



**TOGETHER
WE ARE THE
UNION**



Branch Meeting

Thursday

7 October

16.00hrs

**The Clachan
Kingly St,**

**2 minutes from
Oxford Circus
Station**



Branch Secretary

Brian Munro

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

**07947 316 259
0207 622 5718**

Branch secretary sacked and reinstated within 41 hours VICTORY TO THE RMT!

On Tuesday 28 September at 18:00hrs, Brian Munro, Health & Safety Rep at Elephant and Castle, staff side secretary of the trains safety council and RMT Branch Secretary was sacked on a gross misconduct charge for allegations made on the picket line in late June.

Bro Munro was represented by Assistant General Secretary Pat Sikorski. At the hearing Bro Sikorski destroyed the malicious and unsubstantiated claims. In a 4 hour defence he proved that these allegations were false. Pat said "there was direct evidence of collusion between management and ASLEF local reps and the inquiry was clearly rigged". But management were out to make an example of a leading RMT activist.

The following day, Wednesday 29 September, the RMT's Council of Executives stated clearly that it was not prepared to accept this victimisation. At an emergency meeting the union's executive immediately went into dispute with LUL and made the decision to ballot RMT members for

industrial action.

At 11 o'clock on Thursday 30 September Bro Munro was represented at Appeal by General Secretary, Bob Crow. At 12 o'clock he was fully reinstated as a train operator. This is unprecedented and shows the strength, resolve and power of the union.

Compare this with the fate of Adam Parker, a senior ASLEF health and safety rep on the trains safety council, and thorn in management's side, who was sacked and left high and dry by his so called union.

Bob Crow said "this is a major victory for the whole of the union. This was a clear cut case of victimisation and I am delighted for Brian and his family that the RMT won him full reinstatement." On the collusion between management and local ASLEF reps, Bob said "in all my years as a trade unionist, I have never heard of reps trying to get people sacked. The union from top to bottom was full square behind Brian Munro to overturn this attempt to pick off one of our senior reps. This shows all underground workers that the RMT will fight for justice in the workplace".

**Come to the Branch Meeting
Thursday, 16.00hrs**

October 7

Speaker

PAT SIKORSKI

Upstairs at The Clachan, Kingly Street.

2 minutes from Oxford Circus Station.

Walk down Argyll Street. Turn right, then left.

ALL GRADES UNITED IN ONE COMMON OBJECT

The Bakerloopy Psychiatric Wing



by Jim McDaid

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Ever had the feeling that you are an inmate at a top security psychiatric wing rather than a valued member of a forward thinking, health and safety conscious organisation? Well you are not alone.

Recent, mind-boggling events on the Bakerloopy Line indicate that health and safety is way down the list of priorities of the current crop of would be managers.

Top of their list is 'attendance figures.' So much so that when we are top of the attendance league, you can come to work on a Friday morning to be greeted by a DMT offering you a roll and sausage as a special reward!

As well as rules and regs, DMT's at Queen's Park have obviously been given culinary expertise classes. I'm not right up to speed with health and safety law pertaining to food hygiene standards, but I'm pretty sure that the DMT's kitchen was not built for the purpose of managers doing an impression of 'Cant Cook, Cant Cook!'

At a guess I'm sure the managers cooking for us contravene a few other health and safety standards. They can't buy my soul with a burnt banger.

As for Queen's Park being top

of the attendance league, is it any wonder when the top floor of Premier House resembles a doctor's waiting room with all the staff on light duties congregating there? I would hate to think that these members of staff were being pressurised or cajoled into coming into work when they were not fully fit.

I know at least one RMT member has a complaint in as he feels he was harassed into coming back to work after a 'one under' when he did not feel 100%.

Any member of staff who feels that he/she has been harassed or unfairly treated when off sick or returning to work should contact the union immediately.

There are guidelines in place to ensure certain standards are met, for example you are entitled to a rep for any home or workplace visit. I would hate to think that the only reason management are so hot on this issue on the line is because it affects their performance related pay! All staff in all grades should contact the Branch Secretary, Brian Munro if they feel under undue pressure to return to work before they are ready.

Lastly, when I heard that 1 October was "big bang day" on the Bakerloo, I thought management must be making real efforts to sort out problems drivers face, like monitors not working or other safety matters. Imagine my surprise that this was the start the of DMT pressure and cajoling to make sure everyone wears a tie.

Its good to know we work for a company that is sure of its priorities!

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Watch out it's HOT!

Station staff might be confused of late by the conflicting information they are getting about unattended items left on the stations. Anyone who has been to one of the 'pick it up it's not a bomb' roadshows organised by LUL and coming to a station near you soon, must have come away with one of the following gems of information.

Firstly, terrorists do not put bombs in ruck sacks or carrier bags, unless of course you're the nutter who planted the bombs in the Admiral Duncan and Brixton market in 1998. Secondly, terrorists will always want

It will have wires and batteries clearly visible, have what looked like 2lb of marzipan strapped to it and have BOMB! written on it in white paint

to get away from the scene of the crime except that is if they're one of those not very sporting Madrid bombers. In which all bets are off.

Finally, you'll be shown a helpful picture of what an actual bomb looks like. It will have wires and batteries clearly visible, have what looked like 2lb of marzipan strapped to it and have BOMB! written on it in white paint. I made the last bit up, but only just.

Add to this the pressure being put on station managers by senior BCV management to reduce the amount of evacuations and is it any wonder that a DSM on the Oxford Circus group came up from the platforms proudly brandishing a closed and locked suitcase that had been left there by: a) a forgetful passenger, or b) a crazed terrorist.

Obviously no one in LUL management is going to put any of this 'Safety Last' policy in writing, because when it does go wrong they won't want to carry the can. It is therefore up to us to put safety first, remember you can't be sacked for being cautious and report any attempts to undermine safety to your RMT reps.