



YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY:

Plans to slash up to 1 in 4 jobs from the Land Stewardship and Biodiversity Group (**LSB**) by the Department of Sustainability and Environment (**DSE**) are opposed by CPSU members who call on the Government to guarantee that the operating funds and staff managing this program will not be sacrificed to hide senior management budget ineptitude.

The latest **public sector employee** attitude survey results released by the State Government confirms disproportionately high dissatisfaction levels amongst staff about receiving a fair go when it comes to Departmental decisions affecting them.

CPSU members employed at the **National Gallery** vote to endorse their new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement aligning pay rates and conditions with the broader Public Service.



Negotiations continue with **TAC** after our claims are served seeking a variety of options for staff following the massive rejection of the Geelong relocation proposal.

Prison reconfiguration remains the biggest agenda item within **Corrections** as new institutions are prepared for commissioning and negotiations continue about transfers, rosters, the treatment of casuals, and the ongoing issue of smoking in confined spaces.

Announcements within the **Sheriffs** Office around possible shift changes, changes to existing work practices and a range of other strategies that members feel may impact on their working conditions, remuneration, safety, etc kick off the year on the defensive.

FEBRUARY:

The move of **DHS** to new accommodation at 50 Lonsdale St gives CPSU an opportunity to reaudit and map and organise in this workplace and CPSU wants to start this process by holding a series of early morning barbecues outside 50 Lonsdale St to celebrate the move and profile the union to members and non-members.

Concerns over the procedures used by the Merit Protection Board in its handling of **School Support Officers** reclassification grievances leads CPSU to reach agreement with Education on an alternative mechanism for handling reclassification grievances, while our complaint against the MPB remains unresolved.

CPSU advises members about our request to extend the Victorian Public Service Agreement 2004 early to clear up any possible doubt about the enforceability of all our entitlements and the new Career Structures following a decision of the Federal Court in late 2005 and the impending changes to federal industrial relations law (Work Choices).

Discussion with Melbourne **Museum** commence regarding proposed rostering of Duty Managers during weekends and public holidays.

New Agreements are also developed for **State Emergency Services** and **VicForests** staff to mirror the VPS Agreement arrangements.

MARCH:

The union and **Colinvest** meet to try to secure a new Certified Agreement prior to the proclamation of the Work Choices Legislation & its Regulations taking effect.

International Women's Day & Labour Day celebrations.

The largest ever recorded turnout of government employees [10,859] voted overwhelmingly to support CPSU's new VPS Agreement with the State Government.

Some **Student Support Services Officers** still await claims for travel reimbursements they made in 2005 as the union expresses concern about what we think may be delaying tactics, such as the requirement to fill out a Tax File Number Declaration form before payment is made.

An Interim Agreement for **ESSB** staff working at 35 Spring Street is certified given the recent merger of **ESSS** and **GSO** and the impact of incorporating two different Agreements into a final, single Agreement for both sites.

To celebrate the 150 year anniversary of the eight hour day, a commemoration is held re-enacting the eight hour day, telling the story of protest in early Melbourne and the impulse for reform.

Public Records Office management propose changes to weekend/out of hours work for employees.

Changes to Victoria's Upper House (Legislative Council) and its impact on all **Electorate Officer** members is discussed as plans are put in place prior to the general election later in the year.

The move of **ACMI's** Park Street services to Federation Square becomes one of the major industrial topics of discussion.

APRIL:

Negotiations are stalled at the last minute by **Zoos** Victoria and the pre-Federal IR legislation deadline is not met resulting in any new Agreement being negotiated under the changed work law regime.

TAC staff vote for certainty and endorse a comprehensive assistance package with some provisos.



A dispute over a locker fee erupts at **DHS** as members find it absolutely scandalous that a Department that sponsors 'Ride to Work Day' is penalising those people who actually do ride to work.

MAY:

A **Crime** Department restructure at **VicPol** raises concerns from members.

CPSU in conjunction with **SGE Credit Union** continues our tertiary scholarship program by awarding \$750 per year to support those members and their families attempting a suitable tertiary course with a demonstrated need.

The Federal Government introduces new industrial relations laws for all Australian workers which benefit Employers by reducing the rights of working Australians provoking a nation-wide campaign in opposition.

