

# For the Record

News from your RMT rep on the Liverpool Street Group

August/September 2009

From Bob Crow

*Rates of Pay And Conditions of Service 2009, Redundancies and Breach of Agreements, LUL*

As a result of standing firm in the current dispute, LUL has agreed to the RMT demands that there be no compulsory redundancies. As you also know there were 1,000 jobs to be made redundant but now management has agreed to abide by 'Annex H' and that this will apply to ALL LUL operational staff. 1000, of the LUL members that were transferred to the failed Metronet company were at risk of losing their jobs but thanks to the two days strike action you have safeguarded these members jobs and forced management to abide by negotiated agreements and provide alternative jobs for all displaced staff. This shows what can be done by showing solidarity to your colleagues and your Union and you should be congratulated of the stand you took.

On the pay offer a meeting has been called by management, under the auspices of ACAS, where all 4 Unions will be invited to attend. I will write to you again separately on this issue as soon as there is anything to report.

I am calling a meeting of all LUL/Metronet 1st and 2nd stage representatives so we can explain further all the detail of the agreement and I have no doubt they will report back to members at the earliest opportunity.

You must be congratulated on the stand you have taking in these difficult times with a credit crunch and rising unemployment causing job losses and attacks on working peoples terms and conditions. The stand you have taken has proved that by sticking together and supporting each other and the union we can protect jobs and conditions.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Crow

Welcome: Barbican & Farringdon

*Barbican and Farringdon join the Liverpool Street Group.*

Since August 23<sup>rd</sup> Barbican and Farringdon have been part of the Liverpool Street Group.



A lot has been happening on the group over the last few weeks with the introduction of the new 22 week roster at Liverpool Street and a new matrix which subject to some teething troubles seems to be working out, but will no doubt need to undergo quite a few changes before a final version is settled upon.

SATS duties have taken precedence again.

But finally and most importantly we now have more locations to work at and more colleagues to work with, and some staff will find themselves working on the "Farringdon Project".

I would personally like to welcome everyone at Barbican and Farringdon to the group, but can't so make do with conveying my greetings through this newsletter.

If any staff from any of the stations on the group have an article to include or an issue to raise please let me

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General Secretary

# Unity is Strength

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### **When:**

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2009 @ 1700 hrs

### **Where:**

The Exmouth Arms, Starcross Street NW1.

### **Why:**

To elect the Branch Secretary and Assistant, Branch Chair and Vice Chair, Auditors and Newsletter Editor as well as local Industrial and Health and Safety reps.

CSA Samantha Nash will be standing as H&S rep for the Group.

To nominate or vote for Gavin Bowtell as Industrial Rep and for Samantha Nash and Health & Safety Rep please attend the next meeting on 2nd September or contact Mark Harding (Branch Secretary) 07930 138 701 or John Fenlon (Branch Secretary) 07946 549 407.

Refreshments will be provided (so I'm told).

### **How:**

By TUBE of course, with your colleagues, to Euston Square - it's a short walk down North Gower Street.

## Election of Local Reps

Station Supervisor John Hannah (rostered @ LST) recently stood down as RMT Health & Safety Rep for the group. We are sorry to be without his knowledge and experience and input, but in his stead CSA Samantha Nash has volunteered to take up this important role.

Sam has been a loyal member of the RMT since joining London Underground. She is rostered at Liverpool Street. She has my support and that of her CSA colleagues, and I hope that she will be voted in at the AGM as the new H&S rep.

I was elected in May of this year – such a short time ago – and have yet to receive my training. At the October Annual General Meeting of the RMT Hammersmith & City Branch I shall have to stand again as a candidate for election for the following year. *If you want me to continue as your rep it is up to you to be present at the AGM and cast your vote in the elections.*

Should any of you wish to elect a different rep or stand as a candidate please attend the next Branch Meeting (first Wednesday in September) – I have already sent posters out about this – or speak to Mark Harding or John Fenlon (details to the left).

If you are NOT a member of the RMT union but would like to join please contact me for a membership application form. Similarly if you require any literature for your notice board let me know and I shall see what



## Need to contact ?

Got a problem?  
Need help, advice, representation?

Is there an issue at work that you would like the union to take up with management?

Perhaps you would like to get more involved in the union, come to meetings and help with campaigns?

Check out our website for station and revenue staff:  
[www.rmtplatform.org.uk](http://www.rmtplatform.org.uk)

Your first point of contact is your local RMT representative, who is:

CSA Gavin Bowtell, Liverpool Street  
[g.bowtell@gmail.com](mailto:g.bowtell@gmail.com)

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## LINKS AND COMMUNICATION

During the last strike a good deal of anti-union propoganda was supplied to the press and distributed amongst staff at stations, and there was a lot of confusion about whether the strike was going ahead, what the strike was about, whether new staff on probation could strike etc.



There was far too much conflicting information.

What I hope to do is to build up a network of contacts from each station from whom I can collect information and to whom I can distribute information, newsletters, circulars and other promotional materials, as well as useful information about the Framework of Agreement, or the Attendance at Work policy etc.



If you are interested in helping promote solidarity amongst your colleagues and to broadcast the activities of your union please get in touch and we can discuss a plan of action.

## a burning issue

### Staff Assaults:-

There are far too assaults on staff on the group some of which go unreported.

In some cases station supervisors have refused to complete EIRF's, on other occasions when staff have called for police assistance they have not been called. I shall be bringing this and other issues to the September Level 1 Meeting.

We know the risks involved in our work, and those risks make a team effort and united front all the more important. If you feel you are in danger or may soon be, alert your colleagues and remove yourself to a place of safety. Make sure GLAPS on your stations are always accessible and not full of rubbish – you don't want to suffer an injury avoiding an assault.

A physical assault should always been reported.

Some staff feel that is silly to report verbal assaults to the police or complete an EIRF, but racial and homophobic and vicious verbal assaults and threats of violence especially should be reported and reports will receive the full attention of the British Transport Police.

If you feel an incident should be reported then report it, and don't let anyone tell you that the police have to be called if you want to complete an EIRF. A memo to the supervisor is not an EIRF!

If a Supervisor refuses to complete an EIRF for you get a DSM to do it and let your H&S and Industrial reps know about it.

If the police are not called when you want them, then ask a friend to call them or call them yourself.

If a colleague is assaulted verbally or physically make sure that s/he is supported as necessary.

A Liverpool Street a Passenger Awareness Monitor will be mounted above the eSUB on the B way In, with at least 2 cameras connected to it so that passengers can see that they are being monitored. The idea is that this should act as a deterrent to potential assailants. You should always ask the control room to focus the camera on you should you be confronted by an aggressive or abusive passenger. It may be useful at times to point out to abusive people that they are being watched and that the police will be called.

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