

# Bob Crow RIP

You will have heard the news by now about the tragic and premature death of Bob Crow. Many members are bewildered at the sudden loss of our General Secretary; a man who regularly visited our branches and who many regarded as a friend as well as a comrade. Everyone will need to grieve in their own way as we come to terms with the personal loss, and of course many of us are concerned about facing the future without our leader.

Bob's partner Nikki and his children are being comforted by their friends and family, and I'm sure everyone in our branches will join in offering them our condolences. It is particularly sad that a man who devoted his entire life to improving the lot of others is taken from his family at such a young age.

As for the RMT, our Union will carry on doing what it does best for the members and already contingency plans have been put in place to make sure that members are represented at all levels. Peter Pinkney, the national President is in charge of the day to day running of the various committees. The administration is being overseen by Mick Cash, the Senior Assistant General Secretary.

There will shortly be an announcement about the funeral details, and we will advise all members. If his family allow it, we will take our branch banners to the funeral and ask that as many members as possible turn up to proudly march behind it in Bob's honour. This has long been a traditional send off for Trade Union leaders - we parade our banners with our heads held high; we mourn their passing at the same time as celebrating our history.

For individual members who would like to leave a tribute, there are two options. A book of condolences has been opened at Unity House reception. Anyone who wants to can walk in to leave a message. The Union has also set up an on-line facility which all members are invited to contribute to; the link is below.

Finally, may I just add that the best tribute to Bob, the one for which he would be most grateful, is that we carry on the good work that he started. Our union made massive gains under his leadership; we owe it to the big man to continue the fight.

The past we inherit; the future we build.

Vaughan Thomas

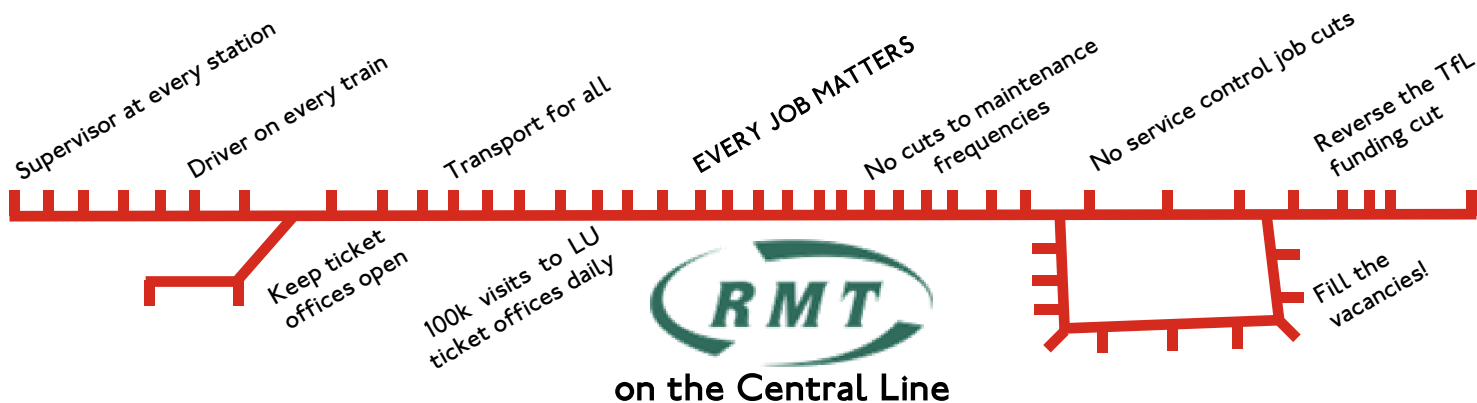
Chair, RMT Central Line West branch

Link for condolences page:  
<http://www.rmt.org.uk/bob-crow/>

Link for Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1451920145040348/>



A younger Bob Crow on the picket line at Leytonstone; and more recently, presenting long service awards at Central Line West branch last year.



## to strike again!

**BE  
PREPARED**

- Latest news on the 'Every Job Matters' dispute, including reports from talks: [www.rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/ejm](http://www.rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/ejm)
- Unfortunately, experience tells us that management only make concessions in talks if they fear that we will take industrial action.
- Our best chance of getting a decent result from the current talks is by being ready to strike again if the outcome is not good enough.
- The more prepared we are to strike again, the less likely we are to have to do it!

## Workplace report: Bank group

- RMT station grades activists visited Bank group stations in February to talk with staff.
- We have submitted reports to RMT negotiators on why each of the group's ticket offices should remain open.
- There are several new RMT members on Bank group, with membership now over 100.
- Local issues include: new union noticecases; access to computers; and staff spending too long on platforms.
- Our new health & safety rep, Chris Milner, is getting stuck into the new role!
- We are supporting station cleaners with the difficulties they are experiencing with their management.
- I'm representing several members with disciplinaries etc - if you need representation, get it touch!



Janine Booth, Bank group rep, [j.booth@rmt.org.uk](mailto:j.booth@rmt.org.uk)

*Reports from other Central Line workplaces will follow in future issues of the newsletter.*



Do you receive RMT News in the post?  
If not, the union does not have your correct address.  
Do you receive emails from rmtmail?  
If not, the union does not have your correct email address.  
Do you receive text messages from RMT?  
If not, the union does not have your correct mobile number.  
To give the union this information, email [info@rmt.org.uk](mailto:info@rmt.org.uk)



**The public campaign  
against the cuts and  
closures**

@ [handsofflondontransport@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:handsofflondontransport@yahoo.co.uk)  
<http://handsofflondontransport.wordpress.com>  
 H.O.London Transport @HandsOffLT  
 HOLT c/o 39 Chalton Street, London NW1 1JD

Waterloo & City line service control staff are battling to have their job upgraded to reflect its workload and complexity. They have been refusing to work overtime for several months now, and RMT met with the company to discuss the claim on 13 March.

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[www.rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/central-line-west-branch](http://www.rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/central-line-west-branch)

### Central Line West branch:

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