

# NZIGE News

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March 2008

## Newsletter to Members

March 2008

### Presidents Message

Welcome to the first edition of the NZIGE News for 2008.

Following on from what was a busy year in 2007 this year promises to be equally as busy if the last three months are anything to go by! I haven't spoken with anyone yet that isn't surprised at the rate at which the time has passed since New Year.

Council met for the first time in 2008 on 27 February and was gratefully hosted by Rinnai at its offices in Royal Oak, Auckland. Key on the agenda was the establishment of NZIGEM and selecting the city for the 2008 Spring Technical Seminar. However the highlight and principal reason for meeting in Auckland was to present Grant Bourke with the much deserved Horrocks Medal for his excellent presentation and paper at the 2007 Spring Technical Seminar.

The immediate focus for Council in the next few months is resolving the issues with NZIGEM and the preparation for the 2008 Spring Technical Seminar. A couple of topics have been identified for potential workshops so subject to further evaluation they may be offered to you shortly.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those members that responded to our recent survey and those that provided feedback on the previous newsletter. We value all feedback, whether good or bad, but it is always satisfying and comforting to know when we appear to be getting it right!

Geoff Evans  
**President**

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### Welcome New Members

Council is pleased to welcome two new members whose applications were recently approved by Council;

- Mr Colin Price (Corporate Member)
- Mr Andrew Finch (Corporate Member)

Since the December 2007 newsletter there have been no changes to member's classes or resignations, with the result that Membership numbers as at 3 March 2008 were as follows;

<u>Class</u>	<u>No.</u>
Life Fellow	14
Fellow	7
Member	58
Associate	35
Graduate	5
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>119</u></b>

## 2008 Spring Technical seminar

The next Spring Technical Seminar will be held in Rotorua tentatively on 22/23 or 15/16 September. We are presently looking at potential venues within the city and confirming that our dates don't clash with any other industry events, both national and international. If you should know of any potential issues with these dates please contact Geoff Evans as soon as possible with the details.

Thank you very much to those that responded to the recent survey to decide the location for the next seminar. From the results shown below it became apparent that there was no clear preference between Auckland, Rotorua or New Plymouth although it was clear that Hamilton was not highly favoured. In the end Council decided to go with Rotorua as the favourite despite having a very slim majority.

<u>City</u>	<u>Votes</u>
Rotorua	21
Auckland	20
New Plymouth	18
Hamilton	8
Total	<u>67</u>

The results may not have been that decisive but the same can't be said about some of the passionate comments some members made in their returns, with "Anywhere but Auckland" a common theme!

On a more serious note though, thank you to those members that did respond with comments and suggestions. Due to the sheer number of returns it was not possible to reply to you individually but your comments were appreciated and subsequently considered when Council met to discuss the survey results.

## Call for Presenters & Topics

Are you interested in making a presentation at the 2008 Spring Technical Seminar, know someone that might be or know of a topic that you or others might find interesting?

If you do then please contact the Secretary or President with your suggestion. Over the next few months Council will be identifying topics and possible presenters so any suggestions would be gratefully received.

Still not convinced that you should make a presentation? Don't forget that all current financial members and associates of NZIGE are eligible for the Horrocks Medal Award. This award includes not only the prestigious Horrocks Medal but a \$200 gift voucher and a 50% discount on the appropriate registration fee for the next NZIGE seminar.

## 2007 Horrocks Award

Congratulations to Grant Bourke who was awarded the Horrocks Medal for 2007 for his presentation and technical paper titled "Domestic and Commercial Gas Boosted Solar Water Heating". The award was presented to Grant at the Council meeting on 27 February 2008.

As recipient of the Horrocks Award, Grant also received a \$200 gift voucher and a 50% discount on the appropriate registration fee for the next NZIGE seminar. Grant unselfishly donated the \$200 to the "Plumbing Industry Charity Event" which supports charitable activities for kids.

The judges commented that the presentation was topical, and relevant to the audience and wider energy industry. The presentation was interesting and well done, with questions handled well and in a timely manner. The accompanying paper was well written with a good amount of relevant information, forming a worthy reference document for the industry knowledge base.

The Judging Panel and NZIGE Council acknowledge the efforts of Grant and all presenters for the high standard of presentations and the interesting topics covered at the seminar.



Grant Bourke (right) receiving the 2007 Horrocks Medal from NZIGE President Geoff Evans.

## So who was Mr Horrocks?

Four years ago Council asked the same question and after some painstaking research by then Council members Ian Chapman and Geoff Brown they reported back as follows;

*Mr Harold Horrocks was employed by the Dunedin City Council in October 1913. In 1924 he was appointed Assistant Gas Engineer. In 1936 he was promoted to Senior Gas Engineer. He announced his retirement on the 31st of October 1952 at the age of 65. The City Council records showed that Mr. Horrocks stayed with the company until a replacement was found, with him eventually retiring in February 1953.*

*Harold was elected a member of the Gas Institute of New Zealand in 1925 – the year after the Institute was found and in 1947 was elected President of the Institute at the Christchurch Conference. Harold was later made a Life Member of the Institute in 1958.*

*Harold left a sum of money to the NZ Gas Institute for the sole purpose of rewarding the best Technical Paper at the Annual Conference, with the best paper to be determined by the "Executive committee" of the Institute.*

*Mr Harold Horrocks passed away on the 27th April 1981 aged 93 and a moments silence was observed in his memory at the 1982 Spring Technical Seminar.*

## NZ Institution of Gas Engineers and Managers (NZIGEM)

As reported to members in our mail out of 7 February 2008, the implementation of NZIGEM is on hold until governance requirements and ownership of NZIGEM have been resolved and agreed with the Institution of Gas Engineers and Managers (IGEM).

IGEM have indicated that they consider "NZIGEM would be a body in its own right as a Branch of IGEM and has similar or the same purposes as NZIGE". If this were the case the process and effort required to establish NZIGEM will be much greater than Council envisaged and it is almost inevitable that the subscription fees would increase from that proposed last year when applications were invited from members. Council is aware of the necessity to keep the cost for membership of NZIGEM as low as possible and the consequential risk of not being able to

maintain the 40 members required to maintain its ongoing viability.

Until it is clear to Council what the requirements are to establish NZIGEM and that we are comfortable with the arrangements we are unable to advise when membership services might be available. At the time of preparing this newsletter IGEM are considering our latest request that they reconsider their requirements. It must be noted that from the very beginning IGEM have remained very enthusiastic and cooperative toward NZIGEM and as a result Council remains optimistic that the issues around governance and ownership can be resolved.

As a consequence of the delay, subscriptions for the 1 January - 31 May 2008 period have not sent out to those that have applied for membership. When the arrangements have been finalised we will contact all NZIGE members again with the finalised details and seek confirmation from those who previously applied for membership that they still wish to do so.

If the establishment of NZIGEM requires any changes to the Rules of NZIGE, then this will be further delayed until the AGM to be held later this year.

It is essential for the viability of NZIGEM and the credibility of NZIGE that we get the establishment of NZIGEM right so Council is conscious of not rushing the process until it is comfortable that the arrangements are robust and meet the requirements of all parties.

As events unfold Council will update members either through these newsletters or specific mail outs if it is considered necessary.

In the mean time thank you to those that have shown an interest in NZIGEM for your patience and we remain optimistic that we will find an amicable solution with IGEM.

## IGEM President's Visit

With the delay in the establishment of NZIGEM the planned visit by the IGEM President has been put on hold until it is clear that NZIGEM will be established. If NZIGEM does proceed it still appears highly likely that the IGEM President will visit at a later date to finalise the arrangement.

As we get closer to the 2008 Spring Technical Seminar the probability increases that we might be able to host the IGEM president and combine the two, but as Council has found out in past years it is very much dependant upon the availability and travel plans of the IGEM President.

## Workshops in 2008

Council have identified the following as possible areas of interest for upcoming workshops.

- Project Management
- Safety Management Systems
- Risk Management
- Hazard Identification
- Advanced Metering

If any of these are of interest to you or you have any others that you would like us to consider, please contact the Secretary.

Meanwhile Council will be researching these concepts to identify the scope for each and whether there is likely to be enough interest to make a workshop viable.

## Review of NZS5442:1999

Standards New Zealand (SNZ) has recently formed an expert committee to review NZS5442:1999 Specification for Reticulated Natural Gas.

Following an invitation to NZIGE to nominate a representative on to the review committee Peter Roodbeen of Council was nominated and accepted onto the committee.

Peter is a Member of NZIGE and was elected to Council at the 2007 AGM. He is currently employed by Vector as Engineering & Technical Services Manager and has 30 years working experience in Oil & Gas, Petrochemical, Paper, Pharmaceutical, Nuclear and Metals industries.

For those members that have an interest or are familiar with the Standard, the scope of the review is as follows;

- A review of the scope section to allow for special requirements with regards to applications and gas sources
- A review of the specification value for sulphur in Table 2

- A review of the specification value for total halogens in Table 2
- A review of ISO Standards - to ensure the most up to date are referenced within NZS 5442
- A review of the hydrocarbon dew point determination method
- Incorporation of an informative compliance checklist
- Clarification within 5.1 Demonstration of compliance of "95 % level of confidence"
- Clarification of 5.2 Frequency of testing so that the meaning of this clause is easily understood
- A consideration of any changes within the amendment which might be affected by the importation of LNG

Peter has reported that the committee, which is well represented by key industry players, has had its first meeting and that it went well. Gas contamination is a key issue with greater transparency, and assurance of gas quality is being requested of those who produce and transport gas. This is an issue for the Gas Industry as a whole however the committee is considering what the standard can do to improve certainty of gas quality. This issue was outside the original scope definition but is now being brought in for consideration. The next committee meeting is planned for 10 April.

If you wish to discuss any matter with Peter in his capacity as NZIGE Representative on this committee please feel free to contact him by email at [Peter.Roodbeen@vector.co.nz](mailto:Peter.Roodbeen@vector.co.nz)

## Dunedin Gasworks Museum

After a recent visit to the South Island, David Whitfield (Associated Member) reported on his visit to the Gasworks Museum in Dunedin. The passion and pleasure from the experience was evident from David's recount of the visit and worthy of mention here so that others who may not know of its existence might get the chance to see it.

The museum opened on 3 February 2001 and is claimed to be the only gasworks museum in the Southern Hemisphere and one of only three such museums in the world.

Council agrees with David's wishes to see this facility supported by the industry and we would encourage anyone travelling south to make the



effort and visit the museum. The museum guide purchased when visiting the museum is full of detail, pictures and diagrams of the Gasworks and its equipment. The booklet is similar in size to Albert Veart's of "Lamp Light to Natural Gas" book that was published by NZIGE in 2000 and is equally as rich in detail.

The last time NZIGE had an organised event in Dunedin was in 1997 with the Spring Technical Seminar which included a visit to the gasworks site and it might be that we look to holding a similar event there again in the future.

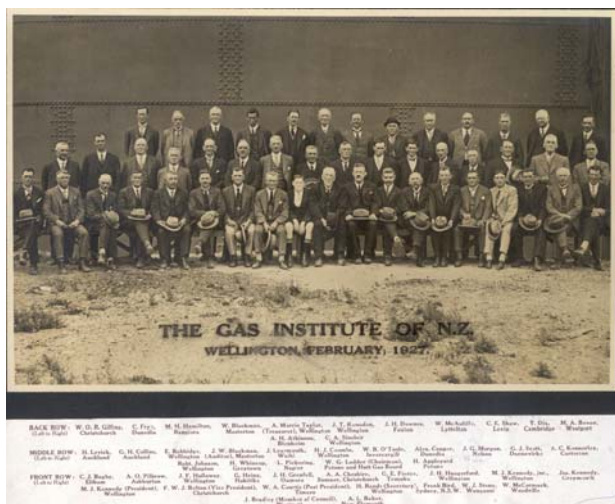
Further information can be found by searching for "Gasworks" on the Dunedin City Council website [www.cityofdunedin.com](http://www.cityofdunedin.com)

## Blast from The Past

Do you have any old photographs that might be of interest to NZIGE and its members?

NZIGE has a few historic photographs of interest which have been scanned and could be made available through a Gallery page on the NZIGE website.

If you have photos that you would like to share with our members that we could post on our website then please contact the Secretary. All photos will be returned after they have been scanned, unless you wish that NZIGE hold them with other photos kept in our records.



The Gas Institute of NZ, Wellington, February 1927

## NZIGE Website

If there is anything that you would like to access on our site or enhancements made then please contact the secretary ([www.nzige.org.nz](http://www.nzige.org.nz)).

## Email Mail-outs

If you received this newsletter by post but would like to receive it by email then please contact the Secretary and we will make the necessary changes.

## NZIGE Scholarship

Council is again offering funding of up to \$2000 to members under the NZIGE Scholarship Fund.

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 for further details.

## 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>

## Change of Details

If your contact details have changed recently but you haven't advised us of the changes then please contact the Secretary and we will make the necessary changes for you.

## NZIGE Contacts

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