

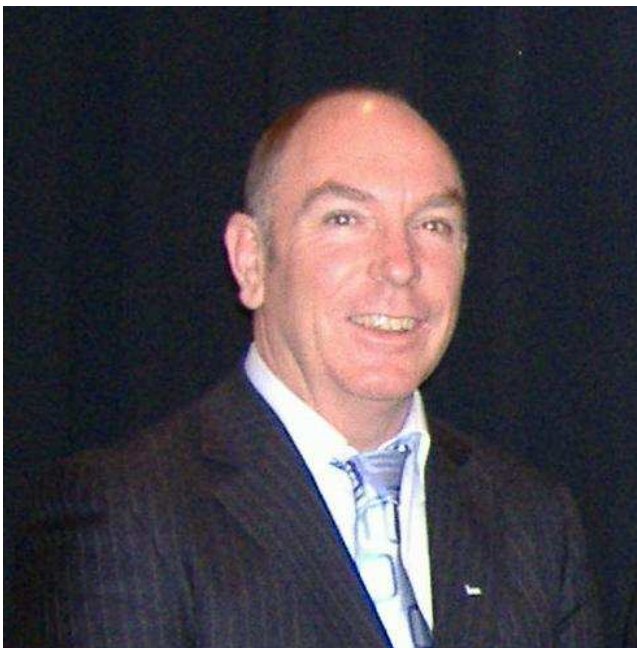
NZIGE News

Volume 2009, Issue 2

Summer - December 2009

Newsletter to Members December 2009

President's Message



Welcome to the summer newsletter, a long time coming, very much like summer itself!

In this issue I want to cover off many things to close out the year and give a hint of things to come. This is of course my first newsletter as President and you have a new Council since the Annual General Meeting held in Auckland back in September. In early November we held our first Council meeting and later in the newsletter there is a full list of your new look Council.

It has been a very busy year with many challenges in these difficult times. The biggest challenge faced by Council was the decision to cancel our annual spring technical seminar. Council agonised over this decision for some

time but in the end it was the responsible choice for the future of the NZIGE. Seminar registrations were very slow and in the end far too low to give credibility to what has for many years been an outstanding success story.

For now, I trust the forthcoming holiday season may be a time of refreshment and renewal, enjoy time with your family and friends. Charles Dickens that great Victorian novelist put it this way. *I have always thought of Christmas as a good time; a kind, forgiving, generous, pleasant time; a time when men and women seem to open their hearts freely; and so I say 'God bless Christmas'.*

Have a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Dan Hynson
President



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Membership Changes

Membership numbers as at 1 December 2009 were as follows;

<u>Class</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>May</u>
Life Fellow	12	12
Fellow	6	6
Member	52	55
Associate	32	33
Graduate	6	6
Total	114	119

Your new look Council

At the 85th Annual General Meeting held in Auckland on the 21st September the following members were elected to Council.

President - Dan Hynson

Vice President – Ian Gallagher

Secretary/Treasurer – Martyn Dudley

Immediate Past President – Geoff Evans

Council

Barry Parsons
Guenter Wabnitz
Nick Foster
Richard Buisson

On behalf of members, Council would like to thank the following Councillors that have now resigned from Council after many years of loyal and dedicated service to members.

Craig Muirhead
Geoff Brown
Peter Gilbert
Greg O'Malley

2009 Spring Technical seminar

The 2009 Spring Technical Seminar was due to be held in Auckland on 21/22 September. As we all know the seminar had to be cancelled due to the disappointingly low levels of registration.

I would like to hear your opinions about future spring technical seminars and what you expect from such an event. Anything; timing, cost, frequency, location, format etc. It is you the members that are this institution so I am

interested in hearing from you; I value your feedback and look forward to hearing from you.

If you are interested in presenting papers or have an idea or concept that you consider would be of interest please contact Dan Hynson. Similarly if you know of a suitable activity or site visit that you would like Council to consider for future seminars, please let us know.

NZIGE a 'Turning Point'

Following the AGM a short exercise was held to see what members thought of when they described the NZIGE and how they would like to describe the NZIGE into the future. The reason for undertaking such an exercise was to give Council something to reflect on from Members when considering the future direction of the Institution as we move forward into 2010 and beyond.

Council at its first meeting in November reviewed the feedback as it held a workshop to try and set some goals for moving forward and ensuring a viable future for the Institution.

In summary the following top seven gives an insight into what that exercise revealed. Those Members present described the Institution as;

NZIGE - <i>now</i>	NZIGE - <i>future</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active • Conservative • Experienced • New Zealand • Business-like • Traditional • Professional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active • Business-like • Inspirational • Innovative • Stimulating • Successful • Professional

The preliminary result implies we are doing some things right, but some change is also being sought-after. This further reflects what was debated at the meeting and the mandate given to Council to prepare the Institution for the future by bringing about the necessary changes.

Looking to 2010

Council is considering holding a number of focus group sessions in key locations around the country in early 2010 to gain further insight into what members want from their Institution.

Communications with and amongst members is vitally important and a key benefit of membership. To this end Council will undertake to communicate more regularly and frequently. In 2010 you can look forward to quarterly newsletters and the introduction of monthly (Feb-Nov) e-bulletins.

We hope to revamp the website also, but more on this next year.

NZ Institution of Gas Engineers and Managers (NZIGEM)

As previously reported it is pleasing that it is all go with NZIGEM after many years of effort. By now if you had signed up for NZIGEM you should be receiving an electronic copy of the IGEM feature publication Gas International and the more frequent e-newsletter, IGEM Flame.

Membership fees for NZIGEM remain at \$62 incl GST and were included in the NZIGE subscription invoice sent out in early June. The NZIGEM Subscription Year is aligned with NZIGE (1 June 2009 to 31 May 2010)

If you are interested in applying for membership of NZIGEM please contact Martyn Dudley for an application form. The form will shortly be available at the NZIGE website and the option to join will be included in the application form for new members of NZIGE.

2009/10 Annual Subscriptions

Subscription invoices were sent to members in the first week of June for the subscription year commencing 1 June 2009, with a due date for payment of 1 August 2009.

If you did not receive an invoice or have any comments or concerns then please contact the Martyn Dudley, noting that Life Fellows and Honorary Fellows are exempt from paying the NZIGE subscription but will be invoiced for the NZIGEM subscription if applicable.

There are still some outstanding payments and it would be very much appreciated by Council if applicable, you would process payment immediately or let us know as soon as possible if you wish to query the account. Each year a small number of members fail to pay by the due date (in many instances the same people) and Council can spend an inordinate amount of time

chasing up what typically amounts to very little money.

Lamp Light to Natural Gas

In the last newsletter the following comments were made with regard to this publication.

"Council is considering not printing the book again but making it available in electronic PDF format. As the setting up cost is likely to be minimal we are keen to make the book freely available to members and others on request.

Council believes that in the spirit the book was conceived and published, making it more widely available to members and anyone else wishing to read it, would be completely respectful and appropriate for a person who throughout his life contributed so much to the NZIGE and the NZ Gas Industry.

For those reading this that haven't heard of Albert Veart's book, it is a very informative and detailed book researched and written by Albert and published by NZIGE after his death in 1999. It is a great collection of valuable information about the history of the industry from the very early coal gas days through to the modern deregulated industry."

Council has received no feedback and continues to investigate the feasibility of a second edition. Just recently we have received a number of requests for information on the New Zealand gas industry and Albert's book appears to fulfil a need.

If you wish to send any comments on this matter please contact Dan Hynson.



You have to laugh

From the Herald Sun, November 27, 2009
A PORTLY pig with flatulence triggered a minor emergency near Bendigo this week when smells wafting from the 120kg porker sparked fears of a potentially dangerous gas leak.



Two Country Fire Authority tankers and 15 fire fighters turned out in darkness to search the source of the leak at a property at Axedale, east of Bendigo. But the likely culprit was soon sniffed out, the pet sow startled from slumber in the dead of night.

"She got very excited when two trucks and 15 fire fighters turned up and she squealed and farted and squealed and farted," said fire chief Peter Harkins.

"I haven't heard too many pigs fart but I would describe it as very full-on."

Mr Harkins said the family had done the right thing by calling 000 to report a suspected gas leak: "It's all bottled gas up here and a leaking cylinder could pose a major fire risk.

"It was because we took it so seriously that 15 volunteers still managed to attend the call out at 10:30 on Tuesday night."

Mr Hawkins said the day had been both wet and warm, as well as slightly humid.

"Smells are always exacerbated in those conditions. We got to the property and we could smell a very strong odour in the vicinity.

"It didn't take us too long to work it out because we could both smell and hear her."

The pig, a family pet, was lying low yesterday, her embarrassed owners refusing media requests for a photograph of their porker. She is believed to be a friendly and docile animal, a much loved children's pet, possibly in need of a change in diet.

It was the pig's owners who reported a possible gas leak and CFA volunteers turned out in force

because of fears any potential leak could spark fires in forests behind the property.

Mr Hawkins played down claims by some locals the smell could have been sulphur from a nearby gold mine, one of few still working in Victoria.

"There were 15 of us there and the little kid in all of us came out because we all got the giggles, as you do when you are talking farts. We were in no doubt the source of the smell."

Workshops

There are no specific workshops planned at present although a number have been identified as possibilities. One under consideration is one covering the recently published AS/NZS 4645 Gas Distribution Networks Standards. So if you have an idea or a specific topic that you consider would be of interest to members please contact Dan Hynson.

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 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. Please contact Martyn Dudley.

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