



Queensland Branch News



24th October 2012

BRANCH MONTHLY MEETING

The Branch Monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday 30th October at the Branch meeting room 0900hours. These meetings cover a broad range of topics in relation to the activities of the Union in all areas of our coverage from a National and Branch perspective.

At 1200 noon, there will be a Rally in the city with buses engaged to transport members to the Rally. The Rally is in support of the National Stevedoring Code of Practice. At the conclusion of the Rally there will be a BBQ held back at the Union Rooms.

All available members are urged to participate at the meeting and rally.

HUTCHINSONS

Hutchinson's Quay Cranes have now arrived in Brisbane. Deputy Branch Secretary T. Munday will participate in further EA negotiations in conjunction with Sydney/Victoria Branch as well as National Office to put into place a Greenfields Enterprise Agreement. These meetings will be held on Thursday and Friday of this week.

D P WORLD

There have been four conciliation meetings before Commissioner Booth of Fair Work Australia in relation to disputes.

- AMPs / Personal Leave
- Removal of consolidated allowance

The files in relation to both the matters remain open and the Union is awaiting further dates.

An Automation meeting was held on Friday 19th October with the Committee/Branch putting forward a Roster that we propose would operate efficiently post-automation of the Brisbane terminal.

Assistant National Secretary Warren Smith was in attendance and made a scathing assessment of the actions of DP World announcement in the media of its intent to automate the Melbourne/Sydney Terminals, despite that during the negotiation period the Company categorically stated that they had no plans to automate other Terminals over the life of the Agreements.

A Yard meeting will be held at the time to be confirmed, to report back to the membership the progress of the Automation meetings.

NSS

Assistant National Secretary Warren Smith, Lead Organiser Bernie Farrelly and Assistant Branch Secretary Paul Sheehan will travel to Townsville next Wednesday to hopefully finalise the NSS EA covering the Ports of Cairns, Townsville and Mackay.

Notwithstanding the loss by NSS of their (QNI) Nickel contract, the Company still appear keen to finalise on the Agreement as negotiated. There are only a couple of items left to resolve and hopefully all can be resolved and voted on by the membership prior to Christmas.

QNI

On Thursday and Friday we will begin discussions with Queensland Nickel (who have taken over their own stevedoring) to put a new EA in place. QNI have already agreed to pay the same rates as NSS were paying. The major change would see the introduction of a 4 x 4 Roster.



TUESDAY 6th NOVEMBER

Date Tuesday 6th November 2012 (Melbourne Cup Day)
Time 9.00am onwards
Venue The Plantation, 1204 New Cleveland Road, Gumdale

RACES FOR ALL

NOVELTY EVENTS

FUN FOR ALL

Lollies, drinks, ice-cream - morning tea & lunch provided. Train rides, face painting, jumping castle, giant slide, swimming pools, tennis courts, beach volley ball.

The Picnic Day is one of the social events that MUA members can participate in with their families. Let's make this Picnic Day enjoyable - as always.

Members who can assist with set-up, please assemble at 06.30am at the Plantation.

BECHTEL

Last Monday we went to the Commission (FWA) seeking Right of Entry (ROE) provisions against Bechtel at Curtis Island off Gladstone. This matter has been adjourned for a total of 7 weeks to allow for submissions from the Union and responses from Bechtel. We are due back to FWA on 10.12.12

PATRICK GLADSTONE

Deputy Branch Secretary Trevor Munday advises the Patrick Gladstone EA will be subject to a vote on Thursday 1st November whilst a further meeting has been scheduled to finalise Brisbane Part B arrangements (Wednesday 31/10/12). The main sticking point is members being able to take time off. A meeting will be held with the Patrick Terminal Committee on the morning of 31st October. The Company called the meeting associated with the Labour Review Clauses contained at Clause 7 and the respective sub-clauses.

The Branch will be approaching Management regarding a mutually convenient date to conduct a report back to the membership via a yard meeting.

QUBE PORTS

The Enterprise Agreement was endorsed by the membership at a Stop Work Meeting on Friday 12th October after a lively debate regarding the Agreement. Correspondence has been sent to the Company regarding closed Port periods as voted on in conjunction with the EA vote. We await return correspondence regarding the convening of an implementation meeting.

INDUSTRIAL ROUNDS

Branch Secretary Mick Carr is currently in Mackay as a part of the QCU Week of Action under the 'Stand for Queensland' theme after the vicious actions of the Campbell Newman Government. Further as a component of EA negotiations for TK Hay Point Towage, there is also an inspection process after TK has sought to de-man the MUA members from the deck of the Tug; meaning a halving of the MUA members. The inspections include an Independent Chairperson, Company Consultant and MUA Mick Carr.

Svitzer Towage negotiations are ongoing with Port Practices (Local discussions) on various Svitzer Towage Ports including Cairns/Weipa.

The Smit Towage (Gladstone) Agreement is currently out to Ballot of members after 10 months of negotiations and a multitude of Hearings before Commissioner Booth at FWA.