

NZ Chapter NEWSLETTER

An Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Publication

Contents

Page 1
- 20th Century Roadshow
- Executive Meeting report

Page 2
- Article by Ian Spellerberg

Page 3
- ChCh Branch Activities

Page 4
- Professional Bodies Meetings
- EIANZ member profile

Page 5
- Environmental Consultant
position

20th Anniversary Roadshow EP³ = Environmental Professionals, Evaluating Practices, Evolving Pathways.
Judith Roper-Lindsay

Plans for the 20th Anniversary events are progressing with the team from Central Office led by Danielle Bolton looking at everything from sponsorship to speakers and sustainability for over a dozen events across Australia and New Zealand. Here, we are planning a series of one-day events:

Auckland 17 September
Wellington 19 September
Christchurch 21 September

A mix of keynote speakers and panel-led discussions will look at the next 20 years of professional practice in New Zealand and ask what the likely environmental, social and economic scenarios over that time frame are. We want to put an emphasis on the practical side of our work - what new skills, technologies and techniques will we need to continue to provide quality environmental advice?

If you would like to be involved in speaking, suggesting speakers in this area, or helping with some of the local organization, do get in touch with one of the Exec Committee. Meanwhile please put these dates in the diary and keep an eye on the newsletter and web-site for further details.

.....
Executive Meeting Report
Judith Roper-Lindsay

The Executive had its annual "face-to-face" meeting in Christchurch on 23 March. After dealing quickly with the regular business the rest of our day focussed on the succession, membership and Roadshow events.

Like any business or organisation we are very conscious that members of executive and local committees move on, have other commitments, or simply run out of energy, so we need to have a broad base of active members who can step in to help out for events or join the Executive when necessary. The AGM is on July 20th this year. We are always keen to hear from members who would like to help at Branch or Chapter level and if you would like any information prior to the AGM do let someone on the Exec know! Over the next few months, the Executive and Branches will be looking to widen their networks so that we can widen the services we offer to members.

The New Zealand Chapter currently has 140 members including 8 Student and 24 Associate with a couple of applications in the process of being approved. (There are 1818 members in Australia!) Over the coming year we want to attract more members simply by providing more services - workshops, conferences, training sessions or networking opportunities (see Ian Spellerberg's article below on attracting more members). The Institute still has a very

Events/Important dates

May
Executive teleconference
Tuesday 29 May

July
AGM
Friday 20 July - Christchurch

Newsletter deadline
Monday 29 July
to sk_pritchett@yahoo.com

September
Roadshow workshops:
Auckland 17 September
Wellington 19 September
Christchurch 21 September

EIANZ NZ Chapter

low profile in the environmental practice world in New Zealand, and we need to raise this - there are plans to use the publicity around the 20th Anniversary events to widen our contacts. Branches in Christchurch, Wellington, Tauranga and Auckland are now active.

The next meeting of the Executive is a telephone conference call on 29 May.

.....
Why should I join EIANZ or What's in it for me? - Discussion Piece
Some thoughts from Ian Spellerberg

There are lots of reasons for joining the EIANZ. Below is a discussion piece by Ian Spellerberg on his thoughts on how to attract more members. Let us know what YOU think - why did you join EIANZ? What do you think is "in it for me?", and how have you got your employer to see the worth of paying EIANZ fees for you? (if you have). Send your thoughts on this matter to sk_pritchett@yahoo.com and I will publish them in the next newsletter - Ed.

We must all have ready some very good reasons why qualified people should consider joining EIANZ. In our attempts to increase membership, it is important that we all discuss the benefits and reasons for joining. We should all be able to present similar arguments.

Often I hear the question 'Why should I join?' 'Why should I pay all that money?' 'What's in it for me?' The general issue here is the importance of belonging to a professional organisation for professional development and to practice your profession. For most disciplines there are professional or academic organisations and it would almost be unthinkable for any practising person not to belong to the appropriate organisation. Belonging to an organisation means that you are networking and hopefully contributing to useful discussion about your chosen discipline. Of course there is a difference between belonging and being active in an organisation. The analogy is perhaps students who study at university and do no more than required and those students who make the most of all opportunities that the university offers.

Belonging to the EIANZ helps to increase membership, and that in turn brings greater profile to the profession, with obvious benefits. Belonging to EIANZ will also benefit the environment and encourage the sustainable and equitable use of natural resources.

I believe the EIANZ Code of Ethics is something that we should promote as often as possible. It is one of the benefits of belonging to the EIANZ. I believe that the Code of Ethics is of paramount importance for good environmental practice. I keep it above my desk to remind myself that I strive to have high standards that I must maintain. I talk about that Code in my teaching, and I refer to it during research and consultation.

Many people will already belong to a society or professional body. Almost certainly that will be fairly focussed towards one discipline (e.g. planning, law, engineering). The EIANZ is multidisciplinary and that is so important when many of our environmental problems have an interdisciplinary basis. For that very reason we should encourage people to belong to their discipline's professional body as well as the EIANZ.

There is an important difference between a professional organisation (for which you must qualify for membership) and academic organisations or learned societies (which almost anyone can join for a fee).

The EIANZ established the Certified Environmental Practitioner Programme (CEnvP). That took about three years during which time there was a great deal of background research, consultation and discussion. The CEnvP programme is something that all environmental practitioners should aspire to. It is not just a one off and there is an expectation of

<p>Sub-Committees</p> <p><i>Policy and Program Coordinator:</i> David Clendon dclendon@unitec.ac.nz</p> <p><i>Finance, Sponsorship & Corporate Matters Coordinator:</i> Leo Fietje Leo.Fietje@ecan.govt.nz</p> <p><i>Branch Building Coordinators:</i> Gabi Torkington - Auckland gabi.torkington@envirowaste.co.nz</p> <p>Steph Brown - Christchurch stephanie.brown@opus.co.nz</p> <p>Susan Chapman - Wellington S.Chapman@transport.govt.nz</p> <p>Belinda van Eyndhoven - Bay of Plenty Belinda.vanEyndhoven@beca.com</p> <p><i>Certification Coordinator:</i> Ian Spellerberg spelleri@lincoln.ac.nz</p> <p><i>Newsletter Editor</i> Sarah Pritchett sarah.pritchett@vuw.ac.nz</p> <p>Membership Secretary Eric Scott mescott@clear.net.nz</p> <p>NZ representatives on EIANZ Standing Committees</p> <p>Policy and Practice SC: David Clendon dclendon@unitec.ac.nz</p> <p>External relations SC: Pene Burns PBurns@skm.co.nz Rex Verity VerityR@cpit.ac.nz</p> <p>Impact Assessment SC: Leo Fietje Leo.Fietje@ecan.govt.nz</p> <p>Membership Promotion SC: Belinda van Eyndhoven Belinda.vanEyndhoven@beca.com</p> <p>Student Initiative SC Yvette Kinsella Yvette@gdc.govt.nz</p>	<p>continuing professional development. The CEnvP is the first step to becoming qualified in your chosen area of practice.</p> <p>During the last several years when I have argued strongly for a certification programme for environmental practitioners, some people have said that they establish their own reputation and standards and do not need certification. Others have said that certification does not guarantee standards. However, most professions and trades have some kind of certification programme and perhaps one day it will be a requirement for environmental practitioners. Perhaps we may even have to start thinking about accredited courses and degree programmes.</p> <p>So what's in it for me? You get out as much and more than you put in. Belonging to EIANZ will benefit the very thing that you work for - the environment. Membership will indicate greater commitment. Membership will help you to be a better environmental professional. We need to make this clear to both employees and employers!</p> <p>One final thought and that is the use of prepared presentations. All of us have the opportunity to provide information about EIANZ and all have opportunities to give presentations. There are leaflets available and there is now a very good web site. I suggest that we also prepare a short PowerPoint presentation and distribute that to members either on disc or via email. The CEnvP has such a PowerPoint presentation and I find that very useful.</p> <p><i>Ed - this article was edited for reasons of space</i></p> <p>Christchurch Branch Activities <i>Rex Verity</i></p> <p>David Holmgren, the co-originator with Bill Mollison of the permaculture concept, delivered a public presentation and a one-day workshop in Christchurch in late April on the issues of Climate Change, Peak Oil and Permaculture with the theme of "opportunities to rebuild our self-reliance".</p> <p>Approximately 150 people packed the venue to hear him outline the history, problems and solutions for retrofitting our suburban landscapes and lifestyle for the energy descent future of climate change and peak oil and challenge many of the orthodoxies and assumptions of mainstream urban sustainability with refreshing common sense about the world our children and grandchildren will inherit. Beyond the grim prospects David described the changes in the land use and lifestyles of the inhabitants of a 1950's new residential development through to the present day and sketched out a permaculture street make-over scenario that showed people how to start at home, connect with neighbours and creatively work around the obstacles without waiting for governments to show leadership.</p> <p>Australia, David said, was rich in fossil fuels, energy sources for transport, but very susceptible to climate change impact (especially heightened drought conditions) and so would feel that earlier and more harshly. In comparison, New Zealand had prospects for retaining a more equitable climate but was dependent on imported transport fuels and so would be impacted sooner and more severely by post-peak oil energy decline.</p> <p>A capacity 35 people participated in the workshop, "Scenario Planning and Design for post-Peak Oil and Climate Change". The value of permaculture as both a collection of environmental strategies and techniques and as fundamental design principles was explained and a scenario planning model was used to integrate possible societal adjustment and solutions to an energy descent future emerging from the simultaneous</p>
--	--

Miscellaneous

Annual Report

The Institute's Annual Report 2005-2006 is now available - if you would like copies (which are very useful in promoting the Institute) please let me know and I can send you some - judithr1@boffamiskell.co.nz.

The Newsletter Needs You!

This newsletter is only as good as the articles it gets so please help by submitting items you think may be of interest to other EIANZ members. Relevant book, movie and website reviews are welcomed, as is news of any recent projects you or your organisation have completed.

Please send all items to sk_pritchett@yahoo.com

impacts of climate change and peak oil.

The two events were run with support from EIANZ, the Christchurch City Council and Christchurch Polytech (CPIT).

Professional Bodies Meetings

Susan Chapman

The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) hosts quarterly meetings, in Wellington, for representatives from a wide range of professional bodies. The meetings comprise senior staff from the Ministry and professional bodies including:

- * New Zealand Institute of Forestry
- * New Zealand Law Society
- * Institute of Professional Engineers New Zealand
- * Royal Society of New Zealand
- * Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand
- * New Zealand Hydrological Society
- * Local Government New Zealand
- * Resource Management Law Association New Zealand
- * New Zealand Water and Waste Association New Zealand
- * Building Research
- * WasteMINZ
- * New Zealand Marine Sciences Society
- * Geological Society of New Zealand
- * New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects

The meetings are an opportunity for MfE and these organisations to provide updates on recent events and publicise upcoming ones. Staff from MfE also speak on key initiatives the Ministry is progressing. Recent presentations include an explanation of the Green Star Tool to rate the sustainability of office buildings, the SmartBuild sustainable residential building information resource, and drafts of the NZ Energy Strategy and the NZ Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy.

Susan Chapman represents EIANZ at these meetings and says "because our members cover such a wide range of (environmental) disciplines the content is always relevant to EIANZ". She will investigate whether the minutes from the Professional Bodies meetings can be posted on the EIANZ website. In the meantime, if you would like a copy of them emailed to you please contact Susan at s.chapman@transport.govt.nz (noting that MfE generally circulate the minutes two months after each meeting).



EIANZ Member Profile

Name: Belinda van Eyndhoven

Location: Tauranga, Sunny Bay of Plenty

Organisation work for and position: Beca, Senior Planner

How does your work contribute to sustainable management of the environment? Providing good, sustainable advice to clients to allow them to make environmentally responsible decisions.

Biggest environmental challenge currently facing Aotearoa and why? Accelerated climate change and how we will deal with its causes and effects on a national and international scale. It affects all of us in some way.

How do you think EIANZ can help to meet these challenges? Informing, educating and providing support to the people who can and want to make a difference.

Environmental superheroes and heroines? Anyone with a passion for protecting the environment in a positive way. There are a number of great examples in the media at the moment but I am sure there are just as many, if not more, unsung heroes and heroines out there doing a great job.

Glass half full or half empty view of future of Earth and why? Half full without a doubt. With so many great and influential people around that are passionate about the earth's sustainability, I believe a meaningful difference can and is being made.

.....

Lincoln (Christchurch) | Environmental Consultant Position
Want to make a difference for a truly clean green and sustainable New Zealand?

An exciting opportunity exists to join an expanding team in an area attracting interest from all sectors of businesses.

You will have experience and sound technical competencies in the promotion, design and delivery of environmental and sustainability programmes and initiatives, and the confidence to work with all levels of management. Ideally you will come from a consultancy or practical environmental management background.

Landcare Research is New Zealand's foremost research institute in the area of sustainable development, with research strengths in ecosystems, biosecurity, rural land use impacts, greenhouse gas & carbon sinks, urban sustainability, and corporate and government contributions to sustainable development. Around 400 staff are spread in six principal locations across New Zealand.

This is a full time permanent position based at Lincoln (near Christchurch). For further information please contact Charlie Bartlett at BartlettC@landcareresearch.co.nz or phone (03) 321 9874.

Applications are to be made on-line through Landcare Research's website www.landcareresearch.co.nz.

.....

Please consider saving paper by reading this newsletter onscreen. Or print it out double-sided and leave it in your office tearoom so lots of people can read it!