

Funding the Future

Will the next Tory PM be the last ever?

Published: January 12, 2026, 11:08 pm

I had just written my [first post of the day](#) (after over-sleeping) when I read a thread from Russ Jones, who has just written a book called 'A decade in Tory'. His analysis is worth sharing:



Russ Jones
@RussInCheshire

...

The problem - and I use the word entirely incorrectly - is that there's no such thing as The Conservative Party.

There are five, each with massively different goals and ideals, artificially crammed together because of the FPTP system.

And this weird hybrid is disintegrating.

7:53 PM · Oct 20, 2022 from Macclesfield, England · Twitter for Android

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Russ Jones @RussInCheshire · 12h
Replies to @RussInCheshire
The Tories are

...

1. One Nation Conservatives, who would be recognisable to Ken Clark, and are - at the margins - interchangeable with some Lib Dems. Mercer. Wallace

2. Xenophobic English nationalists, basically UKIP, obsessed with immigration and sovereignty, eg Braverman, Patel

21 196 2,342



Russ Jones @RussInCheshire · 12h
3. Wild-eyed libertarians who believe in the Sovereign Individual, and all the madness Liz Truss just unleashed. Drax. Raab. Kwarteng.

...

4. Scatty populist bullshitters, who say and do anything to remain in power but have no plan or ideals - Johnson, Dorries and that sordid crew

11 136 2,260

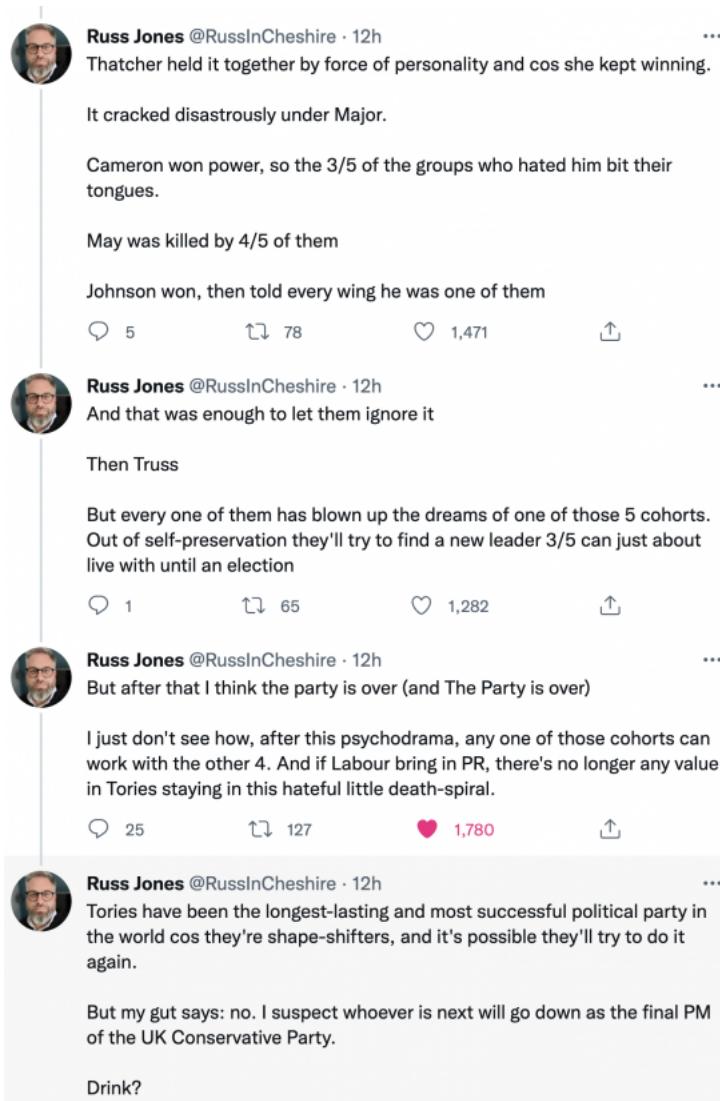


Russ Jones @RussInCheshire · 12h
5. Machine politicians attempting to hold all this together for no reason better than: they have nothing else in their lives, except for a psychotic belief that they alone deserve to rule. Gove or May, essentially

...

9 111 1,735

As he then suggested:



Russ Jones @RussInCheshire · 12h ...
Thatcher held it together by force of personality and cos she kept winning.

It cracked disastrously under Major.

Cameron won power, so the 3/5 of the groups who hated him bit their tongues.

May was killed by 4/5 of them

Johnson won, then told every wing he was one of them

5 78 1,471

Russ Jones @RussInCheshire · 12h ...
And that was enough to let them ignore it

Then Truss

But every one of them has blown up the dreams of one of those 5 cohorts. Out of self-preservation they'll try to find a new leader 3/5 can just about live with until an election

1 65 1,282

Russ Jones @RussInCheshire · 12h ...
But after that I think the party is over (and The Party is over)

I just don't see how, after this psychodrama, any one of those cohorts can work with the other 4. And if Labour bring in PR, there's no longer any value in Tories staying in this hateful little death-spiral.

25 127 1,780

Russ Jones @RussInCheshire · 12h ...
Tories have been the longest-lasting and most successful political party in the world cos they're shape-shifters, and it's possible they'll try to do it again.

But my gut says: no. I suspect whoever is next will go down as the final PM of the UK Conservative Party.

Drink?

That seems like a good analysis to me.

I have little to add, except to differ explanation as to the cause of this, which was in [my first post of the day](#).