

SLD 01/26

## **CWU T&S WEEKLY BULLETIN NO 2026/01 – 18 JANUARY 2026**

**[CWU T&S Branch cwu.asn.au](http://cwu.asn.au)**

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### **WELCOME BACK**

We trust that you enjoyed the break. We have started with a big agenda this year. Look at our issues before the FWC and Courts:

- Two unfair dismissals in TZV
- An unfair dismissal in Aus Post
- Four redundancies in Telstra
- NBN Start of Day case

We await a decision in the TZV Casual Clothes on week-ends claim.

We are also seeking about 35 upgrades (and back-pay) for Telstra Optical Fibre workers.

Also on our plate - some of the bigger issues for 2026 are: NBN Rest after Overtime , Telstra SOD when away from home, Telstra Job Descriptions, TZV Support EBA and Aus Post Job Descriptions.

And the calls keep coming! Union members have this support!

### **DON'T JOIN US ONCE YOU ARE IN TROUBLE**

For those non-members reading our bulletins, it's amazing how many want to join our Branch once they have a serious problem. While we are not an insurance company, it is too late to join us once your house is on fire. Without our fee-paying members, unions would not exist at all. Our only income is membership fees. T&S Branch members can speak immediately with an experienced lawyer. Non-members do not have that privilege.

### **PAUL LIGHTFOOT- OUR LATEST LIFE MEMBER**

A bit about Paul Lightfoot – Our latest Life Member. Paul began as Liney with Telecom (as a member of the APTU), before moving into the Technical workforce, and joining the ATEA (now our Branch) in 1990. Paul ended up in the Mobiles area of Telstra. Paul has been involved with the Victorian Branch Committee and subsequently the T&S Branch Committee. Paul was also the Branch President for a period prior to the amalgamation with the NSW T&S. Paul has also held the position of Div Exec member, and National Conference delegate. A worthy recognition for a dedicated Union member. John Ellery [More](#)

### **TELSTRA OPTICAL FIBRE “DECLARATION OF UNDERSTANDING”**

Telstra has now advised that it was withdrawing the contentious “Declaration of Understanding” requirement. This is an important win for members. The declaration would have forced employees to agree with Telstra’s classification position before being allowed access to fibre maintenance and construction training or performing this work. [More](#)

### **OPTUS STAFF MAY FACE TERMINATION OVER FATAL TRIPLE ZERO OUTAGE**

Optus’s chairman says the telecommunications giant will impose financial penalties and “termination in appropriate cases” CWU told Information Age “We will do everything to ensure Optus is held accountable and doesn’t shirk its responsibilities by placing blame at the feet of its employees.” [More](#)

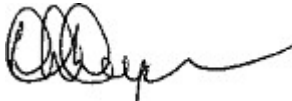
### **USA - UNIONS GEAR UP TO FIGHT AGAINST TRUMP – WORTH A READ**

Donald Trump has staged a year of “unrelenting attacks on working people,” according to the head of the largest federation of the labor unions in the US. Now they’re preparing to fight back. Liz Shuler, president of the AFL-CIO, said it was gearing up to challenge the US president’s “Billionaire First” agenda in 2026. [More](#)

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Yours faithfully,



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