



## Plumbers Union National Alignment

The Plumbers Union Qld has recently reverted back to the nationally used 'Plumbing and Pipe Trades Employees Union' Branding. This was done to realign with the other Plumbers Union branches in Australia. Changes will not affect the contact details of the union, you can still email the office at [office@plumbersunionqld.com](mailto:office@plumbersunionqld.com) and the website will remain [www.plumbersunionqld.com](http://www.plumbersunionqld.com).

## KIDS IN CARE APPEAL



The Plumbers Union had another successful year in supporting the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services in the Kids in Care Christmas Appeal. As most of you are aware the appeal is to purchase presents for children who are unable to live with their biological parents and live with carers. The Plumber's Union are of the belief that every child should receive a present on Christmas Day and therefore are proud to get behind this wonderful event each year. 2015 was our third year supporting this great cause.

**The 2015 appeal was our best year yet! We raised over \$16,000 and donated over 800 presents!**

Special thanks to all our members who gave generously, as well as members from other Unions such as the CFMEU and ETU. Also special thanks to the employers who generously supported the appeal such as Hutchinsons, Triple M, South East Qld Roofing, Havendeen, Sunlander, Asset Fire and Brown and Moodie as well as our National Office. We look forward to your support later in the year for the 2016 appeal.

## PLUMBING INDUSTRY CLIMATE ACTION CENTRE

We are extremely pleased to announce an historic agreement between our Services Trades College and the Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre (PICAC). This agreement secures ongoing access to world class training in Queensland with an exciting expansion of scope and reach! Our College is now secure and will grow its role in supporting our industry through an integration of operations with PICAC. The combined College now has a total of 5 campuses and is in a position to offer the very best training service to our members. The College remains a uniquely placed industry lead, non-for-profit training organisation. PICAC recently won Best Small Trainer of the Year at the recent Australian Training Awards and through this combination we now have a training centre that is without equal anywhere in Australia.



## NEW! Log on and update your details online!

When was the last time you made sure the Union had the right details for you? Are you on a different site? Or with another employer? Has your phone number changed? If so you can now you can now log onto The Plumbers Union Website and update your employment and contact details directly, just go to [www.plumbersunionqld.com](http://www.plumbersunionqld.com) and click on the 'Log In' button. You should have recently received your Username and Password via e-mail. If you have not received your details or you have misplaced them, contact the Union office and they will be reissued to you. To update your payment details you will still need to call the office on 07 3844 8433 and let us know over the phone. It's important for us to have your details up to date so we can give you the best representation possible.



## Recovery of Unpaid Wages and Entitlements

**IT PAYS TO BELONG**  
since JAN 2015 your Union has recovered  
**\$1,865,006**  
members' unpaid wages and entitlements

The Union continues to recover significant amounts of money for members who have been unpaid or underpaid their wages and entitlements. Last year in 2015, we recovered over \$1.86 million on behalf of the members thanks to the hard work of our Organisers and Industrial staff. If you think you might not be getting paid correctly, please check with your delegate or organiser who will be able to assist you in the first instance. It's always best to try and sort the issue out on the job first as pursuit of a claim may involve lengthy and expensive court proceedings.

## EB8 Campaign Update

We are pleased to advise that we have reached an in principle agreement with the mechanical, plumbing and fire sectors. We have also reached agreement with various companies within the roofing sector but are still in negotiations with the wider roofing sector.

Last week we held various EBA update meetings and took you through the agreement in some detail. For those who were unable to attend the EBA update meetings in general we have secured the following conditions for our members:

- o 4 year agreement
- o Wage Increases:
  - Mechanical – 5% (2 x 2.5%), 5%, 5% & 4% increases
  - Plumbing - 5% (2 x 2.5%), 5%, 5% & 5% increases
  - Roofing - 5%, 5%, 5% & 5% increases
- o Industry standards for all funds – BUSS, BERT, CIPQ and STQ
- o All overtime paid at double time for mechanical employees

The Union has been working closing with the mechanical sector and various roofing employers and have almost finalised these EBAs. We believe that these EBAs will start to be rolled out in the next few weeks.

The Union will continue to work with the representatives from the Plumbing and Fire sectors to finalise the EBA over the next few weeks.

If you have any further questions about the EBAs please contact your Organiser.

## WE HAVE OUR OWN REGULATOR BACK!

The first meeting of the Services Trades Council was held late last year with State Secretary Gary O'Halloran and Assistant State Secretary Michael Wiech attending. The Council will be a dedicated regulatory body for our trades in a similar fashion to the old Plumbing Industry Council. This is a big win for our industry. Under the Newman Government we had our industry body abolished and we had no say. We fought and fought and the Labor Government have listened and reinstated it with the Plumbers Union as key members. If anyone has any licensing issues please bring it up with your organiser and we can take it directly into the Council Meetings. The Council will still operate under the Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC) with plumbers still receiving QBCC branded licenses. This will keep licensing renewal costs as least complicated and as low cost as they can be.

