

NZIGE News

Volume 2007, Issue 2

December 2007

Newsletter to Members December 2007

Presidents Message

Welcome to the last edition of the NZIGE News for 2007.

This year has been another busy one for Council and amongst all that we have achieved this year the highlight has to be the formation of the New Zealand Branch of the UK based Institution of Gas Engineers and Managers (IGEM).

The 2007 Spring Technical Seminar was again the key event for the NZIGE and was well attended with 54 delegates attending including 3 from overseas.

Council is always looking for new and alternative ways of providing service and adding value to our members and as extended to those at the Annual General Meeting, I welcome member's comments and views on any additional benefits you would like to receive through your NZIGE membership.

With the ever increasing demand on time both at work and at a personal level it is becoming harder for people to commit the time to the various activities of the NZIGE so to those that have made the effort and in particular the NZIGE Council I extend my sincerest appreciation to you all in making this another successful year.

Finally, on behalf of the Council I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe, enjoyable and prosperous New Year.

Geoff Evans
President

Contents

Feature articles...

- Annual General Meeting
- Spring Technical Seminar
- Survey Results
- 2008 Spring Technical Seminar
- NZIGEM
- IGEM President's visit
- Membership changes
- Workshops in 2008
- NZIGE Scholarship

Annual General Meeting

The 2007 and 83rd AGM was held in Wellington at the Brentwood Hotel and was attended by 28 members of the NZIGE.

There were no rule changes proposed and the following Officers were elected to Council;

Geoff Evans
President

Craig Muirhead
Past President

Peter Gilbert
*Representing
Corporate Members*

Geoff Brown
*Representing
Associate Members*

Dan Hynson
Vice President

Greg O'Malley
Secretary/Treasurer

Peter Roodbeen
*Representing
Corporate Members*

Ian Gallagher
*Representing
Associate Members*

Fellow Memberships were presented to the following four members in recognition of their contribution to the NZIGE;

Ian Chapman
Chris Jobson
Eric Palmer
Peter Thorley



Ian Chapman



Chris Jobson



Eric Palmer



Peter Thorley

Spring Technical seminar



The 2007 Spring Technical Seminar was held in Wellington on the 17th and 18th of September 2007 under the title "Gas a New Era". Participation was again healthy with 54 delegates in attendance.

The presentations over the day and a half ranged in topics across the entire industry from "reviving an old oil field as a gas field" down through to the chain to "Gas Boosted Solar Water Heating" and "Gasfitter Training".

Presentations from Steve Caldwell (USA), Derrick Cocker (UK) and Garth Crawford (Australia) provided an excellent opportunity to see what was happening on a wider international scale and their enthusiasm and preparedness to attend and make their presentations was very much appreciated by all.

It is pleasing to again reflect on another successful seminar and although the success is attributed to the effort of many, special thanks must be extended to the presenters with their topical presentations and to the companies that supported the seminar with displays of their products and services.

Survey Results

Thank you to those that responded to the annual survey which was sent out by email after the 2007 Technical Seminar. There were 54 respondents of which 28 attended the seminar.

Council takes the feedback seriously and values the input from members and delegates as it provides a useful tool and measure in gauging what was successful and what wasn't.

The key findings are listed below, based on a rating of 5 or better on the scale of 1-7, where 1=poor & 7=excellent;

- Technical Presentations - 93%
- Value from Exhibitor Stands - 83%
- WelTec site visit - 65%
- Seminar Dinner and Happy Hour - 79%
- Value for money - 86%
- Seminar overall - 86%

Council was particularly interested in feedback on the decision not to have a celebrity speaker again with responses showing that the feeling is almost evenly divided amongst delegates. However this feedback along with other comments made will be considered when we decide on the format and content of next years seminar.

Thank you again to those that participated in the survey as we value the feedback and guidance to ensure that we provide maximum benefit and opportunity to our members.

2008 Spring Technical seminar

The location and dates for the 2008 Spring Technical Seminar have yet to be confirmed.

Early in 2008 members who are on email should receive a survey asking them to select their preference of venues from the following cities.

Auckland
Hamilton
New Plymouth
Rotorua

If you are not on email and would like to register your preference please contact the Secretary.

NZ Institution of Gas Engineers and Managers (NZIGEM)

It is extremely pleasing and satisfying to confirm that having now reached the minimum membership of 40, Council is able to proceed with the establishment of the NZ Branch of the UK based Institution of Gas Engineers and Managers (IGEM).

Membership of NZIGEM is available to existing members of NZIGE and to existing individual members of IGEM, with the following benefits of joining.

- Electronic copy of Gas International (10 copies per year)
- Discounted IGEM Technical Publications
- Access to the members area on the IGEM website
- Access to IGEM events
- Access to the IGEM global gas industry network
- Access to & guidance on transferring to higher levels of membership within IGEM

At the time of preparing this newsletter Council was seeking advice on the governance requirements and ownership of NZIGEM prior to making any commitment to IGEM. The proposal from IGEM was that NZIGEM be a branch of IGEM and that a Service Level Agreement (SLA) be signed between IGEM and NZIGEM. However, NZIGEM does not have any legal identity or standing so it is Council's view that the SLA should be between IGEM and NZIGE.

Subject to Council satisfactorily resolving the governance and ownership issues then for those that have completed an NZIGEM application form you should receive an invoice early in 2008 for the remainder of the subscription year (1 January to 31 May 2008). In addition you will be receiving copies of the October, November & December 2008 IGEM Gas International Journal. This is an excellent publication and worth joining NZIGEM for if nothing else!

For those that have not joined but are considering it, please contact the Secretary for an application form. It has not yet been set up but we hope to have a section on the NZIGE website soon which includes information on NZIGEM along with access to the application form.

IGEM President's Visit

The President of IGEM (UK), Richard Haddon, is planning a visit in March 2008 to formalise the arrangement between NZIGE and IGEM following the decision to proceed with the establishment of NZIGEM.

In addition, Council is optimistic that we will be able to arrange an informal meeting where members could meet with the President and share our experiences and views on issues facing our respective industries.

If you have a specific interest in his visit as a host, to make a presentation at the meeting or to meet with him independently of any NZIGE activity, then please contact Geoff Evans. All ideas are welcome and we are very keen to take maximum advantage of an opportunity that does not present itself very often.

Information of his upcoming visit will be provided to members as the details of the Presidents itinerary are confirmed.

Membership Changes

Since the Annual General Meeting in September 2007 the resignations were received and accepted by Council;

- Mr William Brattle (Corporate Member)
- Mr Ken Calvert (Associate Member)
- Mr Graeme Coleman (Associate Member)

No applications for membership have been approved by Council although one has been received and due to be considered at the next Council meeting in 2008.

Workshops in 2008

To assist us with planning for 2008, Council welcomes ideas for workshops that members may have an interest in and would be interested in attending in the upcoming year.

A number of workshops were organised for 2007 but did not proceed due to lack of interest, but despite this Council remains committed to providing workshops that are of value and interest to members, viewing this as a key activity and responsibility of Council.

If you have an idea or a specific request please contact the Secretary.

NZIGE Scholarship

This year Council is again actively promoting the NZIGE Scholarship Fund and invites applications from members for sponsorship funding of up to \$2000.

Members may apply for a specific event that they have identified themselves or alternatively Council may nominate an event at a later date, but until such time as the funds have been committed for the year then applications can be submitted at any time.

In the consideration of granting Scholarship funds Council evaluates the benefits to the applicant's career and professional development, to members of the NZIGE and to the Gas Industry as a whole.

Through the provision of these funds, Council satisfies the objective of the NZIGE to improve and advance the technical training and general knowledge of our members.

If you are interested in seeking sponsorship or know of an event that the NZIGE could offer sponsorship funding to attend, then please contact the President or Secretary.

IPENZ e.nz magazine

This magazine is available to NZIGE members for \$40 + GST per annum including postage, with 6 issues of the magazine sold on calendar year basis.

If you wish to subscribe please visit <http://e.nz-magazine.co.nz/main.htm>

Email Addresses

If you received this newsletter by post, we won't have an email address for you on our database. If you have email and wish to receive newsletters by email, please advise the Secretary so we can make this change for you.

Email enables us to communicate quickly and cost effectively with our members.

Change of Details

If you have recently moved, changed employers or had any other changes to your contact details please help us help you by advising us of the changes. We will then make sure your details are updated on our records and we are then better able to provide you with information when it is sent out to our members.

We currently have a number of members that we can't contact due to incorrect details. If you know of anyone who hasn't heard from us recently, please get them to contact the Secretary with their updated details.

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