

On the WAGN

Newsletter of Cambridge Heath and London Fields Rail Users Group

September 2001

Evening trains alert

Because of engineering works, trains are unable to call at Bethnal Green, Cambridge Heath or London Fields in either direction from 21.20 until close of service on the following dates:

Monday to Thursday 10-13 September

Monday to Thursday 17-20 September

Monday to Thursday 24-27 September

Monday to Thursday 01-04 October

WAGN has made arrangements for rail tickets to be accepted on London Bus services.

Vandals wreck improvements

WAGN has made several attempts to improve conditions at our two stations but vandals are making it difficult.

Notices warning of engineering works have been ripped down and the mirrors to open up dark corners have been broken or removed.

Unfortunately the train service also proved unreliable over the summer and we have not yet received any proper explanation from WAGN as to why.

We have complained to WAGN's managing director and have also notified the London Transport Users Committee.

WAGN is paid government grants by the Strategic Rail Authority to maintain the basic service under

the public service requirement so it is important we get a satisfactory answer.

THE LTUC has promised to take up our complaints if we do not.

We are still hoping to persuade WAGN and Railtrack to fit CCTV at our two stations. The Docklands Light Railway has just been granted £2.7million to improve the CCTV system on its network.

But we also need a proper train information system so people can be warned about late and cancelled trains.

The Strategic Rail Authority has told us: "Schedule 4 of the Franchise Agreement requires that each station shall have a public address and/or a public information display and /or a

freephone link/help point communications system for use in an emergency and so that passengers may obtain information about train delays and cancellations".

It seems WAGN is providing the minimum necessary to comply.

But we are hoping for something better than the minimum for stations which have been neglected so long.

Greater London Authority assembly member Meg Hillier, and MP Brian Sedgemore are also involved in trying to get improvements, along with Hackney councillor Andy Travers who attended our party to celebrate the return of evening trains in May.