



Southern Queensland Branch News

21st October 2010



Date Tuesday 2nd November 2010 (Melbourne Cup Day)
Time 9.00am onwards
Venue The Plantation, 1204 New Cleveland Road, Gumdale

RACES FOR ALL

NOVELTY EVENTS

FUN FOR ALL

All sections of the MUA (past and present) are most welcome

Lollies, drinks, ice-cream – morning tea and lunch provided.

Train rides, face painting, jumping castle, giant slide, cup & saucer ride, swimming pools, tennis courts, beach volley ball, are for your enjoyment.

The Picnic Day is the major social event that MUA members can participate in with their families.

Maurice Blackburn – Lawyers have provided a generous donation towards the prizes for the children's races.

Let's make this Picnic Day enjoyable - as always.

**Maurice
Blackburn**
Lawyers
Since 1919

The Picnic Committee is always in need of volunteers to help on the day from 6.30am to set-up in the morning and help organise throughout the day to ensure a great day is had by all - please notify the Union office on telephone 3395 7215, of your name and contact details, if you can help.

THANKS

The Branch would like to thank relieving Officials, Peter Bruekers and Bruce Doleman who have been in the office whilst other Officials have been absent on leave or attending National Council.

BRANCH MONTHLY MEETING

The Branch monthly meeting will be held on – **TUESDAY 26th October 2010** commencing at 9.00am in the Union Rooms, 73 Southgate Avenue, Cannon Hill. Your attendance, if possible, would be appreciated.

REMINDER TO GWEs at DP WORLD AND POAGS

The *Branch News* of 5th October advised that Union dues for GWEs at DP World and POAGS would be adjusted to a "D" bracket as from 4th November 2010. The new fortnightly rate will be \$39.54. Unless your dues are remitted via the Credit Union (MMPCU), advice to your financial institution advising of the change may be necessary.

ITF 42nd CONGRESS MEXICO CITY

The 42nd ITF Congress in Mexico City was an historic event, important politically and industrially with the world's transport Unions all represented in the same venue. Congress analyses and assesses the work of the ITF and plans for the next 4 years. Of course this takes massive planning and resources, hence the MUA's commitment to the event.

Your delegation participated in an event that was relevant to the work and the social standing of all maritime and transport workers internationally, a contribution that represented our Union's long and sustained commitment to the international trade Union movement and solidarity. If we expect to continue to build and strengthen our Union, we must be prepared to help build an international maritime agenda that is respected by the global corporations dominating the industry, (including DP World and Hutchinson's) and, has the international capacity to campaign against and challenge political and industrial opposition to our labour rights.

The support of the ITF has been critical in defending our rights in this country particularly through the Flag of Convenience Campaign defending our shipping industry and with the Patricks dispute when the *Columbus Canada* was turned around by the ILWU in Los Angeles. An enormous amount of work was piled into the time we were there and as the organiser of the Queensland delegation in Mexico, I report that you can be extremely proud of the attendance, discipline and participation of your delegates in daily events that continued through the weekend and at night. They were a credit to their workmates and to the MUA every day.

We achieved significant recognition, with the election of Paul McAleer (Sydney Branch Secretary) to co-chair the newly formed Young Transport Workers Committee, Mich-Elle Myers as Asia-Pacific Women's representative and our ultimate aim of getting National Secretary Paddy Crumlin elected President of the ITF. Paddy was successful and now leads nearly 5 million workers around the world.

Australia is not removed from the ITF struggle on land either, as it was highlighted to Congress that a Coal Loader in Newcastle is operating with an anti-Union attitude and was included into the ITF Port of Convenience Campaign. Many sites in India for example are purpose built non-Union Container Terminals in agricultural areas, expressly built and located to commence operations with no Union involvement at all. Comprehensive reports on the activity of the POC and FOC campaigns were presented at Congress, campaigns of which the MUA are very much a part.

Also the Congress recognised the struggles of seafarers, dockers, youth, women, climate change and the Asia-Pacific region.

Comrades, the work of the ITF is integral to overseeing the rights of every worker in the MUA, just as the ITF itself would not be nearly so effective if not for the rank and file contribution to its FOC and POC campaigns in particular by all of you.

The ITF as showcased and now led by Paddy is on a new course to take up the challenge of defending our dignity and progressing your rights through the foreseeable future and all of its challenges. We must work together, from the bottom up, to fight for our rights and keep those that will take away our dignity at bay. The future is in good hands.

Tony Austin, Assistant Branch Secretary

Authorised by Tony Austin, Assistant Branch Secretary, Maritime Union of Aust.

SQ Branch, 73 Southgate Avenue, Cannon Hill Q. 4170 Ph: 3395 7215 Fax: 3395 7688 Email: muasqld@mua.org.au