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From the President

With the 2015 progressing into April and the end of daylight saving, the New Zealand Chapter of EIANZ can already look at some significant milestone events for the year. Our Annual Symposium '*Focusing on what matters: Achieving good environmental outcomes in our changing times*' was held in Wellington on Friday 27th March. By all accounts it was a very successful and well attended symposium with a diversity of speakers, including the Hon Nick Smith, Minister for the Environment. I say 'by all accounts' as I was left fog-bound at Christchurch airport all morning and missed the entire day.....deeply disappointing. However the presence of our EIANZ President Jon Womersley saved the day and was available to relay important EIANZ messages. We can look forward to some follow up initiatives resulting from the symposium; and the symposium helps set the Agenda for where the NZ Chapter of EIANZ may focus some effort into the future. So a big thanks to Di Buchan and her team in Wellington for organising such a successful symposium.

The second milestone event is one that has been long in the planning but at the same event on Friday, we were able to launch a keystone document for EIANZ: '*Ecological Impact Assessment. EIANZ Guidelines for use in New Zealand: terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems.*' The success for the guidelines belong to Judith Roper-Lindsay who amongst other things has written, cajoled, edited and finalised these guidelines. With the help of a small band of volunteers, Judith has given over much of her precious time to the preparation and completion of this document. More details of the Guidelines can be found further in the newsletter; and lookout for further articles on ecological impact assessment. We are very keen to receive feedback on the Guidelines either directly or via this newsletter. I am hopeful that we will have a 'roadshow' around the regions where we can showcase and present these guidelines to a wide audience....so look out for further notification.

Last week a small delegation from EIANZ met with members of WasteMinz to discuss the newly launched CEnvP Contaminated Land. Our discussions largely centred on the immediate process to profile the CEnvP in general. The meeting was timely as the same delegation went on to discuss CEnvP with officers from the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, and at the Ministry for the Environment. Through our Business Planning within the NZ Chapter we are looking to raise the profile and significance of CEnvP within New Zealand. It is encouraging to learn that already some industry-leading organisations are looking to include the requirement for CEnvP within their procurement process. Look out for further announcements regarding new initiatives to raise the significance of CEnvP in New Zealand: and we will be looking for volunteers amongst the current CEnvP fraternity to assist with this.

Which brings me to say, how all of the milestones achieved already in 2015, and with a great deal more to come, focus on our purpose of 'competent and ethical practice based on sound science'; the prominent message for our members and for the industry in which we all participate. The uncertainties that surround recently announced plans to amend the RMA, the current hearing of the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan, whispers of further Council amalgamations and the recent decisions of the EPA might all be cause for concern. Nevertheless, although the results of the Northland by-election might change the political landscape one thing remains: ***the need for competent and ethical practice in decision-making regarding the sustainable management of our natural resources***. On the back of our encouraging start to 2015, EIANZ, and the NZ Chapter in particular, will be championing its purpose on a greater scale than ever before over the forthcoming months and into future years. I invite you to participate in our future success.

Ian Boothroyd, March 2015

New Zealand Executive Update

As with most membership organisations, behind the scenes Of the NZ Chapter of EIANZ is a small group of people who busy themselves with the leadership and administration of the Institute. In New Zealand the Executive Committee have been active in preparing a Business Plan to take the NZ Chapter forward over the next three years or so. The Plan (or BP as we refer to it) is still incomplete; nevertheless a more comprehensive schedule of objectives and associated actions is emerging. The BP covers objectives and plans for such topics as Operations, Early Careers and Students, Communication, Membership Development. We hope to circulate this for further comment in due course.

Our Membership development officer, Bronwen Harper, has been active developing a Membership Development Strategy which is currently being implemented. Amongst the matters in train is a membership survey to seek a deeper understanding of what you, the members, would like to see EIANZ and the NZ Chapter achieve and pursue; and how you see it being of greater attraction to an increasing membership. The feedback from our membership is critical in helping the executive further the Chapter, and an increasing membership enable us to provide a greater and wider service to its membership. Please take the opportunity to reply to the survey when it lands in your Inbox.....

On more administrative matters we are working with Central Office in Melbourne to improve our membership status and renewal process; what should be a simple process seems to be dogged with issues. We are working to improve this.

To help us we see the return from maternity leave of Taryn Pearce who will be taking up the role of Secretary on the Executive Committee. Welcome back Taryn.

The new governance structure of EIANZ is now in place with Di Buchan the NZ representative on the Board of EIANZ, and Ian Boothroyd, as President of the NZ Chapter, representing the Chapter on the EIANZ Advisory Council. Ian has also initiated a regular call-in teleconference amongst the Branch co-ordinators. This has been an instructive process all around and has brought much needed insight to the Executive.

If you have any issues or matters that you wish to rise with the Executive please feel free to contact any of us (contact details further in the newsletter); or via your Branch co-ordinator.

Ecological Impact Assessment - EIANZ Guidelines for use in New Zealand: terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems

By Dr Judith Roper-Lindsay

The Guidelines were launched at the Annual Symposium in Wellington on 27 March 2015, where they received widespread support, including from the Minister for the Environment, Hon Nick Smith. They have been prepared by a group of ecologists to contribute to raising the standard of practice of ecological assessment in New Zealand, and provide a reference document for students and practitioners. They aim to improve the scientific rigour, objectivity and consistency of EclA; assist consultants and officers in local and central government working with AEEs; improve community confidence in the ability of professionals to undertake impartial assessments; guide policy around biodiversity management; and contribute to better decision-making on environmental matters. Through that they should contribute to better environmental outcomes.

The guidelines are [available free to all ecologists as a pdf here](#).

The New Zealand Chapter is seeking comment and feedback from those using the guidelines by email to: newzealand@eianz.org

In the News

So in case you missed it, here are some snippets of environmental news since the last newsletter.

Politics and Planning

[Motorway toll would go on road-widening, transport debate told](#)

[Fixing Auckland's Transport - The 10-Year Budget](#) – event video

[Super-city debate: Local government's best when local](#) - [Wellington Super City]

[Sir John Hansen is a man with a plan](#) - [Christchurch City Plan]

[Fracking banned for five years by Tasmanian Government](#)

[New ECan structure by late 2016](#)

[ECan plan amounts to a 'broken promise'](#)

[Losing Northland won't end National's RMA plans](#)

Conservation/Ecology

[Five key questions to saving sea creatures](#)

[Distraught dog owner blames himself for seal attack](#)

[Two white kiwi chicks hatch at Mt Bruce](#)

[Parakeets released into Hurunui bush](#)

[Council apologises after dozens of dead eels found in protected pond](#) – [Wellington]

[Pest-to-product solution for Otago's wilding pines](#)

Water

[How earthquakes linked to fracking are fracturing an Oklahoma community](#)

[Plan to clean up Rangitaiki River launched](#)

[Massive rare leatherback turtle rescued](#)

[Global flood toll to triple by 2030](#)

[Water refusal 'will have wide impact'](#) – [Canterbury]

[Lake's water quality top of agenda](#) – [Waikato]

[Council agrees to dam debt](#) – [Hawke's Bay]

Human Health

[Open fireplace ban unlikely in Auckland](#)

[New woodburner rules 'years away'](#) [Nelson]

Cultural Heritage

[Heritage Preservation & Auckland's Economic Benefits](#) – event video

[Brakes applied to harbourside project](#) – [Dunedin]

[Tree protesters trample on tolerance](#) – [Auckland]

[Historic Auckland building sits on spring](#)

[Plan to save Sir Edmund Hillary's Antarctic hut](#)

Consent Hearings/Developments

[Precinct's \\$550m tower plan queried](#) – [Auckland]

[Council's secret legal opinion leaked](#) – [Port of Auckland]

[Chris Castle and Linda Sanders: Phosphate mining rejection hypocritical](#)

Climate Change

[China premier unveils economic goals](#)

[Film shows China pollution crisis](#)

General

[NZ praised for environmental research](#)

[Ethics and the environment: Eco-waverers](#)

Wellington Branch Event

Here are some photos from the Wellington Branch social event - a garden lunch celebrated at Di Buchan's coastal home in Otaki on Saturday 28 February (thanks for having us Di). The event coincided with the annual Otaki Kite Festival and after lunch, some members took a stroll for a kilometre or two down the beach to admire the spectacle. We intend to continue to hold the lunch on the same day as the Kite Festival so a great day out for the family – bring the kids (and a kite) next year!



Stacy Swanson and Chris Gibbons, Co-convenors of the Students and Young Professionals Group; Di Buchan, Vice President (NZ) EIANZ and Chair of 2015 Symposium organising committee; Susan Chapman, long-time member of NZ Chapter; Keith Calder, member of 2015 Symposium organising committee; and Leonie Waayer, Coordinator of Wellington Branch.



Professional Development Opportunities

The following Professional Development Opportunities are available and as always, all EIANZ events are available on the calendar of our home page <http://www.eianz.org/>

WILD THINGS: addressing terrestrial, freshwater and marine biodiversity

11-13 August 2015, Viaduct Events Centre, Auckland



Image courtesy of photonewzealand.

Mark your diaries now! Don't miss New Zealand's leading environmental conference.

Biodiversity loss is the greatest environmental challenge that currently faces New Zealand. Despite our best endeavours, the country's wealth of endemic species is dwindling away. Under the current trajectory, kiwi will be functionally extinct on the mainland within two generations. In addition to losses on land, we are also facing threats in both the freshwater and marine realms.

Biodiversity loss is an economic challenge, with New Zealand's natural heritage forming the basis of a burgeoning tourism sector and supporting many of our export industries.

Wild Things will investigate the underlying reasons for biodiversity decline and look constructively at how we might turn it around. The conference will examine how to rebalance the conservation management system, so that it is well funded and better aligned, and can more effectively harness innovation. We will focus on the nexus of biodiversity and development, and how new or improved tools like offsetting might be applied to achieve 'no net loss' or even 'net gain'. We will also look ways to mobilise New Zealanders behind the biodiversity challenge and to overcome the implementation gap.

Wild Things will be a national conversation, amongst all sectors, about the way forward on biodiversity. It will be particularly relevant to agencies involved in biodiversity management (including central government, regional councils and local authorities); iwi/hapū exercising kaitiakitanga over biodiversity; biodiversity-relevant private sector industries (tourism, land development, agriculture, forestry and fishing); biodiversity scientists and resource management professionals; and community groups and individuals involved in biodiversity conservation on the ground.

Biodiversity loss is not inevitable. We have a choice.

Canterbury Branch Event

Canterbury Green Drinks

Come along on **Wednesday 1 April, from 5-30pm @ Bean Scene Café and Cargo Bar, Lincoln Road, Addington** (Cargo Bar is open for drinks and food prior to this, for early birds). These are casual gatherings put on by the Institute to give you a way to meet people in the industry and catch up with colleagues.

All members are welcome. Please feel free to bring friends and colleagues and pass this email around. No charge.

Our Speaker will be: **Chrissie Williams, Programme Leader - Natural Environment Recovery Programme (NERP).**

Topic – Development and implementation of the NERP and what might happen to it after April 2016 The Natural Environment Recovery Programme is an Environment Canterbury-led initiative to facilitate the restoration and enhancement of the natural environment, and capture opportunities to build future resilience. It is one of many recovery programmes under the Recovery Strategy for Greater Christchurch – Mahere Haumanutanga o Waitaha. <http://www.ecan.govt.nz/our-responsibilities/regional-leadership/Pages/nerp.aspx>

FYI, at www.ecan.govt.nz/nerp you can see the following presentations from ECan:

- Earthquake effects on the coast and estuary <https://youtu.be/ArlGgQhtJJs>
- Recovery of the Heathcote River/Ōpāwaho <http://youtu.be/VteBjWil7wo>
- Managing disaster waste: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KiJ0ryo4YN4>
- Recovery of recreation on the Port Hills and Banks Peninsula:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_T2D2KyoQ
- Why and how the Natural Environment Recovery Programme was developed:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6sfZrCp_EM

These monthly meets will continue to be on the first Wednesday of each month – easy to remember. Let us know what topics or speakers would interest you – and don't be shy to put your hand up to talk about your job / project.

The Canterbury Branch of the NZ Chapter of EIANZ hopes to see more of you at these Wednesday gatherings and at CPD events held during the coming year. If you have any questions, comments, or have a great idea for a future topic, get in touch with your local branch by [email](#).

Auckland Branch Event

Understanding and Implementing the Freshwater NPS

Presenters: **Ian Boothroyd (Boffa Miskell), Raewyn Sendles (Auckland Council)**

The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 (Freshwater NPS) sets out the objectives and policies for freshwater management under the RMA. The EIANZ Auckland Branch invites you to join Ian Boothroyd (Principal Ecologist, Boffa Miskell) and Raewyn Sendles (Natural Environment Strategy Team, Auckland Council) as they share their knowledge and perspectives about the policy and the potential implications for Auckland. Ian will outline the main objectives of the Freshwater NPS and provide a summary of the EIANZ submission on the policy. Raewyn will discuss Auckland Council's progress in terms of implementation including their Wai ora Wai Maori Tamaki Makaurau, Auckland Freshwater Programme.

The event will also provide an opportunity to share the key themes and outcomes from the 2015 EIANZ Symposium with our Auckland members.

This event is open to both members and non-members so please share among your networks. Presentations will start at 6pm with time for networking before and after. Complimentary drinks and nibbles will be provided.

When: **Wednesday, April 1 2015, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

Where: **Level 3, MWH House, 111 Carlton Core Road, Newmarket**

Please RSVP to kathryn.mcdonald@opus.co.nz

Look forward to seeing you there.

Green Ribbon Awards

The Green Ribbon Awards recognise the outstanding contributions made by individuals, organisations, businesses and communities to protecting and enhancing New Zealand's environment.

Nominations for the 2015 Green Ribbon Awards are now open. **Nominations close 12.00 noon Friday 10 April 2015.**

Go the Ministry for the Environment website to find out more -
<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/more/awards/green-ribbon-awards>

Consultation on proposed amendments to the National Environmental Standards for Telecommunications Facilities

The Ministry for the Environment and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment are seeking feedback on the proposed amendments to the National Environmental Standards for Telecommunications Facilities (NESTF).

The Government is proposing to widen the scope of the existing Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunications Facilities) Regulations 2008 (NESTF) to include a wider range of telecommunications facilities, both within and outside the road reserve, as well as updating and clarifying some of the provisions already covered.

The aim of the proposals is to ensure the (NESTF) continues to meet its objectives by bringing it up to speed with the rapid development of the telecommunications sector since 2008.

Download your copy at
<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/rma/proposed-amendments-national-environmental-standards-telecommunication-facilities>

And you can submit here <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/node/20520> by **5.00pm 17 April 2015.**



Proposed Amendments to the National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities

DISCUSSION DOCUMENT



[newzealand.govt.nz](http://www.newzealand.govt.nz)

Certified Environmental Practitioner

For those thinking of applying

The CEnvP website provides some useful application tips and advice – these are the things that will help with the processing of your application. See <http://www.cenvp.org/apply/applications.php>

One of the bits of advice is to take the requirement for continuing professional development seriously. This is probably one of the areas where the more information you can provide as part of your application the better. The CEnvP website says it is worthwhile to submit a CPD log for the past year. I'd go a step further to say submit the log, along with an outline of your proposed CPD activities for the forthcoming 12 months. If you don't submit it as part of your application, you are likely to be asked to bring it along to your interview.

Another important tip is to submit a complete application. Missing information slows down the processing of your application and in the worst case; you will be deferred to the following round of interviews.

If your workplace or local EIANZ branch would like to learn more about the application process or the Scheme, please get in touch. There are a number of CEnvPs around the country who are more than happy to come and talk to you about the benefits of Certification and the process of applying.

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

New Zealand: 03 741 3102 Email: info@cenvp.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 [Craig Redmond](mailto:Craig.Redmond). The next newsletter will be out at the end of April, so please send any submissions through by 23 April 2015.

Have your details changed?

It is important for us to keep your details up to date. If you have recently moved house or job, changed your phone number or email address please let us know by sending an email to newzealand@eianz.org to ensure that your details are up to date.

Key Institute and Chapter Information

NZ Chapter Executive Committee

NZ Chapter President: [Ian Boothroyd](#)

NZ Chapter Vice President: [Joh Taylor](#)

EIANZ Board Vice President (NZ): [Di Buchan](#)

Secretary: [Taryn Pearce](#)

Treasurer: [Chris Bailey](#)

Regional Branch Coordinators

Auckland: [Kathryn McDonald](#)

Bay of Plenty: [Sharon De Luca](#)

Wellington / Central: [Leonie Waayer](#)

Canterbury: [Pene Ferguson](#)

Committee Members:

[Stacey Swanson](#) (Students and Early Careers Portfolio)

[Steph Brown](#) (CEnvP) Coordinator

[Geoff Meadows](#)

Other Key Roles

Membership Secretary: [Eric Scott](#)

Newsletter Editor: [Craig Redmond](#)

Contact for general enquiries: newzealand@eianz.org

EIANZ Website: www.eianz.org

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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