

Nominations for the post of national Deputy General Secretary

We have been fortunate in Gloucestershire to have had all three of the candidates for this important post (as well as the General Secretary herself) speak at our General Meetings over the past 12 months. Please note there will be a vote on our nomination for the national post of Deputy General Secretary at our General Meeting on 4th November at Oxstall's campus.

Martin Reed – National President

There's so much to be done but - with your backing - I would channel my energies into achieving these overriding priorities which I believe would be good for teaching and good for those we teach:

- Recognise teacher professionalism and independence. Allow teachers to teach!
- Bring about real changes that reduce workload and end bureaucratic target setting, lesson preparation and recording.
- Work to end the micro management of teachers through performance management and OFSTED. An end to clipboard management!
- Campaign to achieve unity with other teacher organisations, working towards a single, united teachers' organisation.
- Campaign to retain our public service education system and oppose the privatisation of our schools.
- Fight to defend teachers' living standards. Oppose any attempts to threaten our pensions or conditions of service.

<http://www.electmartinreed.com>

Kevin Courtney

"I'm NUT branch secretary in Camden and a member of the National Executive. Trust in teacher professionalism has been under attack for the last two decades. It's this that's leading to the increase in workload; far too much workload is about accountability not teaching. We need to reassert our professionalism and demand our voice be heard. Our union needs imaginative campaigning to engage the enthusiasm and energy of members. We also need to look for allies outside our own union – in the NASUWT and ATL and amongst support staff, parents and governors. It is possible to win real changes – and make teaching the best job in the world again."
<http://www.kevin4dgs.com>

Hazel Danson

I am a very experienced local lay officer of the Union. I have been a member of the National Executive for 11 years and I am the Chair of its Education, Equalities and Professional Development Committee. I believe that education should put the needs of children first, not the teacher-bullying agenda of politicians. SATs and League Tables serve a discredited political, rather than an educational purpose. They are bad for children and bad for schools. It is our duty to get rid of them.
<http://electhazeldanson.org>

GLOUCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION

NUT CONTACTS

Members can make contact with all the Officers listed below through the Association's website.

Members requiring assistance should contact Gloucestershire Association Divisional Secretary:

John Pemberthy: 01594 560 105

jpemberthy@glosnut.co.uk

or visit www.glosnut.co.uk and click on the help and advice tab for answers to faq and details on how to send us details of your case or enquiry.

Deputy Divisional Secretary:

Andy Johnson: 01285 641 967
nut.gloucester@btconnect.com

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Dave Sutherland: 01285 654 416

Cheltenham District Secretary:

Ian Morgan: 01242 578 793

Forest of Dean District Secretary:

Geoff Davies: 01594 544 036

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garrywheeler@blueyonder.co.uk

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Regional Office in Exeter: 01392 258 028

south.west@nut.org.uk

Update your membership: 0845 300 1666

Know someone who wants to join?

0845 300 1669

National Union's website: www.teachers.org.uk

Local Association website: www.glosnut.co.uk

The Gloucestershire Teacher

is published by

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MEMBERS' ARTICLES/LETTERS WELCOMED



NEWSLETTER OF THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS ~ SEPTEMBER 2009

National speaker to address our GENERAL MEETING

on the SATS CAMPAIGN

Wednesday November 4th 7.15 pm

University of Glos (Oxstalls Campus) Room LC202

This is your chance to meet Hazel Danson, NUT National Executive member and candidate for Deputy General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers and ask her personally about the SATs campaign (find out more about Hazel inside).

Local delegates from the NAHT will also be present for the first part of the meeting to express their support. Please note there will also be a vote on our nomination for the national post of Deputy General Secretary.

Can't make the meeting? Then let us know your views via www.glosnut.co.uk

Directions to the meeting can be found on the meetings page.

Report from Divisional Secretary – John Pemberthy



May I wish a warm welcome to teachers new to Gloucestershire and invite you to take a moment to find out who is the NUT representative in your work place and say hello. If there isn't one, contact me on jpemberthy@glosnut.co.uk

Welcome back also to all our other members returning to school. I hope you will not need our support in the coming year but if you do we have made a few changes to improve our service even further. Our local NUT website at www.glosnut.co.uk has an enhanced section on how to obtain help and advice whether for routine information such as notice periods and employment policies or for more serious cases. Why not look at it now so you are familiar with it in case of need at some time in the future.

We have also included a new section for school representatives and I would encourage all school representatives to look it over as soon as possible. We are intending to do more to support and recruit our network of school representatives in the coming year and there is further news on that elsewhere in these pages.

One of the major campaigns we will be involved with this year is regarding the abolition of all KS1 and KS2 SATS. The unanimous vote to boycott SATs at this year's NUT Conference was a clear indication that teachers believe enough is enough and are more than ready to stand up and be counted in the battle for a quality education for our children. We are delighted that the NAHT, both nationally and in Gloucestershire, are standing with us in this joint action and we look forward to seeing you at our General meeting in November to discuss the campaign further. We believe that parents, most education professionals and most importantly the students are prepared to stand with us.

We will continue to get the message across to the majority of the public who support us that we want an end of SATs because they are bad for children, bad for teachers and bad for the education service. We are not against assessment. What we want is assessment that is meaningful, assessment that is more accurate and assessment that focuses on what children can do, rather than stigmatising them as failures for the things they can't do.

I am pleased to report continued success with our campaign against unfair workload for teachers. I have visited several schools and reached agreement on greater consultation between Headteachers and NUT school representatives as well as improved working practices. In addition we have been working with our partners on the Local Workforce Agreement Monitoring Group to send out a clear message to schools that we expect them to honour the national agreements on workforce reform. The LWAMG have recently agreed to send out an adapted version of the workload questionnaire I sent out to members last year to conduct a similar survey of all teachers and Headteachers in Gloucestershire. Please do not hesitate to contact me through your school rep if there are particular workload problems in your school. Let's work together to make every local school a good school!