



Secretary: Bruce Gale

President: Craig Turner

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Sydney Trains Train Crew Reforms

RTBU Delegates and Organisers have finished depot tours for the purpose of keeping members informed



about the latest information regarding the reforms. In the next month (or longer), working groups comprised of RTBU Delegates will be discussing issues surrounding these reforms with Sydney Trains. Once these are completed, Delegates involved will report back to the committee of Train Crew Delegates which is made up of Guards and Driver Delegates from each depot.

Sydney Trains have been very vague in giving information containing substance. Sydney Trains have released a report that was commissioned from Price Waterhouse Coopers detailing how much value they put on the allowances they wish to aggregate. These figures were supplied by Sydney Trains and not supported by the RTBU.

Sydney Trains are stating that by aggregating (averaging) the allowances it will simplify the Train Crew pay and correct the many errors our members have been experiencing over the last few years.

However, this is not washing with the membership as a RTBU survey results sent a clear message that over 80% of RTBU members who completed the survey did not believe Sydney Trains claim that simplifying our pay will fix all the pay problems.

The RTBU will continue to communicate about these reforms through Newsflash bulletins and depot meetings. These are emailed out to RTBU Guard Depot Delegates. If you would like information emailed to you please contact your local Delegate.

Keep your eye out for further surveys that will be distributed to those members who have supplied their personal email address to the RTBU. The RTBU would like to stress that completing a survey is vital in

supplying the RTBU your feedback in relation to this issue.

Sydney Trains – Attempt to Bypass Consultation at Mortdale

Sydney Trains continues to redefine the definition of consultation with the most recent example being at Mortdale. At Mortdale there are existing procedures and local work practices in regards to the Mortdale Wash Road.

Sydney Trains' have a view that the proposed changes could be dealt with exclusively through the local Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) committees with no involvement or consultation with the RTBU representatives.

Sydney Trains further complicated this matter by issuing a General Instruction that was vague and ambiguous. The General Instruction did not detail any safe procedure for guards to check trains for overcarried passengers, alight from the train and communicate with the wash driver that they were off the train.

The irony of this whole situation is that Sydney Trains' reasoning for the change in procedure was to ensure the safety of guards.

Naturally, the RTBU disagreed and placed this matter into dispute.

As a result of the dispute, the issue of procedures for Mortdale Wash Road will be discussed at the local WHS meeting and any recommendations that come from the committee will be discussed with the local RTBU Delegates.

This is an example of the need for members and Delegates to be aware of any proposals by Sydney Trains to change procedures and workplace practices. WHS Committees are not a substitute for RTBU consultation as per the consultation provisions within the enterprise agreement.



Update – Not-Associated Working

“I do not see that the views of the RTBU and NSW Trains to be aligned in the foreseeable future.”

- Workplace Relations, NSW TrainLink

The RTBU has been representing NSW TrainLink Guards in relation to a dispute that has risen from the Not-Associated Working clause.

This is clause 117.6(d) pursuant of the NSW Trains Enterprise Agreement 2014.

The background of the dispute is NSW TrainLink ceased payment of the Not Associated Working. A number of disputes were raised by RTBU Delegates who further supported their dispute by referring to the Wages Traffic and Per Way Award, 1960.

A document from NSW TrainLink outlined a number of points where there is no agreement. It was further noted that there is a wide difference of views between the RTBU and NSW TrainLink’s position.

The RTBU will be having further discussions with your Delegates to seek further guidance on how and where to progress this matter. The RTBU encourages members to give feedback to their local delegate via email to allow for all information to be captured.

To have your say on this matter please contact your local Delegate.

White Ribbon Day Event

Ragini Nauru, RTBU Guards Delegate is hosting a White Ribbon Day event at Liverpool Station on Wednesday the 25th November.

The details of the event are below:

Time: 5am – 9am

Location: Liverpool Station Concourse

Event: Sausage sizzle, merchandise and cake stall. Also RTBU members who have formed a band called South West Rail Band will be performing. There will be Belly Dancing and Bollywood theme activities courtesy of the Train Crew and the Department of Education.

This is being followed by a March and more activities kicking off at 10am till 12pm at Edwin Wheeler Reserve, Maxwell Avenue, Miller.

The RTBU delegation is marching with Liverpool/Green Valley Health and NSW Police. It would be fantastic to see member’s at this event.

White Ribbon is Australia’s only national, male led campaign to end men’s violence against women. The

vision is all women live safely from all forms of men’s violence.

Originating in Canada in 1991, White Ribbon is now active in more than 60 countries.

White Ribbon Australia observes the International Day of the Elimination of Violence against Women.

Please contact the RTBU office if you require any details of this event.

I will stand up, speak out and act to prevent men’s violence against women.

 **White Ribbon**
Australia

Picnic Tickets



It’s this time of the year again, where members can purchase a picnic ticket and spend a day with family to relax whilst being paid. However, without the support from the members the picnic day will just become a memory.

Members can show support by purchasing a “Picnic Ticket”. The purchase price of a Picnic Ticket provides the financial support to the various picnic committees and allows them to continue to operate. The added bonus of course is for the member’s who purchase a picnic ticket will get a day off on full pay. The message is if we don’t use it we run the risk of losing it.

Remember the Picnic Day is your day so support it by buying your ticket.