

The waiting is over

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Sunak has cut and is running. The fact that he is heading for certain defeat does not seem to be a factor in his decision-making process. Or, if it is, he is deluding himself about the reality of what people think about him, on this along with so many other things.

If Sunak thinks that claiming credit for today's inflation figure is enough of a basis on which to run a campaign, he is, again, deluded. He should have listened to this morning's news round, in which Jeremy Hunt was slaughtered by all the presenters he sat in front of, all of whom found it ridiculously easy to tear his arguments to shreds.

The Tory campaign is as a result, I suggest, so hopelessly holed below the water line that there is no point paying any attention to it. Whatever they say is utterly inconsequential. All we can say with any confidence is that Sunak will depart the centre of the political scene very soon, to disappear to California soon thereafter. I rather suspect he is hoping he actually does achieve the ignominious outcome of actually being voted out by his own constituents.

This is, of course, why I have turned my attention to Labour for so long now. There has been no point in doing anything else. But, the result of doing so is that it has also been found to be profoundly wanting.

Labour's economic policies are absurdly bad.

Its social policy is designed to communicate the message that it does not care.

The same is true with regard to its policy in the NHS, justice, social care, education, climate change and much more.

The only thing that matters to Labour now is keeping its wealthy sponsors happy, and taunting Jeremy Corbyn. It takes some skill to transform an organisation built on the foundations of empathy for the underdog in society and turn it into something that is utterly indifferent to the well-being of almost everyone but the select few who are already wealthy in society, but that is what Keir Starmer has done.

The SNP is unprepared for this fight.

The LibDems have good council elections to build on, and are the protest vote in many Tory constituencies. But is that enough?

The Greens are living in hope.

And Reform ate planning their own big announcement in the morning, they tell me. Expect Farage to be back. This could really have an impact.

But nothing is going to change the outcome of this election. Labour already have it and we are headed for a dismal five years of them delivering wholly unnecessary austerity.

I think you can sense my lack of excitement.