

Holman's Fleet Care

With the recent transition of our vehicle fleet care to Holman and subsequently to smaller garages, a few issues have emerged in the process. Remember the days when a courtesy vehicle was always available when you took your vehicle in for service or an MOT? Unfortunately, those days are behind us. If you don't pre-book a courtesy vehicle yourself, you might find yourself stranded at a remote garage while your vehicle is being serviced. Calling managers for assistance in such situations is often unproductive.

It is crucial to conduct a thorough vehicle check before taking back ownership of your vehicle and leaving the garage. Any issues discovered after the fact will likely be blamed on the member who failed to perform this check. Don't give them the satisfaction of attributing the blame to you.



Near Miss Reporting

There has been a noticeable decrease in near miss reporting, likely due to reasons we're all familiar with. However, it's important to emphasize that near miss reporting is a crucial tool in our efforts to prevent accidents and incidents.



If you observe something but feel uncomfortable reporting it through the official system, please don't hesitate to send us a text or email. We will report it on your behalf and even attach our name to it.

Your vigilance and proactive communication can make a significant difference in maintaining a safe environment for everyone.

See Something, Say Something!

STE Engineer FnD are launching a new role, the "STE" engineer (Specialist Technical Engineer). Basically this role is a mix of Precision Testing Officer, Private wires, Fit and Test, and NGA C3 engineers.

FnD say it's a TMNE3 role and yet this would be a pay cut for the most technical role in Openreach. Some Directors of Openreach are saying these will be the prized engineers with the best skills and yet they have not sat down and fully established the correct grade or pay point for this role, (although any C3s will retain their grades).

Exchange Leaky Roofs

With the dry weather now upon us, those pesky roof leaks might temporarily disappear until the next bout of rain. Now is the perfect time to re-report and fix any persistent leaks while conditions are optimal. There's no longer the excuse of "We can't seal that while it's wet."

If you know of any stubborn roof leaks, simply drop us an email, and we'll take care of it for you. While we're aware of many issues, you, our members, are in the best position to spot leaks we might have missed. Let us know so we can ensure all repairs are handled promptly.



Long Term Sick & Sick Pay

Where do you stand if you become ill or have an accident at work?

NEWGRID Grade: You are entitled to 6 months of full pay and 6 months of half pay over a rolling 4-year period.

20:20 Contract (since 2014): You are entitled to 3 months of full pay and 3 months of half pay over a 2-year period.

There have been instances where the company has shown leniency and extended these benefits, which we greatly applaud.

However, what happens if you need major surgery due to a knee injury or if you have a serious accident at work? Will your pay be reduced to half or even zero? Unfortunately, yes.

To avoid this situation, take care of your knees when kneeling, be mindful of your back when lifting, avoid giving those rods an extra push, and don't carry more than you can safely handle over rough terrain. Remember, the bills won't pay themselves if you're on zero pay.



Political Corner

Labour's New Deal for workers will be a real change to many people's lives, this came from our union, we put it forward to the TUC. We should be proud of this and a good reason to vote Labour. It will end fire and rehire, ban zero hours contracts in the main, strengthen, Trade union rights, Fair pay agreements to drive up pay and conditions.



The potential takeover of Royal Mail by Czech billionaire Daniel Kretinsky has sparked significant concern among many in the UK. Critics argue that such a move would mark a sad day for the country, as yet another piece of vital infrastructure is sold to a foreign entity. The implications of this sale are causing particular worry for postal colleagues and their future.



Email: southeastcentral@cwusec.onmicrosoft.com

Website: www.cwusec.org.uk