

HASTINGS & DISTRICT NUT - SECRETARY'S REPORT 2016 – 2017

Since our last Annual General Meeting, the local association has held four General and ten Committee meetings to which all members are welcome.

We also had a well attended meeting for school representatives', in May, at which Regional Officer Nick Childs gave a PowerPoint presentation that clearly explained the reasons for our striking.

The crowded Strike Rally on 5th July, held at the White Rock Hotel, included representatives from Unite, GMB and Unison along with the Chair of Hastings Labour Party. There was positive local press coverage and engagement with members of the public following a march to the town centre after the meeting.

Local Officers regularly attended the East Sussex Division Council meetings, from which, three Hastings & District Officers are also delegated to the South East Regional Council of the NUT (SERCNUT) that meets three times a year.

We sent delegates to the NUT Annual Conference in Brighton, and also to the Special Conference in London on the question of amalgamating with the Association of Teachers & Lecturers (ATL).

Hastings & District Officers, via Division, also visit County Hall, in Lewes for East Sussex County Council Trade Union Business meetings and the Joint Advisory Committee (Children's Services) meetings.

Delegated from SERCNUT, two of our Officers are on the Southern & Eastern Regional Council of the TUC, at which the activities and information gathered by other unions is shared.

We are affiliated to the Hastings & District trades council, which meets on the third Tuesday of the month at Hastings Works, Robertson Street, where we hear about other unions' work and their local activities which we can support.

Members have been kept up to date, either at meetings or via e-mail, with what the Union is doing both nationally and internationally and have been encouraged to join national demonstration and Lobbies of Parliament.

Don't forget you can access the East Sussex webpage at:

www.nut-eastsussex.org.uk

that includes - meeting dates, information about training, and links to the national website, local association pages and more.

The national Adviceline has been contacted by many local members who were then helped, where needed, by local caseworkers. Unfortunately the casework load continues to increase and with more schools becoming academies it makes it imperative that members have the information and help they need and that every school has a NUT representative. Training is available for school representatives you have a right to attend courses during worktime.