

CFMMEU

CONSTRUCTION FORESTRY
MARITIME MINING & ENERGY UNION

AUGUST
2022

A REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP FROM

CHRISTY CAIN



INFLATION SOARING AT 15% IN THE UK. BY CHRISTMAS, IT WILL BE 8% IN AUSTRALIA!

Members, Delegates and fellow trade unionists,

I need to be very clear about where the CFMMEU sits regarding the massive increases to inflation and the soaring cost of living. In Europe and the UK, inflation will be around the 15% mark by the end of the year and here in Australia, it is going to be around 7-8%.

Not many leaders are saying much about this, but I am! Below are some examples of why working men and women in this country should fight for wage increases, that at least match the costs of living. The examples are as follows:

- By Christmas this year, depending on size of mortgage, repayments will have gone up \$1,000 a month;
- Utility bills such as electricity have gone up around 20% depending what State you are in and gas a whopping 48%;
- Council Rates are up around 2%;
- Rent has risen on average 10%;
- Petrol has gone up 13%;
- Groceries are up on average 6%.

My answer to any union that whinges about Construction or Maritime industry wages is simply this – If you are not prepared to fight for your own members, then don't whinge about what we achieve for ours, and believe me, we are going to do whatever it takes to deliver decent outcomes for our growing membership. No EBA should be signed off without a clause being put in the document relating to the cost of living increases versus stagnant wage growth, whatever is greater. We need to lead the way, because if we don't, then who will?



“NOW WE NEED TO FIGHT TOGETHER!”

ORGANISE!

ORGANISE!



QLD/NT BRANCH CONFERENCE DELEGATES



QLD/NT BRANCH CONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE DELEGATES



BRANCH SECRETARY MICHAEL RAVBAR &
ASSISTANT SECRETARY, JADE INGHAM

CFMEU QLD/NT BRANCH BIENNIAL DELEGATES CONFERENCE

The Qld/NT Branch of the Construction Division gathered over 300 delegates to a Conference on the Gold Coast, setting progressive, industrial, political and social policies for the Branch and the Union going forward. Some of the resolutions will also be taken to the CFMEU National Conference in November. I came away from this Conference totally inspired, and knowing that the Construction and Maritime Divisions are truly leading

the fight back for all working class Australian's in this country. It was great to see Delegates getting up and having the debate, showing their commitment and solidarity to the Union. Congratulation to Michael Ravbar, Jade Ingham, the executive and all the staff who helped make this a successful Conference, and one to remember!

"WELL DONE TO ALL AND THANKS FOR THE INVITE!"

MUA YOUTH CONFERENCE – MUA ROOMS, MELBOURNE 24-25 AUGUST 2022



Members, the young women and men from all blue collar union's, the MUA, CFMEU, ETU, PPTEU, AMWU and RTBU along with the Maritime Union New Zealand, gathered at the MUA Union headquarters in Melbourne, to talk about the union moving forward.

These members gave many ideas and discussed a range of issues around working collectively together. Watching how they handled themselves and debated issues, to come to outcomes, makes me feel proud that these union's will be around for another 150 years.

**"DARE TO STRUGGLE, DARE TO WIN!
IF YOU DON'T FIGHT, YOU LOSE!"**

"WELL DONE TO YOU ALL"

ORGANISE!

ORGANISE!



MEMBERS AT THE MUA YOUTH CONFERENCE



ADDRESSING THE MUA YOUTH CONFERENCE



MUA YOUTH CONFERENCE



CFMMEU WOMEN



WHAT A VIEW! CFMMEU WOMEN SYDNEY



CFMMEU WOMENS NETWORK

GENDER EQUALITY OF WOMEN IN THE CONSTRUCTION & MARITIME INDUSTRIES

Members, let's cut to the chase. Women in male dominated industries will and always get our full support. After listening to Professor Sarah Holdsworth's presentation at the QLD/NT Branch Conference, there will be a full resolution on Gender Equality tabled to all delegates of the National Union at our Conference in November.

I want to thank and congratulate the VIC/TAS Branch of the Construction Division and Women's Organiser, Lisa Zanatta for their endless amount of research into this major equality issue. Also, NSW C&G Division Branch President, Rita Mallia, QLD/NT Branch Officer, Jacqui Collie, Mich-Elle Myers, National Officer of the Maritime Division and all the staunch women who have fought tirelessly for EQUAL RIGHTS in the workplace.

To the industries, it's time for a massive change, and this Union fully supports Gender Equality. Every worker, whether female or male deserve EQUAL opportunities and EQUAL pay!! Let's not forget that it was this Union that went all the way to the High Court of Australia, AND WON, to get women's toilets on building sites. And it was the Construction Vic/TAS Branch Secretary, John Setka and his leadership team, taking on the rotten ABCC and winning! I want you all to think, this could be YOUR mother, daughter, sister or aunty! "How disgusting! The ABCC using tax payers money against this fundamental right!"

"CFMMEU – HERE FOR THE BLU!"
"WE NEVER BACKDOWN!"



INSURANCE - IT'S SO IMPORTANT!

Brothers/Sisters, after the last couple of busy months being filled with site meetings and campaigns across the country, not to forget also getting rid of the rotten Liberal Government, I am about to take leave to learn how to be a Dad.

My wife has just given birth to a healthy little boy, Parker. When I first held him, I could only think that I'd do anything for him, but then it occurred to me, what happens if I'm gone? Who looks after him? Will he and his Mum be able to survive financially on one wage?

The harsh reality is probably not. I soon checked my insurances I have with my superannuation and realised that I only had one

unit of cover which wouldn't even scratch the surface of the mortgage let alone put him through school, pay for bills and put food on the table, until he was old enough to leave home.

We get complacent with things like this and never really think that anything is going to happen to us, but it does and it can. So if you haven't done it lately, go and check that your insurances are up to scratch with the life you live, and that there is enough money in the coverage you have selected to make sure your family is financially secure just in case!

From my family to yours - STAY SAFE!

In Unity
James Simpson (Simo)

ORGANISE!

ORGANISE!



LITTLE PARKER



SIMO WITH RANK & FILE MEMBERS, GARDEN ISLAND WA



HARRIS HMC MOONEE PONDS

GALLERY



MUA MEMBERS PATRICKS WHARF, WA



REMEMBERING ON THE PICKET CUB DISPUTE IN MELBOURNE



STALWART MUA MEMBER GED MCKELLAR, RECEIVING HIS LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN WA



MIRVAC APARTMENTS FLINDERS WEST, MELBOURNE



CFMMEU MEMBERS AT IWD RALLY



FAREWELL TO LONG SERVING EMPLOYEES OLGA GRAVEVSKI & SILVANA JOVCEVSKI, NSW BRANCH C&G DIVISION. THANKS FOR YOUR LOYALTY!

JOB SUMMIT & ACTU MEETINGS

"IF YOU'RE NOT AT THE TABLE, YOU'RE PART OF THE MENU!"

I usually reserve this back page for Out & About, but members, I wanted to mention that this month, my time has been taken up with preparation for the Job Summit that's taking place in Canberra plus the many ACTU Executive and other various ACTU meetings. I'm not sure what I have done to deserve this, but the old saying goes, if you're not at the table, you become part of the menu!

WE, brothers and sisters, will be at the table, and let me assure every one of our membership, there will be no holding back to speak on Maritime and Construction issues obtaining to our industries. Wage theft, casualisation, right of entry, the ROC, the ABCC, strategic fleet, Australian permanent jobs, real jobs, skills & training, the unfair Work Act. If I'm any judge, and being honest, it looks like just another talk fest to me.

However, I am hoping I'm wrong. Whatever the outcome members, the Maritime and Construction Division's will never stop fighting for working class people - for a real share of the pie. Let me finish by once again thanking you all for your commitment and ongoing support.

"WE NEVER BACK DOWN!"

"THEY DON'T LIKE US, WE DON'T CARE!"

In Unity,

Christy Cain

CFMMEU - General National Secretary