

LIFE MEMBER PROFILES

ASU NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2014

17-19 November 2014 • ME Bank Centre, Punt Road Oval, Richmond



Errold Bryant

Nominated by: Central & Southern Queensland C&A Branch

Errold is currently a member of the Branch Council. He has been a member of the ASU (and our predecessor the FCU) for 31 years and performed the role of Delegate in his workplace, the Brisbane City Council, for much of that time.

Errold has also served on the Branch Conference and Branch Council, and has been an important resource for us in terms of financial and governance issues, as well as having a great deal of practical experience and common sense.

He has participated in almost every kind of union activity over the years, from enterprise bargaining to industrial action, and has been an inspiration to many members and fellow Delegates across the union.



Kevin Place

Nominated by: Central & Southern Queensland C&A Branch

Many Delegates and members have been supported by Kevin Place over the years. Kevin has worked across all sectors of the union, and has also conducted training courses and many, many negotiations for improvements to pay and conditions for thousands of ASU members.

Kevin, originally from South Australia, has chosen to return to Adelaide for his retirement. Having attempted to retire once from the ASU some years ago, he was successfully lured back and eventually became Assistant Secretary.

Kevin was also concurrently Deputy Secretary for the state amalgamated entity, Together. We would like to thank Kevin on behalf of all ASU members for his valuable and significant contribution over several decades.



Kathrine Nelson

Nominated by: Queensland (Services & Northern Administrative) Branch

Kath joined the Union in 1993, first employed as a receptionist, working her way to becoming an accomplished industrial officer. In 2011 she was elected Secretary of the ASU Qld Services Branch and QSU, the first time these positions were held by a woman, and also elected ASU National Vice President. She was a member of the Queensland Council of Unions (QCU) Executive.

A committed advocate for working people, Kath was highly respected in the union movement by employers and governments, leaving many industrial legacies.

Her most notable role was in the historic Queensland Social and Community Services Pay Equity Case (2008) which confirmed Queensland SACS workers performed work which was undervalued because of gender and laid the essential groundwork for the Federal Pay Equity Case (2012).

Through her leadership, lobbying and negotiation skills, Kath was instrumental in obtaining guarantees from the Gillard Government to fund the pay equity increases.



Robert (Bob) Ball

Nominated by: Queensland (Services & Northern Administrative) Branch

Bob worked in local authorities for 37 years and from the onset was an active campaigner in his workplace, Brisbane City Council, ensuring workers' rights were loudly heard.

Bob has worn many hats for the Union: Workplace Delegate, BCC Industry Committee Member, National Conference Delegate, Executive Member and Branch President, a position he held from 1998 through to retirement in 2014.

One of Bob's greatest achievements as President was overseeing the change to the Union's structure and operations in the late 1990s from a servicing model to an organising one.

A loyal work mate, Bob has assisted many members, sat at numerous negotiating tables, eyeballed the odd boss or two and been at the forefront of rallies, campaigning for just working rights. His determination, participation, leadership and vision have been an influential force in showing us all what it takes to beat the opposition and grow stronger from campaigning.



Marion Fielke

Nominated by: South Australian & Northern Territory Branch

Marion joined the ASU in 1988. She and her late husband John were Workplace Representatives at the City of Onkaparinga.

Upon retirement, Marion convened our first Retired Members Group. Amongst parliamentary tours and superannuation seminars, they are meticulously archiving photos and records ahead of our 110th anniversary next year.

"Whilst planning for my retirement I was thinking about what was important to me. My family and their future were top of the list. What could I do after retirement to help make their future better and more secure? Good employment was a start. A fair deal for young people like my teenage granddaughter was essential."



Peter Chaplin

Nominated by: Taxation Officers' Branch

Peter joined the ATO in 1999 and joined the Tax Branch in keeping with his history as a union activist in Lindsay Tanner's FCU Victorian Branch. Peter began by recruiting in the call centre, was elected Branch President in 2003, and retained his position until shortly after he retired from the ATO in early 2014.

Peter negotiated several ATO Enterprise Agreements, represented the ASU on the ATO's peak union consultative forums and helped ASU members around the country with their industrial issues. He always stood up to the ATO when its senior management pressed him to break from our Union's position, not easy when you are their employee.



Barry Miller

Nominated by: Victorian & Tasmanian Authorities & Services Branch

Barry commenced employment at the City of Whittlesea in 1970 as a Truck Driver and became a member of the former Municipal Employees Union. He was a Union Delegate prior to commencing employment with the MEU in 1981 where he was employed as an Organiser.

Barry has been the Organiser for just about every Council and Water Authority in the state of Victoria at some point in time.

Barry has been very well respected by the members during his time as an Organiser and will be missed by the membership and staff of the Union.



Igor Grattan

Nominated by: Victorian & Tasmanian Authorities & Services Branch

Igor joined the Union and became a delegate in 1990 whilst employed at the City of Melbourne working as a Storeman. In 1991 he was employed by the former Municipal Employees Union via the "Jobskills Program".

In 1992 he was appointed Union Organiser with the former MEU and worked in this capacity until 2007 where he was elected as Assistant Secretary of the Victorian Authorities & Services Branch.

Igor has worked tirelessly over the years to protect the interests of our membership, including being a Board Member of Primary Skills Victoria for many years. He has been an excellent mentor to several Branch officials and will be missed by the membership and staff of the Union.