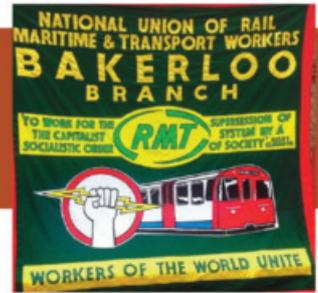




Bakerloo news



November 2016: Strike Ballot Special

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New ballot for action on stations: Vote Yes/Yes!

Fight back against cuts

RMT is balloting members on stations for renewed industrial action against the consequences of “Fit for the Future”, a massive programme of cuts that has led to substantial de-staffing on stations, risking safety and staff welfare.

Ballots will be posted from Tuesday 1 November and must be returned by 15 November. Members will be asked to say whether they are prepared to strike, and to take industrial action short of strikes, such as an overtime ban.

Your RMT Bakerloo Line branch strongly encourages you to vote yes/yes.

Q: What is this dispute about?

“Fit for the Future” has wrecked work/life balance, increased staff fatigue, and, as incidents such as Canning Town and North Greenwich show, have created a dangerous situation by cutting station jobs and de-staffing control rooms.

The creation of the CSA2 grade means workers paid £23,000 are doing work once performed by SAMFs on £36,000. CSMs are expected to perform all the tasks of former DSMs, as well as maintain a frontline operational role. Single-staffing of stations, and gatelines within stations, has massively increased.

All of this means our working lives are more stressful, and our stations are less accessible and safe for our passengers.

Q: What does RMT want?

- Reverse all job cuts; restore staffing to at least pre-“Fit for the Future” levels
- Staff all control rooms
- Stop displacements until an agreed transfer policy is in place
- Promote all CSA2s to CSA1; all new recruits to be CSA1; abolish the CSA2 grade
- Reverse the failed ticket office closure programme

Our demands around increasing staffing are key. Without an increase in overall staffing level, it will be impossible to meaningfully improve fatigue-inducing rosters. With adequate staffing levels, LU could cover all the work necessary without the need for “Cover Weeks”.

Q: Are other unions involved?

Yes. TSSA are also balloting their members for strikes and action-short-of-strikes over the same issues.

Q: Why are only station staff being balloted?

At this time, your union feels that it’s right to begin the fightback by mobilising those workers most immediately and directly affected.

However, we know that cuts will not just affect station staff; de-staffing on stations makes the jobs of drivers, engineers, cleaners, and others more difficult. And if LU gets away with cuts in one area, they’ll soon move on to another.

The union is building support amongst other grades and will be aiming to spread the fight as much as possible.

Q: What will it take to win?

We may need to take sustained industrial action to force concessions from the employer. We should be prepared for that. But we should also remember that well-supported, solid strikes, overtime bans, and other actions can have a big impact.

There is no guarantee of victory. But if we do not fight, we guarantee defeat.

IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR BALLOT PAPER BY 4 NOVEMBER, SPEAK TO YOUR LOCAL REP OR CALL 020 7387 4771



Why drivers should support the dispute on stations

Cuts on stations affect all LU workers.

Stations north of Queen's Park are routinely left unstaffed, and several stations are frequently "babysat" by a single CSA. If you have an incident on your train, you cannot be confident station staff will be available to assist.

At Section 12 stations, staffing cuts mean there are fewer staff on duty at key times. Prior to "Fit for the Future", a team of eight worked the dead-late turns at Oxford Circus. That has now been reduced to six.



LU Biss using CSA2s to count towards minimum numbers, but they are not licensed to do detrainments, or to put lifts

or escalators in and out of service.

The station staffing crisis is a safety threat that affects all grades.

Moreover, if LU get away with consolidating their cuts on stations, other grades and functions will be next.

We know LU's long-term aspirations for trains involved cross-depot or even cross-line working, as well as driverless technology. If union action can force them to reverse their cuts on stations, we can put the brakes on their cuts plans in other areas too.

There are a number of live disputes on various line, including Hammersmith and City and Piccadilly, which overlap with the stations dispute.

RMT is aiming to build back up to a joint dispute of all LU workers against cuts.

Cleaners' News

DEMONSTRATION RATTLES INTERSERVE

RMT held two successful demonstrations on 13 October, one outside City Hall and one outside Interserve HQ.

Our demonstration rattled Interserve bosses, and *Bakerloo News* has heard rumours that they sent some head office staff home early!

The demonstrations were part of an ongoing fight for justice for cleaners, and more action will follow.

WHAT TO DO ON STRIKE DAYS

Cleaners are hugely affected by cuts on stations.

Fewer station staff means that cleaners are often approached by passengers for assistance and advice.

We say: cleaners should be employed directly by LU with LU workers' pay, terms, and conditions! If LU station staff strike, many stations may be closed. If Interserve or AGS refuse to pay you because you could not get to work on a strike day, contact a union rep.

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR UNION

The RMT London Transport Region Cleaning Grades Committee meets on the first Monday of every month at 15:30 at Unity House (39 Chalton Street, London NW1 1JD).

This is the ideal forum to discuss cleaners' issues and plan ongoing campaigns.

For more information on the work of the Cleaning Grades Committee, contact Secretary Richard Crane on 07943 583830.

Elections for 2017

All rep and branch officer positions for 2017 will be elected at the branch AGM on Tuesday 6 November.

The following positions will be elected:

- Industrial Rep North Group
- Health & Safety Rep North Group
- Industrial Rep Centre Group
- Health & Safety Rep Centre Group
- Industrial Rep South Group X2
- Health & Safety Rep South Group
- Industrial Rep SRT X2
- Health & Safety Rep SRT
- Union Learning Rep Bakerloo Stations
- Union Learning Rep Bakerloo Trains
- Union Learning Rep SRT

All branch officer positions will also be elected. For details, see posters in your union noticeboard or speak to your local rep.

To stand for any position, email Branch Secretary Jim McDaid on jimmcdaid36@gmail.com

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).

The Regional Council meets on the LAST THURSDAY of every month, 16.30, at the Twelve Pins, 263 Seven Sisters Road, N4 2DE (Finsbury Park). All members welcome. Speak to your local rep for more info.

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