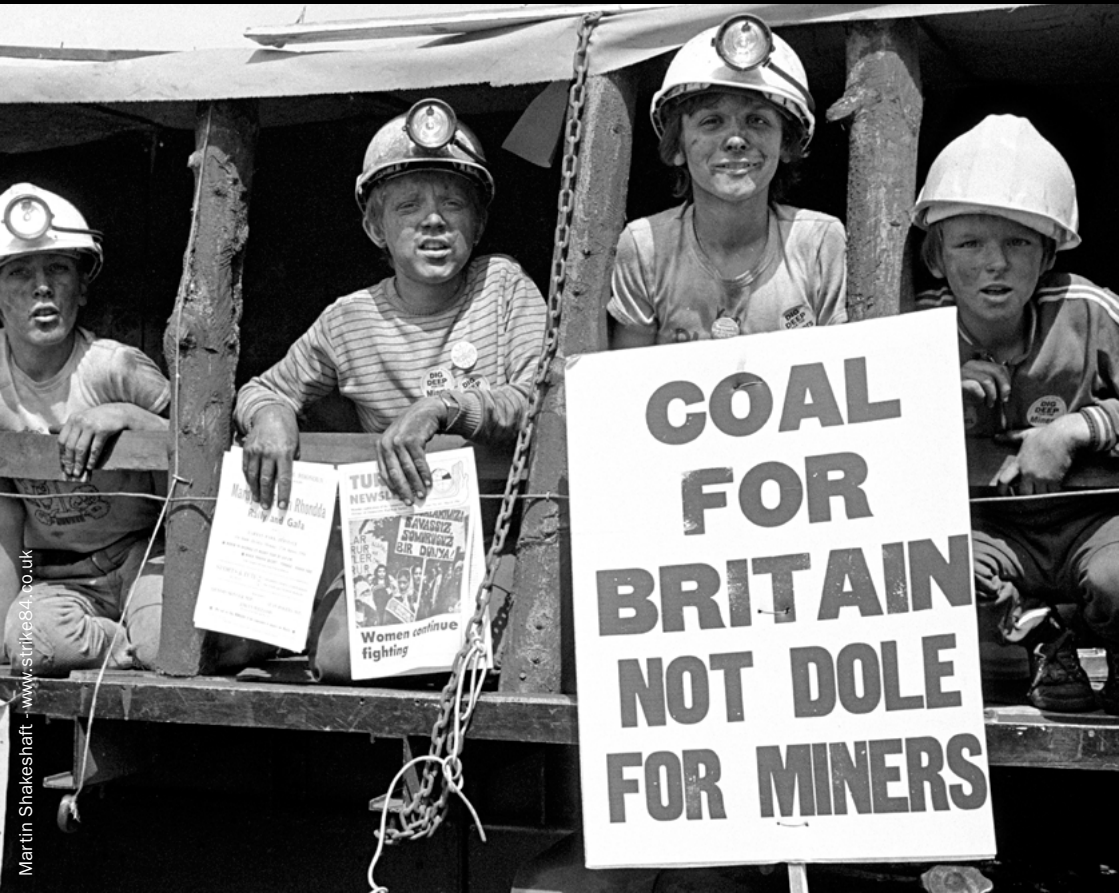


Orgreave

30 year anniversary



Martin Shakeshaft - www.strike84.co.uk

Orgreave Mass Picnic & Festival

Saturday 14 June 2014 | 11.00am-7.00pm

Catcliffe Recreation Ground, Poplar Way, Catcliffe, S60 5TZ

Programme 50p



The Battle of Orgreave

ON 18 JUNE 1984, in the first months of the year-long miners' strike against pit closures, pickets from across Britain headed for Orgreave coke depot outside Rotherham in South Yorkshire. The depot was supplying fuel to the country's steelworks.

It was targeted by the National Union of Mineworkers whose members were striking to defend their jobs, their coalmines, their families, their communities and their future. They had no knowledge of what awaited them. Police from 10 forces had been mobilised. To the miners' surprise, police made no attempt to prevent them reaching their target - no road blocks, no halting of miners' vehicles on motorways and road networks, as was happening around working mines.

10,000 miners

Instead the miners were advised where to park, and were directed into a field near the cokeworks. An estimated 10,000 miners were eventually gathered in an area which was surrounded on three sides by massed ranks of police.

June 18 was a hot summer's day. The miners were lightly-clad - many in shorts, tee-shirts, plimsolls. The mood was good-natured. There was the usual humorous banter from the pickets. Without warning the police ranks parted, and mounted, armoured, baton-wielding officers charged. At full gallop they hurtled into the ranks of the miners, battering all within reach. The cavalry charge was followed by the infantry - police on foot, again wielding batons. The miners were in disarray, scattering, running for their very lives. As they did so they were attacked from behind by police, battering

their backs and heads. Beaten miners, heads pouring blood, were arrested as the assault continued.

The miners fled in the only direction open to them, up a hillside, into woods. They regrouped and returned, and using whatever they could lay their hands on - fence stakes, branches, stones - retaliated.

BBC editing

That evening, film of the events at Orgreave was edited by the BBC to show the miners attacking first, and police responding with a charge - the exact reverse of what had really happened. Ninety-five miners were arrested and charged with riot - an offence which carries a potential life sentence. In the aftermath, the charges were thrown out by the courts as evidence mounted of police collusion in the preparation of statements. Falsely-charged miners collectively were paid £425,000 in compensation.

This then was the story of the Battle of Orgreave - an event which has gone down in Britain's history of industrial struggle as one of the state's most brutal acts of violence against its own people.

What happened at Orgreave that day thirty years ago raised bigger questions about the policing of the miners' strike.

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"Reconnecting the Community with Trade Union Values"



Calderdale Trades Council

supports Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign's call for a Public Enquiry into the policing of the Orgreave Coking Plant in June 1984

<http://calderdaletuc.org.uk>

SHEFFIELD TRADE UNION COUNCIL

est.1858

Celebrating the struggle of the miners and their communities in the Miners Strike 30 years ago.

We send solidarity greetings to all those attending the Mass Picnic organised by Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign

Your fight is our fight!

Martin Mayer
 Secretary

Bob Jeffery
 President

martin.mayer@unitetheunion.org

bobjeffery.sheffielddtuc@gmail.com

MESSAGE FROM Chris Kitchen

"I am unable to attend the Orgreave picnic due to a pre-arranged engagement in the North East...

I hope the event goes well."

Chris Kitchen
 National Secretary, National Union of Mineworkers



LONDON MAGAZINE BRANCH

Is proud to support the Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign.

<http://www.nujlmb.org.uk>

Orgreave Mass Picnic & Festival Programme 2014



TIME	MAIN STAGE
Compere	Attila the Stockbroker
11:00 – 12:00	Unite Brass Band. (On the field)
12:00 – 13:00	Speakers: Barbara Jackson – Orgreave Truth & Justice Campaign, Rick Sumner – Justice for Mineworkers' Campaign, Betty Cook – Women Against Pit Closures, Dave Douglass – Former NUM official, Mike Mansfield QC, Ken Capstick – Former Vice-President NUM Yorkshire Area
13:00 – 14:00	Banner Theatre Entertainment for a change! It is the 40th Anniversary of Banner Theatre – their songs and stories of struggle continue to inspire comrades everywhere.
14:00 – 14:15	Speakers: Ann Field – Printers' Union/Wapping Archive Pedro Fuentes – Chile SCDA
14:15 – 14:45	Omar Puente & Friends “A classical violinist with a heart that beats with a Cuban rhythm, a soul that is African, and a home in West Yorkshire” <i>Womad</i>
14:45 – 15:00	Tribute to Bob Crow with RMT President Peter Pinkney
15:00 – 15:30	Sean Taylor “Springsteen and Taylor are cheering my day... brilliant, stunning songs.” <i>Mike Harding</i>
15:30 – 15:45	Tony Goodwin – A former miner turned poet. His poems are about life and love in a Northern town
15:45 – 16:15	Snide Remarks A rock and roll band from Middlesbrough with an original set of high energy songs that keep audiences on their toes!
16:15 – 16:30	Tribute to Orgreave Veterans: Sheila Coleman – Hillsborough Campaign, Arthur Critchlow – Orgreave Veteran, <i>Children release balloons</i>
16:30 – 17:00	The Hurriers Barnsley's very own, responsible for this year's 'Battle of Orgreave' anthem “Truth and Justice”. A proper Socialist Punk band like everyone needs!
17:15 – 17:45	Western Promise One of Liverpool's best live bands to have supported the Hillsborough fight for justice for many years.
18:00 – 18:45	Thee Faction Singing down the government with good politics! Thee Faction are The Redskins meet Dr Feelgood; Revolutionary Socialism at its very best!
18:45 – 19:00	The struggle continues – closing speakers

TIME	ACOUSTIC STAGE
Compere	Jeff Platts
13:10 – 13:30	Jenny Willow Liverpool songstress
13:30 – 13:45	Tony Goodwin Pitman poet
13:45 – 14:05	Martin Black Doncaster balladeer
14:05 – 14:20	Javaad Alipoor Bradford poet
14:20 – 14:45	Ray Hearne Irish rooted South Yorkshire folk
14:45 – 15:15	The Red Flags duo with songs of struggle all the way from Norwich
15:15 – 15:45	Bruce Talley Foot stomping punk rock guitar and harmonica
15:45 – 16:15	Joe Solo Performer and raconteur
16:15 – 16:30	Dave Douglass NUM Legend
17:00 – 17:30	Quiet Loner Anthems for resistance
17:45 – 18:30	Louise Distras Passionate, powerful and punky!

We would like to thank all the artists who have donated their time, creative energy and passion for justice to perform at this event. The commitment of radical artists to the continuing class struggle is not only a constant source of inspiration but it is at the heart of all our hopes and dreams.



30 YEARS OF LIES NO JUSTICE NO PEACE

NEVER FORGET – NEVER FORGIVE



The 2014 Cabinet Papers

The explosive revelations in the Cabinet papers released on 3 January 2014 demonstrated what the miners knew to be true at the time of the 1984-85 strike. There was a plan, in spite of National Coal Board and government denials, to close 75 pits with the loss of 64,000 jobs; the government did intervene to 'stiffen the resolve' of the police and Thatcher was intimately involved in the day-to-day running of the strike.

Now there is the strength of feeling and political will to get truth and justice for the miners, their families and communities.

A Bold Initiative

How has the Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign (OTJC), established in November 2012, managed to push itself to the centre of the trade union movement and spur MPs into action?

The answer lies with another act of infamy involving the police – the Hillsborough disaster. Ninety-six Liverpool United football fans died in 1989 at Hillsborough football ground. Sections of the media, many politicians, and the police themselves, blamed the Liverpool fans for the disaster. But families of those who died believed differently.

They launched a campaign to find the truth. Their determination culminated 23 years later in their own independent enquiry, and the uncovering of a police conspiracy involving doctored statements, false evidence, and a cover-up of shocking incompetence at Hillsborough. The revelations were finally put in the public domain with the publication of the Hillsborough Independent Panel Report of September 2012. And now, since March 2014, the new inquests into the deaths of the 96 Liverpool supporters are being held.

Inspirational achievement

The success of the Hillsborough families had another effect. Their success was an inspirational achievement, quite literally. It inspired the launching of a campaign for a full public inquiry into what happened at Orgreave coke depot. The call came first from a Sheffield woman, Barbara Jackson. She had been a clerical worker employed by the National Coal Board during the 1984-85 strike. For a year she was on strike herself, supporting the fight for the very survival of Britain's proud coal industry, its miners, families and communities. The OTJC was launched on 8 November, 2012.

Other acts of police violence

The launch had its own, almost immediate, knock-on effect – demands throughout the former coalfields for investigations into other acts of police violence and brutality, including military-style invasions of coal-mining communities. The Orgreave campaigners themselves are focussing on that single day, June 18, 1984, at the cokeworks outside Rotherham. The campaign gained remarkable momentum in the weeks immediately after its launch.

Independent public enquiry

An *Inside Out* programme in October 2012 revealed the fabrication of the Orgreave evidence by South Yorkshire Police. They self-referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) citing the programme.

Campaigners have little faith in the IPCC, and are demanding an independent, public inquiry.

The National Union of Mineworkers, Gareth Peirce and Michael Mansfield QC, who between them defended many of the Orgreave miners accused of riot, and acted for the Hillsborough families, are calling for the Director of Public Prosecutions to investigate in tandem with the IPCC.

The Orgreave group now has a website, regular meetings, and media and legal representation.

Since its foundation the OTJC has won broad support within the trade union movement. It may also have been the spur for Labour MPs in mining communities to set up the Justice for the Coalfields Campaign in January 2014 which includes the demand that the government 'release all information about Government-police communications around Orgreave, with a proper investigation which might go a little way to rebuild public confidence. Labour believes this must happen before the 30th Anniversary of Orgreave on June 18th this year'.

We need your support

Barbara Jackson is secretary of the Orgreave group. She said:

“We are in the foothills of a large mountain and we are going to need lots of help to push this back up the agenda. I am passionate about getting justice for what happened in the strike, for the decimation of the coal mining industry and the decimation of the National Union of Mineworkers.”

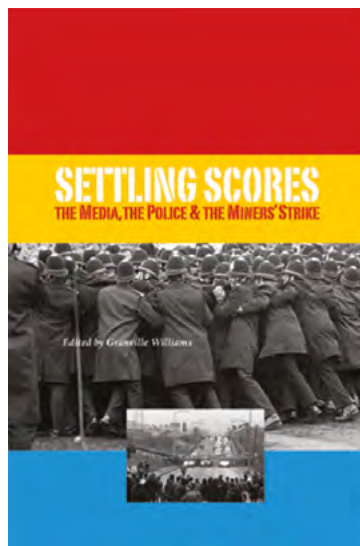


THE ORGREAVE TRUTH AND JUSTICE CAMPAIGN NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

 OrgreaveTruthAndJusticeCampaign

The group's website: <http://otjc.org.uk/>

e-mail: orgreavejustice@hotmail.com



SETTLING SCORES is published by the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom (CPBF). We were heavily involved in the miners' strike around the issue of the right of reply and published the very popular pamphlet *Media Hits The Pits*.

SETTLING SCORES pinpoints unfinished business from the miners' strike. You can buy copies of SETTLING SCORES here today or from the CPBF for £8.50 inc P&P. Make your cheque out to 'CPBF' and send to CPBF, 23 Orford Road, Walthamstow, London E17 9NL or order online at www.cpbpf.org.uk.

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Proudly representing journalists who produced

The Battle for Orgreave

An Inside Out programme for BBC Yorkshire & Lincolnshire
broadcast in October 2012

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weapon which you can use to change
the world."**

-Nelson Mandela

**Fraternal Greetings
From Rotherham
National Union of Teachers**



SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Anniversaries are artificial. People who have lived through momentous events like the miners' strike don't just remember them on one date or for one year – they live with them continuously.

However the 30th anniversary of the strike has produced a crop of books which are well worth reading. Let's start with **Look Back In Anger: The Miners' Strike in Nottinghamshire 30 Years On** by Harry Patterson, published by Five Leaves Press, £9.99.

Patterson's history of the Nottinghamshire coalfield moves from 1926 to the present day. There is some powerful writing – for example the events around the death of the twenty-four year old Yorkshire miner, David Jones, at Ollerton Colliery in Nottinghamshire.

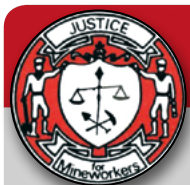
The writing is clear, analytical and draws on a wealth of first-hand testimony. The establishment of a bosses' union in Nottinghamshire, after the collapse of the five-month strike in 1926, by George Spencer, an ex-miner and Labour MP, sets the context for 1984.

The brutality of the police and the formation of a scab union, the UDM, are placed in the context of a hostile press and government determined to break the strike. The book hammers home the depth of the betrayal of the Nottinghamshire strike-breakers while paying tribute to the striking miners and their families who stood by their beliefs, their union and their class.

Most of the media, with the exception of papers like the *Morning Star* and other left papers, reported and filmed the miners' strike from behind the police lines. Martin Jenkinson was a photographer on the side of the miners, the official Yorkshire NUM area photographer. He died in June 2012. **Images From The Past: The Miners' Strike** by Mark Metcalf, Martin Jenkinson and Mark Harvey, published by Pen & Sword, £14.99 is a great collection of his photos, covering both the strike and the protests by Women Against Pit Closures in 1992-93. An added bonus is the very clear commentary on the strike by Mark Metcalf.

The book is a fitting tribute to a dedicated, talented and committed photographer.

Granville Williams, editor *Shafted* (2009) and *Settling Scores* (2014)



THE NATIONAL JUSTICE FOR MINEWORKERS CAMPAIGN (JMC)

was formed in 1985 to keep the issue of victimised miners at the forefront of the labour and trade

union movement and to raise money to alleviate hardship among the families of the victimised.

“When the Miners' Strike ended in 1985 we had over 960 men who had been sacked. Today we are left with just 20 men who have not received a wage since March 1984. The Justice Campaign is able to help in many ways – a burst boiler – a leaking roof – but most of all we try to make sure that they and their families always have a decent Christmas. Any help at all is very welcome and much appreciated.”

Rick Sumner, Convenor. Justice for Mineworkers Campaign. 103 Cliff Road, Hornsea HU18 1JB

South Yorkshire FESTIVAL

Wortley Hall, Wortley
South Yorkshire S35 7DD
Saturday 16 August Starts 12 noon

**This year's theme:
30TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE MINERS' STRIKE**

CPBF Open Meeting

Nick Jones (former BBC Industrial Correspondent). An illustrated analysis of the 1985 cabinet papers and how the government manipulated the 'return-to-work' figures in the final months of the 1984-5 pit dispute.

Henry Collins Room 3.30pm

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11.00am-11.00pm

Unity Hall Wakefield

ORGREAVE
TRUTH AND JUSTICE CAMPAIGN



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