

## **TUC MARCH & RALLY SATURDAY 12th MAY 2018** **Trade Unions marched to demand "a new deal for working people"!**

**Real wages** are still lower than before the crash in 2008. Three million workers are stuck on zero hour contracts, in agency work and in low paid self-employment. Hardworking public servants haven't had a proper pay rise for eight years. Our NHS is at breaking point. Years of cuts have led to poverty, food banks, homelessness and despair for too many. (See p2\*)

We were all marching from the Embankment in London and had a rally in Hyde Park for the alternative. For a growing economy with great jobs in every nation and region of the UK. For a £10 per hour minimum wage and the right to a voice at work. For public services that are brilliant, funded and free at the point of use. For a society that roots out racism, sexism and discrimination.

We're part of the trade union movement. We stand up for millions of working people all over the UK. Britain isn't delivering and together, we were marching to demand a new deal for working people.



11.00am Gathering on the Embankment for the March through London and reaching Hyde Park for the Rally in the rain 2.00pm

In Hyde Park at the end of the march, the Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn told the rally that the Labour Party would create a ministry to guarantee worker's rights. "*We will give workers more power by strengthening their rights and freedoms to organise together to improve their lives,*" he said. He blamed eight years of government cuts for the lack of wage growth. "*They (the Conservative government) protect the tax havens and cut the spending for public services,*" Jeremy Corbyn said. (See p2\*)

Meanwhile over at Wembley Ridehalgh's nerves were getting the better of him as he was sent off for a two-footed tackle reducing Tranmere Rovers to ten men in the National League Play-off! Cooke scored in the 6th minute to settle the nerves a bit and Tranmere went on to beat Boreham Wood 2-1 as Norwood scored a late winner in the 80th minute. Congratulations to Tranmere and supporters!

## **'SCHOOLS THAT WORK FOR EVERYONE' CONSULTATION**

**More than 500 days after the consultation closed**, the government has finally published its response to the 'Schools that work for everyone' green paper. The NASUWT cautioned the Government in 2017 and having seen the Government's response, although not as conclusive as it could have been, it signals a stepping away from some of the original ideas contained in the consultation. The Government appears to have recognised, with its announcements recently, that an ideologically-biased view based on denigrating the work of maintained schools is not only erroneous but is also unsustainable and fails to command widespread public support.

The Government's announcement is, however, unlikely to assuage the concerns of many parents across the country whose children face the prospects of an increasingly narrow curriculum whilst access to a broad and balanced education is increasingly based on parents' ability to pay. The Government needs to address these issues if it is serious about securing a school system that genuinely works for everyone.

## **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS**

**Members** wishing to negotiate Settlement Agreements, which used to be called Compromise Agreements, need to be aware of the changes that have been introduced by the Finance Act 2018 which took effect in April 2018 and brings changes to the way taxation will be managed in respect of them.

Settlement Agreements are dealt with by the Regional Officials at NWRC and this underlines the importance of the need to transfer cases of this type to the Regional Center and to discuss with the casework staff at the NWRC any proposal of this type made by an employer and/or member.

We have had a lot of members leave their employment because they can't stand it anymore without a Settlement Agreement. They have missed out on their tax-free payment. We strongly advise members not to do this even though the payment made may now be subject to tax. Members need to get in touch with the Regional Center for the right advice.



## **FLEXIBLE WORKING**

**Legislation** now enables **all** employees to request a flexible working pattern and to have the request considered seriously. The legislation previously only applied to certain people with care responsibilities for both children and adults.

Any member wishing to request Flexible Working, Job Shares or Part Time Working are advised to contact the Wirral Local Secretary, Anne Rycroft, to find out about the policies and procedures that are in place in Wirral schools. Recent experiences have shown us that it is better to get union support when making requests for changes to contracts of employment.

# SECRETARY'S REPORT - MAY 2018



## CONTACTING LOCAL OFFICERS

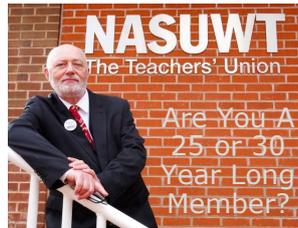
Please note the contact numbers and availability listed below in this newsletter. Although we are always pleased to hear from members it is important that urgent queries go to the MSAT, the Members Support Advice Team, in the first instance. Recently we have had cases come in that have needed an urgent response but due to us teaching or being in other meetings members have not had the advice they needed quickly enough. The support line will assess your query and are often able to provide an immediate solution. If casework assistance is required they will forward the case to us or, if serious enough, refer it to the regional centre. This system ensures that you get the right level of support necessary for your individual circumstances.

## SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE'S TRAINING DAY

Our annual School Rep's Training Day will be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July. We have a number of schools that do not have a Rep. It would be beneficial to members in your school if someone attends this day. Please contact me if you are interested, [annerycroft@gmail.com](mailto:annerycroft@gmail.com). This year we hope to cover Flexible Working, Discrimination, Redundancy and other local issues. There will also be an opportunity for Reps to discuss issues in their own schools and to get support if needed. In addition to the excellent training that will be offered this is a good opportunity to meet the local team.

## NASUWT LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Many members join the NASUWT and remain loyal to the union for their whole teaching career and rarely call upon the services provided for them. The Long Service Awards are a way for the union to show its appreciation for their loyalty and commitment over 25 Years and now for 30 Year membership. The awards are given out to the long serving members after the School Reps Training Day on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July. The LSA members should receive an invitation to attend soon but if you don't contact me and I will check your membership history.



## REGIONAL CONFERENCE

If anyone is interested in attending the Regional Conference on 30<sup>th</sup> June at the Last Drop Village Hotel and Spa, Bolton, please get in touch before half term. Full details were included in the April newsletter and there is still an opportunity for Wirral members to sign up for this enjoyable weekend.

Anne

## NASUWT CASEWORK ASSISTANCE MEMBER APPLICATION FORM (CAF)

This form is for completion by members wishing to apply for casework assistance in relation to matters arising from their teaching employment. Under Rule 23(a) of the Union's Rules, casework assistance is granted to NASUWT Members in accordance with the Casework Code of Practice. Under this code, a caseworker cannot commence casework on a Member's behalf until the Member has completed and returned this form to the local lay caseworker or to the Regional Center where it could be given to a paid Regional Official.

Members should ask for an electronic copy of the CAF which they can email to the caseworker or to the RC and keep a copy of the form for their own records. A signed hard copy of the CAF will be asked for when the casework is assigned to a caseworker. Subscriptions must be paid up to date!

## \*US Teachers Have the Same Problems as Us!

Teachers in West Virginia have had enough, and are leaving the profession, and so have teachers in Oklahoma, Kentucky, Colorado, Arizona and North Carolina who are all following their example. Teachers, and other school workers,



are locked in battle with their State Governments over reductions in pay, health care, pensions and working conditions. After a decade of cuts lights are out in schools, heating doesn't work, pipes are leaking, textbooks are falling apart and there are up to 40 students in classes. Teachers pay out of their own pockets for supplies, clothes for kids and even food to give them breakfast. Schools are working four day weeks.

Is there any wonder teachers, other school workers and other public sector workers are marching, rallying and striking in these, and now other, US States?



## SUMMER TERM GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Leasowe Castle Hotel  
Moreton, CH46 3RF

## REFRESHMENTS

4.00 for 4.15 p.m.

Meeting ends at 5.30 p.m.

**ALL MEMBERS ARE VERY WELCOME**

## NASUWT

The Teachers' Union

**MEMBER SUPPORT  
ADVICE TEAM**

The dedicated number for all members to access help and advice.

Calls are free from all landlines and mobile phone networks:

**03330 145 550**

Members can also e-mail to:  
[advice@mail.nasuwt.org.uk](mailto:advice@mail.nasuwt.org.uk)

## Wirral Association NASUWT LOCAL OFFICERS

If members need to call for local help and advice you can contact the Local Secretary or the Assistant Secretary on the following days:

**Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday call  
Mick Robinson**

07739 422 181

[mickrobinson@nasuwt.net](mailto:mickrobinson@nasuwt.net)

**Thursday & Friday call  
Anne Rycroft**

07910 026 695

[annerycroft@gmail.co.uk](mailto:annerycroft@gmail.co.uk)

**NASUWT**  
The Teachers' Union

If any member would like to contribute to the **Wirral Association NASUWT NEWSLETTER**, please contact Mick Robinson. Mob: 07739422181 or E-mail: [mickrobinson@nasuwt.net](mailto:mickrobinson@nasuwt.net)  
Previous recent issues of the **NEWSLETTER** can be viewed on our website.

Visit the Wirral NASUWT website  
[www.wirralassociationnasuwt.org](http://www.wirralassociationnasuwt.org)