



# Queensland Branch News



26<sup>th</sup> November 2014

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING/S

The Annual General Meeting dates for regional Queensland Ports:

- Townsville Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 8am South Townsville Bowls Club, 2b Bell Street, South Townsville
- Gladstone Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – venue to be advised.
- Cairns Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 12.30pm at Cairns Cruising Yacht Squadron, 42/48 Tingara Street, Portsmith
- Mackay Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 3pm at Laurie Horgan Room, Mackay QCU Bld. Brisbane St. Mackay.

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## PATRICK TERMINAL BASE COMMITTEE

Nominations are open for a new Base Committee at Patricks Terminal. After internal discussions between the current Committee and the Branch, it has been decided to change the basis on how the Committee is formed. In this regard, there will be six (6) positions and six (6) alternatives.

There will simply be an election for the first Six “past the post” with the exception being that if no PGE member is elected in the first Six, then there will be a default provision to ensure that a PGE will be part of the Committee.

Please nominate with the MUA Branch Office via Phone – 3395 7215 or email – [muaqld@mua.org.au](mailto:muaqld@mua.org.au)

**Nominations will close at 12 noon on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December.**

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## PICNIC 2014

The weather fine; the Track could have been irrigated more, but that didn’t stop DP World Member, Jason Buckle, showing lightning speed in the MUA Sprint. Jason is now a multiple winner.

All the running races were keenly contested in every age group; even with the Vets facing the Starter’s hands. There was a comment that some Life Members move faster now than they ever did, when they were under the hook.

It is always pleasing to see the younger ones run and the smiling happy faces when they collect their prizes.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank a number of people, who without their help, the MUA Picnic Day would not be the success that it is:

- Volunteers – for your help in setting up; food preparation and all the running around.
- Sponsors – who contributed towards the day – M.M.P.C.U.; R. T. HEALTH; MAURICE BLACKBURN; and UNION SHOPPER

Thank you very much.

Finally and definitely not based on the level of importance of making this a successful day, our dedicated Branch Office Staff, who not only do all the ordering and, ins/outs of organising; but turn up on the day to help when they could be simply just enjoying a day off.

In closing, a short message to those Employers who want to remove “Picnic Day” from the Agreement, forget it. You already have the opportunity to deprive many of our members attending by compelling them to work. Further, it would be an interesting process to ascertain how many managers are at work on the arvo on the first Tuesday of November. No doubt, many would have their snouts in the corporate trough, after all it’s only “customer relations”.

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## STRADBROKE FERRIES - RIGHT OF ENTRY

Members will be aware that for the last 5 months, we have been in dispute with Stradbroke Ferries in relation to Right of Entry. Yesterday in the Fair Work Commission, the Company finally capitulated. There was no case for the Union to answer and the matter was resolved to the MUA and Rank and File's satisfaction. Visits will recommence immediately.

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## SMIT TOWAGE GLADSTONE

A further round of meetings were held in the week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> October. The first of the new build Gas escort Tugs has arrived in Gladstone and the first L.N.G. Tanker is due to arrive in the Port on 20<sup>th</sup> December.

Negotiations are continuing with management to attempt to progress the Towage Enterprise Agreement, inclusive of the new roster to accommodate the 5 extra Tugs that will be required for the expanded Port operations.

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## ASP E.A. FOR RIO VESSELS

All vessels have been visited and updates provided by way of Branch Monthly Meetings. Discussions are ongoing with ASP re changes as reported to members and agreed by ASP are made to ensure a correct and up to date draft before it is sent to members for consideration.

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## CHRISTMAS CHARITY RAFFLE

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize** – Large ESKY – complete with alcohol and other goodies

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** – *Bundaberg Distilling Company* etched Wooden ESKY

Regional areas can purchase tickets over the phone (07 3395 7215)

**Tickets \$10.00 each  
Limited to 200 Tickets**

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## MARITIME SUPER

Maritime Super member seminars have been held at Hay Point, Gladstone and Brisbane in the past week.

Maritime Super is committed to a strong education program to make informed choices. Seminars are your chance to learn more about the latest developments in the super industry and how these may or may not impact you. By attending a seminar, you build your knowledge on super and the benefits available to you through the Fund. Further seminars will be held in 2015 – dates will be advised.

An important up-coming change involves Centrelink about to deem Account based Pensions after 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2015. You may wish to commence an Account based Pension before this date.

If you have any questions, please contact Maritime Super Financial Planner, Jim Atley on 3399 3775.

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## CHANGE OF DETAILS

Members, as requested on numerous occasions via past *Branch News*, it is important that the Union is kept up to date with respect of changed circumstances, address, status of employment and phone numbers, etc. The Branch will continue to utilise SMS messaging as our main form of communication, as well as email.

If we don't have your details, we cannot contact **you**.

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