



RUSH-HOUR CRUSH

Love (well, lust) is all around us, as is proven by the messages left by our commuter cupids. Are they talking about you?

To the dark-haired girl with the white scarf and black coat. We got chatting at Colliers Wood bus stop and got off together at South Wimbledon on Tuesday, around 9.30pm. I was enjoying chatting so much I almost walked past my house. You told me your dad is a Leeds fan. Coffee some time?

Guy In The Reindeer Hat

Smiling man, where was this? I think I saw you – I didn't want to be working at the weekend, had tired eyes and a borrowed coat. I'd love cuddles and coffee, if it was me you saw.

Girl With Tired Eyes And Oversized Coat

To the girl who reads her book before she gets on the bus to Piccadilly. You've got a really nice smile.

Bag Carrier

To the tall guy on the Victoria line from King's Cross about 6pm last Thursday. I liked that we shared a giggle but I felt too awkward to say 'bye when I got off the train.

Girl With The Great Bun



Tell us about your rush-hour crush. Send an email to crush@ukmetro.co.uk

IN response to comments regarding birth control and climate change (Metro, Wed), it's worth remembering China, a country that has had a one-child policy per urban family for more than 30 years, has the highest CO₂ emissions in the world.

It is a simplistic view to say that if every couple has two children then we will all live happily ever after. Britain has a birth rate of less than two, so families that can and want to should have more than two children to allow for the fact that many couples have one or no children.

All most of us can do is be more responsible. Surely five children who all walk to school and then go on to cycle to work are doing less harm to the planet than two children who get driven to school and then go on drive 50km a day to work.

We live in a world where capitalism rules and, until that changes or there is a major

natural catastrophe, we won't see a reduction in emissions any time soon. *Jim, Surrey*

■ It's all very well Val saying we should remain childless (Metro, Wed) but without a younger generation, who does she think is going to pay any taxes when she has retired?

This is set to be a huge issue in China, following its one-child policy. The increase in the global population is largely due to improvements in health care and living standards in the Third World, where high mortality rates traditionally kept population growth in check, combined with women in these areas having little say in family planning.

Andrew, Bedfordshire

■ James Moore claims a reduction in population will save the planet and mankind from catastrophe (Metro, Tue). However, it's not the number of us living that's the problem, it's how we live.

Never mind fewer babies, we need fewer cars on the

road. The car is the elephant in the room that we're loathed to take issue with. The metal box on wheels produces more CO₂ than all the food and waste put together.

The irony is that as climate meltdown of our own making takes hold, population reduction will happen anyway.

Dave Degen, Hertfordshire

■ James Moore says a smaller population is the only sure-fire way to reduce CO₂ levels. He's right and the way to achieve it is via education.

Statistically speaking, the higher the rate of education in a modern society, the lower the birth rate. Therefore, by focusing more taxpayer funds into education, particularly secondary and tertiary education, the better-educated society will slow procreation.

If such an education-focused policy can be exported to poorer nations, not only do we solve issues of poverty, we also slow climate change.

Mark de Graaf, via email

Too many children? Cutting births has not led to lower emissions in China

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