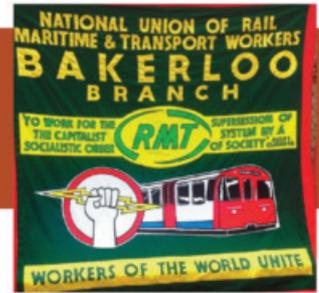




Bakerloo news



June-July 2017

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Tories' anti-union laws scupper industrial action ballot

RMT members in stations and revenue grades across LU delivered an overwhelming 80% majority for industrial action to demand the reinstatement of Lee Cornell, and justice for Dave Sharp and Saeed Sioussi (the so-called "London Bridge 3").

This vote was delivered on a turnout of 35%, over a third of those balloted. It's not ideal, but it's comparable with the recent average in RMT ballots, which is around 39%. In the context of a vicious campaign of management spin against the dispute, an 80% majority on a 35% turnout represents a clear indication that there is a significant level of support for Lee, Dave, and Saeed across the job, and a real will to take action.

We should be planning strikes now, and calling on those who didn't vote in the ballot to "vote with their feet" on the strike days and support the action. But we're not, because the Tories' "Trade Union Act", imposed on 1 March, means that we cannot legally call a strike, as we didn't meet the 50% turnout threshold.

These laws apply restrictions to unions which do not apply in any other area of democratic life, and were imposed by a Tory government elected with the support of 25% of the electorate. They are designed solely to restrict workers' ability to organise, and increase the power of employers.

The campaign to reinstate Lee has been undermined by these unjust laws. Our whole movement must

find a way to push back against them, via a renewed campaign of demonstrations, rallies, and other direct action.

Politically, the most expedient way to overturn the laws will be to elect a Labour government committed to their repeal.

In the meantime, RMT will continue to fight for Lee's job via an Employment Tribunal and other avenues.

A reps' meeting will be called shortly to discuss the next steps.

Labour election gains: keep fighting to kick out the Tories!



RMT Bakerloo congratulates Jeremy Corbyn and the Labour Party on their stunning election campaign.

Although the outcome of the general election (a Tory government propped up by the far-right DUP) is a chilling one, Labour made huge gains and is now in a position to genuinely challenge for power.

RMT supports Jeremy Corbyn's Labour Party and will continue to campaign for a Labour government that governs in the interests of working-class people, just as the Tories govern in the interests of the rich.

Grenfell Tower fire: working-class people killed by austerity

We stand in sympathy and solidarity with all the victims of the Grenfell Tower fire.

From the corner-cutting during the tower's refurbishment, cuts to legal aid budgets which prevented residents from mounting challenges, cuts to fire services, and the privatisation of housing stock itself, the austerity policies of Tory administrations in Westminster and City Hall, under Boris Johnson, must be held accountable for this

preventable tragedy.

Several appeals have been established in the wake of the tragedy, including this one coordinated by the Unite trade union: bit.ly/unite-grenfell

As victims and residents push for answers, the labour movement must redouble our efforts to win a society in which decent, safe housing is guaranteed as a human right.

Women workers demand dignity in the workplace

Women workers' basic hygiene needs are not being adequately served at some locations along the Bakerloo Line, in particular the sanitary bins.

Bins in some locations are overflowing, and when reported, management are asking local cleaners to dispose of items instead of reporting the issue to the fault reporting centre in order to notify the relevant contractors.

This is not safe for the cleaners: it is not part of their job, and they do not have adequate equipment. The bins are supposed to be emptied



and replaced by the contractor which provides them.

For women workers who need to change sanitary wear, its unhygienic to have to touch an overflowing bin. In hot weather, the bins will smell and could attract flies and pests.

Some bins are being emptied, but others are being overlooked. This is a breach of basic health and safety, and is a failure to provide women workers in particular with basic dignity in the workplace.

RMT Bakerloo will be campaigning to ensure bins are emptied and replaced regularly so that women workers rights to hygiene and dignity are upheld.

Contact your branch women's officer Davika Edwards (T/Op, Elephant and Castle) on 07742 235788 with any updates from your area.

Early start on WTT43

After insistence from your reps, LU has agreed to start consulting on WTT43 much earlier than previously.

We have a number of issues which should be easily solved if LU made an effort and put some thought into it. It's not rocket science: a suitable schedule is never going to come by

inputting data into a computer without any thought of human needs. Schedules need to work with your representatives, not against us. We drive these turns day in and day out so we know what changes have to take place.

This December we will see a significant change with LOROL trains reverting back to their 20 minute service until close of traffic. Therefore we will be encouraging schedules to come out with something which is workable without a serious detriment to our work-life-balance.

With the possibility of this WTT being around for a while, and after schedules reneged on a number of agreements last time, we all need to be vigilant.

Drivers are encouraged to scrutinise future sheets and feedback to their reps.

Don't let LU cut corners on safety

LU plans a change to the "HOT Procedure" that will compel staff to look into unattended bags.

Furthermore, it also plans to allow a supervisor's decision to evacuate a station to be challenged by a manager.

These changes are not safe. RMT will be advising its members

not to comply with these unsafe changes.



Staffing level to increase as result of January strike

Following our magnificent overtime ban and strike on stations from November-January, the company agreed to increase staffing levels across the job.

On the Bakerloo Line, these increases are:

North Group:

Harlesden: 2 x f/t CSA2
Harrow & Wealdstone: 4 x f/t CSA1
Kensal Green: 1 x f/t CSA2
Queen's Park: 4 x f/t CSA1
Stonebridge Park: 1 x f/t CSA2

Centre Group:

Kilburn Park: 1 x f/t CSS1
Marylebone: 1 x f/t CSA1
Warwick Avenue: 1 x f/t CSS1

South Group:

Charing: 1 x p/t CSA2
Elephant: 2 x f/t CSA1; 1 x p/t CSA1
Oxo: 2 x f/t CSA1
Pic: 1 x f/t CSA1; 1 x p/t CSS1

Local consultation will begin shortly, so we have a chance to feed in to ensure these additional jobs are deployed in the best way possible, including to rebalance rosters.

Contact your local RMT rep for more details.

Your branch meets on the FIRST TUESDAY of every month, 16.00, upstairs at The Royal Exchange, 26 Sale Place, W2 1PU (Edgware Road H&C). All members welcome.

The Regional Council meets on the LAST THURSDAY of every month, 16.30, at the 12 Pins, next to Finsbury Park station.

Bakerloo News is a monthly newsletter from the Bakerloo branch of the RMT union. To submit a story for Bakerloo News, or to contact the branch, please email jimmcdaid36@gmail.com, or ring Branch Secretary Jim McDaid on 07917 131692