

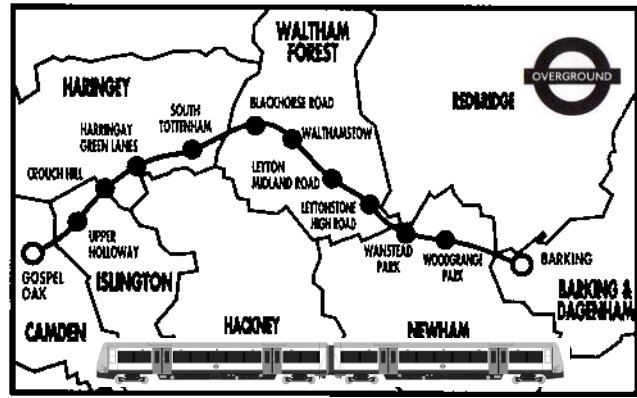
BARKING – GOSPEL OAK RAIL USER GROUP

FOUNDED 1964

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NEWS RELEASE

20th April 2016



BARKING – GOSPEL OAK RAIL TRAVELLERS -

WILL YOUR FARE INCREASE WHEN LINE CLOSES?

**As Overground rail line closure looms,
commuters are urged to check their fares won't be higher**

As preparations are made for the start of an 8-month line closure starting on 4th June, the Barking – Gospel Oak Rail User Group¹ strongly urged rail travellers to attend Transport for London advice sessions being held at stations.

The Group today launched its new leaflet² drawing attention to the “drop-in” advice sessions that Transport for London (TfL)³ is holding through the rest of this month and in early May to advise passengers how to make their journeys while the line is closed.

BGORUG members attending the first advice session at Barking station on Monday 18th April were dismayed to learn from the advisors that some passengers could be paying higher fares when using alternative routes. The line is popular with commuters because it does not pass through Zone 1.

Glenn Wallis, BGORUG Secretary said, “TfL was asked by BGORUG to ensure that regular passengers would not be paying more in fares when having to use alternative routes. Unfortunately, it seems that some passengers certainly will be charged more.”

Passengers likely to be affected are those having to make additional bus journeys or those who have to change trains in Zone 1.

“Passengers who have to change trains in Zone 1 must plan a route that does not involve passing through ticket gates,” said Glenn Wallis, “Otherwise they will be charged a Zone 1 fare.”



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BGORUG-PR-CLOSURE-adviceessions-faresAPRIL2016

2016/2016





WILL YOUR FARE INCREASE WHEN LINE CLOSSES?

The remaining “drop-in” advice sessions, which run between 4 pm and 7 pm are:

- Wednesday 20th April at Wanstead Park station
- Thursday 21st April at Leytonstone High Road station
- Friday 22nd April at Leyton Midland Road station
- Monday 25th April at Walthamstow Queen’s Road station
- Tuesday 26th April at Blackhorse Road station
- Wednesday 27th April at South Tottenham station
- Thursday 28th April at Harringay Green Lanes station
- Tuesday 3rd May at Crouch Hill station
- Wednesday 4th May at Upper Holloway station
- Thursday 5th May at Gospel Oak station

Further information, including details of rail replacement buses is available on a special TfL web page <https://tfl.gov.uk/status-updates/major-works-and-events/london-overground-closure?cid=london-overground-closure>

- ENDS -

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.

LINE CLOSURES FOR 8 MONTHS IN JUNE FOR ELECTRIFICATION
BE PREPARED!

Network Rail and Transport for London staff will be attending drop-in sessions at stations between Barking & Gospel Oak during April & May to explain the project to passengers and offer advice on making your journeys while the line is closed. The sessions will run from 16:00 until 19:00 at:

- Barking, Monday 18 April
- Woodgrange Park, Tuesday 19 April
- Wanstead Park, Wednesday 20 April
- Leytonstone High Rd, Thursday 21 April
- Leyton High Road, Friday 22 April
- Walthamstow Queen’s Rd, Monday 25 April
- Blackhorse Road, Tuesday 26 April
- South Tottenham, Wednesday 27 April
- Harringay Green Lanes, Thursday 28 April
- Crouch Hill, Tuesday 3 May
- Upper Holloway, Wednesday 4 May
- Gospel Oak, Thursday 5 May →→

PLANNED ENGINEERING WORKS

The Barking—Gospel Oak line is being electrified. Already weekend train services have been withdrawn. At weekends until 29th May rail replacement buses will operate every 15 minutes:

- Route J Gospel Oak—South Tottenham
- Route T Barking—South Tottenham

Then all-week closures begin, as follows:

- 4 June 2016—February 2017 Barking—South Tottenham **CLOSED**
- 24 September—February 2017 Gospel Oak—South Tottenham **CLOSED**
- February 2017—June 2017 service restored on weekdays only.
- Full services resume June 2017

BGORUG have pressed TfL to put full and adequate alternative arrangements in place, including:

- Replacement buses over full line
- Tickets including Pay-As-You-Go & contactless to be valid on alternative rail, Tube & bus routes
- Existing users to pay no more than their normal fare & pass through Zone 1
- Bring in 4-car electric trains in June 2017, 11 months earlier than planned

3. 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.

