

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at the Little Owl Cheltenham on Wednesday 17th March at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will last no more than an hour and a half.

Directions on how to find the Little Owl, and the Agenda for the meeting, will be sent to members, as a separate communication, in the first week of March.

NUT Contacts

If your District isn't listed then contact the Association Secretary.

Gloucestershire Association Secretary: Andy Johnson
tel: 01285 655 022 email: secretary@gloucestershire.nut.org.uk

Gloucestershire Association Health & Safety Adviser:
Colin O'Hare tel: 01285 65 36 95

Berkeley Vale & Stroud Secretary: Nigel Meredith
tel: 01453 546 795

National Executive member: Max Hyde
tel: 01217 453 942 email: max@piscator.demon.co.uk

Cirencester Secretary: Dave Sutherland
tel: 01285 654 416

Regional Office in Exeter: tel: 01392 258 028
email: south.west@nut.org.uk

Cheltenham Secretary: Ian Morgan
tel: 01242 578 793

Update your membership: tel: 0845 300 1666

Forest of Dean Secretary: Geoff Davies
tel: 01594 544 036

Want to join? tel: 0845 300 1669

Gloucester Secretary: Garry Wheeler
tel: 014 52 53 13 42

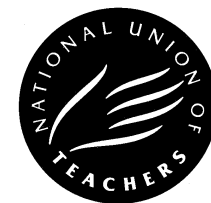
National Union's website: www.teachers.org.uk

Newent and Tewkesbury Secretary: John Pemberthy
tel: 015 94 56 45 08

...and of course:

www.glosnut.co.uk

**Gloucestershire Association Union Learning
Representative:** Garry Wheeler
tel: 014 52 53 13 42 email: garrywheeler@blueyonder.co.uk



THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE TEACHER

NEWSLETTER OF THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS ~ FEBRUARY 2004

**Announcing the unveiling of Gloucestershire Association's
website:**

www.glosnut.co.uk

A major new step is being taken by the Association. Inside this newsletter you will find details of our freshly launched website. We hope you will soon start to use it as a regular source of information about all aspects of working and living in Gloucestershire. Take a little time out to explore it – those of us involved in its preparation are confident you will find it useful. Feel free to send us information about the locality in which you live, your school, your work, or examples of your pupils' work so that we can post it on the website for others to share. If you have a problem at work or a question about which you need up-to-date advice, the website should be your first port of call. As local officers, we hope it will improve communications between all the members of the NUT in Gloucestershire.

NEWS SNIPPETS...

● **Abolition of recruitment and retention allowances:**
The Government reforms of teachers' pay scales from 1st April 2004 included the decision to abolish recruitment and retention allowances. It is not at all clear to anyone what is going to happen to the salaries of those currently being paid these allowances. The Union approached the LEA on behalf of members directly employed by the LEA because the LEA has been using these allowances to attract applicants out of schools in order to fill posts such as advisers and behaviour support teachers. The LEA's view is that the policy would have to be reviewed but pay levels would remain unchanged in the meantime.

● **Job Evaluation Appeals:**
Over 700 appeals have now been processed with about another 300 to go. The Authority hopes to complete all the appeals by the 31st March. We are told by the Authority that schools have already received money in their budgets to implement the appeal decisions. Do the schools know that?

● **Cheltenham/Tewkesbury review of SEN:**
Responses to the consultation will be considered by the County Council Cabinet on 17th March. Implementation of any decisions taken by Cabinet will be from September 2006 at the earliest.

● **Attached Centres Review:**
The review is in response to the LEA's Ofsted report which criticised the LEA's centres for offering poor value for money. Recommendations of a Working Group (comprised of representatives from each type of centre) are now going out for

consultation. The County Council Cabinet will consider the responses to that consultation in May 2004.

● **Gloucester Secondary Schools Review:**
Consultation closed on 2nd February. Cabinet will consider the responses on 5th March. Watch this space! In the meantime the LEA has established a Staff Support Group upon which the NUT is represented.

● **Gloucestershire 6th Form Review:**
Consultation closed on 2nd February. Cabinet will consider the responses on 5th March.

● **There is to be a review of primary and secondary school provision across the County:**
The LEA are doing this as a result of a significant fall in the numbers of children coming into our primary schools.

● **Holiday dates and 31st August issue:**
The LEA is taking the view that there is no 'defined' academic year per se and therefore starting the Autumn Term on the 31st August 2004 is not a breach of the Burgundy Book agreements. In their view the term dates defined in the Burgundy Book relate only to payment of salary and not to working time which means the employer is free to set the dates of the academic year as long as it does not exceed 195 days. The NUT both locally and nationally is opposed to beginning the school Autumn Term before the 1st September. Watch this space.

How to join and keep your membership details up-to-date

Information from our Membership Officer

Details of benefits and services provided by the NUT

Links to:

School and college websites throughout Gloucestershire

General Gloucestershire sites including news, media, sports, recreation and local government

NUT and other union sites

Wide selection of educational sites providing resources, support and advice for teachers and students

Government sites

Pay scales, terms and conditions of service

Pay calculator

Summary of teachers' terms and conditions

Downloadable advice documents

Local and national NUT policy on professional unity

Gloucestershire supports fully NUT policy which wishes to see one union for all teachers.

Link to Unity webpage including discussion of the issues

Teachers' Support Network

Information from our TSN Officer

Link to TSN webpage

We try to avoid it but where we can't, we explain it

Explanations of jargon, abbreviations and acronyms used in the site

Advice and information for retired NUT members

Retired membership details and entitlements

Guide to benefits and services available to retired members