



Secretary: Bruce Gale

President: Craig Turner

Vice President: Dave Hauser

## Update - Sydney Trains Train Crew Reforms

The Sydney Trains reform meetings are already well and truly underway in 2016, with a number of meetings with the company already taking place and delegates into their third week of working group meetings.

Sydney Trains have only recently started to provide some detail on some of the matters being discussed, which the working groups are now examining, and developing their own options based on all the feedback we've collected from members through survey and other means.

The Safety Indicators group is the area where the majority of work is currently being done, as the safety indicators will have an impact on all the other working group areas.

The group is currently concerned that the company's proposed safety indicators do not take into account all the relevant information, so are working carefully through the possible scenarios in order to see if they can come up with a more appropriate method which actually assess workload in a shift.

Sydney Trains is still insisting that there is a need to move swiftly, however it is the union's firm view and commitment to continue to focus on getting things right, rather than rushing the process in an effort to meet an arbitrary and unrealistic timeline.

Another member survey will also be sent out shortly to further gauge members' views on important issues.

The RTBU request that member's keep in mind that unless you hear it and or see it in writing from your union, it is probably a rumour.

If members have any questions or comments please contact your local delegate or the RTBU office.

## Guards Dispute over Practice Drives

Recently all Guards depots lodged a dispute on the issue of practice drives.

The dispute was lodged with Sydney Trains and NSW Trains due to the ongoing breaches of the Guards Rostering and Working Arrangements within Clause 17. Clause 17 states clearly states all guards are required to undergo practice drives every year, with the number of drives determined by which depot guards are based at.

There was an initial meeting with Sydney Trains regarding this dispute. Sydney Trains listened to the concerns of the RTBU Guards representatives. The RTBU is still waiting for the response from Sydney Trains.

## Crew Cab Privacy Screen



The RTBU has been approached by numerous Train Guards about the issue of the Crew Cab Privacy Screen. The concern is about Guards having been instructed to have the screen lowered at all times whilst working their train.

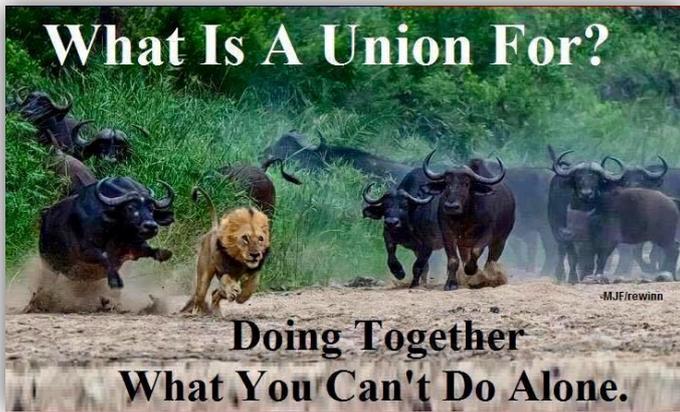
The RTBU believes that it has got to the stage now that some Guards are being intimidated by certain groups and individuals therefore putting themselves in a situation where their own safety, identity or personal items at risk. There are many examples of these kinds of risks. Some of these are below:

- Customers taking videos via their mobile phones of Train Guards performing their duties. This includes Guards talking to the Driver Via Intercom
- Customers filming Guards using their iPads and assuming that Guards are playing games.
- Unscrupulous characters know exactly who and the number of Train Crew that are travelling in the cabs.

Guards are also feeling vulnerable due to customers who constantly peer in through the window.

Guards are asking Sydney Trains to cover all Crew Cab Privacy Windows with a one way window or film.

## What's a Union For?



With all the discussion in the various forms of media it's not surprising that workers get confused and are unsure of the purposes of a trade union.

Below is a summary of what a union is.

- A union is an organisation that represents people at work. Representing includes someone from the union meeting with management on behalf of a member or group of staff or taking up a problem with your employer for you.
- Unions aim to protect their members. This includes ensuring workplaces are safe and that people's health is not put at risk through their jobs.
- Unions aim to improve their member's conditions and pay. This is done via collectively bargaining to negotiate improved pay and conditions.
- Running campaigns to improve workers conditions, pay and representational rights. An example of this is the 'Your Rights At Work Campaign'. This campaign was successful in changing the government and legislation that impacted workers rights and pay conditions.

## Local Union Community Councils (LUCC)

LUCC's are comprised of local rank and file delegates and union members (inclusive of retired members) along with their families and supporters in local community. Anyone who shares a desire to fight for jobs, rights and services is most welcome and encouraged to attend the LUCC in their area.

LUCCs groups' campaign against job cuts and services closures (e.g. the closure of Grafton gaol), called on politicians in elections to support jobs,

rights and services (e.g. Miranda by-election) and joined with other local organisations to advocate for the needs of a community (e.g. the Central West Jobs Summit).

LUCCs have a visible presence in their community, holding market, show day and street stalls, organising public forums, providing advice and information and are a hub for local union members and activists from all unions to connect with each other.

There are 29 local Union Community Councils in NSW. For those that are interested in attending a LUCC meeting or for further information please enter the link below on your search engine:

<http://www.unionsnsw.org.au/luccs>

## Next RTBU Train Guards Sub Division Meeting

The next RTBU Guards Sub Division meeting will be held on Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2016. Each depot is represented by their local delegate.

If you have any local issues that you wish to be raised and discussed at this meeting, please contact your local delegate prior to the meeting.

## Depot Representatives

Depot	RTBU Rep
Auburn	Andrew Sloan
Blacktown	Vishnu Nandoskar
Campbelltown	Robert Hughes
Central	Steve Brown
Cronulla	Chris Drady
Flemington	Bruce Fowler
Gosford	Don Harwood
Hamilton	Darryl Etherington
Hornsby	Craig Turner
Leppington	Bruce Gale
Lithgow	Cheryl Packer
Mortdale	Mick Sullivan
Moss Vale	Brian Pullman
Mt Victoria	Ted Dunger
North Sydney	Damien Kuan
Penrith	Maxwell Farquharson
Richmond	Ron Finlayson
Sydney	Krystle Barry
Waterfall	Joanne Bailey
Wollongong	Ian Sey