



PENSIONERS' EDITION

REMEMBERING OUR FALLEN HEROES



To recognise and remember those who served our country, we supported The Royal British Legion with its 'Live On' campaign for November's Poppy Appeal. Highlighting the importance of helping ex-servicemen and women settle back into civilian life, it supports them after their time in the Forces.

Posters featuring colleagues who have served their country were displayed in our stations and fundraisers collected

donations – even Barbara Windsor helped out for the cause by lending her voice to network broadcasts.

A bus and tube train were covered in a Poppy Appeal wrap and, continuing their annual tradition, black cab drivers offered a free taxi service to veterans. The 'Poppy Cabs' took them to and from Westminster Bridge for the occasion.

Members of the London Transport Old Comrades Association marched in their

military uniform alongside other veterans and Armed Forces personnel to the Cenotaph and laid a wreath. Retired bus driver John Norris led them in the parade.

Commissioner Mike Brown said: "It is an honour that we were given the opportunity to not only take part in the march, but to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph in remembrance of all the transport staff who lost their lives in the Great Wars and other conflicts."

PENSIONERS' FORUM SUMMARY

Main issues discussed by TfL management and Pensioners' Representatives at the meeting held on 18 November 2015

■ Pensioner Liaison Scheme

A report was given on the Pensioner Liaison Scheme Representatives' Annual Meeting held in October. The key points raised had been the need to encourage more pensioners to volunteer as representatives and to reinforce the message that the representatives were there to offer friendly contact with pensioners on behalf of TfL, and provide assistance if required.

■ Staff Travel

The Pensioner Representatives

were given an update on the audit of retired staff nominee cards due to be completed in January 2016. A discussion also took place on the information published on the TfL website about retired staff travel entitlements and it was agreed the Pensioners' Representatives would review this and provide comments and suggestions for any additional information.

■ TfL Pension Fund

The TfL Management Representatives gave a report on the Fund Annual

Members' Meeting held in October, which had been attended by 209 members, 123 of whom were pensioners, and advised that information on the question and answer session would be made available on the TfL Pension Fund website.

■ London Transport Pensioners' Association (LTPA)

The Pensioners' Forum Representatives ratified an amendment to the Constitution of the LTPA which enabled any pensioner or deferred pensioner of the TfL Pension Fund who joins one of the Founding Associations (the LTRSA, the LTSA and the Fifty Five Society) to be enrolled also as a life member of the LTPA without payment of an additional subscription, effective from 18 November 2015.

WHY DID I GET THAT LETTER?

As a part of the support in retirement that is available to you as a pensioner, TfL funds a Pensioner Liaison Scheme.

The Pension Liaison Representatives (PLR) who operate the scheme are all retired members and are available to help you. This help might be advice, companionship, someone to help you connect with other ex-TfL staff or just to have a chat about your career or even tell you about theirs.

The PLRs have access to a range of information and advice related to common problems experienced by retired people, which members have often found helpful. However, there is no obligation on you to agree to

a visit from your local PLR – they will not take offence if you decline.

TfL recently hosted a meeting of the reps and there was some feedback that pensioners are suspicious of the letter to say there is a representative in their area asking to visit them. We want to reassure you that the PLRs aren't there to check up on you. They are calling you to offer support, advice or to help you navigate the pension arena.

And remember, you don't have to wait for their letter or call, you can call them too!

You can find out who your local rep is, or even to enquire about becoming a rep yourself, by calling 0207 918 3733.

STAFF TRAVEL UPDATE

Since 2 January, Stratford, Stratford High Street, Stratford International DLR, West Ham, Star Lane, Canning Town and Abbey Road have moved from Zone 3 to the Zone 2/3 boundary.

STAY IN TOUCH

The London Transport Retired Staff Association is drawn mainly from operational grades, but all former LT employees can join. Life membership costs £5 and, if you are interested, contact Rena Craig on 01789 205739.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR PENSIONER ENQUIRIES

TfL Pension Fund
4th Floor,
Wing over Station,
55 Broadway,
London SW1H 0BD
helpdesk@
tflpensionfund.co.uk
020 7918 3733

Pensioner Liaison
Transport for London
4th Floor,
Wing over Station,
55 Broadway,
London SW1H 0BD
0800 015 5074
pls@tflpensionfund.co.uk

Staff Travel
Transport for London,
Floor 1,
14 Pier Walk,
North Greenwich,
London SE10 0ES
0800 015 5073

Hospital Saturday Fund
020 7928 6662

Simply Health
0800 072 6719

Transport Friendly Society
020 7240 8886

Tax queries – HMRC 0300 200 3300
(quote ref 083/LT7 and your National Insurance number)

You can log on to the TfL Pension Fund website at www.tflpensionfund.co.uk

otm ONLINE

You can access **otm** Pensioners' Edition online on the TfL Pension Fund website at http://www.tfl.gov.uk/microsites/pensions/on_the_move.asp.

You can also opt out of receiving a paper version, saving money on printing and distribution costs as well as doing your bit to help reduce our carbon footprint, by contacting the Pension Fund Office on 020 7918 3733.

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THE RESULTS ARE IN

The longest-serving quarter of the TfL Pension Consultative Council (PCC) retired from office on 30 November 2015. The term of office for the new appointments commenced on 1 December 2015 and will end on 30 November 2019.

In Section One (representing pensioners and deferred pensioners), Anne Garland and Christopher Sullivan retired. This Section did not receive any nominations therefore two casual vacancies exist.

Following the election results, a nomination was received from Joel Kosminsky. His position for Councillor was discussed and accepted by Section One Councillors and ratified by the PCC at their meeting on

For more information about the PCC, please visit the TfL Pension Fund website at www.tflpensionfund.co.uk or contact PCC Secretary Julian Collins on 020 7918 3789 or email juliancollins@tflpensionfund.co.uk

26 November 2015. The other casual vacancy position will be considered before the next PCC meeting in 2016.

In Section Two (representing TfL and its subsidiaries or contractors, excluding London Underground Limited), Steve Poole retired. Three nominations were received and following a postal ballot Sean Mobbs was elected.

In Section Three (representing London Underground Limited, its subsidiaries and Tube Lines Limited), Paul Murphy and Paul O'Brien retired. Three nominations were received and following a postal ballot they were re-elected. Paul Murphy and Paul O'Brien have both served on the PCC since December 2001 and December 2007 respectively.

PENSION INCREASES

The full pension increase from 1 April 2016 is 0.8 per cent. This is based on the rise in the Retail Price Index over 12 months to September 2015.

Depending on the period of membership, your pension may comprise various components. Some won't be increased by the Fund at the above rate but may be increased by the State.

If you have been receiving your pension for less than a year, you may receive a pro rata increase.

Effective date

Up to 1 April 2015	0.80%
02/04/2015 to 01/05/2015	0.73%
02/05/2015 to 01/06/2015	0.67%
02/06/2015 to 01/07/2015	0.60%
02/07/2015 to 01/08/2015	0.53%
02/08/2015 to 01/09/2015	0.47%
02/09/2015 to 01/10/2015	0.40%
02/10/2015 to 01/11/2015	0.33%
02/11/2015 to 01/12/2015	0.27%
02/12/2015 to 01/01/2016	0.20%
02/01/2016 to 01/02/2016	0.13%
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PASSION FOR FASHION

A new range of uniforms, the first complete redesign since 2000, offers more options from traditional suits and ties to the introduction of polo shirts, beanie hats, shorts and even cravats.

Following a tender process, fashion designer Wayne Hemingway was appointed to create the new line and worked alongside the Uniform Consultative Committee. The two-year consultation process ensured employees' feedback was incorporated into the designs.

Greenford Station Assistant Multi-functional Alison Blamire said: "It was important for me that it should be practical, comfortable and smart and the new uniform certainly fits the bill."



NEWS FROM AROUND TfL

1: Four Lines Modernisation (4LM), formerly the Sub-surface Upgrade Programme, will see the modernisation of four London Underground lines (Circle, District, Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan), which together make up 40 per cent of The Tube. The overall budget is £5.41 bn, with the £760m contract for signalling and control works being awarded to the Thales Group.

2: Work to bring world-class capacity to the Victoria line, which was completed two days ahead of schedule, will increase

train frequency northeast of Seven Sisters from 24 per hour to 36. Project Manager Atul Jewitt called the project at Walthamstow "one of the most complicated jobs" of the Track Partnership.

3: A memorial plaque will be unveiled on 8 April 2016 at Stratford station to commemorate victims of the train crash between Stratford and Leyton on 8 April 1953. We are looking to contact relatives of the victims. If you have any information that could be helpful, please email CatherineWestoby@tfl.gov.uk or call 020 3054 8626.



RISING TIDE OF RIVER TRAVEL

When the Mayor of London tasked us with doubling annual river journeys by 2020 to 12 million, it seemed a steep challenge. But more and more people are choosing to travel on the River Thames, with journeys totalling 10 million in 2014 compared with six million four years ago.

Led by our London River Services team of just six colleagues, we see boats as a vital part of our future transport network. We regulate services through licensing and charging commercial boat operators to use our eight piers, working with our own Pier Controllers, boat operators, the Port of London Authority, the Greater London Authority and other interested stakeholders.

London River Services Business Development Manager Hannah Sullivan said: "As well as commuting, people are also enjoying a range of river tours, from sophisticated dining cruises to adrenalin-fuelled speedboat trips."



L-R: Dana Skelley, Matthew Charlton and Martin Eriksson show how the USB charging points on Cycle Hire bicycles would work to Vernon Everitt and Simon Buxton.



BREATHING LIFE INTO NEW IDEAS

The Surface Innovation Fund (SIF), established in response to last year's Viewpoint survey to implement colleague suggestions, has proved a huge success.

Candidates were helped by mentors to develop pitches for a Dragons' Den-style event, with all ideas supporting at least one of our Principal Outcomes, as well as being realistic and deliverable in this financial year.

The winning ideas included placing USB charging points on Cycle Hire

bicycles, installing digital bus route maps inside buses, putting plants at bus stops, using data on bridges, tunnels and accident black-spots to improve sat-nav information, showing Tube line statuses on buses and sharing TfL Geographical Information Systems data on major events with the public.

Asset Development Coordinator Rory Svensson said: "The dragons were extremely impressed with the candidates' enthusiasm and passion. All the shortlisted ideas were brilliant."

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ANSWERING THE COMMUNITY CALL

The enormous contribution of our Dial-a-Ride colleagues was recognised at an awards ceremony.

The service helps keep 48,000 older and disabled Londoners mobile by providing free, safe and reliable travel for those who cannot use public transport.

Showcasing the people who

make this important service a success, the event was held on a boat on the River Thames with Director of Service Operations Peter Blake presenting the awards.

A special Inspirational Woman of the Year award was presented to Regional Operations Manager Kerry Lee while the Judge's Award

for Actions Above and Beyond the Call of Duty went to Wimbledon Driver Orin Kellman, who helped save someone's life on the way to work this summer.

Pictured L-R: General Manager Paul Blackwell, Engineer Jamal Martin, Reservationist Archana Somasegaran and Driver John Franco.



otm FONDLY REMEMBERED

Ernest (Ernie) Finnemore **8 October 2015, aged 90**

Ernie worked for London Transport (LT) for a total of 43 years. He started on the trams and later was a one-man Bus Driver at North Street garage, Romford. Ernie retired to Norfolk with his wife Mollie and they enjoyed many happy holidays abroad together until his ill health in 2011. They were married for 61 years.

Les Manning **4 August 2015, aged 90**

Les joined LT on 31 May 1939 as a Messenger Boy at Dalston Garage. He served in the RAF from 1943–

45 and then went back to Dalston, Hackney, Edmonton, Tottenham and Potters Bar as a Bus Mechanic and Foreman. He served LT for 46 years and 11 months.

Ralph Bennett **10 November 2015, aged 91**

Ralph was a senior bus professional who successfully introduced a new generation of OPO double-deckers in Manchester in the 1960s. He was appointed to the LT Board in 1968, but encountered difficulties in finding new buses suitable for London and OPO at that time. He subsequently decided to retain Routemasters with conductors on

core routes and to simplify the fares system until better OPO options in Central London were available. He championed the railway extensions of the Piccadilly line to Heathrow and the Baker Street to Charing Cross stage of the now Jubilee line. He served as LT Chairman from 1978 to 1980.

Patrick Grover **20 February 1997, aged 55**

In the early 1960s in Dublin, Pat joined LT following a recruitment drive. He spent his working life on the Bakerloo and Metropolitan lines as a Booking Clerk, mostly in the Paddington and Baker Street area.

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Thank you to everyone who has contacted us. We read everything, but due to limited space we are only able to publish a selection each time. Write to: otm Pensioners' letters, Headlines MediaHub, Radian Court, Knowhill, Milton Keynes MK5 8PJ or email OTM@headlines.uk.com. We look forward to hearing from you.



BERT'S BUS

Please find attached photos of my father's recent 90th birthday celebrations.

Bert Waters, living in St Helens Lancashire, worked from many garages during his 34-year service for London Transport (LT) as a Conductor. He regularly organised social outings and trips to the coast using the spare garage buses.

To try to recreate these wonderful times, we hired an ex-LT RML bus from RM Buses of Wigan and took Bert, with his family and friends, to see the Blackpool Illuminations.

Our bus, RML2701, was allocated to two of the garages Bert worked at, Upton Park (1972, route 15) and Bow (1975, route 8). It is possible he worked on the bus during its service!

Music was played on the upper deck and passengers joined in, even though



some of the lyrics were changed to 'My old man's a busman, he wears a busman's hat'. Needless to say, the evening was a great success and lots of people said they had never enjoyed themselves so much.

I've attached some photos of Bert opening his TfL hamper, with the bus near home and with some of the passengers on the upper deck.

Jimmy Waters

TOUCHING TRIBUTE

It was while clearing out some old papers that Winifred Rowlands stumbled across some photos and plans belonging to her late husband John, inspiring her to get in touch with **otm**.

Having completed his National Service in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, John joined London Transport (LT) as an Electrician in 1956. He initially worked at Earl's Court and then Baker Street as a Charge-hand, and even visited Russia and Belgium as part of the London Transport Technical Society looking at city transport systems.

John also helped wire up Notting Hill Gate and parts of the Jubilee line, as well as being directly involved with planning and equipping the Victoria line.

To mark the occasion, he was invited to the line's opening, which the Queen

attended, on 7 March 1969 and was presented with a tankard for his efforts.

On 28 February 1975, Winifred remembers he didn't come home that evening. Following the devastating crash at Moorgate, he'd stayed behind to help set up emergency lighting.

Five years later John received a letter of commendation from his Chief Engineer, as he prevented a woman throwing herself under a train at Regent's Park. Just a year later, he was commended again for his professionalism and loyalty in ensuring lighting was kept on during a serious fire at Goodge Street.

Sadly he passed away in 1984 from lung cancer but John was still employed by LT when he died. Winifred explains: "He worked for LT for nearly 30 years and loved what he did. He was so proud to work for them."



John Rowlands, in overalls, is on the left.

We love your old memories and pictures so please keep them coming. The best thing is to email any pictures to otm@headlines.uk.com or post them, enclosing an sae, to the address above.