



Bakerloo news



January/February 2015

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Victory: Vicky Hayward reinstated! Solidarity wins - stand firm for other colleagues

Bank group CSA Vicky Hayward has been reinstated, following a union campaign to win her job back after she was sacked last year.

London Underground sacked Vicky on the "evidence" of what a manager said they saw on CCTV footage - footage that neither Vicky nor her rep were allowed access to. Successive appeals were denied, but Vicky has now got her job back following a meeting between LU's Managing Director and the RMT General Secretary.

Vicky, her rep and comrades in RMT Central Line East, and activists in other RMT branches across London Underground never gave up the fight to get Vicky back to work. Leaflets were produced, and Vicky visited many workplaces across the network.

Wherever she went to tell her story, other workers could see the injustice of Vicky's sacking. Branches discussed the possibility of a strike ballot against LU's abuse of procedures - in Vicky's case, and in the cases of other unjustly sacked colleagues - to win reinstatement.

Fortunately, the company has seen sense. Getting Vicky back

to work shows that, when we stand together, we can beat injustice.

It should encourage us to keep going in our fight to win reinstatement for Alex McGuigan, Noel Roberts, and other unfairly sacked workers.

Fighting cuts and closures

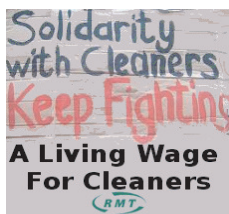
Your union is still opposed to any job cuts and ticket office closures, and has been working with the Hands Off London Transport campaign to organise demonstrations, leafleting, and petitioning of passengers against cuts and closures. Look out for demonstrations at Bakerloo Line stations soon.

RMT members on stations are reminded to visit bit.ly/rmt-prefs for advice from your union on the location "preferencing" process.



Interserve cleaners: Organise for workplace dignity

RMT members working for Interserve, and cleaning agencies including AGS, at Bakerloo stations and depots are joining a union campaign for dignity at work.



Interserve cleaners face bullying and harassment from their managers, as well as persistent issues with being paid late, or short paid.

RMT has declared a dispute with Interserve, and will be organising a strike ballot during 2015. The union will organise regular meetings for reps and activists to discuss the campaign.

If you work for Interserve, AGS, or another cleaning company, and are not yet a member of the RMT: join the union! RMT is an all-grades industrial

union, which means that any worker in the transport industry can join. By joining the RMT, you'll join a collective organisation that unites you with drivers, station staff, engineers, service controllers, and many others. RMT can provide representation and support on individual workplace issues, as well as organising collective campaigns.

If you're a union member in another grade, speak to cleaners in your workplace, and make sure your colleagues know about the struggles our fellow workers in the cleaning grades are facing!

No worker should have to put up with bullying managers, or being short-changed on their pay check.

Support the Interserve cleaners' fightback, support the fight for workplace dignity!

GET ACTIVE IN YOUR BRANCH!

The next RMT Bakerloo branch meeting takes place at 16:00 on **Wednesday 4 February** at The Coach & Horses, 1 Great Marlborough Street, W1F 7HG (near Oxford Circus). All branch members welcome.

Oxford Circus Group Industrial Rep Daniel Randall is acting as cleaners' co-ordinator for RMT Bakerloo. Cleaner members can contact him at danielrandall.rmt@gmail.com or on 07961040618

New technology driving us to distraction?

RMT Bakerloo Trains Safety Reps have been conducting an ongoing argument with management over the CMS assessors' use of iPads in train cabs.

This appears to be management's preferred mode of assessment these days. But there is an established standard that all electrical equipment, except for train radios, should be turned off in the cab. Management seem to believe that this does not apply to them, and think it's fine to have iPads lit up like Christmas trees in a darkened cab in a darkened tunnel.

This is a basic safety issue. Union safety reps and drivers in general felt that this was a dangerous distraction. A management review



of this process is underway, but if management do not agree to end this unsafe practice then we will be issuing our own instruction.

Your safety reps have also raised other concerns around CMS monitoring. During monitoring, Bakerloo drivers were being asked a plethora of questions when changing ends. We get four minutes for this and we have to use it to check the train for suspicious items, drunks and people who have fallen ill. We also like to use the rest room facilities and get a hot or cold drink. It is unreasonable to tie up this time with a Q&A session. This matter is also under review. We will as always keep you fully informed.

As ever, please make a record of any incidents during work and report them to your reps. This will help your union fight for better conditions at work, and make the case for more staff.

1 iPad = 1 CSA?

Not content with merely having them using them in our train cabs and causing a safety hazard, LU's mania for iPads extends to issuing every member of station staff with one over the course of 2015.

Fine; it'll undoubtedly be a useful tool. But the timing isn't lost on us. LU is equipping us with iPads at the same time as it's cutting nearly 1,000 frontline station jobs.

Does it think an iPad can replace a human member of staff?

MARCH FOR HOMES: social housing, not social cleansing!



Saturday 31 January, assemble 12:00 midday at Shoreditch Church (north/east) and St. Mary's Church, Elephant & Castle (south).

Sponsors include FocusE15 Mums, Hackney Renters, Tower Hamlets Renters, and many more.

marchforhomes.org

For solidarity against terrorism and racism

RMT Bakerloo expresses our solidarity with the *Charlie Hebdo* journalists and Kosher supermarket shoppers killed in the recent terror attacks in Paris.

Attacks on free speech, and the attempt by the far right to exploit the attacks for their own ends, are inimicable to the values of trade unionism.

As transport workers, we will be called upon to be extra vigilant in times of heightened security awareness. We have the training and experience to do this.

We should ensure, however, that we don't let heightened security become an excuse for restrictions on civil liberties or an atmosphere of suspicion towards Muslims, Asian people, or immigrants.

Tree vs Train: revisited



Back in September 2014, *RMT Bakerloo News* reported on an incident where a tree fell and hit a moving train in the Stonebridge Park area.

The driver miraculously escaped with minor cuts; but for the driver's heroic, and a large slice of luck, it could've been a lot worse.

LU rightly commissioned an investigation, into this incident and your RMT Safety Reps were fully involved. Integral to this investigation was our request for information from Network Rail regarding the maintenance of the trackside, with particular regard to lineside trees. During the course of the investigation, it emerged that a similar incident had occurred in the Kenton area around 2000. Back then, assurances were given by Network Rail that annual assessments of lineside trees were undertaken.

Your reps requested access to these assessments. We are sad to report that, despite numerous requests, this information has still not been forthcoming. Make of that what you will!

Fortunately, on this occasion, LU management share our concerns, and have agreed to contact the Office of Rail Regulation to help put pressure on Network Rail to provide this vital info. We will keep you updated.

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 bakerloo@rmt.org.uk, or ring Branch Secretary Jim McDaid on 07917 131692