



~ CONGRATULATIONS ~

2008 Tasmanian Young Professional
Engineer of the Year

AARON BRIMFIELD, MIEAust CPEng

Highly Commended – ERIN DRISCOLL, MIEAust



2007 National Young Professional Engineer of the Year, Patrick Hill (centre), with 2008 Tasmanian Young Professional Engineer of the Year, Aaron Brimfield (right) with Highly Commended, Erin Driscoll (left)

The Young Professional Engineer of the Year Awards apply to practising engineers under the age of 35. They seek to acknowledge and reward young professional engineers and young engineering technologists and officers who have shown outstanding leadership, significant achievements in community affairs, and excellent communication skills.

Winner Aaron Brimfield said “An engineer is something I have always wanted to be. It always provides a challenge and in my area of practise usually leaves a grey monument to the efforts behind it. The engineering part of what I do is all about creating something that is

more efficient, uses less materials, less labour, is faster, is better looking or a combination of these. I put a lot of effort into trying to achieve the best of all these things and this effort has got me to where I am in my career. I see this Award as recognition of those efforts and it is a great honour.”

As part of his Award, Aaron will receive mentoring from a professional coach, for both personal and professional development, as well as to prepare him for the National Awards in November 2008. As an ambassador for Engineers Australia, Aaron will also be supported to speak with school groups around the State.

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Aaron has a Civil Engineering degree from the University of Tasmania and is currently working towards his Master of Business Administration and Diploma of Project Management. Aaron is a Past Chair of the North West Group of Engineers Australia and has initiated several new activities in schools, as well as mentoring young engineers on work experience. He is also an Assistant Venturer leader in the scout group and enjoys outdoor activities.

A Highly Commended Award went to Erin Driscoll of Hobart, who is a civil engineer with global consulting firm GHD, where she is the youngest Service Group Manager.

The Awards were presented by Patrick Hill, the 2007 National Young Professional Engineer of the Year. Patrick is based in Victoria and currently manages Sinclair Knight Merz’s Water and Environment group in South East Australia

Jess Andrewartha, GradIEAust
Chair
Young Engineers Tasmania

Congratulations

It is heartening to see my article being relegated to page 2 by the presentation of the 2008 Tasmanian Young Professional Engineer of the Year award to Aaron Brimfield. Erin Driscoll was a very worthy recipient of a Highly Commended Award. My congratulations go to both Aaron and Erin. I was lucky enough to be on the selection panel along with Jessica Andrewartha, James Porter, and Professor Chris Letchford.

The engineering achievements and people skills demonstrated by Aaron and Erin were quite outstanding for such short periods of experience since graduation. Their commitment to engineering and levels of responsibility and accountability embraced will see the engineering profession well served into the future.

I believe that Aaron will be a very worthy Tasmanian representative at the November 2008 National Awards and our best wishes and hopes go with Aaron.

I was pleased to see so many at the Young Engineers, Associates, and Technicians combined Women In Engineering Generation & Gender Exchange, Gen²X, gala dinner at which Patrick Hill, the 2007 National Young Engineer of the Year, presented the awards and treated us all to a modern look at virtual teams and how people of all ages and backgrounds can collaborate from separate geographical locations and demonstrated how to ease communication and travel whilst pooling the best talent of our organisations into one cohesive project team.

I also extend my thanks to the sponsors Hatch who travelled from Queensland to attend, GHD, American Express, Coffey Geotechnics, and Connell Wagner.



Mike Green, FIEAust CPEng Eng Exec

Alan Burn Memorial Lecture

This year's Alan Burn Memorial Lecture will be presented by Air Vice Marshal David Dunlop CSC in both Launceston and Hobart on 15 & 16 October.

David flew Mirage fighters in Malaysia before converting to F-111 in 1975. His association with this weapon system spanned 27 years, not only as a pilot but also as a weapons specialist, operational analyst and as a squadron wing and group commander. He has been deeply involved in the ongoing updates and maintenance of this aircraft over its service life and was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross for his role in the introduction of the F-111G into the RAAF service in 1995

Please refer to full details on the two Lectures in the advertisement on page 5 of this newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Royal Hobart Hospital Redevelopment

Engineers Australia has had a opportunity to review the preliminary site plans for the development of the new hospital on the rail yards site. The proposal respects the heritage significance of the Royal Engineers Building with the land near the building becoming grassed areas covering car parks with lines of trees on the axis from the Cenotaph the building and another line of trees from the Cenotaph to the extended Davey Street.

Our comments on the proposal included the need to preserve safe access and the amenities of the building, the need to maintain a working port and the option of light rail to the City of Hobart. We also suggested that consideration should be given to the way the Austin and Alfred Hospitals have been redeveloped and the development of the Royal Children's Hospital on a greenfield site.

If you wish to review information on the project, please refer to www.newroyal.tas.gov.au

Building Act Update

As you may be aware a revised Scheme for accreditation of building practitioners under the Building Act was adopted by Government in late July.

Although Engineers Australia provided some suggestions and comments, the final Scheme which we did not have an opportunity to review is inconsistent, unworkable in parts and contains an area of major concern. That is, it will allow a person with an AQF 6 qualification (Advanced Diploma) with five years of untested experience to be accredited in the category Civil Designer. The scope for this category allows them to undertake "deemed to satisfy" civil and structural engineering designs for buildings of all classes and of unrestricted size.

We are also concerned that some engineering organisations are still paying higher accreditation fees now that the government has taken over the accreditation part of the Act even though they announced reductions to annual fees and questioned whether recent changes to insurance requirements will provide the public with same protection as expected at the time the Act was introduced.

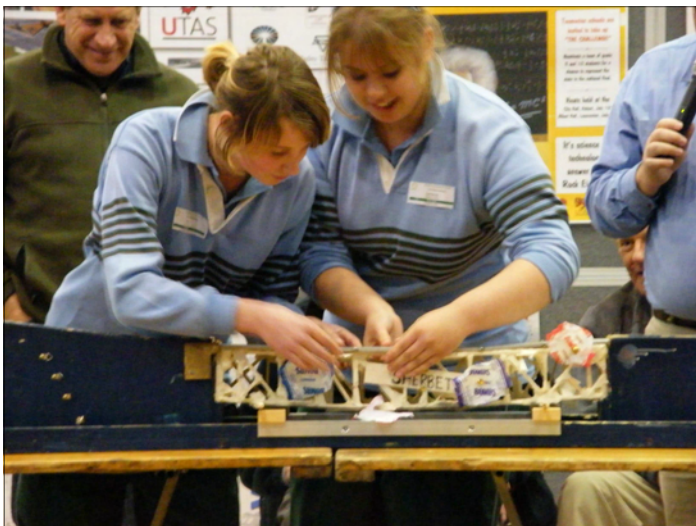
Engineers Australia provided a submission and appeared before the Legislative Council Select Committee in August 2008.

Science & Engineering Super Challenge

Tuesday 12 August saw the final of the Tasmanian 2008 Science and Engineering Challenge that was held in Launceston. Eight schools participated each with approximately five teams of up to five students per team competing across eight different tasks. The tasks were:

Engineering Game in which students were required to design and build a doll's chair for maximum strength at minimum cost. The task demonstrated that solving everyday problems invariably means making compromises.

Gold Fever a bridge building activity to build the lightest structure to hold a dynamic load. The construction required thinking about forces and dynamic loading that added another dimension to an already complex problem.



St Mary's College students preparing their bridge for "Gold Fever"

World Sailing Spectacular to design and build and test a water craft driven by a wind generator. The task examined relationships between forces and sails, keels, and ballast.

Back to the Future involving experimentation with fans or propellers designed by the students to drive a vehicle along rails.

ElectraCity to design and operate a reliable, low cost electricity distribution system that is robust against asset failures.

Heli Rescue to build a helicopter capable of performing a number of rescue related tasks.

Job Jungle presented students with scheduling challenges similar to those faced by project engineers. Sequencing problems are increased and the activity score is related to time taken.

Hover Frenzy to design and build a hover craft and tested for manoeuvrability, time trial, and ability to negotiate obstacles

St Virgil's College students testing their hover craft in "Hover Frenzy"



The schools participating were winners from regional competitions and were St Marys College, Burnie High, St Virgils, Lillydale High, Riverside High, Launceston Christian, Tarooma High, and New Town High.

Congratulations to Launceston Christian school who won the event closely followed by New Town High and even closer third Tarooma High.

Events such as the Young Professional Engineer of the Year Award, the Science and Engineering Challenge in combination with activities such as the Engineering Initiative are beginning to sell maths and science as a worthy pursuit and attract students to engineering. The challenge will be to maintain the momentum and to increase business involvement in attracting engineering students and provide support and recognition to staff involved in Engineers Australia activities.

FINAL SCORES		
1	Launceston Christian	1,793.95
2	New Town	1,719.92
3	Tarooma	1,701.81
4	Riverside	1,679.16
5	Lillydale	1,672.47
6	St Virgil's	1,620.06
7	Burnie	1,342.47
8	St Mary's College	1,270.66



SCIENCE & ENGINEERING SUPER CHALLENGE

A special thank you to our major
sponsors, the Minister for
Education, David Bartlett
and the
University of Tasmania



1st Place Winners, Launceston Christian School being presented their trophy by Peter Gutwein MHA, Liberal Member for Bass



2nd Place Winners, New Town High being presented with their trophy by Peter Gutwein

Peter Gutwein, MHA, Liberal member for Bass, in presenting the awards noted:

“When I was asked to speak to you today I was very pleased as it is my view that over the last few decades especially science and the engineering professions have struggled to receive the recognition that they very richly deserve.

With engineers and the work that they do impacting so much on each of our daily lives you would think that we would have an oversupply of young people clamouring for positions in this vital area that is so important to the future of this country.

However that is not the case and that is why competitions like this are so important and that there is a great opportunity available to all of you here today to pursue a career in the future as either an engineer or in some other similar science based discipline.

So well done and importantly congratulations for taking part in what is a wonderful show case of our young science and engineering talent.”



3rd Place Winners, Taroona High being presented their trophy by Peter Gutwein



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA
Tasmania Division

The President,
Mike Green FIEAust CPEng

invites you to attend the



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA
Tasmania Division

2008 ALAN BURN MEMORIAL LECTURE



**Air Vice Marshal
DAVID DUNLOP CSC**



“F-111 - AN ONGOING ENGINEERING CHALLENGE”

The F-111 was bought off the drawing board by the Menzies government in the early 1960s. Following a troubled introduction, it entered RAAF service in 1973 and has been Australia’s front line strike and reconnaissance weapons system for over 35 years. It is currently planned to be withdrawn in 2010. During its service life, the aircraft has undergone a number of major systems upgrades as well as numerous equipment modifications.

In his presentation, David will discuss the development of this remarkable aircraft, its unique systems, the significant upgrading of the weapons, navigation, electronic warfare and flight control systems as well as the many and varied maintenance challenges it has given the RAAF engineers. David’s presentation will be supported by spectacular photos and tall tales from his long career on this aircraft.

LAUNCESTON

DATE: Wednesday, 15 October 2008

TIME: 5.30 for 6.00pm
Finger Food provided

PLACE: The Hotel Grand Chancellor
29 Cameron Street, Launceston

RSVP: Catherine 6234 2228
creading@engineersaustralia.org.au

HOBART

Thursday, 16 October 2008

6.00 for 6.15pm
7.30pm Lecture
\$25.00 - 2 Course meal with drinks
Followed by tea & coffee

Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania
Marievilla Esplanade, Sandy Bay

Catherine 6234 2228
creading@engineersaustralia.org.au

UPGRADING MEMBERS



PATRICK FLANAGAN,
MIEAust

After completing a four year degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of Cape Town from 1983 to 1987, Patrick started working as a graduate engineer for the City Council of Cape Town. From 1988 to 1991 Patrick spent his time working in various sections of the Electricity Department's distribution section where he was involved in the design, installation and maintenance of the City of Cape Town's 11 kV distribution network.

During 1991 he transferred to the Cape Town City Engineer's Department. Here he was involved in the design, specification and project administration for the construction and upgrade of various potable and waste water treatment plants and pumping stations.

During 1997 he took up the position of electrical engineer for Saldanha Steel (Pty) Ltd at their 1.2 million ton per annum steel mill being constructed on the South African West Coast. The mill consists of a Corex plant, DRI plant, electric arc furnaces, thin slab caster and a hot strip mill.

Initially he led a team of Technicians assisting Siemens in the commissioning of the thin slab caster and the water treatment plant.

During 1999 he was appointed as the Electrical Engineer of the WTP responsible for the maintenance and optimisation of the plant.

During 2002 he was appointed as Senior Electrical Engineer of the hot strip rolling mill where he led a team of 14 technicians responsible for the maintenance, optimisation and upgrading of the hot strip mill.

In 2008 Patrick took up the position of Specialist electrical Engineer at Hydro Tasmania.



EZEKIEL MADZIKANDA,
MIEAust

I completed a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of Zimbabwe in 1990 and joined Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA) as a Graduate Engineer in 1991.

On completion of my post graduate training I joined Operations and Maintenance section within ZESA as an electrical engineer I did maintenance of distribution transformers, voltage regulators, and switchgear and distribution lines. The distribution and sub-transmission voltage in Zimbabwe is 11kV to 132 kV. I also designed a number of distribution substations. These were mostly 33/11kV and 132/33 kV substations for network reinforcement or substations upgrade.

I moved to metering section in 1996 as a senior metering engineer. I received training on metering from metering vendors such as Landis & Gyr in Switzerland and Schlumberger in France. The training was on metering management, software programming and automatic remote metering. I replaced all electromechanical meters with programmable electronic meters for all Key Customers. I installed four automatic test benches for testing single and three-phase meters. These metering test systems ensured that most meters being installed met metering standards. The test system created test reports for each meter in service and meter traceability. I also installed instrument test system for testing voltage and current transformers. These instrument test systems were purchased from

Schlumberger, France and EDI in England and The instrument transformer was purchased from Eltel in Canada.

In 2000 I moved from Metering to Protection & Control section as Senior Protection Engineer. Most of the utility's protective relays were electromechanical. My task was to replace or upgrade all major transmission lines and substation protection relays with modern electronic or numeric relays. At the time, the transmission network was comprised of 20 x 330kV and 2 x 420kV substations and over 6000km of EHV transmission lines.

During the 1999 to 2001 period, I embarked on a Business Administration (MBA) program with Nottingham Trent University, UK. I graduated with a Certificate in Management, Diploma in Business Administration and Master of Business Administration degree.

In 2004 I moved to South Africa and joined Eskom as Protection Engineer. Eskom is South Africa's sole power utility. I enrolled for Master of Science in Engineering with University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa in 2006 and graduated with a MSc in Power Engineering in 2007. My dissertation was on how the blocking time of Transformer differential protection could be reduced during inrush conditions.

In joined Hydro Tasmania Consulting (HTC) as a Senior Electrical Engineer in Protection & Control beginning of the year (2008). My main role is to design High Voltage Transmission Protection schemes and produce protection settings.

I am currently doing part time PhD by research with University of Tasmania. My research topic is **"Investigation into how transformer differential protection could be improved by analysis of negative sequence currents and how current transformer saturation could influence the viability of negative sequence detection techniques."**

CONGRATULATIONS/ WELCOME

Members joining, rejoining
or upgrading

MEMBERS

Sreeraj Balachandran,
MIEAust
Patrick Flanagan, MIEAust
Ezekiel Madzikanda,
MIEAust
Clifford Manley, OMIEAust

GRADUATES

Soon Guok, GradIEAust
Chii Khor, GradTIEAust
Nirav Patel, GradIEAust
Sam Perkins, GradIEAust
Glen Popowski, GradIEAust
Dale Potter, GradIEAust
Tanzila Shahreen,
GradIEAust
Dwayne Smith, GradIEAust
Nicholas Summers,
GradIEAust
Kai Van Den Hoff,
GradOIEAust

STUDENTS

(StudIEAust)

Justin Digney
Tom Gibbs
David Hatchard
Tung Hoang-Manh
Jarad Hughes
Jared Mouldey
Stuart Paul
Maryam Mohamad Pauzi
Aaron Poh
Damian Reardon
Lingxiao Situ
Mohd Zainal-Ashirin

SITE VISIT

to



DATE: Tuesday, 9 September 2008
TIME: 5.30 for 6.00pm
Light refreshments will be provided
PLACE: Unit 1, 84 Browns Road, Kingston

Currawong Engineering Pty Ltd (CE) designs, develops, manufactures and sells components and systems for use on unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The principal products produced by CE are stabilised camera gimbals, engine management systems and engine development services, all being relevant to micro to mini sized UAVs.

Currawong Engineering is prime example of a company in Tasmania working at the cutting edge of technology and innovation.



Mechanical engineer Gavin Brett of Currawong Engineering with his innovative carbon fibre tracking camera - The All Seeing Eye (TASE)

RVSP ESSENTIAL BY 5 SEPTEMBER 2008 TO:

Catherine Reading 6234 2228 or creading@engineersaustralia.org.au

THIS MEETING WARRANTS 1.5HRS CPD



Vanessa King, MIEAust

WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

Women in Engineering, Tasmania
Attract. Support. Develop. Celebrate.
Our mission is to increase the participation of women in the engineering profession and allow our member's aspirations to flourish.

Coming Up

Date confirmed for Southern Tas WiE social event (Northerners welcome, of course!): **Wednesday, 22 October**, at 6:30 pm for 7 pm. Please RSVP by Friday, 10 October to either Cass Blazely (cass.blazely@dier.tas.gov.au) or Erin Driscoll (erin.driscoll@ghd.com.au).
Venue is to be confirmed, depending on numbers.

Please let us know at wietas@gmail.com by **Wednesday, 15 October** whether you are interested in either or both of these one day workshops – we need to demonstrate interest or else we cannot run them.

News

New Committee Member - Nyssa Muir, Project Engineer with Generation, Hydro Tasmania has joined the Committee. Welcome Nyssa!

Student Lunch at the AMC - On the 18 July the Women in Engineering Group held a free lunch and information session for female staff and students of the Australian Maritime College and the Launceston campus of the University of Tasmania. This event followed a similar successful lunch held at the Sandy Bay campus of the University of Tasmania in June.

Attendees were presented with a short talk, (presented by Cassie Blazely and Kate Cormack), which introduced Engineers Australia, and explained the role and values of the Women in Engineering Group.

Approximately 15 staff and students were able to attend the lunch, including two high school students currently participating in the 'Engineering Initiative'.

The event served as a fantastic introduction to EA and WiE for the students. It also served as a means of bringing the students together (some of whom had not previously met).

We would like to extend a thank you to Irene at the AMC for all her assistance in coordinating the event.

Gen2X - On the Evening of the 4th August many Professional Engineers, their partners and colleagues gathered in a function room at the Royal Yacht Club in Sandy Bay. With everyone all "glammed up", and a lovely view of the bay at night we were seated for a night of fun, adventure and recognition.

Patrick Hill, Young Engineer of the year for 2007, also attended the event. He delivered an informative and inspiring speech on virtual teams and the evolution of the engineering world in terms of communication and team work.

After main course we were all in for a treat (not just the dessert), when the Tasmanian Young Engineer of the Year

It is to be a story telling evening: alarming, or funny, or heart warming, stories about our times as women in engineering. Please start thinking – and writing if you don't want to speak to the group, we'll have people to read stories out on behalf of our quieter members. Please send stories to Vanessa King - wietas@gmail.com

We are really hoping to run two great workshops down here – but we need to know whether you are likely to come. The workshops are “Breakthrough Strategies for Women Engineers” & “Leading a Diverse Workforce: what you need”.

“Breakthrough Strategies for Women Engineers” will address:

- Practical strategies to increase confidence, skills, innovation and creativity.
- Relationship development, team dynamics and corporate goal setting
- Designing strategies for high levels of engagement and achievement
- Leading personal and professional change for breakthrough results
- Working with diversity in the workplace
- Discovering how to engage others and double your performance, while halving the efforts for getting there

In “Leading a Diverse Workforce”, you will:

- Learn successful strategies used by leading organisations in Australia and overseas for attracting and retaining a talented workforce
- Assess your organisation's diversity climate to identify priority action steps
- Increase your ability to integrate diversity thinking into business planning processes
- Prioritise specific actions, regardless of budget

HERITAGE MEETING

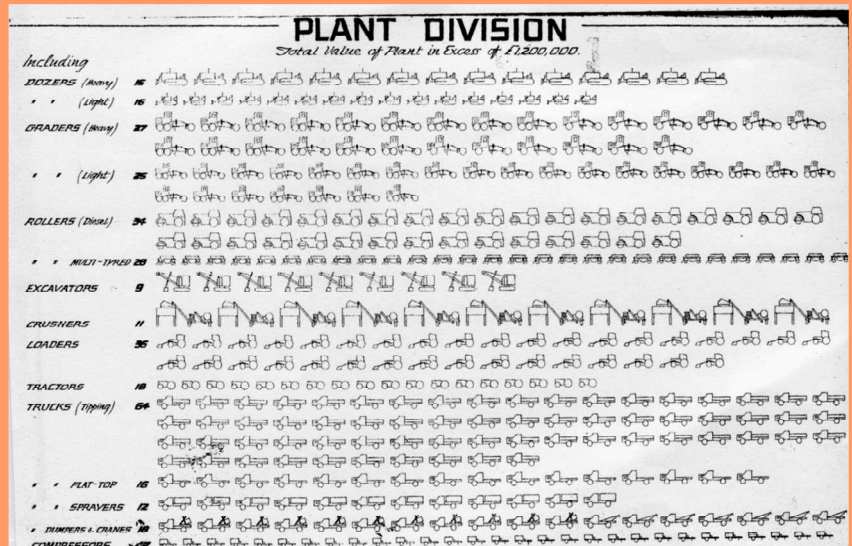
DATE: Thursday, 25 September 2008

TIME: 7.30pm

PLACE: Royal Engineers Building
2 Davey Street, Hobart

FRED LAKIN, OAM JP FIEAust CPEng

"THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (LATER DMR) PLANT DIVISION Between 1940 & early 1980"



Plant owned by the PWD in 1940 consisted mainly of mobile steam driven crushing plant, Leyland trucks with solid wheels of a capacity of three or four cubic yards, two bulldozers and a number of light graders plus steam powered road rollers.

A dramatic expansion of the plant fleet occurred during the early post war years. In the 1980's employees numbered 450 either operating plant or within workshops and including some 60 apprentices.

Fred's illustrated talk will cover the period between 1940 - 1980.

Light refreshments will be served following the meeting

RSVP: Catherine Reading 6234 2228 or
creading@engineersaustralia.org.au

THIS MEETING WARRANTS 1.5 HOURS CPD

for 2008 was announced. From two very well qualified finalists Erin Driscoll from GHD (also a valued WIE committee member) and Aaron Brimfield from Van Ek Contracting there could only be one winner. The winner was Aaron Brimfield – well done Aaron!

After all that suspense and excitement, dessert was served and the mingling was on! Overall the night was a great success. It attracted a great cross-section of Tasmanian engineers at different levels of their careers and from a wide range of backgrounds.

WIE would like to especially thank our sponsor for the event GHD, and all those who participated in the organising of this event.

We look forward to another Gen2X next year!

The National WIE Committee has written a paper "Women Engineers and Paid Maternity, Paternity and Parental Leave: A Perspective on the Issues". If anyone would like a copy, just ask - wietas@gmail.com

Reminder - Call for female Technologists and Associates

As part of the activities of the Year of the Engineering Team, Engineers Australia's Women in Engineering National Committee is seeking career stories from female technologists and associates who are members of Engineers Australia.

Some of the profiles obtained may be published by the Committee to raise awareness of the achievements of women working in engineering teams.

For more information, email Jay Davenport, Administrator at Women in Engineering:
jdavenport@engineersaustralia.org.au

Women in Engineering Committee Members:

Amanda Halley, Vanessa King, Meredith McQueen, Fiona Evershed, Rebecca Hindley, Kate Cormack, Erin Driscoll, Cassandra Blazely.

Email: wietas@gmail.com



After months of preparation, the annual YEAT/WIE Gen²X event was held on 4 August as part of National

Engineering Week at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania. The night revolved around the themes of generation and gender exchange, as well as the evolution of communication and virtual teaming which was explored by National Young Engineer of the Year Patrick Hill, and Young Engineers Tasmania Vice Chair James Porter. This year's event was a black tie Gala Dinner and included the announcement of the Tasmanian Young Professional Engineer of the Year Awards. Around 80 people attended and a good night was had by all, as you can see from the photos on the right !! Thanks must go to our sponsors: Gold Partner – Hatch, Local Partner – GHD, Silver Partners – American Express, Coffey Geotechnics, and Connell Wagner.



The Young Engineers Australia **National Summit** is being held in Perth on 10 September. This year Tasmania will be represented by Cohan Drew, Jess Andrewartha, and James Porter.

The purpose of the event is to provide young engineers with a unique professional development opportunity which will enable them to grow their industry knowledge, and expand their professional network at a national level. The theme of the Universal Engineer expands on the diversity of the young engineering community, and looks at the challenges of engineering both now and into the future where young engineers are expected to work in unique environments with an appreciation for socially responsible development. Thanks to the Tasmania Division for providing sponsorship for those attending.

Jess Andrewartha, GradIEAust
Chair, Young Engineers Tasmania



Young Engineers and Young Professionals Network Tasmania present

SPEED NETWORKING

SPEED NETWORKING



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA
Young Engineers



Why **SPEED NETWORKING**...?

- Tips on how to network more easily and effectively;
- A relaxed, friendly atmosphere that allows you to meet new people;
- An opportunity to chat with a diverse group of members from local industries, both young and senior;

What happens...

FREE drinks and nibbles with time to mingle

Organised 3 minute slots to 'power talk with & listen to' your colleagues.

Bring your business cards

Lucky door prizes

This is an ALL AGES event—senior members are encouraged to attend!

WEDNESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2008

5.30pm to 8.00pm

gpo Cameron st Launceston

IT'S FREE - just RSVP!

RSVP: *YES we DO need you to do this please!*

Email your details to the lovely Catherine Reading no later than close of business Wednesday, 3rd September 2008

CReading@engineersaustralia.org.au

SPEED NETWORKING

SPEED NETWORKING

CALENDAR 2008

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 9 - SITE VISIT - Currawong Engineering Pty Ltd - (1/84 Browns Road, Kingston) - 5.30 for 6.00pm - RSVP Essential - Contact Catherine Reading 6234 2228 or creading@engineersaustralia.org.au (Refer to page 7)

Wednesday 17 - Joint Young Engineers & YPNT - LAUNCESTON - SPEED NETWORKING - 5.30pm to 8.00pm - GPO Café, Cameron Street - **FREE -** RSVP to Catherine Reading 6234 2228 or creading@engineersaustralia.org.au (Refer to page 11)

Monday 22 & Tuesday 23 - CPEng Workshops - HOBART & LAUNCESTON - Contact the Division Office for full details

Thursday 25 - Heritage - The Early History of the Public Works Department (Later DMR) Plant Division between 1940 and early 1980 - Fred Lakin - 7.30pm - Royal Engineers Building, 2 Davey Street, Hobart - Contact Catherine Reading 6234 2228 or creading@engineersaustralia.org.au (Refer to page 9)

Tuesday 30 - Geomechanics - What is Failure & Why Do Failures Occur? - John Atkinson - 5.30 for 6.00pm - Royal Engineers Building, 2 Davey Street, Hobart - Contact Andrew Ezzy 6221 3740 or AREzzy@skm.com.au (Refer to this page)

OCTOBER

Wednesday 15 - ALAN BURN MEMORIAL LECTURE - LAUNCESTON - 5.30 for 6.00pm - Hotel Grand Chancellor, Cameron Street - Air Vice Marshal, David Dunlop CSC - F-111, An Ongoing Engineering Challenge - RSVP to Catherine Reading 6234 2228 or creading@engineersaustralia.org.au (Refer page 5)

Thursday 16 - ALAN BURN MEMORIAL LECTURE - HOBART - 6.00 for 6.15pm - Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Marieville Esplanade, Sandy Bay - 2 Course Meal for \$25.00 - Lecture commences at 7.30pm - Air Vice Marshal, David Dunlop CSC - F-111, An Ongoing Engineering Challenge - RSVP to Catherine Reading 6234 2228 or creading@engineersaustralia.org.au (Refer to page 5)

Wednesday 22 - WIE social event - See page 8

AUSTRALIAN GEOMECHANICS SOCIETY (Tasmanian Chapter)

DATE: Tuesday, 30 September 2008
TIME: 5.30 for 6.00pm
PLACE: Royal Engineers Building
2 Davey Street, Hobart

PROFESSOR JOHN ATKINSON
Senior Principal, Coffey Geotechnics
Professor of Soil Mechanics, City University, London

John Atkinson is Senior Principal at Coffey Geotechnics and Professor of Soil Mechanics at City University, London.

He graduated in Civil Engineering from Imperial College in 1964. He then emigrated to Australia and worked with contractors and consultants in Queensland including a spell with Coffey and Hollingsworth in their Brisbane office.

He returned to Imperial College and was awarded an MSc in 1970 and a PhD in 1973 for research on soil stiffness. He was a research assistant at Cambridge University where he directed research on soft ground tunnelling and senior lecturer in Civil and Structural Engineering at University College, Cardiff. In 1980 he was appointed Reader in Soil Mechanics at City University, London and he was promoted to the Chair of Soil Mechanics in 1985. He founded the City University Geotechnical Engineering Research Centre and helped to establish the London Geotechnical Centrifuge Centre.

John Atkinson is expert in investigation of soil behaviour and in centrifuge model testing. He has worked on the behaviour of many different soils including soft and stiff clays, carbonate and quartz sands, saprolites and tills. He has used centrifuge modelling to investigate a number of different problems including ground movements around tunnels in soft ground and drainage and stability of granular cargoes in bulk carrier ships. He has advised industry and acted as expert on diverse problems including tunnelling and shaft sinking, loadings on large buried pipes, movement of granular cargo in bulk carrier ships and determination of soil and rock parameters for design.

He has lectured widely in UK and overseas. He was the Rankine Lecturer in 2000. He is author of text-books on soil mechanics and foundation engineering. He is currently Editor of Geotechnique.

From 1995 to 1997 he was a Royal Society Industry Fellow with Arup Geotechnics and he was a Consultant with them until 2006. He is currently Senior Principal with Coffey Geotechnics.

“WHAT IS FAILURE & WHY DO FAILURES OCCUR?”

Ground engineering is a risky business; there is much that can, and does, go wrong. Failures of construction in the ground can be more than just slips, excessive settlement or flooding. Sometimes failure of the ground is a requirement of the design.

The talk will consider the nature of geotechnical failures in a wide sense. Examples will be used to illustrate some of the main causes of problems in the ground including unforeseen ground conditions (or inadequate ground investigations), mis-understanding of basic soil mechanics, inappropriate analyses and workmanship.

RSVP: Andrew Ezzy 6221 3740 or AREzzy@skm.com.au