



Photo by Yvonne Pfluger

The Environmental Practitioner

ISSN 1834-7738

Number 30

June 2013

In this June issue of TEP, we hear about the new fellows of the Institute, the EIANZ Auckland Symposium and reflect upon 10 years of the New Zealand Chapter. We also consider public health and air pollution in Australia and new changes that potentially add more rigour to ISO 14001.

In This Issue

Editorial	2
New EIANZ Fellows	4
Reflections on the 10 th Anniversary of the NZ Chapter	7
Public Health and Air Pollution	11
Golden Sun Moth Translocation	13
Changes to ISO 14001	16
EIANZ Auckland Symposium	19
Member Snapshots	23
New Members	24
EIANZ Directory	25

Opinions expressed in this newsletter reflect the views of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Inc. unless specifically stated.



Photo by Terry Reis

Editorial

Welcome to the middle of 2013 and the June newsletter of TEP. Thank you to all those who have contributed to this issue – there was a good response and your insights and reports are appreciated.

This issue provides a summary of Prof. Ian Spellerberg's address to the NZ Chapter in Auckland, where he reflected upon the 10 year anniversary of the Chapter. I urge you all to read the address, particularly for its urgent call for practitioners to raise expectations in the public sphere that practitioners should be members of a professional institute and should be (or at least aspire to be) certified.

The opportunities to raise these expectations to real effect are before us in many cases. For instance, the stretched resources of many regulators assessing environmental aspects of proposals has meant a shift in onus for demonstrating quality design and assessment back onto practitioners. Regulators cannot expect to host all the necessary technical expertise to assess the complex and multi-disciplinary proposals typically submitted. Where possible, some of this responsibility for proving up quality and workability is moving onto practitioners who can demonstrate their ability to meet specific qualification and experience requirements.

This is where certification schemes such as CEnvP have the opportunity to address the gap, to provide the necessary evaluation of experience, and professional and ethical conduct.

There is a great deal of potential for such schemes to meet community, industry and government expectations

for quality environmental practice, and therefore we should all be encouraging of the growth and development of the CEnvP scheme. The closing date for the September newsletter is 30 August 2013, so please send your submissions to communications-editor@eianz.org by then. For the next issue I would be particularly keen to receive more member snapshots and photos. I'm sure there is a lot of photographic talent out there, and many environmental practitioners have the luck to visit and document some unusual places in Australia and New Zealand in the course of their practice.

Take care

Bec McIntyre MEIANZ

EIANZ Communications Editor





**BUSINESS AS USUAL
IS NOT AN OPTION**
EIANZ CONFERENCE 2013 MELBOURNE

23 & 24 October 2013
RACV City Club, Melbourne

Registrations now open!

Click [here](#) to go to conference website

The need to adapt to inevitable change is becoming all too clear in our rapidly changing biosphere. The conference will explore the questions around what we are adapting to, what are the important drivers of change (climate change? population growth? habitat loss? food security?), and how sound scientific practice can be applied to the adaptation process to achieve the best outcomes. How do we adapt our practice to meet changing demands? How do communities build resilience through better environmental practice?

This year's key note speakers include:



Tim Low



Prof Tim Smith



Dr Mark Stafford-Smith



Gail Hockachka



Tim Winton



Photo by Bec McIntyre

New EIANZ Fellows

EIANZ congratulates the following members on being elevated to the level of Fellow of the Institute. Recognition as an EIANZ Fellow acknowledges environmental practitioners who have achieved leading status within the profession. Fellowship also acknowledges contribution to the profession, professional commitment, length of service and high ethical standards of practice.



Prof. Helen Ross
SEQ Division
Professor of Social Sciences in the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences, University of Queensland.



Prof. Darryl Low Choy
SEQ Division
Professor of Environmental and Landscape Planning and Head of Discipline (Planning) in the School of Environment, Griffith University.



David Carberry
SEQ Division
Technical Director (Environment), RPS.



Cathy Crawley
SEQ Division
Director, The Long View Group



Lee Benson
SEQ Division
Director, Ecology Management



Prof. Bryan Jenkins
New Zealand Chapter
Professor, Strategic Water Management, Waterways Centre for Freshwater Management, a joint centre of the University of Canterbury and Lincoln University.



Photo by Lawrence Mason

Has planning for the future been forgotten in NSW Planning Reforms?

The NSW Government has released its White Paper: *A new planning system for NSW*, which proposes a “once-in-a-generation” transformation of planning in NSW. Under the current system, planning is legislated by the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

One key change is the removal of the core concept of Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD). ESD has been left out of the White Paper as it is believed to be an outdated Australian concept, used by only two jurisdictions. Whilst the concept of “sustainable development” is included in the White Paper, it is not defined in the Dictionary. The concepts of “inter-generational equity” and the “precautionary principle”, which are encompassed in ESD, have been left out. These two concepts are invaluable in ensuring that consideration is given to the long-term impacts of our planning projects, and allowing development to be halted if the science of a proposal is not fully understood via the precautionary approach.

Environmental practitioners in NSW are encouraged to become actively involved with the planning process. Our future depends on it, and once the legislation is in place it will affect every project in NSW. Please focus your attention on the Planning Bill 2013 and the Planning Administration Bill 2013. The White Paper is on public exhibition until 28 June 2013. It can be viewed online at <http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/newplanningsystem>

Fiona Gainsford
MEINZ, CEnvP

DSEWPaC Strategic Assessments Prospectus

DSEWPaC has recently released its *Strategic Assessments Prospectus*.

While there is a significant amount of work being undertaken to deliver the strategic assessments currently underway, DSEWPaC is also seeking to plan its work beyond 2013 for the next phase of strategic assessments. This involves working with stakeholders to develop a plan for where the next strategic assessments should occur, and the prioritisation of these assessments. Through the Prospectus, the department is seeking expressions of interest from state and territory governments and other key stakeholders about where strategic assessments should occur in the years ahead.

If you are interested and would like to find out more, go to:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/strategic-assessment-prospectus.html>

The call for expressions of interest closes on **1 December 2013**.

If you are considering a strategic assessment, contact the Strategic Approvals Branch on (02) 6274 1111 or EPBC.reform@environment.gov.au early in your planning and design phase.

DSEWPaC Environmental Assessment and Compliance Division



Environment
Institute of
Australia and
New Zealand
SOUTH EAST QLD DIVISION



Renovating Matthew Ball

**A celebration of the spirit and courage it takes to live life to the full.
An opportunity to eat, drink, laugh, dance with colleagues and friends.**

Friday 6 September 2013 - Brisbane Sofitel



The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand and the Renovating Matthew Foundation are hosting a ball in Matthew's honour to raise funds for Matthew's prosthetics. In 2012, Matthew Ames (Environmental Professional) became one of very few quadruple amputees in Australia, let alone the world after contracting a streptococcal infection. We would love you to join us for the occasion.

Come and hear Paul Carter, author of "Don't Tell Mum I Work on the Rigs... She Thinks I'm a Piano Player in a Whorehouse" and "This is not a drill" and raconteur extraordinaire who will keep you entertained on the night!



For more information visit:

<https://www.eianz.org/eventsplus/event/revovatingmatthewball>



Photo by Yvonne Pfluger

Reflections on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the New Zealand Chapter

By Prof. Ian Spellerberg

The inaugural meeting of the New Zealand Chapter was held in Christchurch on Friday 28 February 2003. The Programme included a presentation by Barry Carbon who was, at that time, CEO of the Ministry for the Environment. Ten years on, I thought that it would be useful to offer a few personal thoughts.

That inaugural meeting was a major milestone for the environment profession in New Zealand. It was preceded by several years of discussions and consultations about how best to meet the needs of environmental practitioners who were not catered for by any of the existing professional institutes. By 'professional institute' I mean an organisation that has a code of ethics and environmental practice, assists with professional development, and one that has established either accredited courses or a certification programme. During those years of discussions, there was much concern about creating yet another environmental organisation in New Zealand and there was often confusion between 'scholarly societies' and professional institutes (that confusion still remains).

At the time, I was well aware of many graduates embarking on careers in the environmental profession in one of many specialist areas that were not catered for by any existing professional institutes. Those areas included environmental policy, resource management, environmental science, and ecology.

Attempts to persuade some institutes to extend their range of interests were made but those attempts failed. Other options included establishing a branch of the England-based Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM) in New Zealand. However, the most exciting development came when a small group of like-minded people started to liaise with the Environment Institute of Australia. Following some very positive and helpful discussions, it was not long before the EIA became the EIANZ. That indeed was a major milestone soon to be followed by the launch of the CEnvP in 2004.

In just ten years, the New Zealand Chapter has hosted two EIANZ conferences. Membership has been growing steadily and so has the number of Certified Environmental Practitioners. Environmental consultancies in New Zealand have been very supportive of these developments and so too have the succession of Ministers for the Environment. In a 2010 letter from the Hon. Dr. Nick Smith (at that time Minister for the Environment) he wrote: "There is merit in all environmental practitioners being members of professional institutes, particularly in terms of promoting professional conduct, CPD, and accountability".



Photo by Yvonne Pfluger

10th Anniversary of the New Zealand Chapter *ctd...*

Looking ahead, I believe that it will be very important to have the STEP programme established in New Zealand soon as possible. Equally important, I believe that the environment profession needs to establish an expectation that all environmental practitioners must belong to a professional institute and that they should aspire to certification. I believe that such an expectation is urgently needed and should be endorsed by the EIANZ.

Why is this urgent? Never before have we faced such a diversity and complexity of environmental issues from global to local. There has long been an environmental imperative.

The unsustainable and inequitable use of the environment and nature (including human-induced climate change) is the most important environmental dilemma facing humanity. We need the most competent environmental practitioners to deal with these issues. As with all other professions, why wouldn't we expect all environmental practitioners to abide by a code of ethics, undertake professional development and demonstrate sustained excellence in environmental practice? I often think that it is so ironic that so many specialist areas in the environment profession have been the last of all professions to adopt such expectations.

The environment profession includes the educators, the employers, the practitioners and the institutes.

Contrary to what some students may think, education does not end at graduation. The educators have a particularly valuable opportunity to promulgate the benefits of professional institutes for aspiring environmental practitioners, but here in New Zealand progress has been slow and has been met with stubborn opposition. It would sure be timely for the EIANZ to encourage discussion amongst the educators about how best to persuade students to join an institute as a student member.

Here in New Zealand I am told by some senior staff in local government that standards of environmental practice amongst environmental consultants are extremely variable. There have been instances where some work has had to be completely redone – at considerable expense. It is gratifying therefore to see that employers in New Zealand are making excellent progress with the expectation that their new recruits (environmental practitioners) need to demonstrate commitment to the profession by way of, *inter alia*, being a member of an environment institute.

There are some interesting perceptions of what is meant by being 'green' and what is meant by 'the environment profession'. As one leading agriculturalist said recently, the biggest problem facing farmers these days was the 'environmentalists'. A recent commentary in a national newspaper referred to 'environmentalists' as 'irrational zealots'.



Photo by Yvonne Pfluger

10th Anniversary of the New Zealand Chapter *ctd...*

For many people, there are blurred boundaries between environmentalists, greenies, tree huggers, earth muffins, and environmental practitioners (I admit to being an environmentalist, a tree hugger and an environmental practitioner).

Those blurred boundaries are all the more reason why the environment profession needs to ensure that all environmental practitioners can be held accountable.

I believe that here in New Zealand there is still a culture whereby some environmental practitioners believe that their accountability is best confirmed by their reputation. There is a feeling in some sectors that membership of a professional institute is not necessary. The frequently posed question is: "What's in it for me?" Anyone asking that question seems to be missing the point.

The New Zealand Chapter became of age when it hosted the 2005 Conference in Christchurch. Since then, the Chapter has made a substantial contribution to the Institute as a whole and it will continue to do so. As well as increasing the membership, I think that the most important and urgent task is promulgating expectations that the environment profession must have an expectation that all environmental practitioners must belong to a professional institute and should aspire to certification.

That expectation needs to be promulgated amongst educators, practitioners and employers. The benefits of which will accrue to the profession, to the practitioners and, most importantly, to the environment.

Prof. Ian Spellerberg. Hon. FEIANZ.

This article is based on Ian's presentation to the New Zealand Chapter's inaugural Symposium held in Auckland on 22 March 2013.



**BUSINESS AS USUAL
IS NOT AN OPTION**
EIANZ CONFERENCE 2013 MELBOURNE

EIANZ Annual Conference – Melbourne 23 & 24 October 2013
Click [here](#) to see the conference website!



Photo by Bec McIntyre

EIANZ NSW Event – *Learning to Adapt 5*

Professional development event on climate change adaptation for business and government.

Thursday 1 August 2013, University of NSW, 8am – 6pm

The EIANZ Learning to Adapt series continues after four successful professional development events in 2010, 2011 and 2012. Join us for Learning to Adapt 5 (LTA) to learn tools and techniques you need to adapt to the climate of the future. An outstanding line up from across the sciences, the public and the private sector will offer you a rare opportunity to get to the forefront of climate change adaptation.

In recognition of the evolving space in adaptation to climate change, LTA will run training in the afternoon session looking at carbon accounting, risk assessment and regulation and legislation, followed by networking drinks.

The program is due for release shortly. Sponsorship spaces still available.

For more information contact Sarah Campbell at sarah.campbell@edgeenvironment.com.au

This event is discounted for EIANZ Members and attracts 20 CPD points

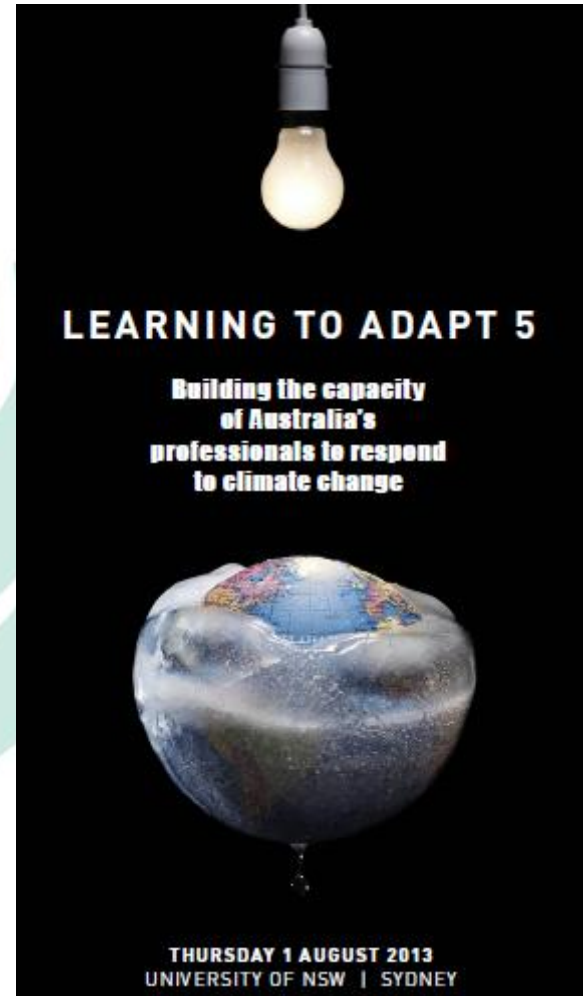




Photo by Nighat Khurshid

Public Health and Air Pollution

Australians enjoy the best quality of life in the world, according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). But its recent *Better Life Index* noted, in an otherwise glowing report, that air pollution in Australia is getting worse. It warned urban air pollution was set to become the top environmental cause of premature mortality globally by 2050.

The impact of air quality on health is now the subject of a Senate inquiry, due to report later this month. In its submission to the inquiry, the Australian Medical Association (AMA) told senators that Australian regulation of air pollution was not doing nearly enough to safeguard public health. The AMA cited “an increasing reliance on road transport, the expansion of mining and industries producing hazardous air pollutants, and the compounding effects of climate change and extreme weather” as the key factors that have led to the deterioration of Australian air quality.

So why isn't air pollution further up the national political and media agenda?

Faced with very similar circumstances, I found myself asking the same question as the CEO of Environmental Protection UK, the UK's oldest NGO and the peak body responsible for lobbying for improvements in air quality. It had been more than 60 years since Environmental Protection UK's forerunner, the National Society for Clean Air, successfully argued for the groundbreaking Clean Air Act to tackle the great London smogs of the 1950s. But now air pollution has become an invisible killer, responsible for the premature deaths of over 29,000 people in the UK every year.

We decided that it was time to raise the profile of air pollution by making it an issue people could relate to in their daily lives, and formed a coalition of environmental, transport and health NGOs to launch the Healthy Air Campaign (www.healthyair.org.uk) on the anniversary of the Clean Air Act. The campaign launch immediately followed a damning inquiry and report from the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee – the equivalent of the Senate Committee Inquiry. The report of that inquiry, based on evidence from the country's leading scientists, was highly critical of the UK government's inaction on air pollution and called for, amongst other things, a national campaign to inform and engage the public, hold the government to account and press for action.

Two years on, the Healthy Air Campaign is now spearheaded by one of its founder members, Client Earth, who recently took the UK government to the Supreme Court for failing in its legal duty to protect people from the harmful effects of air pollution – and won. This landmark decision has paved the way for the European Commission to take legal action against the UK because the Government is in breach of the European Union Air Quality Directive (which legally binds EU member states to taking action to keep air pollution below agreed limits). By joining forces and forming a more powerful coalition to raise the profile of the public health risks posed by air pollution, the campaign created a platform for everyone engaged in tackling air pollution to stand on.

The campaign enlisted the support of popular television weather presenter (and mum to a young child with asthma) Clare Nasir, using interviews with her in the popular media to tell other mums how air pollution was significantly affecting the health of young children going to school next to busy roads.



Photo by Nighat Khurshid

Public Health and Air Pollution *ctd...*

Backed by leading scientists, including Professor Frank Kelly from Kings College London, the campaign gave the media the facts: that 29,000 premature deaths were caused by poor air quality in the UK each year – nearly 5 per cent of all annual deaths. And the campaign engaged all sections of the media targeting at-risk groups like runners for example in this interview I did with Runners World:

<http://www.runnersworld.co.uk/staying-healthy/the-risk-air-pollution/7500.html>.

But what has this to do with Australia?

The number of Australians who die from the effects of air pollution every year is more than twice the number killed on the road, according to scientists at CSIRO, while US researchers have established a link between poor air quality and incidence of heart disease and stroke. Just as in the UK, the public health impact of air pollution in Australia is not being measured appropriately, and where it has been measured the impacts have not been acted on or communicated.

For example, without studies into the impact of coal on human health, the Australian coal industry has escaped the close scrutiny that the industry has faced in other countries, including the US, which has led to important action on air quality. Instead, leading mining companies such as Rio Tinto have been able to call for a relaxation of existing regulation.

A review of submissions to the Senate Committee Inquiry from local community groups, environmental NGOs such as Environment Victoria, local



James Grugeon speaking at the launch of the Healthy Air campaign at the House of Commons in London.



councils, doctors and medical practitioners and health organisations, shows there is already a potentially strong and broad coalition in Australia that wants to see more action to tackle air pollution. Individually, they have an important and powerful story to tell on air pollution and public health. Together, their case could be compelling and capable of driving change.

As the Senate inquiry prepares its report, now could be the ideal time to take steps to stop the dangerous threat of air pollution, and cement Australia's ranking as the best place to live in the world.

James Grugeon MEIANZ

James Grugeon is the former CEO of Environmental Protection UK. He now lives and works in Melbourne and is a member of EIANZ.



Golden Sun Moth Translocation

SMEC Environment was recently awarded a project with Roads ACT to salvage and translocate the critically endangered Golden Sun Moth from the Majura Parkway construction zone. This was to ensure compliance with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act conditions of approval, and, if successful, could be developed into a standard mitigation measure. In a separate project in 2012, SMEC Environment undertook Golden Sun Moth monitoring, which involved walking the Majura Parkway alignment counting flying moths. From this it was determined the areas of highest moth density occurring within the Parkway construction zone.



In March 2013, SMEC Environment and a team from University of Canberra conducted the larvae salvage from the Parkway alignment. By using a mattock, backhoe and plough the soil was churned and searched for the larvae by hand. In a parallel experiment turf containing moths was translocated to an adjacent site. The Golden Sun Moth larvae are small, white grubs that can be found up to 10 cm deep amongst the roots of mostly native grasses that make up their diet. Salvage results were beyond expectations – the predicted outcome of 150 larvae over four days salvage was well exceeded by a final count of 525 larvae. This provides enough larvae for a number of tests, including direct translocation, genetic tests and greenhouse trials.



Wil Allen MEIANZ



**DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY
FOR CEnvP STATUS AND BE RECOGNISED!**

NEXT CEnvP APPLICATION CLOSING DATE FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2013

Certified through a process of peer and Board assessment, Certification can provide a greater level of assurance to the community, employers, clients and professional associates of the credentials and peer recognition of an environmental professional.

Maintaining high quality professional outputs of practitioners not only has positive environmental and social results, but may offer economic gains by enhancing sector competitiveness.

The CEnvP Scheme was established in 2004 as an initiative of EIANZ. It is Australasia's first certification scheme for general environmental practice, and one of the first in the world.

There are currently over 457 CEnvPs across Australia and New Zealand (as at May 2013).

We encourage suitably qualified practitioners to participate in this important initiative for the environment profession.

For more information about certification criteria and the application process, please visit www.CEnvP.org/apply.

Please do not hesitate to contact the CEnvP Program Manager, Peta Haasbroek, with any questions.

**Australia: 03 9001 6948
New Zealand: 03 741 3102
info@cenvp.org**

CEnvP Certified Environmental Practitioner - Building the Environment Profession in Australia & New Zealand

The Board of the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme encourage suitably qualified practitioners to participate in this important initiative for the environment profession. To qualify for CEnvP, you will need:

- An environment-related degree;
- 5 years of relevant environmental experience over the past 10 years;
- 3 referees prepared to vouch for your skills, performance and professional conduct;
- A signed statement of ethical conduct;
- Commitment to continued professional development through a minimum of 100 points every two years;
- Additional supporting evidence of claim including at least 2 Referee reports.

An assessment interview conducted by a certification panel completes the process.

EIANZ Members and Fellows receive significant discounts on application and annual certification fees.

For further details on how to apply for CEnvP or the Specialist Certification programs, please visit www.CEnvP.org/apply.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT & ECOLOGY SPECIALISTS

The Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme (CEnvP) launched its new Ecology Specialist and Impact Assessment Specialist programs in December 2010.

CEnvPs Specialist Certification Programs give recognition to professionals who have high levels of expertise and ethical standards in specialist areas of practice such as Ecology and Environmental Impact Assessment (IA).

Current CEnvPs should visit the 'Current CEnvP' section of the website for details on how to apply for Specialist Certification as the requirements are slightly different.

Photo by Ian Wiseman, CEnvP. Mt Hutt, NZ.

www.CEnvP.org/apply

2012 Vegetation Managers Forum



Vegetation Managers Forum to Seek Solutions for Herbicide Resistance

Queensland's premier event for vegetation managers, the Vegetation Managers Forum (VMF), will be held this year at Indooroopilly Golf Club on August 28.

Organised by industry knowledge leaders Technigro, the VMF is an annual event that draws together some of the brightest minds from Australia and internationally to share knowledge on a variety of vegetation management issues.

As in previous years, 2012's VMF will feature a series of presentations from high profile speakers in the field, this year featuring Dr Christopher Preston from the University of Adelaide, and Dr Suzy Perry from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Dr Preston will be addressing issues surrounding glyphosate resistance, including the recommendations from the recent RIRDC study on management of glyphosate-resistant weeds in non-agricultural areas. Fellow resistance experts Dr David Thornby and Dr Jeff Werth, both of whom are from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, will join him for a Q&A session.

Dr Perry will be presenting an update on the devastating myrtle rust fungus that is rapidly becoming a major threat to the Myrtaceae family, which includes many Australian native species including Eucalyptus.

Delivering a presentation on weed mapping and data sharing protocols will be Harvey Ryan from Exa-Min Technologies, and Moya Calvert from Biosecurity Queensland.

Also speaking will be Dr Mark Walker from Syngenta, as well as Dr Sheldon Navie, who completed his doctorate at the University of Queensland.

Dr Walker will be discussing proactive weed management using pre-emergent herbicides, while Dr Navie—who has given very successful presentations at previous VMFs—will be delivering a presentation on new and emerging weed threats in southeast Queensland.

Technigro CEO Nick Bloor says the forum will be a fantastic way for people in the industry to network and learn about cutting edge research.

"We've had great success with our Vegetation Managers Forums in the past, in large part because I think that there are a lot of progressive people in our industry," he says.

"They have a strong desire to extend their knowledge, so we have designed these events to provide the most up-to-date information and research in entertaining and informative presentations."

He says the focus topic for this VMF is particularly pertinent, as herbicide resistance is an emerging issue for vegetation managers.

"The uncharacteristically wild weather in the last few years has had myriad negative effects on our environment—one of which is the spreading of a number of undesirable plant species," Mr Bloor says.

"When you couple this with the fact that a number of these species are now becoming immune to widely used treatments, and it's clear that there needs to be significant collaboration within our industry to overcome these issues."

The VMF is free to attend, but bookings are necessary as places are limited. To book, or for more information about the forum, please call Technigro's chief marketing officer Tara Looby on 1800 678 611., tara.looby@technigro.com.au



ISO 14001 - Moving beyond compliance and bureaucracy

Will the proposed changes to ISO 14001 enhance the effectiveness of environmental management systems?

In theory, the development of an Environmental Management System (EMS) is a fantastic way to reduce a company's impact on the environment. If an EMS is designed and maintained effectively it can provide a perfect platform to implement an organisation's sustainability strategy. Unfortunately the bureaucratic and 'box ticking' approaches that are traditionally used to do this are outdated and, put simply, do not work.

An effective EMS engages staff, facilitates systematic improvements in environmental performance and allows an organisation to credibly communicate that it has an approach in place to mitigate its impacts. The ISO 14001 standard was developed to support organisations in implementing effective systems. However, most environmental management professionals would agree that (for various reasons) it hasn't managed to optimally facilitate this.

Picture this situation: An organisation has been asked by its customers or a parent company to implement an EMS in order to achieve certification to ISO 14001. The Environmental Manager develops a 'system' which consists of a range of documented procedures to meet the requirements of the standard. In addition to this, they maintain a number of spreadsheets on their computer to record environmental metrics and document legal requirements. An auditor from an accredited body visits the organisation and confirms that the company meets all the requirements of the standard and the company achieves third party certification.

The company celebrates its achievement of having reached the 'pinnacle of environmental management'. A year goes by and the auditor is back – again the company achieves certification (perhaps with a few corrective actions). While the company celebrates that the sales team can inform its customers that the organisation has achieved certification – the Environmental Manager knows that in reality few of the staff members read the 'folder on the shelf' system and that environmental management and sustainability principles are far from integrated into the business.

Does this scenario sound familiar? You may have a system like this in your own company. If you are a management systems consultant or auditor you will almost certainly have developed or audited 'systems' like this for your clients. The implementation of management systems using this approach is very common in New Zealand and around the world. It is not unusual that 'folder on the shelf' systems lead to a lack of awareness and commitment by management and employees.

This situation has led to the perception that there is limited value in implementing a traditional EMS as described above. Not surprisingly there has been a lack of uptake of EMS and ISO 14001 certification in New Zealand. At the time of writing, only 286 certificates had been issued in this country (according to the JAS-ANZ website).

The ISO 14001 standard is currently being reviewed by a technical committee of the International Standards Organization. This will come as a relief to some and a burden to others. The changes involve amendments to the *structure* and *requirements* of the standard.



Photo by Bec McIntyre

ISO 14001 *ctd...*

The *structure* of ISO 14001 will be amended to incorporate a 'high-level structure for management systems' to facilitate the alignment and compatibility of the EMS standard with other management system standards such as occupational health and safety (OHSAS 18001) and quality (ISO 9001). This is an important step as organisations are rightly looking to integrate their management systems to increase their efficiency and move towards sustainability management.

The changes proposed to the *requirements* in the draft version of the ISO 14001 standard are more fundamental. The most significant changes to the requirements in comparison to the 2004 version of the standard are as follows:

- There is an increased focus on the actual environmental performance of the organisation. In the past, companies have come under scrutiny for having a 'system' without actually reducing their environmental impact. The current draft requires the continual improvement of the environmental performance of the organisation whereas in the 2004 version the focus is on the continual improvement of the system. The increased focus on environmental performance is absolutely key as this is of course the primary reason why organisations should be implementing an EMS.
- The needs and requirements of interested parties will require greater consideration in the development and maintenance of an EMS. The increased emphasis on considering the views of internal and external stakeholders will align ISO 14001 with reporting guidelines such as the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) framework. This is fantastic because, all too often, there seems to be a disconnect between the operational performance of organisations (in terms of their EMS) and their external environmental communications.

- Upstream and downstream activities in the value chain that are considered to include significant environmental aspects will need to be taken into account in the design and operation of the EMS. This is perhaps the most significant change proposed in the standard as it will require organisations wishing to gain certification to consider the entire life cycle rather than just their own operations in the scope of their system. By including upstream and downstream activities in the design of an EMS, organisations will ensure that they are not inadvertently shifting environmental burdens to other stages of a product or service life cycle.

I am hopeful that the proposed changes will go some way to mitigate the compliance and box-ticking approaches which are currently prevalent.

The proposed changes to ISO 14001 have not been confirmed and are two years away from being enacted. A window exists for organisations to be proactive and improve their system to make the transition to the revised standard smoother. There are real and tangible business benefits of moving beyond the compliance focus and adopting a performance based approach to environmental management and sustainability.

Dr Manuel Seidel MEIANZ

OUR TRAINERS KNOW ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITING

Training represents a continuous effort to improve employee proficiency and therefore strengthen an organisation's performance.

At Graham A Brown & Associates, one of our core functions lies in transferring over 4 decades of experience and vast knowledge of environmental auditing to you & your staff. We impart skills and understanding enabling you and your team to carry out your policies and procedures with competence. The Environmental Auditor Certification Workshop is a comprehensive 5 day, RABQSA certified, workshop which trains participants to conduct environmental audits, advise clients on environmental issues, and commission and manage environmental audits.

BOOK NOW at an Environmental Auditor Certification Workshop run nationally throughout 2013

27th - 31st May, Sydney

24th - 28th June, Brisbane

22nd - 26th July, Melbourne

26th - 30th August, Perth

23rd - 27th September, Newcastle

21st - 25th October, Sydney

25th - 29th November, Brisbane

Consultants of: Environment | OHS | Community Relations | Greenhouse Gas Management | Training | Management System Software

For more information or to register Phone 02 4927 8500 Email training@grahamabrown.com.au Web www.grahamabrown.com.au



EIANZ Auckland Symposium

On the 22 March Auckland hosted the New Zealand chapter's inaugural national symposium. The one day event was entitled "Excellence in Environmental Practice: Raising the Standard" and was focused on four themes: ethics, risk, water and impact assessment. The event was opened by an address from our president Michael Chilcott, who discussed the Institute, the code of ethics associated with membership, the growth in the certification scheme for Environmental Practitioners and the importance of events such as the Symposium to bring environmental professionals together.

The morning session covered the topics of Risk and Ethics. The first presentation of the day focused on risk and was presented by Dr Grant Hewison, special counsel from the law firm Kensington Swan. Dr Hewison discussed the concepts of the precautionary principle, its presence in New Zealand legislation and its application in relevant case law. His discussion raised challenges in the application of the principle and whether this amounts to a strong or weak risk management framework. This was expanded further by the subsequent presenter, Dr Steven Vaughan, from the New Zealand Society of Risk Management Incorporated. Dr Vaughan detailed aspects of risk identification, criteria, monitoring and assessment, drawing on his vast experience as a chemical engineer working on complex environmental issues for both the private and public sectors.

Ethics is a strong focus of EIANZ, and presentations on the topic created robust debate and gave those attending an opportunity to share challenges faced in practice. The session began with a presentation from EIANZ Honorary Fellow Prof. Ian Spellerberg a professor at Lincoln University, who played an integral role in the establishment and of the New Zealand chapter of EIANZ in 2003.

Ian's presentation took the audience through the 10 years since the chapter began, highlighting significant changes that have led to today's Code of Ethics, and laid down challenges to improve practice standards that will ultimately benefit the environment.

Matt Casey (QC) discussed ethics and law in an environmental context. He noted definitions in New Zealand's current legislation are anthropogenic in origin and questioned if this was appropriate. Matt's presentation highlighted the challenges faced by lawyers in balancing obligations to the Court, Rule of Law, clients and the environment. Matt also highlighted a conflict for lawyers with respect to signing the EIANZ code of ethics. The EIANZ code promotes 'advocacy' of environmental issues which is contrary to a lawyer's code to remain impartial.



EIANZ Auckland Symposium *ctd....*

This prompted some interesting discussion and will no doubt be followed up through the institute. Dianne Buchan followed with a presentation on Peer Review indicating the potential support this can provide in advancing ethical practice. Dianne used her presentation to remind us all of the importance of research practices providing accurate and unbiased information, as this plays a critical role in environmental decision making.

The afternoon sessions had two streams running simultaneously, with presentations on water and impact assessment. The sessions focused on water began with a presentation from Craig Redmond, the current co-president of the New Zealand Chapter. Craig, a regional environmental specialist from the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) discussed challenges related to meeting the regulations surrounding fish passage.

Next up was the chair of the New Zealand Land and Water Forum, Alastair Bisley. Alastair discussed the role of collaboration and how this has played a key role in recent recommendations made on land and water management to central government in New Zealand. Continuing on a similar theme was a discussion lead by Roger Bannister from Auckland Council. Roger expanded on the role of consultation, collaboration and cooperation and his team's role in developing a new water policy for Auckland City.

David Greg from NZTA discussed discharge controls in the recently released draft unitary plan for Auckland city. The final session on water was presented by Clare Barton from Horizon's Regional Council in the lower North Island. Clare highlighted the unique issues facing water policy and how such policies are meeting environmental concerns in the region.

The Impact Assessment streams began with Simon Hunt, Associate Business Development Oil & Gas from Golder Associates (NZ) Ltd. Simon's extensive experience working in contaminated land in the UK, Asia, Australia and now New Zealand provided him with a basis to discuss change in contaminated land management in New Zealand, through regulation, litigation and practitioner accreditation schemes. Lisa Hack, a specialist in ecotoxicology from GHD Consultants, discussed the need to 'think outside the box' to increase innovation when evaluating and quantifying impacts in environmental assessments.

Rebekah Pokura-Ward, joined by Alex Jepsen from Opus International, presented the outcomes of innovative techniques which were implemented to a major Auckland road project. High levels of collaboration and engagement allowed for the offset of environmental, ecological and cultural impacts. The session was finished by two of New Zealand's leading ecologists.



EIANZ Auckland Symposium *ctd....*

Firstly Dr Judith Roper-Lindsay discussed the development of the Ecological Impact Assessment Guidelines, which are being developed by a New Zealand team of experts in line with appropriate legislation. Finally, Dr Ian Boothroyd from Golder Associates (NZ) Ltd, focused on how freshwater environments are assessed for actual and potential impacts from developments. He considered gaps in mitigation and issues with offsets in freshwater environments.

In the closing address, we were very pleased to welcome back Auckland's Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse, who followed on from her charismatic presentation at the 2012 conference in Sydney. Penny took the opportunity to thank the Institute and environmental practitioners for their work. Penny stressed the importance of the role that environmental practitioners play in supporting good environmental policies and outcomes. Penny then outlined some of the key challenges and opportunities associated with the proposed Auckland Unitary Plan, the key piece of work that she has been involved with recently. She called on environmental practitioners to be involved where they can to drive good decision making and environmental outcomes.

EIANZ would like to thank all presenters for their efforts; the calibre of presenters was high and we have received very positive feedback about the event.

We would like to extend a special thank you to the symposium committee for their efforts in making this event a success and thank you to the sponsors, Beca, Opus International Ltd and NZTA. EIANZ intends to make this an annual event in varying locations around the country to ensure continued opportunities for members and environmental professionals to collaborate and discuss challenges faced in practice.

Karen O'Donohue MEIANZ



Don't forget.. Great cause, great night. Click on the logo below to go to the event site

renovatingmatthew



Overview: Social impact assessments (SIAs) are required to inform decision-making. SIAs should also be included in the process of developing new local and central government policies and programmes. SIAs help to ensure that any adverse impacts/effects from a development project, proposed policy or programme are identified at an early stage and minimised and that any potential benefits of projects or programmes are maximised. This three-day course is designed to teach participants the SIA process, tools and techniques, how to apply social impact assessments in decision-making, and how to assess the adequacy of SIAs to ensure they are fit for purpose and reflect good practice principles.

Who should attend: This practical course is for those in the public and private sectors who are responsible for commissioning or undertaking assessments of impacts or who are responsible for managing the development of public sector policies or programmes.

Cost: Members: \$1,650 (inc GST)
 Non Members \$1,980 (inc GST)

Interested in Social Impact Assessment Training?

Course format: This is a three-day course and is designed for up to 25 participants. This allows for plenty of class interaction and small group work. The sharing of experiences and lessons learned is encouraged.

The course will qualify for 22 CPD points. For those wishing to receive a certificate at the end of the course there will be a test to complete in your own time and submitted to the tutors for marking. To qualify for a certificate, participants will be required to gain a minimum 70% pass rate.

Contact us: This course is proudly sponsored by the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ). To register your interest in attending, contact Danielle at info@eianz.org



Tutors: Dianne Buchan and James Baines are both members of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ), the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) and the New Zealand Association for Impact Assessment (NZAIA).

Dianne is also a Certified Environmental Practitioner with Impact Assessment specialisation (CEnvPIA Specialist) and is a member of the NZ Planning Institute. James has a Diploma in Teaching. Both Dianne and James have been social impact practitioners for more than twenty years both in New Zealand and overseas.





Photo by Lawrence Mason

Member Snapshot – *Nighat Khurshid*

Quals:

Bachelor of Architecture (MUET), Grad-Dip in Environmental Management and Development (ANU), and Masters in Environmental Management and Development (ANU).

What do you do?

This year, I am doing my Masters in Environmental Management and Development at the Australian National University (ANU). The luxury as well as flexibility of being an environment student means that I have been able to take optional courses from different ANU research areas. This has helped me build my research question, which I intend to relate to disasters and mapping of vulnerable communities.

At the same time, I am also presiding over the School Students' Association at Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU. I'm currently working on a Model Global Parliament (MGP) with our association, which will convene this July.

How did you get there?

I come from a tribal area of Pakistan where female education is regarded as a new emerging concept. It was impossible to study this far without a scholarship, so the Asian Development Bank selected me as a scholar and allowed me to fulfil my dreams.

Best aspects of your work?

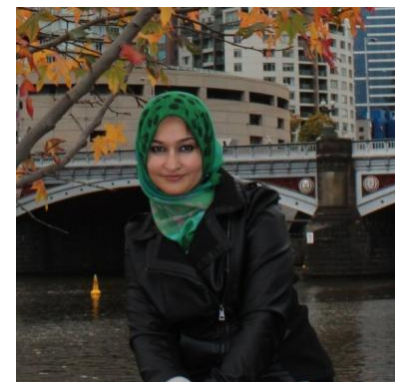
Before I came to study in Australia I had been actively involved, as an architect, in the post-reconstruction process of the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan. I'm honoured to have re-planned and redesigned seismic-resistant buildings for various purposes, including housing, in the affected regions there.

Biggest environmental concern?

Definitely human-induced seismic activity. Most disasters like earthquakes, floods *etc* in this era cannot be blamed on nature alone, as we too are now equally responsible.

How and why did you get involved with EIANZ?

In order to connect with environmental practitioners in Australia, I googled and found EIANZ. Also, New Zealand is part of EIANZ and it was my preference to be member of a multi-country institute. Through previous affiliations back home, I am well aware of the role such institutions play, not only in career building and making links, but also in achieving higher research goals.



New Members

First	Last	Division
Rob	Jessop	ACT
Moran	Diment	ACT
Benjamin	Abbas	FNQ
David	Turton	FNQ
Rebecca	Simpson	FNQ
Sarah	Cohen	FNQ
Tom	Mallet	NSW
Daniela	Bastida Rivera	NSW
Andrew	Remnant	NSW
Alexander	Gold	NSW
Cielo Bansuli	Roldan	NSW
Genevieve	Wilson	NSW
Jessica	Rossell	NSW
Lana	Assaf	NSW
Matthew	Dundon	NSW
Ariane	Weiss	NSW
Claire	Vahtra	NSW
Ross	Nicolson	NSW
Richard	Clifton-Smith	NSW
Marua	Barona	NSW
Nami	Kenar	NSW
Kevin	Morgan	NSW
Dennis	Neadar	NSW
Troy	Collie	NSW
Fiona	Riley	NSW
Zaglul	Khandkar	NSW
Jeffrey	Bretag	NSW
Lew	Short	NSW
Michelle	O'Hare	NSW
Lawrence	Rimmer	NSW
David	Tang	NSW
Fiona	Davies	NZ
Trent	Bell	NZ
David	Dangerfield	NZ
Emma	Lewis	NZ
Linda	Civil	NZ
Bryan	Jenkins	NZ
Ning	Zhang	NZ
Thomas	O'Donnell	NZ
Doaa	Serour	OVERSEAS

First	Last	Division
Hazel	Vandeleur	SA
Kara	Boughton	SA
Anthony	Hogan	SEQ
Gladys	Torres	SEQ
Melissa	Cooke	SEQ
Geoff	Smith	SEQ
Yoland	Dowling	SEQ
Lindsay	Popple	SEQ
Paloma	Montes	SEQ
Kim	Delaney	SEQ
Greta	Hayhoe	SEQ
Allison	Hutton	SEQ
Christopher	Williams	SEQ
Michael	Goodall	SEQ
Christopher	Hill	SEQ
Claire	Jordan	SEQ
Lisa	Richards	SEQ
Tracy	Wearing	SEQ
Laura	King	SEQ
Solmaz	Mokhtari	SEQ
Caitlin	Murrell	SEQ
Othman	Almabrouk	SEQ
Alexander	Blanco Infante	SEQ
Kadesh	Clarke	SEQ
Jo	Davis	SEQ
R. Scott	Hanna	SEQ
Barry	Traill	SEQ
Nicole	Manning	SEQ
Lucy	McCracken	SEQ
Tiegan	Howell	SEQ
Jacob	Cumpstay	SEQ
Anjarwati	Bapedal	SEQ
Danielle	Bolton	SEQ
Alison	Hargrave	SEQ
Helene	Metzinger	SEQ
Mardi	McNeil	SEQ
Allison	Brunott	SEQ
Matthew	Fredriksen	SEQ
Carol	Conacher	SEQ
Martha	Rees	SEQ

First	Last	Division
Margaret	Milgate	SEQ
Sally	Atkinson	SEQ
David	Carberry	SEQ
Darryl	Low-Choy	SEQ
Patrick	O'Flaherty	SEQ
Beth	Toki	SEQ
Kate	Hryczyszyn	SEQ
Kristelle	Gentil	SEQ
Nicholas	Rasmussen	SEQ
Tina	Stewart	SEQ
Juana	Lucini	SEQ
Chloe	Portanger	SEQ
Samantha	Jansen	SEQ
Steve	Skull	SEQ
John	Howlie	SEQ
Natalie	Shaw	SEQ
Megan	Price	VIC
Nathan	Xavier	VIC
Anthony	James	VIC
Adam	Kloppenburger	VIC
Sophie	Gillies	VIC
Jess	White	VIC
Seton	Lillas	VIC
Tim	Dowling	VIC
Alicia	Tepe	VIC
Hugh	Twycross	VIC
Moir	Lavery	VIC
Euan	Ronald	VIC
Jacqui	McLeod	VIC
Izoli	Oliveira	WA
Jonathan	Wherrett	WA
Matthew	Gorski	WA
Christian	Hearn	WA
Scott	Walker	WA
Sarah	Thomas	WA
Benjamin	Smith	WA
Michelle	Grady	WA
Daniel Charles	Lachenicht	WA
Carrie	Pritchard	WA



EIANZ Directory

Executive	
President	Michael Chilcott
Vice President Australia	Tiffany Thomson
Vice President NZ	Jo Buckner
Secretary	John Braid
Treasurer	Leo Fietje
Communications Editor	Bec McIntyre
Immediate Past President	Bill Haylock
Divisional Councillors	
ACT	Dugal McFarlane
FNQ	Kim Wright
NSW	Faye Woodward
NZ	Di Buchan
NT	Cathy Waldron
SA	Stewart Duncan
SEQ	Mark Williamson
TAS	Axel von Krusenstierna
VIC	Melody Valentine
WA	Toni Munro

Standing Committee Chairs	
External Relations	Patrice Brown
Policy & Practice	Richard Hoy
Journal Editorial	Prof. Helen Ross
Membership Promotion	Brendyn Williams
Professional Development	Dr David Hogg
Student & Early Careers	Memento Hudson
Certification Board	Nigel Murphy

Central Office	
Operations Manager	Anne Young
Membership Administrator	Catherine McCafferty

Special Interest Sections	
Impact Assessment	Lachlan Wilkinson
Ecology	Vacant
Climate Change	Tom Davies

Division/Chapter Presidents	
ACT	Richard Sharp
FNQ	Dr Adam Smith
NSW	Sarah Campbell
NZ	Craig Redmond
NZ	Johanna Taylor
NT	Cathy Waldron
SA	Maria Pedicini
SEQ	Jon Womersley
TAS	Kathryn Pugh
VIC	Martin Juniper
WA	Carel van der Westhuizen

Professional Indemnity Insurance for Members of the EIANZ



CAN YOU AFFORD NOT TO GET A QUOTE FROM THE PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY FACILITY?

At Marsh, we understand the Environmental Industry is unique. Marsh has developed a specific tailored Professional Indemnity Facility that recognises and understands the needs of the members of the EIANZ.

Some of the key features of this facility are:

- A tailored insurance product in respect of premiums, deductibles, endorsements and exclusions
- A streamlined application form
- An effective administration process that promptly deals with enquires, renewals and claims through a experienced team
- A facility which is able to provide cover to the majority of EIANZ Members.
- Premium Funding is available, enabling monthly instalments (conditions apply)

Our privacy statement can be obtained from our website at www.marsh.com.au

If you would like to receive a quote through the Professional Indemnity Facility or for further information call:
Rachel Grima | P: +61 3 9603 2760 | F: +61 3 9603 2753 | Rachel.Grima@marsh.com
Marsh Pty Ltd | GPO Box 1229, Melbourne Vic 3001

In your role, as an
environmental
professional, the
need for insurance
protection has
never been more
important

