



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

Newsletter of the Newcastle
Division of Engineers Australia

February 2011

→ 2011 year of humanitarian engineering

ENGINEERING NEWCASTLE

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS: NEWCASTLE DIVISION REGIONAL CONVENTION

Abstracts for the Newcastle Division Regional Convention - **"Sustaining Our Regions: The Engineering Challenge"** are **due by 28th February 2011**.

Conference streams include agriculture, mining, food and fibre, communications and building, and regional transport. **Dates: 16th - 18th September - Armidale.**

For more information visit www.engineersaustralia.org.au/newcastle/events or call 02 4926 4440.

Presidents Column

Welcome to 2011, I trust we all had a happy and safe Christmas/New Year break.

On behalf of the Newcastle Division I wish to express our well wishes and support for all those that have been or currently being affected by the recent and continuing unprecedented natural disasters that have been felt across the nation. These events have given us the stark reminder that our efforts in humanitarian engineering are not only in works carried out in developing countries as we have families and complete communities left with nothing after these tragic events. Our profession now has the responsibility to not only facilitate and contribute to the rebuild but look at ways in which the devastation caused by natural disasters can be reduced on our communities.

This year is shaping up to be a big

year with all our branches and groups already well into planning for this years activities and events. With this year being the year of Humanitarian Engineering you will see this theme weaved into our activities and events for the year. We will be encouraging all our members to get engaged and involved in this "year of" with a campaign that has a focus on the following three areas: ACTIVATE, EDUCATE and CELEBRATE.

Work is also already well underway for our regional convention to be held in Armidale in September of this year. December 2010 was a busy time for us all with the led up to Christmas and New Year; it was also the time in which we successfully held our Branch and Division AGM's. I had a wonderful night at our Division AGM which was followed by a very insightful presentation by Mr Alun Davies on the National Broadband

Network. We had a great turn out by our members and it was exceptionally pleasing to see some of our regional members make the journey to join us.

Please join with me in congratulating Dr Ron Banerjee who has been elected as our Vice President for 2011 and chair of the Engineering Practice committee. Our Engineering Practice committee is made up of all our Branches and Group chairs and serves to support our delivery of CPD and services for the Division.

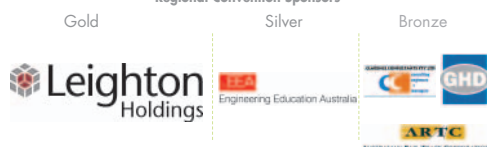
Remember to keep yourself updated with what events are on through our website and "what's on" newsletter.

Paul Reynolds, MIEAust,
Division President 2011



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PRESIDENT: Paul Reynolds • DIRECTOR: Helen Link

Regional Convention Sponsors



CELM CEO
Speaker Sponsor
2011
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Girls get practical insight into 'engineering world'

Twenty-four girls from ten high schools around northern NSW have had an experience that, in the words of one of the girls, "opened up the engineering world" to them.

"The University of New England's inaugural Women in Engineering Weekend went exceptionally well," said Dr Janelle Wilkes, a lecturer in environmental engineering at UNE who was one of the organisers of the event. "It was wonderful to see the girls engaged in surveying, building bridges, designing highway bypasses, making cars with safety equipment, and designing better pathways for people with mobility difficulties - and to see so many parents come along to the bridge testing and judging, and the information session on careers in engineering."

The girls - all of them in Years 9-11 - travelled to UNE from Armidale, Coffs Harbour, Gloucester, Grafton, Kempsey, Port Macquarie, Tamworth and Taree for the weekend (Friday 19 - Sunday 21 November) and stayed at UNE's Mary White College.

UNE - in collaboration with the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA), Institute of Public Works Engineering

Australia (IPWEA), the Women in Engineering group within Engineers Australia, and local professional organisations and employers - is working to attract more women students into engineering. UNE is aiming to boost the percentage of women in its Bachelor of Engineering Technology degree program from the current 8 per cent to 20-25 per cent by 2013. The Women in Engineering Weekend was designed to demonstrate to the participants the value and attractiveness of engineering as a career choice for girls.

"I think the weekend was a great idea - and it opened up the engineering world to me," said Emma Miller from Coffs Harbour High School. Emma was one of three students whose work over the weekend won them prizes of a week's work experience with the RTA: the others were Holly Tunningley from Melville High School in Kempsey and Erica Thornton from Taree High School. Lara Gillan from St Paul's High School, Port Macquarie, won a week's work experience with Armidale Dumaresq Council. Book prizes went to Alice Jarratt (O'Connor Catholic

College, Armidale), Alex Wilson

(Gloucester High School), Isabelle Avent (Taree High School), and Alexandra Jones (Taree High School). "We had support from the RTA - including financial support and personnel who ran many of the activities over the weekend - and support from the IPWEA, Engineers Australia, Armidale Dumaresq Council (ADC), and the local councils in the areas the girls came from," Dr Wilkes said.

"For a number of the girls the highlight was a tour (led by David Steller, Director of Engineering and Works for ADC) of the Armidale Wastewater Treatment Facility, showing how sewage is treated and used sustainably on land by growing crops," she said.

THE PHOTOGRAPH displayed here, taken during the Women in Engineering Weekend, shows bridge builders Holly Tunningley (left) and Jodie Bazley from Melville High School in Kempsey.



Young Engineers Presentation at CEO Breakfast

CELM would like to thank Steve Lillis of EnergyAustralia for his presentation on leadership as a young Engineer at EnergyAustralia. The information was insightful and demonstrated the

structured approach by EnergyAustralia to leadership as being an integral part of engineering positions. Steve highlighted the skills and attributes that he found most

effective and critical to his successes in leadership as a professional engineer.

Chris Scanlon
CELM Chair - Newcastle Division.

Obituary Notice – Leon (Jim) James Bonnefin 1926-2010

It is with regret we advise the passing of Jim Bonnefin. Jim was President of the Newcastle Division from 1988-89. His contribution to Engineers Australia and the Roads & Traffic Authority, will be remembered. His involvement with our organization was greatly appreciated.

Women in Engineering celebrates

On the 26th November Women in Engineering celebrated the end of a successful year at the Arts Emporium. We enjoyed an artistic, memorable and totally absorbing evening. It was two hours of creative fun with a glass of wine in one hand and a paint brush in the other. We created a painting and a very sophisticated Christmas decoration to take home. There were many proud achievements from all to

take home and show off.

We are currently in planning for the events of 2011 and still looking for keen participants to be part of our Committee. Our first Committee meeting for the year will be held at 5pm on Tuesday, February 22nd at Division Offices, Parry Street.

Thanks again to our sponsors for the year, EnergyAustralia and Parsons Brinckerhoff.



YEN Update – Annual General Meeting

Hello and welcome to the first YEN update for 2011! Being that it is the start of the year, the Young Engineers Committee has not held any events yet, but I'll give a quick report on the YEN Annual General Meeting that was held last November.

For a change in pace, YEN held it's 2010 AGM in conjunction with a networking event at the Superstrike tenpin bowling alley in downtown Mayfield. It turned out to be a really successful evening, with the attendees

heading onto the lanes after the meeting for a few competitive and fun rounds of tenpin bowling. Thanks to all those who came along – we hope to make our next AGM just as enjoyable.

As usual YEN has a full schedule of events coming up for 2011, including some new event ideas that were put forward by our members. We look forward to seeing you out there!

Don't forget you can also find us on Facebook, which we use to announce future events and post photos from

previous events. Just search for "Young Engineers Newcastle" on Facebook.com.

Nicholas Bates
Chair, Young Engineers
Newcastle



Ian Henderson Award - 7th December 2010

Congratulations to James Ross as the winner of the 2010 Ian Henderson Award.

The Ian Henderson Award is a presentation competition for Young Engineers. The Award is based on the merit of the presentation of a paper on a subject related to engineering. This may be a social comment, technical, historical or a biographical paper. It could be based on a project, a technical visit or industrial study case.

This award perpetuates the memory of Mr IFG Henderson who was closely

associated with Newcastle Division for many years. He served as Chairman in 1966 and was a Councillor of Engineers Australia in 1974. Mr Henderson was employed by BHP Company Ltd for over 45 years and was particularly interested in graduate & student activities.

There were four presentations included in this year's competition, all of which were extremely well put together and covered a broad range of topics. We would like to congratulate Craig Ross, Renny Chivunga & Daniel Rowe on the quality of their presentations.



Photo: l to r: James Ryan and Marjorie Sumner

Thank you to this year's judges Mrs Marjorie Sumner, Mr Nicholas Bates & Mr Darren Bishop and congratulations again to James on receiving the Ian Henderson Award for 2010.

CEO Speaker Series - Mr Mark Davidson of Tamburlaine Wines

The CELM CEO Speaker series were extremely fortunate to have the pleasure of Mr Mark Davidson of Tamburlaine present late last year on leadership in his roles as Managing Director and Chief winemaker.

Tamburlaine is Australia's largest producer of organic wines. The winery was established in 1966 in the renowned Pokolbin district of the Hunter Valley.

Mark detailed the challenges and opportunities that he has faced over his career in the wine industry and the challenges for wine making in Australia and in China. The

comparison of the cultural and technological aspects of these two countries wine industries was quite interesting and a great example of the leadership skills required to succeed. In particular the challenges in China in relation to safety were quite alarming by Australian standards. The techniques and challenges to implement Australian standards of safety in China were a great example of strong leadership and innovation in problem solving with diverse cultural and linguistic differences. CELM extend our thanks to Mark and the Tamburlaine team for the presentation and willingness to share the knowledge, challenges and triumphs to



L TO R Chris Scanlon, Mark Davidson, Steve Lilliss'

Engineers Australia.

CELM would also like to thank AECOM for sponsoring the morning and for their continued support of the CELM CEO Speaker series.

(For those wondering and for the record, no wine was consumed at breakfast)

2011 NEW YEAR OF CELM

Happy New Year to all and hope that you had a safe and restful festive season.

The year has certainly started in earnest for Engineering Leadership for our Queensland counterparts. Our thoughts are with those people affected by the recent floods and the families/friends who have had the tragic loss of loved ones.

Balancing their personal and communities' needs, we acknowledge the mammoth tasks that the dedicated engineering teams will have to face and lead during the recovery and the

brilliant works completed to date through the peak of the storms and the subsequent disaster. We wish them all the best for their success.

2011 is the Year of Humanitarian Engineering – "a year in which we will recognise the role of engineering in improving quality of life and disaster recovery." It is extraordinary that we have such a natural disaster that will test such a large number of engineers.

On a more local front, the forward program for the year is currently being developed but I can confirm that it will

include our CEO speaker series, EngExec briefing sessions, support of the Engineers Australia's Humanitarian Engineering initiatives as well as a number of other activities.

The CELM Committee look forward to seeing you throughout the year and your continued support and would like to thank AECOM for their continuing partnership in 2011.

Chris Scanlon
CELM Chair - Newcastle Division.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Women in Engineering			
22nd February,	5.00pm	Committee Meeting – Anyone interested is welcome to attend	Engineers Australia 122 Parry St, Newcastle West
Division			
16th- 18th September 2011		Regional Convention 2011 Armidale, NSW 'Sustaining Our Regions: The Engineering Challenge'	