



QUEENSLAND BRANCH NEWS

NEWSLETTER of the QLD Branch of the MARITIME UNION of AUSTRALIA

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To be truly radical is to make hope possible, rather than despair convincing - Raymond Williams No. 142 - 3 August 2018

Longman By Election - Peter Frawley Cycleway - DP World Report Back - Support for Anti-Poverty NetworkDLV2000 Members Donate to Seafarers Society in Cape Town - Superman: Income Protection Rio Tinto \$4.38 Billion First-Half Net Profit - Book Review - Cartoon Corner

Longman By Election

THANKS TO ALL members who participated and assisted in the Longman campaign. Special mention must be given to Kevin (Rambo) Thomas and his wonderful wife, Chile, who worked some 50 days straight on this campaign. It was a terrific result.



Assistant Branch Secretary - Paul Gallagher and Fiona Scoles



Susan Lamb with Jason Clare MP, David Greene and other volunteers at early morning train station blitz



David Greene with Senator Chris Ketter and Drew from The Services Union on polling

Peter Frawley Cycle Way by Bob Carnegie

IT IS WITH great pride the Branch can announce that after intense lobbying we have been successful in having the new Port of Brisbane Cycleway named in memory of our member, Peter Frawley, who was tragically killed riding his bike to work 11 years ago.

The Branch is particularly glad that Peter's family will be at the naming of the cycleway along with the Transport Minister, the CEO of the Port of Brisbane Corporation, DP World Management, Branch Officials and Rank and File.

This memorial is a testament to the type of man Peter was, a decent, caring, good man. We thank all those who participated in this process. It was an example of government, unions and employers working together for a common cause.

DP World 2 Hour Meeting Report Back

by Jason Miners

WITH WELL OVER 100 in attendance, there was some good debate around the upcoming EBA and where the priorities lie for the workforce.

We are currently going through Committee elections which was a result of large interest from the membership to represent their work mates. This is a good thing.

Authorised by Bob Carnegie, Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) Queensland Branch Secretary

73 Southgate Avenue, Cannon Hill QLD 4170

The elections will take place over the coming week or so for the contested positions.

It was not lost on anyone who attended the meeting the struggle this EBA will require to achieve the deserved outcomes for the biggest, most lucrative terminal in Brisbane.

The first EBA meeting will be 14th and 15th of August in Sydney which will allow all the terminals to get together and finalise the Part A Log of Claims through feedback from the members.

Anyone not receiving emails or texts, please contact the Branch on 3395 7215 to update your details.

In Unity – Jason Miners

Anti-Poverty Network

THE ANTI-POVERTY Network held a free open community day at Logan on Saturday 28th. The services and organisations represented on the day included:

- Retail and Fast Food Workers Union, providing workplace information, such as work rights and the unions responsible for various industries.
- MultiLink providing information about the support services to migrant communities.
- WAVSS (Working Against Violence Support Service) – providing information, counselling and support to women and children experiencing domestic and family violence.
- Murrigunyah Family and Cultural Healing Centre, an organisation controlled by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in Logan, who provided information about the support services available to victims of sexual assault.
- Brisbane Period Project who provided free sanitary packs to women and transgender men.
- Queensland Health, giving free dental checks and referrals to adults and children.
- Legal Aid solicitor specialising in social security law, provided advice to those disputing Centrelink decisions.
- Half a dozen social workers who provided information and assistance on various issues including accessing public and community housing, homeless support services, and NDIS.
- Uncle Des Sandy, local Indigenous elder giving a welcome to country.

Anti-Poverty Network.

In addition to organising the Community day, Anti-Poverty Network provided assistance regarding Centrelink and DSP claims, payment disputes and resolving issues with job search providers.

We also had a food bank for attendees to take from as they needed, free face painting for children and an Auslan interpreter for the hearing impaired.

We had over 100 people attending over the course of the day, who found out about the event through our street stalls, letter boxing, word of mouth, and Facebook advertising.

Made up primarily of people on welfare payments and low incomes, the APN is a democratically run volunteer organisation that campaigns for greater welfare fairness. We do that through street stalls out the front of Centrelink offices across Brisbane and Logan, campaigning local politicians, providing free advocacy to those dealing with Centrelink and Job Network Agencies, and providing direct material assistance to people on low incomes through events such as our community day.



We would especially like to thank the MUA Queensland Branch for providing the food for the community lunch, as well as the Branch's earlier donation which went towards hiring the venue.



The MUA's active support of the Anti-Poverty Network sends a very clear message that the fight against poverty is union business.

The bosses and governments that cut wages and sack workers are the very same that impose austerity measures and want to force the unemployed to work for free in work previously done by waged employees.

For that reason, the fight against poverty needs to occur both within and outside the workplace, with community groups such as anti-poverty network supporting the struggles of unions for higher wages and workplace fairness, and unions supporting the community groups campaigning against austerity and delivering the services that government is failing to deliver.

The MUA has played, and continues to play a leading role in this regard. No doubt it is why the MUA is so widely respected and enjoys such a high density of union membership.



We hope that this will be an ongoing relationship. For our part, we intend to stand in solidarity with the MUA whenever there is any form of industrial action, by attending rallies and pickets, and helping to raise funds during strikes.

More still, we will provide direct advocacy and assistance to members of the MUA should they ever become unemployed and need to access welfare.

We are planning to hold our next community day in approximately 6 months, and are considering holding it in Inala, another area with high poverty and a community frequently demonised by conservative government and media on an anti-poor and racialized basis. We are already planning how we can make the event better, including getting doctors and a mental health service on board, and solicitors specialising in tenants' rights and family law.

And further, we would like more unions to get involved. When people come to APN events we want them to see that it's not churches, charities and billionaire philanthropists looking out for them, it's grassroots community organising, trade unions and working class solidarity!

In Unity - Feargal McGovern

DLV2000 Members Donate to Cape Town

Sailor's Society *by member, Dean Price*

The DLV2000 (McDermott) was being relocated to Trinidad at the end of a contract in Australia which ended in early June where we were working on a 38km pipeline for Woodside.

In transit, the Australian crew were planned to demob in Cape Town on the way. During the transit we collected the PPE and gear that normally would be binned and donated it to Seafarers Society in Cape Town.

Steve van Schalkwyk (Chaplain) was contacted and he was very happy to come to the wharf with a truck and collect it for distribution throughout South Africa's harbours. In the end we managed to collect around 9m3 of PPE including hundreds of pairs of boots, glasses, hundreds of helmets and overalls.

Chaplain Steve's Words of Thanks for Donation

Integrated Rating, Dean Price, on board the Pipe Layer: Mc Dermott DLV 2000 contacted me about 10 days ago with the offer of a donation of Personal Protection Equipment he felt the Sailors' Society might put to good use.



The vessel was en route to Cape Town from Dampier, Western Australia then on to Trinidad. They lay deep sea gas pipe lines.

I met the vessel, and Dean on Friday 6th July and was given a tour of the massive Pipe Layer. They had, according to Dean, encountered swells in excess of 10 metres during the crossing. The worst he had seen in 20 years at sea. He and the bridge officers I spoke to were still visibly shaken. At the peak of the storm, the lower sections were under water!



The donation consisted of 4 huge bulkbags of coveralls, 2 of heavy duty leather boots, 3 of hard hats and gloves.

Our grateful thanks to the DLV 2000. God bless you and give you fair weather and calm seas!

Superman

Income Protection Insurance Cover Has

Changed for Some Members

SOME MEMBERS WILL now have new income protection insurance cover paid by their employer.



Recently, some stevedoring employers updated their EBAs to include an income protection benefit through Protect (which is paid by the employer). Your employer will let you know if this applies to you, but if you're unsure, just check with them.

If you're a Maritime Super member, there's a good chance that you'll already have Income Protection insurance cover through AIA Australia Ltd (AIA), where you pay the premium.

Authorised by Bob Carnegie, Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) Queensland Branch Secretary

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This means that you could end up with two income protection policies – one with AIA (through Maritime Super) and one with Protect (through your employer).

If this is the case, and you do end up with two income protection policies, it's important to be aware that you can only make a claim on one of them. This means that you could be paying premiums for insurance cover you don't need or can't use.

Work out what's best for you

Every insurance policy has different benefits, conditions and exclusions, so it's important to assess the cover offered through each policy and decide which one works best for you.

To assess your options, have a think about your income protection needs and compare the cover elements and exclusions across the two insurance policies.

Before you cancel

If you decide to cancel your income protection cover with Maritime Super, make sure that your new income protection insurance cover with Protect has been confirmed by your employer before cancelling.

Need help?

If you need more information on the cover offered by Protect, you can call Protect on 1800 994 694.

If you need more information on the cover offered by AIA through Maritime Super, give them a call on 1800 757 607.

Get advice

Financial planner, David Zaloudek, is based out of the MUA offices in Cannon Hill, and can help you work out the level of cover you might need and the best options for you – you can call David on 0488 072 369.

Rio Tinto to Buy Back Shares After First-Half Profit Jumps: World's second-biggest miner by market value reported net profit of \$4.38 billion

By Rhiannon Hoyle

Sourced from: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/rio-tinto-to-buy-back-shares-after-first-half-profit-jumps-1533107205>

This article is to highlight the massive profits Rio Tinto extract out of our country and state. The Queensland Branch of the MUA will be organising major demonstrations in the near future to win back our rights for Rio Tinto vessels carrying bauxite to be crewed by Australian seafarers. We ask all members to get on board in this campaign. It's your job and your future for not just yourself but for your sons and daughters too. Bob Carnegie

SYDNEY— Rio Tinto RIO -3.08%▲ PLC said it would buy back a further \$1 billion in stock as it recorded a 33% rise in first-half net profit and raised its dividend by 15%, aided by recovering prices of some commodities.

The world's second-biggest miner by market value, behind BHP Billiton Ltd. BHP -1.99%▲, on Wednesday reported a profit of \$4.38 billion for the six months through June, up from a net profit of \$3.31 billion a year earlier. It was the miner's most profitable first half since 2014.



A digger unloads waste material to a dump truck at Rio Tinto's Paraburdoo mine in Pilbara region, Australia, in December 2016.

Photo: Matt Burgess/Zuma Press

Management also pledged to hand back roughly another \$4 billion after taxes from the sale of assets including Australian coal mines, although said they are yet to decide upon an exact time and method.

The company, one of the world's top iron-ore suppliers, said profit before one-off items was up 12% at \$4.42 billion. That was a slight miss on market expectations of about \$4.6 billion, according to the median of eight analyst forecasts.

Directors said an interim dividend of \$1.27 a share would be paid to shareholders, representing a payout of 50% of underlying earnings.

The mining industry has roared back to life over the past two years following a sharp drop in prices for commodities such as copper, iron ore and coal that sent companies scrambling to cut debts and boost margins.

With earnings season now under way, investors are watching for shifts in strategy that could include a more aggressive approach to growth, signs that costs are starting to eat into profits and any impact from increasing trade tensions.

Rio Tinto on Wednesday raised concerns over the threat of an escalating trade conflict between China and the U.S. That poses risks for a company that ships about 90% of its products between countries, said Chief Executive Jean-Sébastien Jacques. "The mining industry has two key drivers: GDP growth and global trade," he told reporters.

He said Rio Tinto was yet to feel a material impact from trade disputes on sales of its commodities, but was positioned to deal with continuing economic volatility. "In these uncertain times, resilience is key," said Mr. Jacques. "The mining industry has two key drivers: GDP growth and global trade," he told reporters.

Executives also cautioned the business is facing pressure from rising costs, but said this was being offset by improvements in productivity at its mines. Rio Tinto said higher energy prices cost it about \$161 million in earnings, mainly because of a 28% rise in the average cost of a barrel of oil.

While focus remains on shareholder returns, the company said it continues to press ahead with some new

projects, spending 34% more during the first half of 2018 versus the year-earlier period. Earlier Wednesday, the company said it approved \$146 million in funding for initial work for its planned Koodaideri iron-ore mine in Western Australia, ahead of a final decision on the project later this year.

The industry's turnaround in fortunes has been underpinned by a recovery in commodity markets, which have rebounded by roughly 16% since early 2016, according to the Bloomberg Commodity Index.

Overall, commodity price changes boosted underlying earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization by \$604 million from a year earlier, Rio Tinto said.

The price of iron ore has steadied around \$60 to \$70 a metric ton—giving Rio Tinto, one of the lowest cost producers in the world, hefty margins on the ore it ships to buyers across Asia.

Rio Tinto shipped 9% more of the steelmaking commodity from its Australian mines in the first half of 2018. It also reported a 42% jump in copper output, owing to strong production at the part-owned Escondida mine in Chile, which was disrupted by a worker strike in the same period of last year.

Rio Tinto is widely viewed as having the strongest fiscal position of any of the top global miners. Credit Suisse recently described the company as having a “balance sheet full of possibility.”

While net debt at the end of June increased by 36% compared with Dec. 31, 2017, to \$5.23 billion, the figure is down from more than \$22 billion five years prior. The recent increase was tied in part to the payment of taxes, dividends and recent share purchases.

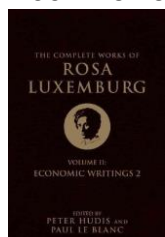
Rio Tinto said it would complete its latest buyback, of London-listed stock, by the end of February 2019.

Executives wouldn't give any indication of how the further \$4 billion pledged to returns would be used. “All we can say is we will be back in coming months with the precise form and timing,” said Chief Financial Officer Chris Lynch.

Rio Tinto has been gradually building up its capital-management program. In February, it unveiled a \$1 billion purchase of London-listed stock, after announcing \$4 billion of share buybacks in 2017.

It isn't the only miner pursuing buybacks. Glencore PLC last month said it would buy \$1 billion in stock from investors, just days after news of a subpoena from the U.S. Department of Justice sparked a sharp slump in its share price.

Book Review by Martin Thomas



Rosa Luxemburg, Complete Works, Volumes 1 and 2

ROSA LUXEMBURG (1871-1919) was probably the best-known figure of the revolutionary wing of the international socialist movement in her day. Only after

1917 would Lenin's name become more famous. Today she is one of the few Marxist writers, other than Marx and Engels themselves, known outside Marxist circles.

Yet only a scattering - a much thicker scattering since the 1970s, but still a scattering - of Luxemburg's writings have been available in English until now.

The German Communist Party - in its "Zinovievite" phase, not yet Stalinist but heading there - ran a campaign against "Luxemburgism" in 1925. After that, the woman who had built a Marxist movement in Poland much factionally-tighter than the Bolsheviks ever were, who had been damned as "Bloody Rosa" by the German ruling class and murdered by one of their gangs under Social Democratic protection in 1919, became an icon rather than the intense and formidably argumentative theorist she really was.

John Berger's words give a comforting and popular image: "she loved workers and birds. She danced with a limp".

Rosa Luxemburg was turned into an emblem for a fuzzier and more ecumenical strand in revolutionary socialism, condescendingly half-damned for that by Stalinists, adopted as an apparent "easy-option" reference figure by others.

The new English-language Complete Works, now under way, edited by Peter Hudis, will be fourteen volumes, and include much omitted from the 1970s "Collected Works" in German (only six volumes).

As Hudis explained in an article in the socialist newspaper, *Solidarity* 356 "given the amount of time, care, and attention that she gave to developing her major economic works, it makes sense to begin the Complete Works with her contributions to the field of Marxian economics", and those fill the 1200 or so pages of the two volumes so far published.

The four actual books Rosa Luxemburg wrote, in addition to hundreds of newspaper and magazine articles, were all about economic theory: *The Industrial Development of Poland*, *The Accumulation of Capital*, *The Anti-Critique*, and the (larger, but never-completed) *Introduction to Political Economy*.

Frau Doktor Rosa Luxemburg was a formidable theoretician, and one who reckoned that economics was "her field". She left her native Poland at the age of 18 to study at the University of Zürich, which in 1863 had become the first university in Europe to admit women students. She spent eight years there winning a doctoral degree in economics.


None of the other well-known writers of the socialist movement had academic qualifications in economics. Indeed, among the well-known bourgeois writers on economics then, few - neither Marshall nor Keynes, neither Walras nor Pareto, neither Menger nor Böhm-Bawerk... - had such qualifications.

Like the Italian Marxist Antonio Gramsci, who resolved in prison to write something "für ewig", something

lasting, she declared she felt "the need to 'say something great'... to write in such a way as to act on people like a thunderclap". Let's listen to the thunderclaps.


Cartoon Corner

We call her Molly, though most people know her as Beyonce. We used a different name because sometimes rescue dogs need one for safety reasons. Actually true.



Molly lived in a puppy mill in a filthy concrete cage surrounded by hundreds of other dogs, all just constantly having puppies. Once they are no longer productive they are usually shot or hit on the head with something.

Every day in a cage having litter after litter, most dogs only last 4 or 5 years but Beyonce was there for 8 before she was handed over to the foster dog people.




They know only cruelty and neglect their whole lives. It is all legal.

To witness this little dog run on grass for the first time in her life was a great privilege, a most wonderful thing.


She is an articulate animal, full of opinions and dog based notions, most of which relate to our ongoing cruel treatment of her as we deny her treats and walks and the constant patting she craves.

We found out about her heart murmur a year ago. She has "mitral and tricuspid valve regurgitation", both valves of her heart aren't working properly. Despite this it is one of the biggest most beautiful hearts I have ever known.




I was in a cage for 8 years, you're telling me I can't have a goddamn biscuit?

If puppies come on the tv we have to turn the sound down because she gets upset and goes looking for them.



I am not a religious person, but if you told me Jesus was a small, incredibly patient dog with an unquenchable joy for life, maybe I could be convinced.

Every moment spent in the presence of this ridiculous charming creature is a tiny gift and I am blessed.



She can't walk as far as she used to, sometimes she gets tired so I have to pick her up - she tries to help by doing a tiny jump into my arms when I bend down.

I have found a state of perfect grace, it is carrying a tired old dog who rests in your arms and closes her eyes.

Did you know that many puppies, and certainly most pet shop and Gumtree puppies come from puppy farms like the one Molly spent 8 years in? True.

Adopt don't shop www.oscarslaw.org

This cartoon corner is a tribute to Carol Conlon, our Branch Manager and her great work with rescuing and fostering many Mollies.

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The Banking Royal Commission has already uncovered evidence of widespread criminality by the big banks. And the Liberal and National Parties voted more than 20 times to stop the Royal Commission.

We've all been ripped off.
Big banks are out of control.
Small business owners, farmers and working people have been robbed.
The banks bring in record profits every year.
The Liberal and National Party only agreed to hold a Royal Commission once the banks told them there was no other option. They voted more than 20 times to stop it.
Now, the Liberal Party are fighting to give the big banks a \$13.2 BILLION tax cut.
We can stop this tax cut. We can stop banks ripping people off.

Here's what we've heard so far:

1. Commonwealth Bank charged dead people fees for over ten years
2. Commonwealth Bank charged millions in fees and still hasn't paid them all back
3. Commonwealth Bank is being sued for failing to comply with laws targeting money laundering for terrorist groups and drug cartels
4. Westpac refused to stop pushing people into dodgy products, saying it would put them at a commercial disadvantage
5. AMP stole fees from customers for no service, lied to the regulator, trapped people in dodgy investments and charged them up to \$25,000 per month for the privilege
6. NAB handed people cash to sign others up people to bad deals
7. ANZ and NAB manipulated the banking bills swap rate for massive profits

We can change the rules.

WORKING PEOPLE NEED BETTER RIGHTS,
JOIN THE MOVEMENT FOR CHANGE

Change THE RULES org.au



Big banks have too much power

Change THE RULES org.au

JOIN THE MOVEMENT FOR CHANGE

Join [Commission for Progress](http://www.commissionforprogress.org.au) [Rising and Energising](http://www.risingandenergising.org.au) [Unity Bank](http://www.unitybank.com.au)

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