RESEARCH ONLINE

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Noticeboard

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RESEARCH ONLINE

Noticeboard

Abstract
The campaign to gain jobs for women at the steelworks in manual jobs had two distinct parts, spanning the decade of the 1980s and continuing into the 1990s. Firstly, I became involved in the campaign in 1980 which embarrassed BHP into giving women work in 1981. I gained work with another 32 women in what was supposed to be a test group – the idea being that other women would follow once we gained jobs.

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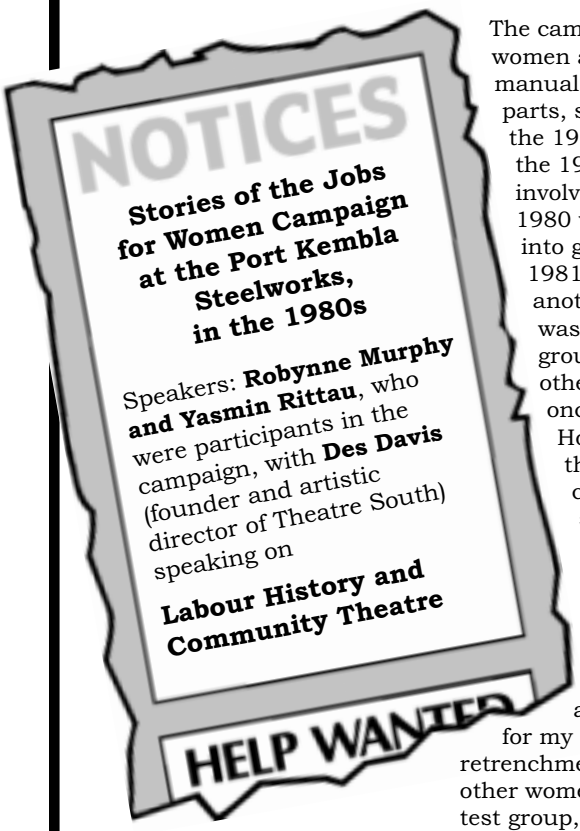
NOTICE BOARD



2 pm Sunday,
23 September 2001.
Piano Bar, Master Builders' Club,
Wollongong.
$3.50 members;
$5.50 non-members.
Contact: Ray Markey, President;
Ph. 02 4267 4434;
email:
ray_markey@uow.edu.au

The campaign to gain jobs for women at the steelworks in manual jobs had two distinct parts, spanning the decade of the 1980s and continuing into the 1990s. Firstly, I became involved in the campaign in 1980 which embarrassed BHP into giving women work in 1981. I gained work with another 32 women in what was supposed to be a test group – the idea being that other women would follow once we gained jobs. However, BHP didn't hire the other women. In any case, I worked at the steelworks for 2 years from 1981 until my retrenchment in 1983. Secondly, I became part of a compensation case against BHP in 1983 and was eventually awarded compensation for my premature retrenchment, along with the 32 other women from the supposed test group, in 1988. However, the compensation case continued until 1994 when BHP finally made an out-of-court settlement to a futher 700 women who applied for jobs but weren't hired due to BHPs discriminatory hiring practices. The campaign in 1980 was the most visually exciting part of the whole process. Heaps of written material in all sorts of forms was produced and many discussions with all sorts of groups were held.

Yasmin Rittau

NOTICES

Perspectives of Women Working for Women: The First Decade of the Wollongong Women's Centre: the 1970s

Speakers:
Irene Arrowsmith, Val Dolan, Shirley Nixon

HELP WANTED

21 November 2001
Piano Room,
Master Builders' Club,
Wollongong.

$3.50 members;
$5.50 non-members.

Contact: Ray Markey,
President;
Ph. 02 4267 4434;
email:
ray_markey@uow.edu.au

NOTICES

Sydney Branch Labour History Society Conference on:

Social Protest Movements and the Labour Movement, 1965–75

HELP WANTED

22–23 September 2001.
Women's College,
University of Sydney.

Contact:
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email:
bsymons@ar.com.au