



Newsline

2004 new year edition



The historic Spencer St No. 1 Signal Box - still in operation.



The Old Victoria St Tram Signal Box which is now under Trust.

See inside for your
2004 lift-out calendar

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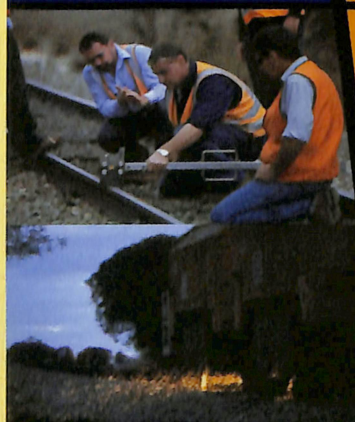
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Fax: 08 9325 7024

Victoria/South Australia
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North Melbourne Vic 3070

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Rutherford NSW 2320

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President: Marc Marotta (hon)
Asst. Secretary: Lou Di Gregorio (hon)

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Div Assistant Secretary: Brian Hill
Div President: Paul Carr
Div Vice President: Wayne Hicks

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Flinders Street Station
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Telephone (03) 9614 6477
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Email: rtbu@iprimus.com.au

Tram & Bus Division

Div Secretary: Lou Di Gregorio
Div Asst. Secretary: Phil Altieri
Div President: Doug Brady

Level 1, 117-131 Capel Street
North Melbourne Vic 3051
Telephone (03) 9329 9057
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Tram & Bus Division

Secretary's Report



Staff our Stations Campain Ferntree Gully Occupation 12/8/03



Yarra Tram, Parliament House



LOU DI GREGORIO
SECRETARY
TRAM & BUS DIVISION

is why we support Yarra Trams to take over the running of the Trams.

We believe that they will improve the Tram System greatly over the next few years. They will be the company that will lead the tram system into the future has one of the best in the world.

The Chief Executive Officer Hubert Guyot is a person with a great vision for the future of public transport. He comes up with many new ideas on how to improve public transport in our city. We will work with them to make sure that the future of our members is safeguarded and will continue to extend our tram network. We also will be there to stop them if they try to undermine our conditions and our future.

2003 has been a year that we took many initiatives for our members to improve their working conditions.

We delivered an EBA for our new Members at Bendigo Tram Depot. We introduced the RTBU Credit Card. Re introduced the Transport Health Fund. Holiday Units in Rosebud at affordable Rates for our Members and their families.

Through the EBA we have been able to gain:

Victorian Drivers Licenses paid by the employer. Two Hours payment for medical examination. Interstate Travel Passes for all our members and their families. Bonus Payments \$500 to \$550. More importantly 13% wage increase for all our members over 3years.

These are some of the improvements that we have made for our members for the year 2003. We have also strengthened the Job Security for our members for the future.

NEW TRAMS

We have worked with Yarra Trams to introduce the new New Citadis Tram currently all 36 of them are running. We have also worked with M> Trams to introduce the combino running from Malvern Tram Depot and by the end of the year we should have all Module 3 Combino Trams running. Module 5 Combino Tram should be introduced

This will be the Final Magazine for the year 2003 and we believe that it has been a great year for our members. We will continue to work to make sure that the working conditions of our members are safe and secure.

GOODBYE TO M>TRAM WELCOME TO YARRA TRAM

We are close to a final decision on Tram Amalgamation. The Government will be making an official announcement some time mid December 2003. We believe that Yarra Trams has a great opportunity to run the whole tram system in our city.

For those people who do not know Yarra Trams well, Yarra Tram that is owned by two major companies, Transfield Construction Company from Australia and Transdev Transport Operator Company from France.

Transdev is well known around the world as the best transport operator and they are a very progressive company. Everywhere that they run transport they have moved forward with a great vision for the future. That

late February or early March 2004. We will continue to work with Malvern Tram Depot so that our members will Not be disadvantaged.

MET PLAN A MELBOURNE 2003 INITIATIVE

This report by the State Government has not been released yet. I have seen the Draft Copy and I am very impressed with it. Over the years I have seen many plans put forward by the Government such as Met Plan, Transport Plan and others none of them have ever been implemented.

The Tram Plan is the best of the lot, it is not a short term plan, it will be implemented by stages 10years, 20years and 30years. Under this Plan our Tram Network will be extended everywhere. Currently we run 480 Trams, by the year 2020 we will be running 600 Trams.

The capacity of our Tram Fleet will be increased from 36 thousand to 75 thousand at any given time, by the year 2020. By the year 2020 there will be an introduction of 440 new trams. In 2002 the Tram Network carried a total of 130 million passengers. By the year 2020 that number will be doubled.

Who will be responsible in the implementation of the Met Plan -

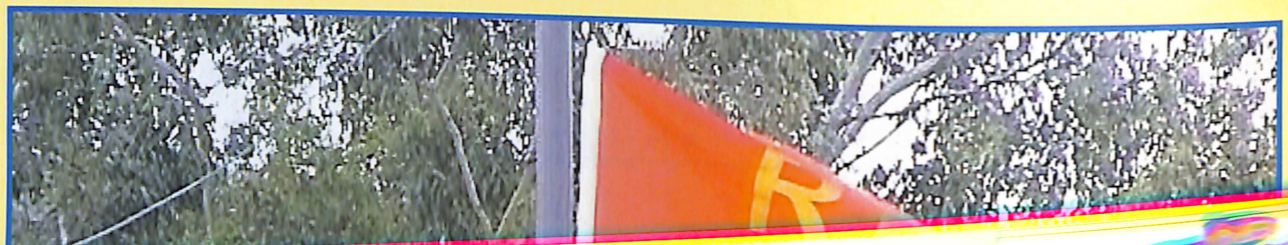
1. D.O.I.
2. Vic Roads
3. Tram Operator
4. Local Government

The R.T.B.U. Tram and Bus Division will play a major role in this implementation.

SEASON'S GREETING

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members for their support they have given this union and myself. I will continue to work closely with members to protect our future.

On behalf of T&B Assistant Secretary Phil Altieri, T&B President Doug Brady, Tram and Bus Division Executive and myself, we wish all our Members and their families the compliment of the season and safe and prosperous New Year.



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- ◆ Jackets



Management of Rail Safety

Mission:
 "To provide a safe & efficient work environment for construction & maintenance activities that impact on train running throughout Suburban and Regional Victoria by using modern management / union principles with proven Operational & Safeworking expertise & a clearly demonstrated competency & understanding of the issues involved particularly rail safety."

Company Background
 The company in its present form became established in 1998. Over the past four years we have demonstrated the capacity to operate in a safe and efficient manner without a single significant safety incident often under the most difficult and challenging circumstances proving to be of great value to our clients. Due to the lack of expertise and unreliability of contracted Safeworking staff form labour supply agencies Safeworking Solutions recruited a team of redundant rail people keen to be responsible and capable of performing at the highest level.

Safeworking Standard
 The Safeworking personnel underwent extensive training and development under Jim Talbot, who has a strong background in Rail Safety and Operational Management (including post graduate studies in systems and business management) until able to work with relative autonomy in an environment where the standard was uncompromisingly the best. We have a culture of responsibility for all activities the company is involved in, including Safety Plans Investigations and report writing. We assist the client to formulate and implement strategies that minimize the impact working within the constraints of the rail environment have, we specialize in controlling large worksites and multiple workgroups. In the field we take the responsibility for track force protection leaving the client free to do the work they do best.

Growth of the Company
 As word in the construction and rail industry rapidly spreads, and as the company has a simple structure, with closed shop union membership, it easily respond to the needs of work that arises, the company has subsequently won the Safeworking Management for most recent major construction and maintenance activities.

We are confident representatives of our members would readily endorse this agreement.

virtual

Christmas 2003 Deals

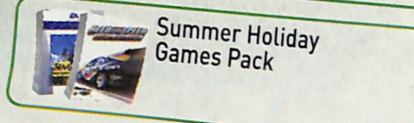
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Simple
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order for either

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Signing off on the EBA at the commission

"Safeworking Solutions"

ACN: 081 964 918
ABN: 83 081 964 918
Established March 1998



Mission:

"To provide a safe & efficient work environment for construction & maintenance activities that impact on train running throughout Suburban and Regional Victoria by using modern management / union principles with proven Operational & Safeworking expertise & a clearly demonstrated competency & understanding of the issues involved particularly rail safety."

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Growth of the Company

As word in the construction and rail industry rapidly spreads, and as the company has a simple structure, with closed shop union membership, to easily respond to the needs of work that arises, the company has subsequently won the Safeworking Management for most recent major construction and maintenance activities.

We are confident representatives from the above companies would readily offer glowing recommendations if approached.

Future Prospects

The company is now seen as a cornerstone of the rail industry. Please do not hesitate to contact Jim Talbot personally on mobile: **0412 098 452** should any of the above services need to be acquired or discussed.

email:rtbuvic@bigpond.net.au

Tram & Bus Division

Assistant Secretary's Report



PHIL ALTIERI
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
TRAM & BUS DIVISION

with the possibility of also delivering a \$550.00 bonus for each year for each member. Notwithstanding the wages outcome it also delivers excellent improvements to R.T.B.U. Members Conditions. Eg.

- First Class Rail Interstate Travel Pass for all R.T.B.U. Tram and Bus Members their spouse, and dependants.

- Tram Drivers will have the cost of renewal of their Victorian Drivers Licence paid for by the employer.

- R.T.B.U. Members will be paid a 2hr allowance for attending their Periodical Medicals.

- Meal allowance has increased from \$5.25 TO \$12.50

- Plain clothes allowance for Authorised Officers has increased from \$8.00 to \$12.00 weekly.

- Long Service Leave, a Pro-Rata entitlement after 7years.

- All overtime on Saturday will be paid at double time.

- The Employer will establish an Employee Assistance Service to assist our members.

The M> Tram E.B.A has also been finalised and unanimously endorsed by our Divisional Executive. It will now hit the floor for members to have their say. This Agreement mirrors the Yarra Operations Agreement, we expect our members in M>Trams to also overwhelmingly endorse this agreement.

The Tram and Bus Division Officials are currently negotiating Ten (10) Enterprise Bargaining Agreements

Yarra Trams Operations, Yarra Trams Maintenance, Yarra Trams Infrastructure, Yarra Trams Administration, M> Tram Operations, Thiess Infraco Swanston, Bombardier Maintenance, Alstom Preston Workshops, Alstom Citadis Maintenance, Siemens Combino Maintenance

The Yarra Trams Operations Agreement has been finalised and overwhelmingly endorsed by the relevant membership in the formal vote. The A.I.R.C. process has been finalised, resulting in the registration of this agreement.

This Enterprise Agreement delivers a 13% wage increase over 3 years.

The other E.B.A's are progressing well with the Yarra Maintenance Infrastructure, Administration, and Thiess Infraco Swanston E.B.A.'s expected to be concluded in the next couple of weeks followed shortly by the others.

The outcome for maintenance and infrastructure agreements will be slightly different to the operations agreements.

The operative date for all new enterprise agreements will be 1st July 2003. Our members will receive their back pay once their agreement is registered.

The 11th Enterprise Agreement being the Central Deborah Bendigo Workplace Agreement was registered on the 7th July 2003. This 2 year agreement is the first union based Enterprise Agreement for our tramway workers in Bendigo. This agreement delivers a number of improvements in working conditions for our members, including 38 hr week, improved overtime payment, stand by allowance, improved payment for public holidays, etc. It also delivers moderate wage increases for our members in Bendigo.

email:rtbuvic@bigpond.net.au



Rail, Tram & Bus Union 2004

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Tram Division: Phone: 9329 9057 Fax: 9329 9179 Email: trambus@bigpond.net.au
Loco Division: Room 123, Lvl1, Flinders Street Station, Melbourne 3000 Ph: 9614 6477 Email: rtbu@iprimus.com.au

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