

WHY YOU NEED YOUR UNION



WHAT IS A UNION?

A Union is a not-for-profit organisation where workers come together to look after each other at work.

Unions are made up of workers to improve the wages and conditions.

There are many unions which service different industries and sectors.

As an employee of the Local Government, Utilities, Energy, Airlines and Clerical and Administration industries, your Union is the United Services Union.

A worker who belongs to a Union is called a member.

Your membership fees fund the union's work, including representing workers in disputes, negotiating better wages and conditions, and providing services like journey insurance and some legal services.

Union Fees are tax deductible.



YOUR UNION DELIVERS

- Improved pay and conditions at work
- Advice and support with any workplace problems
- A collective to look after workers' safety
- Campaigns to support important social change
- Protection for members from discrimination and harassment



WHAT HAVE UNIONS ACHIEVED?

The first unions in Australia were **formed over 150 years ago**, and since then, unions have been winning better wages and conditions for workers.

Every worker in this country has benefited from work of the labour movement and Unions.

The Trade Union movement created and delivered the **“fair go for all”**.



AUSTRALIAN UNIONS VICTORIES

- ✓ **1855** 8 Hour Working day
- ✓ **1902** Workers Compensation
- ✓ **1908** Established an Award, set pay for set work and conditions
- ✓ **1920** Sick Leave
- ✓ **1936** Annual Leave
- ✓ **1947** Penalty Rates
- ✓ **1951** Long Service Leave
- ✓ **1969** Equal pay for women
- ✓ **1971** Unfair dismissal
- ✓ **1973** Meal breaks, rest breaks
- ✓ **1986** Superannuation
- ✓ **2011** Paid Parental Leave
- ✓ **2019** Domestic Violence Leave

UNIONS HAVE MADE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE



The Environment

Unions have been involved in protecting the environment since the 1970's. For example, building Unions in Sydney have fought to protect bushlands from overdevelopment and to preserve historic buildings.



Women's Rights

Since the 1950's, Unions have fought for equal pay and equal rights for women. The fight for true equality continues. Unions are the best vehicle for advocating women's right in the workplace.



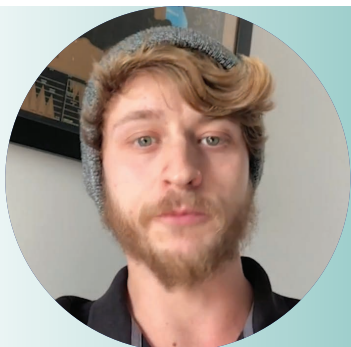
Social and Community Building

The trade Union movement has been at the forefront of major beneficial social and economic changes for our communities. Unions have fought for and won such important social changes such as Medicare, Superannuation, Paid Parental Leave and Aged pension.

WHAT PEOPLE HAVE TO SAY ABOUT UNIONS

“We have the right to a fair go. Not getting a fair go sucks.”

Margot Robbie, Actor



“The Union helps protect my rights and helps us fight for better pay and conditions, I am a proud member of the USU, and I encourage you to join today.”

Brydon, USU member

“I’m a proud union member and I believe in teamwork.”

**Sam Kerr,
Matildas captain**



WHY JOIN Y

Increasing your pay

Unions are under attack in Australia. According to the Reserve Bank wage growth is stagnating.

The USU has a proven record of collective organising and bargaining for increases in your pay. Unions directly negotiate Industry Awards or Enterprise (collective) Agreements which set your pay and conditions. These deliver the highest wages for employees.



Conditions at Work

Penalty rates, paid parental leave, annual leave and other conditions of employment are protected and expanded by unions.

The workplaces with highest Union membership have the best conditions.

OUR UNION



Protecting you at work

If you have a problem in your workplace, if you are bullied, underpaid, made redundant or fired the USU will help to protect your rights.

The USU will also look after and improve safety in your workplace.

Unions and the Future of Work

The gap between the rich and poor continues to grow.

Strong unions are the **ONLY** collective force that can advocate for workers and ensure everyone has a fair go.







“Remember you are not alone, the USU is here to help, we are here to listen, let’s have that conversation now.”

Graeme Kelly OAM
General Secretary
United Services Union

**JOIN THE UNITED SERVICES UNION TO
BUILD A BETTER FUTURE FOR ALL.**



JOIN TODAY.

Presented by the USU New Gen Committee



By your side

 **1300 136 604**

 **<https://usunsw.org/join>**

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