

THE FIGHT'S NOT OVER

Following the agreement we reached with London Underground in mid May, LU has instructed its lawyers not to discuss re-employing Arwyn Thomas, and instead to discuss only a financial settlement.

So following the re-engagement of Eamonn Lynch it seems LUL have broken yet another promise. It was discussed after Eamonn's victory at tribunal that Arwyn Thomas' case would be looked at before his full tribunal and it was on this understanding that the planned industrial action was suspended.

In typical LUL fashion they have now refused to even discuss reinstatement and have even gone as far as offering a payoff for Arwyn to walk away and drop the tribunal knowing that they are in the wrong.

Arwyn a man of great principals has told them where to stick this offer and continued to fight for his job back. He feels that if LUL are allowed to get away with this then they will come for more Reps and activists.



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Arwyn was sacked purely for the reason that he stood side by side with his Station grades colleagues and fought for our jobs or as the interim tribunal put it

sacked for his doing his trade union duties

This is just one reason station staff should stand firm against this sacking and stand solidly behind Arwyn as he lost his job fighting to protect yours.

Another reason is that if LUL gets away with sacking Arwyn, it will step up its disciplinary clamp-down on all of us. The company has just unfairly disciplined RCI Rep Tony Rowntree (see over-leaf) and many of us have suffered warnings for minor mistakes or just for being unlucky enough to fall ill! If we can win Arwyns reinstatement, we can start to turn the tide for more justice at work.

So where do we go from here?

There is now to be an all grades ballot for Arwyn and we urge you to vote yes and yes. It is only right that we defend the Driver who was principled enough to defend us and lost his job because of it.

RATES OF PAY & CONDITIONS OF SERVICE 2011 – LONDON UNDERGROUND

RMT has rejected London Underground's latest pay offer, because despite being a slight improvement on the previous one, it is still below inflation, covers far too long a time (five years) and does not seriously address our claims for improved working conditions. The latest offer is as follows:

Year 1 · A 4.5% increase in pay, (which is an improvement of 0.5%)

Years 2 to 5 · The February RPI inflation figure increase for each year + 0.25% increase in pay. LUL has guaranteed that in the event of negative RPI this will not be taken into account when calculating the inflation figure.

So we are carrying more passengers than ever we are making record profits (yes profits) but still we are not good enough for a decent pay rise? The cost of living has gone up by around 25 - 30% (If your a vegetarian then around 40%)

We are key workers and keep London running and as such deserve a decent pay deal management are counting on the fact that we are going to be too scared to fight this too weak to put up a struggle.

Along with this derisory offer they are attacking our terms and conditions implementing frameworks that have not been agreed and ratified etc.

Yes this is just the tip of the iceberg of what they are doing behind the scenes for example "the job cuts will not affect frontline services" how come a good proportion of the job cuts were CSA's or the other fantastic statement "Supervisors and drivers are not affected in this round of cuts"! Again a blatant lie since the OSP SS are being forcefully displaced around the combine. Drivers are getting forcibly moved to other depots having Team Talk cancelled thus losing spare turns. In short

Why should we believe or trust them.

CLEAN SWEEP

RMT has won back our uniform cleaning vouchers! LU withdrew them, and made out that we would be £100 better off because of an accompanying tax allowance. However, the allowance is worth only £20 if you earn less than £34,000, which is enough to pay for the cleaning of one jacket and two pairs of trousers!

After RMT raised this issue at Company Council, supported by the other unions, the company backed down.

Your union has asked LU to restore the vouchers as soon as possible and to provide us with a list of outlets which accept them.

Remember: you should be issued with a booklet of vouchers every two years, but you can request extra vouchers at any time and will be given them. RMT will soon be producing information for you on your full entitlements regarding tax allowances and how to claim them.

TIME OWING?

Please be aware that following the OSP roster changes some staff mainly those rostered may find that they have worked hours above their contractual times. To find out if you have it is suggested that you ask your admin for a 12 weekly printout of duties and hours.

Be aware though some staff may have worked less hours which may throw up a few minor problems but if you have worked more you are entitled to those extra hours paid at O/T rate.

The example where this may have happened is the week prior 6th Feb you carry out a 40 hour week which would have been followed by a 35 hour week averaging 37.5 hours for those 2 weeks. However after the OSP roster you then found yourself doing another 40 hour week instead of 35 which means you would've worked 5 hours more for which you won't get back as the new rosters are set to cover 37.5 onwards, therefore you would be owed 5 hours.

CDI UPDATE

We finally have an update on Tony Rowntree's CDI. Tony an RCI from the District Line has been found guilty of the charge placed before him at the CDI. The charge was a misconduct issue referring back to November when he allegedly called the TSSA Rep a insulting name and this was reported by two colleagues not the Rep herself. Even though everyone interviewed denied that they had heard Tony say what he has accused of and this included the other TSSA rep the panel somehow found that "Tony did call her the name" & "that the person making the complaint was mistaken who Tony was talking to at the time" so is this the kind of justice LUL dispenses now? . If this went into common criminal practice you could be convicted of a bank robbery because "you probably did need the money" and "the alibi was probably just mistaken that you were with them"

Needless to say Tony will be appealing this charge and raising the issue that numerous items in the CDI for example certain witness statements were never investigated. We will keep you updated on this issue.

MORE CUTS ON WAY?

It has been mentioned recently that there is a trial of new ticket office machines to be commencing in August of this year.

These machines will only be accessible by G4S and from how this was explained work as follows.

You service say the MFM take the money you get and put it straight into this new machine. If you then want a float you put the amount on a keypad in the front and it dispenses one for you.



This will eradicate the need for the float safe and deposit safe as all money etc you usually put in the deposit safe at the end of your duty will now go in this new machine. This then ends the need for a banking turn as only G4S can access the machine. Also this makes blind accounting even more blind.

On another note on the next AFM software update staff will be able to register oysters and discounts on the machine.

As you can see LUL is trying all ways possible to make job cuts seem necessary. This is a long going fight and we cannot lose heart in the battle we have before us as this way LUL will surely win.

We must not forget the failures of the past but as such we should not dwell on them either our failures if we learn from them can only make us stronger.

We need to analyse where we went wrong to strengthen our position in oncoming onslaughts on our terms and conditions.

We must now re gather our forces and work with our strengths which is the workforce we have and the unity we have forged between the two unions.

If ever there was a time to Unite and become a stronger force for change it is now. We cannot leave it to the last possible second as we have before and then stand kicking the dirt after we have been run over by managements steam train,

We still have a mandate for action and the action short of still stands and is in effect please follow it.

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