BARKING – GOSPEL OAK RAIL USER GROUP



FOUNDED 1964

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BGORUG CRISIS BULLETIN 24TH NOVEMBER 2018

ANOTHER BUSY WEEK!

REMAINING DIESEL TRAINS

We now have reliable information that the sublease that London Overground holds on the six remaining Class 172 2-car diesel trains from West Midlands Trains (WMT) expires in December and that WMT needs these units in January. They all need postponed 'C6' heavy overhauls and universal toilets to be fitted before WMT can use them. Transport for London (TfL) will only say that they are still in negotiations with WMT to extend the sublease.

NEW TRAINS LATEST

There have been several hiccoughs in the Class 710 mileage accumulation trips, the latest being a few days ago. More trips have been scheduled for Monday 26th November but experience shows that does not mean a lot. 710 265/266/267 have been out on Network Rail tracks. Arriva Rail London (ARL) driver trainers have just completed their own training on the Class 710 units that are still at the Network Rail national test centre at Asfordby. When Bombardier can officially deliver a unit to ARL, platform gauging trips (with step-plates fitted) and driver training will begin.

REDUCED WEEKEND SERVICE

To try and protect the weekday service, TfL have withdrawn two diesel units from weekend service for additional maintenance time, cancelling their trains and providing half-hourly "supplementary bus services" by way of replacement. On Saturdays, out of 139 scheduled trains, there are 45 planned cancellations. On Sundays, out of 116 scheduled trains, there are 43 planned cancellations. TfL say they are negotiating with Network Rail to introduce a temporary weekend timetable with a regular 20-minute frequency, to replace the current irregular intervals in service. While the weekday service has performed better since these measures were introduced, with only a handful of cancellations on average, on Wednesday 21st November there were 18 unplanned cancellations out of 140 scheduled trains, all due a defective unit.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Last week, three Assembly Members submitted eleven questions to the Mayor who should answer within a week. Also last week, BGORUG obtained coverage in three local papers and participated in an ITV programme being made with Christian Wolmar.

On 21st November, a question about the service was asked at the TfL Board meeting. This was dealt with by Mike Brown (Commissioner) and G Powell (Director of Surface Transport). See the webcast on the London Assembly website https://t.co/cNV0Pg37Cz (from 41 mins 50 secs.). Draw your own conclusions of the picture painted. An astonishing claim was made that 10-year old trains (actually only 8-years old) are "very old". None of the board members asked any questions to probe what they were being told. They do not seem to understand what even one cancellation means on a 15-minute frequency service. It might be on the tube map, but it is NOT the tube!

Within the papers of the same board meeting is the statement- "...rail income (to 15/09) is £5m above budget owing to London Overground receiving contractual payments from Bombardier for delayed delivery of trains." See http://content.tfl.gov.uk/board-20181121-agenda-papers-public-web.pdf... - Page 110. BGORUG would claim that that some of that money should be used to compensate regular passengers for the last three years of near continuous disruption. Discussion of the Class 710 issue was deferred to a panel meeting on 13th February!

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London Overground



Reduced service between Barking and Gospel Oak

Saturdays & Sundays Commencing 17th November

Due to a lack of available trains, an amended timetable will run, with services every 15 to 30 minutes. For train times please visit tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey

Saturday: The 0620 train from Barking to Gospel Oak will not run - the first westbound service will depart at 0634

Sunday:

- The 0853 train from Barking to Gospel Oak will not run – the first westbound service will depart at 0908
- The 2310 train from Gospel Oak to Barking will not run – the last eastbound service will depart at 2250

Display from Thur 22 Nov until start of Mon 26 Nov 2018. GCB

MAYOR OF LONDON



London Overground



Saturdays & Sundays

Commencing 17th November until further notice

Supplementary bus services

Due to a lack of available trains between Gospel Oak and Barking, additional bus services will run every 30 minutes.

• Service 'J' runs as follows:

Gospel Oak Upper Holloway Crouch Hill Finsbury Park Harringay Green Lanes

Seven Sisters (for South Tottenham)

Service 'T' runs as follows:
 Walthamstow Central
 Leyton Midland Road
 Leytonstone High Road
 Wanstead Park
 Woodgrange Park
 Barking

Please take a Victoria line train to either Seven Sisters or Walthamstow Central.

Please see posters at applicable stations for more information.

MAYOR OF LONDON

