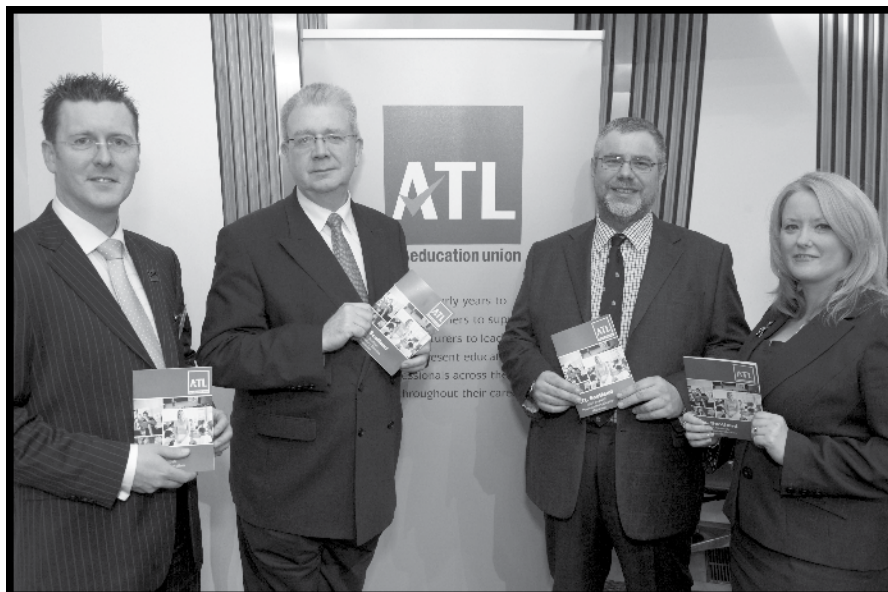


What's inside?

- Manifesto Launch
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ATL Manifesto Launched

ATL President Andy Brown, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning Michael Russell MSP, ATL Scotland Branch President and Executive Member Alastair MacPherson and Christina McKelvie MSP with copies of ATL's 2011 Scottish Parliamentary Election Manifesto at the reception in the Scottish Parliament on 17 November.



Introducing your ATL Scotland Branch Secretary – John Wensley



Having taken up my new position as ATL Scotland Branch Secretary following the AGM, I thought it would be courteous to introduce myself. I retired from teaching in June 2009, having taught at my last school for 21 years and being the Principal Teacher in the Biology department for most of that time.

I have been an ATL member for over 20 years and was very fortunate in that only once did I have to contact ATL to get advice. Being an ATL member meant that I had the backing and resources of the largest union in

the independent sector at my disposal.

My interests include my wife of 38 years and my four grandchildren and my church; where I am a fairly newly-appointed Safeguarding (formerly Child Protection) Coordinator. I love travelling, motoring, swimming, badminton, DIY, gardening and reading.

ATL have a fast growing membership in Scotland. Many of this year's probationers have decided to take membership with ATL and this means that as they hopefully take up permanent posts they will be ready to be involved with their chosen union.

We are privileged to have Dr Alastair MacPherson as our Branch President and Executive member in Scotland. Alastair teaches full time in Edinburgh and brings a wealth of experience in education matters, spanning many years at the chalk face. We are also supported by the staff in the

Edinburgh office.

Since taking up post I have attended induction training and the ATL Branch Secretaries conference, all of which have been a fantastic experience, and lead me into asking you if you would consider becoming a little more involved in **your** branch.

ATL Scotland branch is bristling with potential - further study is possible through Edge Hill University and ATL's professional development programme.

There are branch vacancies in the following possible posts for members who are interested in; Welfare, Health & Safety and Union Learning. What I really would like to ask is **"What are you interested in that ATL can help you develop?"**

My contact details are overleaf and I promise to do my best to help in any way I can.

2011 EVENTS

CPD Seminar

The second CPD Seminar is scheduled for Wednesday 16 March 2011. Members' suggestions for topics are always welcome. Further details will follow nearer the time. In the meantime please add this date to your diary.

ATL Conference

The 2011 ATL Annual Conference will take place on 17-20 April in Liverpool. There is one remaining place to be filled for the Scotland Branch delegation. If you are interested in attending then please contact John Wensley, ATL Scotland Branch Secretary on jwensley@atl.org.uk

ATL Future Event

The next ATL Future event is scheduled for Saturday 24 April 2011. The topic and venue are still to be finalized. We would very much welcome any thoughts you may have on topics you'd like to see for the event. Further details will follow nearer the time. In the meantime please add this date to your diary.

CPD Seminar and AGM

The final CPD Seminar of the academic year and the AGM will be held on Wednesday 25 May 2011. Further details will follow nearer the time. In the meantime please add this date to your diary.

Policy & Public Affairs

ATL Scotland was represented at the Scottish Liberal Democrat Party, Scottish Labour Party and the Scottish National Party conferences this autumn. Opportunities were taken to listen to relevant debates, attend fringe meetings, meet with politicians and network with other stakeholders. Further conferences will be held by the parties in the spring ahead of the election where once again ATL Scotland will be in attendance.

This term ATL Scotland responded to a Scottish Government consultation on the Draft Public Services Reform (GTC Scotland) Order 2011. Following this consultation the Order will be laid before Parliament and once passed will grant GTC Scotland its independence from government and pave the way for a consultation on the a system of re-accreditation for teachers.

We are currently finalising our submissions to the following consultations:

- HMIE Review of School Inspection Framework
- GTC Scotland consultation on Registration and Standards Framework
- GTC Scotland consultation on Election and Appointments Processes
- Scottish Government Discussion Paper on Tackling Child Poverty

We, of course, commend the 2011 Scottish Parliamentary Election manifesto to members. It was the result of the members' survey in the summer and much subsequent work by the Branch Committee. A copy of the manifesto is available on the website at:

<https://www.atl.org.uk/policy-and-campaigns/campaigns/scottish-election-2011.asp>

PVG Scheme delayed

The Scottish Government announced at the start of November it would be postponing the implementation of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme from 30 November to an unspecified date in February 2011. The decision was taken to ensure the robustness of the arrangements of the new scheme. Until it is up and running the current arrangements for Enhanced Disclosures will remain in place. We will ensure that once the implementation date is announced the advice sheet for members on the new scheme will be published on the website in advance.

ATL Future

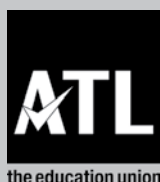
A highly successful ATL Future Event was held in October with student and probationer members on 'Managing that tricky class'. Such was the positive response to the session, tutor Lisa Miller stayed behind to discuss individual members' questions an hour after the event finished!

ATL Future at your university

We would very much like to run sessions at each of the universities for final year and post-graduate students on 'preparing for probation'. These mini-sessions would focus on what you can really expect from your probation year. We will be contacting the student reps in the New Year to see if there is a suitable date on which to run the sessions.

Election Manifesto Survey Prize Draw

Congratulations to Richard Gibson who won £50 John Lewis vouchers in the prize draw for members completing the election manifesto survey.



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