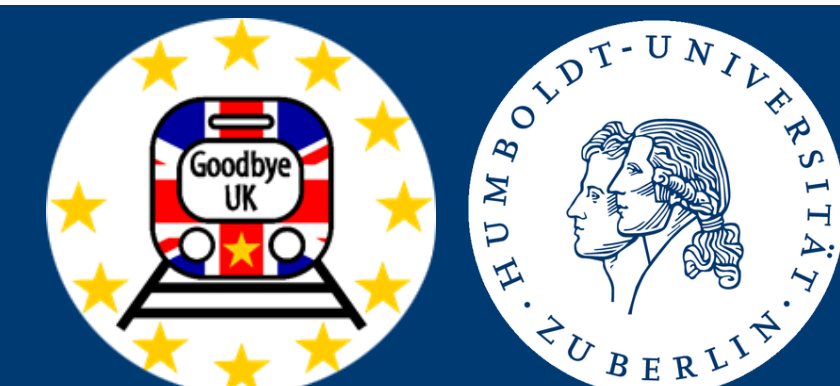


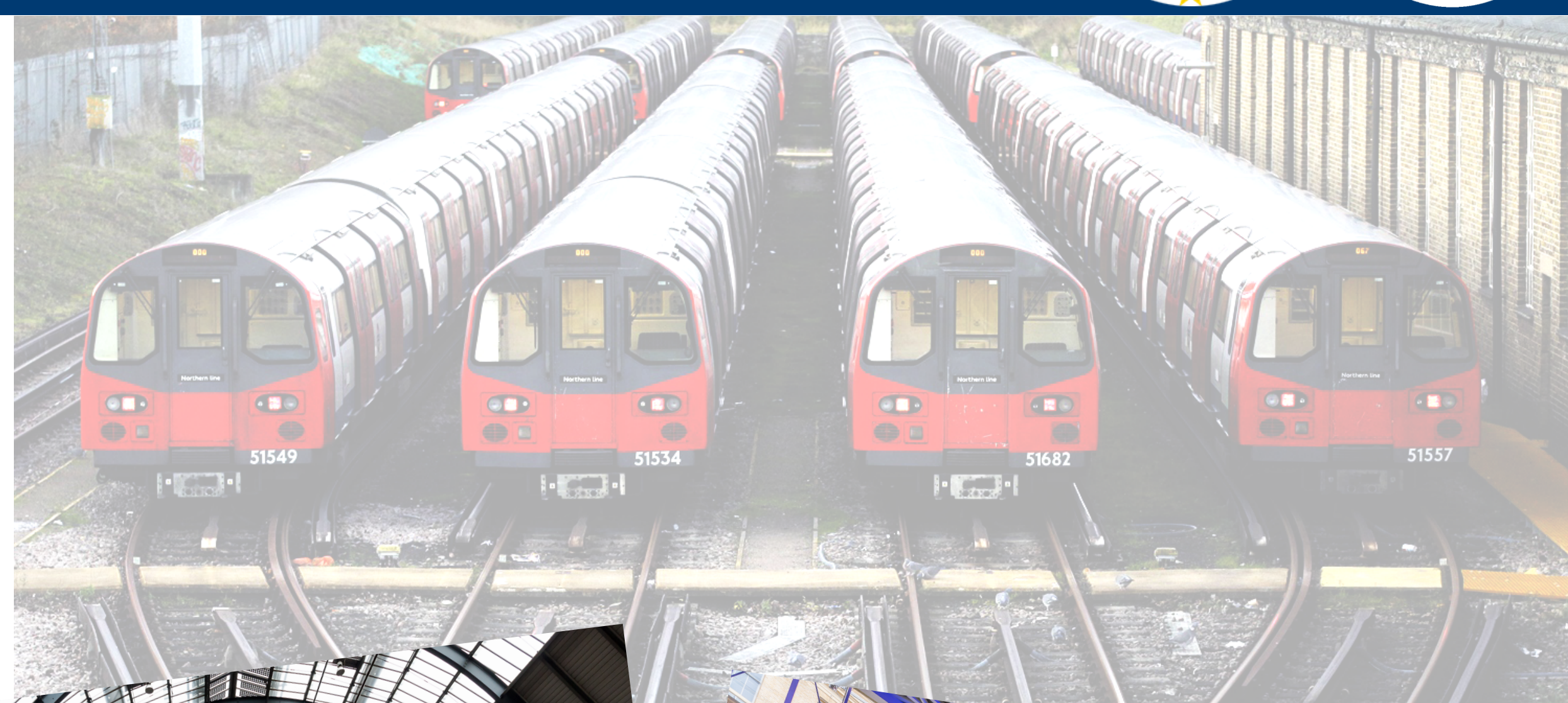
The Well-known London Underground

By Ricker So



General Overview

Carrying approximately 4.8 million passengers daily, the well-known London Underground is the first underground railway in the world. Opened in 1863, it is often regarded as a pioneer and an institution. It was also the first one to incorporate deep tunnel 'tube' lines in the construction of the underground system. The early Tube lines were privately owned and operated by private companies. They were then combined together under the brand 'UNDERGROUND' in the early 20th century. It merged with the sub-surface lines as well as the bus service to form London Transport in 1933. London Underground Limited, which is the current operator, is a subsidiary of Transport for London which is responsible for the transport service in Greater London. There are altogether 11 lines in the entire Tube system currently.



King's Cross Station

- King's Cross station was first built by the Great Northern Railway as its hub in London in 1848. It was designed by the architect, Lewis Cubitt, and opened with two platforms in 1852.
- Major redevelopment and modernisation of King's Cross station started in 2007. The new western concourse opened in 2012, whereas the original Victorian entrance was restored and opened in 2013.
- King's Cross St. Pancras is one of the best connected interchange stations in the London underground network. Linking six underground lines (Circle, Piccadilly, Hammersmith & City, Northern, Metropolitan and Victoria), the main lines to other parts of the U.K. and the Eurostar service to mainland Europe, King's Cross/St. Pancras is one of the biggest and busiest interchange stations in London as well.



Types of Tube

Can you spot the difference(s) between these two Tube carriages?



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Sub-surface 'Tube'

- The City, District, Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan lines form the Sub-surface 'Tube' network.
- The railway tunnels are just below the surface. In other words, they are closer to the ground level.
- The underground carriages running on these lines are relatively bigger than the Deep Tube's. They are of the similar size to those running on the British main lines.

Deep Tube

- The Bakerloo, Central, Jubilee, Northern, Piccadilly, Victoria and Waterloo & City lines form the Deep Tube network.
- The railway tunnels are deeper than the Sub-surface Tube's. That's why it takes you longer to walk from the entry gate to the platform.
- The railway tunnels are smaller and in circular shape with a diameter 3.56 metres.
- Because of the smaller and more circular railway tunnels, the underground carriages running on these lines are relatively smaller and more circular than the Sub-surface's.



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Opening Year of the Underground

How much do you know about the Tube?

Try to match the opening years and the lines below on the left-hand side. Once you finish the matching, flip over the paper to have a look at the answer!

Matching exercise with lines and years:

- 1863: Victoria Line
- 1898: Metropolitan Line
- 1968: Northern Line
- 1900: Hammersmith & City Line
- 1868: Jubilee Line
- 1864: Piccadilly Line
- 1906: Waterloo & City Line
- 1906: Central Line
- 1871: Bakerloo Line
- 1890: District Line
- 1906: Circle Line

Line	Years Opened	Type
Metropolitan Line	1863	Sub-surface
Hammersmith & City Line	1864	Sub-surface
District Line	1868	Sub-surface
Circle Line	1871	Sub-surface
Northern Line	1890	Deep Tube
Waterloo & City Line	1898	Deep Tube
Central Line	1900	Deep Tube
Bakerloo Line	1906	Deep Tube
Piccadilly Line	1906	Deep Tube
Victoria Line	1968	Deep Tube
Jubilee Line	1979	Deep Tube

A New Alternative

- A new Tube line will be open next year.
- The Elizabeth Line will stretch more than 60 miles passing through Central London.
- Reading and Heathrow Airport ← Central London → Shenfield and Abbey Wood
- Serving 40 accessible stations



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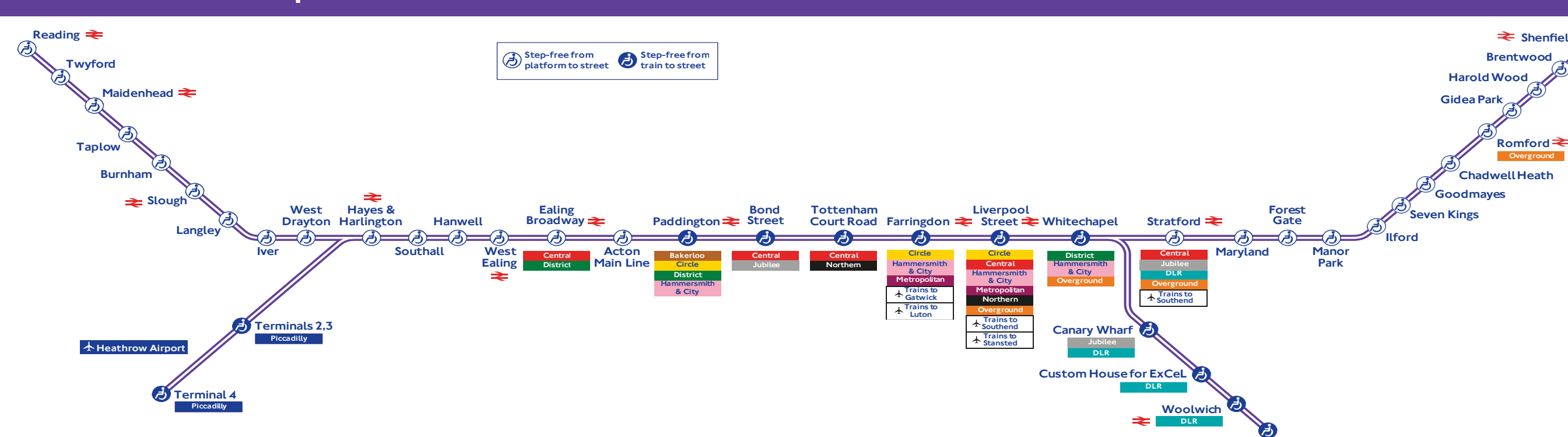
The Elizabeth line opens with the operation of three separate services.

- Paddington to Abbey Wood
- Paddington to Heathrow
- Liverpool Street to Shenfield

December 2019

The Elizabeth line is fully open, with services running from Reading and Heathrow in the west through the central tunnels to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east.

Elizabeth line map



MAYOR OF LONDON



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