

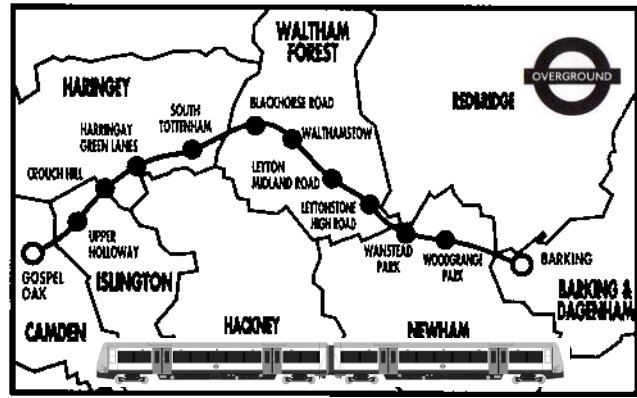
# BARKING – GOSPEL OAK RAIL USER GROUP

FOUNDED 1964

Acting Chair: Graham Larkbey

Secretary: Glenn Wallis  
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## NEWS RELEASE

4<sup>th</sup> April 2016



## NO MORE WEEKEND TRAINS ON LOCAL OVERGROUND LINE

**As work to electrify the Barking – Gospel Oak line moves up a gear, weekend services are withdrawn ahead of total closure in June for 8 months**

The Barking – Gospel Oak Rail User Group (BGORUG)<sup>1</sup> today reminded the line’s passengers that weekend trains on the London Overground<sup>2</sup> operated line had now ended until June 2017.

BGORUG Secretary Glenn Wallis said, “Until 29<sup>th</sup> May the existing rail replacement buses<sup>3</sup> will continue to operate, but Transport for London (TfL) intend bringing in new arrangements from 4<sup>th</sup> June when the Barking – South Tottenham section is closed. The remainder of the line to Gospel Oak closes on 24<sup>th</sup> September. The line will reopen on weekdays only in February 2017. Full services are expected to resume in June 2017.”

“BGORUG representatives met with TfL staff last month to begin a dialogue over the arrangements for passengers affected by the line closure. To that end we have submitted our proposals<sup>4</sup> to TfL. The main features we are seeking are:

- Rail replacement buses over the full length of the line during the closures
- All tickets, including Pay-as-You-Go and contactless, to be valid on all rail and Underground routes and all normal bus services within a wide area along the line
- Existing users to have their fares capped at the price of their normal journey on the line, regardless of the alternative routes they use, or the number of times they change buses or trains. To this end we are pleased that TfL has already stated that passengers will be able to travel via Zone 1 at no extra charge.”



**BARKING – GOSPEL OAK RAIL USER GROUP**

BGORUG-PR-ELECTRIFICATION-weekendservicesendAPRIL2016

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## NO MORE WEEKEND TRAINS FOR LOCAL OVERGROUND LINE

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“In order to end overcrowding as soon as possible, we have also submitted a proposal<sup>5</sup> to bring 4-car electric trains to the line in June 2017, 11 months earlier than currently envisaged by TfL.”

“Passengers are going to endure many months of severe inconvenience while the work is carried out but the end result will be worth the pain. Electrification will bring 4-car trains to relieve the appalling peak period overcrowding. The introduction of electric passenger trains and some electric freight trains will improve air quality for both passengers and residents living near the line.”

- ENDS -

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SEE NOTES FOR EDITORS 6 - 8

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT  
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### NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. Formed in 1964 as the Barking – Kentish Town Line Committee to fight Dr. Beeching’s proposed closure of the line, the Barking – Gospel Oak Rail User Group has continued to represent the line’s passengers and campaign for improved services and station facilities, and also for the electrification of the only non-electrified passenger railway in North East London, now finally approved by the Government on 26 June 2013. It is hoped that electric passenger trains will have commenced operation no later than mid-2018.
2. Following the transfer of responsibility for the former Silverlink Metro services from the Department for Transport (DfT) in 2006, Transport for London (TfL), let the London Rail Concession to London Overground Rail Operations Ltd (LOROL), a joint Hong Kong/German owned venture, to operate the London Overground network from November 2007 until March 2014, subsequently extended to November 2016 by TfL. TfL has chosen Arriva Rail London Ltd (Deutsche Bahn) to operate the new London Rail Concession from November 2016.
3. At weekends until 29<sup>th</sup> May, there will be two rail replacement bus services, both running every 15 minutes:

#### **Route ‘T’**

Barking station  
Woodgrange Park station  
Wanstead Park station  
Leytonstone High Road station  
Leyton Midland Road  
Walthamstow Central (Selborne Road)  
South Grove (for Walthamstow Queen’s Road station)  
Blackhorse Road station  
South Tottenham station

#### **Route ‘J’**

Gospel Oak station  
Upper Holloway station  
Hanley Road (for Crouch Hill station)  
Harringay Green Lanes station  
South Tottenham station  
Seven Sisters station

4. *Barking – Gospel Oak Line Electrification Blockades 2016-17 - Proposals for alternative arrangements for passengers* see <http://tinyurl.com/jhxnc5y>
5. *Barking – Gospel Oak Line Electrification – The urgent need for 4-car electric trains* see <http://tinyurl.com/zbxym54>
6. Network Rail press release 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 <http://www.networkrail.co.uk/news/2016/feb/vital-work-paves-way-GOBE/?cd=2>
7. Waltham Forest Council report on the electrification works <http://tinyurl.com/howjz3s>
8. BGORUG Bulletin 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016 <http://tinyurl.com/hglshc6>

