



QUEENSLAND BRANCH NEWS

NEWSLETTER of the QLD Branch of the MARITIME UNION of AUSTRALIA

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IDC/ITF Worldwide Day of Action - NSS Loses Contracts - Politics in the Pub Visit to Port of Townsville Ltd - Election campaign

IDC/ITF International Day of Action

JULY 7th SAW a worldwide stoppage of Dockworkers initiated and coordinated by the joint action of the International Dockworkers Council (IDC) and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF). Throughout Australian Ports, workers downed tools and walked off the job for 4 hours, while MUA officials addressed Wharfie and Seafarers at Port Rallies.



Workers understood the central message of the ideological and political attacks upon all workers and Dockworker Unions in particular. This was explained by the various guest speakers and on the job delegates. Guest speakers included Peter Ong from the ETU, Dale Eaton, brutally dismissed MUA IR from the MV Portland and Greg Black from the law firm Turner Freeman. Robert Barnes addressed the audience on being dismissed from Tugs in Hay Point and Paul Petersen on his recent trip to the USA to attend an IDC conference. Qld State Secretary Bob Carnegie introduced all the speakers with recognition of Dockworkers worldwide who had lost their lives on the job. Bob stressed that workers in our industry are the most important component of national and international solidarity and how solidarity in action is essential to our success in struggle.



Job-site delegates reported on the areas they represented. With over 250 MUA wharfies and seafarers, this was one of the largest gatherings since May Day. The day of action outstandingly showed how solid we are in unity, and how in such unity we can defeat the forces aligned against us. More critically, our stoppage in conjunction with the IDC/ITF sends a strong message that we are part of and in supportive struggle with workers worldwide. Employers take notice!

Mike Barber – MUA Queensland Branch Member



NSS Members on Edge as Contracts Lost

DUE TO THE recent loss of contracts in North Qld, Northern Stevedoring Services (NSS) have announced they may be forced to implement reductions in the company's workforce in Townsville through redundancies.

The MUA Qld Branch will be meeting with management about this matter in the near future where discussions will be focussing on finding an outcome that minimises the impact on the membership.

Members are encouraged to maintain contact with your delegates at work and attend meetings that will be called to report back on these discussions. Elected delegates will be in attendance at all meetings with branch officials.

Glenn Desmond - North Qld Organiser

Townsville Politics in the Pub

FOLLOWING THE SUCCESSFUL Rally out the front of Ewen Jones' office last week, members gathered along with other local unionists and community members for a night of Politics in the Pub at the Vale Hotel.

There were more than 30 people present. Speakers included MUA Deputy National Secretary, Will Tracey, QCU General Secretary, Ros McLennan, MUA Queensland Secretary, Bob Carnegie, and MUA Member, Warren Hopkins, as well as QCU Townsville President, Les Moffitt and QCU Townsville Secretary, Jeanine Orzani. During the course of the night, members were also addressed by local Herbert candidates from the ALP, Glenn Lazarus Team, Katter Party, and Greens, as they outlined their ideas as candidates in the Federal Election race for Herbert.



The overall topic of discussion was the damage done to Australian workers under the LNP Government and presenting alternative voices in the race for the seat of Herbert as part of the campaign to put the LNP last and get rid of Ewen Jones as the local representative. The night also gave members the chance to discuss issues with the local candidates and catch up with their officials.

Glenn Desmond -North Qld Organiser

Will Tracey and Bob Carnegie Visit Members at Port of Townsville Ltd.



WILL TRACEY AND Bob Carnegie took the opportunity to catch up with members at Port of

Townsville Limited (PoTL) on Wednesday, 29th June. Will and Bob spoke about issues affecting members in various parts of the country and in particular, our coastal trade.

Will and Bob urged members to support the afternoon's rally and stressed the importance of seeing an end to the Turnbull Government's reign of job destruction so that our members across the country have a hope of maintaining jobs across a number of industries.

Glenn Desmond -North Qld Organiser

Election Campaign Results

AFTER A MARATHON election campaign, it appears the Turnbull government will be returning to power with a hugely reduced majority or indeed it will be a minority government with independents' support.

Although the result is one of disappointment, all members who played a role in attempting to defeat this rotten government can hold their heads high.

Our union fought the good fight and the struggle now continues on the job where all said and done is the critical area and we stand ready to fight any attack any government or employer may launch upon us.

Bob Carnegie - Qld Branch Secretary

Dues Grades

THIS IS A kind reminder to all members to check their dues grade and ensure they are paying the correct amount to avoid the embarrassment of potential back pay. It is the responsibility of all members to inform the branch if their situation has changed for better or worse and adjust accordingly. Be a proud Union member and display your grade on your MSIC. Please contact the branch if you are unsure.

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