

# BUS EXPRESS

News and views from life in the bus lane

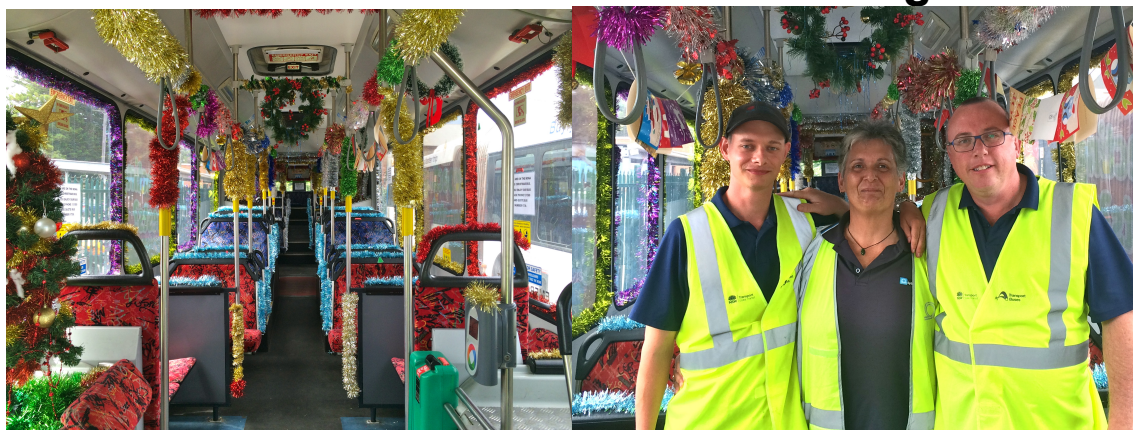


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RTBU NSW Tram and Bus Division



## Christmas Buses on The Roads Again!



It's time to get out the bells and tinsel for the annual Christmas Bus competition!

The defending champions at Mona Vale depot (above) have already decked out two buses this year. You can read the full story on [www.busexpress.com.au](http://www.busexpress.com.au)

Has your depot gotten into the Christmas spirit yet? Send us photos: [info@busexpress.com.au](mailto:info@busexpress.com.au)

## FAULTY BUS AIR CONDITIONING

Union Delegates are getting complaints from members claiming that they feel intimidated by Radio Room Controllers insisting that they continue to operate buses when the air conditioning has failed. **THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.**

### ***Members should note:***

- No Supervisor, including Radio Room can force you to drive a bus in service where the air conditioning has failed.
- You should be polite but firm and **insist on a changeover**
- Unlike the old buses, our passengers cannot open windows on new buses
  - opening roof hatches is entirely inadequate and unenforceable.
- You cannot be disciplined for insisting on a changeover when bus air conditioning has failed. The interests of the health and wellbeing of you and your passengers are paramount
- ***Please note the following extract from a STA Safety Committee Report:-***  
"Air Conditioning Function – The bus is not to operate c/o to be sent out if air conditioning is not working STA/Radio Room advised bus not to be used if malfunctioning, directive sent to STA from OH&S Angela Bateman".

**Workmates must stand together on this issue and say NO or the intimidation will continue.**

## RTBU Tram and Bus Division Election Results Are In!

RTBU Election Results have now been declared and for the positions of NSW Tram and Bus Divisional President and NSW Tram and Bus Divisional Secretary, the results are as follows:-

<b>Gary Way</b>	<b>1223</b>	<b>Chris Preston</b>	<b>1413</b>
Mahmut Alibekiroglu	474	Daniel Jaggers	744
Wendy Wirth	545		

Having been returned for a second term, Chris Preston and Gary Way would like to congratulate members for their high level of participation in depot attendance ballots and postal ballots.

Without doubt, members of the Tram and Bus Division were more engaged in the 2014 Union Elections than any other Division in the NSW Branch – **a show of strength that we can take pride in.**

All serving depot Delegates who stood for re-election were returned highlighting incredible stability at Executive level. New Delegates were elected at Brookvale – Ed Robinson, Ryde – Ian McPherson and Waverley – Peter Tsapepas, all of whom are very welcome additions to the Divisional Committee.

Tram and Bus Divisional Organiser David Woollams was unopposed for the honorary positions of Assistant NSW Branch Secretary – Road and National Vice President – Road. Gary Way was elected to the position of Assistant National Secretary (Tram and Bus), with Chris Preston also elected to serve on the National Executive. Our Division now has considerable influence within the “wider” Union, both State and National.

Finally, a thank you to all members who stood for various positions - democracy is alive and well in our Union.



**Divisional Secretary Chris Preston  
and Divisional President Gary Way**



**Vice President Brett Peters  
Know your Rights**

### Paid Maternity Leave

**62.1** A female permanent employee is entitled to paid maternity leave in accordance with this clause and with State Transit's Parenting Leave Procedures.

**62.2** An employee who has, or will have, completed 40 weeks continuous service before the expected date of birth, is entitled to paid maternity leave.

**62.3** Maternity leave is a period of not more than four weeks prior to the expected date of birth and not more than 52 weeks after the actual date of birth.

## Meet Your Local Delegate

**Andy West, RTBU Delegate, Wiloughby**



**1. Why did you become involved in the Union?** I've always enjoyed working with people and helping others.

**2. What are your hobbies and interests?** I collect first editions of books – my most prized are my two signed copies, 'Money' by Martin Amis and L'Etranger by Albert Camus. I love the spoken and written word.

**3. Where do you live and why do you like it?** I've recently moved to the Blue Mountains from the Inner West. I'm really enjoying the 'tree change' and the lifestyle.

**4. Who would you like to have dinner with (dead or alive) and why?** Gough Whitlam and Neville Wran. I'd love to ask them what it was like to make sweeping changes in so many areas.

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