

Secretary's report to the AGM 5th March 2014

We continue to be one of the most active Associations in Essex with our well attended regular meetings.

Meetings

We have had 6 meetings during the year including one for School Reps and a Welcome Function for NQTs, which in spite of offering a quiz, a 'goody' bag and free food and drink was still poorly attended **IDEAS ARE NEEDED AS TO HOW WE CAN ENCOURAGE OUR NQTs TO JOIN US.**

Most of our other meetings throughout the year have been concerned with action or ASOS which sums up the state of teachers under Gove's 'reign' We were also pleased to welcome the National President Beth Davies

Membership (numbers in brackets refer to this time last year)

This is now 1677 (1640). 598 of these are young teachers with our secondary schools having on average 18 to 24 but one school has as many as 40. **These are our future and we must make every effort to contact them and encourage them to become involved in the union.**

We have 108 (98) supply and agency staff, 19 of whom are young teachers One wonders whether this is because they cannot get a full time job or whether they prefer to be without the extra burden of targets etc.

There are now 168 (161) retired teachers who are still members, some of whom are playing an active part in the Association!! There has been a big campaign nationally to get retired teachers to stay in the union and I think we can say we have done that.

Casework

Our thanks to Robert Jones for the work he has put in for our members. There are many more capability procedures; many are women in their mid 50s Robert's place is being taken by Clive Wilton. The email address on your membership card is still valid but there will be a new phone number from next term. I will send posters into school and the number will be put on the new website There is now a National Advice Line in case you cannot contact Clive, details of which are on your membership card. For urgent help or advice re contracts get in touch with Regional Office whose phone number is also on your membership card.

Conferences

We have again been represented at the annual, the education, the young, black and retired teachers conferences and reports have been brought back to our meetings by those attending. The hope is that those who have attended conferences will now play a greater part in running the Association.

Representation I continue to represent you on :-

The Retired Teachers Advisory committee as the Vice Chair

The TUC Pensioners committee and via them on the FERPA Women's committee

The SERTUC Public Services, Women's and Pensioners committees

As a Vice President of the NPC

The Charter For Women steering committee

Chelmsford TUC

I would like to say thank you to all the officers and in particular to John Pickard who has been a great help in not only circulating minutes but sending out reminders.

Marion Wilson 5/03/2014