



Maritime Union of New Zealand

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Paddy Crumlin
National Secretary
Maritime Union of Australia

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Dear comrade

Please pass on our thanks to all members of the Maritime Union of Australia, for the generous contribution of the MUA to the Christchurch Earthquake Fund for maritime workers.

The MUA contribution of just over NZ\$32,022.94 gives a substantial boost to our fund which has received donations from unions around the world.

The port of Lyttelton was badly affected by the earthquake of 22 February 2011, but is back in operation despite the disruption. The port and our members played a major part in the relief operation as heavy equipment and supplies were delivered via the port to the surrounding affected area.

Sadly the township of Lyttelton has been extremely hard hit in terms of damage with many landmark buildings destroyed or condemned. The union offices survived but were damaged and have only just become usable recently. Many of our members live in the nearby Christchurch urban area that has suffered severe damage and will take time and effort to rebuild.

There have been a number of aftershocks, and both the deaths and injuries suffered in the main quake, and the ongoing personal and psychological stress, have been a great challenge for the local community.

Our fund is intended to assist maritime workers in the affected area to deal with the costs involved with the experience. The financial assistance means a great deal, but equally important is the sense of support and solidarity provided that cannot be measured in monetary terms.

The many messages of support from the MUA and our Australian brothers and sisters are deeply appreciated, as is the donation your Union has made to New Zealand maritime workers affected by this natural disaster.

Thank you.

Yours fraternally

Joe Fleetwood
General Secretary