



# Newsletter



May 2014

## June campaign plan: Lobby, Demonstrate, Strike!

At our annual conference which took place over the Easter weekend in Brighton, NUT delegates unanimously endorsed plans to further our Stand up for Education campaign. This will be a highly important and busy term for the NUT as we work towards three key events:

- **A mass lobby of Parliament**

This will take place nationally on June 10th and the aim is to make sure that every MP is lobbied by teachers from their area. Email us at [contact@bradfordnut.org](mailto:contact@bradfordnut.org) and we'll happily provide all the contact details you need to take part.

- **National strike action**

If Michael Gove does not listen to our concerns and negotiate some serious concessions following our continued and active campaigning, it was agreed at conference to undertake further national strike action in the week beginning June 23rd. Watch this space for more information as our campaign for fair working conditions continues.

- **A national demonstration**

Called by the People's Assembly and backing up our Stand Up for Education campaign, this will take place on Saturday June 21st in London. We will pay for transport to London and supply cover if necessary for those wishing to attend. Contact our office for more details.

We will also be continuing to fight for teachers' rights on a local level with street stalls run in Bradford city centre at weekends to raise awareness amongst parents of the issues we face. We had an extremely positive reaction to these stalls when we ran them last term and it's clear the public nationally are starting to back our cause.

Michael Gove is looking increasingly isolated. Rejected by the STRB, with scandals affecting his free school programme here in Bradford as well as nationally and public opinion running against him he has made himself the most unpopular Tory minister, which takes some doing.

Teacher workload has risen by 20% since Michael Gove took office and we know that this extra work is not benefiting children or education.

The NUT has placed teacher accountability and workload high on the political agenda; it is time to end the culture of "high accountability and low trust" that blights our profession.

**We are having an effect and if we engage, pressure and strike we can make a real difference for teachers, children and education.**

### Politicians under pressure

The next general election will take place on May 7<sup>th</sup> 2015 so this is a very good time to be campaigning on education. We know that many MPs are nervous about the amount of correspondence they are getting from teachers and the families of teachers.

- *After a visit from teachers in his constituency Tory vice-chair, Michael Harrington, has written to Michael Gove saying that allowing schools to employ unqualified teachers may be wrong.*
- *A group of teachers in Corby met their MP on their **Stand Up for Education** stall. He invited them to visit him in parliament to discuss their concerns. After this further meeting, he wrote to Michael Gove telling him to work with teachers on the use of unqualified teachers and around pay and conditions. He also noted that no government minister attended the talks with unions.*

### General Meeting

A quick reminder that our monthly general meeting will take place this Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at the International curry house on Morley Street by the Alhambra. The meeting will start at 4.30pm for 5pm, and there will be a free curry provided afterwards.

Join the NUT, the largest teachers' union. Just ring the Joining Hotline on  
 0845300 1669 or 020 7380 6369  
 Bradford NUT, 22 Edmund Street, Bradford BD5 0BH Tel: 01274 414664 / Fax: 01274  
 414665  
 Email: [contact @bradfordnut.org](mailto:contact@bradfordnut.org)

# Bradford NUT at the National Conference

This year's NUT Annual Conference in Brighton at Easter was a busy one for Bradford NUT.

Bradford NUT's Secretary, John Howarth, successfully proposed that the Union strengthen its local structures so that local officers have the time and support to deal with the ever-growing task of representing individual members, while still having the time for education campaigning.

Ian Murch, Bradford's Assistant secretary and the Union's national Treasurer, attracted media attention by comparing Michael Gove to a Dalek while proposing the main motion of the Conference on our campaign to secure fair pay, pensions and workload for teachers. Describing Mr Gove as a "sick joke against teachers", he said that it was vital that the wider public understood that our campaign was against the tremendous damage that Mr Gove was doing to the whole education system.

## Exclusive Member's Offer

NUT members are currently entitled to a great offer for visits to Stoke Rochford, a former stately-home which serves as our national training centre and doubles up as an independent hotel and conference centre.

If you book before 31/8/14, for only £25 per person (based on 2 people sharing an ensuite room) you can enjoy bed and breakfast, full use of the leisure facilities (including sauna and gym) and free wifi. You can upgrade to the room in the Mansion for another £20 and have a three course evening meal there for £20.

For further details and to book visit [www.stokerochfordhall.co.uk/service/nut-members/holiday-breaks](http://www.stokerochfordhall.co.uk/service/nut-members/holiday-breaks) and use the promotional code **903756** in the box on the top right of the booking form.

You will need your NUT membership number to book, which you can find on your membership card.

# Members of Bradford NUT Win Two Of The Union's Top Awards



Deane Narayan Lee, our NUT School Representative at Grange, was presented with the NUT's National School Rep of the Year Award by Christine Blower, our General Secretary. Deane received the award for building a very large membership at the school, for representing and supporting his members at a very high level, and for helping to organise initiatives that made students think seriously about racism and community cohesion.

Sam Kirk, who teaches at Tong High School, received the Blair Peach Award for organising a project to challenge homophobia that included a drama production. Conference was shown the banner from the school that says "Bigotry is a choice. Homosexuality is not."



**THERE'S**

**NO PLACE FOR  
HOMOPHOBIA**

**@**

**TONG HIGH SCHOOL.**

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