

NASUWT

Islington Association

THE CAREER TEACHER'S ORGANISATION

September 2003

www.islington.nasuwt.org.uk

To all Islington Teachers,

Well, wasn't that a glorious Summer. I hope that many of you, like me, managed to get away from this stuffy capitol of ours and escaped that heat, at least in part.

I won't labour the point about the workload agreement. All members should have received a pack with information on the changes to the contract and a handy little business card shaped CD with a digital copy of the text. At a local level, we're working with CEA@Islington to make sure that we are all clear what is covered and where extra funding may be needed. Anything we agree locally will not contradict what is in those blue packs, however. We won the industrial action; let's make sure we don't lose what we have gained.

Despite scare-mongering in some quarters, there were **no** compulsory redundancies amongst Islington teachers this Summer. In fact, at certain schools "Golden Handcuffs" had been negotiated to retain staff. The same has not been true for support staff, unfortunately, although falling rolls in some areas

Of interest to Aqua Terra members - we are being consulted on a "competency based grading system" which Aqua Terra would like to introduce to ensure that staff are paid the same rates for equivalent jobs. This does not sit easily with the paycales and contracts with which

Islington General Meeting

Time: 4:30 - 6pm

Date: Wednesday 15th October 2003

**Venue: Masque Haunt Public House,
Old Street EC1 (near the tube)
refreshments will of course be provided**

some of our members transferred some years ago. As yet we do not know what effect this would have on terms and conditions, but we are meeting with the swimming instructors to review these documents.

Due to what appears to have been a misunderstanding, some amended contracts have been circulated in the borough. These include references to politically sensitive posts and purport to limit the work teachers may do outside their teaching hours. This is not part of a standard teacher's "terms and particulars of employment", nor the contract itself. Anybody asked to sign such an agreement should first contact me or the London Regional Office.

It has finally been settled that the election manifesto promise to build a new secondary school will be fulfilled. This will be on land adjoining St Mary Magdalene School, Liverpool Road. It is not clear yet if this will be one all age school or separate primary and secondary schools, nor if part of Richard Cloudesley School will relocate there. More information will be posted on the website as it comes available.

Our finances are healthy and we expect to end the financial year with a surplus. Milena Lee, our Treasurer, would be grateful if school reps would let her have any receipts by 5th December 2003. A detailed financial report will be available at the next general meeting.

Meeting Dates

15th Oct 02	General Mtg	Masque Haunt E1
19 th Nov 03	Exec Mtg	Masque Haunt E1
28 th Jan 04	General Mtg	(venue tbc)
10 th Mar 04	Exec Mtg	Masque Haunt E1
19 th May 04	Annual General Mtg	(venue tbc)
30 th June 04	Exec Mtg	Masque Haunt E1

At the last AGM the following were elected:

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|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Greg Robbins | Secretary |
| Milena Lee | Health and Safety Treasurer |
| Ian Tyrell | Vice-President |

Don't forget that we try to ensure that all important local information is regularly updated on the website. If you want to be on the e-mail list, please send a message to gregrobbins@nasuwt.net (rather than the usual e-mail.)

Greg Robbins



All too rarely, Australian airline attendants make an effort to make the in-flight "safety lecture" and their other announcements a bit more entertaining. Here are some real examples that have been heard or reported:

On an Air NZ Flight with a very "senior" flight attendant crew, the pilot said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we've reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants."

"There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways to leave the aircraft."

As the plane landed and was coming to a stop at Auckland, a lone voice came over the loudspeaker: "Whoa, big fella. WHOA!"

After a particularly rough landing during thunderstorms in Adelaide, a flight attendant on a Qantas flight announced, "Please take care when opening the overhead compartments because, after a landing like that, sure as f*** everything has shifted."

From a Qantas employee: "Welcome aboard Qantas Flight XXX to YYY. To operate your seat belt, insert the metal tab into the buckle and pull tight. It works just like every other seat belt. If you don't know how to operate one, you probably shouldn't be out in public unsupervised."

"In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, masks will descend from the ceiling. Stop screaming, grab the mask, and pull it over your face. If you have a small child traveling with you, secure your mask before assisting with theirs.

If you are traveling with more than one small child, pick your favourite.

"Weather at our destination is 32 degrees with some broken clouds, but we'll try to have them fixed before we arrive. Thank you, and remember, nobody loves you, or your money, more than Qantas Airlines."

"Your seat cushions can be used for flotation; and in the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments."

"Should the cabin lose pressure, oxygen masks will drop from the overhead area. Please place the bag over your own mouth and nose before assisting children or other adults acting like children."

Heard on Qantas Airlines just after a very hard landing in Hobart: The flight attendant came on the intercom and said, "That was quite bumpy, and I know what you are all thinking. I'm here to tell you it wasn't the airline's fault, it wasn't the pilot's fault, it wasn't the flight attendant's fault... it was the asphalt!"

An airline pilot wrote that on this particular flight he had hammered his ship into the runway really hard. The airline had a policy which required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile, and give them a "Thanks for flying United. He said that, in light of his bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye, thinking that someone would have a smart comment. Finally everyone had got off except for an old lady walking with a cane. She said, "Sonny, mind if I ask you a question?" "Why no Ma'am," said the pilot. "What is it?" The little old lady said, "Did we land or were we shot down?"

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>>>> After a real crusher of a landing in Sydney, the Flight
>>>> Attendant came on with, "Ladies and Gentlemen, please
>>>> remain in your seats until Capt. Crash and the Crew have
>>>> brought
>the aircraft to a screeching halt against the gate. And, once
>>>> the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are
>>>> silenced,