



Queensland Branch

Bus Circular

AUTHORISED BY OWEN DOOGAN BRANCH SECRETARY

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Dear Member,

How do we respond to such a tragedy?

RTBU members have been deeply affected by the tragic circumstances of last Friday.

Manmeet led a life which inspired all those around him. This is clear from the outpouring of grief coming from the Punjabi Community, of which he was an active member.

RTBU members have also expressed their deep shock and grief.

The enormous attendance at vigils held for Manmeet over the weekend are a testament both to Manmeet's character, and also to the need for people to try to fathom this senseless attack.

What is happening now?

Right now, the RTBU is working in conjunction with the Punjabi Cultural Association to raise funds for Manmeet's family. It's the first and most practical thing we can do. Details are available at www.rtbu.com.au or on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/rtbu).

We are respectfully assisting with arrangements to allow members to grieve. There will be further services and we will publicise them as details emerge.

Headlights on

This Wednesday, 2 November bus drivers around Australia will be driving with their headlights on as a mark of respect and to highlight driver safety.

Driver Safety

Understandably members are focused on driver safety right now. To that end, we met with the Transport Minister, Sterling Hinchliffe over the weekend and he announced that the enquiry into safety in public transport will now be fast tracked.

If you have ideas or suggestions you can pass them on to your workplace Delegate for inclusion in the RTBU submission.

We also have a meeting being arranged for tomorrow with Brisbane City Council to allow delegates and representatives of drivers to discuss issues of driver safety which Council can influence. Again, your workplace delegate is a good conduit for concerns – please raise any ideas with them.

We believe that concrete changes must come from Translink and Brisbane City Council as they are the employer and funding body.

Memorial Meeting

We have organised a Memorial Meeting at Sherwood depot this Friday, 4 November at 12 noon. All drivers and support staff are invited to attend. Buses can be arranged at your Depot for those wishing to attend.

National Day

RTBU National Office has been as moved as people in Brisbane. We are working with them on a plan to hold a national day of action next week to highlight the issue of driver safety across Australia.

We are talking with state and local public transport bodies to try and gain support from them so the message can be heard loudly – safety begins with respect. It is planned as initially a day to highlight the issue and raise awareness.

Unity is Strength

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Owen Doogan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Owen Doogan
**RTBU State Secretary,
Queensland Branch**