

BUS EXPRESS

News and views from life in the bus lane



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RTBU NSW Tram and Bus Division



Radio room uses PTIPS for risk assessment

Drivers need to trust the radio room to look after their safety, and radio room operators need to trust in the on the ground assessment of safety that drivers make when on a run.

This became apparent following a report of a low hanging power line reported by a driver concerned that the wire may make contact with not only his bus, but others that may pass under it.

Despite this report serving as enough of a danger to trigger an immediate diversion, the road remained open.



The driver was asked to continue through the hazard, based on the radio room seeing other buses travelling through the area, but on arrival at his terminus, the driver contacted his local Union delegate to raise his concerns that the hazard was still in place and that services had not been diverted.

If the RTBU didn't intervene on this particular Saturday afternoon it is quite clear that nothing would have been done and the hazard would've been left in place, a situation we find very concerning.

Election Notice

The Australian Electoral Commission is currently conducting elections for vacant positions in the RTBU, including in the Tram and Bus Division.

Nominations have been called in the National Office for Assistant National Secretary (Tram and Bus Division), and in the NSW Branch for Branch Divisional President and Sub-Divisional Representative on Divisional Committee – Port Botany.

Members should ensure that their addresses, grades, and locations are up to date.

To read the full Election Notice, check out:

www.busexpress.com.au/election-notice/



Election for
vacant positions

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Back to fighting the good fight



After a massive battle with cancer, Andy West is back at work at the Willoughby Depot.

Andy has been off work for more than 6 months, enduring hospitalisation and a month long stay in intensive care following dangerous and complicated surgery.

The Willoughby Depot are thrilled to have Andy back, and would like to thank Norm Padroth, Allan Waugh and Jon Russell for their work in filling Andy's shoes as delegate during his time recuperating.



Divisional Secretary Chris Preston



Vice President Brett Peters

Know your Rights

No consultation on Hunter light rail

With no community consultation, the NSW Government has moved forward with their plans to put the proposed Newcastle light rail construction out to tender.

The government says they will not start consulting with the community for 'a few months'.

"First they cut the heavy rail line out of the heart of Newcastle without listening to what the community wanted.

"Then they announced light rail to replace the heavy rail. Only after announcing the proposal did they realise that no private company wanted to buy a light rail system in Newcastle.

"To sweeten that deal for business, the government announced that they would make it a package deal and sell off Newcastle Buses too, putting 350 jobs under threat, along with cuts to services and price hikes."

The government's lack of consultation will continue to create uncertainty for Newcastle, and will hurt public transport.



Certificate III in Driving Operations (Bus)

73.2 Certificate III will be made available to interested existing Bus Operators on a voluntary basis.

73.3 There will be no deduction in pay or grade for any employee who either does not wish to undertake Certificate III or does not meet the competencies required to attain Certificate III.

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