

BUS EXPRESS

News and views from life in the bus lane



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RTBU NSW Tram and Bus Division



Dude, what's up with your bus?

A recent *Bus Express* exclusive on mouldy buses caused a media sensation – with the *Manly Daily* and the *Daily Telegraph* both running stories about the failure of STA to deal with the problem.



Bus drivers know, however, that mouldy seats are only the tip of the iceberg.

Things that don't work, maintenance problems that never get fixed, gas buses that spontaneously blow up ...

There are issues out there that need to be raised, and *Bus Express* is the place to raise them.

So let loose and tell us what's up with your bus. Go to the Hot Topic on www.busexpress.com.au and comment now!

Who knows, we might even be able to get it fixed!

Date set for Tram Workers' vote

It is critical that Light Rail members come along and vote in the secret ballot scheduled for Tuesday 6th March 2012 at Pyrmont Depot.

The ballot will determine whether Light Rail members wish to have Protected Industrial Action as a bargaining option as pay negotiations continue.

The vote will be conducted during the following hours: Midday-3pm and 7:30 – 9:30 pm.

The union strongly encourages all members to come along and have their say. For more information go to www.busexpress.com.au

International Women's Day Celebrations!

Community Picnic

This IWD there will be a community picnic in First Fleet Park, Circular Quay, on Saturday 10th March from 12 noon. Women unionists will be meeting at the Unions NSW banners.

Bring a rug, something to eat and women officials, members, potential members, daughters and grandchildren.

Networking Event

A networking event will be held at Unions NSW on 8 March at 377 Sussex Street Sydney (near Haymarket).

Drinks and nibbles will be served at the function. Please RSVP by email on rdocwra@unionsnsw.org.au

There will be a large delegation of RTBU women and their families attending so come along with your fellow women members!

www.busexpress.com.au

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Record attendance at Union Training

Around 20 relief Union Delegates from Sydney and Newcastle attended the one day introductory course at the Tram & Bus Division Headquarters in Redfern on Monday 20 February 2012.



This course is run internally by Tram and Bus Division Officials and is designed to instruct new/relief delegates on how to deal with day to day local issues in the Depot.

Attendees were also fortunate to hear a practical address from Union Solicitors Slater & Gordon which gave helpful advice on advising members who are involved in workers comp matters.

Anonymous feedback from all participants indicates that people found the course beneficial and useful at a practical level.

The excellent attendance figures highlight the popularity of this course and confirm that our Union continues to gain strength at Depot Level.



Divisional Secretary Chris Preston and Divisional President Gary Way

Know your Rights



With Vice President

Brett Peters....

New delegate for Port Botany

Last week Philip Cooksey was elected with an overwhelming majority as the union delegate for the Port Botany Depot. He had been a caretaker in that role since last October and has been actively involved in the union for the last couple of years.



“Phil will make a great delegate. He is incredibly committed, calm on the job and always cool headed. Congratulations Phil,” said President of the Bus & Tram Division, Gary Way.

Thanks also goes to Frank Farkas who nominated for the delegate’s position in the election.

You can check out Phil's delegate profile on the delegate's page at www.busexpress.com.au

Section 4. Hours of work, breaks overtime and shift work

Clause 36 - Meal Breaks

36.1 Employees shall not be rostered to work for more than five hours without an unpaid meal break or crib.

36.2 A minimum of 40 minutes and a maximum of 50 minutes shall be allowed for an unpaid meal break.

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