



A.F.U.L.E.

Traincrew Representing Traincrew

NEWSLETTER # 3



21 November 2011

Dear Councillors

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Hi to all,

It is quickly developing into an extremely busy week here at State Office. Preparations for the conference Thursday and Friday are combining with a whole swag of new issues that have arisen for members over the weekend.

So this week, we have a slightly shortened version of the weekly newsletter.

WHO IS WHERE THIS WEEK?

Greg:

- Rail Skills Conference on Tuesday
- Divisional Council Meeting Thursday and Friday

Mel:

- Out of office Tuesday and Thursday mornings
- Involved in Divisional Council Thursday and Friday as required

Anthony:

- Out of office Thursday afternoon



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- Involved in conference Thursday and Friday as required

INDUSTRIAL NEWS:

Member's personal issues:

Quite a few new issues have come in today, including –

- a show cause
- a forced medical retirement
- some new worker's compensation issues for members

These new issues get added to the over 20 current members personal matters we are managing.

Also, Anthony is waiting on notification of a member's requirement to attend a meeting over a SPAD. After discussion with the AFULE officials in the region and Greg Smith, it has been decided that Anthony will attend the meeting in person, to show support to the member and to show the employer we are taking these matters seriously and defending our members.

Reminder 1:

Coal and freight, keep an eye on and let us know about any action over "sick leave". It would appear that QRN might be adopting a new approach to speaking to people about use of sick leave, so we need to hear about any approaches ASAP.

Reminder 2:

Again, Coal and Freight - keep an eye on sick leave and annual leave deductions. We need to hear immediately if there has been what looks like a change in the way these types of leave have been deducted.



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Feedback on draft national OH&S Codes of Practice:

We are submitting our unions comments on the draft workplace bullying and the draft fatigue management codes of practice which will come into force next year along with the new OH&S nationalised laws.

Anthony is attending a combined unions meeting about the content of these two codes this Thursday.

If you are interested, you can check the drafts here –

<http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/Legislation/PublicComment/Pages/Model-WHS-CoP-Public-Comment.aspx> And you are welcome to send comments to Anthony, as the submissions are not due until mid-December.

WHITE RIBBON DAY

As Mel mentioned last week, there are exciting and progressive outcomes being generated by your state office in the area of domestic violence leave. So again, here is a reminder that 25 November is white ribbon day, when Australia's campaign to stop violence against women receives some needed support and focus.

You can visit this site – <http://www.whiteribbon.org.au/find-events> to find out what is happening near you and to get involved.

SHORT NEWSLETTER THIS WEEK:

With the focus on the conference this week and the increasing calls for help, the newsletter is a little short this week.

Please contact us if you have ideas or suggestions for what you would like to hear about in these newsletters.

Talk to you all next week, with a wrap up of the conference.

Anthony Cooke

Industrial Officer

Australian Federated Union of Locomotive Employees

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