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Introduction from the NZ Chapter President

by Jeska McNicol

It has been a busy beginning to the year for the Institute with a record number of CEnvP applications for New Zealand being processed and Sam Bridgman (SKM and Vice-President of the New Zealand Chapter) is doing an amazing job at coordinating the interviews and interview panellists for these applicants. A big thanks to all those panellists who give your time to

conduct the interviews and contribute to raising the standards in our profession. In this newsletter I am delighted to announce that Karen O'Donohue (Auckland Branch Coordinator) was voted by our Executive



Committee to join the team and fill Tom Burkitt's place. Karen has already made a significant contribution in her Auckland role and we look forward to working with her more closely. In early March we hosted Michael Chilcott for a series of events in Christchurch, Wellington and Auckland. These were a huge success and really put the talents of Craig Redmond, Susan Harris, Di Buchan and Karen O'Donohue who organised a number of key government meetings for Michael as well as a change to network with our members. As part of this visit

Michael was able to personally say his thanks to Tom Burkitt (ex NZ Chapter President and Vice-President NZ) who continues to be a member but has ventured into the IT sector (Tom updates us on his new venture in this newsletter). We wish Tom the very best.

Jeska McNicol

President (New Zealand Chapter, EIANZ)

Vice-President (EIANZ)

Report from Tom Burkitt

I recently stepped down from the NZ Executive. It's a decision that I didn't take lightly and it's not without regret, but I needed to focus on the business I recently established with my co-founder and friend, Dr Mark English (a rocket scientist ... literally). Jeska has asked me to write a few words about it, so please humour me. I certainly hope this doesn't read like an advert!

The business is called Proxima (www.proxima.co.nz) and it's not yet working in the environment sector. I guess that, simplistically, some might say we work under the IT sector and that might conjure up images of cables, computers, and software programming. But it's quite different from that. My business partner and I are interested in ensuring that projects involving the design and implementation of software systems are successful and that actually means focussing on the business and its people. It's fundamentally people centric. Most of our work involves interpreting what the business really needs, creating an environment for

successful implementation, and ensuring that the vendors and developers meet that requirements and stay on track.

Currently, Mark and I are helping the Special Education Department of the Ministry of Education roll out a national case management system to help them manage and report upon the service provision to children. It's afforded us a tremendous insight into the inner workings of a government ministry and an opportunity to be part of a very significant transition for the department. It's demanding but rewarding work, and I have come to appreciate the complexity and value of the work that the practitioners in the department undertake. We're also happy to have secured a little work with the Christchurch City Council too, which keeps us closer to home.

All in all, we're busy and off to a good start.

by Tom Burkitt

Certified Environmental Practitioner

What is the CEnvP Scheme?

The Certified Environmental Practitioner (CEnvP) Scheme is an EIANZ initiative aiming to ensure that talented, skilled and ethical environmental professionals are given due recognition in line with their professional counterparts from engineering, accounting, planning and architecture.



The CEnvP Scheme is an initiative of the EIANZ aimed at:

- facilitating interaction among environmental professionals;
- promoting environmental knowledge and awareness; and
- advancing ethical and competent environmental practice.

A CEnvP is a dedicated professional who has demonstrated their environmental professionalism beyond the standard requirements of education, and has been judged on their professional merits and experience by fellow senior level environmental practitioners.

"Environmental Practitioners holding CEnvP status defines a standard of excellence in environmental practice."

Recognition in NZ

There are currently over 370 CEnvP's and 34 of these are within New Zealand. That number is increasing, with record numbers applying currently, as the scheme gains more recognition.

The New Zealand National Environmental Standard (NES) for contaminated land¹ has identified CEnvP as one method for assessing a suitably qualified and experienced practitioner as follows:

"One method for assessing whether someone is a 'suitably qualified and experienced practitioner' is to refer to existing professional bodies that currently certify New Zealand based environmental professionals. The requirement for being "suitably qualified and experienced" would apply to those members with demonstrated contaminated land experience. Examples of such professional bodies are:

- *The Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ) – see www.ipenz.org.nz*
- *The Certified Environmental Practitioner (CEnvP) scheme run by the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) – see www.cenvp.org."*

¹Ministry for the Environment. 2011. Draft Users' Guide: National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment. <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/rma/draft-users-guide-nes-for-assessing-managing-contaminants-in-soil/>

CEnvP Criteria

All CEnvPs must exceed the minimum criteria below:

- an environment-related degree;
- five years of relevant environmental experience over the past ten years;
- three referees prepared to vouch for your skills, performance and professional conduct;
- a signed statement of ethical conduct;
- commitment to a minimum over two years of 50 hours of continued professional development; and
- additional supporting evidence of claim including at least two Referee Reports.

There are also two specialisations (Impact Assessment and Ecology) which have additional criteria – for more information refer to the [website](#).

Want to Apply?

Check out the website (www.cenvp.org) or check application details [here](#).

The last intake just closed, so you have a few months to get all your information together for the next intake, expected to be later this year.

If you would like to talk to someone about CEnvP there is a NZ contact number - Christchurch number 03 741 3102 (11am-7pm Wed-Fri).

TIP: EIANZ members at OPUS in Auckland have been catching up over lunch to work together to get the hard yards done – perhaps you could do this at your workplace or find some other interested people within your area to work together and keep motivated. (Thanks Joh Taylor for the idea!).

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Australia and
New Zealand

Reports on the EIANZ Presidents Visit to New Zealand

The New Zealand chapter of EIANZ was lucky enough to have EIANZ President, Michael Chilcott, go on a tour of the main centres. The following articles are a snippet of some of the events.

Christchurch March 5th - Craig Redmond

With the landscape of Christchurch changing, the EIANZ traditional central city location for events forced a move out to suburbia. A quiz night was held on Monday last week at the Fox and Ferret, Riccarton for Canterbury members. This was an opportunity to bring the Canterbury branch members together for the first time in 2012 with a social event and provided an opportunity to encourage students studying environmental management at Lincoln University to meet the movers and shakers in the local environmental field. With Michael Chilcott coming to town, the event also doubled as Tom Burkitt's farewell bash from the NZ Executive after all his hard work over the past few years as he focuses on new challenges in 2012. Three teams fought their way through 6 rounds of battle ranging from geography to Simpson rock band pictures, for it all to come down to a sudden death question to break the deadlock. We had a great turn out and a good time was had by all, we hope to build upon this event and offer the Canterbury branch members more opportunities to get together and share ideas during this time where we are seeing a rapid change in our physical environment.

Auckland March 7th – Karen O'Donohue

The National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health (the NES) came into effect on 1 January 2012. Within this document there are several references to an "appropriately qualified and experienced practitioner". This has been the focus of much industry debate, and created unity among industry and local government that an approved certification

system is required. While in Auckland Michael met with Marcus Herrmann and James Corbett of Auckland Council, Simon Hunt of Golder Associates, and Shane Moore of Tonkin & Taylor to discuss the role of EIANZ and CEnvP as a scheme endorsed by industry and local government to meet the requirements of the standard. The meeting was very positive, gave those involved with this interface a great insight into EIANZ and the CEnvP, follow up meetings are scheduled for the middle of the year. Michael indicated EIANZ is happy to work with those involved to ensure CEnvP is the preferred certification to meet the requirements of the standard, and will continue to advance professional development for industry practitioners.

Michael hosted a well-attended meeting in Auckland, like other branches Auckland took the opportunity to have Michael provide more information on the organization to members and those interested in joining. The evening was held at Opus International offices in the city and despite a sudden downpour outside most made it through the Auckland traffic to attend. A relaxed atmosphere created a great platform for people to ask questions, meet other industry professionals and approach Michael for a chat. We look forward to welcoming Michael back to New Zealand soon.



Michael Chilcott speaks about the CEnvP scheme in Auckland.

EIANZ Annual Conference 2012: Call for Papers

EIANZ Annual Conference 2012 - 24 Oct 2012

Wednesday 24 - Friday 26 October 2011

Sebel Pier One - Hickson Road, Dawes Point – Sydney

Watch the promotional video [here](#)

Do you have professional lessons to share, a perspective to present, an insight to offer? This is your chance to contribute to the future of environmental practice.

The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand celebrates its 25th year of operation in 2012. We invite you to help us celebrate the environment profession's achievements in that time. Come along, help us to reflect on what we have done well and why; what we could have done better and how; as well as, what we have left undone and need to action now.

But most importantly we invite you to help us build our skills and our profession to be...

Stronger – Developing the Profession – Powering Up!

Wiser - Reflections on lessons learnt, lessons applied – Get Smart!

Bolder – Promoting Environmental Advocacy and Action – Get Feisty!

The 2012 EIANZ Conference Organising Committee is calling for the submission of abstracts for papers to be presented at the Conference. Abstracts should indicate how papers will:

- address the skills needed to make our profession more robust, vigorous and influential;
- demonstrate innovation, provide examples or guidance for improvements in current practice, or provide provocative concepts for professional debate; and
- address one or more of the major streams (Stronger, Wiser, Bolder).

This is your opportunity to share the interesting work you and your team have done or perhaps share some lessons learnt.

For more information regarding abstracts or posters, see the call for papers [here](#).

Is your company interested in playing a bigger part in the conference? There are sponsorship opportunities available for businesses of all sizes.

For more information check out the Sponsorship Prospectus [here](#).



Generate – Young Professionals Network



So what is Generate?

Generate is a Network for young professionals in the parks, open space management, conservation, aquatics, recreation and sport delivery sectors (across Australia and New Zealand), with the purpose to help build connections, open opportunities, foster innovation and increase collaboration.

The Network was formed in 2011 at a Hui held in Wellington, New Zealand that was attended by 25 young professionals. Ten of these young professionals were subsequently elected to into a steering group with the aim of ensuring that the Network is a long term success.

The motion of creating such a network was an objective of the Parks Forum Young Leaders Group. This group has now merged with the Generate Network.

The Generate vision is –

A network of young innovative people providing a collective voice, evoking change and supporting development opportunities for those working in the environmental and recreation sector.

The Generate Steering Group are committed to identifying issues facing young people in the sectors listed above and implementing initiatives through this network to benefit members, the wider industry and

the environment and people of Australia and New Zealand.

Some of the benefits of joining Generate are –

- *Knowledge sharing and networking*
- *Professional development opportunities*
- *Personal development opportunities*
- *Like-minded support*
- *A united voice*

Coming soon – Generate Online Forum

One of the key projects for the Generate Network is the establishment of online forums to assist with the sharing of information and connecting young professionals. The online forum will be hosted by Parks Forum, though their existing website and with the support of their fantastic team. The forum is set to be fun, easy to use and effective in sharing and seeking knowledge. Sign up as a Generate member today and we will notify you once the forums are up and running.

Who can join Generate?

Anyone who considers themselves a young professional (or young at heart) and is working in any of sectors listed above can join Generate. An age bracket has deliberately not been defined at this time.

How do I join Generate?

Contact Anna Crawford crawfordc@npdc.govt.nz for further details. You can also check out our Facebook and website pages. To find our website follow this link:

<http://www.parksforum.org/cms/pages/Generate-Network.html>

Thanks to Michele Frey for this contribution to the newsletter

The Green Thing

Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the older woman, that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologized and explained, "We didn't have this green thing back in my earlier days". The clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations". She was right -- our generation didn't have the green thing in its day.

Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. But we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks. But she was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day.

Back then, we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up 220 volts -- wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But that young lady is right; we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

Back then, we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn petrol just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right; we didn't have the green thing back then.

We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. But we didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the tram or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their mums into a 24-hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest burger joint.

But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the green thing back then?

Please forward this on to another selfish old person who needs a lesson in conservation from a smartass young person. Remember: Don't make old people mad. We don't like being old in the first place, so it doesn't take much to piss us off. *(Thanks to Susan Chapman for this contribution to the newsletter.)*

New Members This Quarter

Welcome to the new members of the NZ EIANZ Chapter who have joined since January 2012.

Dr Stephanie May
Emma Hawcridge
Dr Ian Boothroyd

If you know of anyone who might like to join EIANZ, send them an email or invite them to one of the local events to give them a bit more information.

Situation Vacant: EIANZ NZ Treasurer Role

We are still looking for someone to join our New Zealand Executive in the role of Treasurer. This role entails attending our monthly teleconferences, paying our bills, managing our cashflow, maintaining financial records and paying royalties owing to Central Office. This role will require around 4 hours of time per month and will commence immediately. If you are good with numbers, have an eye for detail and trustworthy then this could be your chance to give something back to our profession and support our team by continuing the great work of our current Treasurer Ced Croft.

For more details please contact newzealand@eianz.org

Call for Articles and Ideas

We will be putting out this newsletter quarterly and need interesting and informative articles every time!

Have you...

- Finished an interesting project?
- Attended a training course you found valuable?
- Have some photos that you just have to share?
- Got some ideas for other things you would like to see in this newsletter?

If so, we would love to add your two cents to the newsletter.

If you would like to share, please do send any suggestions, articles, photos to Justine Coup justine@morphum.com. We will send out reminder emails each time, but it's nice to have some lined up.

Key Institute and Chapter Information

NZ Chapter Executive Committee

President: [Jeska McNicol](#)
Vice President: [Sam Bridgman](#)
Councillor: [Dianne Buchan](#)
Secretary: [Heike Schiele](#)
Treasurer: [Ced Croft](#)

Committee Members:

Susan Harris
Leo Feitje
Craig Redmond
Karen O'Donohue

Regional Branch Coordinators

Auckland / Northern: [Karen O'Donohue](#)
Waikato: *vacant*
Bay of Plenty: [Kevin Wood](#)
Wellington / Central: [Susan Harris](#)
Canterbury: [Stephanie Brown](#)
Otago: *vacant*

Other Key Roles

Membership Secretary: [Eric Scott](#)
Newsletter Editors: [EoS Ecology](#)
[Justine Coup](#)

Contact for general enquiries: info@eianz.org

EIANZ Website: www.eianz.org and www.eianz.org.nz

Find out about events at: www.eianz.org/eventsplus/category/new-zealand

Join us at: www.eianz.org/membership/category/new-zealand

Watch us at: www.youtube.com/nzeianz

Follow us at: www.twitter.com/nzeianz

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