

DAY 6 – SATURDAY 27TH JUNE, – DERBY

The final day of our Midlands tour was in Derby at a Regional TUC Executive Council meeting.

This was an opportunity for us to engage with other unions on the issue of the privatisation and seek their support. The fraternal support we received from the delegates at this meeting was fantastic and we left there knowing we are not fighting this battle on our own and that our comrades in other unions are with us 110%.





QUOTES FROM THE DAY



*“We are very happy to receive fraternal support from other unions today. It is important that the government understands that privatisation is very unpopular idea and that Royal Mail need to remain in public hands” – **Simon Walker, Branch Secretary – Derbyshire Amal***



*“UNITE fully support the campaign and clearly this governments policy flies in the face of public opinion” – **Adrian Axtell, UNITE East Midlands Regional Secretary***



*“The Post Office is an essential public service. This is not just the CWU’s campaign, it’s the wider trade union movements responsibility to fight privatisation and protect services” – **John Freeman, Midlands TUC Chair***



*“Keep the Post Public is just part of a wider campaign that UNISON supports to overturn the failed dogma of privatisation. UNISON fully supports the CWU in its efforts” – **Roger McKenzie OBE, West Midlands Regional Secretary UNISON***



*“UNITE firmly believes that if we are going to keep a universal postal service where one price goes anywhere then the post office must remain in the public sector” – **Gerard Coyne, UNITE West Midlands Regional Secretary***



*“Fraternal greetings to the CWU from the POA, offering our total support in your campaign to keep the post public – remember public services not private profit – **Steve Bostock, POA***



After nearly 1000 miles our journey comes to an end, with thousands of signatures on petition forms the public we have engaged showed us tremendous support. From Stoke on Trent to Bilston to Birmingham to Coventry to Northampton (not forgetting Corby to see chicken Phil) across to Leicester up to Nottingham across to Derby we travelled to every major town and city in the Midlands.

From a Government PPS to Pat McFadden's Agent pledging support the week has been extremely successful. To finish off at the Midlands Regional Council of the TUC allowed all other Unions the opportunity to show solidarity and support.

A massive thanks to the Midlands Branches who organised events, got press and media attention including all local newspapers and radio and of course TV involved. All of that on top of 4 March and rallies held in the Midlands over the past 4 months.

Huge thanks to Gareth Eales who made the daily diary possible and travelled every mile within the region to make sure the set up was as smooth as it could be every day.

If public opinion means anything in this day and age of the unaccountable, unelected political elite pursuing a policy against the very policy agreed at the annual conference of the Labour Party last year and the manifesto commitment at the last election, then we have truly demonstrated that it is the CWU who speak on behalf of the people and not Mandleson and his cronies (Lord Young hold your head in shame and give us back our honorary membership!).

Thanks for your efforts, your support and your commitment. Keep the Post Public and together we can and we will defeat the privatisation of the Royal Mail.

Keep the faith

Lee Barron - Regional Secretary



THE END