

A shot at posterity: Gun featuring Margaret Thatcher portrait goes up for sale



AUCTIONEER Nicholas Holt displays a shotgun bearing an engraved portrait of Baroness Thatcher at a viewing in Edinburgh yesterday.

The 20-bore single-trigger firearm is expected to fetch £30,000-£50,000 when it goes up for sale in June.

Seller John Parton, now 75, became a miner at the age of 18 in Staffordshire, but credits the former prime minister with enabling his success after he went on to establish a commercial cleaning firm in the City.

Mr Parton - whose fellow

pit workers Lady Thatcher described as the "enemy within" during the 1980s strike - had her face engraved on the J Purdey & Sons shotgun in 1988 as a mark of gratitude. He said: "She was a remarkable lady."

Picture: Ian Rutherford

