

Unions fired up to unionise the Coast



Rail & Maritime Transport Union members and delegates joined over 40 West Coast union members on Monday 29 October 2001 and spent the day swatting up on the Employment Relations Act at a Council of Trade Unions training day.

Now the members of a range of local unions are fired up to get the West Coast unionised again.

"The Employment Relations Act provides new opportunities to organise workers", said Council of Trade Unions organiser Carol Beaumont.

John Bannerman, National Management Committee member of the Rail & Maritime Transport Union and Greymouth President said local union members were fired up to organise joint union activities like family days and union picnics.

"We're feeling positive about being part of our unions and the union movement and we want to see young workers in particular learning more about the benefits of belonging to their unions," he said.

John Bannerman said unions in Westport and Greymouth in particular would develop stronger links with their communities through their local Council of Trade Unions.

"The Coast can expect to see a much more visible union movement in the future," he said.