

Bakerloo News



Newsletter of the Bakerloo Branch
national union of rail, maritime and transport workers

APRIL 2008

Hearing aid trial approved

At long last the hearing aid trial for drivers has ended with positive results. The final report has yet to be written but the word on the street is that the trial was a success and the process is currently being

approved. Managers are already being asked to identify suitable staff. This is good news for drivers who have failed the company hearing tests. Common sense prevails.

Bootles not about

All Bakerloo Line workers will have breathed a collective sigh of relief that the so called general manager Kevin Bootle has gone. The managerial revolving door now sees Lance Ramsey as the new Bakerloo Guvner.

His last post was as the top banana on the East London Line so at least Lance had the good sense to stick with LUL and not go over to the dark side, known as the private overground railway. So, he's not that daft.

RMT members vote for strike action! Come to the branch meeting to discuss strike plans

RMT members have voted decisively to take strike action against management's plans to casualise the job.

BRANCH MEETING

**Thursday April 3
16:00 hours**

**THE CLACHAN
Kingly Street
near Oxford Circus Tube**

With over 80% of station, trains and service control staff voting to strike, it is clear that workers across the combine are prepared to take the action vital to protect our job security and our safety.

Alongside members in the TSSA the RMT has named the strike days as the 7th, 8th and 9th of April.

With the TSSA last known to take strike action in 1926, this will be a new experience for their members and activists; and the RMT will welcome all TSSA brothers and sisters onto the picket lines.

The Bakerloo Branch meeting on Thursday, April 3rd, will be turned into a strike organising meeting to discuss picketing arrangements and how best to make the strike as effective as possible. Picket Lines will be organised. Key to this will be to do our utmost to maximise the strike on the Bakerloo Line and hurt LUL where it matters - in their pock-

ets - only through a total stoppage of the job across London will the bosses see sense on these issues.

With all grades united and Metronet infrastructure workers being balloted on different matters, there is now the opportunity for all workers on the combine to take action for our safety and jobs security.

This is your union - this strike is for your future - come to the branch meeting - have your say - bring your workmates.

For information on picketing arrangements see you your local rep or contact Brian Munro on 07947316259 for Elephant & Castle picket or Phil Oxley on 07939113698 for Queens Park.

This strike affects **YOU!**

RMT members across the combine: drivers, controllers and station staff, returned a massive 80% result in favour of strike action in response to a series of measures that management want to introduce that will seriously undermine the safety of all our members.

They want to change our Refusal to Work on the Grounds of Safety procedure. The people who know if it's safe or not are the staff on the front line; not some pen pusher in an ivory tower who doesn't even now what a train looks like.

They want to cut minimum station staffing levels. As we gear up to hold the Olympics with possible increased terror alerts, is this really the best idea they have ever had?

Management are persisting with their unsafe policy of staff Lone Working North of Queen's Park. Anyone who knows this area will know the absolute folly of this par-

ticular brainstorm. The Bakerloo Line Detrainment staff are to be commended for already taking 7 days strike action to fight this lunacy and are an example to us all.

The casualisation of our workforce in the form of agency staff, security guards and other unqualified, unlicensed personnel sets out LUL's vision of the future: an un-unionised, fragmented, unsafe workforce that they pay half the money, no staff passes, no pensions and draconian terms and conditions. Don't think that agency staff driving a train or operating signals in the future isn't a possibility, it really is!

It's time to stand up and be counted and take strike action. Lets send a collective message to LU management that we will not stand by and watch our hard fought for safety measures and terms and conditions slashed by managers who are hell bent on a fight with our Union.

Say **NO! NO!** to **BoJo**



“ I'm coming for your pensions, your staff passes and your right to strike ”

Buffoon Boris Johnson's London Mayoral campaign is well and truly underway and guess who BoJo sees as his public enemy No1?

Is it the fat cats like Metronet who cream millions from Londoners then go bust leaving the public to pick up the bill? Nope. Is it the private companies who will rake in trillions from

Olympic contracts while the tax payer foots the bill? Nope.

Is it affordable housing for key workers? Nope.

Unfortunately, BoJo the Buffoon sees himself as some kind of 21st Century Maggie Thatcher and has decided that RMT bashing is a vote winner for him.

He will be coming for our pensions, our staff passes, our terms and conditions. He will be coming for our our right to strike and our union organisation. It's funny how these right wing types trumpet free markets and are against any regulation yet want to legislate against your human right to be in a trade union or to strike to defend your future.

As far as RMT members are concerned, BoJo is a no no. Join our campaign: 'Keep dangerous Buffoons off our Railway'.

RMT ballots **Metronet staff**



RMT members at Metronet are to be balloted for strike action over outsourcing of work and the future of pensions and travel facilities.

The union has served notice on Metronet after failing to win assurances that, once the Metronet contracts were transferred to TfL, members would not be transferred to other employers; they would be allowed to join the TfL pension scheme and would receive the same travel facilities as other TfL employees. Detailed talks failed to win the assurances that our members deserve.

The General Secretary said "astonishingly we have yet to receive a guarantee that Metronet staff not already in the TfL pension scheme will be allowed to join it, or that members will receive the same free-travel facilities already enjoyed by all other TfL employees.

"We have had positive discussions on these issues with the mayor, but we can only proceed on the basis of what is before us from the employer, and without those guarantees the RMT executive has called a ballot to protect the interests of our members".