



# UNION EXPRESS

The Official Organ of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU

Victorian Branch

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**Rail Divisions RTBU**

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## UNION SUMMER INTERN

Union Summer is an internship program run through the VTHC, and was an opportunity I jumped to be part of, wanting to gain a better understanding of how unions operate. Being raised in a strong union activist family, I was always aware of the importance and accomplishments of the union movement, and am now keen to learn first hand where unions are now, and the current challenges they face and ambitions they now have.

The RTBU was chosen as my host union, where I would be able to see first hand the day to day functioning of a union, as well as gain a better understanding of the recruitment process and challenges faced by unions.

In my brief time here, I have clearly seen that the RTBU has been active in engaging with its members, providing special outlets for minority members, the clearest example of this being RTBU Women, providing regular meetings and functions for all female RTBU members, allowing them to gain leadership experience and strengthen their voice within the union, run by RTBU Industrial, Campaigns and Women's officer Luba Grigorovitch.

Throughout the next week or so that I am here, my job will be to examine how the RTBU can better engage with its Young members, and I am highly motivated and excited to do this, having seen through RTBU Women that engagement with all members across all demographics is a highly valued priority of the RTBU.



**Samantha Towler - RTBU Summer Intern**

## NEW ORGANISER FOR RTBU RAIL DIVISIONS

Every now and again a union needs to look at organising structures and consider whether or not adjustments are required to meet new circumstances or needs.

In our case we have had a close look at our existing arrangements in terms of organisers and decided they need a bit of a freshen up with the addition of a new organiser and further changes down the track.

With that in mind, the Rail Divisions have resolved that the steady increase of membership over the past few years, which has placed more pressure on our full time officials and delegates, and the start of a new round of bargaining for a dozen Enterprise Agreements this year including Metro and V/Line, means that we need an additional organiser to help us get the job done and provide additional support to our members and delegates.

Accordingly, it has been resolved that Luba Grigorovitch, who has been employed for the past 18 months as an Industrial, Women's and Campaigns Officer, vacate this role and that she be appointed to a full time paid position of Administrative, Supervisory, Technical and Professional Branch Divisional Organiser and that this position be converted in to a full time elected position at a later date.

Luba has done a mighty job for our members in her current role and has agreed to move from the position of Industrial Officer to become a part of the elected leadership of our union as an organiser going forward.

Her 18 months with us have served as an apprenticeship in which Luba has more than demonstrated through hard work, commitment and skill that she is up to the job of becoming an organiser for the RTBU.

It has been further decided that Luba's current position of Industrial Officer be filled with a Legal Industrial Officer with a law degree to support the union in the increasingly complex area of Industrial Law.

These decisions to strengthen our position on behalf of our members are a part of a number of measures that will be taken in the months ahead to get the best possible side on the field to meet the challenges ahead.

Luba will retain responsibility for organising the Women's Committee and campaigns.



**Trevor Dobbyn**  
State Secretary

## PSO RISK ASSESSMENT

Protective Services Officers (PSO's) will be rolled out on February the 22nd at two metropolitan locations, Flinders Street and Southern Cross Stations. These officers will be under the supervision of the Transit Division of the Victorian Police. The promised Risk Assessment will happen over two days beginning Friday 10th February. All developments from the risk assessment will be reported in the next edition of Union Express.

## myki

Changes to the ticketing system are now coming thick and fast, with periodical tickets available through the Metcard system being withdrawn from sale in the next month. Metcard ticket vending machines are also being removed from platforms and replaced with myki machines. Ticket office terminals will begin being installed into Premium Stations mid-year with the first station being Williamstown then moving clockwise around the metropolitan area and ending in the CBD by years end.

myki mates will also be seen around the metropolitan network in support of the roll out of changes to the ticketing system, to assist the travelling public with issues in changing over to myki. Following discussions with the TTA, the myki mates will be employed at the Leading Station Assistant rate and afforded any incremental rises as per the Metro Agreement. They will also have the opportunity to join the RTBU upon induction.

## RRL SHUTDOWN

The next RRL shutdown will be held over the Labour Day weekend and will coincide with the Australian Grand Prix. Meetings will be held in the coming days to ensure that the set up problems faced at the last shutdown are avoided and all members are kept well informed. Delegates from the Northern Stations and the North Melbourne AO depot will also attend a briefing from Shutdown Organisers at Metro within the next two weeks.



### Grant Wainwright

Organiser - Rail Operations  
Division & Administration,  
Supervisory, Technical &  
Professional Division

## Have you moved house or changed jobs recently?

Please let us know if your details have changed by calling us on **9600 3030** or send us an email on the address below.

**Do you have an email address?**

**Do you have a mobile phone number?**

**send us an email:**

**rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au**

## JOINING UP NEW MEMBERS

Have you seen the RTBU induction film? The film features RTBU delegates, members and officials. Why not request a copy from the Union Office? Simply call 9600 3030 if you would like a copy sent to you, or go online to [www.youtube.com.au](http://www.youtube.com.au) and type in 'RTBU Recruitment Clip'. The video is also on our website. Go to [www.rtbuvic.com.au](http://www.rtbuvic.com.au) to view.

**If you know of people on the job that haven't joined up yet, have a go at talking to them about it or contact the union office on 9600 3030 or email us at [rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au](mailto:rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au) for assistance**



## BOMBARDIER BALLARAT

Employees of Bombardier are pleased with the new workshop that was constructed early this year at East Ballarat. It is now operational and in full use.

The flooring at this site can be heated which will make working on the concrete floor a lot better for staff who work in this area, there is talk of a jack road to be put in later, which would make working on locomotive engines more comfortable. This will also improve the way in which work is done at this site.

This site was visited during construction by the RTBU, ETU and AMWU.



### Calvin Harvey

Organiser Infrastructure / Workshops

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### State Secretary

Trevor Dobbyn

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### Infrastructure Division

Secretary: Kevin Killender

### Admin and Salaried Division

Secretary: Steven Kozmevski

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Luba Grigorovitch

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