

Newsletter

October
2015

National Officer Elections 2015 Please Vote: Murch 1 Treasurer Regan 1 , Tunks 2 Vice President

During half term, a ballot paper should arrive for you at your home address. This is for the NUT's National Officer Elections. The posts to be elected are the National Treasurer and the 2 Vice Presidents.

At a Bradford NUT General Meeting earlier this term, we nominated Ian Murch for Treasurer and Louise Regan and Kiri Tunks for Vice Presidents.

We would ask you to support them by voting for them in these upcoming National Officer Elections. Ian Murch is currently the National Treasurer (as he has been for the last 10 years) and is seeking re-election. He is also a long serving member of our own Association. In addition, he heartily recommends Louise Regan and Kiri Tunks whom he works with and knows well.

Your Pay : Some things to note!

1. **September Annual Pay Rise.** There is now no automatic annual "cost of living" pay rise for teachers, only some complicated recommendations within a 1% overall limit from the School Teachers' Review Body. Following negotiations with us, Bradford Council is recommending 1% on all points and ranges except M6, where the rise should be 2%. You will probably not get this until your November pay, when it will be back-dated. If your school is doing something different, please let us know.
2. **Pay Progression Through The Main and Upper Pay Ranges.** If you were eligible for pay progression this year and were denied it, please make sure to tell us as soon as possible. Last year we supported members in a significant number of successful appeals.
3. **More Penny Pinching Ahead.** The Government's recommendations to the STRB for next year's pay rise include a suggestion that it should become possible to demote teachers from UPS to the Main Scale. We know of schools that have tried to do this to teachers already and have been prevented, so it will be a real threat.
4. **Get ready, through your Union, to stand up to these bullies.**



Bradford NUT members had a stall in the middle of Bradford raising awareness of the issues surrounding Baseline Assessment for 4 year olds. The general public were very supportive of our position.

General Meeting

A quick reminder that our next monthly General Meeting will take place on Tuesday 10th November at the International curry house on Morley Street near the Alhambra. The meeting will start at 4.30pm for 5pm, and there will be a free curry available afterwards for attendees.

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 Web: www.bradfordnut.org

Searching for relevant, interesting CPD?

Do check the NUT National website, by clicking on <http://www.teachers.org.uk/courses>,

Most courses are residential and are at the NUT training centre, which is Stoke Rochford (an ex-stately home and also a 3/4 star hotel). It's worth going on a course just to stay there! Almost all the courses are free to NUT members and travel and other expenses are reimbursed. Dietary requirements are also catered for- you just need to inform them when you book.

Do have a good perusal, as there may be a course that is relevant for you. NUT CPD has an excellent national reputation.

Click on the link below to see Stoke Rochford Hall.

www.stokerochfordhall.co.uk

Have you updated your membership details?

It is very important that we have the most current details of your membership, particularly if you have moved from a school outside the Bradford authority. This office is only sent membership data from head office for Bradford schools.

If you have changed schools, moved address or changed your contact numbers/email details, you now need to contact our membership records department, to update them about the changes.

You can either contact them on **02073806366** or email them at: membership@nut.org.uk

In either case, you need to quote your membership number, which is on your membership card.

What is a Union?

There is much currently in the press about unions and about limiting their powers. Perhaps if some of those criticizing unions took a moment to reflect, they might see that unions are a beneficial part of our society. A Union is a joining together of a group of like minded individuals in order to mutually support each other in times of need. The strength of any union depends upon ALL or most of its members taking part in these supportive activities. It isn't about striking or picket lines, but is about standing up for colleagues who need help, providing guidance and assistance for those who ask or require it, and ensuring that your colleagues aren't split off (one by one) to be intimidated by others. It doesn't matter what your politics may be, it is the equivalent of the old "in loco parentis" that used to provide the backdrop of how teachers should behave towards their pupils. It's making sure that you help and support colleagues rather than looking after yourself.

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.

NUT members can get much reduced rates.

For further details and to book visit

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.

World Teachers' Day: empowering teachers, building sustainable societies.

On 5th October, it was the first World Teachers' Day. Education International (the international teachers' union) met to consider the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals and the crucial role that teachers will play in ensuring that it is implemented.

The new global education goal (SDG 4) calls for inclusive and quality education and the promotion of lifelong opportunities for all. Of course this can only be achieved if countries "invest in recruiting, supporting, and empowering teachers" but too often "far too many teachers are undervalued and disempowered". (Does that mirror your own experience?)

UNESCO estimate that countries will need to recruit 12.5 million primary teachers to achieve the goal of universal primary education by 2020.

Furthermore, governments are urged to "redouble their efforts to engage in dialogue with teachers and their organisations" but the reverse seems to be the case with confrontation and the erosion of teacher status, employment conditions, pensions and wages globally. For example, each year at NUT National Conference we have heard guest speakers from other teacher unions in other countries who recount how their governments have sought to diminish teacher s' status, employment conditions, pensions and wages. We have a lot in common with our international colleagues, but it isn't always the sort of commonality that we or they would desire!

The global organisations also insist that teachers should be empowered through the provision of decent working conditions, well resourced, safe and healthy working environments, trust, professional autonomy, and academic freedom.

Education International's appeal to the international community is to correctly respect and support teachers by enabling them to carry out their valuable work.

NUT Diaries for 2015-16.

A few copies of these are still available and can be collected at the next General Meeting.