Finsbury Park Branch

Monthly News



All grades united in one common object

November 2013

VACANCIES

Following the AGM on the 21st of November we still have Vacancy's for the following positions. If anyone is interested please forward your Nomination to the Branch Secretary.

OFFICERS

Vice Chair Political Officer Hardship Officer Vulnerable Workers Officer Trustee (2 positions)

REP POSITIONS

Blackhorse Road Revenue Nick Warren Position as IR Rep for Vic Line North Group subject to challenge. To be dealt with at Branch Meeting held on 12th December.

CLEANERS

Victoria North - H and S and IR - 1 Position

Victoria Central - H and S and IR - 1 Position

Victoria South - H and S and IR - 2 Positions

Piccadilly Line East - H and S and IR - 2 Positions

Piccadilly Central - H and S and IR - 2 Positions

Piccadilly Mobile - H and S and IR - 2 Positions.

A report was given at the AGM regarding London Undergrounds announcement on the future of Station Staff.

DSM Job ceases to exist Station Supervisor job ceases to exist Station Control Room Assistant ceases to exist Station Assistant Multi-Functional ceases to exist

CSA continues but in what form?



The roles that cease to exist will become 'area managers', 'customer service management' and 'Frontline Customer Service staff.'

Area managers include GSM, DSM and SS1 customer service management include SS2, SS3, SSMF and service control room assistants.

Frontline Customer Service staff includes Station Assistant Multi-Functional and Customer Service Assistant.

The General Grades Committee put out the following statement to members, the press, the public and London Underground Management:-

RMT deplores London Underground Ltd.'s announcement today that it plans to close every ticket office, scrap nearly 1,000 stations jobs and reorganise station staffing including the removal of Station Supervisors at some stations. This is a catastrophic attack on London Underground's passengers and staff. It is not aimed at improving our Tube but at

If you wish to have anything included in future newsletters forward to Des Rice at desmond.rice@sky.com

saving millions of pounds following the government's 12.5% cut to Transport for London's funding.

RMT also opposes the company's plans to replace skilled workers with unreliable automation in all areas of its work, including train maintenance, engineering, service control and even train operation.

We believe that London needs an Underground that is adequately staffed to ensure an accessible, safe, reliable service, and that Londoners need more jobs not fewer. Today's announcement takes London in the opposite direction.

RMT calls on London Underground Ltd and the Mayor to abandon these reckless plans. We remind Boris Johnson that he claimed to oppose ticket office closures when he

We remind Boris Johnson that he claimed to oppose ticket office closures when he was seeking Londoners' votes. We will be working with other trade unions and the wider community to oppose these cuts.

RMT has made its opposition to staffing cuts clear to London Underground Ltd over a long period, but the company's well-paid Directors have not listened to us so far. With LUL today beginning a 90-day process towards imposing these cuts as early as February, we need to take industrial action in an effort to make the company see sense. RMT's Executive has agreed to pursue a high-profile campaign and to ballot all our London Underground members for strikes and action short of strikes."

And it's not just Stations

LU's plans to attack the job are not just limited to de-staffing stations. The company also wants to de-staff trains. RMT wrote to LU seeking assurances on the much publicised 'driverless trains' issue. London Underground refused point blank to give us the assurances we need. Management stated in black and white that they will design, plan and commission any train they see fit. RMT's position is clear: any new stock must have a cab on the front. That's what we want and so do the public. We cannot allow LU to commission a train without a cab because then

it will be too late to campaign and stop the beginning of the end of the driver grade. Mike Brown's 'promise' that any driver who wishes can remain a driver until the end of their career is not worth the breath that was wasted when the measly words came out of his mouth. If we allow LU to commission trains without cabs, if we allow it to begin; that is the end of our grade for existing drivers and the next generation. Already LU has begun a trial on the Central line of automatic 'obstruction detection equipment', a preparatory step for driverless trains. Meanwhile, right now, train building company Siemens is showcasing a bespoke driverless train for the Tube.

Every driver and every grade across the job must resist LU's proposals. They represent a sea change to our culture at work, our culture of safety and our ability to provide a public service for London's travelling public



Siemens concept driverless train

Steve Hedley

"With record numbers of people using the tube and record salaries for fat cat London Underground and Transport for London bosses what can possibly justify 900 job cuts. Boris Johnson promised to keep ticket offices open he lied. The Rmt will be striking to defend jobs safety and services I hope all other unions coordinate action with us to get rid of this murderous condemn Government .A General strike to bring down the Tories and their lackeys is the only option now for workers."

24-HOUR STRIKE PICCADILLY LINE

Wednesday 4th to Thursday 5th December

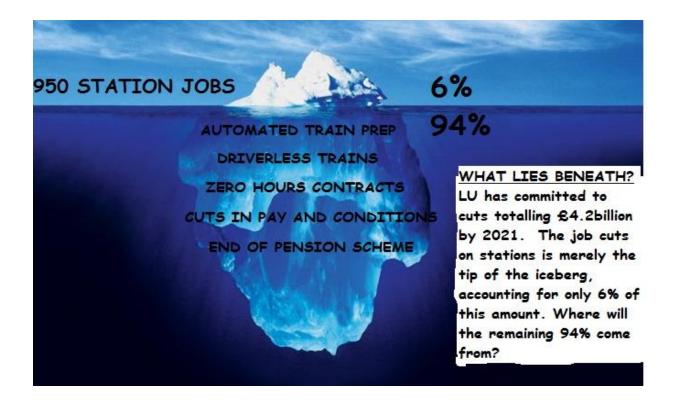
Members are instructed not to book on for duties starting between 1200 hours on 4th December and 1159 hours on the 5th December. **If you have any questions about this action, please contact your local rep.**

Talks fail at Dispute Resolution Meeting

A meeting held on 26th Novemeber descended into farce when the Piccadilly line performance manager called the dispute resolution meeting "ridiculous". This shows the contempt he has for us all, at no time was there any attempt to negotiate or accept what his unreasonable and punitive actions are causing. In the meantime, get ready for action on the 4/5 December. Whilst we would rather not have to carry through this action, it is clear that the only action available to us is the withdrawing of our labour. We want on your and our behalf to to find a resolution one which is fair and sees the removal of draconian threats and intimidation by line management they obviously do not. So on the 4th of December at 12.00 hrs "do not book on for any duties" if you are already at work finish your duty (if you must) but do not book on again until after 12.00 on the 5th December, your future working conditions are in your hands support this cause wisely and protect that future.

Together we will win. Unity is strength

THE FIGHTBACK BEGINS



They say a picture is worth a thousand words and we think this picture spells out what this is all about. At the moment station staff are in the firing line but if LUL get away with these plans then future is bleak for other grades. That is why it is imperative that the Union wins this dispute.

What can I do?

VOTE YES when you receive your ballot paper and send it back straight away

SPEAK TO YOUR WORK MATES and make sure they are in the union

COME TO A BRANCH MEETING. The Union is democratic and this is where you can have your say on how we do things and find out what the union is doing.

TOGETHER WE CAN WIN - YOU ARE NOT ALONE

NEXT BRANCH MEETINGS AT THE 12 PINS STARTING AT 1600 5TH DECEMBER, 12TH DECEMBER AND 19TH DECEMBER (INCLUDES CHRISTMAS SOCIAL)