



**TOGETHER  
WE ARE THE  
UNION**



## **Branch Meeting**

**Thursday**

**2 June**

**16.00hrs**

**The Clachan  
Kingly St,**

**2 minutes from  
Oxford Circus  
Station**



**Branch Secretary**

**Brian Munro**

**48 C Bonner Road  
London  
E2 9JS**

**07947 316259**

## **Prepare for action for shorter working week**

**T**he Shorter Working Week deal, (35 hours and an additional nine banked rest days) for station staff is in danger of collapse because of LUL's determination to make massive job cuts.

The deal, laid out in black & white, and perfectly easy to comprehend, states: in return for the 35 hours and the consequent increase in annual leave, the Company wants "a net reduction of 200 jobs". These would be SAMF jobs, which, the document states, "the majority of these would be at central London locations".

In fact, it is now clear that the Company is trying to tear up the deal, and force through perhaps as many as 800 - 1000 job cuts. This would affect all grades, at most locations, and would be especially severe in the outlying locations, where LUL's plan seems to be to eliminate staff altogether, using the national railway's model.

Many stations would move from having an SS on duty 24 hours, with the booking office staffed by a SAMF from start of traffic to close of traffic, to the booking office being run by the SS between 0600-2300, and the SS looking after the gate-

line too. Selling tickets, providing customer assistance and a safe station environment would no longer be a priority.

LUL's proposals envisage sweeping cuts to the number of CSA's at the big stations as well. The RMT is in favour of more part time jobs and opportunities for our members, but this to be ON TOP of current staffing levels. It is clear that the Company wants to REPLACE full time staff with part time.

We fought for the 35 hour deal, and the agreement that was signed between the RMT and LUL should be implemented on time and in good faith. Furthermore, the Company should understand that we will fight to ensure its implementation. The union has given LUL 7 days to make real proposals to implement the deal or we will be more than likely to go back into dispute.

Every RMT member should ensure that all their workmates are in the union, that they understand what the Company is trying to do, with all the implications for job security and promotion, and that we are in a good position to force the Company to honour the deal.

## **Come to the Branch Meeting**

**Upstairs at The Clachan,  
Kingly Street.**

**2 minutes from Oxford Circus Station.**

**Walk down Argyll Street.**

**Turn right, then left.**

**Thursday, June 2 at 16.00hrs**

## **JOIN THE RMT**

**ALL GRADES UNITED IN ONE COMMON OBJECT**

## Are Bakerloo Management bonkers?

Bakerloo Management have been coming up with a shed load of half baked schemes and procedures recently. Their latest effort is a ludicrous attempt to reduce SPADS on the network rail section.

This involves detrainment staff who are supposed to carry out the following: once a train has been tipped out, go to the driver, and ask "can you tell me the the signal aspect please? Is it clear or at danger?" If the reply is clear, the member of detrainment staff will walk away and continue their platform duties.

If the reply is danger, then the detrainment staff have to wait until the driver confirms that the signal has cleared.

Management state that this will be an opportunity for trains and station staff to work effectively together. The truth is it will cause disputes between drivers and station staff over delayed departures amongst other possibilities.

As usual with Bakerloo management there is no Working Reference Manual procedure to back this hair brained scheme up. The union is clear on this: there has been no safety review and should not be implemented.

Other ways have been proposed by the RMT reps to improve tippingout and avoid SPADS but management have not taken these up citing cost.

All detrainment staff are not to carry out this procedure.

### New Health & Safety Rep

Mac Mackena was elected health & safety rep for detrainment staff. Mac can be contacted on: 07834448771

# It wasn't a fair cop guv!

by Clive Protheroe



**W**e live in troubled times. What with the government warning us that at any moment the country could be brought to its knees by international terrorists, armed with home-made WMDs, fashioned from some crushed up aspirins and a couple of empty pop bottles. Add to that the gangs of feral children roaming our streets with complete impunity and you might be forgiven for thinking that the police would have their hands full just stopping parts of Britain slipping into cannibalism, you would however be wrong. With crime rates falling and Home Office targets to be met the BTP and the Crown Prosecution Service {CPS} decided that they would devote the best part of a year hounding a Piccadilly Circus multi-functional for a crime he did not commit.

In June last year SAMF, Steve Cornwall was arrested at the end of his shift at Piccadilly Circus by two plain clothes BTP officers. He was then thrown into a cell for several hours before being charged with the theft of £650 that had gone missing from the ticket office 4 months earlier and also charged with false accounting. Steve also had his work locker searched and the police wanted to search his house hoping to find that one of Steve's bank statements would helpfully have an entry for £650 made a couple of days after the money went missing. Three weeks later Steve was officially suspended from work, however, this was only the beginning of the nightmare for him.

After months of waiting and several appearances at the magistrates' court Steve's RMT solicitor demanded that the case be taken to Crown Court where Steve would receive a fairer hearing. Then in December last year the CPS decided that, due to an absence of evi-

dence, they were no longer going to prosecute Steve for theft and false accounting, but instead for the theft of 9 carnet tickets that had been found in his Oyster card wallet during the initial search. Leading criminologists agree that a complete lack of evidence is often a sign that the defendant is totally innocent of the crime; however the CPS were not to be put off by this. When Steve's union barrister told the CPS that they had no case against him, he was informed that they had targets to hit and that they were pursuing several such cases on LUL. Even when it was explained to them that anyone who works on the gateline at a zone 1 station will collect carnets off passengers they remained determined to go ahead.

Eventually, in February of this year, one year on from the money going missing, Steve's case got to court. And after 12 months of legal wrangling and at a huge cost to the taxpayer, {apparently top barristers earn somewhat more than the minimum wage}, to say nothing of Steve's health, the CPS announced that they had no evidence to present in Steve's prosecution. In a final attempt to salvage something from this farce the CPS asked that Steve be bound over for a year, a request the judge refused. Instead the judge said that it was clear that Steve was completely innocent and that he was free to leave the court, which Steve did, having to dodge the BTP coppers all wanting to shake his hand having nearly ruined his life. Steve is glad that the whole thing is over, but still angry that a year of his life was spent worrying about whether he would get a criminal record and lose his job. Steve is grateful to all those on the group who supported him through this ordeal including Kieran Dimelow who did all he could to help Steve.

Steve is also aware that without the backing of RMT and the legal support it provided him things might have turned out differently.

