



QUEENSLAND BRANCH NEWS

NEWSLETTER of the QLD Branch of the MARITIME UNION of AUSTRALIA

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No. 27 - Monday January 18, 2016

MV Portland – Patricks Protected Action– QUBE

MV Portland

ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT January 13 at 1.00am, 30 security guards stormed the MV Portland and evicted 5 Australian seafarers who had been sitting in for 62 days in an attempt to save their jobs and the jobs of all Australian seafarers.



The vessel sailed shortly after the eviction of the Australian seafarers who were replaced by foreign seafarers issued with some type of questionable certification by AMSA.

A lot of questions need to be answered by AMSA, which is supposed to be a statutory government authority answerable to parliament, supposedly independent from government. Yet here it is doing the dirty work for ALCOA, and the Turnbull government.

Also, a fundamental question of trade unionism has to be asked of AMOU and AIMPE members who saw their workmates thrown off the vessel but still sailed the vessel. To the vessel's Captain, Mates and Engineers, your actions are despicable and any amount of gold you received will never solve the question of conscience you chose to turn your eyes from. We all have a free will and you exercised yours to do the bidding of a corporation rather than stay true to a principle. Shame on all of you.



Sacked for believing in Australian jobs

Authorised by **Bob Carnegie, Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) Queensland Branch Secretary**
73 Southgate Avenue, Cannon Hill QLD 4170

Patricks Protected Action

MUA MEMBERS AT Patricks Terminals are taking legal protected 24 hour strike action over the breakdown in negotiations over fundamental job security issues.

With the bidding war between Brookfield and QUBE, Patricks members are demanding assurances that their positions are secure in a transmission of business and this becomes an important part of the EBA.

This battle is not about money, it is about job security.

QUBE

BRANCH SECRETARY, Bob Carnegie was involved in a meeting with QUBE in Adelaide on Monday January 11 2016.

QUBE's offer was a generous 4.66% WAGE CUT in the first year of the agreement and CPI for the remaining 3 years!

NSS

BRANCH SECRETARY, Bob Carnegie was in Townsville on Wednesday January 13 for the first discussions with this stevedoring company which operates in Northern Queensland.

Present were Branch Organiser, Glenn Desmond, Delegates and interested members.

Company and Union Log of Claims were placed on the table. Negotiations are to continue next Wednesday.

South Embley Project

DEPUTY BRANCH Secretary, Jason Miners was in Weipa for two days along with ATSI representative, Terry O'Shane to map and scope MUA involvement in this project.

Both Rio and contractor Bechtel are playing hardball and we will need to place plenty of resources into this if we are to meaningfully participate in this project.

Meeting with Ports Minister

ON TUESDAY January 12, Branch Secretary Bob Carnegie, Deputy Branch Secretary Jason Miners and Mackay Tug Delegate Bob Barnes as well as youth representative Shannon Saye, met with the Port Minister, Mark Bailey.

Tug licence problems and the future of towage at Hay Point were discussed. All participants forcefully and passionately put forward the position of importance that a change of towage contract should not be done at the expense of the wages and conditions of Hay Point tug boat workers.

The Minister took full notice of our concerns and is assisting with setting up a meeting with Industrial Relations Minister, Grace Grace.

Lines Boats

ASSISTANT BRANCH Secretary, Paul Gallagher has been involved in attempting to unionise and make safer the lines boat issue in the Port of Brisbane. Paul is making some headway in a difficult area to organise.

