, also from LAB.

My projections ignored previous GE results - GE2017 was fought between CON and LAB at a time when both purported to hold the same view about Brexit. GE2019, in contrast, was an election almost exclusively about Brexit, and LAB had shown its true colours on this issue.

If not for UKIP, there would have been no referendum ...

AMBER (20) meant check with me for updated information. GREEN (the vast majority - 550 seats) was “please stand here!”.

55 candidates appeared; 2 failed vetting. Several others appeared only to be going through the motions to raise their profile and did not submit nominations. A handful of others ignored what my Team told them, thought they knew best and tried negotiating with Acting Returning Officers (“payment of £500 in installments”, “no need for nomination signatures; everyone here knows me” and “my daughter is coming to see me on Thursday so I’ll tell them I’ll be one day late”) with the expected results. Some just underestimated the time taken to get signatures or to get an appointment. 44 made it through - one by paraglider or “paraguilder”, but that’s another story.

With one exception - rebels without a clue, DNOs who disobeyed the clear campaign traffic-lighting, deluded that GE2017 had predictive value, and so caused embarrassment during MSM interviews - constituency selection went to plan and December 13th’s results showed how right we’d been in avoiding blame (“Vote UKIP, Get Remainer” would have been all over the place), something BXP didn’t manage.

When the press came calling, asking why we fielded a candidate in Ochil & South Perthshire, suggesting I’d not followed our own “Moral High Ground” strategy, I had the pleasure of teaching the reporter a lesson. In that seat, I’d accurately forecast an upset where the CON could be narrowly ousted by the SNP. But I hadn’t red-lighted the constituency; this is because the incumbent had been the Finance Director of Britain Stronger In Europe, the official Remain campaign. It was a Remainer vs. Remainer contest. In some ways, I’m happy that, partly through our participation, he lost - he would have been one more insurgent backer of the Vassalage/Surrender Treaty which Boris, notwithstanding his huge majority, might yet try to foist on us.

We did what we could with very limited resources and time (WELL DONE, TEAM AND 44 CANDIDATES). We designed, proofed, argued about, fought with Royal Mail Artwork Approval about, printed, folded, banded, labelled and delivered to 21 Royal Mail SDOs over two million super-sized, punchy and professional-looking Election Addresses, a total print-weight of nearly 14 tons, all paid for by us (the candidates paid their own deposits).

Our final result was 1.1% among the 43 official candidates, two to three times higher than the more miserable result forecast by the pollsters. This was despite us looking to the greater good when selecting where to stand. The candidate with the highest share of votes was Fiona Mills (2.44%, Carlisle).

Yes, a smaller CON majority would have suited us better, for then our allies would have had more leverage. But as I write this, we’re liaising with the newly-identified Brexiteer contingent in the Commons, committed to Boris opting for a WTO Rules Brexit.

If not for UKIP, there would have been no delivery of Brexit either. We achieved the impossible, and our story isn’t yet over. From little acorns grow mighty oaks, and from ashes rise the phoenix.

Freddy Vachha
Interim General Secretary
All political parties need to do policy development as one of their core activities.

Party policy needs continual change to reflect developments in law and events in society. After three and a half years in which the House of Commons didn’t do much apart from trying to stop and overturn Brexit, we have a new government which looks as though it is going to be fairly radical and make lots of new laws.

We must keep our main manifesto up to date and respond quickly and pre-emptively to major changes. It looks as though Parliament is going to ratify Prime Minister Johnson’s treaty so that we move into a transition period from 1st February to 31st December 2020.

Our influence does not stop at Brexit.

Whatever we think of this, our manifesto needs to be updated in February to reflect this change, particularly the sections on Brexit, Fisheries and Agriculture. I will be working with our spokesmen to do this.

Despite not being in government, UKIP has had the most profound influence on the nation during the whole of this decade in forcing Cameron’s administration to hold a referendum of leaving the EU.

Our influence does not stop at Brexit, however. UKIP is still the most radical party in the UK and more connected to ordinary people and their concerns than anyone else. It is clear that MPs and leaders from all parties read our manifesto and cherry-pick our policies for implementation. All the main parties now say they will end charging for hospital car parking, which has been UKIP policy since 2010.

Local government elections in England and the London Mayoral and Assembly elections in May are fast approaching. Over 2,500 seats will be contested. As well as putting up candidates, we also need to update and renew our Local and London manifestos. This is the number one priority for the policy team over the next three months.

UKIP has always sought to allow members to contribute to policy ideas – many of our best ideas come from you! For example, our new manifesto contains a pledge to introduce a GCSE in British Sign Language for pupils who wish to study it. This idea comes directly from a member in the North East who wrote to me. I intend that this will continue. If you have any policy ideas please write to me or our new team of spokesmen, and we will look at them to see if they can be included in our manifestos.

Obviously, people have different priorities, and sometimes conflicting opinions, but I find that most UKIP members agree on about 90% of issues – we want to leave the EU without a Withdrawal Treaty, cut immigration to sustainable levels, protect the countryside, and end the suffocating culture of political correctness. Our manifestos will continue to reflect this.

David Kurten
Head of Policy
A big Thank You to everyone who voted for me.

I have sat on the NEC representing you for two months and I’m looking forward to many more, putting you, the members, into the heart of the decision-making process.

I have been a Kipper for a short period of time, 3 and a half years. As UKIP began to search for a direction after the referendum, I came on board – My virgin journey into the world of politics and activism.

All through this journey, it has been the members that have made this rewarding, fun and educational. You elected me on the platform of abolishing the NEC and creating a UKIP that stands up for Free Speech and is prepared to tackle the conversations that are not yet permitted in this Politically Correct world we live in. I stand Proud and firm on this platform.

“Actions speak louder than Words” is how a young male colleague described me only yesterday; I plan on staying true to this perception and actively participate, on your behalf, in all decision making as required.

I’m excited to have the opportunity to now help create a more transparent, engaging leadership. I look forward to working with the Leadership, my fellow NEC Members, and most significantly, you, my fellow members in building a Party that empowers its membership.

As we end 2019, UKIP finds itself beginning a new chapter once again; I would like this to be the story of Hope, Determination and Commitment.

We have some great opportunities ahead of us to remain a “force for good” for many years to come – Together, we can make the most of these.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Pray the Season of Goodwill brings you and your family Joy and Peace. x

Nicole Bushill

Meet the NEC

Mike Shaw

Meet the NEC

I joined UKIP in 2006, Waveney Branch. For those without recourse to an atlas, Waveney is a Suffolk River that joins the River Yare close to Lowestoft, the most Easterly point of the British Isles. Where I have lived for more than 50 years. Waveney Branch and Suffolk Coastal branch merged to become East Suffolk Branch, at our high point we had over 150 members, sadly now decreased to under a hundred. The downturn in members is what persuaded me to apply for election to the NEC along with requests from local branch members and the invitation to join Gerard’s “Batten Brigade”.

My interest in politics spans more than five decades. I have seen the fortunes vary and parties end. I have thought in detail about why they started and how they came to their ends. I think, perhaps vainly that I can assist in halting the demise of UKIP. One can argue many points about UKIP, but at the present time, it is beyond argument that our recent results in elections must be due to our inadequacies!

I admit we suffer more opposition than other parties but we have the choice, either overcome that opposition or perish, politically. Fortunately, the media are at the present time focusing on the poor performance and divisions within the Labour Party - we must capitalise on it. We must not set out to gain voters from any one particular section of the populace - we are a party for all people and all weathers, or should be.

I, personally have no ambition in politics; I would much rather be “happily retired” and spend my time pursuing leisure activities that full-time employment made difficult. But I am willing to do or attempt to do what needs to be done if no-one else is doing it.

Best regards
Mike Shaw
Branch Business  

Rescuing the Branch Bank Account

Looking after the Branch bank account is central to the office of Treasurer. It is his or her primary responsibility.

When you have taken over the Office of Treasurer, you will, hopefully, have a working bank account already in place. If there is then, you will have to make sure you are on the mandate; that is to say, you become a bona fide signatory to the account. Check with your immediate predecessor that they have the required authority to appoint you as a signatory. Usually, the Chair and Treasurer are the two main signatories so they have the authority to add you to the mandate. If possible, ask your predecessor if they are happy to stay on the mandate as you cannot have too many signatories. However, you must ensure that any TWO must be needed to make changes to the mandate.

Major problems have occurred when one or more signatories to the account have either resigned, died or simply moved away and are no longer active members. Very often, this has resulted in a sole remaining signatory unable to operate the account. That is why it is a good idea to have three or even four signatories so that you are always able to withdraw funds.

Many accounts have become dormant as a result of Branch accounts lacking signatories and the banks, quite rightly, refuse access to anyone not on the mandate. When this happens, this is what you need to do as a matter of urgency:

At the next Branch meeting (or an EGM if one is not scheduled for a while), pass a Motion appointing Mr X as Chair, Mr Y as Secretary and Mr Z as Treasurer. It is vital that those Minutes are recorded, printed and kept as a file document electronically. Take those Minutes to the Bank and request a new mandate with any two of those to sign for and on behalf of the account. With some banks, this has to be done online which is why you might need the electronic version mentioned above. When that is done to the bank’s satisfaction the bank will allow access to the account and the funds.

The actions above will hopefully allow many thousands of pounds to be unlocked from existing dormant accounts.

When you are opening a NEW account, make sure that you ask for a Club or Association account and NOT a business account. Do NOT be tempted by special offers to induce you to open a Business Account. It is NOT what the Branch needs and will only lead to compliance issues with that bank at a later date. If you have inherited a Business account, ask the Bank to change its status to a Club or Association account.

The Party Treasurer is always available to help with bank or related financial issues.

Just email: treasurer@ukip.org

Do NOT be tempted by special offers to open a Business Account.
**Ian Garbutt**

As the newest member of the NEC, I look forward to my first meeting in February 2020 with both pride at being at the heart of the best Political Party today, and fear for the challenges ahead.

Since October last year, when former leader Gerard Batten started ‘a love affair with Tommy Robinson’, we have spent more time fighting amongst ourselves than tackling the real challenges of combatting the LIBLABCON and PC world that is destroying our country. This must stop and we need to direct 100% of our effort in restoring the fortunes of our once-great nation. We should once again be Great Britain in all senses and be proud to be British, English Welsh, Scottish or Irish.

This can never be achieved whilst we associate ourselves with street protest cults that have anti-Muslim agendas. We will never be taken seriously as the party that once were in 2015 with such members or policies. These people must not be allowed to take our party over. They should go and join Britain First or For Britain where I am sure they will be welcome.

There are many challenges ahead in restoring our dwindling membership, our Constituency, County and Regional committees, and most of all, our finances. This cannot be achieved by a few but will require all of you to participate in whatever way you are able. The Leaders and NEC are here not for their benefit but to encourage, help and support all of you.

We have an excellent costed manifesto that all British men, women and children can identify with and under our current interim Leader will be under constant review and kept UpToDate. I look forward to working with them and doing my bit for the party in re-establishing UKIP as the party for all true British Patriots.

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**UKIP Letter Writing**

With the General Election behind us, and Brexit (or a sort of Brexit) looking likely, it is very important to keep up the pressure... and not just on Brexit but all those other areas where the Left once called the shots: climate change “emergency”; gender and identity politics, and the like. And so I'm very pleased to confirm that Head Office still offers a “letter writing” service for you to respond to such items if they appear in your local newspaper.

If a letter or article appears in the local press then we can help you respond to it. Please do not tell us about things in the national papers. But with the local paper we can be a big help.

It doesn’t matter if it’s the Bolton Advertiser, Leicester Mercury, Cornish Weekly News, East Anglian Times... whatever. As long as it has a Letters page then we’ll do our best to help you respond.

Local newspapers are often overlooked in politics, but thousands of people read them. It’s hugely important that UKIP contributes to these publications, getting our message across. UKIP Head Office can help in one of two ways:

1. We can write a quick response for you to adapt and send in under your name. (A long letter is counterproductive. Short is best).

2. We can write the same piece but signed “David Challice, UKIP Head Office”.

Getting things into the national press is a slog. But the editor of, say, “The Shrewsbury Gazette” will be flattered that a national political party reads their paper and would regard it as a compliment that we are getting in touch. It sends a message to their own readers that their newspaper is read beyond the local area.

It is always best for the local branch to respond to these things but we know it’s not always possible or that sometimes a few big guns firing in from a different direction can be more effective.

The key to everything is speed of response. If you see a story or letter in the local paper that calls for our help then don’t hesitate. Send us an email (with a scan of the initial piece) to: mail@ukip.org following up with a phone call to: 01626 830630, alerting us that you’ve sent it. Hopefully we will reply the same day, before it becomes old news. We cannot promise to respond to everything but we will do our very best to help you get UKIP’s viewpoint out there into the local media.
If my 16 years in the Territorial Army taught me anything, it was the art of delegation, and speaking for myself and myself alone, I really felt my spirits lift after reading Pat Mountains’ latest email outlining her positive plans for the direction and management of the party. With the Brexit debate now firmly won, there is no doubt that the time has come for UKIP to assert itself as the rightful heir to the “sensible middle ground” in British politics.

We have always said we are the common sense party and I like to think of us as having the best range of policies across the entire spectrum of political debate with bright, insightful and intelligent ideas coming from the right, left, and centre; and now that Pat has laid out her vision for the future, with your help, we are on course to having a buoyant, fighting fit party …

With our internal management and policy-making processes now streamlined in this way, the Party’s Senior Management Team, who will have some delegated managerial decision-making capabilities, will now be able to respond much more quickly to problems and opportunities that may arise, rather than, as has sometimes been the case in the past, where decisions had to wait “until the next NEC meeting”.

These two new Teams represent a breath of fresh air after so many long months of divisive Brexit debate and also, frankly, after the internal disagreements within the party, so it is really encouraging to see that our new Interim Leader, her Senior Management Team and the NEC are ready to do battle.

One of the first things many people have mentioned they are hoping for is the creation of a new, catchy, short sharp slogan that tells voters exactly what we stand for and reflects our appeal to people across the entire political spectrum, left, right and centre. So come on folks, put your thinking caps on and let’s see just how creative we can be. Saatchi and Saatchi, eat your hearts out!

And finally, I’d like to say a personal thank you to all of you who have stuck with the Party, through thick and thin and have worked so hard to keep it all afloat, candidates, activists, members and even well-wishers who have helped spread our simple message – UKIP are still here, and still fighting for a better future for our children, and our grandchildren.

Merry Christmas to one and all, and frankly, my dears, I don’t give a monkey’s if that is not PC enough!

My very warmest regards to you all,

Pete Muswell
Deputy Interim Chairman
Elizabeth is honoured and delighted to take up this post, to which she will dedicate her energies in tandem with her established seat on the Party’s National Executive Committee as an elected Members’ Rep since 2015.

London-based and a practising lawyer, Elizabeth has previously served as a Non-Executive Director of the Anglo-Azerbaijan Society. She has concentrated her efforts internationally in the Arts. She was appointed Jury Member for the Sochi International Film Festival and Awards (SIFFA) in Russia, in 2018, and subsequently volunteers as a strategic consultant to SIFFA’s Anglo-Russian organisers.

Part of an ad hoc UKIP policy research team to draw up solutions during the immigration crisis in northern France in 2014-15, and examine the Anglo-French Le Touquet Agreement, her proposals to establish a network of official Migrant Process Centres in Africa, the Middle East and Asia, have been readily adopted by the EU Commission this year.

Elizabeth’s loyalty, integrity and enthusiasm have made her the ‘Go-To’ figure for London’s extensive Foreign Press Corp. She is a regular studio guest, panellist and Party Rep on radio and TV broadcast stations including BBC Arabic, Al Ghad and Sky Arabia.

As Britain’s capital city, London is host to a vast Diplomatic world, the Court of St James. Elizabeth has been a special guest of His Excellencies, the Ambassadors of Egypt, Oman, Russia and Kazakhstan and developed fruitful channels with senior figures in Egypt’s military establishment.

UKIP’s new helmswoman for Foreign Affairs made her debut speech at the Party’s launch of its 2019 General Election Manifesto on 2 December 2019. Her introductory address, giving a flavour of things to come, can be viewed on her Facebook page.

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**UKIP BSL POSITION**

UKIP is looking for a British Sign Language expert to assist with National Conferences. As part of UKIP’s latest manifesto, we have a policy of starting an optional GCSE in British Sign Language in schools across Great Britain.

We would like to take on someone in a voluntary position who would be willing to attend National Conferences and events in order to do BSL translation.

The post will be unremunerated, though reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

To apply, please email David Challice at Head Office (mail@ukip.org), writing “Application for Position of Sign Language Volunteer” in the subject heading.

**PLEASE NOTE: UKIP Head Office will be closed for the holiday season starting today and will re-open on January 2nd.**

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**Leadership Election**

In accordance with the party constitution, the NEC has called a leadership election. The NEC has decided that candidates must have been a member in good standing of the party for five years, and must pay a non-refundable deposit of £10,000 (which will be returned if a candidate pulls out of the contest within seven days of the deadline, or if there is no contested election). Application forms and a full set of the rules for candidates may be obtained from head office. Completed applications together with the deposit must be received by the returning officer by 5th January 2020.
Next time Extinction Rebellion is blocking your train or super-gluing themselves to your car, just remind them of a few cataclysmic predictions that have already been made about the climate.

Ecologist Kenneth Watt announced: “We have about five more years at the outside. By the year 2000, we will be using up crude oil at such a rate that there won’t be any more crude oil”.

Or try this one, from North Texas State University’s, Peter Gunter: “Thirty years from now, the entire world, with the exception of Western Europe, North America, and Australia, will be in famine”.

The scientific method has been turned into religious dogma...

Or this from Dr S. Ripley, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution: “In twenty-five years between 75% and 80% of all species of living animals will be extinct”.

The clincher comes from Kenneth Watt again: “The world has been chilling sharply for about 20 years. If present trends continue, the world will be about 4 degrees colder in 1990, but 11 degrees colder in the year 2000. This is about twice what it would take to put us into an ice age”.

The common thread running through the above quotes is that they all date from 1970, and reflect fairly common scientific opinion at the time. I’m not criticising scientists, but sometimes they get it wrong. Even worse, when those who disagree are termed ‘deniers’ or ‘heretics’, it means the scientific method has been turned into a religious dogma of unthinking, blind faith, fed by political pressure from those with their own agenda.

Even worse, young people are brainwashed into the mindset of being unable to think. Click on this link and turn on the sound. It’s a short piece but frightening in its own way:

Blind Faith?

In 2011, the Food Standards Agency released a report saying we should move towards a vegetarian diet and cut out beef and dairy: “The switch is necessary as part of a diet low in greenhouse gases, which are associated with climate change”.

That report came from the University of East Anglia, discredited after years of illegally concealing data on climate change and conspiring to skew the peer review process (revealed by leaked emails in the Climate-Gate scandal). In my opinion, this seat of learning cannot be trusted to produce the chemical formula for Ovaltine, let alone pontificate on the nation’s diet.

As a further example of climate ‘spin’ (also in 2011), we had the headline: “Italian Alps melt in Heatwave”.

After a hot summer, the snow had melted on the high passes, revealing a ‘long-talked-about but never seen before’ nest of bunkers and barracks built by Austro-Hungarian troops during the First World War. The frozen body of an Italian soldier, from the same era, was also found and paraded as proof of global warming.

Think about this for a minute. Eighty years ago, it was sufficiently warm enough for the Italian Army to need fortifications on a high mountain pass because they feared Austrian troops crossing through and attacking them. Not only that, but it was also technically possible to build the structure because the ground wasn’t frozen.

But then it got cold, and the ice grew and covered the fort for years. It has just got a little bit warmer - though not as warm as it was 80 years ago - and now we’re all told to eat sprouts, beans and cabbage to reduce methane gas (Eh?).

Consider also the eruption of Eyjafjallajökull, the Icelandic volcano estimated to have pumped out more greenhouse gases in the first week of its ash-cloud than had been saved by the ‘green’ efforts of every human being on the planet for the previous five years.

Yes, I know. Let’s all have a group hug. And then a T-bone steak. You can even have baked beans with it (if you insist).

David Challice
Head Office
When I first joined UKIP in April of 2017, aged 16, after following the party since I was 14, I innocently thought that I would be joining a professionally run party, with people in positions of power who knew what they were doing and who had respect for the people whose membership fees and donations paid their wages, or whose decades of gruelling work got them elected to public office. But sadly, my experience has been the opposite, in many cases.

So to cut a long story short, it’s that anger at so much incompetence, wasted money, wasted potential and squandering of so many golden opportunities for the party, that has driven me, at 19 years old, to stick my head above the parapet and say YES - I will stand for the National Executive Committee and be Chairman of our Youth Wing (Young Independence). Not because I want to be in any of these roles or have some crazed desire for power or want a career in politics - if I wanted that I’d have joined the Conservatives (they’ve always begged active UKIP members to cross the floor) - but because of that saying; “If not you, who? If not now, when?”

When I think of what those millions of young men did in all the wars before us to defend and fight for what was important to them, some lying about their ages to do so, I think: “What’s a bit of leafleting, compared with that? Not going clubbing every weekend and spending a few hours ‘Ukipping’ most days is nothing when compared with putting one’s life on the line”. And it’s with that spirit that I’ve helped my (Chesterfield, Bolsover & North East Derbyshire) branch and others, plus local election candidates, create, run and improve Facebook pages; stand for election this May and be 14 votes from becoming UKIP’s youngest Councillor; come 5th out of 13 candidates in the NEC election and become Chairman of Yi.

I never wanted to be the face of anything, but I just thought that I could put my skills to good use, while others led the charge against the ‘LibLabCon’. It’s quite surreal to be in the roles that I’m in. But the more that I see first-hand the ridiculous words and actions of a small number of people at the top of our party, the more driven I am to get - in their place - people who respect the will of the membership and will deliver on what they voted for. I don’t agree with everything Richard Braine and Gerard Batten have ever said and done, but their treatment by the previous Chairman and NEC was nothing short of appalling.

It’s about time we put a STOP to any further needless legal squabbles that waste your money and make UKIP a laughing stock to the public. We’ve got Council and London Assembly elections in May and the next GE is likely to not be until 2024. So it’s time we got to work, targeting and winning council seats and re-build a voter base in a dozen or so constituencies, where, with professional long-fought campaigns - we stand a chance of winning come 2024.

As a certain fellow NEC member often says, “I know what must be done”! But I and the 99% of brilliant, decent people in this party need your support if we are to do it. So please, renew your membership when the time comes - at least until we get a long-term leader in place come May.

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**Wills & Legacies**

Did you know that the Conservative Party brings in twice as much money annually from Wills and Legacies as it does from Member Subscriptions?

It is thanks to the generosity of our member George P, late of Kingston upon Thames, that all the costs of the election addresses and their distribution are being paid by Head Office for every candidate standing in the General Election.

Many other UKIP supporters are looking at ways to help the Party. Leaving a legacy in your will is just one of the ways you can help UKIP continue to fight for Britain.

If you want to support UKIP, please download [this link](#), fill out the forms, and lodge them with your solicitor.

With all our thanks,

UKIP
Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year