



QUEENSLAND BRANCH NEWS

NEWSLETTER of the QLD Branch of the MARITIME UNION of AUSTRALIA

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No. 20 – Thursday October 29, 2015

Hutchison Ports - DP World EBA - Kalmar - Brisbane Ferries – Qube

Hutchison Ports

THE battle at Hutchison Ports continues. Both parties have reached in principle agreement over a much improved voluntary early separation package, which will be made available to all Hutchison employees. However, this is currently being held up until some correct wording is agreed on.

Assistant National Secretary Warren Smith, officials from the Queensland and Sydney MUA Branches along with delegates from Brisbane and Port Botany have also begun discussions around a new EBA. One of the key concerns is that any new EBA should in no way be used as an instrument to undercut the wages and conditions at other Patrick and DP World terminals.

Fair Work Deputy President Anna Booth will chair another round of negotiations in Sydney on November 2 and 3 (Picnic Day). While not optimal, these dates were the only ones that we could get.

DP World

IT has taken 21 months. We have had to deal with a company that has gone out of its way to antagonise our members. But finally, on Wednesday November 4, a much improved DP World EBA will go to the vote. The vote will take place at the Port of

Brisbane's Multi User Terminal at 2pm. All members at DP World are urged to attend.

Kalmar

The company that covers maintenance at Patrick Stevedores has started negotiating with the MUA Branch for a new EBA. MUA delegates Rob, Steve and Terry have done a magnificent job in assisting the Branch in preparing the groundwork for these discussions. There is a lot of tough negotiating ahead but we will see it through.

Brisbane Ferries

OUR "A Fair EBA for Ferry Workers" campaign continues to make waves. Just last week, the MUA Queensland Branch received a call from the office of Rod Harding, the Labor Party's mayoral candidate for Brisbane City Council. A meeting with his office is scheduled for early next week, where we hope to win Rod Harding's full support for our campaign.

Speaking of the Labor Party, we have heard that Transdev have gone out of its way to

inform local Labor Party councillors about the company's side of the story. We wish Transdev would speak to us! Transdev need to spend less time trying to wage a PR battle, and more time sitting down with its workforce and their union and enter into some fair dinkum negotiations.

**EDUCATE
AGITATE
ORGANISE**

MUA Queensland Branch Conference
Thursday December 3rd - Friday December 4th
QCU Building - 16 Peel Street, South Brisbane

- Updating members on the Hutchisons dispute
- Organising for safety
- Running effective campaigns on the job
- Debating the way forward for our MUA Branch
- Discussing which policies to take to National Conference

Conference open to all financial MUA members
Telephone: (07) 3395 7215 / Email: muaqlid@mua.org.au

The campaign for a fair go for Ferry workers continues. A protest targeting the Brisbane City Council is planned for next week [day and venue to be announced – contact the Branch on 3395 7215].

MUA members at Brisbane Ferries should have received their Protected Action Ballots in the mail this week. Ballots must be returned to the Electoral Commission by no later than October 30.

Qube

MEMBERS at Qube have begun to draw up a Log of Claims for their upcoming EBA. And as usual, Chris Corrigan and Co. have thrown a fly in the ointment. Qube are pushing to remove the Part A / National section of the EBA and replace it with sixteen separate EBAs - one for each Qube worksite.

Qube negotiations will be headed up by Warren Smith (National), Gary Keane (Southern NSW), Adrian Evans (WA) and Bob Carnegie (QLD). Over the next month this team will visit all 16 Qube ports to discuss these issues and how best to take the fight up to Qube. We will not allow Qube to divide our members and to pit wharfie against wharfie.

Patrick Gladstone

MUA members are not happy with the company's trial of a system of rolling smoko breaks. Patrick at Gladstone wants to work the log boats non-stop over a 12 hour shift. The idea is to rotate the use of the two cranes and two excavators between three crane and three excavator drivers.

An ERC meeting will be held in a fortnight's time to discuss a resolution to this matter.

MUA organiser in Gladstone

In the foreseeable future, Central QLD Organiser Paul Petersen will be in Gladstone for three days every month. Paul has pencilled in the last Wednesday, Thursday & Friday of the month (right after monthly meetings). Members in the area will now have regular access to an MUA organiser.

MUA Tasmanian Branch Conference

The Tasmanian Branch of the MUA is holding its Branch Conference this week (October 27 to 30). Central QLD Organiser Paul Petersen is currently in Tasmania on behalf of the MUA QLD Branch.

Mick Carr - Retirement Function

Long-serving MUA Queensland Branch Secretary will celebrate his retirement on Saturday October 31

from 7pm at the Story Bridge Hotel. Please call Brian Gallagher on 0414 799 134 for further info.

MUA Picnic Day – November 3

MUA Picnic Day - Melbourne Cup Day is on Tuesday November 3 at The Plantation, 1204 New Cleveland Road, Gumdale, 9am-4pm. The day is a great event for MUA members and their families.

As always, morning tea and lunch are provided, along with ice creams, lollies and drinks. There are novelty races and events for all ages. For the kids there will be jumping castles, slides, swings, merry-go-rounds and train rides, as well as swimming pools (with lifeguards on duty), tennis courts and beach volleyball courts. Any members that can help with set-up are asked to arrive on-site at 6.30am.

Branch Committee meeting – Nov. 6

THE first Branch Committee meeting since the 2015 Quadrennial Elections will be held on Friday November 6 in the Brisbane union rooms.

Annual General Meeting – November 24

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held on November 24 from 7am to 10am. The AGM is at the Wynnum Manly Workers Club, 35 Bognor Street, Tingalpa. All members are encouraged to attend.

Activist Committee meetings

ACTIVIST Committee meetings are held on the second and last Tuesday of every month. The meeting on the second Tuesday starts at 10am in the union rooms. The meeting on the last Tuesday of the month begins after the Monthly Meeting.

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