

# STRIKE BALLOT SPECIAL



## Finsbury Park Branch

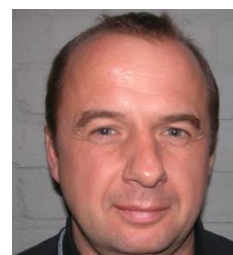


**R**MT members across the combine will shortly be receiving ballot papers for industrial action to fight back against LUL plans to cut jobs, reduce safety standards and throw out hard-won agreements. Below, some of Finsbury Park's officers and reps explain why they will be voting YES in the ballot.



**Dean O'Hanlon,**  
Branch  
Secretary

'A vote for industrial action will send the message loud and clear that you do not want to work for a company that puts money before safety. Station jobs will be first for the chop. But the intended dumbing down of the rulebook will remove the safety role of station supervisors and undermine driver responsibility. This, coupled with the upgrades projects (Tories have already said they want driverless trains) makes it clear that management want a McDonald's style environment with minimal safety responsibility for operational grades, speeded up and dumbed down training (e.g. 3-day CDP) and far fewer staff in the future. Already, management are disregarding their own policies and union agreements: they have introduced false targets for attendance, sacked drivers who are fit for work, robbed you of the full performance bonus by fiddling the final CSS score, and threatened drivers who refused to work on grounds of safety. A YES vote will reverse this trend and ensure that your union has a strong voice in the work place, your job is defended both in the short and long term and you are respected at work rather than treated as a customer service slave who can be disciplined or sacked with impunity. **Vote YES.'**



**Dave Rayfield,**  
Tier 2 Trains  
Safety Rep

'Vote YES as a driver in the stations job cuts dispute, unless you want to run the gauntlet in no man's land every time the sun goes down and the idiots come out to play on your train!'



**John Leach,**  
Green Park  
Group

*'800 job cuts on stations, and more on the way. We have to resist and protest, fight back. We can only do this together, by CSAs, SAMFs and Supervisors all sticking together. Every cut will increase pressure and stress, is unsafe and will attack promotion for us all. Together we are strong. We stopped them before over ticket office cuts - we can do it again. **Vote YES, YES and feel good about standing up for yourself and your workmates'***



**John Noonan,**  
Level 1 Rep,  
Victoria Group

'For CSAs these proposed cuts mean more extreme shifts, a poorer work-life balance, vulnerable working conditions and little or no promotion prospects. Vote YES to protect the rights you and your union have continually fought for over the years. **If we don't vote YES for this fight then it will weaken us for the next fight until there is nothing left to fight for.'**

**'Health and safety out the window? Pensions undermined? If we don't win this fight the future will be very bleak indeed. Vote YES and resist!'**

**Paul Bell, Instructor  
Operator, Arnos Grove**



**Chris Matthews,**  
Level 1 Rep,  
Seven Sisters  
Depot

*'The time has come when the economic environment is having a direct impact on safety on London Underground. Sadly, we as front line staff are bearing the brunt of mismanagement through the years of PPP and back. The outcome:*

- *Job losses*
- *Restructuring of our responsibilities as professionals*
- *A massive dumbing down of our training procedures*
- *Management no longer adhering to the company's own policies and agreements*

***If you can't negotiate then your only remaining option is to withdraw your labour. Our unity will force management to stop dictating and start listening.'***



**John Kelly, SS,**  
Victoria Group,  
Stations Level 2  
Rep

'The loss of 800 station staff jobs will affect everybody. Fewer staff, sometimes even no staff at all, to assist drivers. Fewer station staff means a bigger workload for the remaining staff. More customer complaints and hostility towards station

staff due to the deterioration in the service given. This is an attack on our working conditions. If management get away with this they will come back for more job cuts, pay cuts, banked rest days and our pensions. We have to take a stand and fight these attacks while we still can. **Vote YES for industrial action and action short of a strike.** Use your vote and make it count.'

**'In not so many words, management have said that they are coming for all grades including drivers! They are doing that by giving us more responsibilities, telling us to accept new procedures which, if done now, would see us sent to DB. We need to all stand together. We need to let them know we are more than just numbers. This strike needs to be supported by all grades to protect all grades.'**

***Zehra Nazim, Level 1 rep, Brixton depot***



**Julian Bysouth,**  
Safety Rep,  
Arnos Grove  
Group

**'Vote YES for action as the proposals and cuts will severely affect many staff's work-life balance. Don't sit back and hope all will be OK – show a strong return with a positive ballot result and protect our work-life balance.'**



**Glenroy Watson,  
Branch Chair**

'Few of us within the Train Grades started there. I was a Railman, who, many of you might remember, was also the Cleaner. When OPO was forced upon us and Drivers were now on our own, we were promised more station staff to help where the Guard would have helped on the platforms. Even today we are still conning passengers and staff telling them not to pull emergency handles in the tunnel and wait till you get to the platform for HELP! WHAT HELP! HELP FROM WHO!'



**Pat Baker, Train  
Operator, Arnos  
Grove Depot**

*'There are so many reasons why members need to return an overwhelming vote for industrial action in the forthcoming ballot:*

- In the interests of our own safety and that of our passengers.*
- To ensure that we are made neither the victims nor the scapegoats for the catastrophic failure of the PPP.*
- To prevent the casualisation of our jobs in the run up to the 2012 Olympics.*
- To protect our pay and conditions which we owe to those who took action in previous disputes down through the years.'*

# *Monthly News says...*

It's time to put a stop to the new Company Plan. We've seen what's in it – the unfair sackings, the bullying, the blatant failure to abide by agreements and policies, and the attacks on jobs, service levels and safety. Driverless trains may be a fair way off, but the idea has recently been floated by the Tory GLA group and shows clearly the direction of their thinking. It's all about cutting to the bone and creating an Underground run on the cheap. It's a future which does not include many of you. And for those who survive the axe, it's a future without job security, without the historic railway safety culture, without the terms and conditions which used to make the Underground a decent place to work. We didn't get where we are by doffing our caps to management. Neither are our terms and conditions the result of management generosity or enlightenment. We have what we have through many years of united struggle. We are now facing a severe test; if we fail it, we will rapidly lose everything that has been fought for in the past. That will represent a betrayal of those who fought for a decent workplace, a betrayal of our own interests and betrayal of our children whose working lives will be truly grim compared to how it was when many of us started out. There's no room on the fence here. We need to show a strong, united response and a willingness to defend our livelihoods and quality of life. **Vote YES and be part of the solution. Every NO vote and every abstention will strengthen management; every YES vote will strengthen us.** If you do not receive a ballot paper, contact your local rep immediately.

## ***UNITY IS STRENGTH***