



AMIEU
NEWCASTLE & NORTHERN

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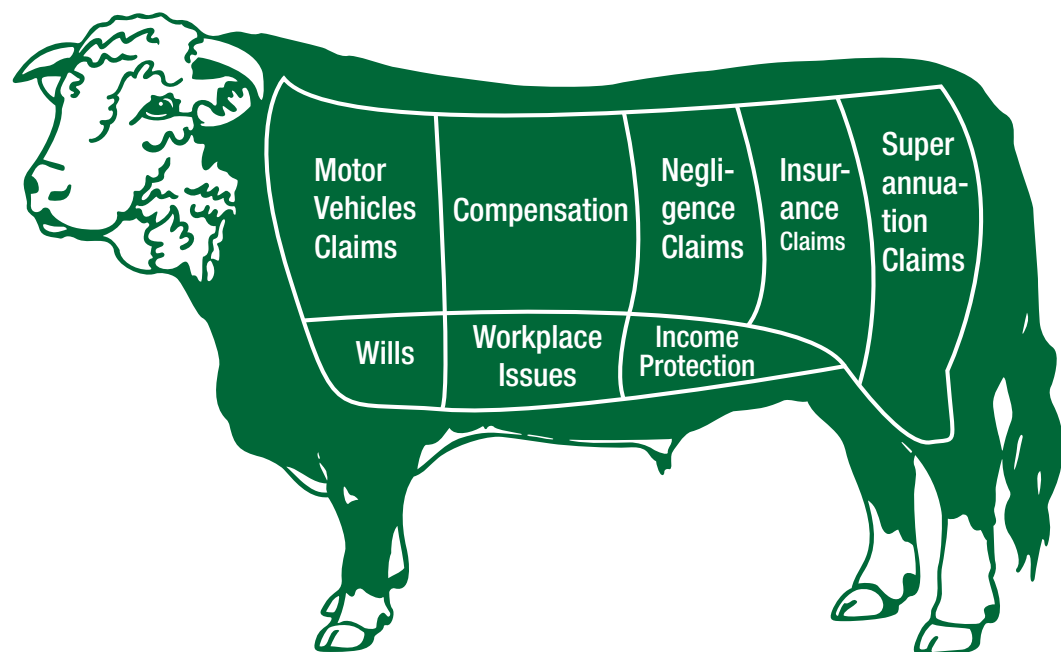


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SECRETARY'S REPORT

Justin Smith Secretary

Hello Comrades,

After some tough years dealing with COVID all of us were looking forward to some sort of normalcy but Mother Nature had other ideas and produced the biggest floods in the northern rivers history.

These floods have had a major impact on our members in the north from the initial floods where members were stuck in their homes and having to be rescued, losing their house and all of their possessions to the long clean up and having to pick up the pieces after such devastation.

Members from all of our sites were effected with Norco and PFD Lismore the worst hit.

At the time of writing our PFD members have been offered redundancy as the site will not be reopening.

Norco Lismore members were lucky to get some Government assistance but as I write members will be stood down until further notice from the 15th July.

With the help of the AMWU and the ETU we have been applying pressure to the company, state and Federal Government regarding a rebuild date and funding.

Norco have been very evasive with their communication and totally undervalued the impact these floods had on their workers and family as without site Organiser Patrick's persistent hard work members still would be waiting for



Norco HR to attend the site along with services Australia.

It is evident that recent cleaning out of long term management the connection and commitment to Lismore and the northern rivers area has dwindled.

What has not changed is the community spirit of the northern rivers with our members being heavily involved in rescues and the ongoing clean up.

Now we need Norco and Governments to return the favour and look after these workers and their families by getting Norco Ice Cream back up and running in the Northern Rivers.

Recently the AMIEU Tasmanian Branch committee of management resolved to dissolve the branch and attach its members to the Newcastle and Northern Branch as per rule 38.4 of the Unions rules.

The Newcastle and Northern Branch Committee of Management agreed unanimously and instructed the organising staff to provide the members in Tasmania with the same support and benefits (apart from access to the fighting fund) as all of the Newcastle and Northern branch members receive.

The Federal executive and Federal Council members will now meet and make the necessary changes to the two branches like name and boundaries.

Tasmanian Secretary Andrew Foden is retiring and I thank him for his service

and wish him luck in the future.

The Newcastle and Northern Branch is in a good position to assist the Tasmanian members and to grow the membership in Tasmania.

The initial Plan is to have two organisers in Tasmania for a week once a month to visit sites and members.

Current contact numbers for the Tasmanian branch will be diverted to the Newcastle office and member will be put in contact with Jason Roe or Darrell Shelton who will be the organisers for Tasmania and will handle all issues as they arise.

With Labor winning the federal election workers will now hopefully see the balance of power swing back our way and with the increases to the minimum wage it has been a good start.

We were let down in 2007 but there is definitely a different feel and already better engagement/communication with the new Government this time around.

I look forward to seeing members on site in the second half of 2022.

Regards,

Justin Smith



NORCO LISMORE UPDATE

Since the time of writing this report there has been a significant update regarding the NORCO Lismore site.

NORCO have been offered a deal of roughly \$34.5 million from government to rebuild the Lismore site.

The company have made initial indications this offer will not be sufficient enough to rebuild.

The AMIEU are now involved in ongoing negotiations with the company and government to find a solution that best serves our members and the workers of NORCO Lismore.

The current wage package provided to these workers will run out on 23 September 2022.

Contact Me
0488 182 047

SPECIAL MENTION

Finally I would like to give a special mention to Sharlene McNamara, an AMIEU Delegate from Baiada Beresfield.

Sharlene spoke at Parliament House earlier this year as part of the ACTU Worker's Delegation.

Representing the AMIEU, Sharlene spoke to raise awareness of issues surrounding labour hire. We are very proud of the good work she continues to do for the workers of Baiada and the Union movement.

ORGANISER'S REPORT

Jason Roe Assistant Secretary



Firstly I'd like to thank the former Secretary of the AMIEU Tasmanian Branch, Andrew Foden, for the last five years in the union movement and his values in supporting the members of the Tasmanian branch.

On behalf of all the members we would like to wish Andrew all the best in his retirement.

Going forward there will be no change to the current membership except the Newcastle branch will be visiting Tasmania to service the members down there on a monthly basis and members will receive the same benefits as the Newcastle northern members.

Justin and I had the opportunity recently to visit a couple of sites in Tasmania JBS Longford, Greenhams and Tas Quality Meats.

It was great to get out to these sites and meet the members down south to hear stories about the history and the current site issues the good and bad.

We look forward to seeing the membership grow and members standing strong to make their work place better.

I would also like to mention Baiada Tamworth AMIEU member Paul McCulloch. The AMIEU sponsored Paul, who was selected to go to America and compete in the Cinch Allstar Ranch Sorting championships in Las Vegas.

This was a great opportunity for Paul to take on competitors from all over the globe who put in a great performance.

Paul finished in the top 20 out of 900 competitors which was a great result considering he had to borrow horses over there that weren't at the same standard as his horses at home.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind members that if they have a workplace issue to report it as soon as the incident happens.

Please do not wait three months or longer, the sooner that the issue is raised the quicker it can be resolved.

Remember when reporting the issue to a company representative always take your delegate with you, the best way is to inform your delegate or organiser before reporting to the company.

Sending the union an email with as much detail as you can will make it harder for the company to try and avoid dealing with the issue. This also goes for reporting injuries.

No one should be scared or feel intimidated to report any workplace issue or injury remember if you do feel this way contact your organiser for assistance.

Regards,

Jason

Contact Me
0421 554 774

ENTERPRISE BARGAINING UPDATES



Gunnedah Leather

Members recently voted up the new three year Agreement with wage increases of 5%, 4% and 4%.

Any employee that has been employed for more than 5 years will now receive a payout of their personal leave when they finish up.

Overall a great result for our members in Gunnedah.



Teys Tamworth

Recently approved, no conditions were given away by members during negotiations.

Employees will receive a wage increase every June that will be in line with the CPI in Sydney, which this year is 4.4%.

All employees are now guaranteed 17.5% leave loading, a benefit that was previously traded off for attendance bonus policy.

A great result for single parents that need more time off to care for children.



Richmond Dairies

Wage increases 4% per year for 3 Years.

Site Delegate Billy Eller represented the workers well in negotiations.

The company bargained in good faith recognising that workers needed a better wage increase. Richmond Dairies are making a strong claim as an employer of choice for local workers.



Brancourts

Brancourts first meeting has just taken place. Employees have put their claims to the company and we await a response.



Nestle Smithtown

The Agreement is still currently at the FWC with some Commissioner feedback that will need some undertakings from the company.

Members achieved wage increases of 1.5% biannually for three years. With compounding becomes equivalent to 3.1% increase per year.

Positive changes to LSL will now allow employees to take LSL at 50%. This allows employees to increase holiday lengths or make an earlier transition to retirement.



Bindaree Beef

Management has been holding engagement meetings in the lead up to the first EBA meeting.

Since meetings started the Company has advised Employees they understand what workers want. However the initial proposal to the EBA Committee was swiftly rejected as it is still based off a bastardised tally.

Members are seeking guaranteed earnings with and all purpose rate.



Baiada Beresfield

The company has issued the NERR and members have put their initial claims together. First meetings began in July.

Discussions are well on the way. With outcomes expected by early September.



JBS Scone

The Company has just announced they are ready to begin discussions. Members are now compiling their log of claims.

First meetings are scheduled to begin in early August.



Wingham Beef

Discussion have begun. Members have lodged a strong log of claims together.

Issues on the table include; guaranteed earnings and full employment as shortage of stock days really hurt this site.

ORGANISER'S REPORT

Darrell Shelton Organiser



Since last journal report covid cases have dropped and now its flu season. It makes you wonder what is the next thing to affect our industry, hopefully it will all end soon.

At nearly all the sites we attend, AMIEU Organisers are encountering low manning levels. It doesn't matter who you talk to no one has a definite answer or the same opinion as to why they cant fill jobs. We are seeing positions available at every site we go to .

On the positive side we are now back out and about to see all our members. It's like a breath of fresh air to us after not being able to get out into the country areas because of restrictions with covid.

We are now doing agreements in poultry, beef, tannery and distribution centres all across Northern New South Wales. This has us all very busy, which is great because when we have agreements happening we hear a lot of different opinions on wage percentages and how jobs are changing to suit company and customers needs.

The current influx of Islander workers is good for our industry as they are filling some of the holes that companies cannot fill through there normal channels. Some employers have been asking us to help them get people to

come their way but it is very difficult in so many ways.

With the change in government we are all hoping for change and a better environment in which to live and work because cost of living is going through the roof and prices for food, fuel, and almost everything we do is outrageous.

People have to change their lives to keep moving forward, no matter what jobs they have.

I recently travelled to Casino to have a look through NCMC and was surprised how big it was and the volume of cattle put through this abattoir.

NCMC is one of our sites very affected by not enough workers, maybe this government has some strategy to bring local workers back to all our sites, time will tell.

I would also like to wish Donny Morehouse and his wife Jen all the best in the future and enjoy retirement.

Darrel.

Contact Me
0400 879 507



BETTER PAY

More Union members means a stronger voice in negotiations and that means more money in your pocket.



INJURY SUPPORT

Workers compensation claims can be costly and confusing, we provide access to our lawyers at no cost.



FIGHTING FUND

Members will be paid by the AMIEU if they go on strike. This means you can afford to strike if you need to.



TO & FROM WORK BENEFIT

Receive financial support as you recover from injury sustained travelling to work.

8

REASONS TO JOIN THE AMIEU NEWCASTLE & NORTHERN



EMERGENCY TRANSPORT

We will pay for ambulance transport for you and your family in an emergency.



TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Union fees are tax deductible, making the actual cost of your membership only a couple of dollars each week.



WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK

We handle unfair dismissals, underpayment, bullying and other legal cases for you at no cost.



VISA ASSIST

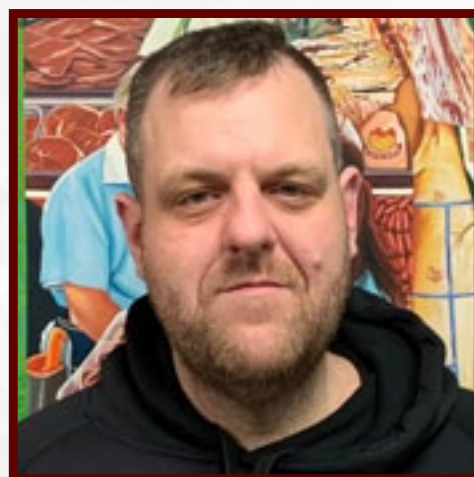
We provide free advice and legal assistance for every type of VISA and can connect you to professional help.



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ORGANISER'S REPORT

Patrick Elliott Organiser



It has been a tough few months in Northern NSW. Lismore and the Mid Richmond have been badly affected by two floods in a month, with the first flood in late February devastating the towns in the region.

The AMIEU has seen two sites, Norco and PFD, destroyed, with many of our members from these sites seeing their homes and life's possessions swallowed up by the violent muddy torrent of water, some of which barely escaped with their loved ones with their lives intact.

We have been busy lobbying State and Federal Government to ensure that these companies receive the required funding so that these businesses can remain in Lismore and that our members at these sites can remain employed.

To date, Norco has received two packages that have seen their employees continue to be employed on ordinary time earnings to help in the recovery and cleanup of the site.

It has been heartwarming and inspiring to see the community and workmates pull together in the face of such adversity, putting their homes, workplaces, and town together piece by piece.

It has been a busy six months with many sites which the AMIEU has

coverage negotiating new Enterprise Agreements. It is an ever-increasing challenging time for workers, with inflation outpacing real wage growth across nearly all industries.

The RBA forecasts that real wages will fall by 3% in 2022 as inflation surges, putting ever-increasing pressure on workers to make ends meet.

Unlike companies that can adjust prices and charges, as the cost of commodities and utility increases during an agreement's life, workers only have one chance to negotiate their wages and conditions for the life of an EBA. Therefore, it is essential workers can get the best deal possible.

I am happy to report that workers at Richmond Dairies have recently had their agreement approved at the FWC, seeing them receive 4% per year. Billy Eller, the site delegate, represented workers on site vigorously and, backed by the workers on site, achieved a great outcome.

Members at Nestle Smithtown have voted to put what was negotiated into a document for the seven day access period before a site-wide vote. The Union members on site negotiated a 1.5% pay increase every six months for three years which equates to a 9.3% increase over the life of the agreement when including the compounding of the six-month pay

risers.

I want to remind all workers of some of the wins members have had in the last six months by being part of the Union that goes primarily unheard.

Many members who have had declined Workers Compensation claims have seen these claims overturned with full entitlements paid. In addition, wage underpayments for individuals and groups of workers have been investigated and pursued by the Union and its affected members have been subsequently back paid.

The Fairwork Commission has now determined that victims of domestic abuse will now be entitled to 10 days of paid leave annually is described as a "historic step forward." Domestic violence affects millions of Australians each year, with women disproportionately affected.

All Modern Awards will now have ten days of paid Domestic Violence Leave included as a provision. However, despite this massive win by the Union movement. It still falls short, with some workers still potentially missing out.

It is now essential that Paid Domestic Violence leave becomes a part of the National Employment Standards so that no workers that need it will ever miss out.

As we move into the second half of 2022, EBA's still need to be negotiated.

PFD Foods, plus hopefully Norco Lismore's Agreement which has been held up due to the Lismore floods and damage to the site.

Members on both sites have shown lots of interest, with many workers showing interest in becoming delegates and being a part of the negotiations, which always increases the chances of good outcomes.

As economic uncertainty looms, remember that by being a part of the Union, your fellow Union members have your back to ensure that your job is secure and that you can freely exercise your rights at work.

If your workmate is not a member, encourage them to join your Union because we are always stronger together.

Hope to see everyone on site soon.

In Solidarity, Patrick.

Contact Me
0497 444 420

Injured at work? Do...

- DO see your **OWN** doctor, not the company doctor
- DO get your doctor to fill out a WorkCover Certificate of Capacity
- DO fill out an Incident Report Form, Injury Register, keep a copy, refer it to your HSR/Delegate and note any witnesses
- DO fill out a Workers' Injury Claim Form if you need any time off work or medicals paid for
- DO take a witness when you talk to any management person about your injury
- DO keep COPIES of all documents and keep a DIARY
- DO treat injuries **SERIOUSLY** no matter how minor
- DO contact your **UNION** if you need any advice or help

AMIEU- Phone (02) 4929 5496

Injured at work? Don't...

- DON'T be told which doctor to see - it is your **RIGHT** to see your own doctor
- DON'T go to a company doctor for medical treatment, in a disputed claim you would be relying on their evidence
- DON'T be talked out of making a WorkCover Claim
- DON'T assume that ALL managers will advise you correctly
- DON'T rely on management to fill in the claim forms for you - contact your union
- DON'T accept a supervisor or management person coming into your doctor's rooms with you - your medical details are **PRIVATE**
- DON'T argue with management alone - contact your HSR/Delegate

AMIEU- Phone (02) 4929 5496

Hello Members,

My name is Frank Johnson, and I have been an Organiser with the AMIEU Newcastle and Northern NSW Branch since the beginning of 2022.

I was born and raised in Fiji. My family migrated to Australia in 1999 when my parents were looking for new work opportunities.

I first became involved in the meat industry through labour hire in Sydney. The first site I worked at was PRIMO in Chullorra, Sydney.

Later I moved to the Hunter and worked at JBS Scone. Some of the jobs I have done include packing, slicing, Boning, grading and working as a leading hand.

I was interested in learning

about the many different cuts, and like to make sure nothing goes to waste. I have met many people from every type of background through this industry and I am grateful for that.

I first became interested in the Union because I wanted to help all these people and make sure they were treated fairly.

I was approached by Jason while working at JBS to help with some Union issues. When COVID began and we lost many of our international workers a lot of these position were replaced by Pacific Islanders. This is when I started to assist the AMIEU more, until I eventually became an Organiser.

It has been a great experience

visiting sites all across our region and even some sites in Tasmania. Some of the places I have visited include JBS Scone and Longford, TEYS and Thomas Foods in Tamworth, Baiada Beresfield and Tamworth, Bindaree Beef in Inverell, Booyong in Lismore, NCMC Casino, Wingham Beef and more.

Since I joined the AMIEU I have spent a lot of my time assisting these workers. There are many issues these workers face, including exploitation, poor, packed in living conditions and lack of opportunity to progress.

Many of these workers have faced these issues and others such as signing contradicting contracts. One contract from the country they come from

INTRODUCING FRANK JOHNSON

and were recruited, and another contract when they are in Australia with the employer.

There have been many issues with deductions coming out of pay and making sure everything is above board and accurate.

For all our members who may have Pacific Islander workers at their site I would encourage you to approach these workers in a friendly manner and make them feel at home. Give them some encouragement and uplifting

words, treat them the way you want to be treated yourself.

I would like to see some changes made to the Pacific Islander Labour Scheme which makes access to permanent residency easier and more straight forward.

There are many workers here with family back home. They obviously miss their families very much. I want to see more steps taken by our Government to help these workers be

reunited with the families here in Australia.

I am excited for the future in my role as an Organiser. If you see me on site feel free to say hello, I'm here to help.

Contact Me
0417 420 906



FEDERAL SECRETARY, GRAHAM SMITH RETIRES

After 46 years in the meat industry, 33 of which were spent in the union offices, Graham Smith has retired.

Graham was a slaughterman in a multi-species plant from 1976 until 1989, when he was elected Branch Assistant Secretary of the South Australian branch of the union.

He became Branch Secretary in 1996 and during his term he oversaw the amalgamation of the South and Western Australian branches to become one branch.

Rarely in the office itself, he spent most of his time as a union official either visiting plants or defending workers in the Industrial Courts and Commission.

He was not a lawyer but certainly held his own against the bosses' legal teams and over the years

became quite an accomplished advocate. He always said that experience is a pretty good equaliser in court.

He also stood at the forefront of some of the ugliest disputes in the industry including being on the blockade of Port Adelaide to stop live shipping of animals, and some very nasty lockouts by bosses', three of which were very significant where the workers all stood their ground for up to 8 months.

The Bordertown meatworks ultimately conceded to the union and an enterprise agreement was struck which, on the whole, remains in force today.

The Port Pirie lockout also ultimately saw the boss cave in, and an enterprise agreement was struck but this was an odd situation where the slaughtering team were locked out, but the labourers were not, so the end

result was that the labourers worked on individual contracts and the slaughtering team on an enterprise agreement.

But the worst and most ferocious fight was at Mt. Schank in the Southeast of SA.

Picket lines are not the place for the faint hearted and these workers kept this blockade of the plant going for 8 months in all kinds of weather, and Graham stood shoulder to shoulder with them along with the other branch officials, stopping anything from entering or leaving the plant.

This dispute was so hot (both in terms of legal battles as well as outright volatility) that the ACTU leadership intervened to try and bring it to a conclusion and on getting the boss to agree to meet them, they then banned Graham from attending because they considered him to be too hostile. (Too hostile to a boss that locks out their workers?? Seriously??)

In a twist of events however, the ACTU had reached a compromise with the boss, but he wouldn't sign off on it until Graham approved it because it wasn't the ACTU that he had to then live with.

Graham believed in a level playing field between operators so that working conditions and pay rates were not the main determinant of profit margins for the bosses and worked hard to achieve that via enterprise bargaining.

The weakening of workers will or ability to fight to maintain their conditions in the past few years has seen a lot of that work eroded and workers need to take the fight back up again.

Graham ultimately was elected to the position of Federal Secretary of the AMIEU where he continued to try and organise campaigns involving all branches of the union and supported each branch to the best of his ability when called upon by those branches.

He is a keen fisherman and gardener and will undoubtedly

find plenty to keep him going in his retirement.

The AMIEU Newcastle and Northern Branch is extremely grateful for the help Graham has provided to the organising staff, delegates and members over the years and wish him well in retirement.



HAVE YOU GOT YOUR FREE AMIEU SHIRT AND HAT/BEANIE?

We have already given out thousands of free T-shirts for members. Now we want to give our members their choice of AMIEU hat or beanie.



If you haven't received yours yet or you want to join the AMIEU you still have time to get both items.

Scan the QR code or hand a completed form on the next page to your site delegate to get your gear.



We are encouraging members to switch to direct debit. If you'd prefer not to switch, just update your membership details by completing the form up to the red line.



Why do you want my details?

Updating your contact information helps us deliver important information when you need it most.

We want to email and text you EBA negotiations, industrial information and other crucial information for your workplace.

Why Direct Debit?

Direct Debit allows us to make your Union dues more manageable. This helps us make sure you are not overbilled and helps us send your tax information on time.




TAX TIME

Submit your tax between July 1 - October 31

To claim an expense on tax you must have paid for it yourself without reimbursement. It must be directly related to earning your income and you must have a receipt or record.




Clothes


Buying/ laundering plain clothes even if worn at work 

Certain uniforms and safety equipment + cost of laundering 




Meals


Meals eaten during a normal working day 

Meals purchased with an overtime meal allowance 




Tools


Tools supplied by employer 

Knives stones and other equipment purchased for work + cost of repairs 



Car


Driving to and from work 

Driving while on the job or between jobs if you have multiple 



Other

Q-Fever vaccination 

Phone and internet if your employer needs you to use them at work 

**REMEMBER!
UNION FEES ARE
TAX DEDUCTIBLE**

Scan the QR code for more tax information specifically for Meat Workers.



STAND UP

FOR YOURSELF &
FOR YOUR COWORKERS



BE THE VOICE YOUR COWORKERS NEED.

STAND UP FOR THEIR RIGHTS.

GET TRAINING AND SUPPORT.

BE PROTECTED BY THE LAW.

BECOME A UNION DELEGATE.



SHANE MCDERMOTT UNITY BANK

The AMIEU has a long running partnership with Unity Bank.

For years Shane has been visiting AMIEU sites around Newcastle and Northern NSW providing financial services for our members.

Shane knows our industry and our members choose to bank with him because he provides a level of service you don't get with big banks.

You can call him directly for personalised services on home loans, car loans, refinancing and everything financial.

MEMBER TESTIMONIAL

Rob, Wingham Beef

Rob was referred to Shane by Justin after he told the AMIEU he was having trouble getting financed for a new home. Due to the recent slow down in his work and wages, the big banks wouldn't come to the table.

Shane understood Robs situation and was able to put a deal together. Unity Banks's loans department put it through the next day.

Rob and Shane had their first discussion on a Monday and by Thursday Rob was at an auction with a loan approval under his belt.

No waiting around, no nonsense, just quick results.

CONTACT SHANE

smcdermott@unitybank.com.au
0412 299 169



Hey Members! Now that sites are allowing visitors again you can expect to see me making my way around in the new year. If you need a home loan, car loan, refinancing or just some solid financial information then come have a chat.

Alternatively you can always give me a call or email. I've also started doing meetings via ZOOM.

In Solidarity - Shane!

BUSINESS CLAIMS ABOUT A PAY RISE ARE BEYOND A JOKE

Have you heard the one about how business can't afford to give a pay rise?

Or the one about how workers will get a wage increase if they can just hang on until things improve?

How about that old chestnut that if workers get a pay increase the economy will fall apart, inflation will go through the roof, and we'll all be ruined?

These are the classic hits that big business and their highly paid lobbyists roll out every time the issues of wages are on the agenda. As the Fair Work Commission gets set to make its latest ruling on a wage increase for Australia's lowest paid workers, the usual suspects are singing those same old, tired tunes.

The truth is, business has never had it so good and has never been more profitable. That's according to the latest research conducted by the independent think tank, The Australia Institute.

Greg Jericho from The Centre of Future Work at the Australia Institute has taken a deep dive into Australia's most recent national accounts. What he discovered was that as profits in Australia have boomed, workers have been stuck in a low-wage trap.

Jericho's research showed that the share of national income going into corporate profits has grown by nearly 60% in the last 50 years whilst wage growth has remained modest at best.

"There's been a massive increase in profits (particularly in the resources sector) but that hasn't been a

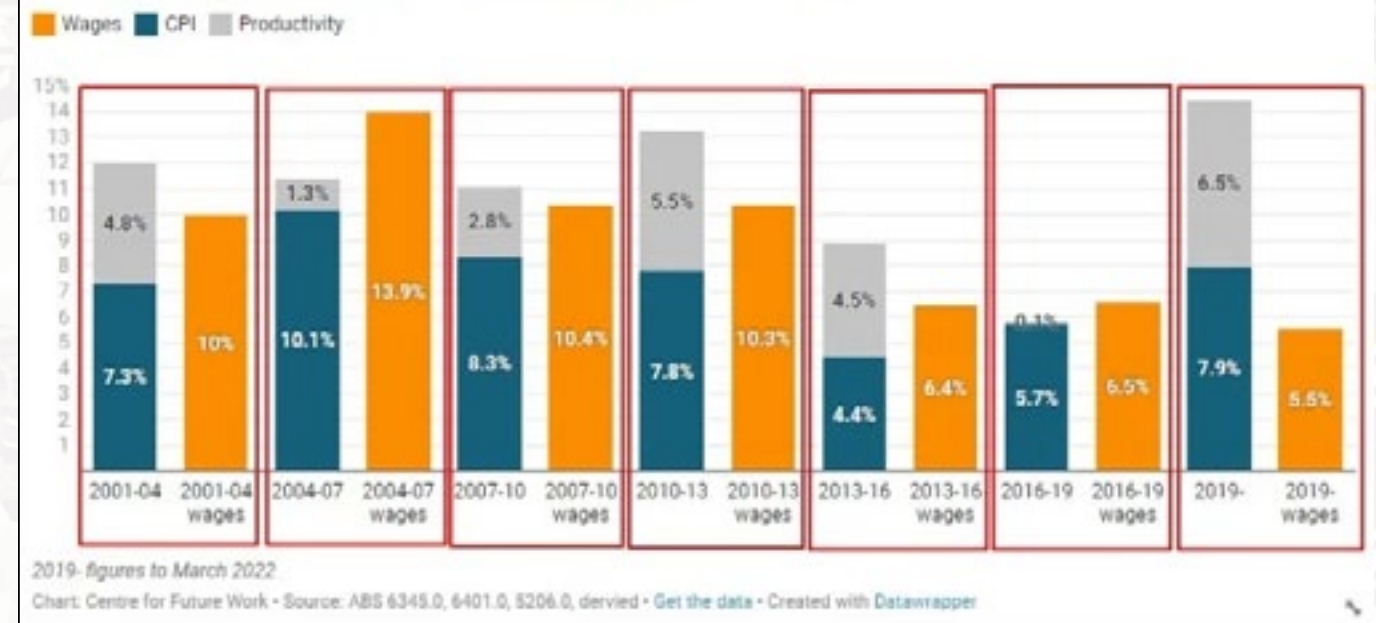
boom in money going to workers. These national accounts show that there is a record share of national income going to profits, over 31%, the greatest that it's ever been in our history," he told On the Job.

Greg Jericho believes that the huge imbalance between profit share and wages has been the product of decades of neo-liberal economic policy that has focused on stripping workers of entitlements and bargaining power.

"It started in the '80s with governments claiming that we have to free up the employment sector with what was termed 'flexibility'.

"What happened was that it massively weighted the system in favour of companies. Through the '80s and '90s we saw changes in laws governing strikes and

Wages have not kept up with inflation+productivity



union access to workplaces and increased power for employers in bargaining, and it's just kept going and going".

Jericho points out that the COVID19 pandemic and other geopolitical events like the war in Ukraine have further tilted the balance in favour of business profits.

"What's happened in the past year is massive increases in prices and we're seeing companies making out like bandits. In fact, the Bureau of Statistics made note that Australian businesses have done well out of rising prices.

"When you've got a system weighted to benefit companies and you have economic conditions like we've seen in the last year or so, that's where you see a massive shift in national income going to companies and away from workers".

The business lobby leans into the

issue of productivity as a way to dismiss wage demands, claiming that workers aren't producing enough to justify a wage increase.

The numbers tell a very different story.

Productivity grew 2.8 per cent in the year to March, almost triple the average of about 1 per cent over the past decade. Productivity is growing at almost twice the average rate over the past decade and profits are increasing at more than 20 per cent, but labour share of GDP has hit an all-time low according to the National Accounts data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

ACTU Secretary Sally McManus has called on the Fair Work Commission to reset the scales when it comes to profits and wages.

"Productivity and profits are at record high levels, while workers are experiencing both real wage

cuts and a cost-of-living crisis.

"Workers share of our national income is now at the lowest level on record. Our country needs to face up to this enormous challenge. Working people must not have their living standards go backwards.

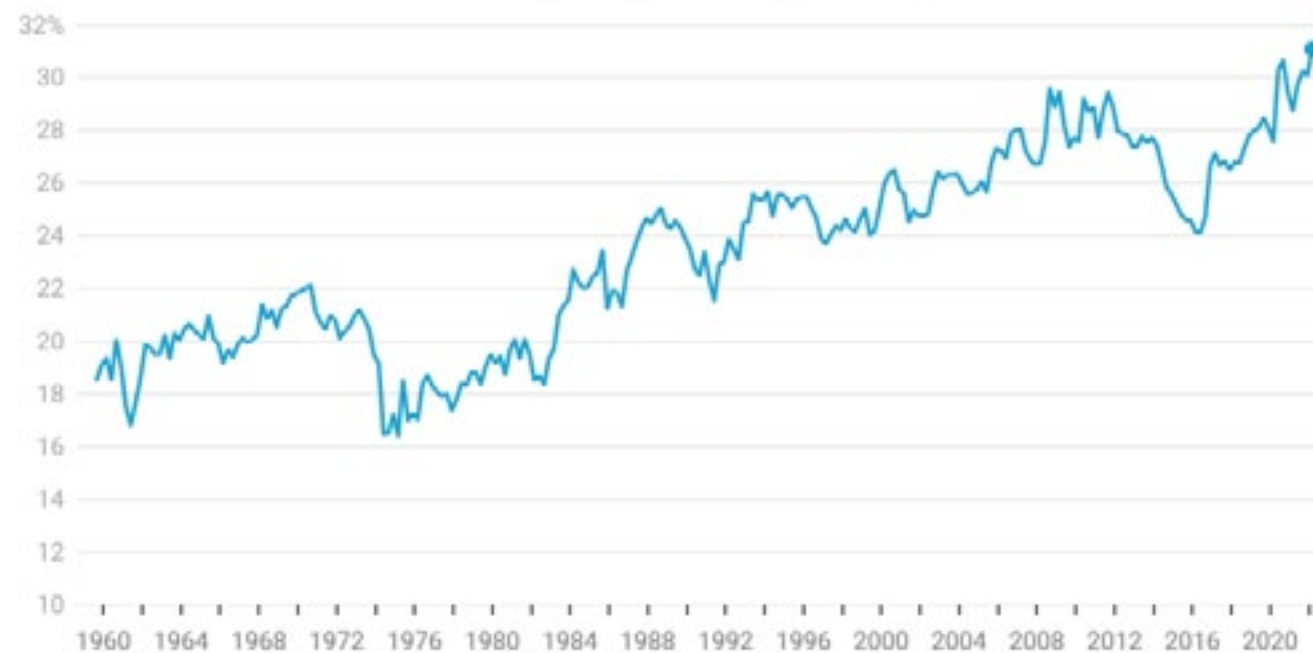
"Action must be taken to ensure the over 13 million working people of our country are sharing our nations prosperity. At the moment they are not, and this cannot continue".

This article was originally published on June 6, 2022 at www.australianunions.org.au

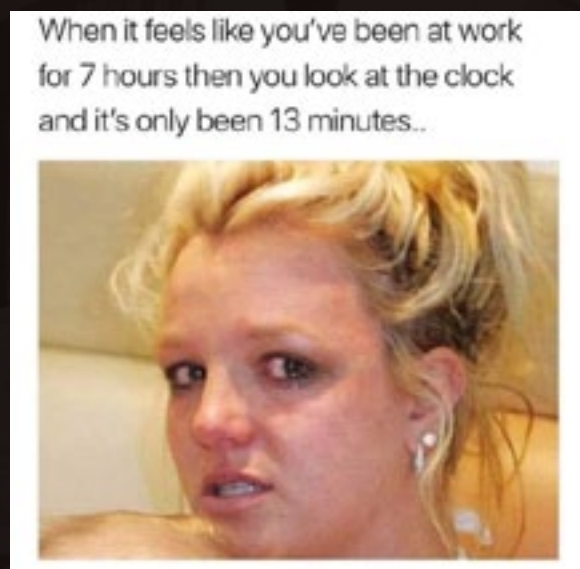


Written by ACTU editor, Francis Leach

Share of national income going to corporate profits



Using corporate gross operating surplus as a percentage of total factor income
Chart: Greg Jericho - Source: ABS 5206.0, Table 7, derived - Created with Datawrapper



MEAT MEMES



MAY DAY 2022



AMIEU OFFICE IS MOVING

In 2021 our Committee of Management passed a vote to sell 34 Union Street, known as Union House, and the current AMIEU Newcastle and Northern NSW Office.

The Union had received a substantial offer to purchase the property. It was decided that the offer was too good to refuse. An opportunity was seized to funnel this money back towards the membership.

Importantly, this sale also created the opportunity of relocating our Office to somewhere more accessible to the membership.

Union House was first opened Secretary Albert Allsop on 31 July, 1973. The building has served meat workers in the Northern NSW jurisdiction for just short of 50 years.

Amazingly, in 1989, Union House withstood the Newcastle earthquake which brought the buildings either side of it (one of those being the Newcastle Worker's Club) to the ground.

While there is much history attached to Union House. The Committee of Management unanimously agreed a new office space would better serve the membership.

After a long search a new space has now been found in Beresfield. This will place our new headquarters in the same suburb as Baiada Beresfield, our largest membership site.

The move out of Newcastle's



34 Union St, Union House



Former Secretary's M. R. Coulson and A. H. Allsop opening Union House, 31 July 1973

CBD eliminates the hassle of traffic and parking which are ever present in the city.

We expect this transition into a new Beresfield office to begin in 2023, at which time more

details will be announced. We are excited about providing a more modern office that will create an atmosphere for our members to feel comfortable visiting.



Union House Opening Commemorative Plaque



Newcastle Worker's Club Destroyed, Next Door to Union House, 1989

EMERGENCY TRANSPORT

As an AMIEU member you and your family are covered by our Emergency Transport Benefit in the event you need an ambulance.

Just send us the bill and we will process and pay your ambulance fee the same day.

Many AMIEU members access this benefit each year but none of them expected to find themselves in this difficult position.

MEMBER STORY

**Chayce,
Baiada
Beresfield**



In 2021 Chayce and his family were on holiday when the unimaginable happened.

His three kids were having fun in the pool, when suddenly his five year old boy, Teddie, was found unconscious in the water.

Chayce performed CPR on his son for 30 minutes before the ambulance arrived. Teddie was transferred to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter and flown to John Hunter Hospital.

The Doctors thought Teddie might not make it.

Chayce and his family were dealing with terrible stress and anxiety waiting on Teddie's recovery. To make matter worse they were then hit with a \$5,000 ambulance bill.

Fortunately, Chayce was a member of the AMIEU, and was able to have the total ambulance bill paid by the AMIEU Emergency Transport benefit.

Miraculously Teddie was able to make a full recovery. He is now busy catching up with living life as a normal kid.

We are so happy Chayce, Teddie and their family are still together and we could do our small part in helping them along the way.

Immigration & Visa Assist

Are you working in Australia on a
visa?

Are you applying for a new visa, or
looking to appeal a visa decision?

Do you want advice on your path to
permanent residency?

AMIEU and Unions NSW have partnered with the Immigration Advice and Rights Centre (IARC), expertise in immigration law, to create Visa Assist.

Visa Assist provides free legal advice on immigration matters to union members who are working in NSW. This includes all types of visas such as student, graduate, working holiday, partner sponsorship visas and more.

(02) 8234 0700

MEMBER RECOGNITION



TREVOR KENNY - 50 YEARS - NCMC CASINO



LYNETTE ANDREWS
BAIADA BERESFIELD
45 YEARS SERVICE



JOHN GREEN
NCMC CASINO
45 YEARS SERVICE



DARREN GRIMSTON
NCMC CASINO
35 YEARS SERVICE



PHILLIP PICCOLI
NCMC CASINO
35 YEARS SERVICE



DARRIN REYNOLDS
NCMC
35 YEARS SERVICE



KRISTINE JACKSON
BAIADA BERESFIELD
35 YEARS SERVICE



JOHN DUFFIELD
BAIADA BERESFIELD
35 YEARS SERVICE



CAROL SEAGRAVE
BAIADA BERESFIELD
35 YEARS SERVICE



PETER GABRIEL
BAIADA BERESFIELD
35 YEARS SERVICE



WAYNE MITCHELL
BINDAREE BEEF
25 YEARS SERVICE



JOANNE RAIDAL
BAIADA BERESFIELD
25 YEARS SERVICE



DARREN BOWER
BAIADA BERESFIELD
25 YEARS SERVICE



SCOTT PICKLES
BAIADA BERESFIELD
25 YEARS SERVICE



JOHN BENDER
WINGHAM BEEF
25 YEARS SERVICE



ANNA PETERSON
BAIADA BERESFIELD
25 YEARS SERVICE



STEVEN MURPHY
BAIADA BERESFIELD
25 YEARS SERVICE



VICTOR HILE
WINGHAM BEEF
25 YEARS SERVICE



GLENDA CLARKE
BAIADA BERESFIELD
25 YEARS SERVICE

OBITUARIES

The AMIEU Newcastle & Northern NSW Branch pays respect to our fallen members and comrades.

We thank you for your service and dedication.

6166 Raymond Williams
6468 Harry Wynn
6719 Brian Selman
6783 James Atkins
6959 Valerie Hector
7036 Eric Ryan

7156 James Leslie
7180 Janet O'Loughlin
94522 Shane Neilsen
121305 Josh Fuller
125544 Joshua Felton

AMIEU MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Australasian Meat Industry Employees' Union is an employee association and organisation registered under the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009 as amended from time to time.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

You must fill out ALL of the fields below.

Title (Mr/Ms/etc): _____ Gender: _____

Surname: _____

Given Names: _____

Known Name: _____ Language: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Home Ph: _____ Mobile: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Email: _____

Membership Type: ☐ Standard ☐ Low Income

Low Income membership is only available to workers earning less than \$30,000 per year. Talk to your organiser for more information.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION:

Employer: _____

Location: _____

Section: _____

Delegate: _____

Shift: ☐ Day shift ☐ Afternoon shift ☐ Night shift

CHOOSE A PAYMENT OPTION (ONE ONLY, **NOT** BOTH)

DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS

When would you like your account debited? (*tick one only*)

- ☐ Weekly (Mondays) ☐ Monthly (1st of month)
☐ Weekly (Wednesdays) ☐ Six Monthly
☐ Weekly (Fridays) (2nd Jan / 1st July)

If the direct debit day lands on a weekend or public holiday, it will occur on the next business day.

Bank Name: _____ Branch: _____

Name(s) on Account: _____

BSB Number: _____ Account Number: _____

Signature of Account Holder: _____

Signature of Second
Account Holder (if joint): _____

OR

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

When would you like your card billed? (*tick one only*)

- ☐ Monthly (1st of month) ☐ Six Monthly (2nd Jan / 1st July)

If the scheduled day lands on a weekend or public holiday, it will occur on the next business day.

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiry Date (MM/YY): _____ CVV: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature of Cardholder: _____

DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE

I, the undersigned, hereby make this application for membership of the Australasian Meat Industry Employees' Union, and pledge myself to loyally abide by its rules and any amendments that may be made hereafter.

I/We hereby authorise and request that you, **until further notice in writing**, to debit my/our account/credit card, any amounts which the Australasian Meat Industry Employees Union may debit or charge me/us through their banking system.

I/We understand and acknowledge that:

- The financial institution may, in its absolute discretion, determine the order and priority of payment by it of any monies pursuant to this request or any authority or mandate;
- The financial institution may, in its absolute discretion, at any time by notice of writing to me/us terminate this request as to future debits;
- The user may, by prior arrangement and advice to me/us, vary the amounts or frequency of future debits.

SIGNATURE: _____

Date: _____

All done? Place completed forms into an envelope and mail to: **PO Box 2263, DANGAR NSW 2309**