

E-BULLETIN Postal

19. Monday 21 December



1. Season's Greetings
2. Drivers left shaken after incidents
3. Large parcel sorting system forces staffing review
4. CFMEU rallies to defend Vic officials against 'blackmail'

1. Season's Greetings from CWU National Office



At the close of another year we take this opportunity to wish you a happy holiday season and to say thank you for your support.

The CWU National Secretary, Greg Rayner and Assistant Secretary, Nicole Robinson and staff would like to join in wishing you a Merry Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Our office will close on **Thursday 24th December 2015**, and will reopen on **Monday 4th January 2016**.

2. Drivers left shaken after incidents

A number of incidents have occurred in the last month, with drivers left shaken.

In one incident a van had been stolen while the driver was making a delivery. Another had threats made towards them. One of the vans stolen was later found burnt out.

The union is working with Post and looking at ways we can ensure that all members are safe while conducting your work.



Post has a legal responsibility to provide a safe worksite and process of conducting work.

There are a range of strategies and protective devices that can be adopted to reduce both the incentives for robbery and the risks of severe injury during a hold-up. A hands-free mobile telephone so the driver can make phone calls if required is an obvious device. These are provided in some country areas but not in metropolitan areas.

We ask our members to be vigilant while out performing your work duties and at all times put your personal safety first.

3. Large parcel sorting system forces staffing review



Now that the expansion of the Melbourne Parcel Facility (MPF) and Sydney Parcel Facility (SPF) has been completed and throughput rates and performance on the Large Parcel Sorting System (LPSS), Post is proposing to review the staffing arrangements for LPSS and dock areas at these sites.

But to allow time to implement the review and any changes arising Post proposes to extend the existing transition period at both MPF and SPF from the end of January to the end of June 2016.

During the extended transition period Post will want to continue the engagement of fixed term and casual employees beyond January 2016.

However the issue of fixed term and casual employees at MPF has been before the Fair Work Commission a number of times with recommendations requiring that fixed term employees who have been working for more than 2 years should be converted to permanent. And, the issue of who does extra work at MPF is subject to a FWC recommendation that the parties will have discussions at the local level.

The CWU will be requesting consultation at the state and local level on at MPF and SPF to ensure Post complies with FWC recommendations and its obligations under the enterprise agreement.

4. CFMEU rallies to defend Vic officials against 'blackmail'



Thousands of CFMEU members and other unions have rallied to defend two Vic officials charged with criminal blackmail by the federal government's Royal Commission into Trade Unions Taskforce.

State secretary John Setka and deputy Shaun Reardon have been charged with blackmailing concrete supplier Boral, in an alleged bid to put pressure on construction giant Grocon, with which the union had an ongoing battle.

CFMEU national construction secretary Dave Noonan said the charges amounted to criminalisation of unions' work.

"Industrial relations (disputes) ought not to be treated as a criminal behaviour". "The charges amounted to prosecuting trade union officials for doing their job". "Dealing with wages and conditions of workers is not criminality, unionism is not criminality," he said.

Setka and Reardon would not be found guilty, he told the rally. "They have been involved in an industrial dispute," Mr Noonan said. "That's what happens in unions."

**We welcome your comments and contributions –
send us an email and let us know what you think via cwuwa@inet.net.au
Check out our webpage at www.cwuwa.org**

Regards,
Barry McVee
Branch Secretary
