



# iEu News

Independent  
Education Union  
of Western  
Australia

8 December 2009



## Enterprise Bargaining

2009 has been an exciting year for union Members, with enterprise bargaining negotiations in the Catholic system providing significant salary increases for teachers and support staff. Support Staff can now take long service leave after 8 years and in shorter periods, and primary teachers have increased DOTT time in 2010.

Members in Independent schools have also been involved in negotiations with excellent outcomes.

Best wishes for the Festive Season to all our Members from the Secretary, Executive and staff of your union.

Of concern with new Federal legislation and new Federal Awards for teachers and support staff is how quickly we have seen cases of employers prepared to reduce the salaries of those support staff who are already classified as "low paid". The research shows

that it is mainly women in poorly unionised areas who suffer the brunt of cost cutting. The good news is that poor behaviour on the part of employers can be countered by informed and interested staff, and your union has done a great deal of work in this area.

Your union has a proud record of not trading off conditions, and the starting point for any negotiations should be that your current conditions are maintained.

**Disputes are many and varied** but it is hard to believe that 30 years after maternity leave was introduced, we still have employers who dismiss women on maternity leave or who won't offer part time work, despite the weight of legal precedents.

### Your union will be 50 in 2010

What an amazing milestone, brought about by forward thinking school mistresses in schools we now call "Independent", who set up an association to ensure their voices were heard when it came to salaries.

The diverse organisation we have become, covering as we do almost everyone who works in a school, not to mention the wide range of religious, ethnic and educational philosophies Independent and Catholic schools embrace, is something to celebrate!

Wishing you a happy and safe Festive Season.

VIP Night 14 December—  
details on our website.



Theresa Howe — Secretary

Ph: (08) 9227 7411

Fax: (08) 9328 9220

Email: [unity@ieuwa.asn.au](mailto:unity@ieuwa.asn.au)

Website: [www.ieuwa.asn.au](http://www.ieuwa.asn.au)