



# Southern Queensland Branch News

11<sup>th</sup> March 2010

## **BULK AND GENERAL CONFERENCE 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010**

Members are advised that attendees have been finalised for the B&G Conference. They will be as follows for the S.Q. Branch area:

POAGs Brisbane	Stephen Cumberlidge and Earl Jones
Patrick Brisbane	Brett Membrey and Grahame Pratt
Patrick Gladstone	Chris Massey and Danial Grice

There will also be attendees from Patrick and NSS in Townsville.

SQ Deputy Branch Secretary Trevor Munday will attend together with Qld. Regional Organiser Jaime Midson.

If members have agenda items they wish to have raised at the Conference, then they should provide them to the Delegates as mentioned or to the Branch, to ensure that the issues are put to National Office as agenda items.

Terminal National Conference will occur in June and further information will be provided to members when available.

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## **PATRICK COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS**

All Patrick Agreements, for which the Branch has responsibility, expire in October this year i.e. Brisbane Terminal, Brisbane General Stevedoring, Gladstone General Stevedoring and Townsville General Stevedoring.

The last day of both National Conferences will be set aside for Patrick delegates to have debate and input in relation to the EA process and to develop agenda items and log of claims.

Recently, Brisbane B&G Committee elections have been finalised and Terminal elections will be finalised this week.

Members should be developing their log of claims and once those claims have been established, the Branch will hold meetings with both Committees to document them.

The same process will be adopted for Gladstone and Townsville. The Deputy Branch Secretary Trevor Munday is to establish dates for a yard meeting of Gladstone members.

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## **WORKER'S COMPENSATION**

There has been much in the media regarding Workcover and how the Queensland system that is in place could be the subject of rationalisation by the Queensland Government.

Trevor Munday and Tony Austin will attend a meeting at the QCU on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March together with other Affiliates. Reports will be given to members, post this meeting.

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# TRADE UNION TRAINING

Next week, Level 1 Delegate's training will take place in the Union Office for 3 days – Tuesday 16 – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March.

The Branch has kept the names of the members who had provided expressions of interest to participate in further Union training.

We are seeking to make an assessment of training for the remainder of the 2010 calendar year, without at this time locking in dates. Therefore could members please register their interest to participate in the training courses as listed:



- Level 1: Core skills for Delegates and Activists
- Level 2: Intermediate specialised modules/courses
- Level 3: Advanced – Work place Union leaders
- Level 4: Member education (5 day stand alone) and/or link to member organising program.

This article will be repeated and expressions of interest will remain open until 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010.

Once all the information is compiled, an assessment of training requirements will be made in conjunction with the National Office.

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## THINGS JUST DON'T ADD UP

A new Deed of Agreement has been entered into with Patrick Terminal Brisbane and some 14 members have exited the industry, after taking voluntary redundancy packages.

Many of those members are long serving and the Branch would like to take the opportunity to wish those members all the best in their future endeavours, whether that be just retiring or pursuing other careers.

Container volumes are still down from mid-2008 before the Global Financial Crisis. Contracts have moved from Stevedoring companies in the past and there is no doubt they will in the future.

Patrick and the MUA entered into a Deed of Agreement based on two fundamental issues:

- 1) Continued depressed volumes
- 2) Loss of the AAS contract

In the meantime, DP World are continuing to procrastinate in relation to delivering the number of upgrades negotiated in the 2008 Workplace Agreement. The Branch calls on DP World to honour those negotiated outcomes.

It has been noted by the Branch that there seems to be no consensus in relation to the AAS contract.

Patrick have stated that they commenced stevedoring AAS in April 2008.

DP World have gone to print stating that Patrick commenced the split service in April 2009.

There is one thing for certain in relation to the AAS contract, they both can't be right !!!

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