



Southern Queensland Branch News

22nd May 2009

RELIEVING OFFICIAL

Patrick Terminal Branch Committee member Paul Williams – Mobile 0409 729 072 will be a relieving official in the Branch from Monday 25th May till Sunday 14th June.

Assistant Branch Secretary Les Rayward will be on leave commencing 22nd May. Deputy Branch Secretary Trevor Munday will be on annual leave from 4th June.

ACTU NATIONAL CONGRESS

Congress (3 yearly) will be held at the Brisbane Exhibition Centre from 2nd – 4th June. Branch Secretary Mick Carr will attend as a delegate with Deputy Branch Secretary Trevor Munday attending as an observer.

PATRICK STEVEDORING

Meetings have been held during the course of the week with both divisions of Patrick Stevedoring with regard to the current economic circumstances. The Union is in the process of finalising documentation that emanated from those meetings.

Changes will be made to the respective Agreements. Those changes are subject to the endorsement of the membership; they will be contained within a Deed of Arrangement.

Meetings have also occurred on a national level as well. All members need to be made aware that the Union and Committees have been negotiating with the employer in order to circumvent REDUNDANCIES.

Any expressions of interest for voluntary redundancies have run to the finish line. (Both divisions have indicated they would accept redundancies if members still wanted access). In order for members to be appraised of the outcomes of the negotiations prior to members being requested to vote on the changes, report back meetings will be held as follows:

Patrick General

Wednesday 27th May 12.30pm and 3.30pm

Patrick Terminal

Thursday 28th May 12.30pm and 3.30pm

Currently there are 2 vacancies for Patrick General Stevedoring members to be represented on the Branch Committee. Equally nominations will be called for a new Base Committee to be established. These matters will be progressed at the Stop Work Meeting associated with the changes as mentioned above.

All members will be advised via SMS of the above meetings in order to maximise attendance.

The venue for both meetings will be at the Branch meeting room.

THANK YOU

Patrick's member Alan Marnie expresses his appreciation for the financial assistance from the Benevolent Fund following the recent loss of his mother.

POAGS UNION COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

This Agreement will be implemented on Monday 1st June. Management have advised retrospective pay increases will be made at the next pay period.

The Branch would like to place on record our thanks to the Committee for their input and commitment to the collective workforce during these protracted negotiations.

BRANCH PREMISES

Approval has been given from National Office to provide modifications to our office. Storage facilities and undercover parking will be provided at the rear of the building. These extensions have been in the pipeline for a long period of time and will mean that our meeting room can finally be utilised for the purposes that it was designed for and not as a quasi-storage facility.

BRANCH MONTHLY MEETING

The next Branch Monthly meeting will be held at the Union rooms on **Tuesday 26th May, commencing at 0900.**

If you want to be aware of the activities of the Union and participate, then attend.

A BBQ lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the meeting.

SVITZER

Svitzer National Towage report back meetings will conclude early next week with Western Australia being the last to hear the report from the 3 Unions making up the single bargaining unit and management. The ballot will be counted on 3rd June and if agreement endorsed, implementation meetings will follow.

TEEKAY TOWAGE

The Teekay Towage Agreement is in the final stages of drafting in preparation for consideration by members.

ABBOT POINT CONSTRUCTION

This Agreement has been voted on by members and endorsed by National Councillors.

REMINDER TO MEMBERS

- Branch Officials should not have to remind members of the need to complete an Incident Report if members are injured on the job.

Whilst employers may have made making a claim a more arduous process, a recent issue whereby a member injured himself at work and did not complete an Incident Report has led to substantiated complications with that member's claim for workers compensation, including the need for the member to utilise our Union recommended legal team.

If you are injured at work, we strongly reiterate that members come to the office and complete their claim forms, including an authority for the MUA to act on member's behalf in relation to the claim with representatives of Workcover.

If you are unsure of issues associated with Workers Compensation, ask your delegate or call the office.
