

NASUWT

Islington Association

THE CAREER TEACHER'S ORGANISATION

April 2006

www.islington.nasuwt.org.uk

To All Islington Teachers,

May Day March - TU Freedom Bill

This year is the Centenary of the 1906 Trade Union Bill, which formally gave trade unionists in the country the right to organise and take action. There were restrictions, of course, but it was part of a tide of change which swept across Europe during the social change of the twentieth century. Unlike the remainder of the Europe, the UK government took away many of these rights during the Thatcher years.

TUC march

One hundred and ten backbench Labour MPs have now signed an early day motion calling for the passage through Parliament of a Trade Union Freedom Bill. This proposed legislation has been drafted by John Hendy QC, who addressed NASUWT Conference 2006. There now exists an opportunity to persuade the Government to amend their predecessor's anti trade union legislation. In order to support the early day motion, the TUC has called a national march and rally to promote the Trade Union Freedom Bill on May Day (Monday 1 May 2006).

Demonstrators are asked to assemble in Clerkenwell Green (nearest tube Farringdon) at 12.00 noon. The TUC march will move off at 1.00pm for a rally in Trafalgar Square from 2.30pm.

Flyers can be downloaded from

www.tuc.org.uk/mayday/newleafletlow.pdf

There is also quite a sweet game to publicise the march at www.tuc.org.uk/leftfoot

Plans to build two academies in Islington are continuing, despite all the press scandals relating to inducements (allegedly) offered to prospective sponsors. City of London University may also be involved in the Islington Green Academy which is beginning its second

Annual General Meeting

Time: 4:30-6pm

Date: Thursday 25th May 2006

Venue: Greater London Regional Centre
65 St Johns Street, Farringdon

Light refreshments will of course be provided.
Please remember nominations deadline 4/5/06

feasibility study. The next meeting of the Islington Campaign Against Academies will be 5pm Weds 10/5/06 at the Town Hall.

Many schools planned to implement their staffing structures from this April. Members will need to check that their pay packets include the new TLR payments where appropriate. You also need to make sure that your posts are not advertised to others. If there is a TLR for something you have been doing, then you should be "slotted in". If a post is a combination of posts, selection is "ringfenced" to the people who did them previously. Any problems, get in touch.

Summer training courses at the Regional Ctre	
Representatives I "Working Together"	Friday 12th May and Monday 15th May
Health and Safety II	Thursday and Friday 22nd-23rd June
Learning Reps I	Thursday and Friday 8th-9th June
Learning Reps II	Thursday and Friday 6th-7th July
"Dealing With Difficult Children"	Thursday 29th June
To book, ring 020 7490 6130	

New guidance will be issued to schools about when staff may give medicines. Teachers will not "normally" give medicines, but any arrangements for unusual activities can only be voluntary. We support the aim of meeting the needs of all students, but do ring if you have any questions.



Conference Delegates: from left to right, Jason Stephenson, Anne-Marie Flavin-Lees (NEM), Greg Robbins, Peter Simkins in Birmingham ICC 2006

from staffing reviews and redressing the imbalance on funding of primary schools vis-a-vis secondary schools. There was also a rule change to change the name of the union to NAS, but this was defeated. One reason was that thirty years ago when NAS and UWT merged, the Union of Women Teachers were promised that their identity would not be swallowed up and lost. There

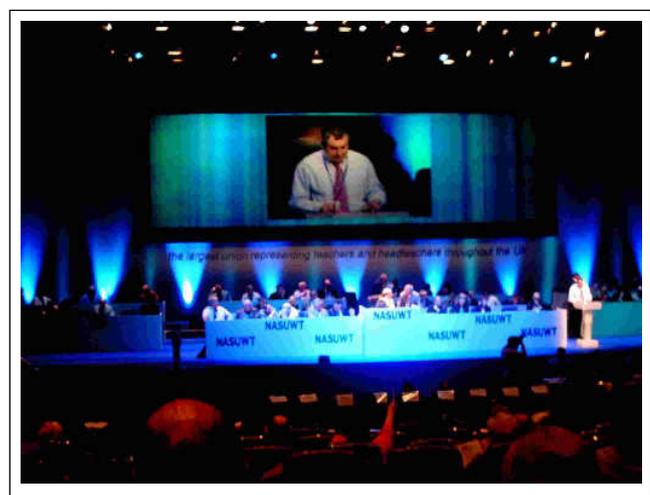
This year's Annual Conference was held in Birmingham and Islington sent three delegates.

Ruth Kelly spoke at some length. It is certainly true that NASUWT has had a very close relationship with the DfES - some might say too close - but hearing the speech, there were more points we would support in her speech than I have heard from an Education Minister in my time. I thought her views of "Trust" schools had moved a long way - "Not while I'm Minister" will a school be compelled to be a Trust, she said. There were points we were not sure about: extending the "right to discipline" outside a school could mean we are not off duty when we go home and giving LEAs the power to intervene could play into the hands of those advisors who always have one more thing to recommend... these are points for consultation, however.

As to the other motions, after discussions on the effectiveness of the "Social Partnership", Conference committed to continuing campaigns for a safer workplace, for adequate provision for pupils with SEN, a sensible approach to SEF, defending those caught in anomalies resulting

were, however a lot of delegates that felt it could be time to think about our name again. Obviously far more than this was discussed over several days of debate, but there is a limit on space and there will be a national report on Conference soon as well.

Now we usually have good representation at Conference, not only from Islington, but also from other London LEAs. Considering that Conference is always during our time off, that is no mean feat. The variety of venues which can



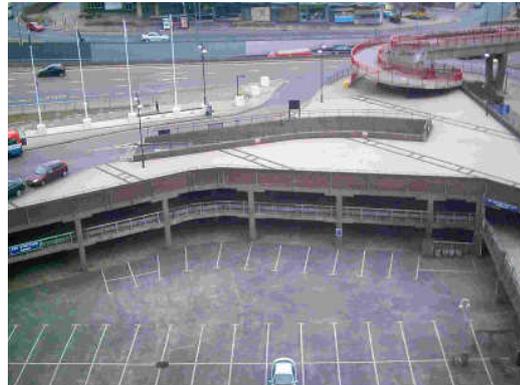
host large conferences is, however, relatively limited. Most other venues have been by the sea, or at least in the countryside.



Mystery play on Good Friday

Although it was nice to have a well ventilated hall for a change, Birmingham is not a place where most of us would choose to spend Easter. It is quite a large city and has street life to match (see the pictures), but to remain a democratic union, we must encourage, not discourage,

members to attend. It was also very expensive. Next year will be Belfast.



Our view from the hotel window

WHAT'S THIS BALDERDASH AND PIFFLE ABOUT UNION LEARNING REPS?

Do you get enough CPD?

Do you want to learn new skills?

Do you want to improve you work – life balance?

We want you to become a Union Learning Representative and get involved with fellow NASUWT members in thinking about lifelong learning

Union Learning Reps are a relatively new type of trade union activist who promote learning in the workplace and support fellow union members who are interested in learning or who are undertaking a learning activity. Learning in this instance can include both professional and personal development. The duties of a Union Learning Rep can include talking to colleagues about learning, interviewing individuals about learning needs and aspirations, and speaking to learning providers such as colleges and the Learning Organiser to gain information about courses.

Union Learning Reps, like other NASUWT Representatives, are entitled to a reasonable amount of paid time-off to receive training and carry out their duties. Union Learning Reps all attend NASUWT run training courses outlining their duties and how to carry them out. On-going support will also be available through the Regional Learning Organiser and the growing network of ULRs and Lifelong Learning Officers in London.

It would be great if we had a Union Learning Representative in every school in the Islington Association so that members' learning needs are represented. If you haven't got a Learning Rep at your school we want you to take on the role and help other members at your school get the best out of their professional and personal development.

If you are interested in becoming Learning Rep then contact Stuart Darke at the Regional Centre or on 07752 668423. Alternatively you can email Stuart at stuart.darke@mail.nasuwt.org.uk.

**NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
ISLINGTON LOCAL ASSOCIATION NASUWT
2006-2007**

Candidates for the following offices must be members of the NASUWT and registered as members of the Islington Local Association NASUWT [National Rules 4(a) and 5(d)(i)]. The candidate must be proposed by a member and seconded by another member both of whom must be members of the Islington Local Association NASUWT.

The following posts are open for election:

- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Equal Opportunities
- Health and Safety
- Lifelong Learning
- Executive Committee Member (5 posts)

Two further posts are vacant and are open for nomination, as casual vacancies:

- President
- Additional Officer (in place of an Ex-President)

The completed Nomination Form below should be sent c/o **Mr T Bladen, NASUWT Regional Organiser, 65 St John Street, Farringdon, London, EC1M 4AN. To be valid it must arrive fully completed before noon on Thursday 4 May 2006.**

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..... is nominated for the post of:

(please tick the relevant box):

- | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| President | <input type="checkbox"/> | Equal Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Vice-President | <input type="checkbox"/> | Health and Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lifelong Learning | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Committee Member | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Additional Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Proposed by:

please print name:

of: (School/PRU/Other)

Seconded by:

please print name:

of: (School/PRU/Other)

Declaration to be signed by the candidate:

I, (print name), am a member of NASUWT in the Islington Local Association and accept the nomination.