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Issue Number 1, Volume 1

February 2009

# RMT Vision

...3...2...1...ZERO...

## LIFT OFF!

London Transport Region  
Launches Young Members'  
Magazine





## From Your Editor.....

Welcome to RMT Vision, our London Transport Regional Magazine specifically designed for the exclusive under 30's club. This magazine had been a long time in the pipeline, but with the right enthusiasm and dedication I am proud to say we have finally reached "lift off"

In this first issue, we have tried to cover articles that you wish to read as a young member and to represent the diversity of London and our union.

This magazine will only work with the participation of the young members regionally and nationally, please do tell us what you think by contacting: [rmtyoungcomrade@gmail.com](mailto:rmtyoungcomrade@gmail.com) with 'editor' in the subject line

In Solidarity

*Adrian*

**Adrian Rowe**

**Train Operator London Underground (Bakerloo Branch) and Editor of RMT Vision ( A Young Members Publication).**

*With Thanks to: Steve Hedley (RO), Janine Booth (SFC), Emma Baldwin, Tony Hardy, Ross Marshall, Joanne Parry, Christopher Lonie, James Wong-McSweeney, Rebecca Crocker, Jen York and RMT Organising unit*

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## From the National Young Members Chair.....

As chair of the National Young Members Committee I am proud to be have been part of the London Transport Young Members Team responsible for delivering you the first edition of this quarterly YM Magazine.

2008 saw the election of Becky Crocker as the LT regional young members officer and the formation of an informal regional YM committee; the exact same comrades we have to thank for this fine new magazine! The YM regional committee started touring workplaces seeking out more young RMT members. With help from the regional secretary and the organising unit the committee organised a training day and even a go karting trip. Haven't seen them at your workplace yet? Then why don't you get in touch and we'll make the journey.

On a national level 2008 saw RMT young members from our region dominate the 2008 national young members conference in terms of presence and motions submitted. We also took 3 of the 5 seats available on the national YM committee too. Myself being elected as Chair, Ross Marshall Central Line West as Vice Chair and Becky Crocker Camden No.3 as a committee member. More details of the work performed by the national committee and it's members will follow in later editions of this magazine.

It's great to know we have so many active young members in our region already! However, for future editions we want to here from you... do you hold a rep or branch officer position? Have you been on a recruitment drive? Maybe you've been on a demo or picket line? Or maybe you've been campaigning for an affiliate organisation? Whatever your story why don't you drop us a line and see your story published in the next edition.

After all the hard work that's gone its creation I hope you enjoy reading these 20 pages and look forward to receiving your feedback for future editions.

*Joanne*

Joanne Parry

(Transport for LondonNo1 Branch) & National YM Chair 2009





## Jen York (RMT Learning) describes the event that took place on a weekend in November in Brighton... HipHop Vs Trade Unionism

### Day One

09.30 Saturday morning and the music is vibrating through the doors at the Komedia in Brighton. Ten Young RMT members make their way into the studio and on the Decks are KMT aka Ian Solomon and Dave Smith, TUC tutor from the College of North East London.

Ian introduces himself and talks about his DJ career and the work he does as a Hip Hop teacher. He explains how he uses Hip Hop as a way of creating social cohesion and to fight against racism and intolerance. Hip Hop is used to get people talking, creating and working together. Dave then kicks the course off with a music quiz putting in context the history of music fighting back against racism. The group looked at how the likes of Sam Cook, Dusty Springfield, The Specials and Miss Dynamite have all stood up to fascism and what the effect was.

Everyone is then asked about the stereotypes of Hip Hop and what it means to them. From the answers each person then creates a sound or come up with a word. Before we know it we are up on our feet beat boxing using the words and sounds. Everyone takes turns orchestrating the sounds counting through the beat of two, in and out and loud and soft.

Ian talks about rhythms and explains that nursery rhymes are the origins of rap. We are then asked to think about a word that rhymes with our names. Going around the group everyone starts to rap their names 'My name is Ian and I am human being', 'My name is Dave and I like a rave', 'my name is Lori and I aint' Sorry', 'My names Emma and I am in dilemma', 'My name is Rob and I make ya sob'. Everyone is asked to note their name rap for later and then over lunch Ian gives a quick demo on how to use the decks. One by one we have a go and learn to scratch.

In the afternoon we looked at what RMT stands for, such as equality, community, fairness and rights. Everyone was then handed a British National Party manifesto to compare with. It was shocking to see what exactly the BNP plans to do if they come into power. The BNP manifesto outlined plans for registering anyone who is not white for removal from Britain. Woman should be encouraged to stay home and raise children, homosexuality and abortion would be illegal. The atmosphere within room changed rapidly from beats of Hip Hop to silence and disgust. Dave showed us a film on how musicians, music and concerts have always been used to raise awareness of fascism.



### Day Two

Sunday morning and the group make their way to Brighton Learning Centre and have a talk on RMT Learning and how to get involved. RMT learning can help all members who wish to learn by signposting them to their ULR or offering financial help through the RMT bursary scheme. Learning should be fun, worthwhile and can be anything from attending a Hip Hop course, up skilling in Maths or English or taking up a course with Open University. After doing some research on the computers everyone heads back to Komedia.

After lunch Dave and Ian talked through LoveMusicHateRacism and how to organise a music event to raise awareness and unite people against racism. Ideas included using mates who are in Bands and who can DJ, looking at small local venues and haggling to get the price down. To fund any events everyone talked about taking teams to work behind the bar at the festivals next year and any earnings then go into the Young Member pot for events. Hopefully there will be RMT Young Members events happening in London and Plymouth.



It was soon time to work on the final rap and Ian gets everyone warmed by doing some vocal exercises and playing some energy games. We went back to our names raps and the beat boxing. Then getting back into small groups some work is done on the raps written yesterday and all the groups practices before hopping up on stage to perform. An example is below

*"An injury to one is an injury to all, united we stand divided we fall*

*Went to bluewater buying goodies, can't go in wearing a hoody. Is it cause I am young, trying to have fun. Oh well I will to go Westfield to get my shopping done.*

*An injury to one is an injury to all, united we stand divided we fall.*

*Painting me a stigma, calling me a gangster. I ain't no criminal, committed no crime. They issued me an ASBO cause they didn't like this rhyme.*

*An injury to one is an injury to all, united we stand divided we fall.*

*Everyone here stand up with me, put your hands in the air just like me. Now put your finger up and say.*

*An injury to one is an injury to all, united we stand divided we fall. "*

### What did everyone think?

*"It was good to find out more about the active movement against BNP and how we can help make a difference"* **Rob Stonehouse**

*"The course has built my confidence up and has given a lot of information about RMT and the anti racist movement"*

### Hayley Gaskell

*"I didn't know what to expect on this course, it's great to meet other Young Members and learn the enthusiasm is still alive within the union"* **Adrian Rowe**

Crocker's Corner

**Rebecca Crocker**, London Transport Regional Council Young Members Officer. Gives her insight into Taking the Power back and Current issues that she feels affect all young members in our union.

Crocker's Corner

### You might ask, 'what's the point of having a young members' section of the union?'

Well.....

If more young people don't get involved, the union movement will literally DIE. The average age at union branch meetings is 40+.

Unions should fight over issues that young people care about. Employers take advantage of young workers being clueless about their rights. According to a recent TUC survey, workers between the ages of 16-24 make up nearly a third of the total workforce in hotels and restaurants in the UK - so there are a lot of people our age working in bars, shops, restaurants, call centres - with bullying managers, long hours and unpaid overtime.

### What are young RMT members in London doing?

We are getting young people involved with the union for the first time. You may never have thought you could be the local rep, get involved with the young members, work at Glastonbury behind the bar, etc.... We will give you the support and encouragement you need. With 40 being the average age at union branches, we decided, 'if young people are not going to the union, we will go to you'. We've asked for your views about what would get you involved for the first time.

We've organised events for young members, such as training days or social activities, based on what you've asked for. If you can see the RMT is doing something for you, we hope you will get involved and get other people you work with along as well.

We want to train hundreds of young workers to know your basic rights. By knowing what managers can and can't get away with, you can stop managers in their tracks and confidently come together to stand your ground.

**A WOMAN'S PLACE IS IN HER UNION!**



### Why is all this so important?

Life is short, you're too busy to take on something new. But getting involved in the union doesn't have to mean giving up loads of time going to loads of meetings. The most important thing is to stand up for yourself and your mates at work when managers take advantage. Unions exist to fight the employers and they should be strongest in your workplace. You need to take the power back! Your managers pay your wages but you owe them nothing. If all members, particularly young members who may be new to the union, stand up to every abuse, you will prove that when we come together to stand up for our rights, we are strong - to fight everyday problems like shifts changed at short notice, and the big fights like pay.

**If you have an idea of a learning or team building event you would like the committee to consider, Email:**

[RMTYOUNGCOMRADE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RMTYOUNGCOMRADE@GMAIL.COM)

**With 'Crocker's Corner' in the Subject**

In 2010 the government will look to lift the current £3000 a year limit on university fees. Soon we could see a return to times when working class people can't consider university, as they simply won't be able to afford it. The situation here will be like America, where fees could be £40-50 grand a year, and someone like George Bush can buy a degree from Harvard.

Not everyone wants to go to university. But soon working class young people won't have the choice!

NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION, WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2009, LONDON

11am, Malet Street, London. **Against all fees! Free education for all!**



# RMT Young Members visit Cuba, Emma Baldwin (Watford Branch) Reports.....

When I first joined RMT I was told about a trip to Cuba that they do and how I should definitely get myself on to that trip, so when the chance came for me to go I jumped at it feet first!

There is a bit of a warning attached to this you have to remember that Cuba has a trade embargo with the USA, for many decades and because of this some things are very basic, when the information you receive says "basic but adequate" it may not be what you imagine it to be.

This trip was unlike anything that I had imagined that it would be, there were around 50 delegates from various trade unions from over the country including Unite, Unison and GMB but also there were people from all over the world. We arrived and were met by our guide/ translator Roberto, we then waited for our bus to turn up, but forget about the nice air conditioned ones that you get in England you have to remember that in Cuba things are very basic and if something is broken it is very hard to get the replacement parts. We drove for about an hour and we arrived at International Camp Julio Antonio Mella where eight people to a room slept on bunk beds and a fan to try and keep us cool.

After only having a few hours of time to unpack and get a shower we were out again to the House of Friendship, this is a meeting place for trade unionists we had dinner and a wonderful show put on for us and after all that we were provided with a bottle of Cuban rum and a bottle of cola but I have to say that a lot of us were too tired to drink.

The next day we took a visit via a coach to Cienfuegos but this time we did have the air conditioned coach and we stayed in a hotel that was built for tourism and here was a pool, TVs, fridges and air conditioning in the room. Whilst in Cienfuegos over the next couple of days we had various visits to hospitals. Some schools are specific to dance, music and art. Although the children have to attend another school where they learn the basic subjects you ask anyone of them and they all say in unison that they prefer the music and dance school. We also had an optional visit to Santa Clara, where there is a memorial to Che Guevara he was the revolutionist who invaded Cuba under Castro's leadership. We also had a visit to the Armoured Train, this train was derailed as it was carrying reinforcements to soldiers fighting against the Rebel Army.



After staying a few days in Cienfuegos, it was time to head back to Camp. Upon returning it was a bit of a shock to the system after being treated so well at the hotel but we were there to learn about Cuba. Over the next couple of days we were split into groups to do some more agricultural work, it ranged from weeding fields, painting schools and stone picking.

Whilst at the camp we had a lot of speakers come and talk to us about various parts of Cuba and the countries plans for development from growing food to transport.

There are a couple of things that stay in my mind forever regarding Cuba. Firstly is the main reason this trip takes place is, on Mayday every year the centre of Havana becomes a mass of people taking part in a massive parade, shops close and for about two/ three hours it is just a constant stream of people dressed in bright colours, wacky costumes, hats and every person wants to be there regardless if they are 3, 30 or 93 also the President of Cuba Raul Castro is there and you just hear constant chants of "Viva, Fidel, Viva Raul, Viva Cuba." words cannot describe this day and it something that I will never forget.

The second is the evening that we went to the CDR which stands for Committees for the Defence of the Revolution these are basically block of flats set up by the government to bring communities together. We turned up and people has put out food on tables for us, the children had baked a loaf of bread for us in the shape of a dinosaur, there was also mangos, cake and coconuts all for us and there was a gentleman going round putting mangos in our bags. Children were dancing in the street, putting on shows for us, and although there was a language barrier it didn't matter we all felt welcome. We then went in to house and he offered us some home made wine that he had made, and also he was telling us about his son who was training to be a doctor and how proud he was. It was amazing to be in that atmosphere and when a glass got knocked off the table and broke he refused for us to touch it incase we hurt ourselves.

Something that definitely needs to be mentioned is the Miami Five, you may have heard about them, you may not. They are five Cubans who were sent to the USA to try to gather information about groups that Cuba regarded as terrorists, they did this successfully and when the Cuban government passed the information gathered by the five to the FBI they were arrested, unlawfully tried and convicted of charges from, espionage, conspiracy to commit murder and other illegal activities. They have each been held in separate prisons, their families have on many occasions been denied visits from their families in Cuba, and many occasions been held in solitary confinement.

This was a trip of a lifetime, and it opened my eyes up to the fact that there is more to Cuba then cigars and rum. I highly recommend that you go to your branch meeting and try and get yourself on the trip you will love every minute of it.

# Dear Comrade.....

Dear Comrade,

Write in with your work or union related query stating your employer, grade and line/location of work and we'll ask the font of all trade union knowledge and give you a response in the next edition.

**So don't be shy contact us via e-mail**

**[rmtyoungcomrade@gmail.com](mailto:rmtyoungcomrade@gmail.com)**

**with "dear comrade" in the subject line**

Keeping Informed.....

Long extinct is the carrier pigeon and by the time snail mail arrives the issues have moved on – no offence to our postal comrades at CWU

Digital media in all its forms offer us ways of almost instantaneous contact. So to keep up to date with the latest work or union related developments make sure you regularly check out the following sites ....

## National news

RMT website [www.rmt.org.uk](http://www.rmt.org.uk)



RMT on youtube <http://uk.youtube.com/user/RMTtelevision>

RMT on facebook <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=2430961788>

RMT young members googlegroup <http://groups.google.com/group/rmtyoungmembers?hl=en>

## Regional News

The website of the RMT London Transport Regional Council <http://www.rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/>



The website for London Underground Station and Revenue Staff <http://www.rmtplatform.org.uk/>





## Joanne Parry, National Young Members Chair tells us what 2009 has in store for RMT Young Members

So far you have read articles on what our young members got up to in 2008. So what's in store for 2009? Well your union needs you!

You don't have to be an established rep or an activist to take part in any of the activities below you just have to be a paying member who is willing to find out a bit more about the union and mix with folk your own age. We've got a great mix of learning opportunities, trade union/political activities as well as plenty of the "just for fun" activities planned but without you all coming along well it's always going to be the same ugly faces you get to stare at in forthcoming editions of this newsletter. Besides what's the worst that can happen? You may even enjoy yourself!

**So diaries at the ready... here are some of things we've already got planned for 2009**

### National Events

28<sup>th</sup> Feb-1<sup>st</sup> Mar National Young Members Conference, Comfort Inn Hotel, Birmingham

To register simply tell your branch secretary you want to come... don't know who that is? Check out the list below

Branches will cover the cost of accommodation and rail fare so what's your excuse?

Conference is a great way to meet people from all over the UK as well as capturing a glance of our Union Board members; past conferences speakers have included Bob Crow, John Leach, Mick Cash and Pat Sikorski. This is the opportunity where we the younger members of this union get to suggest new directions for union policy, new demands for terms and conditions; not to mention the unforgettable shenanigans from the conference social!

### Feb-Mar 2009 RMT John Cogger Young Member of the Year Award.

The circular requesting nominees will be hitting your branch correspondence in the not to distance future.

To be in a with a chance of winning the award then you need to be under the age of 27. The form asks you to briefly summarise what you've done for the union in the past twelve months. Having been a past winner of the award I can say it's worthwhile achievement. The winner is automatically guaranteed a place on the TUC young members conference, gets to attend the National RMT Annual General Meeting to receive their award which includes book tokens and then has the pleasure of attending TUC Congress a 5 day long affair which when I won saw speeches from Gordon Brown and other well know MPs.

### June 29<sup>th</sup> - July 3<sup>rd</sup> RMT Young Members Course at RMT AGM in Douglas, Isle of Man.

Members wishing to attend should be under 30 years of age. The course will deal with:-

How the Union works | Young Members in the Union| Representative Training| The Union Learning Fund| The Role of the AGM| Becoming active in the union|

Members will be paid for loss of earnings plus travel expenses, subject to agreement. Accommodation (full board) is available, on request. Further info is available from **Alastair Gittins at Unity House 020 7387 4771**. The closing date for applications is March 30, 2009. **PLEASE NOTE: those who have previously attended a young members' course at an AGM will not be eligible.**



### Regional

We are kicking off 2009 with a paintballing event; like the go karting event costs will be kept to a minimum. To register an interest e-mail [rmtyoungcomrade@gmail.com](mailto:rmtyoungcomrade@gmail.com) with "paintball" in the subject line. Leaving your name and contact number.

### Cinema

Now Showing - Che part 1: Soderbergh's epic anti-biopic of Ernesto "Che" Guevara's depicts the triumph of man inspiring a successful Cuban Revolution. Who's Che? His face forms the iconic T-shirts worn by many across the world using the image created by Cuban Photographer Alberto Korda back in the 60's.

Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> - Frost/Nixon: Ron Howard's adaptation of the play by Peter Morgan shows the iconic armchair battle that reignited David Frost's career as a presenter and buried the infamous Watergate scandal. Originally watched by 45 million people back in the summer of 1977. Frost finally manages to get Nixon to take the bait and essentially admit his guilt in front of the world.

Released 20<sup>th</sup> Feb Che Part 2: Soderbergh's epic anti-biopic of Ernesto "Che" Guevara continued. Part 2 depicts the doomed spiral of Che lost in the fighting of a failed revolution in Bolivia which led to his death in 1967.

### Exhibitions

This is War! Robert Capa at Work and Gerada Taro a Retrospective; at the Barbican Centre. Capa and Taro are photographers renowned the world over for their action shots of the guerrilla struggle against General Franco's fascist army during the Spanish Civil war in 1936 – 39. The collection includes the most famous image of the war "the Fallen Soldier"; the photograph that made Robert Capa's career. Also in the collection you can see the photographs of Capa's 1938 journey to China to cover the Chinese resistance of the brutal Japanese invasion. The Sino-Japanese War was widely regarded as the eastern front of the international anti-fascist struggle, of which Spain was the western front.

To find out more or to register your details. Email :

[rmtyoungcomrade@gmail.com](mailto:rmtyoungcomrade@gmail.com)

With 'info' in the subject line

## What would you say, if I said, You could go to Music Festivals for FREE!! Read on.....



Tickets for the best music festivals are always in short supply and can be very expensive but RMT can help... and it won't cost you a penny!

Throughout 2009 RMT Young Members will be looking for volunteers to work as bar staff at some of the UK's greatest music festivals to help raise money for the RMT young members fund. The money raised is then used for organising events and courses for Young Members to help keep the cost of future YM activities to the bare minimum.

Who do I work for? Volunteers work for the Workers Beer Company, who run beer tents at music festivals. <http://workersbeer.thewebbureaus2.com/default.aspx>

What's in it for me? All you have to do is work 1 x 6 hour shift a day and in return you get access to the festival when not working, FREE transport from London to and from the festival, a secure campsite with HOT showers and FLUSHING toilets! Plus a FREE meal voucher and drinks tokens per day!!!

Who can participate? Literally anyone!!! Old or young - only restriction is you must be at least 18 years old. You work in teams of 6 and whilst first come first served means that members will be given priority if you have got friends who fancy coming along for the FREE festival access that's not a problem. All they need to understand is that the wage they should earn goes to RMT young members fund and that they have to turn up for their shifts... the rest is FREE for them to enjoy! Plus you get to do what you want with the TIPS you earn!

I worked Glastonbury last year with friends and some volunteers from Rock Around The Blockade. <http://www.ratb.org.uk/> We had such a laugh and managed to see SO many great acts. You can still hear the acts even when working due to the proximity of the beer tents to the stages! An amazing experience, so good that my mates are up for doing it again this year.

Which festivals can we work? So far we have places guaranteed for Glastonbury, Leeds and Reading festivals...but if there is enough interest we could possibly arrange teams for other festivals too such as WOMAD, Latitude, Tolpuddle Martyrs and Get Loaded in the Park.

### To REGISTER for a FREEBIE festival contact:

[rmtyoungcomrade@googlegmail.com](mailto:rmtyoungcomrade@googlegmail.com) with the name of the festival you would like to volunteer for in the subject line. Then in the text part of the e-mail please give full names, e-mail addresses and contact number's for all who wish to take part. Please also state whether they are a member or not.

## Emma Baldwin (Watford Branch) Gives us KNOW YOUR RIGHTS! Part One



Where ever you work if you are ticket office staff, platforms, a train driver, signaller or you may be office based staff you have rights, right that have been fought for long before you started work and some that you may fight for in the future. These rights may have been passed at EU level some may be local to you and your place of work but the most important thing is you know them and you use them.

The working time directive is a basic right for each employee that sets out things like you cant work more then 48 hours in a week unless you opt out, you have the right to an in-work rest break when your working day is more then six hours, a right to four weeks of paid leave a year, a right to 11 hours rest a day (although in the railway this is set at 12 for safety critical staff)

You also have the right to go to work without the fear of bullying, harassment, or any form of victimisation and discrimination either from management or other colleagues and although all companies have different polices and procedures on how to deal with such cases the main thing is identifying the problem and raising it in writing to the appropriate person. Your local representative will be able to help you deal with any concerns that you have on this matter.

If you ever find yourself in the situation of where you have been dismissed you again have rights. For example if you have been employed for over a year your employer has to give you written statements on why you have been dismissed but the most important part of this is **YOU HAVE TO ASK FOR IT**, and the employer has 14 days to complete this request.

**Something that is vital for you to know under The Employment Relations Act 1999 everyone involved in either a disciplinary or grievance hearing has the right to a fellow colleague or a union representative to be present.**

Look out for **PART TWO** in the next edition of RMTVision



## Christopher Lonie (Glasgow Shipping Branch) tells us why he loves his job and his union.

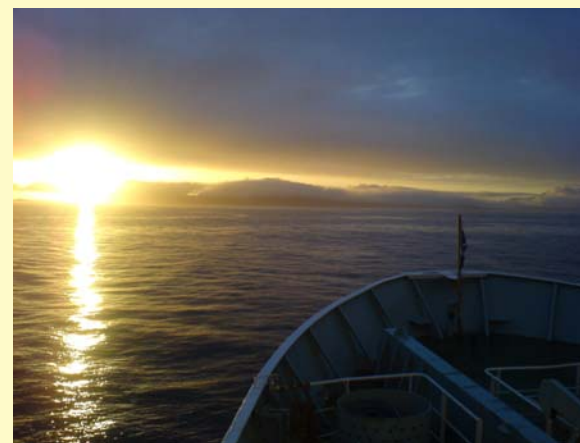


Growing up I've always had knowledge about the trade union movement. My father George has been an active member of trade unionism since he went to sea in the late 60's, when I look back I have fond memories of the stories he told, stories about the struggle the seafaring community fought back "in the day", struggles for better conditions, the struggle for equality, fights for better pay. Most of which resulted in strike action and loss of wages! I have great respect for the people of that generation who fought for some of the rights I enjoy today and I must say a lot of young members take for granted.

I'm from the island of Lewis, a small island off the west coast of Scotland, one of many islands in a group called the Outer Hebrides. One of the main employers on the island is Caledonian MacBrayne. They are a government funded operator who sails to and from all of the Scottish islands, providing a lifeline service to all the communities of the Outer Hebrides. On leaving school I joined "cal-Mac" as most people call it, in the catering department. I started off in the galley washing pots and pans, hard work but I enjoyed it. The shift patterns of 2 weeks on 2 weeks of took a bit of getting used to, as did the weather! I was seasick for about a week! But the friends I made really made up for that. Living and working with up to 35 people for 2 weeks onboard a ship you make strong bonds with your shipmates.

When I nervously walked up the gangway for the first time and met some of the crew one of the first questions I was asked was "are you in the union?" my reply was yes, which was met with "good on ya son!" I felt instantly welcomed into the group. For many of the older seafarers being a union member was a must, almost a badge of honour. I was told by one older member that deep sea (deep sea meaning multi continental voyages) that if someone wasn't in the union, none of the other crewmembers would talk to them, he said to me "why should we fight and pay our dues, while they sit back and enjoy the rewards we fight for!".....I was in total agreement.

If you would like to feature in this section of RMTVision. Please email [rmtyoungcomrade@gmail.com](mailto:rmtyoungcomrade@gmail.com) with 'Feature' in the subject line



Well that was just over 10 years ago, but my views haven't changed one bit. When I welcome a new crewmember onboard I ask the same question I was asked when I joined. Are you in the union? I have definitely noticed young people joining ships these days have no clue about unions or why they are so important. That's why I feel its young members like ourselves that are such an important part of the trade union movement; it's up to us to pass on the message of our union to the people of our generation. Since joining the union I have made some great friends and met some brilliant people. From handing out leaflets in a rainy Edinburgh to meeting the amazing people of Cuba, it's been an amazing journey for me. I'm now safety rep on my ship and got all my training through the union learning scheme, I'm also doing different job. Left the warmth of the galley to catching ropes on deck, in the beautiful Scottish weather. I must be mad!! But I love it.

When I was told about this new magazine young members were getting together I was really happy, it's a great medium for getting our views out there. The internet is great, but for me there is something satisfying about holding a magazine in your hands, rather than clicking a mouse. It's also good to create stronger links with other parts of the union. It's all too easy to concentrate on our own little patch sometimes. If your honest, how many times have you thought about or even hear about the outer Hebrides And the ships that sail the seas out there? It wasn't until I started going to conferences and going to more meetings, that I met some of the rail workers and started to understand their industry. I must say the parallels between the two were very noticeable. They both have a rich history. They both have had to struggle through the years, and still remain the backbone of Britain in my view. So it's going to be one of my resolutions of 2009 to make the links between the young members at sea up here in Scotland and the hard working rail members down south stronger. I hope its resolution I can stick to.....because I'm already smoking again!!! .....but you definitely get out what you put into the union. I'm happy to put my bit in, and I urge other young members to do whatever they can. If we all do something it can only make our union even stronger.



## LT Regional Branch Details

Please note that addresses listed below are venues for branch meetings and not necessarily postal. To contact a branch, use email as listed.

### BAKERLOO LINE

The Clachan  
34 Kingley Street  
London  
(near Oxford Circus station)  
bakerlooline@rmt.org.uk <bakerlooline@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets first Thursday in month at 4pm

### CAMDEN No 3

Exmouth Arms  
1 Starcross Street  
London  
camden3@rmt.org.uk <camden3@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets second Wednesday in month at 5pm

### CENTRAL LINE WEST

The Redan (upstairs function room)  
1 Westbourne Grove  
(nearest Tube stations: Queensway and Bayswater)  
centrallinewest@rmt.org.uk <centrallinewest@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets first Thursday in month at 4pm

### DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAILWAY

Ritz Training Room  
docklandslr@rmt.org.uk <docklandslr@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets Friday before payday at 12 noon

### EAST HAM

The Burnell Arms  
Plashet Grove  
East Ham  
London  
eastham@rmt.org.uk <eastham@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets first and third Thursday in month at 6pm

### FINSBURY PARK

12 Pins public house  
Junction of Stroud Green Road and Seven Sisters Road  
London N4  
finsburypark@rmt.org.uk <finsburypark@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets first and second Thursday in month at 4pm

### HAMMERSMITH and CITY

The Exmouth Arms  
1 Starcross Street  
London  
hammersmithcity@rmt.org.uk <hammersmithcity@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets first Wednesday in month

### JUBILEE SOUTH and EAST LONDON LINE

The Blue Eyed Maid  
173 Borough High Street  
London Bridge  
jubileeastlondon@rmt.org.uk <jubileeastlondon@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets every pay day at 4pm

### LU FLEET

The Exmouth Arms  
1 Starcross Street  
London  
lufleet@rmt.org.uk <lufleet@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets third Wednesday in month at 6pm

### LUL ENGINEERING

Exmouth Arms  
Starcross Street  
(near Euston Station)  
LUEngineering@rmt.org.uk <LUEngineering@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets first and third Tuesday in every month at 5pm

### MORDEN and OVAL

Wheatsheaf public house  
Tooting Bec  
mordenoval@rmt.org.uk <mordenoval@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets first Thursday after payday at 7:30pm

### NEASDEN

The Torch public house  
Wembley Park  
(opposite Tube station)  
neasden@rmt.org.uk <neasden@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets every second Thursday after payday at 4pm

### PICCADILLY and DISTRICT WEST

Edwards Public House  
King Street  
Hammersmith  
piccadillydistrict@rmt.org.uk <piccadillydistrict@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets third Wednesday in month at 4pm

### RIVER THAMES

bb006f1959@blueyonder.co.uk  
<bb006f1959@blueyonder.co.uk>

### STRATFORD No 1

Ex-Servicemen's Club  
Harvey Road  
Leytonstone  
stratford1@rmt.org.uk <stratford1@rmt.org.uk>  
Meets second Thursday of month at 5pm

### TRANSPORT for LONDON No 1

Old Star public house (upstairs bar)  
(opposite St James Park station)  
linda.j.wiles@ntlworld.com <linda.j.wiles@ntlworld.com>  
Meets third Tuesday in the month at 5.30pm

Still no luck or need to update your membership details due to a change of address, job, e-mail or contact number then why not contact the membership department for help. [memdep@rmt.org.uk](mailto:memdep@rmt.org.uk). Or call RMT Unity House on 020 7387 4771 and ask to speak to the membership department



RMT takes education very seriously, from the training of all our representatives to the professional and personal development of all our members. We know how education empowers people to become activists, to move on in their careers and take control in their personal lives. We know how important it is to have the knowhow of how to find help when you need it, whether finding a plumber in the Yellow pages or contacting your local rep.

### What does RMT Learning do?

RMT Learning aims to:

- promote the ULR role and learning opportunities to members
- work with Regional Organisers to sign off learning agreements with companies
- to provide information and research that shows the need for learning agreements to include, number of ULRs, time off, facilities, the Skills Pledge and paid time off to learners who need help with their English and maths
- work with Branches to create a clear process in recruiting and appointing ULRs
- ensure ULRs are trained at RMT National Education Centre in Doncaster and at local TU colleges
- work with all RMT representatives on the learning agenda
- set up sustainable projects and networks for ULRs and learners

### How do i become a Union Learning Rep?

Your Branch may already be aware of a ULR vacancy and will be asking for candidates to come forward. Check with your Branch.

Check to see if your company has a learning agreement. If you company has a learning agreement check to see how many RMT ULRs have been agreed.

If there is a vacancy you will need to be endorsed by your branch. Contact RMT Learning on 020 7529 8820 or email [a.brattle@rmt.org.uk](mailto:a.brattle@rmt.org.uk) and request the ULR form which you will need to get stamped by the Branch once they have appointed you.

If your company does not have a Learning Agreement in place yet, please contact Andrew on 020 7529 8820 or email [a.brattle@rmt.org.uk](mailto:a.brattle@rmt.org.uk). Andrew will pass on your details to your Development Worker who will then contact you.

**Want to know more?** Please do not hesitate to contact Andrew on the email address and phone number above. He will then direct your query to the most appropriate person.