



# AVIATION NEWSLETTER

5 SEPTEMBER 2020

It's been a huge fortnight in aviation. We've launched one of our biggest ever campaigns against Qantas for shamefully axing and outsourcing 2,500 jobs, Bain's proposal for Virgin 2.0 has passed the vote, and Dnata has finally started acting for workers with a survey on ongoing work arrangements.

## SAVE QANTAS JOBS



Alan Joyce shocked workers and the nation with a callous announcement to axe and outsource all 2,500 ground handling and fleet presentation jobs across Qantas, QGS and Jetstar. This announcement came without even a notion of consultation. It is a despicable, anti-worker, anti-union move that attacks thousands of loyal workers who've built the trusted Qantas brand.

This is not about jobs becoming redundant. This is a heartless replacement of workers with cheaper labour hire. The work will be outsourced to companies like Swissport, which has had several agreements quashed in court for paying workers below Award wages and was exposed by the TWU for forcing workers to sleep at airports between split shifts.



**This is the race to the bottom in aviation and we must all fight back.**

We must fight for these jobs and for our industry. There'll be a host of activities and actions to support this campaign over the coming weeks and months. We encourage everyone to get behind these workers and our demands for Scott Morrison to step in for good, safe aviation jobs.

### The fight so far

Congratulations to all TWU members who have sprung into action:

- **Calls for Joyce to resign - sign and share the petition:**  
[bit.ly/JoyceMustResign](https://bit.ly/JoyceMustResign)
- **Airport protests in five states**
- **A digital picket and online actions in Victoria and Queensland**
- **A delegation of workers went to Parliament House, Canberra**
- **Workers sharing their stories in the media and online (this is really important to get the public and politicians onside against Qantas' actions)**

### Legal battle

Our first raft of legal action has been filed in the Fair Work Commission and centres on Qantas' failure to consult with workers on its plan to kill their jobs, and over the tendering process which has been designed to make it impossible for workers to bid for their jobs. Qantas has given workers just six weeks to make a final bid and to find \$80 million to fund equipment upgrades. Of course the airline chose not to do these upgrades when it made almost a billion dollars in profit last year.

**See page 3,4 & 5 for more action snaps >>**

### Join the fight online

1. Stay up-to-date by following the Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/SaveQantasJobs](https://www.facebook.com/SaveQantasJobs)
2. Keep posting your stories, pictures & videos on social media using the hashtag: **#SaveQantasJobs**

## Jetstar delegates fight for fair redundancies

Qantas, QGS and Jetstar workers met to discuss preferences going forward. Following this TWU delegates met with Jetstar to discuss redundancy. The company is refusing to consult properly with the TWU and with workers, who have not even been given an opportunity to 'bid' for their jobs like Qantas workers. We're fighting to save jobs, but also to ensure a fair redundancy process is in place for those that wish to take it.

# VIRGIN 2.0 VOTED UP



TWU members and other creditors have voted to support Bain Capital as the new owners of Virgin. The important creditor's meeting and vote took place on Friday September 4 and is another milestone in Virgin's history and that of Australian aviation.

Virgin workers have been instrumental in getting important assurances from Bain Capital on: a fuller capacity airline, maximising jobs, retaining regional operation Vara, tiered cabin classes, airport lounges and the airline's international arm. Workers have also made clear that there should be a focus on governance to ensure a strong airline that delivers for the travelling public.

We know there is a long road ahead to hold Bain to account on these issues. We will do this through our usual channels but also through the union advisory

council that Bain has agreed to set up so workers voices on governance can be heard.

We will also hold the Federal Government to account over its failure to support Virgin and the wider aviation industry.

Delegates and members have fought hard since the voluntary administration process began to make sure the focus for Virgin stayed on building a strong airline. There have been long days and difficult meetings, especially for delegates who have been a major support and guide for members throughout this process. The TWU is proud of all Virgin delegates and members for demonstrating our strength in standing together and fighting for workers jobs and the airline's future. There is much more to do but together in the TWU we will keep up the fight!

## Future conditions

When bargaining starts delegates on behalf of members will keep Virgin honest in whatever they put forward and make sure it lives up to its commitments about ongoing job security and proper representation. We have shown how strong we are as a united workforce and we will use this strength to get the best outcome in our next EA.

# DNATA WORKERS: HAVE YOUR SAY

Dnata can't keep leaving workers in limbo. With the Australian Government failing to support Dnata workers, the company must ensure workers can get some certainty over their livelihoods.

After months of pushing, Dnata has finally responded to the TWU's threat to take them to the Fair Work Commission.

An urgent survey on your preferred intentions has been circulated on work preferences including leave without pay to seek other work, part-time and full-time positions.

But this is not enough. The survey does not include preferences on redundancies, and we will keep up the pressure for this to be included in Dnata's processes. If Dnata continues to refuse to act on redundancies, the dispute we have prepared will be filed in the Fair Work Commission.

# QANTAS WORKERS FIGHT BACK



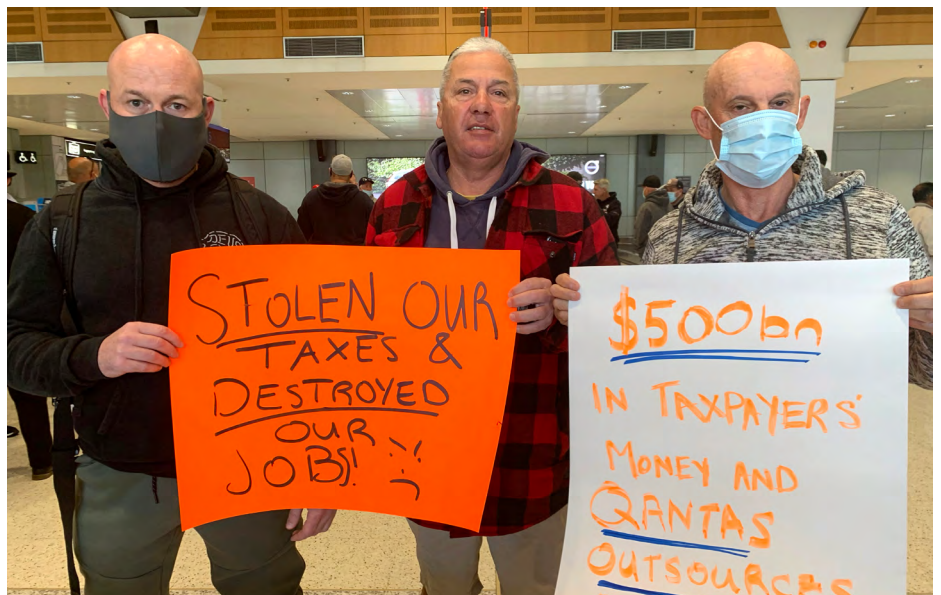
**Edie and Tahnee**

"We love working for Qantas. We just want to stay. We don't want them to outsource, we want them to keep the people that have put their heart and soul into Qantas!"



**Desiree**

"People don't stay in a job unless they're happy at it and unless they like doing it, they move on, but we've all stayed. We've put our lives, our careers, our families around it and it's more than just a job. It's a family."



# QANTAS WORKERS FIGHT BACK



Joe

"We feel lied to and let down. With JobKeeper extended to March we had hope about holding on to our jobs and all of a sudden they want to replace us."



# QANTAS WORKERS FIGHT BACK



**Ian and Kylie**

"We've both been stood down since 1st April. We've got two kids, one just started uni. Just like everyone else we've got mortgages to pay, bills to pay. It's going to be tough."



**Nick**

"I've been at Qantas for 22 years. I thought I'd retire with Qantas and be able to pay my house off. Now I'll likely have to sell it."



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