



Queensland Branch News



18th February 2014

DELEGATES TRAINING 2014

Advice has been received from the National Safety and Training Co-ordinator Matt Goodwin regarding MUA Delegates Training courses for 2014. The course dates being made available in the *Branch News* are to enable members to have ample time to make a decision about attending. As in the past, the courses are based on the level of interest and participation of members.

In this regard the Branch would appreciate if members could register their interest in the Delegates One Training course (27-28th March) by **6th March**, which will provide enough time for the Branch to be make application for Trade Union Training leave at the members applicable enterprise. Members should also register for courses at Branch level if the dates are suitable.

Also please note Training courses that will be held are at a National level as mentioned below, therefore members who would like to participate in any of the courses should register their interest as soon as possible with Branch staff.

Brisbane Courses

COURSE	DATE
DELEGATES 1	27 th -28 th MARCH
DELEGATES 2	19 th -20 th JUNE
DELEGATES 1	26 th -27 th NOVEMBER

Regional Queensland

A combined North Queensland Training workshop will be held in mid-2014; date to be confirmed. Matt is currently discussing training needs with Regional based organisers

New National courses

In addition to the Branch Delegates Training the following National Courses have been developed.

Seagoing Delegates 12-14 May (3 days) St Georges Basin

This a dedicated training program for MUA delegates at sea. It deals with the specific challenges and issues in this unique environment. The course will focus on MUA seafaring culture and history. It will provide delegates with the knowledge and confidence to establish strong and functioning union organisation onboard.

Delegates 3 – Leadership Development Program – first intake 15-17 July (3 days) Sydney

This is an advanced course aimed at experienced delegates and workplace leaders. The goal of this program is to accelerate the development of rank and file workplace leaders in our Union. The target audience is a mixture of established/experienced delegates and promising up-and-coming new delegates. There is a youth-focus, but it is not limited to young workers. Admission is by expression of interest. A second intake will be held later in the year.

Development Program for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Delegates and Activists

19-21 August (3days) Sydney

This three-day training program will equip MUA's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates to play a more vocal and active role in the representative structures of our Union. The objectives, content, delivery method will be developed with the MUA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee and key ATSI leaders within our Union.

Development Program for Women Members and Delegates 30 July-1 August (3 days)

This initiative aims to equip women delegates with the skills and confidence to play an active role in their Union, both at a local and national level. A venue has not been determined at this stage.

Delegates 3 – Leadership Development Program – second intake 28-30 October (3 days) Sydney

(refer to course description above)

ACTIVISTS -GRIFFITH & REDCLIFFE BY-ELECTIONS

The Branch thanks our Activists for the fantastic effort on campaigning in the contest for Griffith. Terri Butler who is a Maurice Blackburn Lawyer and well known to the Branch for her assistance over many years, ran a very positive campaign winning the by-election convincingly. The LNP put massive resources into their campaign, but their candidate is now a 2 time loser. The Activists joined Branch Officials throughout the month on Terri's campaign which included leafleting, phone bank work, attending the launch, gate-crashing Glasson's launch; attending the 30th anniversary of Medicare – our universal health care system and attending polling booths from 10pm to 4am on the evening before the election to ensure ALP signage was not defaced.

Tremendous effort by our Activists, who will again be out manning polling booths this Saturday for the Redcliffe By-election. If you want to get involved and make a contribution with other activists – contact the Branch.

BRANCH MONTHLY MEETING

Members are reminded that the Branch Monthly meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month commencing at 0900 at the Union Office; the next being Tuesday 25th February . Full reports are delivered to the membership in relation to all our areas of coverage on both a National and Branch level. The next meeting will be discussing the promotion of an ongoing Activists Committee and the formation of a May Day Committee as promoted at previous Branch Committee meetings. A BBQ will be held at the conclusion of the Branch Monthly meeting.

RELIEF OFFICIAL

The Branch News of 9th January indicated during the course of 2014-2015 Branch Secretary Mick Carr would be taking some extended periods of leave. The first period of Mick's leave will commence effective Friday 28th February. Mick has indicated that he will be available to deal with issues as they arise during his period of leave.

Paul Gallagher will be a relief official from Monday 3rd March. It is envisaged that several delegates will perform the role and this will be the subject of further discussion at the Branch Committee meeting on Friday 28th February.

BRANCH PLANNING

The Queensland Branch Officials along with our Regional Organisers will meet with National Organisers Bernie Farrelly and Saadet Ozdemir on Friday 21st February to revisit the Queensland Branch plan. These plans have been developed in the past to achieve a focus on a team based approach to have work plans established that has Officers of the Branch as well as Organisers working for the benefit of the membership.

This planning session is seen as vitally important given the current political attacks by conservative led Governments on both a federal and state level.

There will be a need to review and revisit the current plan, which amongst other important matters such as governance related issues, identifies who has primary responsibility in each of our areas of industrial coverage.

BRANCH COMMITTEE

The next Branch Committee meeting will be held on Friday February 28th at 9.00am in the Union Office. Branch Committee members from the various areas of our coverage are requested to arrange for an alternate to attend if they are unavailable.
