



QUEENSLAND BRANCH

Bus Newsletter

AUTHORISED BY OWEN DOOGAN BRANCH SECRETARY

Level 1, 457 Upper Edward Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
Email: info@rtbu.com.au • Website: www.rtbu.com.au
Phone: 3839 4988 • Rail: 81 2423

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Dear Member,

E-News November 2015

Privatisation

It appears that the LNP has switched its point of attack on public transport from Brisbane to Newcastle with the Baird Government announcing plans to privatise buses, ferries and the new light rail system in Newcastle. The RTBU has been quick to respond and a massive anti-privatisation campaign is underway. As we here in Brisbane are aware, this will be a hard slog for our colleagues in NSW and support from around the country will encourage them. Send a message of support via info@rtbu-nswbus.asn.au.

Penalty Rates Campaign

The campaign to protect weekend penalty rates is well underway with huge rallies outside Federal MP's offices this week. Bus drivers should be aware how important penalty rates are to our income and should come forward to support the campaign. There was a great turn out of drivers for the rally in Brisbane last Friday (20th) and the QCU organisers were impressed.

Thanks to all those who came; thanks to all the bus drivers who tooted in support as they passed; and thanks to all those who contacted us to voice their support after they saw us on TV. Great stuff! This is the most important campaign for shift workers in Australia presently and one we must win.

Push for Permanent Jobs

Most casual drivers would jump at the chance to have a permanent job, guaranteed hours, sick pay and holidays.

Some Traineeships are available to those casuals who want a permanent job. Casual driver members should put in a written request for a Traineeship and advise their Delegate that they have done so. Your Union will then push the issue until successful.

Delegates from all Depots meet monthly to work through the issues facing the Union. At the last meeting we continued to work on developing the EBA log of claims. It was reported that drivers are experiencing problems getting a break on the Spring Hill loop service. Also, we are trying to re-engage Council on the proposed Roster Code of Practice. Another matter discussed was the introduction of training on how to handle difficult situations, driver safety matters are always a priority for Your Union. Next meeting is on 10 December.

Retired Members Xmas Lunch

This will be on Friday 11 December this year at the QCU building in Peel Street. If you get the chance, drop in and see some old mates or just help out for a while.

National Council

At the recent gathering in Sydney the Tram and Bus Division reps pushed for national guidelines for CCTV on buses, legislation that would protect our members from misuse of footage.

2016 Diaries

Are here. Many drivers have relayed their disappointment about the quality of this year's diaries, I raised this matter with National Office and let's hope that there has been an improvement next year.

Unity is Strength

Tom Brown
**Secretary, Tram & Bus Division,
RTBU Qld Branch**