



Queensland Branch News



7th September 2012

GLADSTONE DISPUTE

Members, there were attempts to invoke legislation in the European Parliament called Port Package 1, followed by Port Package 2 to allow for ship's crew to perform stevedoring duties on vessels. That legislation was defeated after intervention from the ITF and worldwide delegations descending on Strasbourg; now we are confronted with the issue on our doorstep.

NSS members contacted the Branch regarding rumours associated with the stevedoring of the *MV Palau* which they were discharging at Auckland point 4. This vessel's cargo was for the LNG project at Curtis Island. Members advised the Branch that the vessel was to sail to Curtis Island and it was the intent of Bechtel to have the ship's crew undertake the stevedoring duties.

The Branch Executive sought a meeting with Bechtel which was convened on Friday 31st August. Management committed to contact the Branch during the weekend regarding the stevedoring of the Vessel at Curtis Island.

Information was received by delegates in Gladstone that the vessel was to sail to Curtis Island on Sunday 2nd September at 1600 hours. ITF Inspector Brian Gallagher and Deputy Branch Secretary T. Munday went to Gladstone and a rally was organised outside the Auckland Point Gates. B. Gallagher boarded the vessel and relayed to the Master that there was an expectation that the Docker's clause would be upheld.

Some 60 members and concerned local community turned up to the rally the following morning. Another rally was held outside the Queensland Gas Corporation main office in Goondoon Street. A Delegation was able to speak to QGC management and voice our concerns regarding the actions of Bechtel. They committed to speak to Bechtel and relay our concerns, being that we want a conciliatory outcome with recognised Stevedoring Companies that employ our members engaged to perform historical and traditional work.

A further meeting was held on Tuesday morning in Brisbane attended by Branch Secretary M. Carr and Assistant Branch Secretary P. Sheehan. Bechtel management were fully apprised of our expectations regarding stevedoring functions and duties on Curtis Island.

Gladstone delegates have continued to meet in the main street on a daily basis with report backs. At the time of writing, the Branch has not received a clear position from Bechtel regarding the discharge of the *MV Palau* or other vessels due at Curtis Island. The Gladstone delegates are fully committed to launch a community campaign against Bechtel if required.

At the same time our Brisbane based membership should be at the ready should we need to instigate protest action at Brisbane based Bechtel offices.

The Branch would like to thank the Gladstone delegates and rank and file members for their commitment; also to ITF Inspector B. Gallagher for dropping everything on Father's Day to inspect the *MV Palau*.

GOLF DAY



Garry Clancy of DP World is endeavouring to organise a Golf Day for members irrespective of their workplaces. The venue would be Gainsborough Greens at Pimpama.

It would be appreciated if workplace delegates could assist in providing names of members who express an interest in participating on this social day to Garry on his mobile 0412 526 568.

PICNIC COMMITTEE MEETING

Melbourne Cup Day – 6th November – is going to be fast upon us. The MUA Picnic requires significant organisation and volunteers in assisting in making the day a success.

A Picnic Committee meeting will be held on -

Friday 14th September at 3.30pm in the Union Office.

Members who are interested in assisting can provide new ideas are most welcome to attend.

HPH

There will be a further meeting with HPH Management on Wednesday 12th September to seek to further establish a Greenfield Agreement that will be applicable to Brisbane and Sydney Terminals.

MMPCU - OUR CREDIT UNION

State Business Development Officer, Diane Tralagga, will be available in the Brisbane Office of the Credit Union on 12th and 13th September to discuss Mortgage Loan Applications.

Members can contact Diane directly either by e-mail - dtralagga@mmpcu.com.au – or mobile 0400 928 819 to make an appointment.

INDUSTRIAL ROUNDS

Branch Secretary M. Carr

- 27th August - Queensland Branch Organiser interviews
- 28th August - Branch Monthly Meeting; and Fair Work Australia Directions Conference SMIT Towage
- 30th & 31st August - Northern Territory Branch Conference
- 3rd September - Fair Work Australia SMIT dispute Conference
- 4th September - Meeting with Bechtel Management re Gladstone issues
- 5th September - International Maritime Day; and Maritime Superannuation meeting
- 6th September - Van Oord meeting re: vessel movements
- 7th September - Fair Work Australia s.240 Application to deal with bargaining dispute
- 10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th September – Svitzer National negotiations, Sydney
- 14th September – TK Hay Point Enterprise Agreement negotiations

Currently

- Patrick Part B – Enterprise Agreement Brisbane meeting dates to be confirmed
- 10th September – Fair Work Australia dispute matters with DP World re: Personal Leave and Pay.
- 14th September – Smithbridge re: Port expansion in conjunction with NQ Organiser Peter Robson.
- Currently seeking to establish duties for Queensland Bulk Terminals Enterprise Agreement.
- AAT Yard Meeting re: upcoming Enterprise Agreement
- Further meetings with DP World associated with Mode Change.

DAY OF ACTION

Public meeting March and Rally Wednesday 12th September
12.15 for 12.30 (finishing 1.30)

Assemble Queens Park, Brisbane City (between Treasury Casino and the Casino Hotel) then onto Parliament House

[Refer to separate leaflet]

