

## **Newcastle Mater Hospital Waste and Linen Staff Win Backpay**

Dear Member,

Waste and Linen staff at the Mater Hospital have won back pay to 2011 after the HSU took HNELHD and Medirest to the Industrial Relation Commission on Thursday last week.

For a decade, waste and linen staff were not being paid nauseous linen or refuse allowances despite their duties regularly involving refuse disposal and dealing with unsealed bags of soiled linen.

Members have been fighting for backpay since August 2017. After HNELHD reneged on a deal made by Medirest management, waste and linen staff resolved to take industrial action by not picking up refuse or collecting unsealed linen bags. Immediately, the HSU sought the assistance of the Commission to resolve the dispute.

This is a great example of what happens when members stand together and refuse to give up in the face of fierce resistance.

Congratulations to all involved.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes  
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD