

A NEW UNION?

Members should now be well aware of the ongoing talks with ATL about the formation of a new Union. If this goes ahead it will be a **truly historical** event in the annals of teaching and education in schools. It is not a merger, much less a takeover, but the creation of a new organisation, the largest Union in the education sector, embracing not just qualified teachers but also other people with a role to play in education.

To underline the extent of the change we need only remember that NUT was formed in 1870 and Manchester Teachers' Association NUT in 1874. ATL also have their heritage.

The plans will be presented at a **Special Conference on 5th November**. Members need to study these carefully as they will contain things with which agreement or disagreement will vary from member to member but which all members will have to make up their minds about before a ballot.

If agreed the current start date is envisaged as September 2019. Before that date all members must give **serious thought and consideration** and then respond accordingly; none should seek to stand back from this, **no member will be unaffected**.

We will revisit this issue frequently in the coming months.

ACTION DAY

The Union's day of action in defence of education on 5th July towards the end of last summer term was a success. It underlined NUT worries about the Education White Paper and involved members in schools throughout the country in the call to 'Stand Up for Education'.

There is now a new administration in Whitehall with a new Secretary of State **Justine Greening**. NUT has already met with her to raise issues about funding and assessment. The Union looks for a constructive and productive relationship with the new administration but will be ready to meet challenges as they arise. Certainly there are real worries about the possibility of a reintroduction of selective education and the teacher shortage is not going to melt away.

There may be a need to call for further action.

NEW NATIONAL GENERAL SECRETARY

Following the national election **Kevin Courtney** received most votes and therefore was elected as the new National General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers. The full report of the Independent scrutineer, Electoral Reform Services is available at www.teachers.org.uk/members-reps/elections. The best wishes of Manchester Teachers' Association go to Kevin in his demanding role at a challenging time for education and teachers.

NEW MEMBERS

The new term brings new challenges and new colleagues; some of them will not be members of NUT but will appreciate being invited to join. Ask them, invite them, for they will benefit from membership of NUT not least at a time when **Qualified Teacher Status** is being **threatened** seriously in government proposals. In a spirit of co-operation already this year NUT and ATL have produced joint student application forms with joining data shared by both Unions.

Membership offers are detailed on the NUT website www.teachers.org.uk



THE FUTURE?

A research paper from the 'Centre for High Performance' on 'How to turn round a failing school' recommended eight changes for academies. Among some reasonable suggestions are others which could cause controversy such as "exclude poor quality students, improve admissions and acquire a local primary school" and "improve teaching capability" and "introduce performance development systems", "appoint new leaders and narrow objectives".

Does this sound familiar?

The 'Centre for High Performance' is a joint initiative of the Universities of Kingston and Oxford.

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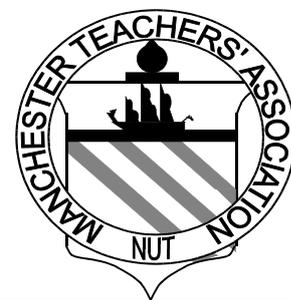
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PENSIONS P60

Members will recall that we ascertained that, contrary to the printed information from Teachers Pensions Agency stating that this year's P60 would be the last to be issued as a paper copy, a paper copy would still be available but members of the scheme had to register for it by asking individually.

This need to register is still in force but subsequently we have learnt that this registration must be done **each year** it does not carry over.

This is an attempt to make teacher pensioners do every thing online. Fine if that is what you want but if not you must remain vigilant and make your request annually.

You are the one to decide what is most convenient and preferable to meet your needs; **be assertive and don't be patronised.**

NEW PRESIDENT

President of Manchester Teachers' Association for 2016 - 17 is Supply Teacher **Lesley Weatherill**. Best wishes go to her for a successful year.

Thanks are also due to **Glenn Feeney** for his year in office and best wishes in his new role in another Authority.

RETIRED TEACHERS SECTION

On Sunday 25th September some members of the Section went to **Peak Rail** in Derbyshire and enjoyed a meal on board the **Palatine Diner train**. This was a very enjoyable outing and all those involved expressed real enjoyment and pleasure at the venture. This was organised by **Tony Zajac** and fellow members of the Section gave him their unanimous thanks, well deserved.

At the October meeting **Mr James Walton** presented a selection of his very interesting films. Special thanks are due here to James who was able to replace the booked speaker who had been taken ill.

The meeting on **1st November** will see the return of **Mrs Chandra Law** who will give the fourth of her talks on **Malaysian Festivals**. All this will take place at the Hough End Centre 10.15am for 10.30am.

December 6th will see the annual Retired Section **Christmas Lunch** at Hough End. Details will go out to the Retired Section members soon. Please be ready to respond promptly with menu choices and payment to the **Treasurer Eileen Flint**.

Clearly the Retired Teachers Section is thriving and there is a full programme ahead in the coming months. New members are always welcome.

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

All schools and units should have an NUT Representative to liaise with the Association. If you do not have one please meet together to elect one and

inform Manchester Teachers Association NUT that you have done so and who that Representative is. Training is available and all school representatives are entitled to time off to attend training courses organised by the Union.

No school representative is alone but is a conduit between members in a school and the Local Association. Information, help and advice will be shared.

For further information contact the Manchester office, **details overleaf.**

GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting of Manchester Teachers' Association NUT will be held on **2nd November 2016** at the Hough End Centre, Mauldeth Road starting at **5.00pm.**

Light refreshments will be available and all members are welcome.

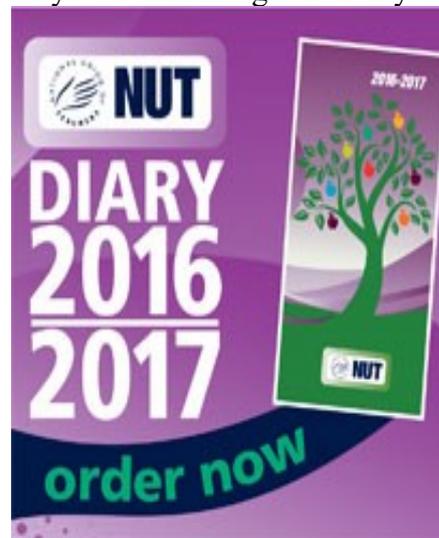
WALTER HINES PAGE SCHOLARSHIPS 2017 - 2018

These NUT sponsored scholarships offer teachers the chance to share and explore educational ideas between Britain and the United States of America. Scholars travel to the U.S to study an aspect of education relevant to their own professional interests. Application must be returned by **23rd December 2016.**

Further details and an application form are available from **a.bush@nut.org.uk**

NUT DIARIES

Even though the new academic year has started you may still be looking for a diary. If so, look no further,



the popular NUT Diary for 2016 - 2017 is still available. It has essential Union information and week to view pages in an ideal size for pocket or bag. The very reasonable price is **£3.45 per copy.**

To order, send your name and address and a cheque payable to **Diary**

Supplies, O & M, NUT, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD.

An order form can be downloaded at **teachers.org.uk/diary.**

Payment can also be made by Visa or MasterCard when filling in the order form.



The professional and responsible union for all teachers