

PTEU

SUMMER EDITION 2014



Journal



**PREPARE
FOR A FIGHT
AT THIS ELECTION**



Cert III in Plumbing now at PICAC



IPSF is Up and Running



Vic Fire Industry Training to the Rescue



President's Report

The focus of this edition of the PTEU Journal is the Victorian State Election on November 29, an election that is a vitally important one for Labor to win.

With the Abbott Government in power at Federal level, workers' entitlements and the Labor movement as a whole has been under attack for more than a year. Abbott has attacked the movement through the Royal Commission and we fully expect his attacks on workers' rights and entitlements will continue in 2015. We have also had four years of a Coalition Government in Victoria, a Government that has ignored - and shown that it doesn't understand - our industry.

In this Journal the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary will outline exactly why it is vital for our industry that Labor wins in Victoria on November 29. If Napthine is returned, they will attack our Licensing and Registration that protects our industry and our future in their blind pursuit of ideology. We must do all we can to prevent this happening.

All Victorian working people and their families need Daniel Andrews and his team to win Office in Victoria, but for our industry it is crucial. Minister Guy and Premier Napthine have refused to listen to our industry. Under the Coalition Government the Plumbing Industry Commission has been absorbed into the Victorian Building Authority, which doesn't even have a plumbing industry representative on its Board. Under the Libs, the regulation of the industry, especially inspection and auditing, has not been adequately resourced or well managed, putting at risk the integrity of the industry and the health of the public.

The Libs simply don't understand the fundamental importance of our industry and it's time they made way for a Party that does. Labor.

Aside from the election, I want to draw members' attention to an article in this edition by Industrial Officer Paul Coffey about the importance of checking on your entitlements – Superannuation, Retirement, Long Service etc. As Paul explains at page 33, the construction industry is the worst offender in terms of compliance with compulsory super payments that require employers to pay 9.5 per cent each week to employees. To make it easier than ever to check and track your payments, C-Bus has a new i-phone app that I encourage all members to download.

I also encourage all members and their families to get behind our industry this November and vote for your local Labor candidate – the guide can be found in the centre of this Journal.

I wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas and all the best for 2015.

Nazza Ottobre
PTEU President



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Earl Setches

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Paddy McCrudden

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Andy Wallace - 0411 255 726

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Billy Ramsay - 0447 733 122

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INDUSTRIAL OFFICER

Paul Coffey - 03 9662 3388

GENERAL MEETING DATES FOR 2015

Melbourne

52 Victoria Street, Carlton South

March 24th

June 16th

September 29th

November 24th

Geelong

127 Myers Street, Geelong

March 18th

June 17th

September 23th

November 18th

Secretary's Report



The State Election coming up on November 29 is a vitally important one for Victoria, which has gone backwards and is grinding to a halt under the Liberals.

Every week, we get dozens of calls from members who are out of work, which is no surprise given unemployment in Victoria is now the highest of any mainland State and an extra 68,000 people are looking for jobs. Hundreds of them are PTEU members. It's a tragedy for them, their families and our State.

People scratch their heads and wonder how it all could have gone so wrong, so quickly. The facts are, this government hasn't managed to build a single project. They haven't managed to deliver one project and we shouldn't believe they can now. They've had four years of sitting on their hands and five minutes of panic.

Instead of building a better State for all of us, what they are trying to do is to drive down wages and de-skill our profession. The same mob who gutted TAFE has shown again they don't care about skilled trades by proposing to open up roofing.

Roofing has become a more vital part of the trade in recent years, with the growth in grey water alongside domestic supply. What's more, working on a roof carries some pretty big risks for both the tradespeople performing the work as well as consumers. We don't need the trade or training fragmented, especially when unemployment has been spiralling up.

Instead of creating jobs by investing in some vital projects, the Liberals want to break up the trade so a few employers can get cheaper labour. The government's not only incompetent, they've just got the wrong priorities.

We need a Labor Government to get the State growing again, create jobs and stand up to Tony Abbott, who's on his own crazy crusade to break up the industry. Abbott's review of the Watermark product certification scheme shows again that the Federal Coalition have no idea how the industry fits together.

The WaterMark scheme is a key part of the regulatory framework that supports our industry and protects the community. The scheme ensures that the \$5B plumbing product industry is regulated and that only products that are fit for purpose enter the market. Unwinding or watering down this scheme will mean plumbers have to play safety police, checking the safety of inferior products which will pose a threat to community health. The State Government has just sat by and watched this happen, much like they watched unemployment climb.

What I know is that Daniel Andrews will invest in TAFE, protect skilled trades and get the economy growing again. And he'll stand up to Tony Abbott when we need him to.

That's why, this election, we're recommending a vote for Labor.

This issue also contains the usual range of interesting industry stories and updates, workplace safety information, and Union news. Also in this edition is a very positive story about the development by the PTEU in conjunction with the Master Plumbers of a Certificate III plumbing apprenticeship training course to be delivered at our Brunswick training centre, the Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre (PICAC). A great example of this great industry working together to design, develop and deliver industry based training.

In this the last edition before Christmas, we recognise that for many in our ranks, a growing number in fact, Christmas can be an emotionally difficult time. If you or one of your mates is dealing with family or relationship breakdown, the most important thing to remember is you are not alone. Free confidential counselling and support for members is available through Incolink. Telephone Incolink Member Services Direct: (03) 9668 3061

Earl Setches
PTEU Secretary

Assistant Secretary's Report



The November State poll could be one of the most significant elections in decades for the Victorian Plumbing industry. As the Secretary explains in his Report, since the Liberal National Party has been in government the Victorian plumbing sector has been under appreciated, under-valued, under represented on the VBA, and now under attack.

The LNP Government has been demonstrating for some time now that it just doesn't understand the importance of the Plumbing Industry. In 2013 the Building and Plumbing Commissions were scrapped and rolled in the Victorian Building Authority. Rather than improving the effectiveness of the regulation of the sector, things have gone from bad to worse, with the VBA treating the plumbing profession like the poor cousin of the building industry. Despite extensive industry pressure, the government has refused to appoint a plumber or plumbing industry expert to the Board. The Board has found room for architects, lawyers and public servants, but not a plumber. So we now have a situation where the plumbers are tipping in millions of dollars each year to the VBA, through Registrations and Compliance Certificates, and getting treated like second class citizens in return.

As an industry we need to make the VBA accountable for how they are spending the hard earned funds the plumbing industry generates. It is quite astonishing that in an atmosphere where the Labor movement as a whole is under attack at the politically motivated circus that is the Royal Commission into alleged corrupt practices in Trade Unions, appalling practices by our industry regulator unearthed by the Ombudsman and the Auditor General seem to go virtually unnoticed.

Whilst conservative politicians and commentators tee off at every opportunity with outrageous claims about alleged corruption in the union movement, our industry is the victim of appalling governance at the highest levels of the very Authority charged with regulating our industry.

After scathing reports from first the Auditor General and then the Ombudsman, back in 2011 and 2012 respectively, the Government replaced the Building and Plumbing Commissions with the Victorian Building Authority (VBA). The Ombudsman was heavily critical of the poor performance and maladministration of the Building Commission under former Commissioner Tony Arnel and after he resigned appointed a new Commissioner, Michael Kefford.

That was in 2012, and on Commissioner Kefford's watch things went from bad to worse. He was himself caught up in a major probity scandal which potentially jeopardised the integrity of the plumbing audit and inspection system. The allegation is that Mr Kefford awarded a \$10 million contract to a firm part-owned by his friend and former business associate, despite his own expert panel advising against the move. Former Commissioner Kefford awarded Casey Inspection Services Pty Ltd the lucrative contract to provide plumbing audits and inspections across the state.

This was despite the fact senior commission executives twice recommended that two other firms, Lend Lease Infrastructure and Techsafe Australia, be awarded the contract ahead of Casey Inspection Services. It was also revealed last year that not only did he award the audit contract to his mate, Mr Kefford was also a Director of the company IAPMO R&T Oceania Pty Ltd, which sub-let space in its Burwood office to Casey Inspection Services between 2010 and 2012.

This has all occurred on the Lib's watch and we think there needs to be a full and transparent inquiry into this fiasco. A robust, reliable, transparent and well resourced audit and inspection system is vital for our industry and vital for public health. The VBA is letting the plumbing industry and the community down.

If the Government is returned our industry will be facing a real battle. The Libs don't understand our industry, and have shown that they are willing to sacrifice our industry and compromise public health by driving an ideological deregulatory agenda. At a time when as an industry and a community we are relying more than ever on our regulatory framework - our qualifications and competency structures, our licensing and registration, and our inspection and audit systems to protect our jobs and the health of the community, the Libs are looking to tear it down.

Don't let them. Vote 1 Labor on November 29.

Paddy McCrudden
PTEU Assistant Secretary

Geelong Roundup

Things are starting to ramp up for PTEU members in Geelong and the surrounding region, with major upgrades of the Geelong Hospital, new supermarkets and the commencement of the new Epworth Hospital in Waurin Ponds. These jobs will ensure that our members are kept busy over 2015.

The designs for the Geelong Plumbing Training Centre of Excellence have been finalised and by the time this goes to print I am hoping that construction will have commenced.

Jobs on the go

Epworth Hospital, CADET (Centre for Advanced Design in Engineering Training) Deakin University, Coles (Lara), Woolworths (Clifton Springs) Barwon Water, Head Office (upgrade)

Site Snapshot - Geelong Library and Heritage Centre

The new nine story building will replace the existing structure which is more than 50 years old and will be built on the original buildings footprint in Johnstone Park.

The expanded facility will consist of a cafe, community areas for meetings and learning programs and exhibition spaces connected to the Geelong Art Gallery.

When completed it will hold 120,000 print and multimedia collection items.

The builder is Kane Constructions, PTEU contractors engaged on site include BP Plumbing, D&E Air Conditioning and Protective Fire Services.



Glenn Menzies
Geelong Area Organiser



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre



Matt Dean plumbing water assembly - Deano, Andy & Snake



Chilled water plant - Chris & Jesse D&E



Jimmy Cooke & Dowsett



Jolla & Webby Mulgrave A-Team

REMEMBERING THOSE who died in the West Gate Bridge collapse



The West Gate Bridge spans the 2.5 kms of Yarra river separating Melbourne's western suburbs from the CBD. It is one of Australia's biggest cable-stayed girder bridges and is used by 160,000 vehicles daily. With its distinctive curving shape, the West Gate is instantly recognisable as one of the city's iconic structures, but sadly, it is also the monument to Australia's worst industrial accident.

Just before lunch on 15 October 1970, the West Gate Bridge suddenly groaned. An eerie pinging noise filled the air. A storm of rust flakes peeled off weathered steel and the girders started to turn blue. The bridge fell away beneath their feet and minutes later, 35 workers were dead.

A whole 2,000-ton mass plummeted into the Yarra mud with an explosion of gas, dust and mangled metal that shook buildings hundreds of yards away. The roar of the impact, the explosion and the fire that followed could be heard more than two miles away.

There is a plaque beneath the bridge, paid for and erected by fellow workers of the victims. It was unveiled on 15 October 1978.

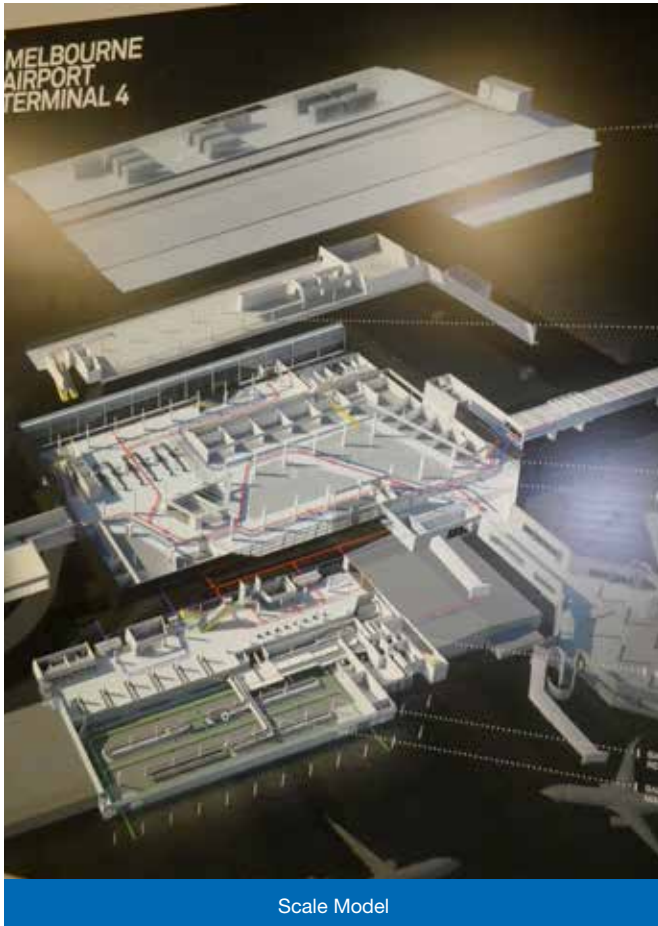


On the 15 October every year since 1970, families, friends and workmates of the 35 dead and 18 injured workers gather at the site to remember them.



Melbourne Airport

Leighton Contractors are currently undertaking 2 major construction projects at Melbourne Airport.



Terminal 4 (T4) consists of a new terminal building for Tiger Airways and 41 retail outlets. The structure consists of 3 levels and a new bus bay used to ferry travellers to their planes.



An elevated link bridge is being built to link the new terminal to Pier G, where a boarding lounge is also currently under construction.

Leighton's began construction in November 2013 and it is expected to be completed by August 2015 at a cost of around \$150 million.

The T4 project has employed PTEU members from a number of companies. Cooke and Dowsett have undertaken all drainage and water supply, Barden-Steeldeck Industries are roofing the Tiger terminal building. Close Commercial contracting are undertaking the roofing for the elevated link bridge and PPC have already completed the bus bay, building roof and wall cladding.



Entire Fire Protection is taking care of all the fire protection sprinkler systems including the temporary system in the site sheds, with Syphon Systems looking after the syphonic downpipe system. AE Smith have responsibility for all of the mechanical air-conditioning. The lagging is being installed by Mulgrave Insulations.

As with many new things sometimes old icons have to go, alas the old tiger water tower is no more.



Upgrade

OVER THE ROAD

The new multi-level structure has a car park consisting of 7 floors with approximately 2905 car spaces and a bus terminal. The ground works plumbing packages are being undertaken by Trio Plumbing and Chadoak Plumbing. The considerable replacement works of boilers and chillers in the TSB building, including the redesign and installation of large bore steel pipe, was very impressive. A.G Coombs took on and completed this difficult task.

This upgrade would not have been achieved without the highly skilled hands of the gentlemen from Mulgrave Insulation who tirelessly encased the pipework in thermal insulation, then wrapped in handcrafted sheet metal casing.



Glen Hosemans, Jus Vaasili and Shaun Cullis



Benn Parker, Ian Marris - PTEU Rep and Derrick Chisholm

I look forward to the arrival of the lads from PJM Engineering who have been entrusted with the mechanical services in the multi-level structure.



The project began in November 2013 and is due to be completed by May 2015 at a cost of around \$215 million.

Norm Kelly
PTEU Organiser



Marcus Bishop and Ty O'Shannassy



Glen Drummond



Carpark Construction in Progress



Rick Hummel and Kieron Christ

EASTERN SUBURBS &

Epworth Hospital

Kane Constructions has been appointed to deliver the \$135 million Stage 4 of the Epworth Richmond redevelopment.

The hospital will be redeveloped and expanded to provide world class facilities with an extra 270 inpatient beds. The expansion and redevelopment will create more than 1440 new jobs in the construction phase and over 400 extra full-time staff at the hospital when the project is completed in September 2015.



Artist's Impression

Bendigo Base Hospital

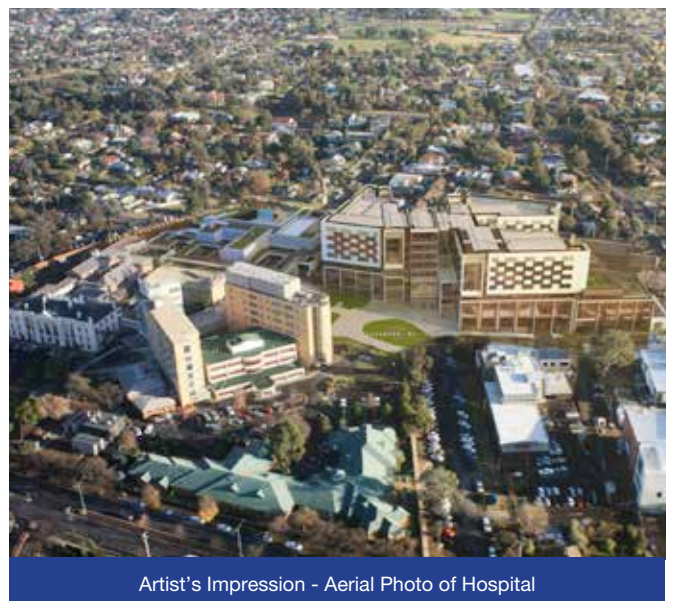
Stage 1 of the Bendigo Base Hospital development is due for completion by December 2016, at a cost of over \$670 million. This project is currently ramping up and will employ over 200 members. Stage 2 of the project will include a multi-level carpark, a bridge linking to the hospital and helipad on the roof for emergency cases. Stage 2 will start in 2017, at a cost of \$230 million, taking the total value of the project to over \$1 billion.



Artist's Impression



Artist's Impression



Artist's Impression - Aerial Photo of Hospital

REGIONAL VICTORIA

Eastland Shopping Centre

This \$500 million project will incorporate a new train station development, which will link to the shopping centre. The redeveloped Eastland will include David Jones and over 150 new specialty stores. We anticipate there will be around 80-100 members working on the job over the duration of the project, which is due for completion in 2016.



Eastland Shopping Centre Construction



Mark and Justin

General Update

There's a fair bit of work going on in the rest of Regional Victoria including the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre, which has a project value of \$80 million and is due for completion next year. There's also an \$80 million job currently out to tender in Shepparton at the Law Courts. The Performing Arts Centre and the Lansell Square Shopping Centre Project in Bendigo are also progressing well.

The Juvenile Youth Justice Centre extension in Malmsbury has faced some hiccups with two of our contractors, Ranges Plumbing and Watershed Roofing, going into liquidation. Watershed Roofing also went into receivership on the Lansell Square project.

The Ringwood Aquatic Centre is close to being finalised, due for completion in 2015. Watpac builders and developers were awarded an \$80 million contract to expand works at the Knox Private Hospital, located in east Melbourne. Hawthorn, Doncaster and other areas in the Eastern suburbs are ramping up with apartment developments which have kept our members in work for the last few years.



Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre



Neil O'Brien & Adrian Gell
Regional Victoria Organisers

AROUND THE TRAPS

Quarantine Facility

A new Post Entry Quarantine (PEQ) facility is currently being built in Mickleham. The new PEQ site will consolidate all of the department's current operations into a single 144 hectare site. The purpose built facility will allow imported animals and plants to be held for a specified period in a quarantined environment before release into Australia.

The \$300 million dollar project is expected to begin initial operations in 2015 and will be fully operational by 2018.



PEQ



Roofing PEQ



PEQ



Darren Thompson, Will Farnsworth, Tom Smith, Blake Byng, Jarrod Messenger, Paris Oneill and Quinton Davis



Cam Magann and Mitch Atlas



Blake Inman and Calan Hayden



Justin Tassell



Dean McGowan - CDC



Paul Ferraro and Steve Macco (C & doswett PEQ)



PEQ

Infinity Apartments

The Infinity Apartments in Oakleigh are a \$20 million project, due for completion by February 2015.



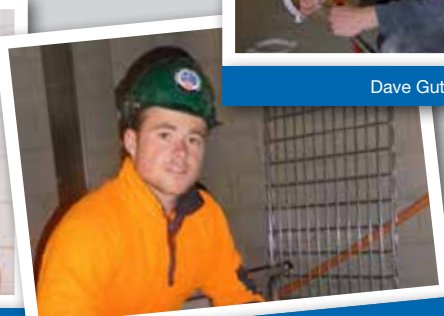
Jayk Brady



Dave Guthrie



Matt Woodbridge



Tom O'Sullivan



Tom Hill

There are several major developments and projects currently being undertaken in Melbourne. Here are just a few.

Upper West Side- Tower 4

The Upper West Side project is one of the largest inner city developments in Australia with 2600 apartments over 4 towers, 30 retail outlets and a project value of nearly \$1 Billion. Tower 4 is due for completion in mid 2015



Jake and Max Robbins



Upper West Side



Danny Zivanovic



Andy Grigo



Shane Burton



Ross Allan

Fulton Lane

Fulton Lane is a \$221 million project located in Franklin Street Melbourne. It consists of 2 multistorey towers comprising of 786 residential apartments, a gymnasium and retail outlets at ground level.



Stuart Moore



Fulton Lane Apartments



Tim Pelns and Jake Cranny



Rory Mckercher



Beau Vapp



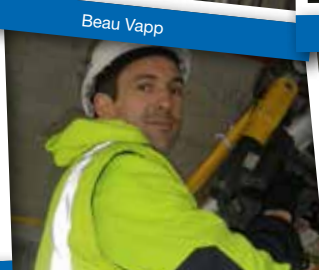
Simon Calleja



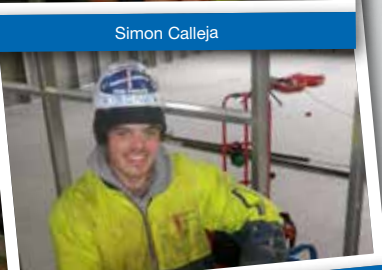
Sandy Morritt



John Pulford



Shem Pickering



Beau Grech

AROUND THE TRAPS

A.G. Coombs

The A.G. Coombs Group focuses on HVAC, refrigeration, mechanical services, fire protection and multi service installations in commercial and industrial Buildings and the construction industry. Here are a few of our members who work for A.G Coombs.



Steve Brough



Mark Mastroianni, Chris Hollis and Chris Gordon



Robert Cotterell

City West Police Complex

This \$268 million dollar project is due for completion early next year. Over 100 plumbers have worked on the site. Once complete, the new building will house 1,500 staff from crime and intelligence command, Melbourne West police station and the North West Metropolitan Region headquarters.



Fabio Izzi and Renae Walton



Peter Radford



Taylor Pope



Wayne Foster and Matt Davis



Andrew Pattison



Shaun Cranny and Troy James



Jake and Shaun Cranny



Ben Norris



Matty Smith



Wayne Abbott

Istana Apartments

Istana is a 25-storey, single tower residential apartment block developed in the heart of Melbourne's CBD. The project is valued at \$91 million.



Istana Apartments



Yarra



Matt Gardam



Paul Waleryszek



Glenn Musgrove, James Brown and Jake Cranny



Jim Poullos



Josh Densten



Kire (Kid) Talevski



Michael Oliver

Pakenham Lifestyle Centre

The Pakenham Lifestyle Centre occupies a prime location along the Princes Highway and will feature a Masters hardware store and plant nursery, nine restricted retail stores, multiple showrooms, specialty retail, food court, café, office suites, gymnasium and public plaza. The project is valued at \$35 million and is scheduled for completion by the end of this year.



Kevin Clark, Trav Reid, Paul Drago and Mark Thompson



Pakenham Lifestyle Centre



Paul Drago



Nick Wilkinson, Brent Bowyer, Tyson King, Danny Wilson and James Christiansen

AROUND THE TRAPS

Lucia Apartments

The 20 story Lucia Apartments project in South Yarra has a project value of \$95 million and is due for completion at the end of 2015.



Site Steward Rusty and Andy Wallace



Andrew Birt



Ben Wilson



Lucia Apartments

Equinix Data Centre

The Equinix Data Centre job on Lorimer Street in Port Melbourne is currently in its first stage, with a further two stages to come. Stage 1 is valued at \$77 million, and will employ around 30 members.



John Hickey



Adrian Walsh and Glenn Oakley



Dave White



Shayne Dodd



Jamie Ladall



Shayne Rodgers



Jason Teklenburg



Antony Mastropasqua



Nassi Cara



Ben Grant

Werribee Plaza

Over \$370 million is being spent on the redevelopment of Werribee Plaza Shopping Centre to expand its size by over 35,000 square metres. To mark the change, a new name will be adopted with Werribee Plaza to become Pacific Werribee. The project is scheduled for completion at the end of 2016, with 80-100 plumbers working on the site over the 3 years of the project.





Julie Ryan

“There is always someone with something interesting to say”



Steph Turville

“Best thing about my job, would be it's a challenge”

Meet our PTEU Front Office Staff

Julie Ryan *Reception & Membership*

Best thing about my job:

Being at reception is interesting as I get to meet and speak with our members and dozens of other new people each day. There is always someone with something interesting to say on the phone or at the desk. It's never dull!!! And, I have to say my co-workers in the office have such different personalities that we complement each other and work well together.

Worst thing about my job:

Apart from having to try and do three things at once, the only negative to being at reception is hearing when a member has become unemployed. That always makes me feel awful, as I understand the financial pressure that it puts on families. However, it is good to see that they can come in here for help.

Something not many people know about me:

Not much! We all have our secrets, but I am a reasonably open book. I can't swim very well, and I do have a thing for watching too much crime drama. I also don't mind admitting that cooking is not my forte.

Who has inspired my life:

This is an easy one to answer. My

Mum is absolutely the inspiration in my life. Mum was orphaned by the time she was 6 years old and boarded at school in Swan Hill. Deciding to move to Melbourne, Mum got off the train at Flinders Street Station at 14 years of age, completely alone, and walked the city to find an office job and somewhere to live. She is absolutely the rock of our family and the strongest role model and girl could wish for.

Five people I would have for dinner:

Gene Kelly, Judy Garland, Frank Sinatra, John Lennon, Mel Gibson.

Pet Hate:

Doing the 5.30am run down the driveway with the rubbish, when my sons forget to take the bin out - Every week!

Steph Turville *Administration & Reception*

What's the best things about your job:

Best thing would be it's a challenge.

What's something that not many people know about you:

I can't and don't like to cook.

Who are 5 people you'd want to invite for dinner:

Oprah, Deepak Chopra, Richard Branson, Beyonce, Russell Simmons.

Pet Hate:

Injustice.

**Laura May
Membership Manager**

My job involves all aspects of making sure the membership department runs effectively and efficiently. I have learnt how to prioritise my work and to use my knowledge to the best of my ability.

What's the best things about your job:

Best part about my job is the friends I have made over the years, who have become like family.

Worst part about my job:

Would have to be the travelling to and from work each day.

What's something that not many people know about you:

One thing people wouldn't know about me is I'm a massive David Attenborough fan.

Who's inspired you in life and why:

My parents inspire me and continue to inspire me every single day.

Who are 5 people you'd want to invite for dinner:

My fiancé Aaron, David Attenborough, Johnathan Brown, Ed Sheeran, Nigella Lawson.

Pet Hate:

My pet hate is people who lie.

**Annette Wilson
Accounts Clerk**

My job involves reception work, answering phones, directing calls, handling queries, new memberships, payments, direct debits, filing and mail.

In my last job I worked for The Royal Children's Hospital Supply Department for 11 years, which was very interesting. I have had a wide range of work experiences which include Fairfield Hospital, a Refrigeration Company, Medical Bookshop, Publishing Company and I also worked for Wheelchair Sports at their Bingo Centre.

What's the best and worst things about your job:

Meeting people, the relaxed atmosphere and great co-workers. Probably the worst thing about my job is the paper cuts from the envelopes, and filing member cards.

Who inspired me:

My Grandmother inspired me (who had 13 children). She never had a bad word to say about anybody and would tell me "Believe you can & you're halfway there" which I now know to be said by Theodore Roosevelt.

Five people I would have for dinner:

My dinner party would include Bette Midler, Bill Crosby, Oprah Winfrey, Billie Jean King & Roger Federer.

Pet Hate:

People who complain to much.



Laura May

“My parents inspire me and continue to inspire me every single day.”



Annette Wilson

“Believe you can & you're halfway there”

2014 VICTROIAN LA

Know your Electorate Candidate & Vote 1 Labor on November 29.

ELECTORATE	CANDIDATE
Albert Park	Martin Foley
Altona	Jill Hennessy
Bass	Sanjay Nathan
Bayswater	Tony Dib
Bellarine	Lisa Neville
Benambra	Jennifer Podesta
Bendigo East	Jacinta Allan
Bendigo West	Maree Edwards
Bentleigh	Nicholas Staikos
Box Hill	Stefanie Perri
Brighton	Louise Crawford
Broadmeadows	Frank McGuire
Brunswick	Jane Garrett
Bulleen	Adam Rundell
Bundoora	Colin Brooks
Buninyong	Geoff Howard
Burwood	Gavin Ryan
Carrum	Sonya Kilkenny
Caulfield	Josh Burns
Clarinda	Hong Lim
Cranbourne	Jude Perera
Croydon	Lesley Fielding
Dandenong	Gabrielle Williams
Eastern Metropolitan	Dimity Paul
Eastern Metropolitan	Brian Tee
Eastern Metropolitan	Shaun Leane
Eastern Victoria	Harriet Shing
Eastern Victoria	Ian Maxfield
Eastern Victoria	John Anderson

ELECTORATE	CANDIDATE
Eildon	Sally Brennan
Eltham	Vicki Ward
Essendon	Daniel Pearson
Euroa	Clare Malcolm
Evelyn	Peter Harris
Ferntree Gully	Matthew Posetti
Footscray	Marsha Thomson
Forest Hill	Pauline Richards
Frankston	Paul Edbrooke
Geelong	Christine Couzens
Gembrook	Collin Ross
Hastings	Steven Hosking
Hawthorn	John McNally
Ivanhoe	Anthony Carbines
Keilor	Natalie Hutchins
Kew	James Gaffey
Keysborough	Martin Pakula
Kororoit	Marlene Kairouz
Lara	John Eren
Lowan	Bob Scates
Macedon	Mary-Anne Thomas
Malvern	Les Tarczon
Melbourne	Jennifer Kanis
Melton	Don Nardella
Mildura	Shane Roberts
Mill Park	Lily D'Ambrosio
Monbulk	James Merlino
Mordialloc	Tim Richardson
Mornington	Rebecca Wright

ABOR CANDIDATES

ELECTORATE	CANDIDATE
Morwell	Jadon Mintern
Mount Waverley	Jennifer Yang
Mulgrave	Daniel Andrews
Narracan	Kate Marten
Narre Warren North	Luke Donnellan
Narre Warren South	Judith Graley
Nepean	Carolyn Gleixner
Niddrie	Ben Carroll
Northcote	Fiona Richardson
Northern Metropolitan	Martin Appleby
Northern Metropolitan	Burhan Yigit
Northern Metropolitan	Jenny Mikakos
Northern Metropolitan	Nazih Elasmr
Northern Victoria	Steve Herbert
Northern Victoria	Jamie Byron
Northern Victoria	Lydia Senior
Northern Victoria	Jaclyn Symes
Northern Victoria	Kate Sutherland
Oakleigh	Steve Dimopoulos
Ovens Valley	Gail Cholosznecki
Pascoe Vale	Lizzie Blandthorn
Polwarth	Libby Coker
Prahran	Neil Pharaoh
Preston	Robin Scott
Richmond	Richard Wynne
Ringwood	Anthony Clark
Ripon	Daniel McGlone
Rowville	Tamika Hicks
Shepparton	Rodney Higgins
South Barwon	Andrew Richards
South Eastern Metropolitan	Adem Somyurek

ELECTORATE	CANDIDATE
South Eastern Metropolitan	Gavin Jennings
South Eastern Metropolitan	Lee Tarlamis
South Eastern Metropolitan	Ian Spencer
South West Coast	Roy Reekie
Southern Metropolitan	Erik Locke
Southern Metropolitan	Phil Dalidakis
Southern Metropolitan	John Lenders
St Albans	Natalie Suleyman
Sunbury	Josh Bull
Tarneit	Telmo Languiller
Thomastown	Bronwyn Halfpenny
Warrandyte	Steven Kent
Wendouree	SharonKnight
Werribee	Tim Pallas
Western Metropolitan	George Seitz (JNR)
Western Metropolitan	Kirsten Psaila
Western Metropolitan	Stanley Chiang
Western Metropolitan	Cesar Melhem
Western Metropolitan	Khalil Eideh
Western Victoria	Jacinta Ermacora
Western Victoria	Dale Edwards
Western Victoria	John Stewart
Western Victoria	Gayle Tierney
Western Victoria	Jaala Pulford
Williamstown	Wade Noonan
Yan Yean	Danielle Green
Yuroke	Ros Spence



CERT III IN PLUMBING NOW AT PICAC

The Plumbing Trades Employees Union (PTEU) in conjunction with our industry partner MPMSAA, are pleased to announce the commencement of plumbing apprenticeship training at our Brunswick training centre, the Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre (PICAC).

The successful addition of the Certificate III in Plumbing apprenticeship qualification to the Master Plumbers' vocational education scope of registration will herald a new era of plumbing training for the industry. This initiative reflects the level of co-operation that exists across the plumbing industry, and is a genuinely pioneering development. It is training designed by industry, developed by industry and will be delivered by industry to industry.

Training delivery will be overseen by the board of a new company, Plumbing Industry Training (PIT), which consists of representatives of Master Plumbers and PTEU.

The plumbing apprenticeship has been set up to train the group

scheme apprentices employed by Plumbing Apprenticeships Victoria. All apprentices must have completed the Certificate II in Plumbing (Pre-apprenticeship) delivered at PICAC or by another provider. The apprentice training program will commence with a pilot group of 12 first year group scheme apprentices in February 2015. A second first year intake will commence in April and a third first year group will start in August. The second year of the apprenticeship will start delivery in 2016, followed by third year in 2017.

The qualification incorporates approximately three years off the job (RTO based) structured training delivery and assessment. The course design has been heavily influenced by feedback from group scheme hosts, plumbing employers, members and industry stakeholders to provide skilled apprentices to the industry at all year levels.

After consultation with employers, it was decided not to deliver the qualification stream by stream as this restricts the depth of skills being developed by apprentices.

Employers advised that if, for example, they specialise in gas work they want their apprentice learning about gas throughout their apprenticeship, not all at the one time.

To address this issue we have grouped the competencies in the qualification into three 'skill stages' rather than by stream.

Stage 1 - Foundation plumbing skills

This stage focuses on the essential skills required by all plumbing apprentices in their first year so they are 'ready to work'.

The Foundation Skills stage includes 'Boot Camp' - an intensive block of upfront basic skill training of five (5) weeks. After Boot Camp, apprentices will continue with foundation plumbing skills such as basic water supply, gas, sanitary and roofing tasks.

Stage 2 - Installation plumbing skills

This stage concentrates on the underpinning skills required by

plumbing apprentices to follow plans to install plumbing work. It focuses on practical skill development for plumbing installations in all streams of plumbing, coupled with a strong emphasis on regulations and standards.

Stage 3 - Trades plumbing skills.

This stage focuses on the more advanced techniques, skills and knowledge required by apprentices as they come to the end of their apprenticeship. Apprentices will be introduced to planning plumbing work and undertaking complex installations in multi level buildings across all areas of work.

The facilities at PICAC have been upgraded to allow for the apprenticeship course to be delivered from 2015. A multi level tower containing practical work stations has been installed in the Phoenix Street practical workshop, new benches, equipment and work stations have been purchased and three new classrooms, complete with the very latest IT and AV capability, have been constructed in the Albert Street campus. Students have the opportunity to learn in state of the art classrooms and develop their practical skills on the latest equipment all under the one roof at PICAC.

Master Plumbers and PTEU are very excited to launch this next stage of plumbing training at PICAC and look forward to industry feedback into the course as delivery progresses. For further information on the structure of the qualification please contact Glenn Menzies, Director of Training Initiatives at CEPUTEC or Alexandra Mannell, General Manager Training and Industry Development (Master Plumbers, 03 9356 7303).



VIC FIRE INDUSTRY TRAINING TO THE RESCUE

Reflecting our commitment to promoting plumbing skills and industry opportunity across the country, the PTEU in conjunction with Fire Industry Training (FIT) are stepping in to make sure a group of South Australian 3rd year Plumbing Apprentices get the chance to complete their plumbing qualification.

Earlier this year, for a range of reasons a South Australian, not for profit Registered Training Organisation and provider of trade based skills training was no longer able to provide year 3 plumbing training. The organisation concerned was PEER VEET, which is an acronym for the industry sectors to which it supplies apprentices and trainees and the type of training it does: Plumbing, Electrical, Electronic and Refrigeration; Vocational Education, Employment and Training. This situation left a group of students in the unenviable position of potentially not being able to finish their Apprenticeship. To ensure this didn't happen, the PTEU and the FIT have worked closely with PEER VEET to assist these students to finish their Cert III and gain their trade qualification.

Apprentices have been coming over for a week at a time, with transportation and accommodation arranged within close proximity of

PICAC. These Apprentices have received training in:

- Inspecting and testing control and indicating equipment
- Installing special hazards
- Installing control valves
- Testing and maintaining sprinkler systems
- Testing and maintaining gaseous suppression systems

By training here in Melbourne at PICAC, the students have had the opportunity to train in the state of the art Fire Protection Centre of Excellence, the most current cutting edge training available. Apprentices have the opportunity to go through the alarms training room where they will learn how operate and test 8 different types of fire indicator panels. The Centre of Excellence also boasts 4 different gaseous suppression systems and 5 different double interlock pre-action systems.

We are very pleased that we are able to help these Apprentices complete their qualifications and offer them the training they need to become well-rounded, highly skilled trades people.

MEDICAL GAS SYSTEMS FORM PART OF THE EMERGENCY LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT IN ANY HEALTH CARE FACILITY.

PICAC now offers specialised training in the installation of medical gas pipeline systems. The course is designed to familiarise mechanical services plumbers with the installation requirements for medical gas pipework and as a study of the Australian Standard AS2896 covering the installation of medical gas systems.

Design of any medical gas system will always be carried out by a fully qualified design engineer who has considerable experience in the requirements and designing of medical gas systems, but the installation of all medical gas pipeline systems must only be carried out by a registered mechanical services plumber. It is illegal for anybody to install medical gas pipeline systems or engage somebody to install it on their behalf if they do not hold the appropriate registration with the VBA.

Medical gas pipelines are used to supply the various gases and suction to outlets located in patient treatment areas or individual terminal devices that are found in various locations from patient's rooms as well as in Clinics and Surgeries.

Wherever the medical gas systems are located, the medical staff must be able to rely on the medical gas systems to operate 100% of the time.

The medical gas system must be foolproof in that:

- the gas named on the outlet backing plate is in fact the gas coming from the outlet
- all the fittings used by the medical staff only fit the one type of medical gas outlet, ensuring the wrong gas cannot be accidentally supplied to the patient
- an alarm will indicate if an abnormal condition develops
- the system will indicate when the gas supplies need re-ordering and or cylinders need replacing
- in an emergency where all gas outlets are in use the gas supplied to each outlet will not fall below the minimum required.
- Before you can install medical gas pipeline

systems there are several issues that you must know including:

- properties of conveyed materials relating to gas pressure, flow rates and temperature implications
- types and components of medical gas supply or service
- mathematical skills to measure, locate, set out and install pipes and terminal units
- pressure testing procedures and equipment.

The installation of medical gas pipelines course is conducted over 3 consecutive days. You must hold a current VBA mechanical services registration / license to be eligible to enroll in the training.



Medical Gas Training at PICAC

UA Instructor Training Program -Ann Arbor Michigan USA



Instructors Under Instruction in Michigan

In August this year I had the privilege of representing the Plumbing Trades Employees Union at the UA (United Association's) Instructor training program held at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor Michigan USA.

This was the 61st annual training week and was attended by close to 3000 instructors with a record intake of approximately 430 new attendees.

This unique opportunity gave me the chance to gain an understanding of the Occupational Health and Safety Legislation and its application in the United States, and draw comparisons between our OHS Legislation, as we share common hazards in the work environment. It was of great interest to hear how safety is managed in another country.

During my time in the US I participated in a 40 hr training course over a 7 day period with 45 safety instructors from all areas of the USA in my class. I was extremely impressed with the professionalism of the classes, every participant was highly knowledgeable and very

focused. Each of these guys work as a plumber through the day and then go to their local Union hall at night to deliver training to plumbers and apprentices utilising the online resource library.

The sheer volume of resource and knowledge available to these guys is incredible. Now that I have completed the OSHA 500 training course and thanks to our affiliation agreement with the UA, we now have access to all of these online resources and knowledge.

[Our task now is to work with CEPUTEC at PICAC to put all these resources to good use and the benefit of our membership.](#)



Chris Giblin
OH&S Officer

Edward Gough Whitlam

On the 21st of October this year Edward Gough Whitlam died aged 98. Australia lost one of its greatest Prime Ministers and Labor one of its most influential leaders. As Bill Shorten put it “he was simply a giant of a man. A political and intellectual giant”.

For many, Whitlam will be remembered as the Prime Minister who was sensationally sacked by the Governor-General, Sir John Kerr, on Armistice Day, November 11, 1975, and whose government lost control of the economic levers halfway through its three turbulent years in office.

A more balanced view will acknowledge it was Whitlam who brought radical change in Australian education, urban amenities, health, immigration, family law, human rights, treatment of Aboriginal people, the arts and Australian foreign policy. It is more than a generation since the demise of the Whitlam government but many elements of his reform programme have stuck.

In upbringing, manner, and personal interests, Whitlam was not a traditional Labor man. But despite the chaos of his government, he will go down in history as a Labor Super Heavy Weight. His legacy is enormous, and some would argue his significance for the ALP, Australia’s oldest political party, is greater than the likes of Bob Hawke, John Curtin, or even Ben Chifley.

The Government Whitlam led made tertiary education free, introduced a programme of national health insurance called Medibank (now Medicare), promoted a national role in secondary education through the Schools Commission, established a Petroleum and Minerals Authority, introduced no fault divorce with the family law act, sharply raised subsidies for local writers, painters, sculptors and composers through the Australia Council, and became involved in urban issues like sewerage through the Department of Urban and Regional Development.

Whitlam himself brought stature, distinction and brilliance to the leadership, together with wit. Hawke government minister Barry Cohen asked him on one occasion how he might react when he met his maker. “You can be certain of one thing,” Whitlam responded, “I shall treat him as an equal.”

Vale Gough.





John Martin Costello

27/01/1935 to
18/08/2014
Aged 79

John joined the Plumbers and Gasfitters Employees Union in

1952 at the young age of just 17. His number was 5645.

He was elected on the Committee of Management of the Union on 30th June 1969 and received the Union's highest honour the Union can bestow on any member in when he was granted Life Membership in 2006.

John spent his entire working life as a Sprinkler Fitter and later became the Shop Steward for Wormald International.

John worked tirelessly for the rights of others and was always there when the union or a member needed assistance. Whenever there was fight on to protect the industry John would always be there and he never took a backward step.

In 1980 John played an instrumental role in starting a Fire Protection Apprenticeship system. This format of training is still operating to this day.

There are many Sprinkler Fitters in today's system that owe John and others many thanks for all their efforts and foresight for being part of setting up this great system of education.

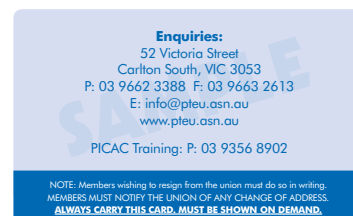
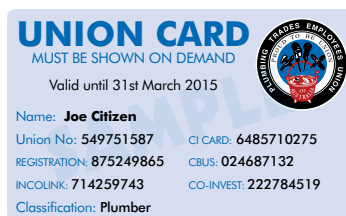
*State / Federal Secretary
Earl Setches*

Alexander Van Engel

Alex was a Shop Steward, Committee member and a full time Organiser for many years of the Plumbers and Gasfitters Employees Union.

Even after he retired, Alex remained heavily involved in the May Day celebrations and could always be seen proudly carrying the banner at the rallies.

YOUR NEW UNION CARD



These new improved Union cards will have your C.I.(Construction Induction) Registration number CBUS, Incolink and Co-Invest numbers all on the one easy to find card.

To get your new card updated simply fill in the form below and send it to us. Every time we send out your Union card we will update your details onto the existing card. Please remember to check the details and contact us if there is a change to your address or details.

UNION CARD ORDER FORM

Name:

DOB / / Union number

Registration Number

C.I Card

CBUS

Co-Invest

Incolink

Email

I request all correspondence including my accounts to be emailed to me ☐ YES ☐ NO

Date / /

Signed

Please return this form via:

Mail
Accounts PTEU
52 Victoria St
Carlton Sth 3053

Email
info@pteu.asn.au

Fax
(03) 9663 2613



IS UP AND RUNNING



The IPSF is up and running. Members will recall that the Winter Edition included a feature story on the launch earlier this year of the Indigenous Plumbing and Sanitation Foundation (IPSF). Back in May, IPSF Chairman Earl Setches and Board Members were joined by a host of industry leaders and Indigenous sporting identities to kick start the Foundation.

The IPSF has set up a Grants and Assistance Program to support and empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities to become engaged and make a difference in their communities in the area of supplying effective plumbing and sanitation solutions.

IPSF support can take the form of direct financial assistance, in-kind support (products and services facilitated by the IPSF), or other support such as project sponsorship and stewardship. The IPSF is all about building productive partnerships with the community, the

business sector and the government sector to increase opportunities for young Indigenous people.

The first organisation to benefit from the Foundation's support program is the Melbourne Aboriginal Youth Sport and Recreational Co-operative (MAYSAR).



MAYSAR represents the rejuvenation of an entity that has been a recognised, successful and vital component of the Indigenous community in Fitzroy since the 1980's. MAYSAR was formerly the Fitzroy Stars Aboriginal Community Youth Club Gymnasium Inc. (FSACYCGI), an Aboriginal controlled and managed organisation formed by the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service. The gym is one of the more famous boxing training gyms in Australia, steeped in history and cultural significance. It was the training base of World Champion Lionel Rose and a host of other fighters and trainers.

MAYSAR moved to its current premises in Gertrude Street Fitzroy about a decade ago. More recently MAYSAR has partnered with Whitelion to provide programs

and services to young Indigenous people.

However, in order to reach its potential and be a hub of education, physical and emotional well being, skills and personal development, the MAYSAR premises in Gertrude Street require an upgrade. Part of that required upgrade is to the plumbing in the building, which requires a range of gas, water and sewerage systems work.

And this is where IPSF is making a difference. Through its industry connections, the IPSF is providing the products and labour for the plumbing upgrade at MAYSAR. These works will be carried out in the coming weeks, and by the start of 2015, it is hoped that MAYSAR IPSF will be fully operational.

By supporting the MAYSAR/Whitelion project, the IPSF is playing a key role in facilitating the development of a whole range of skills and personal development and education programs aimed directly at empowering Indigenous people. For example, when fully operational, not only will MAYSAR be a hub for fitness and physical well being through its gym based programs, it will also provide courses and training in a range of other areas, in things like pre-employment training for the building and plumbing sectors for example.

With its plumbing upgraded, MAYSAR can also begin rolling out a range of food and hospitality type courses from its commercial sized and equipped kitchen. Once the toilets are all operating effectively, the MAYSAR Board can begin to take better advantage of the extensive meeting and conference space in the building, and significantly broaden its reach into the community.



Don't Get Stitched Up By WorkCover- Injured Workers and WorkCover

DID YOU KNOW:

Claiming compensation for a workplace injury is not always a straight forward experience. There are certain obligations a worker needs to do when they are injured, and failure to do so may jeopardise the claim. Below are some hints to simplify the claim process.

WorkCover law is extensive and complex, and the Union has the resources through the OH&S Unit to deal with Members claims. It is better to use the resources earlier, rather than later. If uncertain how to deal with your injury or WorkCover claim, contact the Union straight away.

Important hints should you become injured at work:

- Regardless of the extent of the injury, always lodge the injury in the "Injury Report Book"(EVERY WORKPLACE MUST HAVE ONE); on site at the time of injury, or when practical to do so. You can get a workmate to do this for you if you do not return to the site where the injury occurred. Notify your supervisor/employer and work mates of the injury and keep a copy in a safe place. Not all injuries need immediate medical attention, and if a claim is made on the employer at a later date, or when the injured worker has left the employment of the employer, evidence of this notification is important.
- Always tell your doctor the injury/illness or reason for the visit is work related.
- It is your right to be treated by the doctor of your choice.
- Should payment for lost time or medical costs (this includes the cost of the visit to the doctor) be necessary, give a WorkCover claim form (available from any Post Office) and "Certificate of Capacity"- that you would have received from your doctor, to your employer. Always send the duplicate to the employers WorkCover Agent, and keep your own copy in a safe place with all original documents.
- If mailing documents, always use registered mail as proof of serving the document.
- After you have given the claim form to your employer, the claim will be handled by an Insurance Agent, not your employer. Be cautious when speaking to an Insurance Agent Investigator, or signing any statements. Only refer to the injury and the workplace incident. There is no legal requirement to speak to an investigator, and refusing to do so will not have an effect on your claim. Contact the Union if you are unsure about meeting with an Insurance Agent Investigator, their purpose may be to have your claim rejected.
- Your employer has 10 days to notify their Agent, and the Agent has 28 days to notify the injured worker in writing if the claim has been accepted or rejected. If your claim is not accepted, contact the Union.
- After you have received a letter of acceptance from the insurance agent, and payment has not been made after the second pay cycle after the acceptance date, you must contact the Union office.



Steve Rocco
OH&S Officer



2015 CALENDAR

www.pteu.asn.au

JANUARY

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FEBRUARY

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JULY

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AUGUST

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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27	28	29	30	31		

Public Holiday Annual Leave RDO No Work Weekend School Holidays Picnic Day World Plumbing Day Return to work on 11 Jan 2016

VICTORIAN SCHOOL TERM DATES

TERM 1: 28 January 2015 - 27 March 2015
 TERM 2: 13 April 2015 - 26 June 2015
 TERM 3: 13 July 2015 - 18 September 2015
 TERM 4: 5 October 2015 - 18 December 2015

PUBLIC HOLIDAY DATES

New Year's Day: Thursday 1 January
 Australia Day: Monday 26 January
 Labour Day: Monday 9 March
 Good Friday: Friday 3 April

* Please note: Monday 27 April Public Holiday in lieu of Anzac Day on Saturday 25 April

Easter Saturday: Saturday 4 April
 Easter Sunday: Sunday 5 April
 Easter Monday: Monday 6 April
 Anzac Day: Sat 25 & Mon 27 April
 Queens Birthday: Monday 8 June
 Melbourne Cup Day: Tuesday 3 November
 Christmas Day: Friday 25 December
 Boxing Day: Sat 26 & Mon 28 December

GENERAL MEETING DATES

Melbourne 52 Victoria Street,
 Carlton South
 March 24th June 16th
 September 29th November 24th

Geelong
 127 Myers Street,
 Geelong
 March 18th June 17th
 September 23rd November 18th

2015 RDO CALENDAR

27 January	8 April	29 June	28 September	24 December
9 February	9 April	6 July	12 October	29 December
23 February	28 April	20 July	26 October	
10 March	11 May	3 August	2 November	
23 March	25 May	17 August	4 November	
7 April	9 June	7 September	23 November	

Incolink Member Services

Christmas and the holiday season is fast approaching. It is a time of year many of us look forward to with great anticipation. It is a chance to relax and unwind and have some fun with our family and friends.

However, for a large and growing number of our members – those experiencing the breakdown of a family or a relationship – Christmas can be an emotionally challenging and sometimes simply a very lonely time. It is important to remind all members, but especially those dealing with emotional, financial or relationship and family related stress or pressures right now, that they are not alone; and that through their Union Membership they have access to a full range of support services.

According to ABS data, the rate of Divorce in Australia is about 44 per cent. This rate only includes married couples, so when you factor in unmarried partner separations, the real rate of family breakdown in Australia is about 50 per cent. The ABS estimates one out of two children growing up in Australia today can expect to become part of Australia's family breakdown statistics as their parents split up.

As a result of family or relationship breakdown, thousands of our members are, every day, dealing with situations and legal, financial and emotional complexities they have never dealt with before. For many men in particular, family breakdown can bring with it feelings of isolation, loneliness and anger. Men often find themselves relying too heavily on alcohol in these circumstances and often feel depressed and confused.

Dealing with the Family Court and the Child Support Agency and negotiating your way through Custody Orders and property settlements and the like can be a legal minefield and very costly.

Free confidential counselling and support for members is available through Incolink. Incolink can also put you in touch with your local office of Victoria Legal Aid to help you with legal advice or provide financial and relationship counseling and specialist referral services.

Email Member Services:
memserv@incolink.org.au

Telephone Member Services Direct:
(03) 9668 3061

Family breakdown is emotionally as well as financially taxing and it is perfectly normal to experience feelings of anger and confusion when dealing with this stuff. The pressures can seem overwhelming, and that is why it is very important to reach out and receive the right sort of advice and support.

This Christmas, take care of yourself and your mates and remember that you are not alone. If you are doing it hard, or are confused about your rights and responsibilities after separation, pick up the phone and talk to a professional. That is what they are there for.

SAMMY SET TO RETIRE AFTER 40 YEARS PTEU MEMBERSHIP

Salvatore "Sammy" Depetro is set to retire in December this year after 40 years in the plumbing industry and 40 years of union membership.

Sammy commenced his working life in Argentina before moving to Australia in his twenties and commencing work in the Victorian plumbing industry. Sammy worked for 28 years with K&V Plumbing before joining CDC Plumbing, where he has worked for the past 12 years.

Sammy joined the Union in 1974 and has seen a lot of changes in his four decades on the job, particularly in terms of conditions and entitlements. Technology and other changes have made the job less physically demanding than it was when Sammy started out and pay and entitlements have improved a great deal over his time in plumbing.

"The industry has changed a lot in 40 years. Conditions and all the entitlements are so much better than they used to be. We used to work very long hours in tough conditions and have only a bag of cement to sit on. Thanks to the Union we now have great conditions, and things like Super, Incolink, portable

Long Service Leave, RDO's and so on." Sammy Depetro

When asked what advice he would give a young person starting out in the industry, Sammy says the most important thing is to ask a lot of questions and get advice from the older, more experienced tradesmen. Sammy enjoys sharing his knowledge and experience with younger guys, like his son Mario, who is also a plumber, and sees it as very important for the future of the industry that the older guys help out the next generation of plumbers.

Sammy will miss the interaction and fun of the job, especially "yelling and screaming" with the boys. In the future Sammy looks forward to doing some travelling around Australia with his wife of 32 years, Rosa, and spending time with his kids and grandchildren.

All the best for your retirement Sammy.



The Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Act

On 1 July 2014, the Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2013 (WIRC Act) came into operation. This legislation sets out your rights to compensation for injuries sustained at work.

The WIRC Act has merged the Accident Compensation Act 1985 and the Accident Compensation (WorkCover Insurance) Act 1993 to create a new Act which largely contains the same wording and is easier for you to follow and understand your rights, entitlements and obligations better.

All related provisions under the WIRC Act are now grouped together so that they are in a more logical order and easier to follow. Flowcharts have also been introduced to help you better understand the claim's process.

Will workers' rights be affected by the introduction of the WIRC Act

Most importantly your rights will not be affected by the introduction of the new WIRC Act. This is the case even if you were injured prior to 1 July 2014 and had an accepted WorkCover claim.

You still have the right to claim weekly payments and medical expenses for work related injuries. You also retain the right to seek lump sum compensation for permanent injuries and to bring a Common Law damages claim for pain and suffering

and loss of earnings if your injuries were caused by the negligence of your employer or a third party.

What should you do if you are injured at work?

If you are injured at work, it is important that you do the following:

- Notify your employer about the injury within 30 days;
- Lodge a WorkCover claim as soon as any medical treatment and/or time off is required;
- If you need time off work ensure that you obtain a medical certificate – it is important to ensure that the details on the reverse side are completed and accurate;
- You are entitled to treatment from a doctor of your choice. You do not need to be treated at a public hospital or by a work doctor;
- Do not speak or provide a statement to an insurance investigator in relation to your claim
- Keep a record of all attempts to return to work or retraining – this may be important and useful in protecting your rights

Check Your Superannuation, Retirement & Long Service Leave Payments

Hundreds of thousands of Australian workers are missing out on more than \$2.5 billion in retirement savings because their employers are dodging government-mandated superannuation requirements.

A new report, Superannuation Guarantee Non-Compliance, compiled by specialist management consulting firm Tria Investment Partners, has found Australians affected by noncompliance lose an average of \$3750 per year in compulsory super guarantee (SG) payments.

The construction industry is the worst offender – denying workers \$341 million per year – by failing to comply with compulsory super payments that require employers to pay 9.5 per cent each week to employees.

Our super fund C-Bus has a new app that makes it so easy to check that your super is being paid each month so its easier than ever to keep track of your payments.

We have had a large number of companies go into liquidation this year and a lot of members have missed out on super payments. These payments are very hard to retrieve as no government agency really chases this. The poor old ATO just does not have the resources to put into this area so it is more important than ever to keep up to date with all your entitlements as an employee.

Please contact C-Bus on 1300 361 784 for details.



Paul Coffey

Industrial Officer

WHAT EVERY PLUMBER NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT ASBESTOS.

Plumbers have often been extensively exposed to James Hardie's products in their careers including; AC sheeting, AC flues, and insulation products.

If the worst happens and you or a mate is diagnosed with an asbestos related condition, often some 20-50 years after exposure, these diseases carry a short prognosis. Victims need quick, effective, lump sum settlements, which provide certainty for them and their families. Maurice Blackburn, the PTEU Lawyers, can help.

It's not just Plumbers; it's not just the retired worker.

Home Renovations: what happens when the dust settles?

Australia's tragic asbestos legacy is well-known. For decades, people working in industries such as construction have been diagnosed with and suffering from asbestos related diseases such as; mesothelioma, lung cancer, asbestosis and asbestos related pleural disease.

According to the 3rd Annual Report from the Australian Mesothelioma Registry (AMR) 39.1% of people who completed the AMR survey, reported no occupational exposure to asbestos. Many of these cases of mesothelioma occur as a result of performing or being around domestic renovation work. This could be updating the kitchen or bathroom, building or knocking down the old fibro shed, helping out or sweeping up on building jobs.

People exposed to asbestos in this way are often referred to the "third wave" of asbestos victims. There is no safe level of asbestos exposure. Even modest exposures are capable of causing mesothelioma. Tragically,

once diagnosed with mesothelioma, most victims have a short prognosis, often between 9 and 18 months.

Once diagnosed with an asbestos related disease, it is important to get legal advice straight away. For retired people, the largest component of a claim is for pain and suffering damages. A claim for pain and suffering damages must be made within a sufferer's lifetime, by lodging a document with the Court.

Contact Maurice Blackburn – the PTEU Lawyers.

If you have been exposed to asbestos, we encourage you to register your exposure on Maurice Blackburn national asbestos database:

<http://www.mauriceblackburn.com.au/legal-services/injury-law/rest/asbestos-diseases/national-asbestos-register/> or contact 1800 072 464.

Maurice Blackburn are specialists in WorkCover, Road Accident injuries/TAC, Medical Negligence, Asbestos Diseases, Public Liability, Faulty Products, Will disputes, Superannuation and Insurance Claims Class Actions and ComCare.

All PTEU members and their families get free legal advice, free first consultation and a free standard will. **Contact 1800 072 464 or visit our website mauriceblackburn.com.au.**



INJURED?

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TO MEMBERS & FAMILIES

■ FREE FIRST
CONSULTATION

■ FREE STANDARD
WILL

■ NO WIN,
NO FEE*

*CONDITIONS APPLY

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PTEU PLUMBERS WAGE RATES

Effective from 1st March 2014

REGISTERED PLUMBERS				
	Plumber	Unregistered Plumber	Irrigation Installer	Plumbers Labourer
Hourly Rate	\$41.90	\$40.89	\$39.70	\$37.08
Total Weekly Rate	\$1,508.40	\$1,472.18	\$1,429.13	\$1,334.74
Fares (per day)	\$19.85	\$19.85	\$19.85	\$32.61
Travel (per day)	\$31.43	\$30.67	\$29.77	N/A
OVERTIME				
Double Time	\$83.80	\$81.79	\$79.40	\$74.16
Double Time & 1/2	\$104.75	\$102.24	\$99.25	\$92.70
SUPERANNUATION				
Min Super (per week)	\$160.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$140.00
Minimum Super 9.25%				
APPRENTICES				
	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year
Hourly Rate	\$15.30	\$21.71	\$27.09	\$34.32
Total Weekly Rate	\$550.62	\$781.63	\$975.38	\$1,235.38
Fares (per day)	\$17.84	\$17.84	\$17.84	\$17.84
Travel (per day)	\$3.82	\$5.43	\$6.77	\$8.58
OVERTIME				
Time and 1/2	\$22.94	\$32.57	\$40.64	\$51.47
Double Time	\$30.59	\$43.42	\$54.19	\$68.63
Double Time & 1/2	\$38.24	\$54.28	\$67.74	\$85.79
SITE ALLOWANCES FROM 1ST OCTOBER 2013				
City of Melbourne & Inner Suburbs New Projects and Shopping Centres				
\$2.9 Million - \$218.1 Million = \$3.90 per hour		\$218.1 Million - \$290.7 Million = \$4.05 per hour		
\$290.7 Million - \$436.1 Million = \$4.20 per hour		For projects over \$2.9 Million see chart below:		
Renovations, Refurbishment, Melbourne & Inner Suburbs \$3.30 per hour				
Project Value in \$ Millions	Site Allowance Per Hour	Project Value in \$ Millions	Site Allowance Per Hour	
\$2.9 – 7.4 Million	\$2.20	\$72.7 – 145.4 Million	\$3.80	
\$7.4 – 18.1 Million	\$2.40	\$145.4 – 218.1 Million	\$3.90	
\$18.1 – 36.4 Million	\$2.70	\$218.1 – 290.7 Million	\$4.05	
\$36.4 – 72.7 Million	\$3.15	\$290.7 – 436.1 Million	\$4.20	
For projects above \$436.1 Million, there shall be an increment of 10 cents per additional \$100m or part thereof.				
Incolink first payment from redundancy increases to \$4913.00				
Redundancy	I.P.T.	P.S.L.	Training Levy	
\$72.15 per week	\$17.05 per week	\$1.54 per week	\$19.14 inc G.S.T	
TOTAL AMOUNT Paid per week = \$109.88				

PTEU SPRINKLER FITTER WAGE RATES

Effective from 1st March 2014

REGISTERED SPRINKLER FITTER				
Hourly Rate	Weekly Rate	Fares Per Day	Travel Per Day	Registration
\$41.15	\$1,481.40	\$19.10	\$41.15	\$31.89
Minimum Service/Testing/Site Allowance \$2.51 per hour				
Overtime x 2	Overtime x 2.5	Minimum Super	Total Weekly	
\$82.30	\$102.88	\$160.00	\$1,873.01	
Minimum Super \$160.00 per week or 9.25%				
APPRENTICES				
	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year
Hourly Rate	\$18.38	\$20.21	\$27.57	\$33.08
Total Weekly Rate	\$661.68	\$727.56	\$992.52	\$1190.88
Fares (per day)	\$19.10	\$19.10	\$19.10	\$19.10
Travel (per day)	\$13.79	\$15.16	\$20.69	\$24.81
OVERTIME				
Time and 1/2	\$27.57	\$30.32	\$41.36	\$49.62
Double Time	\$36.76	\$40.42	\$55.14	\$66.16
Double Time & 1/2	\$45.95	\$50.53	\$68.93	\$82.70
SITE ALLOWANCES FROM 1ST OCTOBER 2013				
City of Melbourne & Inner Suburbs New Projects and Shopping Centres				
\$2.9 Million - \$218.1 Million = \$3.90 per hour		\$218.1 Million - \$290.7 Million = \$4.05 per hour		
\$290.7 Million - \$436.1 Million = \$4.20 per hour		For projects over \$2.9 Million see chart below:		
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TOTAL AMOUNT Paid per week = \$109.88				



ALARMING RATES OF SUICIDE IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

In 2011 around 2,500 Australians lost their lives to suicide.

This figure is staggering when compared with the number of Australians dying from transport accidents, which is around 1,500, breast cancer, around 2,800 and prostate cancer, over 3,000.

So comparatively speaking, it's a major problem that is seriously under-researched in Australia.

MATES in Construction is a charity that was set up in 2008 to help reduce the very high rates of suicide in the construction industry. The organisation also works to improve the mental health and well-being of workers through a range of different training programs and initiatives.

A report commissioned by MATES in Construction has found that Construction workers are many times more likely to die of suicide than a workplace accident.

The increased risk has been attributed to a combination of factors - demographics, it's a male-dominated industry and more than three out of four suicides in Australia are done by men, long work hours, and changing workplaces. All of these factors make it

more difficult for construction workers to connect with people socially.

Construction workers work in a dangerous industry, which is something we all know, but to put it into context, in 2012, Safe Work Australia statistics highlighted that 30 construction workers died due to accidents at work, while in the same year we lost 172 construction workers to suicide.

MATES in Construction is based on the simple idea that "suicide is everyone's business" and that if the building and construction industry in Australia is to improve the mental health and wellbeing of workers and to reduce suicide then it cannot be left to the mental health professionals, everyone in the industry must play their part.

The program has trained tens of thousands of volunteers in suicide prevention and awareness of mental health. The organisation creates a network of volunteers who look out for their mates and connect them up to help.

If you or someone you know needs to talk, call Lifeline on 13 11 14.



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CASUAL SHIRT (1)



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CASUAL SHIRT (2)



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LOGO CAP



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PTEU CAP



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LEATHER BELT

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Grey Hoodie		\$50.00		
Black Hoodie		\$50.00		
Black Zip Up Hoodie		\$50.00		
Collared Jumper		\$50.00		
PTEU Shirt		\$26.00		
Work Shirt		\$35.00		
Safety Vest		\$35.00		
Casual Shirt (1)		\$26.00		
Casual Shirt (2)		\$26.00		
Skull Shirt		\$26.00		
Logo Cap	one size fits all	\$10.00		
PTEU Cap	one size fits all	\$10.00		
Logo Beanie	one size fits all	\$10.00		
Beanie (Black)	one size fits all	\$10.00		
Beanie (Grey)	one size fits all	\$10.00		
Stubby Holder	-----	\$5.00		
Flag	-----	\$40.00		
3 Fold Leather Wallet	-----	\$30.00		
Leather Belt		\$20.00		
			TOTAL	\$

Note that sizes range from S to XXXL.
Leather Belt size range from S to XXL

Note: Please add \$5.00 for postage per item.

NEW

Want to get hands on with your super?



Cbus Self Managed is now available

Cbus has introduced a new investment option that allows you to get hands on with your super.

With Cbus Self Managed, eligible members can invest their super directly in a range of Australian shares, Exchange Traded Funds and term deposits via a secure online platform.

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To find out more visit
www.cbussuper.com.au/cbusselfmanaged



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