



## SEASON'S GREETINGS



Charles Dickens said Christmas was “a good time, a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time”; well we could all do with some of that in these troubled times! So as Advent is with us may we all share, as we do each year, the traditional greeting of:-

‘A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year’.

## THE NEW UNION

As we have noted current organisational activity for both the constituent Unions is centred on negotiations, both **nationally and regionally**, concerning the mechanics and procedures involved in running the new Union which is an amalgamation of two existing ones. The new Union brings together the campaigning prowess, expertise and experience of NUT and ATL to represent ‘teachers, lecturers, support staff, heads and managers’ (arn’t we all?) for the good of education and the development of young people.

Each Union has different structures which have to be combined harmoniously. NUT has developed local structures whilst ATL is based more on districts, NUT has an active retired membership, very strong in some Associations, whilst this is not a feature of ATL and there are other factors but they are all **strengths** to be brought together for the **good** of the **new Union**. There is much to do and it must be done by **January 2019**. Members can follow developments at local meetings, in ‘The Manchester Teacher’ and nationally ‘The Teacher’ and the websites. It is a momentous task.

## NATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS

In the ballot for the final **Vice President of NUT**, Amanda Martin gained **15,014 votes** and Jan Kauser

**14,482**. Amanda Martin is elected. In the ballot to enable NEU to have a political fund, **35,350** voted **Yes** and **9,580** voted **No**. The new Union will have a Political Fund but importantly will, like its constituent Unions, not be affiliated to any political party.

## CAMPAIGNING

All the energy and commitment given to the amalgamation of the two Unions does not mean that the essential work of the Union will not be at the front of considerations.

NEU NUT Section is committed to **campaigning** against **excessive workloads**, for a **fairly funded education system** and to secure **fair pay and working conditions**.

National Executive is aware that members have endured years of below inflation pay awards leading to real terms **reduction** in pay. It is aware that this relative decline is a major factor in **recruitment and retention** problems facing schools; school budgets are under increased pressure. The Executive will consider the possibility of a **joint pay claim** with the other teacher unions and a key element will be that such a pay claim is **fully funded** by government. Briefing materials and campaigning materials will be developed and NEU ATL Section will be urged to be part of these claims and campaigns.

Members should be ready to take part in such a campaign and meanwhile are urged to keep the problems schools are facing in their **MP’s** minds by **regular contact** with them.

## NEW MEMBERS

The coming together of our two Unions NUT and ATL makes no difference to the ongoing need to **recruit new members**. Existing members automatically become members of NEU. If you don’t know which union your colleagues are in just ask them. As new members of staff join throughout the year, speak to them about **NEU, the largest education Union in Europe** and almost certainly the largest in your school. Discuss issues with them and invite them to join; they may be waiting to be asked. Membership details are available at [www.neu.org.uk/join](http://www.neu.org.uk/join) or **020 7380 6369**

### Published by:

The Manchester Teachers’ Association. NUT

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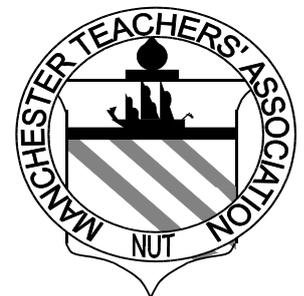
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## RETIRED TEACHERS SECTION

As the members look back at 2017 there are many special moments that we have shared at our meetings, the always interesting talks both from visiting speakers and from among ourselves. The visit to Marsden and the Huddersfield Narrow Canal and not least the annual **Christmas lunch** where it was such a pleasure to share the meal and the conviviality with friends and guests old and new.



The next meeting of the Section will be on **9th January** and is the usual post-Christmas sharing of a **miscellany of subjects** followed by a **pleasant buffet**. Please note this will be the **second Tuesday of the month** to avoid a clash with New Year activities and travel.

As we had to bring forward Julie Chapman's excellent talk on Stroke and the Stroke Association the topic for **6th February** is still to be announced but the meeting will be as good and enjoyable as ever. New members always welcome at the **Hough End Centre**, Mauldeth Road **10.15am for 10.30am**.

If you currently receive this newsletter by post and want to change to email please let the office know your email address at [mtanut@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mtanut@tiscali.co.uk)

### GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting of the Manchester NUT Section of NEU will take place on **Wednesday 24th January** at the **Hough End Centre**, Mauldeth Road commencing at **5.00pm**. Refreshments will be available. Please try to attend. This meeting is the **AGM** of the Manchester NUT Section.

### WORK RELATED STRESS

It seems that some employers in the education sector are trying increasingly to make their employees more 'resilient' to the demands of their work rather than preventing and removing the **work related causes of stress** as they are legally required to do. This can be combined with various 'well-being' initiatives being put forward. Guidance is available from the Union as to



the effectiveness of such measures and suggestions to ensure employers tackle work related stress in a meaningful way. Members, especially Safety Representatives, needing this support should contact the local office [mtanut@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mtanut@tiscali.co.uk) or go to [www.teachers.org.uk/paypensionsconditions/workload](http://www.teachers.org.uk/paypensionsconditions/workload)

### LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT

The Union played a prominent part in the national Lobby of Parliament on 24th October this year. Members from all over the country sought to lobby their MP and reported mixed responses.

A joint letter from the **General Secretaries of ASCL, NAHT and NEU** was sent to all headteachers outlining the latest financial position and there is increasing support across all unions for improved financial provision for school funding and **funding with new money** not simply moving money from one part of the education spend to another.

Support from parents is increasing and many **parents and parents groups** joined the lobby.

There is more to be done and members are urged to maintain pressure on their MP's by letter, e-mail or surgery visits.

The **Union website** [www.teachers.org.uk](http://www.teachers.org.uk) always carries the latest information on funding.

### FRED AND ANNE JARVIS AWARD

This is a **final reminder** for members wishing to make nominations for the Fred and Anne Jarvis Award 2018 which recognises the contribution of an individual outside the Union to education.

Nominations must be submitted on the form available on the Union website by midday on **8th January**.

### STEVE SINNOTT AWARD

There is still time to submit nominations for the 2018 **Steve Sinnott International Solidarity Award** which gives recognition to members who have made exemplary contributions to the Union's work on international solidarity.

The deadline for submissions is **12th January**. If you want a nomination form go to [international@nut.org.uk](mailto:international@nut.org.uk)

Steve was from the North West and the Union lost him through his untimely death. This is part of our work to honour and recognise his work for NUT.



**Together for Education**