

BUS EXPRESS

News and views from life in the bus lane



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RTBU NSW Tram and Bus Division



Minister assigns Kings Cross security but more needed

Minister for Transport, Gladys Berejiklian has responded to the RTBU's demands for increased security on bus services, by committing to security on new all night services from Kings Cross.

The RTBU wrote to the Minister following a number of assaults on bus drivers, requesting increased security on buses, particularly at night.

While the letter outlines a number of security initiatives for transport, it still does not provide the widespread coverage that is needed to keep bus drivers safe from ongoing problems with violence and abuse.

The RTBU will continue to advocate for the safe working environment our drivers deserve. The Minister's response is now available at www.busexpress.com.au.

Loss of extra Zoo bus leaves families with "PLAN C"

State Transit has decided to discontinue the extra school holiday bus service from the Taronga Zoo wharf up to the main entrance.

As the busy summer holiday period approaches, families will be left in the cue for the cable car at the wharf, or forced to use the lower zoo entrance where they have a serious walk up-hill.

The ferries can carry up to 700 people and without the extra bus, the two remaining buses can only take around 120 passengers per ferry.

Many people purchase a zoo pass, which includes return ferry, bus and entrance into the zoo but insufficient services during school holidays mean people have limited access to bus services.

Either State Transit or Transport for NSW is taking people's hard earned money and giving nothing in return, leaving families with PLAN C – walking up hill all day.

Bus goes up in flames



The back of a bus caught fire last week while it was travelling along Oxford St into the city.

This incident is reminiscent of the explosion of a gas bus last year, prompting the union to call for increased safety.

Divisional Secretary Chris Preston said all buses should be fitted with fire suppression systems to avoid any further fires occurring.

"These incidents simply should not be happening."

Go to www.busexpress.com.au to see the story covered on Channel 7.

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Randwick driver raises reflection issue on new buses

When a reflection started appearing in the nearside mirror of the new 2400 series because of a poorly placed new sticker on the buses, a quick thinking member had the foresight to photograph the problem and report it.

The problem, after investigation, occurs when the sunlight hits the bus on the right hand side causing a reflection off the sticker to occur in the nearside mirror.

STA said that no one was allowed to move the sticker but themselves so the drivers began booking up the entire 2400 series for maintenance.

Management said the issue would have to be held over for further discussion until the fleet service manager returned from annual leave.



The RTBU demanded immediate action on the issue and after some discussion management agreed to remove the stickers causing the problems.

The problem was only fixed at Randwick, so anybody noticing this problem should report the issue to the depot delegate and book the bus up immediately.

Randwick members would like to thank the member at the depot who had the foresight to capture this telling image.



Divisional Secretary Chris Preston and Divisional President Gary Way



Vice President Brett Peters
Know your Rights

17. Rates of pay for Bus trainees

17.1 Employees who commence employment on a Bus Traineeship shall, following completion of their Traineeship, move to the rate of pay for a Bus Operator Level 2.

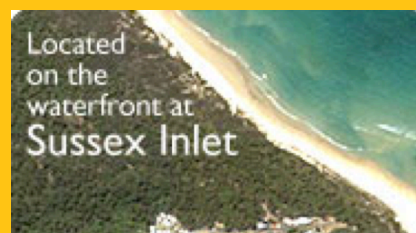
Port Botany election result

Candidate to be the Sub-Divisional Representative on Branch Divisional Committees for Port Botany, Michael de Meo has been elected to the position uncontested.

Congratulations to Michael!

RTBU Holiday Park

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