

Forthcoming Events:

- To celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Miners Strike, come along to see **“MAGGIE’S END”** (a play about the funeral of Maggie Thatcher). On 18th April 2009, at The Shaw Theatre, 100 – 110 Euston Road London NW1 2AJ at 7.30pm (nearest station: Kings Cross), Tickets from £12 -18.
- Don’t forget the G20 march on: Saturday 28th March 2009
“End global poverty and inequality”
Assemble: 11am at Victoria Embankment.
Women we only have one world! Think today for the people of tomorrow!

For more information, any queries, or to have your say in next months issue please contact Carol Foster 07749853035 (RMT Regional women’s officer) or visit www.rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/women.



You should be getting your ballot papers from the 24th March 2009, and returned by the 8th April 2009.

VOTE WISELY, vote for BALLOT for STRIKE ACTION!!

Womens RMT Newsletter



Issue 1

April 2009

VOTE YES!

“A vote for strike action, is a vote for **Women**”

“A vote for **Women** is a vote for families”

“A vote for families, ensures our futures”

As women, we are far too often seen as the weakest link by management, especially when it comes to pay and job losses. We as women need to stand firm and give management a clear message, united we are strong. Our strength comes from the ballot paper, therefore

VOTE YES for strike action!

Use your ballot paper wisely, it is our greatest weapon!

UNITY IS STRENGTH!

Join us in our fight against management’s attacks on our jobs, conditions and pay.

We are all affected, so every vote counts!

Management are:

- Abusing the use of disciplinary procedures against staff by bullying those of us off sick, adding to unnecessary pressure and stress, and given denying us of our right to representation at interviews.
- Attempting to push through the compulsory redundancies while ignoring the agreement of the PPP Code of Conduct, which protects our jobs
- Pushing for an unfair five year pay formula, which would result in no real terms increase for four years and even mean we could face a pay cut.

London Women, we want your thoughts now! This newsletter is produced by and made for Women. We need your feedback on what you feel is important to you. All male comrades, we would like feedback from you too! We are for women but not against men! In each issue we will aim to tackle 3 topics that we believe affect the lives of us working women. So suggestions, **please!!**

In this issue we are looking at:

Domestic violence

In today's society women are constantly under pressure to be a model parent, a model daughter or a model grand daughter at the same time trying to hold down a demanding job. As women we can of course multi task, however with the credit crunch, the situation is becomes more critical. day by day. In many families Women are the sole bread winners.

For the future of our children, we must ensure that us working women can fulfil our roles without going home to a situation where we feel constantly emotional and physically drained. As we are all also aware the tension and fear of loss of jobs is a prime cause for a steep rise in domestic violence.

For far to long, domestic violence has been hidden as though the victim is somehow responsible for her fate. Why is domestic violence seen as shameful? Why are we allowing this issue to continue?

Surely flexible working may at least lighten these poor women's situation. We should not only be looking at the credit crunch as a negative factor but as a time for change.

Women do not need bruises to be victims of domestic violence. It is all too easy for men who are usually larger and stronger than their partners to dominate and intimidate women. We are also aware that in some cases the reverse is true. Women in the name of equality seek to undermine their partners.

Domestic violence needs to stop now!!

We shall be victims no more, unity is strength!!

You are not alone; we are all sisters under the skin, here are a few resources where you may find relevant help and support:

1. RMT helpline: 0800 376 3706
2. Refuge: 0808 2000 247 (freephone 24hr helpline for both women and children of domestic violence), Email: helpline@womensaid.org.uk
3. Samaritans: 0845 7909 090, www.samaritans.org.uk
4. Respect: www.respect.uk.net (support for our brothers in need)
5. Broken Rainbow: 07812 644 914, www.broken-rainbow.org.uk (Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual domestic violence)

A quick snapshot of our delegates who attended the RMT Women's Conference held on 7th-8th March 2009 in Newcastle.



(Back row from left: Linda Wiles, Jackie Darby, Becky Crocker and Janine Booth ; front row from left: Carol Foster, Julia Latona)