



N.E.U UPDATE

As negotiations on 'coming together' continue it has been agreed that the new **District of NEU** for our area will be **Manchester**, that is the area currently covered by Manchester Teachers' Association and ATL's Manchester district. This is generally welcomed by all concerned.

In 2019, after **144 years**, Manchester Teachers Association will cease to exist and thought is now being given to a suitable event to mark this momentous passing. The MTA **banner** will be retired and retained in the Union office and consideration is being given to the design for a new banner.

Nationally, clarification is being sought about **finances**, the NUT's **Teachers Benevolent Fund** and the status of **Retired Teachers Section** of current Associations and Divisions.

There is clearly much to achieve and members are reminded to look out for developments which will be reported in 'The Teacher' and locally 'The Manchester Teacher' and in briefings at General Meetings.

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Liam Duffy, your representative on the **Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee** has submitted a report on its December 2017 meeting.

Strategies to encourage **sport and active lifestyles** were discussed with a resolve to persevere with this especially in the light of data suggesting an **increase in child obesity** in pre-school years.

The latest **National school absence figures** suggest a level with national average in Primary Schools and lower than national average in Secondary Schools. Commitment to continue to improve attendance was declared.

An update on the **Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)** reforms of 2014 brought much discussion about the length of time taken to produce Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP), and the need for schools to have prior knowledge of such children at Nursery and Foundation stage. Requests are growing and a strategic review of pupils with SEND is being conducted with a proposed plan to be reported to a

future committee. Thanks are due to **Liam Duffy** for his usual **diligence** in his role.

GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting of the Manchester NUT Section of the National Education Union will take place on **Wednesday 28th February at 5.00pm** at the **Hough End Centre**, Mauldeth Road. Refreshments as usual will be available at the meeting.

There will be guest speakers including **Amanda Martin**, recently elected as National Vice President of NUT and **Robin Head**, vice Chair of NUT Education Committee.

At **6.30pm** there will be timed business in the form of a book launch in connection with the 'more than a score' initiative. The book is '**Beyond the Exam Factory - an**

alternative to high-stakes testing'. Its editor Terry Wrigley will be speaking as will Amanda Martin and Robin Head from NUT with a Senior Leader from a Manchester Primary School and a parent from a Manchester Primary School also speaking.

All those who attend will receive a **free copy of the book**. The meeting promises to be very interesting and will end by 7.30pm. All details and tickets can be found on **Eventbrite**.



PAY PROGRESSION

Recent NEU surveys show an increase in members reporting that they have received no annual pay increase from their school. It is important that members in this position should seek help from their Union in appealing against such decisions as there is a high success rate in Union backed appeals. Members should be aware that a **cumulative loss** over time can result from the denial of pay progression on just one occasion.

Published by:

The National Education Union, Manchester NUT Section

President:

Mr Joseph Boden

General Secretary: Mr John Morgan

Manchester

M21 8AY

Tel: 0161 945 5061

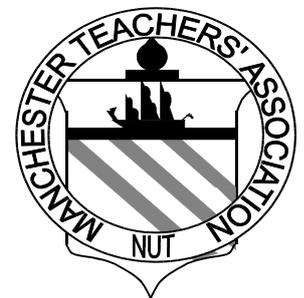
Editor:

Mr R Flint

Email: mtanut@tiscali.co.uk

www.manchesternut.com

@mtaNUT



RETIRED TEACHERS SECTION

After a good and congenial start to the calendar year with successful gatherings in January and February, the next meeting of the Section will take place on **Tuesday 6th March Hough End Centre 10.15am**. The meeting will be the occasion of our annual **Silent Auction** which, as well as the central activity of the auction, is another opportunity for members to share news and views in convivial company and enjoy a welcome cup of coffee. Don't forget to bring along anything you wish to put into the auction, you could be surprised at what appears, and be ready to make your bids. New members always welcome.

ASBESTOS

Members will be well aware of the dangers of asbestos but should be especially aware as teachers of the dangers of putting **pins or staples** into walls or ceilings containing asbestos as fibres can be released and when breathed in can lead to disease many years later. Do not attach children's artwork or other displays onto any surfaces, including display boards, which are known or presumed to contain asbestos. This is in line with **DfE advice**.



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Annual Conference this year will be held in **Brighton** and is even more significant than usual because it will be the **last national conference of the National Union of Teachers** before the Union changes as it is absorbed into the new National Education Union. Manchester Representatives to Conference will be

Joseph Boden and John Morgan (both ex-officio)
Liam Duffy and Shahana Ali
Stephen Marciniak and Jo Fleet
Maria Noone and Natasha Pavlovskis

Conference will have important decisions to make and will need to consider the effects of the momentous change that will follow by 2019. Best wishes go to all Manchester's conference representatives.

WCML

The 'Working Class Movement Library' has published its programme of events for the first part of 2018. It includes talks, events, films and exhibitions covering a range of radical topics. Highlights include a play on the work of Sylvia Pankhurst, a drop in day on Chartism, an exhibition on The Tolpuddle Martyrs and early notice of an exhibition to mark the 150th Anniversary of the TUC. Exhibitions are open Wednesday to Friday 1.00pm to 5.00pm and the first Saturday of most months 10.00am to 4.00pm. Details of all items are available on **0161 736 3601 or enquiries@wcml.org.uk**.

AGM

The Manchester NUT Section of NEU was inquorate so no decisions could be made. However, General Secretary John Morgan gave members present an update on negotiations with the ATL Section and some other local issues. Shahana Ali gave a very interesting illustrated account of her visit to Palestine with the NUT delegation.

AUDIT 2017

The annual audit of accounts has been completed by our auditor Mr Geoff Hubbard. Members will be reassured by some of the auditors comments. He says 'The **usual high standard of accuracy and meticulous attention to detail** is evident'. In his good wishes, Mr Hubbard notes the 'high standard of book keeping and accounting, which is not always an easy task'. Thanks are due to our Treasurer, **Liam Duffy**, who maintains the high standards Manchester Teacher Association has ensured for many years.

OBITUARY

Jennifer Marsland taught at Wright Robinson High School and was Deputy Head and Head of Lower School at Whalley Range High School in the 1980's. Her calm determination to seek the best for pupils was a mark of her leadership. Supportive of staff, she is remembered with affection by her team of fellow teachers.

Born in the West Indies, she was a Geography teacher who travelled widely to various countries including spells of teaching in India in her 'retirement'. Proud of her Uppermill home and community, her funeral was held at the Moravian church in Oldham. She will be missed by all who knew her and condolences go to her husband and family.

We are saddened to announce the death of **Joan Davenport**. A full obituary will appear in the next issue of The Manchester Teacher.



Together for Education