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Submission: The single trip fares currently are reasonable but not transparent (at least in my town-Dubbo, perhaps it is better elsewhere). It is difficult to predict how much a particular fare will cost-the bus companies should publish fare zones on their route maps like Sydney Buses used to before opal. Also, whilst I appreciate it would be difficult and expensive to roll out Opal to rural buses, in this day and age it is sometimes hard to come up with enough change to pay the drivers - why can't there be an option to pay the fare by credit card? If payment by card can be done in market stalls by part time traders surely a bus company could have a credit card reader on a bus to pay a fare-not having the correct fare or a \$5 note is sometimes a disincentive to catching the bus.

The day fares are quite expensive-buses in my town are not particularly integrated-it is difficult to get anywhere other than the CBD or Orana Mall from where I live-but there should be some scope to purchase a fare to your ultimate destination (eg the hospital) without the penalty of having to purchase a second fare-that is if it is 4 sections from home to the CBD and 1 section from the CBD to hospital, then a through ticket from home to hospital should be available for the cost of a 5 section ticket.