

PENSIONERS' EDITION

TfL pensions to increase in April

The full pension increase from 1 April 2011 is expected to be 4.6 per cent. This is based on the rise in the Retail Price Index over the 12 months to September 2010.

Depending on the period of membership of the TfL Pension Fund, your pension may comprise various elements. Some of these elements may increase at a different rate or be increased by the State, depending on your age – please refer to the *Pensioner Guide* or the Fund's website at www.tflpensionfund.co.uk for more information.

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

See below for details:

Effective date	Increase
Up to 1 April 2010	4.60%
2 April 2010 to 1 May 2010	4.22%
2 May 2010 to 1 June 2010	3.83%
2 June 2010 to 1 July 2010	3.45%
2 July 2010 to 1 August 2010	3.07%
2 August 2010 to 1 September 2010	2.68%
2 September 2010 to 1 October 2010	2.30%
2 October 2010 to 1 November 2010	1.92%
2 November 2010 to 1 December 2010	1.53%
2 December 2010 to 1 January 2011	1.15%
2 January 2011 to 1 February 2011	0.77%
2 February 2011 to 1 March 2011	0.38%

PCC ELECTION RESULTS 2010

The longest serving quarter of the TfL Pension Consultative Council (PCC) retired from office as usual on 30 November 2010. The term of office for the new appointments started on 1 December 2010 and will end on 30 November 2014.

In Section One (pensioners and deferred pensioners), David Biggs and John Howie retired and were both re-elected following a postal ballot of the Section One members of the TfL Pension Fund. David has served on Section One since November 2005 and John since December 2006.

In Section Two (TfL and its subsidiaries or contractors, excluding London Underground Limited), Stephen Ellaby retired and was re-elected following a postal ballot of the Section Two members of the TfL Pension Fund. Stephen has served on Section Two since December 2006.

In Section Three (London Underground Limited and its subsidiaries), Jackie Darby and Thandi Davis retired. Jackie Darby was re-elected and Gilly Leonard-Ross elected following a postal ballot of the Section Three members of the TfL Pension Fund. Jackie has served on Section Three since December 2006.



FIRST GLIMPSE OF LIFE-SIZE BUS

Mayor of London Boris Johnson hopped on board a full-scale model of the winning New Bus for London design.

The life-size mock-up gave Londoners the first glimpse of how the bus will look when it hits the streets in 2012.

The Mayor, Transport Commissioner Peter Hendy and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Owen Paterson MP, unveiled the model at the London Transport Museum's depot at Acton in November.

The mock-up will be used to fine-tune the design of the bus.

Peter Hendy said: "Producing the mock-up of the bus has been a vital part of the development process and provides the opportunity for people to have a hands-on experience when sharing their views of the bus."

Pensioners' Forum update

Highlights from the latest Pensioners' Forum on 8 November 2010

- Stephen Field, Head of Pensions, gave an update on the possible implications of the recent government announcements concerning pensions. He undertook to keep the Pensioner Representatives informed of developments
- Pensioner Liaison Manager Yvonne Kerchhoff said the scheme's stall was well visited during the Pension Fund Annual Members' Meeting in October. She spoke to many of the members and generated interest in becoming Pensioner Liaison Representatives from a number of pensioners
- Elaine Horwood from Staff Travel said the winter 2011 privilege travel restrictions information will be available soon on the Staff Travel pages on the TfL Pension Fund website. Also, FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) are being prepared, to provide as much information as possible on routes, tickets etc available to pensioners entitled to privilege facilities.

Keep your money safe

We have been made aware of a new con whereby cashback is added to your bill in shops without your request. To prevent yourself becoming a victim when paying by card, make sure you check your receipt before you leave the store. If you see unauthorised cashback on your bill, challenge it immediately and, on the advice of Trading Standards, report it to the police.

Health check

If you are taking out health insurance for a European holiday, remember the new European Health Insurance Certificates have an expiry date, unlike the previous E111 forms. Reader John Dean was caught out by this when he needed his insurance while on holiday in Germany. "The middle of the night when linked to a blood pressure monitor is not the best of times to be told your insurance is no longer valid!" said John.

Noticeboard

Share your journey

The London Transport Museum is exploring the theme of Journeys for an exhibition in 2012. Do you have an interesting or unusual story about working or travelling on the Underground? Perhaps you were involved in updating the iconic Underground map? The museum would love to hear about some of the stories, unusual events, folklore and characters you have encountered on the Underground. Email journeys@ltmuseum.co.uk or write to Felicity Premru, Curator, London Transport Museum, 39 Wellington Street, London WC2E 7BB.

Upgrade updates

Find out which lines and stations are closed for upgrade work by logging on to www.tfl.gov.uk/check for the latest planned closures. If you don't have internet access, you can call 0843 222 1234, or textphone 020 7918 3015.

OFFICE MOVE – TRAVEL SERVICES AND PENSIONER LIAISON

From 7 February 2011, Travel Services and Pensioner Liaison will move to 14 Pier Walk, North Greenwich, London.

If you need to collect any retired travel facility, such as a new Oyster card or PTAC, you

should visit our new office. The nearest Underground station is North Greenwich, which has step-free access. Our office is on the ground floor.

However, you can collect your pass from Western House

between 12.00 and 14.00 on Wednesdays, but you must let us know in advance.

You can reach us on:
Travel Services: 0800 015 5073
Pensioner Liaison: 0800 015 5074 or 020 7027 0520

Pensioner Liaison update

I am delighted to report that we have more volunteers coming forward as pensioner liaison representatives and making a difference to the lives of other TfL retirees near them.

However, we always need

more. If you're interested, please call me on 0800 015 5074.

I often get asked why a rep has contacted a pensioner for the first time when they haven't asked for a visit. It will

simply be because we have a new representative in your area. Be assured this is just a social visit – if you are lucky enough to have a rep contact you to say they wish to visit you, it is as a new friend, nothing more.

*Yvonne Kerchhoff,
Pensioner Liaison Manager*

CONTACT DETAILS FOR PENSIONER ENQUIRIES

TfL Pension Fund
020 7918 3733

Staff Travel
0800 015 5073

Pensioner Liaison
0800 015 5074

Hospital Saturday Fund
020 7928 6662

Hospital Savings Association
01264 353211

Simply Health
0800 072 6719

Transport Benevolent Fund
08450 100 500

Transport Friendly Society
020 7240 8886

Tax queries –
HM Inspector of Taxes
0845 300 3939 (quote ref 083/
LT7 and your National Insurance
number)

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

For story suggestions or
questions about otm magazine
only – call 020 7922 5670 or
email otm@abcomm.co.uk
or write to otm pensioners'
edition, 24-26 Great Suffolk
Street, London SE1 0UE

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STAFF REMEMBER FALLEN COMRADES

Underground and bus workers once again joined the London Transport Old Comrades' Association contingent at this year's Remembrance Day parade.

In recognition of the role transport staff and services played in the two world wars, the association is the only civilian group allowed to lay a wreath at the annual Cenotaph ceremony. The Old Comrades march in memory of former colleagues who lost their lives during the conflicts.

The 2010 parade, on 14 November, was led by former LU employee Robert Gray.

Robert joined LU in 1979 and was a guard on the Northern and Central lines for 20 years. Before that, he spent 16 years with the 1st Battalion of the Royal Scots Regiment, serving in Britain, Northern Ireland, Cyprus, Germany and Aden.

"To lead the group was an immense honour," said Robert, who joined the Old Comrades in 1998.

"I was supposed to lead the march eight years ago but I couldn't as I had my leg in plaster, so it was fantastic to get my chance again. It all went fairly smoothly on the day."

Immense honour: Parade leaders Jacky Emberton and former Tube guard Robert Gray at this year's Remembrance Day march for the London Transport Old Comrades' Association.



Find out more:

The London Transport Old Comrades' Association was formed in 1923. It is open to anyone who has worked, or currently works, for any part of TfL and has an armed forces service number.

There are currently more than 180 members. The £2 annual membership fee entitles people to join the pre-march dinner in November and two newsletters a year.

For more information or to join, please contact Membership Secretary Jacky Emberton on 01795 521553 or at 32 Honeyball Walk, Teynham, Kent ME9 9TG.

MEMORIAL MAKEOVER



Station restoration:
Trevor Baker at the
memorial.

It was a proud day for staff at Baker Street when the war memorial was restored to its former glory 90 years after it was originally made.

The monument, on platform 5 (Circle and Hammersmith & City lines), lists the names of former Metropolitan rail staff who died during World War I.

Staff and guests gathered at 11.00 on 11 November 2010 – Remembrance Day – for the official opening.

Bernie Peal, Performance Manager Stations, said: "It was looking very sorry for itself but, following perseverance by frontline staff at Baker Street and members of the

public, we felt something had to be done to pay our respects to the people who laid down their lives for their country."

Station Supervisor Trevor Baker said: "I organise the wreaths on Remembrance Day at the station every year. 2010 was different because it was the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain and the Blitz of London that followed, and it all came at the right time to have the memorial restored.

"It makes such a big difference – the restoration work really does it justice. The Metropolitan line has a great tradition of honouring people who died, and I feel proud to remember them."

Balham Blitz victims remembered

It's 70 years since the wartime Blitz claimed more than 60 lives at Balham station, and officials have unveiled a plaque to remember them.

Drowning caused most of the 65 to 68 reported deaths after a bus crashed into a crater in Balham High Road,

rupturing the water and sewage mains.

Pat Hansberry, Northern line General Manager, said: "London Underground takes great pride in its wartime heritage. During the Blitz, the stations provided shelter for thousands of people, so it's our duty to remember all

the victims."

John Brown, Secretary of the Balham and South Clapham branch of the British Legion, said: "I'm here today to represent the British Legion for the people who perished during the war, so they will continue to be remembered."



Fitting tribute: John and
Sheila Brown lay flowers
beneath the plaque.

Your Bollo Lane memories

Last issue, we invited you to send in your memories of working in the chief signal engineer's office. Here's a selection of your contributions . . .

Colin Tuttle wrote: "I served in the chief signal engineer's modernisation section drawing office at Bollo Lane in 1965. At the time, a rolling programme of resignalling was progressing along the District and Northern lines. Locally, Acton Town resignalling was just months from commissioning. I was involved in planning future cable allocations for the new Interlocking Machine Room being constructed at Earl's Court. The adjacent Victoria line drawing office was finalising the design of the complex circuitry for the line opening in three years' time.

"In the 1960s, Bollo Lane served London Transport well. From here, it planned Underground resignalling schemes in-house right from design to installation, testing and commissioning, and provided excellent training for me and many others. It was always more interesting working on the railway side of the office – provided the guvnor didn't see you watching the passing trains or the shunt movements in and out of Acton Works! There was sometimes even a steam ballast train to observe. I served a further period at Bollo Lane towards the end of my apprenticeship, and I remember the times there with affection and gratitude to those people who mentored me."

Jon Willis wrote: "I started my career as a graduate trainee in the signal department in 1968. The world of work was a new experience for me. We had to wear suits and white shirts with ties, and were only permitted to take our jackets off when given permission by one of the senior engineers. Although my career developed away from signalling into transport planning, I thoroughly enjoyed my few years in the department – including working nights to help with the commissioning of the Victoria line."

Brian Sansom said: "I worked in the chief signal engineer's department from January 1956 as an office boy until 1990 when, as principal executive assistant, I moved to Company Plan strategic engineering work. I had been working in the department for 10 years before our move to Bollo Lane in 1965."

Colleagues can contact Brian at brian.sansom@virgin.net

John Begg, now Senior Signalling Engineer at Thales, said: "I too worked on the Victoria line as part of the signal design team. Though I occasionally meet ex-members of the team, there are some I have not met since the 1970s, namely Arthur Foster, Martin Cranstone, Charlie Todman and John Miller, among others. It would be great to hear from them. I also worked in the Bollo Lane signals design office. I started as a technical assistant and was an executive assistant when I transferred to the signal installation section in the mid-1980s."

Colleagues can contact John at john.begg@external.thalesgroup.com or write to us c/o otm at the address on page 2.

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REPRESENTING YOUR INTERESTS

There are several official pensioner associations, plus informal get-togethers for former colleagues.

- the **London Transport**

Pensioners' Association (LTPA) is an umbrella organisation formed in 1997 to protect and promote the interests of pensioners. The members of the LTPA management committee are nominated by three founding associations – the LT Retired Staff Association, the LT Superannuitants' Association and the Fifty-five Society. TfL gives funding to the LTPA to help these bodies communicate with members, hold meetings and cover their administration costs. LTPA members also attend the **Pensioners' Forum**, constituted to allow discussion between TfL and pensioner representatives about TfL policies that affect pensioners, including pensions, travel facilities and

communications. The Forum is also attended by members of the Pensioners and Deferreds section of the PCC

- the **LT Retired Staff Association (LTRSA)** membership is mainly drawn from operational grades, but all former employees can join. There are monthly meetings and days out, plus an annual dinner for members. Membership costs £5. Contact George Allen on 01726 815707

- the **LT Superannuitants' Association (LTSA)** is open to all retired employees. It has a welfare officer to help members who fall ill and can advise on pension issues. The LTSA meets monthly and publishes a newsletter four times a year. There is an annual trip to Eastbourne – members are pictured below on the 2010 trip. This year's break is from 6 to 11

March 2011 at the Afton Hotel.

The break costs £218 half-board, which includes gratuities, coach travel from London including a meal en route and one trip. LTSA membership is £5. Contact Joyce Turner on 020 8743 2655

- the **Fifty-Five Society** was set up in 1949 for former senior LT managers. Members meet four times a year for lunch, with the next event on 18 April. There are currently more than 450 members. Contact John Self on 01420 520132
- the **TfL Pension Consultative Council (the PCC)** discusses any issues relating to the operation of the TfL Pension Fund (but not individual entitlements). PCC members are elected from three sections representing pensioners and deferred pensioners, employees of London Underground, and TfL employees other than LU. The PCC has a role in nominating Trustees to the Pension Fund to represent these groups. The PCC constitution is on the Fund's website at www.tflpensionfund.co.uk or you can contact PCC Secretary Sarah Pascall at sarahpascall@tflpensionfund.co.uk or on 020 7918 3018

- there is an annual reunion for people from **Chiswick Works**, although it is open to anyone. This year's event is on 2 April at the Masonic Centre in Twickenham. Contact Don Robson on 020 8570 3136

- the **Aldenham Works Association** costs £1 a year for membership and members enjoy an annual reunion dinner and a newsletter. Contact Fred Pearson on 020 8428 2309

- the **Association of Retired London Underground Operating Managers** is for pensioners with a rail operating background, and has two reunion lunches a year. Contact Sue Gilbert on 020 7126 4080 or susangilbert@tfl.gov.uk

- **Bus Operating Department** managers meet twice a year for lunch – the next one is on 27 April. Contact Stuart Smith on 01843 577607 or stuart4830@aol.com

- the **W6 Area** is a society for pensioners in and around Hammersmith. Members meet several times a year, there is a quarterly newsletter and an annual trip. Contact Steve Tharpe on 020 8748 8964 or Stephen. tharpe@btinternet.com



Sporting success on the cards

Retired bus driver John Adkins came across a series of LT sports team cigarette cards while he and some friends were researching the history of their beloved Barnet Football Club.

John found four different cards – showing the London Transport (Trams Central) FC, London Transport (Central Buses) FC, Metropolitan Railway Athletic FC and LPTB (Acton Works) FC, published in 1935/36.

The cards each feature a team photo, the names of the players and a list of their major wins. They formed part of a collection of 110

cards depicting sports teams in London and the south-east, including many company teams.

The original LT cards are part of John's friend's collection, but John made some copies.

"There used to be a fantastic sports and social culture at LT," said John, who joined as a conductor at Highgate garage in 1962 (when his surname was O'Hare). John became a driver four years later and retired in 1992.

"I used to play football for the garage, and there were lots of sports days on weekends – many great memories."



Sporting history: John Adkins with his copies of the cards.

Fondly remembered

REBECCA (BECKY) BOTWE

20 November 2010, aged 80

Rebecca worked for LT for 30 years, cooking for staff at Westbourne Grove and Stonebridge Park. She enjoyed her working life with LT and is sadly missed by her daughter Barbara.

MICHAEL DALLY

26 September 2010, aged 73

Michael joined LT in 1962 as a driver at Turnham Green. During his time with LT, he was a great snooker player and represented both LT and Central Road Services all over England.

JOYCE GILLAND

16 March 2010, aged 65

Joyce was a cleaner at Aldenham Works, and when it closed she moved to Edgware and then Cricklewood. Joyce worked for the company for 27 years.

LES HALLWORTH

8 December 2010, aged 84

Les was a senior manager in the LT Catering Department and an active member of the LT Players, which included stage managing productions at the Scala and the Wimbledon Theatre.

JACK HIGGINS

9 April 2010, aged 91

Jack drove trolleybuses and then buses out of West Ham depot from 1946 to 1978. He met his wife Brenda, a clippie, at the depot.

DEREK JONES

20 October 2010, aged 78

Derek worked as a bus driver at Upton Park for 20 years, starting in 1971.

BRIAN JOHN NASH

8 April 2010, aged 71

Brian joined LT in 1959 and worked as a conductor based at Forest Gate garage until it closed. He transferred to North Street garage in Romford in 1960 and worked as a conductor, driver and union rep.

JOHN (BOB) ROBERTS

10 January 2009, aged 80

Bob joined LT in 1948 and retired in 1993 after 44 years' service. He was a gardening section ganger at South Ruislip depot on the Central line.

PETER RUSSELL

14 May 2010, aged 78

Peter was a bus driver based at West Ham garage for 25 years, retiring in 1988.

FRANK STEWART

23 June 2010, aged 94

Frank worked on the buses from 1967 until 1993.

CAMPBELL (JOCK) WEBSTER

2 February 2010, aged 82

Jock joined LT in 1949, working in the machine shop at Lillie Bridge depot for 19 years. He was later promoted to the signal office at Lillie Bridge, where he stayed until he retired in 1992.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

A selection of frequently asked questions and the answers.

TFL PENSION FUND

Q: Will my wife receive a pension when I die?

A: Your wife, civil partner or partner (including a partner of the same sex) may receive a pension from TFL Pension Fund provided that they were dependent upon you for support and the maintenance of his or her standard of living at the time of your death. Documentary evidence of such dependency may be required. Pensions may also be paid to your eligible children. More details can be found on the Fund's website at www.tflpensionfund.co.uk

STAFF TRAVEL

Q. How can I get updates for National Rail train/service restrictions or receive information on former London Country bus services?

A: You need to contact Staff Travel on 0800 015 5073, and we'll add your email address to your record on our system. We can then send the updates out to you automatically when they are received. If you don't have email or would prefer to receive a copy by post, let us know and we will send a copy out to you. A copy of these can also be found on the Staff Travel webpage on the Pension Fund website.

Have Your Say



Thank you to everyone who has sent us a letter. We do read them all, but due to limited space we are only able to publish a selection each time. If you would like to write to us or raise an issue, send your letters to: otm pensioners' letters, AB Publishing, 24-26 Great Suffolk Street, London SE1 0UE or email otm@abcomm.co.uk marking your email otm pensioners' edition. We look forward to hearing from you.

Virtual versions

I receive a paper version of otm pensioners' edition as I receive a widow's pension from LT. However, I would prefer to view the magazine online or receive a copy by email. Is this possible?

Gill Walker

We cannot send out individual email copies, but you can view the publication online. Click on the TFL Pension Fund website at www.tflpensionfund.co.uk and click on News and publications and then On the move. The site contains every issue dating back to 2007.

otm team

Mixed feedback on hampers

I am writing to thank you for my surprise birthday hamper. And it was a lovely surprise as I had missed the mention of it in the last issue of otm.

Thank you once again.

Hilda Clark

I have read the comments in otm with interest. I was delighted when my mum received a hamper to celebrate her 90th birthday.

But, and I don't want to sound churlish, one size does not fit all! My mum is teetotal, so the bottle of wine was inappropriate and, as she is in residential care, some of the items were not the best choice. I am sure vegetarians would be unhappy with the inclusion of a meat-based pate (I think it may have included pork, which would not be acceptable to some religious groups).

Perhaps it would be possible for the pensioner to select in advance from a choice of two or three hampers, so the pensioner enjoys all the items provided?

Mary Haskins

(on behalf of Mrs V L Thomas)

With regard to hampers, my friend received one and was most disappointed. It contained ordinary things you could buy in a local supermarket.

Hampers are for treats, not sugar, tea etc. Pensioners are fussy and don't want everyday goods.

I'm 87, so possibly when I get one it will be treats.

Joyce Benson

We are sorry to hear some of you were disappointed with the hampers. We work hard to ensure they are appreciated by all our pensioners.

We send out around 1,700 hampers every year to mark milestone birthdays, and we receive lots of positive feedback. Often we hear from people who are isolated, without friends and family, and they really appreciate the gesture.

We are unable to offer a selection to each member. However, we do take feedback seriously and work closely with our supplier, the Pensioners' Forum and the Diabetes Association to ensure the contents are balanced and enjoyable.

Unfortunately, it is impossible to ensure all recipients enjoy all

items, as there is no one-size-fits-all solution, but we do hope people recognise and accept the gift in the spirit in which it is sent.

Yvonne Kerchhoff, Pensioner Liaison Manager

Past is best

I received my October edition and think it would be more interesting if there were articles from the past years of LT. After all, our working life is in the past, not in the future.

There must be so many stories regarding the bus garages, most of them long since gone. There must be stories about the biggest sports organisation in the world.

What do I read? New buses, new trains – not of any interest to me. Please bring back our memories.

Trevor Willmott, ex-Buses

Thank you for your feedback.

We try to strike the right balance of content between readers' contributions and current news from TfL, but of course you can't please everyone all the time.

Every issue, we consult with a member of the LTPA to ensure we have a good spread of stories to interest readers. We also join the Pensioners' Forum every quarter to hear their feedback.

Many readers like to keep up-to-date with current developments in the place they used to work. But we do always try to include any contributions sent in by readers, and regularly run features that give readers a chance to share their memories, such as those on pages 4 and 5.

otm editorial team