



My name is Sam Chimirri and I am a Postie at Hawthorn DC.

I have been with Australia Post for 11 years.

In that time, I have been a Union delegate and a HSR in my workplace and seen the many changes in my job that have occurred - especially during the past few years.

Since Covid struck, our working lives have changed a lot- as front-line workers, Posties /Parcel Delivery drivers bore the tremendous increase in workload and kept delivering all through the lockdowns and curfews that changed our lifestyles and how we worked.

The split shifts, the overwhelming parcel numbers, the fear of catching Covid or passing it on to others, the panic, the fear from our customers were some of the darkest times in my life.

Every Australia Post front-line employee has been through enormous stresses and worked long hours to service our community. Posties were expected to work unsustainable hours, complete unachievable workloads and deliver crazy unprecedented amounts of parcels as our cities went into lockdown and retail shops and services closed.

During this time a new delivery model (ADM) was forced on us without any consultation, and a pay freeze was imposed. Parcels went through the roof, 12 hour days were the new norm, everyone was stressed and exhausted. Many long-time employees left the job.

Since 2020, our workloads have increased, and our conditions have deteriorated. Many of us are burnt out, disillusioned and feel helpless.

Australia Post can cry poor all they want, but the reality is, they have done very well out of Covid and the booming parcel delivery and have not rewarded or appreciated the staff that are at the fore front of delivery, customer service, transport & mail processing. We are the workers that kept the country going and connected our communities when the whole world literally shut down.

I am running as a candidate in this election because I give a damn and I want positive change to support the underdog, because **I AM the underdog.**

I hope to bring back solidarity, trust, empowerment and comradery to our workplace, improve our work conditions and be part of rebuilding a strong active Union once more. Union members deserve to be supported, have open communication and provided with the tools to stand up for themselves and others.

We need a collective workforce that have the power to change the injustices we face and stand up to the bullies, to the poor OHS situations, to the forced overtime and the threats to our jobs. A competent Union organiser is one thing, but an army of empowered employees is the only way we can make changes happen and protect our staff- mentally, physically, emotionally & financially. Workers need to unite for a stronger future in Post.

Vote 1 for Union Strong Union Active Team. Vote for change.