

I am writing about the next round of city rail price rises,

The city rail trains are so unreliable, I catch the 5.51 train from morriset to sydney terminal each day, when it gets in on time it arrives at 7.55am, however the Northern controller can direct the train to stop all stations from Gosford to Hornsby, if this happens the train arrives at 8.35am

Then there is track work, when there is track work it adds another 1 hour a day to my travel times.

Then there is the joke of station they call Town hall, have you ever tried to catch a train from town hall to central, that station is so overcrowded, and its like being in a Mosh Pit trying to get on a train before the staff close the doors, and when you do get on a train you are thrown around the carriage as there is nothing to hang onto.

Tranferring services at Central is also a nightmare, if you get on platform 17 to town hall you come in on the lower platform, I found this to be very stressful so I then started catching platform 16 from central which atleast was easier to get to the surface. Eventually I found it was easier to get off at Central and walk to Market Street than to deal with the Cityrail crap about getting around the city.

Then there was the recent newcastle storms, given this was not a cityrail created problem however I really enjoyed standing out in the rain at Hornsby waiting for direction from City rail staff, then being unloaded off a bus at Gosford station with no staff telling us what to expect next, eventually I heard an announcement over one of the platform speakers that a train was leaving soon, so I got on the train and then found myself waiting at Wyong for a Bus service. I do admit that was a bad day but the amount of information comming out of Cityrail staff was very poor or none at all.

Another frustrating thing we have is trying to find a seat on an intercity train at central, most of the seats are taken up by people getting off at the major stations within the Syndey basin(Stratfield, Eastwood, Epping, Hornsby), so I found it easier to walk to the end of the platform as the rear of the train fills up first.

One of the justifications about increasing prices to to reduce the burden on tax payers, then what about roads, schools, hospitals or any of the other services provided by state taxes, I have not used a primary or secondary school for over 20 years but my taxes pay for that.

regards

Paul.