



# GOA MEMBERS' NOTICE



**MARCH 2008**

For more info on any item in this notice please contact Angela Moffatt, [goa@manx.net](mailto:goa@manx.net) or 685759

## **PAY AWARD 2008 – 4.1%**

The 2008 pay award will be implemented in time for your April pay packet – it has meant a 4.1% increase across the board for civil servants, so this has been a good year for us, and we are in a strong position to open negotiations for next year.

Other unions may be talking in the press about their deals, but it was the GOA who set the benchmark for this year, and achieved it first on your behalf.

Revised salary scales and rates will be available via the intranet shortly for reference.

## **POSTPONEMENT OF AGM 2008**

Unfortunately due to a very low attendance return it has been agreed to postpone this year's AGM due to be held on 3 April 2008, as it is not seen as best use of branch funds. We will not incur any financial penalty for this, and we will instead seek to hold the AGM in November as in previous years. We apologise for any inconvenience to those who had indicated they would like to attend.

## **GET A MEMBER!**

We're still recruiting and we need all the new members we can get. The best people to get a member to join are existing members like you – so please talk to your colleagues, especially new starters and ask them to join. Anyone can join – Prospect has members who are not civil servants all over the Isle of Man. Forms are on our website – along with info on rates of subscription.

Don't forget to tell us if you are leaving the civil service – you can still be a member of Prospect. Prospect has over 100,000 members in the UK and we are growing fast – so please help us stay a strong union, as this strength in numbers makes us more effective on your behalf.

## **RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN**

Welcome to all member who have recently joined and also to existing members for recruiting them! We will shortly be sending M&S vouchers to all recruiters, so please watch out for this if you have recruited a member.

Our top recruiter was Jane Stacey, DHSS Social Services who receives £100 M&S vouchers.

We will be announcing the winners of the random draws for new members and recruiters in the next newsletter, and each winner will receive £50 of M&S vouchers.

We will be repeating the campaign later this year, so if you are interested in recruiting members please let us know.

We also hope to announce the winner of our draw for the return of personal data forms next newsletter.

**Please remember that if you leave the civil service you can still remain a member of Prospect – just contact us to let us know your change in circumstances.**

## **JNC & PAY SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Meetings of both committees have been held recently and a range of topics were progressed on your behalf including pensions (early retirement), pay on promotion, issues at Noble's hospital affecting secretarial and admin staff.

We are concerned that some matters are not progressing quickly enough and we are seeking to ensure that issues are resolved. We will keep updating you and please contact us for more details of these meetings if you would like further information.

## **PERSONAL & GROUP CASES**

The EC is handling upwards of 70 group and personal cases at present which involve anywhere between 1 and 130+ members per case. There has been a rise in recent months, and the EC is concerned about this trend.

If you are experiencing difficulties, please let us know ASAP – often cases can be harder to resolve the later you leave it to seek advice.

Additionally, your EC is handling consultations on staffing issues, attending a variety of forums in order to progress collective issues, as well as trying to improve member services such as the website, discounts, communications, etc.. Inevitably we have to prioritise, so please bear with us.

We need all the help we can get, so please volunteer if you can!

## **CHIEF MINISTER & COMMISSION MEETING**

It's that picture of your Assistant General Secretary Mike Clancy again – but a very successful series of meetings was held on 18 February which received positive coverage in the press, so we thought it was worth a repeat print.

The meetings covered numerous topics such as pensions, modernisation of the civil service & improving working relationships.



## **NEW WEBSITE NOW LAUNCHED**

The new website has been launched but we are still in the process of updating the content, so please bear with us!

[www.iomgoa.co.uk](http://www.iomgoa.co.uk)

We want to improve our communications via the website, an improved and properly produced newsletter, direct mailing methods, and promotions. If you'd like to be involved contact Angela Moffatt ([goa@manx.net](mailto:goa@manx.net) or 685759). We are also seeking to develop a Prospect Isle of Man website for all members, regardless of the branch they are in – we'll keep you updated on this.

## **REPS TRAINING PROGRAMME**

Interested in becoming a rep? We'll shortly be launching a training and development programme and we'll be inviting existing reps, but we need more. The programme will be comprehensive, be run over a prolonged period, and can be tailored to suit your interests and time commitments. If you would like more details, then please contact us on the details above.

### **SIGNWRITER NEEDED!**

Can anyone help us locate a signwriter? If you know of a person who can help us, please contact the Secretary on the usual numbers.

### **REGULAR NOTICES**

**Reduced Subs** – if you go onto no pay for any reason contact us ASAP and we can arrange for your subs to reduce to £1.05 per month. Also remember, if you reduce your hours, then your subs might reduce so let us know of changes.

**Change of Details** – let us know when you move address, workplace, change your number/email etc. We need to update your record so if you don't tell us we won't know to do this!