

tubeworker

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SOLIDARITY WITH MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

London Underground has always had a large migrant workforce. There are colleagues in every grade and area from a diverse range of backgrounds.

Many of our families, and many of us, came to Britain from other countries seeking to make a better life.

We see every day how much London relies on migrant workers' labour. As fellow workers, and as human beings, we should have compassion for, and solidarity with, migrants and refugees - whether they are fleeing war, oppressive governments, or poverty.

The latest round of attacks against migrants and refugees in the media is vile. Right-wing tabloids want to divide ordinary people up on the basis of our nationality or immigration status.

In reality, we have more in common with migrants and refugees seeking a better life than we do with the rich Tories and media moguls peddling racism.

If migrants want to come to the UK, they should be allowed to do so. Now instead they face violence, expulsion and possibly deportation.

The only difference between most of



us and migrants in camps in Calais and elsewhere is we have not fled unsafe lives or walked across continents to be here.

French President Francois Hollande says Calais migrants will be sent to "welcome centres" across France. The bigger charities are asking for assurance that this accommodation will be provided; they may help with the operation. But this approach is wrong in principle and also naive.

Even if it is credible, and it seems unlikely, that the French government has 10,000 places for Calais residents, many want to stay where they are.

What is to become of the 350 or so children who now have the right to enter, but have still to be allowed into, the UK (under the Lord Dubs

amendment)? The act of dispersing people is likely to disrupt their ability to be reunited with their families.

What are these "welcome centres"? Will they be like the closed detention centres now at refugee "hot spots" in Greece? Detention centres could be staging posts in a deportation operation.

Europe's attitude to migrants is rapidly hardening. Stronger borders and deportation are the beginning and end points of migration policy.

Labour movements and solidarity activists in Europe must resist this urgent threat to migrants at Calais and step up solidarity efforts.

In doing so we assert that in a country like the UK and elsewhere in Europe there is more than enough wealth to provide a decent life for everyone.

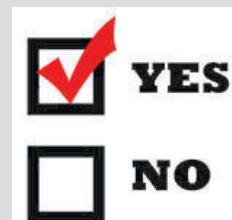
We demand the freedom of movement for all, the right of migrants to stay in a country of their choice, the right to work, and the right of families to be reunited.

• Adapted from an article in *Solidarity* 418, 5 October 2016

STATION STRIKE BALLOT ON THE WAY: VOTE YES/YES!

RMT will shortly be balloting its stations and revenue membership for strikes, and action short of strikes, against the fallout from "Fit for the Future" job cuts. TSSA will also be balloting its members.

Tubeworker strongly encourages all our readers amongst station staff to vote yes/yes for strikes and action short.



"Fit for the Future" cuts are unsustainable. They've led to fatigue-inducing rosters, and

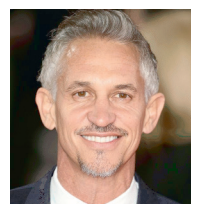
many stations now run on overtime. Think of the effect an overtime ban could have on stations now; when stations start closing, management will start listening.

A strong ballot result followed by solid industrial action will send a clear message to management that the situation cannot continue.

With disputes ongoing on the Hammersmith & City and Piccadilly Lines, there's also a possibility to coordinate action with strikes on trains.

Unions will be announcing timetables for the ballots shortly. When yours arrives, vote yes/yes!

Support Gary Lineker!



Match Of The Day presenter Gary

Lineker has, in his words, taken a "bit of a spanking" in the press and on social media for his outspoken defence of migrants and refugees.

Tubeworker supports Gary's stance. Anyone who earns the enmity of the *Sun* for speaking out for basic values of solidarity and compassion is doing something right.

Why not irritate the *Sun* by voting for Gary in the National Television Awards, which the *Sun* sponsors? Vote online at nationaltelevisionawards.com/vote

SUPPORT SOUTHERN STRIKERS!

Our brothers and sisters on Southern Rail are continuing their fight against job cuts.

Southern bosses want to introduce "Driver Only Operation" (DOO), de-skilling the safety critical role of the guard.

Southern bosses have tried both bribery, offering workers a £2,000 bung to accept new contracts, and intimidation, threatening to sack workers who don't accept new roles. Their long-term aim is job cuts.

The Southern fight should be taken up by the whole trade union movement.

**NATIONAL DEMO IN
SUPPORT OF SOUTHERN
STRIKES: TUESDAY 1
NOVEMBER, 12:30,
WESTMINSTER**

MORE: [BIT.LY/1NOV-DEMO](http://bit.ly/1NOV-DEMO)

CLEANERS DEMAND JUSTICE



RMT Tube cleaners and supporters demonstrated outside City Hall and the offices of cleaning company Interserve on 13 October.

The demonstrations were part of RMT's re-launched campaign for justice for Tube cleaners.

More: facebook.com/RMTcleaners

RMT Stations Functional Council elections: vote for Daniel Randall and Eamonn Lynch at your branch meeting!



NE 1 4 NYE?

RMT trains reps argued, and won, the position that Night Tube drivers should get the choice to work NYE (which falls on a Saturday), and get the bonus for it if they did so.

Management, with the initial support of Aslef, had tried to say that NYE working would go to existing staff, and Night Tubers would have to take annual leave.

The episode poses some questions for both Aslef and RMT: why would a "drivers' union" want to stop Night Tube drivers getting the bonus their colleagues get? And why, in an all-grades union, isn't there a bigger push for other grades to have a similar bonus for working New Years' Eve or other events?

Are bonuses the way to go at all, or should remuneration for antisocial working be a part of a flat-rate increase in our pay, and therefore pensionable, with all of us getting the same pay and all of us working our fair share of the better and worse duties?

NORTH GREENWICH TERROR ALERT

A controlled explosion was carried out on a suspect package at North Greenwich Tube station on 20 October.

Nobody was injured this time, and the diligence and professionalism of the workers involved must be recognised.

On 7/7, frontline London Underground staff were amongst the first to respond. However, at North Greenwich, *Tubeworker* understands that the station was understaffed, and the control room was shut. This is a direct result of London Underground cutting hundreds of front line staff who were once responsible for the safety of hundreds of thousands of passengers.

RMT and TSSA's upcoming ballots for strikes and action short against job cuts are absolutely vital, as the first stage of a renewed fightback for safe staffing.

BOOKING-ON APP? NO THANKS!

A new app, which enables station staff book on with our iPads, without talking to a Supervisor, is an enabler for taking away even more staff from stations.

If you don't need to book on with a Supervisor, then why bother having a Supervisor?

Unions are opposing this in talks. We may need to oppose it with action as well.

WOT NO OVERGROUND STAFF?

London Overground plans to remove all its staff from stations run by LUL from next month.

At these stations - such as Canada Water and Highbury & Islington - Overground staff are an essential complement to Underground staff.

Management of both companies are in a flap now their plans have been rumbled. We need more staff not fewer - and we can stop this cut!

TSSA MEMBERS: VOTE WAYNE GEOGHEGAN FOR GS!

Tubeworker is calling for a vote for Wayne Geoghegan in the TSSA General Secretary election. For more info on Wayne's campaign, see: wayne4tssags.org.uk
Ballots must be returned by 30 November.

What is *Tubeworker*?

Tubeworker is a rank-and-file socialist bulletin, published at least monthly, written by Tube workers, for Tube workers. It is published by the socialist group Workers' Liberty, but is produced in editorial meetings open to all workers. Supporters from outside London Underground can help with public distribution.

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