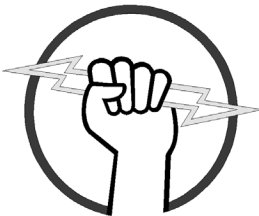




## Another victory for RMT drivers

**Threat of strike action ensures Brother Mick Hyde is fully reinstated**

**TOGETHER  
WE ARE THE  
UNION**



**Branch  
Meeting**

**Thursday**

**3 February**

**16.00hrs**

**The Clachan**

**Kingly St,**

**2 minutes from**

**Oxford Circus**

**Station**

**Branch Secretary**

**Brian Munro**

**Flat 310,  
Maritime House,  
London, SW4 0JW**

**Tel: 07947 316259**

**Bakerloo Train  
Grades Convenor**

**Paul Bowman**

**Tel: 07951 696509**

**All drivers will be aware of the** appalling treatment meted out to Mick Hyde by LUL management and Occupational Health over the past 6 months. Mick and his family have been put through emotional turmoil. But thanks to the overwhelming support from Mick's colleagues on the Bakerloo Line, we are pleased to announce that Brother Hyde has been fully reinstated as an Instructor Operator at the Elephant & Castle.

Following a routine age medical at LUOH, Bro Hyde failed the 'Ishihara test', which is the test for colour discrimination. Mick was then referred to a specialist whose professional opinion was that Mick was fit to perform his normal duties. Mick then returned to occupational health, where he subsequently passed another Ishihara test, therefore meeting company standards.

It was at this point that Mick faced treatment from the company doctor which was totally unacceptable. Mick was accused of cheating and looking up the test results on the internet! The doctor refused to lift the medical restrictions, even though Mick had met the required standard and had been given the thumbs up from the eye specialist.

At this point Mick was represented by Paul Bowman at an appeal with head of Occupational Health, Dr Olivia Carlton, who refused to lift the restriction. This was despite the amount of evidence and prece-

dents in Mick's favour, including the fact that during the whole of Mick's driving career he has not had one SPAD or safety related incident. But she did, at least, have the decency to give a formal written apology to Mick for the treatment he received at the hands of one of her doctors.

The Bakerloo Branch meeting discussed the case and agreed to fully support Mick to the hilt to ensure that he was fairly treated. This included a resolution to request that the union pursues a 'Directors Appeal' to overturn this unfair medical restriction.

Brother Bill O'Dowd from the Trains Functional Council represented Mick at a 'Case Conference' where the local TOM tried to re-deploy Mick as a station assistant. Bill's strong representation ensured that this attempt to dip Mick was postponed until the outcome of the Directors Appeal.

The Directors Appeal was conducted by RMT Regional Organiser, Bobby Law, but was turned down on the basis of continuing advice from Occupational Health.

As a result of this the branch sprung into immediate action and agreed to request that the Union launch an immediate ballot of all Train Crew members on the Bakerloo Line. Within hours of hearing this news, Bakerloo management bottled it and contacted the RMT with a promise of backing down and to do their utmost to

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keep Mick his job. But let's be clear: **THIS IS ONLY BECAUSE THE RMT THREATENED STRIKE ACTION.**

As a result of the strike threat, a risk assessment has been carried out and Mick is back in the grade.

Jeff Dent's circular to drivers was a pathetic attempt to play down the RMT's emphatic victory for Mick. For Mr Dent to say "the machinery of negotiation concerning this matter is far from exhausted" is a downright lie. The RMT exhausted the procedures when we were turned down at the Director's Appeal. A ballot for strike action was the RMT's only option at this stage and a decision which was heartily endorsed at the January Branch meeting. To have not done so would have left Mick collecting tickets on the barrier.

Mick said "The last six months have been very stressful for my family and myself, if it wasn't for the support of my colleagues on the bakerloo line and the RMT, I may not have been able to get through this in the way that I have. I'm pleased that the RMT was my union of choice as I fear that if I was in any other union I may not be an Instructor Operator today. Thanks to everyone for their support".

The RMT Bakerloo Train Grades Committee, the Branch and Mick would like to thank **ALL DRIVERS** who were fully supportive of the call for strike action to ensure that justice was done. Another victory for the RMT.

## DISI Review

The Defective In Service book issued to all drivers is now up for review. The RMT aims to ensure that all instructions as to train defects and what should be done about them is correct for the safe running of the trains. If any driver has issue they wish to raise with the DISI, please contact either Jim McDaid or Dave Simms.

## All change

The Bakerloo Train Grades Committee would like to congratulate Bro Jim McDaid for his election to the Trains Health & Safety Council. This is a full time position and we are sure that Jim will fight do a sterling job for the safety of all drivers and passengers for the entire combine. At the AGM Brian Munro was elected the level 1 rep at Elephant & Castle; Dave Simms the Health & Safety Rep. A big thank you to the work of Paul Bowman for the last year. Paul is now the Convener of the Bakerloo Train Grades.

## Diary Dates

The Bakerloo Branch meets on the first Thursday of each month at 16:00 hours. Venue: Upstairs at the Clachan, Kingly Street. Nearest Tube - Oxford Circus.

Put these dates in your Diary:

February 3

March 3

April 7

May 5

June 2

July 7

August 4

September 1

October 6

November 3

December 1 (AGM)

## YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU MIGHT NEED THE PROTECTION OF THE RMT...

If you are not a member join - for protection at work and for better terms and conditions. See your local reps

## IF YOU NEED THE HELP OF THE UNION...

Contact your local rep or the Branch Secretary, Brian Munro on 07947 316259. The union also has a free phone help number: 0800 376 3706



Committee.