# Voters of Newark, what were you thinking?

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Mike Sivier 6/6/2014



The result: The Tory who won is so unremarkable that I've forgotten his name. More interesting is the chap in the big hat behind him; at first I thought he was the Monster Raving Loony candidate, but it seems more likely he's one of the

One has to ask what is wrong with the people of a Parliamentary constituency when, after four years of a desperately inept and corrupt Conservative-led government, they decide to elect another Tory as their representative in a by-election.

Which of the government's policies clinched it for you, Newark? Was it the brutality inflicted on people who are out of work - particularly those with long-term illnesses and disabilities? Does the fact that people are being driven to suicide at an almost-hourly rate turn you on?

Was it the determination to push your wages down in order to inflate bosses' and shareholders' salaries, forcing a higher take-up of taxpayer-funded in-work benefits? Do you like paying high taxes to support the very, very rich?

Was it perhaps the ongoing privatisation of the NHS? Do you think that's healthy for the people of Britain? Perhaps rickets hasn't yet reappeared in your constituency but it's just a matter of time. Are you looking forward to getting tuberculosis?

Maybe you are looking forward to the government's Legal Aid changes that will put innocent people in jail and leave criminals free to roam your streets and victimise you any way they want?

Or do you really want a Conservative majority in Parliament so they can push through their long-cherished dream of taking away your human rights? Is that what you want?

## That's what your votes supported!

Worse still, you put UKIP in second place. UKIP! The party that, besides supporting the destruction of the NHS (you've come out very strongly for private healthcare, Newark, I hope you know that) wants to put your taxes up (although they're trying to hide that now because people found out and didn't like it), and supports marital rape.

## Way to go, Newark.

At least you had the good sense to kick the Liberal Democrats down to sixth place and the loss of their deposit – but that just means you're schizoid, Newark! You reward the Conservatives for policies that are a hazard to your health, and punish their coalition partners for the same reasons!

#### Way to go, Newark.

It should be noted that turnout was just 52.67 per cent. Presumably the other 47.33 per cent are the "disenchanted" voters of whom Ed Miliband spoke so eloquently in his response to the Queen's Speech (did you hear the Queen's Speech, Newark? She listed 11 more-or-less pointless bills put forward by a zombie Parliament – which you have supported).

Let us hope those 34,779 lost voters can be persuaded to re-engage with democracy in time for next year's general election, and restore sanity to your constituency.

Now go away, Newark.

## You really don't deserve all this attention.

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