



# NUT

# THE MANCHESTER TEACHER

One Union for all teachers

February 2016

## MTA OFFICE IS MOVING

After many years at Rack House Primary School, Manchester Teachers' Association NUT is moving to a new office. The school is expanding and needs the space we occupy; we had ample notice and have found a new venue. We leave with many good memories and our thanks and good wishes go to the school and all who work, teach and learn there. With effect from **22nd February 2016** the office address will be:-



**Manchester Teachers Association NUT,  
302a Barlow Moor Road,  
Chorlton, Manchester  
M21 8AY.**

All telephone numbers will remain the same.

## ONGOING ISSUES

The January General Meeting was not quorate so business could not be conducted but the visiting speaker was able to speak to members present and give them information.

**Hilda Palmer** spoke on the **Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)**. This is a proposed trade agreement between the European Union and the United States and negotiations on it are long and seemingly not always transparent.

Much has been said about its effect on the **NHS** and possible opening of the **Health Service** to private business but similar effects could be felt on **education** which is **NUT's central concern**. This hinges on private businesses, **international corporations**, being able to take legal action against national governments whose decisions have a negative effect on the trade and business of international corporations.

Clearly this would be very significant and members should be seeking information from their MP's as to their views on the content of any future agreement and the **need for transparency in negotiations**.

### The Trade Union Bill

This is currently passing through its Parliamentary

journey and if/when it becomes law it will have very serious effects on Trade Unions, especially in the Public Sector.

**Ballots** for action will need an **80%** membership vote in favour and **agency workers** will be allowed to replace striking workers. This will have particular relevance to **Supply Teachers**.

Are you familiar with this? Have you contacted your MP with your views? The Bill is a thinly disguised assault on Trade Unions especially in the Public Sector and that **means YOU!**

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE ELECTION

In the current election for members of the NUT National Executive Election MTA has a **very strong candidate** to represent Greater Manchester.

**John Morgan**, our General Secretary is seeking election in this contest and all members are **strongly urged** to vote for him. The voting is by postal ballot so do make sure that when you receive your ballot paper you **respond immediately**. Please don't put it to one side to deal with later, you may forget, misplace it or miss the deadline.

MTA's second nomination is **Nick Wigmore** of Rochdale NUT. Please vote for

**John Morgan 1 and then Nick Wigmore 2** to maintain strong representation of this region on the National Executive.

The deadline for return of ballot papers is **16th March**. If you don't receive your ballot paper phone the election **hotline** on **020 7380 4825**.

## RETIRED TEACHERS SECTION

2016 has started well for the Section with a new venture in January when members shared stories before an enjoyable lunch. We will do that again it was so enjoyable. We are teachers - we talk well!

The February meeting when Mr Pennant Roberts spoke of his Welsh youth was well received and the next meeting will be on **Tuesday 1st March** when our annual **Silent Auction** will take place, usual time and place, the **Hough End Centre 10.15am**.

If you have something to donate for the Silent Auction bring it along and see what you would like to bid for also. At the same time just enjoy the company and the conversation. New members always welcome.

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## GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting of MTA NUT will be on Wednesday **24th February 2016 at 5pm at Hough End Centre**, Mauldeth Road.

As well as the business of the meeting there will be a special **speaker**. Well known children's author, **Alan Gibbons** is a passionate defender of state education and a great speaker. Please try to attend and/or

encourage a member from your school. Details of the agenda will be in schools beforehand and we hope to see you there. Refreshments will also be available

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Latest figures show that the membership of Manchester Teachers' Association NUT has risen yet again and now stands at just over **three thousand five hundred members**. MTA is the **largest** union in the education sector in Manchester.

Is there a colleague on your staff who has not yet joined NUT? If so, invite them. Remember too that there are now large numbers of **Teach First** and **Schools Direct** colleagues in schools who are also eligible to join.

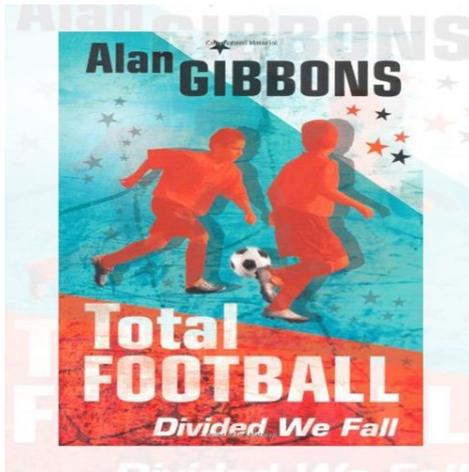
Membership details can be found on the website [www.teachers.org.uk](http://www.teachers.org.uk)

## MATERNITY MATTERS

A reminder for members who are about to start maternity leave to make sure you inform NUT headquarters of your change of status. Members on maternity leave **pay just 50%** of the annual subscription fee and if their maternity leave started in one calendar year and finished in a different calendar year then their subscription fees would be halved for both years. A **substantial** saving! Details can be emailed to the NUT membership department at [membership@nut.org.uk](mailto:membership@nut.org.uk).

## NUT ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2016

This year's National Conference of NUT will take place in Brighton and the following members will attend as Manchester Teachers' Association Representatives to Conference:-



Glenn Feeney and John Morgan will attend ex-officio as President and General Secretary. Elected unopposed are Greg Fox, Stephen Marciniak, Maria Noone, Joe Boden. Also present will be Jay Barry in his capacity as National Executive member. The best wishes of the Association go to all of them for a good Conference.

## JAY BARRY

Information is elsewhere in this issue about the National Executive election but our current Executive Member is **Jay Barry** who is **retiring** this year. Jay has served the Association and the Union nationally very well and the best thanks of MTA are given to Jay for his work, they are well deserved. You can repay **Jay's dedication** by voting for **John Morgan** to replace him.

## NUTBF

NUT members in severe financial difficulties can seek the help of the NUT Benevolent Fund. **The Fund needs the help of all members** and is financed by donations from members and local associations and income from investments. Help is available to all members, and dependants of members, **who have been in full membership for at least one year**.

Members can contribute £21 annually with their subscriptions or can donate by sending a cheque payable to NUTBF to the **Finance Department, NUT, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD**. For more information visit [www.teachers.org.uk](http://www.teachers.org.uk).

## TEACHERS ASSURANCE

Teachers Assurance is **endorsed by NUT** and provides home insurance that is tailored to teachers needs. You can get a **10% discount** as a member and they may have a policy that is of interest to you.

Tel: **0800 378 722** or **01202 048 220**  
visit [www.teachersassurance.co.uk](http://www.teachersassurance.co.uk)

## YOUNG TEACHERS

MTA is keen to encourage the involvement of young teachers in Union activities. The welcome function last term was very successful and there is more.

On Saturday 9th January there was a social function for young teachers organised by MTA. **Amanda Martin** of the National Executive and Young Teacher organiser travelled to Manchester for the occasion to meet with members and discuss the future. The event was very successful and enjoyed by all. By the way, if you are not sure the NUTs cut off age for Young Teachers is **35**. Interested?

Contact the MTA office for more information.



**The professional and responsible  
union for all teachers**