



London Calling

The Newsletter of the London transport Regional Council

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News & Views from RMT's London Transport Regional Council

CHRISTMAS TRUCE, BUT BEWARE ENEMY FIRE IN THE NEW YEAR

The much heralded meeting of managers on the 12th December passed without a mention of the future plans for staffing on the Underground. No doubt, in the New Year management will come bearing not gifts like the wise men, but news of job cuts and attacks on our conditions.

We will be responding in the New Year with meetings in every area to thrash out a strategy to unite all grades in a massive struggle to defend our jobs and conditions.

The Olympics/Paralympics was a resounding success, and one of the main reasons was the efficiency of our staff during these events. We drove the trains, carried out the engineering, ran the stations, cleaned the trains and stations, staffed the offices and carried out the many thousands of small tasks that meant the millions of visitors to the games were carried safely and efficiently to the various venues.

We need a fully staffed Underground. The



RMT will continue to Call for a General Strike in 2013

public have backed this position in poll after poll and reject the notion that there should be driverless trains. We as a Union want to see a fully staffed, fully integrated, publicly owned cheap and efficient transport system for London, not a transport system run for profit.

The Underground is a public service to carry people to work and leisure. It fuels the economy and London's status as a major world capital, the efficiency of our Underground system was one of the reasons that our Capital City delivered the best ever Games. Our staff are second to none and we will defend every job in the coming period.

Our cleaners, drivers and engineers are currently in dispute, as a Union we may be in an all grades dispute next year if management do not withdraw their threats and plans for job cuts and attacks on our jobs and conditions.

John Reid

LTRC Secretary



Sodexo Members Win Recognition

The RMT Council of Executives has passed the following resolution:



We instruct the General Secretary to ensure that the recognition agreement with Sodexo is signed as soon as practical, with details regarding representation, constituencies etc completed in line with our representatives' wishes. We congratulate our representatives and activists for their very hard work in achieving 50%+ membership in difficult circumstances, and instruct the General Secretary to ensure that a pay and conditions claim is drafted and placed in front of us, and that we pursue a renewed recruitment campaign following the confirmation of recognition.

LU Wants Hire & Fire Culture for New Staff

Probationers Face Tough New Approach

Management has been forced to apologise for a foul CMS newsletter, which called for probationers who are "not up to snuff" to be "cut loose"!

It sounds like something from a Tarantino movie but sits alongside other management documents that suggest that probationers will be centrally managed and monitored in future. For more, see the latest Stations Functional Council News.

RMT In Dispute With LUL Over Poor Guidelines Regarding Clearing Snow From Platforms

From General Secretary Bob Crow

I write to advise branches that a formal complaint has been made to LUL on the subject of snow clearing and winter weather. The RMT Stations Safety Council has raised this as an issue with the company without resolution and has now exhausted the machinery. The Stations Safety Council has raised the following items with the ORR and the company:

- Insufficient local, practical training packages are available and have not been delivered to staff.
- Risks assessments have not been undertaken or not reviewed across the majority of LUL stations.
- Safe systems of work that have been developed have not taken into consideration either of the above two points.

I have written to LUL to advise them that this union considers itself to be in dispute with the company and calling on them to arrange



urgent talks to resolve this issue; your representatives are available to discuss these matters with the company. Should these talks be unsuccessful I would urge members in the effected grades to support any consequent ballot the union may pursue.