



Queensland Branch News



13th November 2013

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- BRISBANE** - Tuesday, 26th November: 7am – Wynnum Manly Workers Sports Club
35 Bognor Street, Tingalpa
- MACKAY** - Wednesday, 27th November: 12pm - Laurie Horgan Conference Room at the QCU
Building, Brisbane Street Mackay
- GLADSTONE** - Tuesday, 3rd December: 7pm – Gladstone Bowls Club
- TOWNSVILLE** - Thursday, 5th December: 8am McIlwraith Street, Townsville
- MELBOURNE – SYDNEY – BRISBANE – FREMANTLE - 26th November 2013

***** "THE ABBOTT GOVERNMENT'S COMMISSION OF AUDIT"

What does it mean?

The Audit is a political exercise to justify big business's agenda for Australia. It is a facet of the Coalition's "Big Society" program. There will also be an inquiry by the Productivity Commission into workplace relations which will lay the basis for the return of WorkChoices on steroids – individual contracts, loss of penalty rates, denial of right of entry, further limits on "protected" industrial action, reduction in minimum wage, gutting of enterprise agreements, etc.

The Audit will prescribe massive spending cuts, the sacking of thousands of public sector workers, cuts in service provision, outsourcing of government work, closure or consolidation of government departments and privatisation of remaining federal government assets.

The "independent" Audit Commission's membership leaves no doubts as to who is running the country and the political and ideological thrust of their "Big Society" (Big Business, Small Government) agenda. The Commissioners are Tony Shepherd, Tony Cole, Peter Boxall, Robert Fisher and Amanda Vanstone with Peter Crone's role as head of the Commission's Secretariat.

In the meantime Chairman of ASCIANO Malcolm Broomhead has called on the government to make changes to industrial Relations including more flexibility in Workplace Agreements.

More flexibility, is usually tantamount to loss of worker's conditions of employment as many of us in the MUA are aware.

At the same time, the AGM Reports an increase to profit of 39% to \$384.1million. Further the AGM Report can be viewed on line which includes Senior Executive take home pay.

***** ANNUAL PICNIC

There was a good turnout for the Annual Picnic at the Plantation. The athletic races were keenly contested, with the tug-o-war being won by DP World members. The Branch Executive would like to thank the volunteers who again gave their time to make the Picnic Day a success. We would also like to add that Credit Union/MUA staff assisted with the serving of lunch and sweeps.

The Branch is always looking for ways to make Picnic Day more enjoyable for members and their families and we welcome new members to the Picnic Committee, with new ideas.

Andrew Barney showed plenty of speed in the MUA open sprint to nose out fellow DPW member Jason Buckle.

In closing thanks to sponsors, Maurice Blackburn, RT Health and MMPCU.

RALLY *for* RIGHTS!

Given the resistance against the Newman Government's attack on democracy, human rights and basic freedoms since the QCU campaign "*Save Your Say*", the LNP has refocused their attack beyond Unions and stepped up their oppression of other groups that oppose them. Now, this remarkably includes the judiciary, community groups, and the legal fraternity.

Details:

A major *Rally for Rights* will be held outside Parliament House, Brisbane at 5:30pm on Tuesday 19 November, with speakers from the groups represented above.

A follow up *Rally for Rights* will coincide with the Community Cabinet meeting in Toowoomba on Sunday 24 November. QCU Branches are considering similar complementary events in their regions

Unions involved:

All unions, community groups and organisations represented are encouraged to support these events.

DEFEND:

YOUR RIGHT for a fair go at work
YOUR RIGHT to an independent judiciary
YOUR RIGHT to workers' comp
YOUR RIGHT to free speech
YOUR RIGHT to an independent CMC
YOUR RIGHT to association
YOUR RIGHT to an independent industrial umpire

Join others who are concerned about the recent attacks on our rights:
5.30pm TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
Cnr ALICE & GEORGE STREETS, BRISBANE

Join the Event on Facebook
www.facebook.com/RallyforRights

Talk on Twitter
[#RallyforRights](https://twitter.com/RallyforRights)
