



ORGANISING WORKERS ON THE RIVER THAMES

September 2022

RIVER THAMES UPDATE

By Branch Secretary Sarah Emmings



Having worked on the Thames for some considerable time and taking over the responsibility of the River Thames branch in 2018 we have progressed and actively grown our membership across a number of companies operating on the Thames. We have members from the large

employers to those employers with small operations who see the benefit of being a member of the RMT union.

We have seen a presence at various workplaces on the Thames by not only the branch, but regionally elected officials, National Executive Committee members and the National Secretary Darren Procter. The feedback we receive when doing visits is always a positive reception with some individuals having never seen a union, or as maybe the case didn't even know what a trade union was!

Whilst all the above is positive, we could do so much more if we had members who would become more involved in organising and supporting the workload of the branch. As branch officials of the RMT we are volunteers and we give up our time to help support and organise those working on the River Thames. However, we need more members to become actively involved, you don't have to be a workplace representative, you don't have to have had experience in a trade union previously. If you want to make a difference and think that we as a branch should be campaigning around a particular topic that we can all develop, then please get in touch. There are so many underpaid, undervalued workers trying to make ends meet on the Thames and we need to develop a local strategy based on your input, your experience, your knowledge and your desire to bring about dignity and respect for all those working on the Thames.

I hope you enjoy reading this initial newsletter and respectfully request that you make us stronger by sharing this newsletter with a colleague who is not currently in the RMT and ask that they consider joining.

CONTINUE WITH THE GOOD WORK!

By Darren Procter, National Secretary



Firstly, I would like to congratulate your branch officials for the work it has done to rejuvenate what was a non-

functioning branch into a branch with structure and a vision to build membership through organising workers who expect decency and respect in the workplace. I recall the initial steps shortly after I was elected into the position as National Secretary in 2018 to elect branch officials and support those

individuals who wanted to rebuild the branch.

On a recent visit along the Thames, talking to workers employed in the various roles, at various employers, it is clearly recognisable that whatever your role, whoever your employer, that individuals feel vulnerable as employers seek to put the cost of the pandemic at the doorstep of the employee, whether this be through temporary working arrangements, fire and rehire or real terms pay cut or attacks on terms and conditions. All workers have an option, sit back and be shafted, or join a union and become organised. When a workplace is unorganised the boss will ordinarily treat the workforce with contempt and rarely is there a

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spokesperson as any individual who does not have the support and education of a trade union will usually find that they're no longer required in that workplace due to being vocal.

It is our collective responsibility to strengthen our membership, whether we are currently recognised by your employer or not, and if every single member can initiate discussion about how we can become better organised, what we need to be striving to achieve for your workplace or the wider sector of all workers on the Thames whilst encouraging potential members to join RMT. We are a members' led union that intentionally set out to be visible to those that we organise in order to achieve the goals of our membership. We need to generate discussion on the Thames and build an organising agenda that you have created... or you can sit around, discuss how

difficult life is and do absolutely nothing!

We are navigating our way out of the most difficult period of a generation into a cost of living crisis and there has never been a more important time to be organised in your workplace and in your local community.

The first step to becoming involved is to contact your branch officials and look to discuss your concerns, ideas or how you can become more involved. Take the time today whilst reading this update to get in contact and make a difference on the Thames.

*Regards,
Darren Procter*

ICONIC RIVER – POOR EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS

By NEC member Dale Kember



At 215 miles long and 18 miles at its widest, the River Thames has become one of the most iconic landmarks within the United Kingdom.

Throughout history the Thames has been used to transport goods and people into

the heart of London and beyond. The river is divided into two parts, tidal and non-tidal, which industries have taken advantage of for hundreds of years to produce and transport their goods nationally and internationally.

Some of the industries connected with the River Thames today include power stations, refineries, food manufacturing, tourism and leisure, employing thousands of people. Thousands of people that are unorganised, that are not part of any trade union and probably lack job satisfaction as a consequence of having no voice or representation in the workplace.

Your local RMT union branch, that service this area is the "Thames River Branch". The branch

represents just under 200 members, who are employed by over 10 different companies. Branch Secretary Sarah Emmings and Branch Chairman Ian Davis have actively recruited members in your region from disciplines that include Deck, Technical, Navigation and Catering grades.

RMT are actively engaged with their companies seeking to protect and improve members' salaries, jobs and terms and conditions. The union has successfully negotiated Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA's) on City Cruises and Sodexo Bateaux in recent years and are applying to the Central Arbitration Committee (CAC) to secure other CBA's on the Thames.

Employers are using the recent pandemic to impose less than inflation pay rises or restructuring current employee's terms and conditions in the form of "fire and rehire".

In addition to the current cost of living crisis and inflation moving into double digits we are all starting to feel the effects in our pockets. Never has it been more important to join a trade union and get organised and have representation within the workplace. Any member or potential member can contact me on the details below.

Dale Kember

NEC member

Tel: 07951 804245

Email: d.kember@rmt.org.uk

BRANCH CONTACT DETAILS

Any individual seeking support, advice or looking to organise workplace visits can contact branch your branch officials on the following:

Branch Secretary Sarah Emmings on riverthames@rmt.org.uk or 07788 234264
Branch Chair Ian Davis on ian.davis48@yahoo.com or 07738 940192

THE ROLE OF RIVER THAMES BRANCH

The "Branch" is the cornerstone of RMT and the interface between the individual member and the rest of the union, helping members to find their way through the union's structures and bureaucracy; providing assistance and advice and the opportunity to participate in the union at all levels.

The primary role and objective of your branch shall be the recruitment, retention and organisation of maritime workers within our delegated spheres of influence. To achieve this objective, River Thames branch shall create and work to implement a branch plan which will be submitted to the Regional Council.

Attending your branch meetings enables members not only to keep themselves informed of what is happening in the union at local, regional and national level but also to keep the branch informed of what is happening in your respective workplace and any issues you may have.

SODEXO BATEAUX

At the time of going to print we are still in negotiation with Sodexo Bateaux for a pay increase for marine crew for which we have a collective agreement and we have a meeting scheduled in the next week to sit down with the employer and discuss the concerns of our membership with regards to their current offer.

We are aware of a number of catering and office staff who are not currently covered by our CBA and would encourage all those employed by Sodexo, whether permanent or temporary to consider joining RMT and becoming organised to protect your terms and conditions and strive for improvements within the workplace.

ORGANISING AT RNLI

RMT National Secretary Darren Procter and National Executive Committee (NEC) members recently visited our members at Embankment to ascertain a greater understanding of the important role that they play on the Thames. The branch is working with elected officers and members of the organising unit to establish recognition at RNLI and we have seen increasing membership not just on the Thames but nationally as a consequence of our members desire to become an organised workplace.



THAMES CLIPPERS

RMT has seen a significant increase of over 120+ members covering all grades at Thames Clippers over the past 12 months and we recently held an surgery meeting for members to attend in Greenwich to update members on progress being made and discuss key issues of our members. Given the membership levels we will be looking to establish dialogue with the company regarding the concerns of members in all grades and seek recognition in those grades where we have members.



CITY CRUISES

RMT agreed a multi-year pay award with City Cruises but we will be seeking to set up a surgery style meeting with members to attend, listen to concerns and then request that the National Secretary sets up a meeting with the company and local representatives to address your concerns.

GET ACTIVE, GET INVOLVED... IN RMT

All members of RMT employed along the River Thames are encouraged to become active within the union. Members should be advised that to be active within the union does not mean that you have to be a workplace rep, nor does it mean that if you have a workplace representative in place that you cannot assist or become active within your union. Within RMT we have equalities advisory committees and conferences, industrial organising conferences, regional and local meetings. All members should consider becoming active in area that you are passionate about and discussing workplaces issues and concerns with your colleagues.

APPRENTICE OR EXPLOITED WORKER?

River Thames branch is concerned about the culture surrounding modern day apprenticeships. We are hearing of examples whereby individuals on apprenticeship schemes are actually undertaking the work of deck crew, being given very little tuition or mentoring and the question must be asked as to what purpose it is serving other than to save the company money? Our youngsters are our future and I would urge all members to raise any concerns or examples on apprenticeship training with your branch officials so we can raise with appropriate persons.

RMT – GIVING WORKERS A VOICE!

RMT has become a prominent voice not only in the workplace of our members but in the wider public debate around the cost of living crisis and the wider economic impact this is having on ordinary working class people. Normal households are now struggling to cope with the increasing cost of household bills, food or the cost of filling up your car to travel to work.

The majority of politicians are disconnected with working class issues, the cost of living crisis and the reality of everyday struggle for workers such as those workers keeping the Thames moving. RMT has been at the forefront of debate in recent months with P&O Ferries, Tube strikes and the national rail strikes and the recent co-ordinated public meetings with other trade unions and supportive MP's and public figures.



PENSIONS ON THE THAMES

RMT is concerned about the poor pension provisions of those employed on the Thames, one of the most iconic rivers in the world. We are concerned because we believe the pension schemes of our members are far from acceptable, we are also concerned because some of the pension schemes are so poor that our members opt out of being in the occupational pension scheme of the employer. Your future pension provision is a workplace issue and something that we are asking you to discuss with your colleagues on the Thames. Do you think your pension is acceptable? Do you think your death in service scheme is acceptable? Do you have a death in service scheme? It is our belief that we need to in closer detail at the pension provisions along the Thames but we would welcome your views.

Get in contact with our designated pension officer Paul Norris and let us know your views at p.norris@rmt.org.uk

CAN YOU HELP?

Your branch has done a remarkable job in building the membership levels and activity along the Thames, but with 1000's of unorganised and exploited workers employed in various roles, we would like to have members actively involved in visiting workplaces, initiating dialogue with colleagues who are not in a trade union and increasing our presence to those workplaces that are currently unorganised. Should you be interested in becoming more involved and assisting your local, regional or national elected officials then please get in contact using the contact details below for more information.

WATER QUALITY

During the past few weeks with the scorching weather the issue of water quality onboard vessels has been raised. We have requested that information be ascertained from the association of port health authorities regarding contamination parameters, disinfection and water quality with many members stating they would not drink water or serve tap water to customers. We will keep you updated on our findings.



MENTAL HEALTH

Your union has initiated a maritime mental health campaign, details of which can be found on the website. Poor mental health has become a growing problem within society, compounded by the pandemic and the cost of living crisis and any individual who is interested in participating in a working group with members of other maritime branches to discuss and progress the campaign aims should contact the branch or RMT health and safety officer Jonathan Havard j.havard@rmt.org.uk for more details.

YOUR MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

You are not alone... there is help at hand.

RMT

RMT is working closely with employers and health charities to better understand, improve support and promote mental wellbeing in your workplace

THE LONDON REGION

By Phil Rowan – Regional President



The London Region is made up of approximately 14,000 members. It is a well organised region that meets the last Thursday of every month for a full Regional Council and the second Tuesday of every month for an Executive Council meeting.

The majority of the branches in our region are all grades branches. This means they are organised on a basis of geography, and encompass all grades including train drivers, signallers, cleaners, station grades and service control.

There are some branches where this doesn't apply. They are the Fleet Branch, London Taxi Branch, Thames Riverboat Branch and Engineering Branch.

The region has a president, secretary, membership secretary, political officer, young person officer, and various other elected positions. These are elected annually at the AGM. On all elections including motions, it is a vote among the branches and not a vote of everyone in attendance. It is the responsibility of the individual branch to discuss how they will vote.

The region undertakes a number of tasks. In terms of motions to the national union, the region sits between the branches and the NEC. So any motion that affects other regional branches must come through the region before going to the NEC.

The biggest and most important role that the regional council has is organising. This can be broken down into 3 main areas:

1. Recruitment. The region will organise monthly recruitment days in an area decided upon at the EC or Regional Council. Any branch that wants the regional officers and activists to join them on a branch recruitment day can ask and we are always more than happy to help. Every branch should submit an annual organising plan to the region, so the region can see what's happening and help where necessary. This is one of the most important roles we have.

2 Retention. This covers a wide scope. Recruitment days are also retention days. It is the region's responsibility to produce regular propaganda whilst visiting gate lines, depots, and mess rooms within the region.

Courses are to be organised and advertised for up and coming activists, and reps. Protests and demos and meetings are often organised, sometimes these are political and sometimes they are industrial and sometimes both. Trips and delegations are sometimes organised, last year the region sent over 20 people to Derry.

Book meetings are organised where we invite authors to have a meeting to launch a book or talk on one. Recently we had Louise Raw talking about her book about the Match Women's Strike.

People should be invited to meetings and made welcome.

3. Industrial action. Regular reps' and members' meetings are held right through industrial action, including the build up, ballots, and before action. The region uses these to help instruct the regional organiser and the NEC member about what type of action the members on the floor want. The region in a ballot does phone banking, propaganda, and texts as well as work place visits. This continues up until the day of any action.

On top of all this the region organises occasional social gatherings. We also regularly make T-shirts and badges etc. We regularly invite members of other unions in action to our meetings, or people involved in grassroots campaigns. Where possible we financially contribute to these campaigns or disputes.

I am more than happy to come to a future branch meeting in my role as regional president and speak further about anything we can do to assist the branch in developing and organising workers on the Thames and beyond.

RMT MEMBER – NOT A CUSTOMER OF THE UNION!

As an RMT member it is fundamental that all members view the union as something we are all part of as opposed to something that we call upon when we need it. Whether it be organising in the workplace, opposing cuts, campaigning against a specific employer or the current cost of living crisis, as a democratic organisation we are reliant upon the participation of RMT members as opposed to members paying for a service. Participation comes in many forms, from supporting reps in your workplace to being active within your branch/region but please do not have the mindset that you are a customer of our union.

A MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY

Our branch stands in solidarity with our colleagues currently involved in disputes on the Tube, Network Rail and the many train operating companies nationally. As further dates are announced please show solidarity where possible by attending RMT picket lines and showing support to those taking action.

RMT EDUCATIONAL COURSES

As a union we offer educational courses to all members that are held at our Bob Crow National Education Centre in Doncaster and locally within your region. We cover a wide range of topics within our educational calendar from workplace representation, equality at work, pensions, Neuro-diversity, cancer awareness, disciplinary and grievance procedures and Autism in the workplace. Further information can be ascertained from your branch secretary or found on our website for dates and the application process etc.

CONTACT DETAILS

All RMT members need to ensure that if you change employer, change jobs, change mobile numbers, change your email address etc you inform head office. If we don't have your correct details on file then we will be ineffective in our communication to you.

If you do not receive texts from RMT – we do not have your correct mobile number.

If you do not receive RMT news at home – we do not have your correct home address.

If you do not receive emails from RMT – we do not have your correct emails address.

Contact RMT Head office on 0800 376 3706, use the app or log on to the website to update your personal details.

**Scan the QR Code to join RMT
or visit**

www.rmt.org.uk/join



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REMEMBERING THE PRINCESS ALICE DISASTER



Artist's impression of the sinking of the Princess Alice

The Princess Alice sank in the River Thames on 3 September 1878, killing hundreds of ordinary Londoners returning home from a day trip to the seaside. The tragedy, now largely forgotten, dominated newspaper headlines and led to changes to the shipping industry.

The Princess Alice had been smashed in two as it returned to London packed with men, women and children who had been on a trip to Kent.

About 650 lives were lost and for weeks bodies decayed in the polluted water or washed up on the riverbank.

On the morning of the disaster, the weather was bright and the passengers were excited as the pleasure steamer set off from London and headed out to catch the end of the summer sun and the fresh sea air of Sheerness.

It was an inexpensive trip – tickets were about two shillings, depending on which stop passengers travelled to. Most of the approximately 700 people on board were upper working-class or lower middle-class families.

The children were tired but happy after their day

at the famous Rosherville Pleasure Gardens in Northfleet, playing on the promenade at Sheerness or wandering around the popular resort of Gravesend.

As the evening drew in, many families took the decision to retreat inside the saloon or to their cabins below. It was a move that sealed their fates. Alfred Thomas Merryman, a chef, had been asked at the last minute to work on the ship.

The 30-year-old father of four from Bow, east London, was no doubt grateful for the extra cash, as well as the rare opportunity to escape the dirty streets of the capital.

At about 7:40pm, as the Princess Alice neared North Woolwich Pier, he was standing on the deck by the saloon door.

Just as he was saying how "splendid" the voyage had been, he saw a huge collier (a coal-carrying ship) bearing down on the smaller vessel.

The Bywell Castle ploughed straight into the starboard side of the Princess Alice, which weighed less than a third of the 890-ton collier. The vessel sliced the Princess Alice in two with a sickening

crash.

"The panic on board was terrible, the women and children screaming and rushing to the bridge for safety," Merryman's witness account reads.

"I at once rushed to the captain and asked what was to be done and he exclaimed: 'We are sinking fast, do your best.'

"Those were the last words he said. At that moment, down she went."

As a model held by the National Maritime Museum shows, the ends of the ship rose into the air as the middle sank, sending people on deck hurtling into the watery chasm between.

Merryman and others on deck were pitched into the churning river, while the unfortunate passengers below deck were trapped.

Tons of untreated sewage spewed from outlets near where the boats collided.

The water bubbled with raw detritus, giving out a stench strong enough to leave even the hardest boatman gagging.

The men, women and children thrashing about in the water breathed in lungfuls of toxic waste.

Despite crew members of the Bywell Castle throwing down planks of wood, lifebuoys and even chicken coops for people to cling to, the heavy Victorian clothes of those in the water dragged them

down. For many, death was inevitable. Deafened by the screams of his doomed fellow passengers, Merryman clung to a piece of wreckage to stay afloat.

But when about 20 desperate people grabbed hold too, it sank.

He started swimming – one of the lucky few who could – and lunged for a rope hanging over the side of the Bywell Castle. He was hauled to safety along with four others.

Other survivors described being overwhelmed by an instinct for survival.

One man told the Illustrated Police News – a somewhat sensationalist tabloid – how he had to push drowning people off him to reach safety.

Claude Hamilton Wiele said: "I found my brother swimming about. We are both good swimmers, and we made for the screw steamer."

The 20-year-old clerk added: "The water was full of people... we had great difficulty in avoiding them. "A woman clutched me, but I got away, and I saw her go down like a stone."

Merryman was taken to South Woolwich Pier after he was retrieved from the water. "There were others also rescued but few recovered," he said.

"One boy died on my lap."

THE ABOVE WAS TAKEN FROM BBC NEWS IN 2018

UNDERSTANDING HOW RMT WORKS FOR YOU

Our priority as a trade union is workplace organising, ensuring that we have elected shipboard representatives, both industrial and safety, covering all shifts on all vessels but it is equally important to identify how members can become actively involved within the union on matters that are important to you.

Within RMT we have 16 branches specifically for Maritime and Offshore members. The role of the branch is to organise all workers within its geographical spheres of influence. As a member of RMT you will be in one of the following branches: Aberdeen shipping, Belfast Shipping, Douglas Shipping, Dover Shipping, Eire Shipping, Glasgow Shipping, Harwich Shipping, Holyhead Shipping, Humber Shipping, Liverpool shipping, OILC, Oban Shipping, North East Shipping, River Thames, Southampton Shipping, South West and South Wales Shipping.

In each company where RMT has recognition, an elected regional official or national shipping official is allocated by the General Secretary as being responsible to lead negotiations for that particular company, working closely with the local branch and shipboard representatives to raise the issues on behalf of RMT members. RMT is a democratic trade union, every position from the shipboard representative to the General Secretary is elected by the members and accountable to the members. Within the structures of RMT we have industrial grades based conferences and advisory committees for young members, BAME, LGBT+, women, health and safety, education and disabled members. Any member interested in becoming involved in any of these national committees can simply do so by contacting your branch secretary. As

a union we are continually developing our strategies around key issues and 3 of the most important campaigns within the maritime sector at present are the 100% Ferry campaign, Maritime Pension campaign and the Maritime Mental Health campaign.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

RMT has a considerable number of dedicated, elected officers and local reps to represent your interests, negotiating with employers on issues such as pay, pensions and working conditions. Your elected officers are supported by a team of researchers in various areas to support our claims for improvements within the workplace.

WORKPLACE REPRESENTATION

As a member of RMT, whether you are covered by a collective bargaining agreement with RMT or not we will ensure that you are represented in the workplace should you require it. present are the 100% Ferry campaign, Maritime Pension campaign and the Maritime Mental Health campaign.

EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNALS

Should a member find themselves unfairly dismissed, discriminated against or have any claim which has reasonable prospects of success at an Employment Tribunal, RMT will provide legal representation and pay the fee. Even if the union is advised that the claim is unlikely to success, members who make a claim are eligible to receive free legal advice.

BRANCH STRUCTURE

Every member of RMT is allocated to a branch. Within the maritime section of the RMT we currently have 16 maritime branches allocated to organising workers within those geographical regions. As a member you can attend a branch meeting to raise your workplace issues, propose initiatives that you think the union should undertake, listen to the wider concerns from the Maritime sector and become actively involved in union activity. Most members employed within the spheres of the River Thames will be a member of and organised by River Thames branch. Any RMT member can attend any RMT branch meeting nationally and help is always at hand should you need it.

CAMPAIGNING

The union has a political fund to run campaigns and provide a political voice to benefit members' interests in the workplace. RMT has a very active parliamentary group which raises issues of concern for members at Westminster, the Scottish Parliament and Welsh assembly. The recent change to NMW legislation is an example of a successful political campaign undertaken by the Parliamentary group.

PERSONAL INJURIES

Personal Injury claims cover if you suffer an accident in work or outside of work. RMT underwrites settlements that would not be provided by no-win, no-fee companies. Call 08457 125495 for more information.

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES

Members who have suffered an industrial disease will receive free legal support to make a claim. Such claims are underwritten by the union and members will not have any deduction from their claims unlike claims run by no win, no fee companies. Call 08457 125495 for more information.

ACCIDENT BENEFIT

Accident Benefit is payable if you have an accident at work or on the way to or from work, Accident benefit is only payable if you have been off work for 3 days or more. Accidents must be reported to your branch secretary within 26 weeks in order to qualify for accident benefit.

RETIREMENT BENEFIT

This benefit is payable to any member who retires over the age of 60 or 55 if retired through redundancy or resettlement. Ill health retirement is also payable; proof of this must be sent with application for retirement benefit.

DEMOTION COMPENSATION

This benefit is payable to any member who is experiencing loss of wages through being permanently demoted or downgraded as a result of illness or injury. Payment of £300 will be provided that the member

reports this to the branch secretary within 12 weeks.

ORPHAN FUND

The beneficiaries of this fund would be any child of a member or spouse if the member dies in service or if a members spouse dies and the member has responsibility of the children. Benefit is paid whilst a child in full time education up until the age of 22. Payment is made quarterly and the rate is £12.00 per week for children up to the age of 16, then £12.75 per week from 16 to 22.

BEREAVEMENT BENEFIT

A death grant of £600 is payable to the nearest relative or legal representative if a member dies through any cause prior to retirement.

EDUCATION COURSES

As an RMT member you have access to education courses held at our Bob Crow National Education Centre in Doncaster or within the regions. The education courses are developed and designed to best equip our Unions activists, workplace representatives and officials to support, advise and represent our members across the union. The programme includes the core skills courses for all grades seeking education for Workplace Representatives and Branch Officials roles as well as a number of specialist courses to equip our Representatives and Officials with the skills and knowledge to deal with those issues in the workplaces. The learning style is one of collaboration and participation with reps from across our union learning as a multi grade Union from each other and strengthening our union for all.

FREE £5000 ACCIDENTAL DEATH COVER

As a benefit of your RMT membership you can register for £5000 Free Accidental Death cover. Cover is for UK residents aged 18-69. The 12 months FREE annual cover must be renewed on an annual basis.

RMT CREDIT UNION

The RMT Credit Union is a mutually beneficial savings and loan organisation which offers ethical savings and loans to its members. The key to the RMT Credit Union is 'keeping it simple'. You must save a minimum of £5 per month with us. You can then after a short time borrow from us. As you pay down your loan amount each month, you only pay interest on the outstanding balance. There are no hidden costs to saving and borrowing with the RMT Credit Union. If you pay up early you simply pay the balance and any interest due at the time. NO Handling or Administration charges and NO penalty charges.



HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO JOIN RMT?

The RMT has 2 rates, "Low rate" and "Full rate". The low rate is applicable for all members employed on less than £23,600pa and the Full rate is applicable for those above that threshold.

	Full Rate	Low Rate
Weekly	£5.40	£2.32
4 weekly	£21.60	£9.28
Monthly	£23.40	£10.06

* Correct as of June 2022

Can you afford not to protect your job and be part of the collective voice within your workplace? We hope that after reading the above, those working along the Thames who are not currently a member of RMT give consideration to join your colleagues and join the RMT today.

www.rmt.org.uk

NATIONAL UNION OF RAIL, MARITIME & TRANSPORT WORKERS

Unity House, 39 Chalton Street, London NW1 1JD



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP – please complete your application along with either the attached Direct Debit or a separate paybill mandate form.

Please use **BLOCK CAPITALS** and **black ink**. * Information that must be provided.

BRANCH NUMBER

Moisten along edges and fold to seal

1 PERSONAL DETAILS.

Surname* Address*
 Forename(s)*
 Home phone
 Mobile phone Postcode
 Email address
 Date of Birth* / / National Insurance Number*

2 Your Employment. Employer* Location
 Job Description* Part Time YES NO

3 Sex. Male Female Annual Basic Salary

4 Ethnic Group. (Please specify. This information is used as part of our equal opportunities policy)

A. White English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British Irish Gypsy or Irish Traveller Any other White background
B. Mixed/multiple ethnic groups White and Black Caribbean White and Black African White and Asian
 Other mixed/multiple ethnic background
C. Asian/Asian British Indian Pakistani Bangladeshi Chinese Other Asian background
D. Black/African/Caribbean/Black British African Caribbean Other Black/African/Caribbean background
E. Other ethnic group Arab Other ethnic group, please specify

5 Sexual orientation (This information will be used for monitoring purposes as part of our equal opportunities policy)

Sexuality Hetrosexual Homosexual Bisexual Prefer not to say
 Do you identify as transgender? Yes No If you wish to be contacted with information about union activities for lesbian/gay/transgender members please tick here

6 How do you wish to pay. Your Pay Number

Direct Debit (you must complete form below) Paybill Deduction (complete separate form) I confirm my paybill mandate has been sent to my pay office.
 Phone Freephone 0800 376 3706 to confirm your company offers paybill facility.

7 I undertake to abide by the rules now in force or those that are adopted.

Your signature Date / /



Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit



Please fill in the whole form including official use box using a ball point pen and Send to: RMT, 39 Chalton Street, London NW1 1JD

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To: The Manager Bank/Building Society
 Address
 Postcode

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

Bank/Building Society account number

Branch Sort Code

Normally your payments are made once a month to RMT.
 If you prefer to pay 4 weekly instead please tick

Originator's Identification Number

9 7 1 7 4 5

Reference Number

Your National Insurance Number

FOR RMT OFFICIAL USE ONLY

This is not part of the instruction to your Bank or Building Society.

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society.

Please pay RMT Direct Debits for the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with RMT, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s)
 Date

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions from some types of account

This guarantee should be detached and retained by the Payer.

The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits.
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit RMT Credit Union Ltd will notify you seven working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed.
- If you request RMT Credit Union Ltd to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit, by RMT Credit Union Ltd or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society. – If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when RMT Credit Union Ltd asks you to.
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

