



AVIATION NEWSLETTER

JULY 2021

With threats still being posed by new strains of covid-19, we've again seen lockdowns disrupt aviation around the country. We'll continue to hold companies and the Federal Government to account to get aviation workers through this stage of the pandemic as vaccination numbers increase.

SNAP POLL: YOUR THOUGHTS ON VACCINATION

We're 18 months into a pandemic, but you and the travelling public are still at risk. We need your thoughts on priority vaccination and how you can be better supported at work.

Survey for cabin crew and pilots: bit.ly/CabinCrewPilotsSnapPoll

Survey for all other aviation workers: bit.ly/AviationSnapPoll2021

BARGAINING UPDATE

Hundreds of members from Menzies, Dnata Ground, Dnata Catering, Qantas Freight, AAE and QGS have recently completed bargaining surveys across the country. That process is almost complete, and here's what happens next:

- Drafting logs of claims after going through survey responses
- Delegates will then come together and endorse logs of claims
- Logs of claims will be brought back to members for formal endorsement
- We'll commence bargaining with companies

If you haven't filled out your bargaining survey yet, contact your delegate or organiser. With ongoing intermittent lockdowns around the country, we must put on a strong fight to achieve our outcomes. Membership density is the number one way to achieve that, so it's hugely important to have conversations with everyone we can, to bring them into the TWU aviation family and ensure as many people as possible are joining our fight.

ROUND-UP: SITE VISITS AROUND THE COUNTRY

Your organisers are working hard to ensure the best outcomes for you at work. Take a look at some of the scenes from around Australia since we last updated you.



QANTAS SAFETY BREACHES CONTINUE

Since we last updated you, there have been more safety breach incidents at Qantas, including:

- ✗ A plane taking off to Brisbane despite being damaged
- ✗ 300kg of luggage accidentally being loaded onto a plane, and having to be unloaded for security reasons
- ✗ Animals stranded at Darwin airport

Qantas may have outsourced its ground work but it must take full responsibility for the safety of all workers, before serious injuries or fatalities occur. You can report any safety breaches to us through [this form](#).



Sat on the tarmac for 30 minutes & pilots have just told us that 300kgs of luggage has been accidentally loaded on to our plane & now we're going back to offload it for security reasons. This is what happens @Qantas when you get rid of experienced staff and outsource their jobs



UPDATES ON QANTAS COURT CASES

FEDERAL CASE ON OUTSOURCING

We're still awaiting a result against Qantas over the outsourcing of 2,500 ground operations jobs. Though a difficult case given Australia's workplace laws, our legal team held senior Qantas executives to account during cross-examination, and mounted the best case possible.

We'll be updating you as soon as we have any updates. No matter the verdict, we're planning a robust response, so keep a lookout for how you can get involved.

HIGH COURT REJECTS SICK LEAVE AND JOBKEEPER CASES

The High Court has rejected our appeal against Qantas' JobKeeper rort. This is a hugely disappointing outcome for workers whose overtime and penalty rate entitlements were pocketed by Qantas. An appeal on Qantas denying workers' sick leave has also been rejected. For workers like Peter Seymour, who worked for the company for 30 years before being diagnosed with cancer, this has been a particularly cruel decision. With only 5% of appeals heard by the High Court, unfortunately the legal bar is extremely high despite the unfairness of Qantas' handling of JobKeeper and workers' sick leave.



Both of these decisions show the continuing need to nationalise the company, and make sure conditions are tied to government support, which is now in excess of \$1.5 billion since the pandemic began.

Sign the petition to
nationalise Qantas:
bit.ly/NationaliseQantas

TWU AND VIPA AMALGAMATION

We updated you previously on our potential merge with the Virgin Independent Pilots' Alliance (VIPA). Pilots face similar attacks on pay and conditions to other aviation members, and that's why our plan to combine forces is so exciting. We'll use our collective strength to hold both Federal Government and companies to account on safety and standards right across the industry, along with our existing pilot members. Watch [this video](#) on VIPA pilots talking about how this will improve outcomes for all aviation workers.



INTERNATIONAL CLEANERS' DAY



International Cleaners' Day on 15 June was a day to recognise the incredible work by cleaners. Cabin cleaners in particular have had a more important role than ever during the pandemic.

We want to say a special thank you to Theo, the Qantas HSR stood down after he refused to clean a plane from China early on in the pandemic, because the company was not providing his team with proper PPE. Thank you as well to the other incredible cabin cleaners keeping the travelling public safe!

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT ATTENDANTS' APPRECIATION DAY

May 31 was International Flight Attendants' Appreciation Day. Like cabin cleaners, flight attendants have been on the front lines of the pandemic, and despite so many instabilities in aviation, you have continued to keep people moving.

Thank you to our amazing cabin crew!



It goes without saying that at the TWU we appreciate all aviation workers every day of the year. From pilots to ground crew to catering to security, thank you for all your hard work.

TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER.
JOIN NOW FOR A BETTER FUTURE.

www.twu.com.au/join

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