

WHAT IS GETTING UP YOUR NOSE??

A NOTE FROM SPEEDY Your Bus Industry Organiser



Just the Ticket has been introduced as a newsletter for Adelaide Metro Drivers because the TWU wants you to have your say.

With the upcoming EBA Review at Torrens Transit and the push for a Statewide Collective Agreement at the next round of tenders it is time for the bus drivers to be heard.

Just the Ticket is where you can have your opinion about any matters in the workplace and we will keep you informed about what the TWU is doing to improve the daily lives of hardworking Adelaide Metro Drivers.

The TWU wants drivers to be the main contributors to *Just the Ticket* so if you have a story idea, or just want to 'Rant and Rave' send it in to us at info@sa-nt.twu.com.au or PO Box 137 Welland SA 5007.

Just the Ticket is for members of the TWU so if you are not a member sign up. There is an application form on the back of this edition so make sure you sign up so you remain connected to your fellow workmates.

It is time for us to **Secure the Future.**

TWU HELPS ENSURE DRIVERS GET TRAINING

With the recent introduction of Through-Running, TWU members raised concerns about the lack of training for the new routes. The TWU immediately held meetings with members to listen to what they had to say and to work on developing a solution.

Southlink was not quick to respond to the serious lack of training and maintained that the information packs that had been distributed were sufficient. The TWU did not take this to be a suitable response and immediately organised meetings at all Southlink depots to ensure drivers got proper training on the new system.

Once Southlink got wind of the meeting a memo was issued to all drivers outlining that 3 hours training would be provided to all bus drivers at a pay rate of time and a half.

The united effort of TWU members at Southlink ensured that drivers got the training they deserved.

DON'T GET CAUGHT SHORT THE CAMPAIGN FOR MORE LOOS

The amount of toilets available for bus drivers while out on the road is currently unacceptable. Bus Industry Organiser, Ian 'Speedy' Gonsalves, is currently campaigning all three bus companies to fix the shortage.

Bus drivers should not be subjected to sub-standard working conditions and Speedy is working hard to ensure that bus drivers do not get caught short while on the road.

Just the Ticket will keep you updated on the latest with the loo situation with improvements hopefully coming in the near future.

STATEWIDE COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

Bus industry delegates met on the 13th of April to discuss the upcoming campaign for a statewide collective agreement for all Adelaide Metro bus drivers.

This campaign will take place over the next 18 months leading up to the next round of tenders to the State Government.

At the meeting delegates had the chance to have their input into what should be in the next agreement. While this meeting was the first step in a long process the points raised form a good foundation for our goal.

We want to establish one common agreement for all bus drivers. We also aim to have all drivers in public transport to be on equal wages and similar working conditions. This campaign will be ongoing and we encourage everyone to get involved. The more people the bigger our bargaining power.

BUSES & MOTORISTS

I would like some feedback from other operators on this issue:

I know buses have always had to fight for road space with other motorists, but am I alone in believing that over the past few months trying to get back into traffic from a bus stop or changing lanes is becoming increasingly more difficult. No one seems to want to give way.

Last Friday I pulled into a bus stop in Haydown Road opposite the Lyell McEwen Hospital, as the last person had entered I put the right indicator on and shut the doors. Well no less than 7 cars (the fourth one being a police car) would not let me out!

I feel that this problem is getting worse and more frustrating. What do you think?

I would love to hear your thoughts.

Posted by 'The Mayor' on SAMetroDrivers.com

DRIVER SAFETY

I was saddened to hear last night that one of our northern drivers had been assaulted last night by an absolute scumbag. I am unsure of the circumstance, but whatever the circumstance this is totally uncalled for,

A few questions have come to mind. Why did the Police take so long to attend?

Where was the on road coordinator? Why is there only one on road coordinator on at one time?

Why do the community let these lowlifes walk the streets?

What about driver safety, the trains get security guards, are we any different?

Posted by 'NoGrow' on SAMetroDrivers.com

TICKETING SYSTEM

I would like drivers thoughts on the 21 year old 'Crouzet' ticketing system.

I for one am getting increasingly annoyed at the amount of failed tickets I am having. I am averaging 4 failed Multi-trips a day. Yes per day. At this is only one driver.

This equates to about 20 failed tickets per week and 1,040 failed tickets per year.

Times this figure by say 600 drivers and the figures are 12,000 failed tickets per week and 624,000 failed tickets per year.

Now, this is rather loosely based on only 600 drivers not including the rest of them nor the ones that have simply given up and do not write out a green slip. Nor does it include the trains or the trams.

Upon talking to other drivers recently the figure of 4 failed tickets per day (on average) is fairly accurate. I mean some days you may have none but yesterday I had 7 and today 3.

Having to write out a green slip then write on the ticket holds up the bus, holds up other passengers and in some cases holds up traffic. It is totally unacceptable that this ticketing system is still in use. The State transport Authority purchased it in 1987 (it was 5 years old then) from the French. That envisaged it would be in operation for about 10 years or so. They hoped that by the mid to late 90's they would have 'SmartCard' up and running.

I had seen some preliminary design plans for SmartCard in the early 90's. However, as history shows, the STA was beaten to a pulp by the Liberal Government and the 'Managing' role (I use this term loosely) was given to the Passenger Transport Board (now PTB or AdelaideMetro). As a result the ticketing system was put into the bottom drawer and forgotten.

We need, along with the help of the media, the public and the TWU to get this antiquated piece of crap called 'Crouzet' replaced. It has served the system well but it is way past its use-by date. It is 1982 computer technology for heavens sake. It has to go!

What do you think?

Posted by 'The Mayor' on SAMetroDrivers.com

THROUGH RUNNING

I work in the Outer South and we have recently started through running, this has caused a number of problems even prior to its introduction ie. lack of training, less overtime in rosters, antics and rigids on wrong runs etc.

I would like to know how other drivers have coped with the changes and what problems they have encountered with the introduction of through running, and I'm sure there are many.....

Posted by Chior45 on SAMetroDrivers.com

IS SOMETHING GETTING UP YOUR NOSE AT WORK? LET US KNOW AND WE WILL PUBLISH IT SO OTHER DRIVERS HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY. SIMPLY SEND IN YOUR 'RANT & RAVE' TO [INFO@SA-NT.TWU.COM.AU](mailto:info@sa-nt.twu.com.au) OR MAIL TO PO BOX 137 WELLAND SA 5007.