



MONTHLY INDUSTRIAL NEWSLETTER

Official MUA WA Branch Members Update

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Comrades,

This report will touch on what's been happening in the WA Branch during the month of November.

OFFSHORE

DOF members have taken a series of protected action stoppages and bans with more to come. The Union and the company remain apart on a number of issues many which have sprung up since drafting began. The Scope, and the term of the Agreement remain the key issues keeping us apart.

The Go Offshore legal challenge was heard in November. We should know more in the coming weeks but the early indicators during the course of the hearing suggest this appeal may go against us.

On December 10th at 1300 WST we have our next Offshore Members Meeting at the Branch or by zoom. Every member is encouraged to participate in this extremely important meeting that will set the direction of the upcoming EA negotiations. We will also be discussing the important issue of the upcoming skills shortages in our industry.

ASP

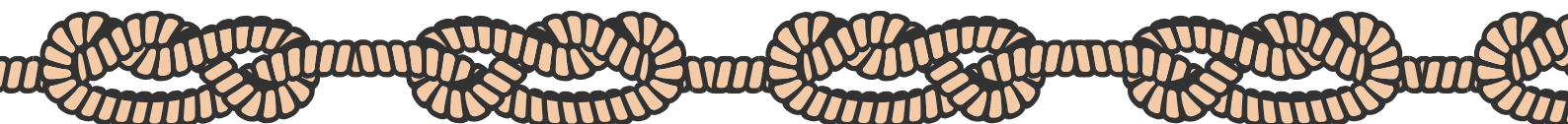
Negotiations have commenced for the new EA for the Fremantle bunker barge the Absolute 1. We have met three times with the company to date with two of those meetings during November

SEALINK

We have reached agreement in principle on the new agreement with Sealink that now goes to vote in coming days. It's a much improved agreement that we are recommending to members.

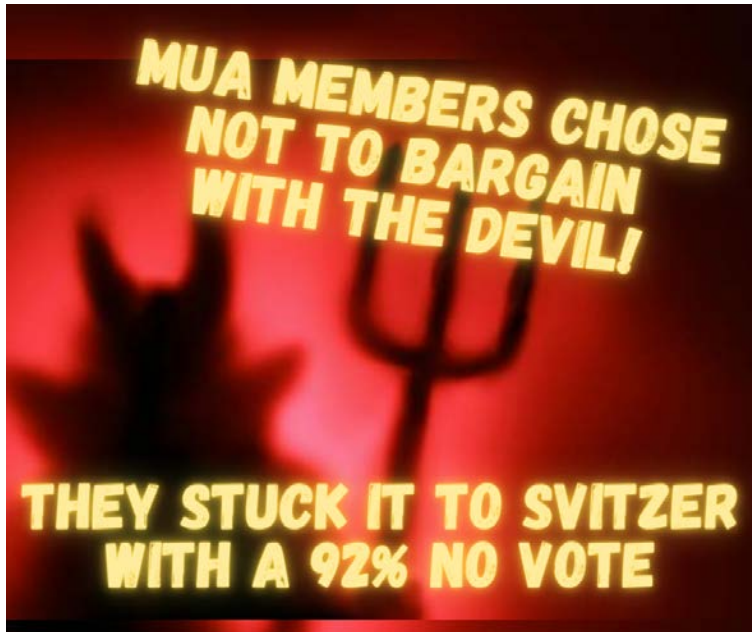
RND CREWING

Negotiations have heated up for those members working on the vessel the Modi R in Cockburn Sound. The ballot results for the protected action ballot will be returned this coming Monday and it's expected that given the recent conduct of the Managing Director, that we will need to take action in support of the new agreement.



SVITZER TOWAGE

The Svitzer members have spoken and smashed Svitzer's non-union EA with a 92% 'NO' vote across the country. National negotiations continued during November but only time will tell if the resumption of discussions takes us anywhere. Svitzer's approach to these negotiations has been unlike anything we have seen before from this company. They seem more intent on taking the axe to the local POP's than actually trying to get an agreement.



OCEAN PROTECTOR

We are currently in dispute over crew having to isolate without payment. The matter has been run up through the disputes procedure to the National Level and was in Fair Work the last week of November. We will update once we are through that process.

FREMANTLE PORTS

A mass meeting of members on site at KBT in November across the stevedores, maintenance, BSO's and PSO's endorsed an agreement in principle at the Fremantle Port Authority. We are now in the crucial drafting process with hopes of getting an agreement out to vote in early December. The patience and discipline of our Fremantle Ports membership is sorely being tested with the games being played by the HR team at the FPA but they are hell bent on getting the fair and just outcome they so rightly deserve.

DP WORLD

DP World have sought to distract attention away from their incompetent management, lack of training, lack of capital investment, and their shortfall in rostered labour, by making a S.418 application in the Fair Work Commission. According to the DP World storyline, the MUA have been organising unprotected industrial action in Fremantle by implementing overtime bans, extension bans and mass scratchings.

The MUA disputes DP World's claims of unlawful industrial action. Rather than wasting the Commission's time with unfounded allegations, DP World would be better served addressing the productivity issues which fall within their ambit of responsibility. Increasing the number of full-time permanent jobs would be a good start in ensuring labour availability in accordance with a defined roster. DP World can't have it both ways. They can't demand guaranteed availability of labour when they don't engage sufficient numbers of employees on rosters. Pretty simple stuff, even for DP World management to understand.

LINX FREMANTLE

In the last week, LINX have confirmed their offer of a 12-month rollover at 2.5% increase on all payments, allowances, etc with no other changes to the EA. Increases will be back paid to 1 July 2021 with 30 June 2022 expiry.

Negotiations will continue for a longer-term EA, (similar occurred in 2015). This not only locks in pay increases for members back paid to July 1, it will hopefully get us past COVID travel restrictions and kick off face to face negotiations once again, where we seem to get more traction and commitment from the company.

Worker's United
WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED



PATRICK TERMINAL

The Patrick campaign continues with the aggressive stance taken by Patrick to attack their own workforce to gain leverage in the negotiation of the new agreement. This has manifested itself in a refusal to meet on Part A, run a legal attack on wages and conditions, and prosecute a media strategy based on lies and distortion that seeks to turn the Australian public against the Patrick workforce. All while they shower themselves in record bonuses earnt off the back of their own workers graft during the difficult period of COVID.

Patrick continue with their case in Fair Work to terminate the EA. They have provided their statements and outline of submissions and the MUA will respond in the second half of December. The case is to go to hearing in the middle of January.

We continue to try and work through a genuine Part B fix that addresses both the increase in owed hours not worked, as well as manning shortfalls at certain points in the roster. At this stage the case being run through the Notification of Change Fair Work application continues with the MUA opposing Patrick's attempt to gut the roster, add extra days worked into it and cut the path to permanency.

The parties met for another Part A meeting at the end of November which had all the hallmarks of going no-where. After the meeting finished, Patrick have written to the MUA again trying to delay further meetings while they run out a political campaign through their mates in the Liberal party to demonise waterfront workers and the MUA.



CBH

The negotiations at CBH are occurring against the background of a record \$8 billion harvest this year. The maintenance negotiations are relatively advanced while the plant operators are meeting in early December to progress their log of claims. The Kwinana stevedores meet in the second week of December to advance their log of claims.

QUBE FREMANTLE

With QUBE members back at work, we are moving slowly through the process of registering the new agreement inside Fair Work. As at the end of November, QUBE have been requested by Fair Work to give certain undertakings in relation to the agreement which is currently being worked through.

We are back in Fair Work in the first week of December, with a dispute over the correct application of the 14 new jobs and we have been involved in a number of disputes over disciplinary action taken against members on the job. QUBE seem to want to relive the dispute through some misguided managerial process that aims to seek revenge for a successful campaign for a new agreement. We have defended 3 so far during the month of November, all who were stood down for varying periods of time. We also have escalated the dispute around the application of the AAH during the period of industrial action to the National level.

We note that further disputes have been lodged in Fair Work over QUBE's attempts to rip workers off with their Long Service Leave, and that more are in the pipework for a variety of other breaches of the agreement by QUBE.



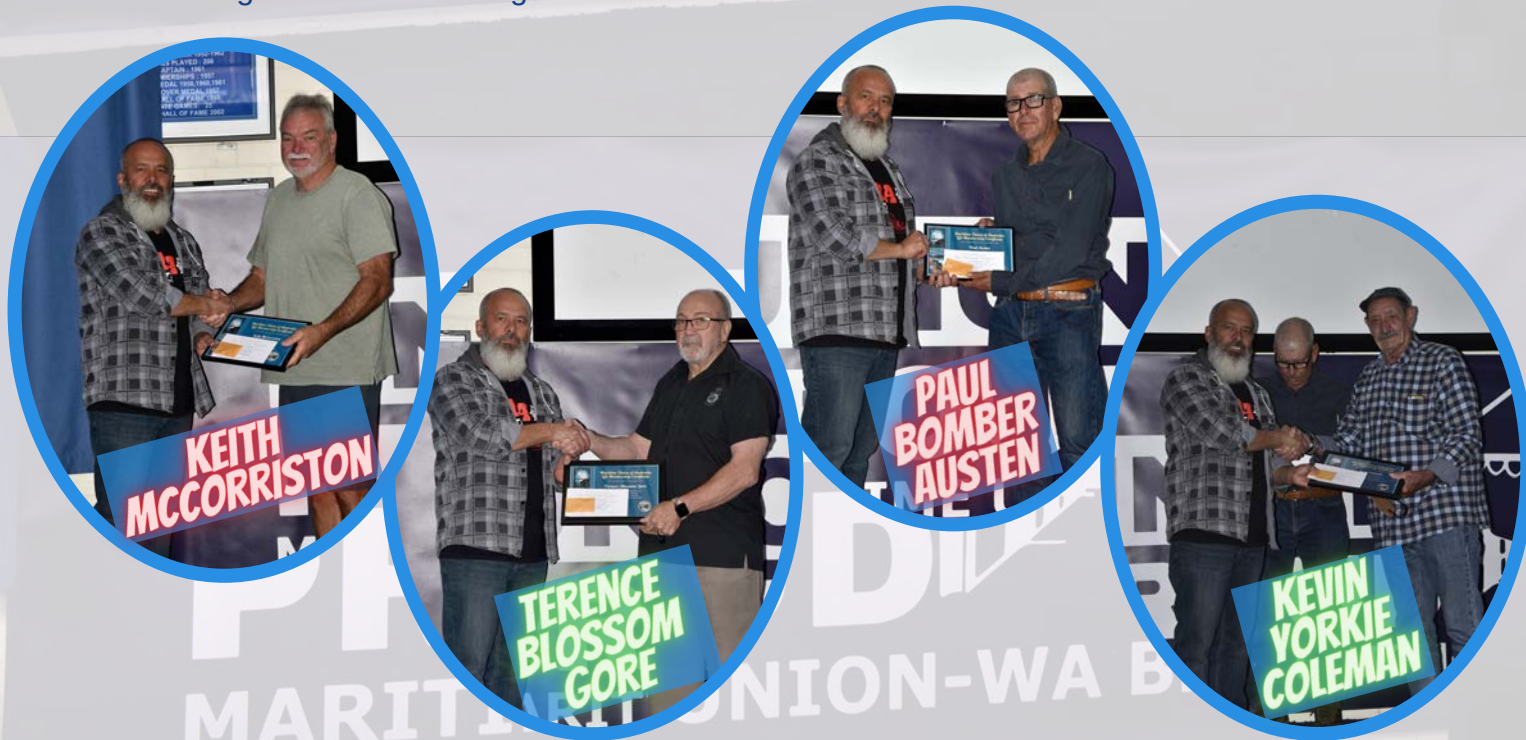
WA BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM for the Union was held on the last day of November and I want to thank the more than 300 members who turned up through the meeting to hear reports on the important and valuable work of the MUA over the last 12 months.

The Union has again returned to surplus, both at the state and national levels, in amongst a hectic workload over the last year – one that dealt with all of the issues we have experienced during COVID, while we negotiated 28 new agreements for our members spread across the broad maritime industry. The key issue during COVID was keeping our industries open and our members in work – a task we carried out successfully as many Australians unfortunately spent great periods last year locked down and out of work.

One of the highlights of the AGM is the awarding of life memberships and I want to congratulate and thank on behalf of the whole union the following members who were awarded life membership at the AGM: Keith McCorrison, Terence 'Blossom' Gore, Paul 'Bomber' Austin, and Kevin 'Yorkie' Coleman.

The speeches they gave were heartfelt and genuine and were warmly received by the entire meeting with a standing ovation.



MUA WA "FREMANTLE" BRANCH COMMITTEE

We also endorsed the new Branch Committee at the AGM and we welcome the following members that form the new WA Branch Committee:

Name	Role
Terence (Blossom) Gore	Veterans Member
Mick Baker	Life Member
Barry Armstrong	Seafarer
Sergio Galvao	Seafarer
John (Pommie) Cowlam	Seafarer
Mick Crisp	Seafarer
Catherine Shardlow	Seafarer
Glenn Bourne	Seafarer
John Mears	Seafarer
Brendon Brolly	Seafarer
Matt Moss	Seafarer
Mat Jackaman	Seafarer
Hayden Bryan	Wharfie
Ian Bolger	Wharfie
Tate Johnston	Wharfie
Jesse Baker	Wharfie
Craig Booth	Wharfie

We would also like to say a huge thanks to our outgoing committee members: Vicki Helps, Emma Cain and Phil Swanston for their contribution to the Branch Committee over the past 12 months. Your commitment, time and dedication to the Branch has been very much appreciated.

