

Your Union Benefits Update



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Union Benefits Update October 2012

October is here already and we are emerging from our winter cocoons and welcoming the warmth! Just the time to ponder all the excellent deals on offer via Member Connect! We have fantastic news from ME Bank, a Kindle to win if you can tell us about a great deal you've benefited from as a union member plus our usual DVD competition!

Lowest ever home loan rate can save you \$\$\$



You can support fairer banking and save on a home loan with ME Bank. ME Bank has slashed its Super Members Home Loan three-year fixed rate to just 5.39 per cent p.a. The Bank's one-year and five-year fixed rates have also been cut.

The new one and three-year fixed rates are the lowest ME Bank has ever offered across its entire home loan range, since becoming a bank in 2001.

FIXED RATE TERM	FIXED RATE	COMPARISON RATE*
1 year	5.39% p.a.	6.21% p.a.
3 year	5.39% p.a.	6.05% p.a.
5 year	5.99% p.a.	6.18% p.a.

"Economic uncertainty has driven down the cost of funding for fixed home loans and as part of ME Bank's fairer approach to banking we've passed on this saving to our customers – members of industry super funds and unions," said Mr Jamie McPhee, ME Bank CEO.

"And remember, even if you don't choose a fixed rate, ME Bank's standard variable home loan rate for industry super fund and union members has also been lower than those of the big banks every month, for every year, since we became a bank in 2001," Mr Jamie McPhee said.

If you are interested in finding out more contact [ME Bank](#) on 1300 654 995.

Interest rates current as at 11/09/2012 and subject to change. *The fixed rate comparison rates are calculated at the fixed rates specified for the corresponding term and at the variable

rate of 6.28% pa for the remainder of the term on a loan of \$150,000 for a term of 25 year, repaid monthly. **WARNING:** This comparison rate is true only for the examples given and may not include all fees and charges. Different terms, fees or other loan amounts might result in a different comparison rate. Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. Applications subject to credit approval. Members Equity Bank Pty Ltd ABN 56 070 887 679 Australian Credit Licence 229500

Are you still paying commissions on your super and investment products?



Yes	No	Don't Know	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you ever purchased a financial product (super, investment or insurance) from any company other than an Industry Super Fund?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Did you pay a commission when you purchased this product? Are you still paying a commission on the product?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you like to get a refund of those commissions – that is, would you like them paid back to your bank account?

If you answered **Yes** or **Don't Know** to any of these questions, you may still be paying commissions on that product, even if you haven't heard from the adviser who sold it to you for years.

If you would like to find out more about obtaining a refund of commissions visit our [online advice toolkit](#).

The ACTU Member Connect Financial Advice Toolkit is powered by Industry Fund Services Limited, ABN 54 007 016 195, AFSL 232514 one of the largest providers of financial services and products to industry super funds, unions and their members.

Protect your most valuable asset... your ability to earn an income



Statistics show that one in six men and as many as one in four women will suffer from a disability during their working lives which will require them to have more than six months off work.

While no one thinks this will happen to them, wouldn't it be nice to know that if something were to happen, you and your family could continue to meet the cost of living.

Group Income Protection gives you peace of mind by replacing your income in the event you are unable to work due to an accident or sickness. This enables you to maintain your standard of living during a time when you really need to be focusing on your health, not your bank balance.

IFS Insurance Broking (IFSIB) specialises in Group Income Protection insurance and we work with unions and their members to implement Group Income Protection policies as part of an EBA or on a voluntary basis (conditions apply).

Your income is too important to put at risk. Speak to IFSIB today on 1300 768 118 or visit ifsib.com.au and make sure you have Group Income Protection insurance at your workplace.

Source: ABS Cat No. 43840.0, 2003 - based on people aged between 35 and 65.

Footy tipsters join the Swans and Melbourne Storm as big winners



A hearty congratulations to Kaylene Turnbull, a QNU member from Cairns who won the NRL footy tipping competition for 2012! Kaylene is pictured being handed her winnings, a \$1000 *EveryDay* Transaction Account by David McGregor from ME Bank.

Kaylene was rapt when she logged into the footy tipping website and saw her name in first place at the end of the season. Well done, Kaylene!

The winner of the AFL footy tipping competition was won by Stewart Higgins, an FSU member from WA. Well done and congratulations to Stewart as well!

Remember to look out for news of the 2013 Footy Tipping competition in February next year which will once again be proudly sponsored by ME Bank.

■ Tell us your Union Benefits story and win a Kindle!



People join unions for better wages and improved working conditions and representation should ever you need it. They also join for the great extra benefits of union membership, including great financial products through ME Bank, industry super, as well as cheap movie tickets, great deals on new cars and loads more!

Member Connect are running a story competition for union members who've benefited from such services. Tell us in 50 words or less your best Union Benefits story and go in the draw to win a Kindle!

Your story can be about how much money you saved through switching to ME Bank, how you got a ripping deal on a new washing machine through Union Shopper or how you were able to afford a new car through Discount New Cars.

Email memberconnect@actu.com.au with your story by 5:00pm AEDT Friday 30 November 2012 to go in the draw for the Kindle!

■ Stand Up For Super posters available



We have some fantastic 'Is Your Super Safe?' A4 sized posters available for any union Organiser or Delegate who would like to order them for their workplaces.

The posters are a reminder to make sure your superannuation is fully protected in your Enterprise Agreement.

Just email Mary Doyle at mduoye@actu.org.au and don't forget to include, your name, your union, your address and the number of posters you would like.

■ Young workers warned of 'cash' rip-off



One in four young workers are not receiving their proper pay and entitlements because employers are using a black market cash economy to avoid their obligations, according to [new research](#) by unions.

The research reveals the shocking abuse of "cash-in-hand" in the Australian economy with more than half of all young workers in 'black market' jobs being denied basic entitlements including penalty rates, superannuation, annual leave and sick leave.

ACTU President Ged Kearney said employers paid workers cash-in-hand to avoid their legal obligations and to dodge taxes. Cash-in-hand work was another example of the rise of insecure work in Australia, Ms Kearney said.

Young workers who are worried they are being underpaid or ripped-off should contact their union or call the ACTU Workers' Helpline for free advice and information – phone 1300 4 UNION or go to the [Rights Watch Blog](#)

Madman DVD competition



Enter the draw to win one of three copies of either '[Rampart](#)' or '[All Or Nothing At All](#)' which Member Connect is giving away to six lucky union members this month!

To win a copy of 'Rampart' email memberconnect@actu.org.au before 5:00pm AEST Friday 19th October 2012.

To win a copy of 'All Or Nothing At All' email memberconnect@actu.org.au before 5:00pm AEST Friday 19th October 2012.

Only members of ACTU affiliated unions are eligible to claim prizes.

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