

# BUS EXPRESS

News and views from life in the bus lane



Edition No. 42 • 25 June 2013

RTBU NSW Tram and Bus Division



## Mona Vale members win round two.

Here are the various twists in the Mona Vale Safety Dispute:

- Work Cover ordered that staff vehicles be kept in place on safety grounds.
- STA challenged Work Cover's decision and had it overturned on a technical point.
- The Mona Vale Manager immediately cancelled the staff buses (even though Work Cover were seeking further meetings)
- Employees at Mona Vale Depot continued to argue that the safety risk was still present.
- The Mona Vale Depot Health and Safety Representative (HSR) issued a "cease work" directive under section 85 of the Work, Health Safety Act instructing employees not to walk to the Darley Road relief point, as it is unsafe to do so.
- STA reinstated the staff buses.

**SCORE SO FAR: WORKERS: 2, MGMNT: NIL**  
**STAY TUNED FOR ROUND 3!**

## Union wins breaks for VTS workers.

RTBU workplace Delegates at the Pymont Tram Depot became increasingly frustrated when Veolia Transport Sydney (VTS) refused to build crib breaks into members shifts as per the current enterprise agreement.

Divisional President Gary Way referred the matter to Fair Work where Industrial Officer and advocate Brenden Edghill (pictured)



led the charge in conciliation proceedings. After aggressive debate, VTS agreed to recognise the crib break entitlement. Both Brenden and Gary would like to acknowledge the determined efforts of the Pymont Depot Union Committee, Patrick Fielding, Mina Choi and Laura Benjamin, who all ensured that this dispute was pursued to our ultimate victory.

## Bus Express TV Check out the latest edition online



The latest episode of the RTBU Bus Express TV has been uploaded to the web.

This week Chris and Gary discuss the latest happenings from the Division, including the Government's failing to properly address fire suppression on buses.

Also on the agenda are the latest Union wins and industry news and

Check out the full episode at:

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## Buses remain fire safety risk.

The Union has been publicly urging the NSW Government to take urgent action amid concerns about the risk of fire and explosion in thousands of Sydney buses. In 2011 there was an incident where the back of a gas bus literally exploded, forcing drivers to take safety into their own hands by getting gas buses off the road before the Government would act.

Since then dozens of buses, both gas and non-gas- powered, have been destroyed by fire across Australia. This photo shows a fire incident on a private bus near Wynyard just last week.

While the Government has taken some safety steps with moves to retrofit gas buses with fire suppression units and ensure all new Government buses have the right systems in place, that still leaves

hundreds of buses on the road that need a safety upgrade. Meanwhile, Private buses are seemingly not included in Government safety regulations.

The Government must answer key questions such as:

- How can pre-2013 buses be deemed safe yet all new STA ones are fitted with fire suppression units?
- Why have only the Mercedes Benz gas-powered buses being retrofitted when there are issues across the whole fleet?
- Why are Government passengers more important than private?



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



**Vice President Brett Peters**  
**Know your Rights**

### Section 57.1

#### Personal/Carer's Leave Entitlement

Amount of paid personal/carer's leave – an employee is entitled to the following amount of paid personal/carer's leave:

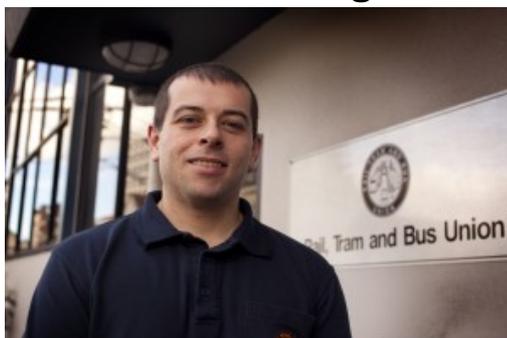
(i) 17 days for all employees except those nominated on paragraph 57.1 (ii); or

(ii) Employees who commenced on or after 1 Feb 1995:

- 10 working days/year for up to 5 years' service;
- 12 working days/year from 5-7 service;
- 17 working days/year for over 7 years.

## Waverley depot votes in new delegate.

Waverley depot has a new delegate in Warwick Molloy after one of the higher voter turnouts at the ballot box. The Waverley local (right) enjoyed a convincing win, receiving 147 votes during the June 7 ballot. Warwick has replaced incumbent



Wendy Wirth, who had held the position for 10 years. Wendy will remain an integral part of the depot's union committee team.

Warwick, who has been a driver and Union member for three and a half years, said that he put his name forward to represent the Waverley depot to "ensure members got a fair go."

"understanding of it as well," he said.

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