
Subject: Re: my fellow brits... who're you gonna vote for?

Posted by [Dover](#) on Fri, 23 Apr 2010 04:56:39 GMT

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Spoony wrote on Thu, 22 April 2010 14:19Dover wrote on Thu, 22 April 2010 12:54Tiesto wrote on Thu, 22 April 2010 09:38I started driving nearly four years ago. Normal unleaded prices were around the 72.9 mark. Now the same station is 119.9.

It's a disgrace.

Four years ago, gas prices in the US were half of what they are now. This is -normal-. This doesn't mean there's some kind of crazy conspiracy in the UK. If your country is going to shit, it's going to shit at the same rate the rest of the world is going to shit.

i'm not sure that the rate at which petrol is taxed here is technically a conspiracy, but it certainly is crazy.

same rate as the rest of europe, more or less (at least i think the western european countries like france have a similar deal), not the same as the rest of the world. i was talking to some american friends a couple of years back, they were whining about it going up to \$3 USD/gallon i think. got the calculator out, turns out we were paying the equivalent of \$9 USD/gallon, and it's higher than that now.

but then you don't have a national health service, and your immigrants generally work, don't they?

It's about 3 USD/gallon now, yeah. At it's peak it was 4.50 or so, but a decade ago it was barely over a dollar. I don't know what gas prices in the UK are now compared to what they are then, but from what I understand absolute wages are higher there than they are here, and the British Pound is so much stronger than the US Dollar, so I'm sure it all balances out in the end.

No, we don't have a real national health service. And most of our immigrants work, yeah.

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No the issue is that 90-95p of it is tax...

If all the tax was taken out, we would have the cheapest fuel in Europe, but with tax added on, its one of the most expensive.

We pay alot in various taxes, we pay taxes on alcohol etc etc.

We don't get alot for all these taxes..

Also -normal-. In the US we pay three separate taxes on gas at the local, state, and national level. Nobody notices or cares because all they see is the price on the big sign outside the station. We also pay taxes on alcohol and cigarettes and a thousand other things. This is -normal-.

And from what I understand health care is free in the UK, while here in the US we have people going broke because of doctors bills.
