

SUPPORT THE NORTHERN TRAINS STRIKE!

SHAREHOLDERS GET RICHER WHILE WORKERS AND THE PUBLIC SUFFER

RMT members on Northern Trains are out on strike again this week, and they need your support. They are resisting attempts by Arriva to undermine the safety-critical role of the on-board guard and to extend driver-only operation to as many as half a million trains a year.

In February this year a train coming into Leeds station uncoupled in transit, blocking the line and leaving 40 passengers trapped. Happily there was a safety-trained guard on hand to lead the mass evacuation safely across the tracks. With the guard gone, the situation could easily have spiralled out of control with confused passengers wandering about on the tracks in harm's way. If Arriva has its way, they would in future have to fend for themselves.

Manchester Worker :: manchesterworker.org

Such considerations as these cut no ice with the franchise-holder, Arriva. So far as Arriva is concerned, it won the jackpot when it grabbed the franchise and is now doing its damndest to wring out maximum profits for the remainder of its tenure and maximise its chances of striking lucky again when the franchise is up for renewal. Nothing so mundane as safety can be allowed to get in its way. This sociopathic behaviour is shared by all Arriva's rival parasites like Virgin and First and the rest of the monopolist pack, and is a direct consequence of the privatisation of the rail industry.

Privatisation of all public services has benefited only the capitalists, by providing footloose capital with an alternative avenue of speculative investment when the opportunities for productive investment began to dry up thanks to the crisis of overproduction. Privatisation of the country's rail network has lined the pockets of shareholders whilst deepening the exploitation of workers, ripping off the travelling public and playing fast and loose with safety.

**Keep the guard on the train,
kick the privateers off the railways!**

A message to workers and commuters

RMT members are standing firm against the imposition of these cuts to the service that will result in unsafe travel for us all. They are not on strike for their interests alone they are striking for the benefit of the service we all use. They need your support – show it by complaining to Arriva and opposing these cuts.

We need to build an organisation of people who are prepared to challenge unjust anti-working class cuts and attacks, no matter who tries to implement them.

GET IN TOUCH:

online cpgb-ml.org

email northwest@cpgb-ml.org

twitter @CPGBML

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Communist Party of Great Britain (Marxist-Leninist)

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