



E-Bulletin Oxfordshire NEU

Bulletin No. 3

Date: 4th October 2021

Good evening to you all.

Members Survey

Oxfordshire NEU Officers & Committee members are committed in supporting all members and reps in their workplace. To do this more effectively we do need to engage with more members. We hold regular General Meetings, but even with the assistance of 'Zoom', uptake has lapsed over recent months.

Currently, Oxfordshire NEU hosts meetings on Thursday evenings from 5.30pm - 7.00pm at the Jury's Inn, Wolvercote, Oxford, but we know we need to be more flexible and also offer alternatives to meeting dates and times.

We are aiming to re-launch our "Chit-Chat" sessions (held in the North, West, South and City), which are informal "drop-in" style meetings, where members can pop in for a drink and a chat on Friday's after work as well as hosting Social Events throughout the year. Hearing what our members want, need and would like to see in Oxfordshire is at the heart of our organising.

We would therefore appreciate it if you could **complete the following survey** so that we can try our best to meet with you all, listen to you all and more importantly, work with you all. **The closing date for the survey is the 22nd October at 3.00pm.**

[Complete the survey here!](#)

NEU Deputy General Secretary Election 2021

This year we are electing a new Deputy General Secretary for the union. The role has many aspects including helping to formulate and implement union strategy and also to deputise and proactively support the

Gawain was also our local Oxfordshire NUT Secretary, prior to moving to Norfolk, and taught at St Ebbes C of E Primary for several years. Whilst he was our District Secretary and also our National Executive member, Gawain fought and prevented many schools from academisation, saved children's centers from closure and organised strike rallies across the county.

General Secretaries both within the union and representing the union to the public.

Oxfordshire NEU have recently nominated **Gawain Little** for this role because his campaign is focused around the change that is so desperately needed in education, the workplace and our union. You can find out more details about Gawain and the [Together for Change](#) campaign on this website including his newly launched Manifesto for change which sets out what he will do if elected this October.

Gawain recognises not just the need for change but how we can bring about this change by empowering members and reps in the workplace. If we all join together, we will have the power to win this election and the change that is needed in our sector right now, but we need your help. Gawain has received the most nominations in the election, but that is only the first step. We need every member to vote and have a say in the future of our union.

Please sign to say that you will be voting for Gawain and encourage other members in your school to do the same::

<https://actionnetwork.org/forms/vote-for-gawain-little/>

Ballot papers will be arriving by post this week, so do look out for yours and make sure you return and **vote 1 Gawain Little**.



In the news and union information

Black History Month 2021 - [our page is now live](#) with links to 10 amazing podcasts with Black women, teaching resources, posters and a poem by Ivy Scott, a long-term NEU Black activist and member of the Black Organising Forum. It also has info about a [CPD session on 6th October](#) and [Black Educators' conference](#).

Early Career Framework resources

The Recruitment and Retention team has added further resources to the Officers share point. These resources are designed to help with a greater understanding of the ECF and recruiting and retaining those beginning their career in teaching. The resources can be found [here](#).

Rep and Officer awards

Colleagues are reminded that nominations for the Rep and officer of the year awards are now open

To make a nomination and to find out more information on the awards go to the nomination form on the [website](#). The deadline for nominations is the 21 January 2022.

Covid-19

With parts of the country already badly affected by outbreaks and some areas reintroducing preventative measures, see our guidance [Coronavirus: outbreaks in school | NEU](#) on planning for and responding to outbreaks. Following the guidance in our joint union checklist [Coronavirus: joint union safety checklist for schools | NEU](#) will help reduce the risk of outbreaks.

Covid supplement to Absence Management Policies

A Covid-19 specific appendix to an existing policy is a helpful tool for maintaining transparency and consistency in managing Covid-19 related absence. Please use this [Sickness Absence Policy- Covid 19 appendix checklist](#), which sets out minimum requirements for an acceptable policy.

The following **zooms, training courses, conferences and events** are taking place this term. Please publicise to relevant members.

Please note that the zoom schedule has been updated. The Officers and reps zoom call has been moved to 1 November and an additional zoom on 2 November for all members has been added.

Date	Time	Title	Registration Link
5 October	9.15am – 4pm	Becoming a Health and Safety Rep	Register here
5 October	5pm	Support Staff Zoom	Register here
5 October and 2 November	5pm – 7pm	Winning a Workplace Domestic Abuse Policy	Register here
8 October	2pm – 3.45pm	Work-Related Stress as a Collective Issue	Register here
1 November	5pm	Branch Officers and Workplace reps	Register here
2 November	5pm	All member zoom	Register here
3 November and 24 November	5pm – 7pm	Winning a Workplace Domestic Abuse Policy	Register here
9 November	5pm	Leadership Zoom	Register here
11-13 November		Black Educators' Conference	More info & register here
17-19 November		Health & Safety Briefing	Register here

18 November 6pm – SEND/AP/PRU Members [Register here](#)
7pm

16 March 2022 9.30am – Invisible Killers: What can [Register here](#)
4pm & must be done Any queries email Hank Roberts
on hankr@hotmail.com

Mary joined LBC's Iain Dale for his regular panel *Cross Question* on Tuesday, live from Labour Party Conference. You can watch the whole hour [here](#).

We commented on the Conference speeches of [Kate Green](#) and [Keir Starmer](#), which was quoted by Press Association (example [here](#)) and the Guardian Politics Live blog. The Daily Mirror [reported exclusively](#) from our fringe meeting about child poverty.

Following a brief consultation, Ofqual has now confirmed its plans for summer exams in 2022. They also envisage a return to 'normal' in 2023. Our comments are [here](#) and this was picked up by [BBC](#), [Metro](#), [TES](#), [Press Association](#) and [The Times \(£\)](#).

Ahead of the Comprehensive Spending Review, we have submitted a joint response with NAHT. Read about it [here](#) and in [this TES story](#).

And finally, you can hear Mary on the *Any Questions* panel this weekend. It will be live from Bolton and the panel also includes Andy Burnham. You can listen live from 8pm [here](#), or later on catch-up at the same link.

Please make sure to **take our survey**, and also to **return your ballot paper** when it arrives.

We look forward to seeing you all soon

Oxfordshire NEU

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