

PM: I didn't mention music, but of course it has a strong presence in your writing. You said you were in a band at the time of the Miners' Strike?

DP: We met at college in the autumn of 1983. We were – predictably – somewhere around the Fall, Birthday Party neck of the woods. With the strike, there was a lot of opportunity to play gigs, there was a lot of travelling, and there was the fanzine culture: the Wakefield fanzine *Slag*, James Brown's *Attack on Bzag*; there was *Rouska*, another Leeds fanzine. Wakefield had the Hellfire Club, and they were bringing bands like Test