



TrainCrew news

Safety role of the guard special

May 2010

Safety under attack across rail industry Time to save guards is NOW

RMT general secretary **Bob Crow** on the urgent need to defend the safety role of the guard across the entire railway network



WHOEVER WINS the general election the rail industry - and public services in general - are facing a massive attack.

On the railways we already have Network Rail seeking to axe 1,500 front-line maintenance jobs, while the government and NR have failed to raise a finger to rescue 1,200 Jarvis jobs.

We know that station staff are under attack - and now we know that guards too are once more in the firing line.

This isn't something we can ignore. It is happening now and it affects all guards.

We know that driver-only operation undermines safety.

We know that guards are trained to deal with emergencies, train protection and evacuation, have route knowledge and can make a

life-saving difference.

We know that guards take months to train.

And we know it is unfair on drivers and ticket examiners and dishonest to passengers to pretend that a train without a fully safety-trained guard can be as safe.

They call it value for money.

We call it dangerous corner-cutting.

Scotrail is the latest train-operating privateer to renew the attack on guards.

If they succeed, the 2001 agreement that stopped the last major attack will be torn to shreds.

Guards, drivers and sleeper-train managers on Scotrail have so far

taken six days of united industrial action against attempts by the company to impose driver-only operation on the Airdrie-Bathgate line.

The Scottish government has been exposed conspiring with Scotrail to use public money to bankroll a dispute that is aimed at diluting safety

The Scottish TUC has urged support for our Scotrail members and has condemned the use of public money to finance a scab army.

Nearly 4,000 rolling-stock vehicles are scheduled to be built for the Inter-City Express project, Thameslink and regional routes for introduction by 2014.

Over the same period two-thirds of franchises are scheduled for re-letting.

The TOCs will see that as a golden opportunity to have the safety role of the guard designed out of their rolling stock and written out of their franchises.

It affects YOU, and the time to stand up to this attack is NOW.

Your union is organising meetings for train crew around the country, please attend the one near you.

If we stand together, we can defend safety and jobs.

RMT online -- www.rmt.org.uk

Keep the guard on the train Keep the train safe

Attend YOUR nearest campaign meeting

Liverpool

Tuesday 27th April, 19.00 hours
Friends House
School Lane
Liverpool

Chester

Wednesday 28th April 2010 - 19.00 hours
Queen Hotel
City Road
Chester

Birmingham

Thursday 29th April - 18.00 hours
Birmingham & Midlands Institute
Dickens Room
Margaret Street
Birmingham
B3 3BS
(Short walk from Birmingham New Street &
Birmingham Snow Hill Stations)

Derby

Tuesday 4th May 2010 - 19.00 hours
Waterfall Pub
Station Approach
Derby
(right outside the station)

Dover

Monday 10th May 2010 - 18.00 hours
RMT Dover Office
Snargate Street
Dover

London

Tuesday 11th May 2010 - 19.00 hours
The Exmouth Arms
Euston
London
(All Guards & Drivers)

Brighton

Thursday 13th May 2010
18.00 hours
Brighthelm Centre
Stanmer Room
Cnr North Road/Queens Road
Brighton
BN1 1YD
(300 yards in front of Brighton Railway Stn)

Ashford

Wednesday 12th May 2010 - Ashford
(19.00 hrs)
Ashford Railway Club
Beaver Road

Meetings to be arranged

At the following locations: Preston, Leeds, Newcastle, Doncaster, Westbury, Paddington, Waterloo, Portsmouth, Woking, Bournemouth, Salisbury, Bristol, Exeter, Plymouth, Swansea, Cardiff, Reading, Carmarthen, Swindon, Watford, Bletchley, Ipswich, Norwich, Colchester, Nottingham, Leicester, Northampton and Hull.
Please contact j.mansbridge@rmt.org.uk or j.rolles@rmt.org.uk on 0800 376 3706 for further info.

Franchises due for re-franchising by 2015

East Coast
East Anglia
Trans-Pennine Express
West Coast

Great Western
Northern
Scotrail
Southeastern
Wrexham Shropshire
Grand Central

LOROL
East Midlands Trains
Southern
London Midland Trains
Hull Trains
Cross Country (2016)

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