

BUS EXPRESS

News and views from life in the bus lane



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RTBU NSW Tram and Bus Division



UNION WINS BIG BACK PAY CLAIM

The Union is pleased to advise members that the dispute over **excess travel time whilst on loan to another depot** has had a major victory although there is still more to go.

State Transit conceded that bus operators are entitled to be paid excess travel time payment whilst performing DOC's at another depot. State Transit also conceded that the onus of processing this payment is up to the Depot Manager and roster clerk to work out if an operator is entitled to then pass on to payroll to be processed. The bus operators are not required to fill in or sign travel time forms.

State Transit don't concede that they are required to pay excess travel time for Sundays whilst performed at another depot. The Union still disputes this and this dispute will be escalated to Unions NSW as per the disputes settlement procedure.



What does this mean for drivers?

State Transit are paying six years back pay for unpaid travel time for DOC's .

- In October 2014 drivers received 1 year back pay for DOC travel time
- Drivers received in November, December 2014 another 2 years on top off the 1 year already paid
- State are in the process of paying another 3 years of payments which will take in total 6 years back pay for excess travel time whilst performing a DOC at another depot other than your home depot
- You will only receive these payments if you are entitled to travel time in the first instance

The Union will keep members informed of the progress on the Sunday Excess Travel time dispute

New Bus Award 2015

The new Bus Operators Award for 2015 has been ratified in the Industrial Relations Commission. Download your copy at www.busexpress.com.au

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Bad planning leads to bus chaos in Sydney

Bus drivers and passengers alike were extremely frustrated during peak hour early in January with delays of almost two hours in some areas. For many commuters returning to work after the Christmas break it was a terrible start to the working year.

Roads were closed because of work on the new light rail line and bad planning meant that chaos ensued.

The delays caused a huge amount of stress for many of our members who bore the brunt of the bad planning and had to deal with the traffic chaos and upset passengers.

On Monday, Roads Minister Duncan Gay said that it had been “a pretty crappy morning”. But the NSW government today confirmed there is no plan in place yet to ensure it doesn’t happen again.

This is a huge concern for our members. What will happen when the next stage of work on the light rail begins?

How will the government manage the massive disruptions that will take place in the coming 2-3 years as light rail construction continues?

Will the frustration and stress continue for drivers and passengers?

Divisional Secretary Chris Preston raised these concerns in the media.

You can read the full article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* and listen to his interview on 2GB at www.busexpress.com.au



*Divisional Secretary Chris Preston
and Divisional President Gary Way*



Vice President Brett Peters
Know your Rights

Working with children check update

Unions NSW on behalf of all affected workers in NSW is still disputing the \$80.00 fee for the working with children’s check and the Industrial Relations Commission hearings are ongoing with no foreseeable end to the matter at this point in time.

With the due date for Bus Operators now approaching the union advises that members should **NOW** start the process of obtaining this check from the relevant authority.

If Unions NSW has a successful outcome in the IRC the RTBU will seek compensation by way of reimbursement for our members.

Membership support in this matter is to be commended. Members will be advised as soon as there is an outcome.

Career Paths

20.1 Where an employee covered under this Award takes up an Apprenticeship or Traineeship within State Transit, the employee will maintain their current rate of pay under this Award, until the pay rate in the new position has exceeded the aforementioned rate.

20.2 Employees who take an Apprenticeship or Traineeship and are subject to sub-clause 20.1 herein are to take the conditions of the relevant Awards for the work performed