



THE INSTITUTION OF FIRE ENGINEERS NEW ZEALAND BRANCH

June 2008.



NZ Branch President Brian Davey

From the President

The Branch has seen some significant changes in its administration since the last AGM. Gary Ward was appointed as the Executive Director, we have introduced a new financial management system, MYOB, and have been fortunate that Gary's wife has agreed to carry out the role of "treasurer" and manage MYOB. From October through to January the Ward's have completed the migration and updating of membership data and set up the new account structure. To our two new councillors, Darryn Glasgow and Duane Harding-Browne, welcome. Already we can see their contribution with Daryn managing examinations and Duane responsible for our Fiji members.

The 2007 Conference was successful and has given us the opportunity to consider promotional material for future conferences and displays.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Message From the President.
- 2 Around the Boardroom table
- 3 NZ Standards Updates
- 4 Re-joining the NZ Branch
- 5 Tribute to Members
- 6 Conference 2008
- 7 Branch Council Elections

I also recently attended the Training Advisory Group meeting of FRISTO as your representative. This provided the opportunity to raise the matter of how IFE qualifications could be recognised. Not a simple matter but one that will be pursued.

General Assembly

I attended the January meeting of the General Assembly in Moreton on Marsh. While at the GA meeting I took the opportunity to show the draft of our 2nd promotional DVD as part of the discussion of minute 14/08. This generated positive discussion regarding the progressive nature of the NZ Branch and the support from the New Zealand Fire Service.

On this note I also took the opportunity to show it to the President of the Australian Branch while in Queensland (Shan Raffel) who also gave it high praise and requested a copy, once approved, for use by the Australian branch.

The NZ Branch was invited to chair the GA Workshop on day two. Some of the key points were;

Student and Affiliate Membership; This discussion has taken place at the last 3 GA workshops and has now reached a point where the GA will recommend to the Board for a change in rules relating to a limited "life" membership at student grade to allow for progress to a membership grade. Membership of the IFE could still be retained after the 5 year period by transfer to an "affiliate" or similar membership which would reflect the true cost of belonging to the Institution. The GA will look to submit this proposal to the Board at the next GA meeting.

The Boards examination committee are looking to recruit additional examiners. This will initially be developing questions (and model answers) for various papers. The questions go into an examination question bank for future use. Any member of Branch council who is interested, let me know and I will put you in contact with the right people.

The GA supports a review of the Travelling School fund with a view to extending the scope to include providing assistance with exam technique, raising awareness of Fire Engineering, use as a CPD activity, development of tutorial packages and for gaining membership. A direct result of the NZ Branch raising the matter last year.

Following considerable discussion on how the IFE could improve recognition by the QCA (our equivalent is NZQA) for IFE examinations, the GA is to ask the Board to pursue this matter. If they are successful, there could be a flow on effect for at least NZ, Australia, South Africa and Ireland.

Lastly, it was an honour and a privilege to represent the Branch at the GA, to keep our views to the fore and to support other Branches to achieve the aims and objectives of the Institution.

Brian Davey
President
NZ Branch

From Around the Boardroom table.

Accreditation

Our Accreditation for the New Zealand Fire Service Recruit course has been approved and it is now up to the Institution to maximise the benefits.

In April, Darryn Glasgow presented the promotional DVD and an explanation of how this affects Fire Service recruits, to the April intake. There was much interest from those present and we look forward to a good number of new student members from these courses.

On the 16 June Murray Binning will be presenting the material to the current recruit course and again in July to the new recruit course, this time earlier in the timetable. This will allow recruits from this intake, who have successfully completed the course and joined up as student members, to be presented with their Preliminary Certificates (IFE) at their passing out parade.

In 3rd July Murray Binning and Graeme Quensell will present a plaque on behalf of the NZ Branch, to the Fire Service Training Centre in Rotorua which will recognise the NZFS Training Centre as an acknowledged provider for recruit courses equivalent to the Preliminary Certificate of the IFE.

This is a huge step forward for the NZ Branch and is the result of extreme efforts from a number of Branch Councillors and members of the NZ Fire Service.

The approval, received in January this year is the culmination of 4 years work by a number of Branch Councillors and in particular Gary Ward who had the difficult task of scoping and mapping the Recruit Course against IFE criteria. Great Effort!

Introducing the new look IFE Website - on line now

For many years Branch Council has been striving to promote and raise the profile of the Institution. Many initiatives have been implemented that require a well developed web site to gain maximum exposure and the much wanted results. What we recognized was that the new site was not dynamic enough. It stagnated. This was partially due to the need to pass all information to a third party-web master for loading. We wanted to be able to load items and have pages updated regularly. Hence the new look site launched recently. With out a doubt, changing to a new content management program has delivered us what we wanted. It enables us to update our Web site when ever we want and from where ever we are. keeping the site dynamic and fresh.

What we wanted to achieve

A modern, dynamic site, with content that changes regularly.

- Cost efficient
- The ability for designated people to access and update their pages of interest. (Thus spreading the work load and keeping pages current. Each Group will ultimately maintain their pages)
- The site entirely self managed
- The ability to encourage and capture new membership
- Promote conferences
- Promote the Professional Register
- Promote the Corporate Partnership
- Increase return visits to the site
- Have links to key sites

With the introduction of several initiatives the web site will be self funding and continue to grow. The new site has provided what was needed. It's only the start, more features are being added.

More Good News

Update of hits to the site are showing a good trend. Also I note hits from links to FRFANZ and NRFA and IFE UK sites as well as NZFS site. This shows people are reading conference material and clicking our link.

Have a look and see the difference. "Take the Challenge"

www.ife.org.nz

Graeme Quensell
Branch Councillor
NZ Branch

CPD Portfolio

The New Zealand Branch Council is making available to members of the Institution and interested non-members, rewritable CD's containing the 'Approved Institution of Fire Engineers Continued Professional Development Portfolio. You will be able to maintain records of your entire career and Professional Development undertaken on this disk. We should all be completing 25 hours of CPD every year. Some time in the future, this will be audited in order for us to maintain a 'Practice Certificate'.

To purchase your copy, email secretary@ife.org.nz advising the address you want the CD to be posted to and it will be forwarded to you.

NEWS FROM NZ STANDARDS UPDATES.

- NZS 4510 Fire Hydrants in Buildings This is in the final approval and will be issued shortly. Again there are a number of changes that should be read when inspecting or advising on hydrant systems in buildings.
- NZS 4509 There are a number of changes and better explanations, due out in July 2008.
- NZS 4541: 2007 Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems - The Standard was published in December 2007 and is now available for use. It is understood that this version will shortly be cited by the DBH under the Building Code as an acceptable solution. as yet we do not know if there will be a Building Code appendix D similar to the 2003 version. It should be noted by users that because there are a number of radical changes in the new Standard the 2003 version will still be valid for sometime and you will have to use both Standards when

checking the compliance of a system and make sure that the correct version is used for compliance.

It is understood that the NZ Fire Service Evacuation of Building Regulations will be amended to include the NZS 4541 2007 version as an approved sprinkler system for staged evacuation purposes.

These may be of interest.

There are still a number of fires occurring in EPS constructed buildings and since the tragic fire last year in the UK where a number of fire fighters died the UK fire Service has obviously learned a lesson and allowed this latest fire to burn out. *The BBC and other news media report that fire has destroyed a vegetable packing warehouse in Whittlesey in the East of England. The fire started in some plastic gloves at about 07:00 on 25th February in the Abbey Produce food processing warehouse. Fire crews decided to allow the 8,000m² warehouse to burn out so as to make sure that smoke from it rose as high as possible rather than fall on nearby homes. The fire was visible for 30km. Two workers were treated at the scene for smoke inhalation. Services on the adjacent railway line were disrupted due to fears that gas bottles in the building could explode. The building was not fitted with a sprinkler system. News media did not report a fire in a furniture manufacturing company in Brierley Hill, West Midlands. But West Midlands Fire & Rescue Service reports that 5 sprinklers operated to contain the fire to a workbench area and adjacent corridor. Two firefighters extinguished the remaining fire with a single hose reel jet. This fire was reported at 20:20 on Friday, 7th March and started in an electrical extension lead. Bob Bennett, the Managing Director, said, "We are a company with an annual turnover of £10 million. At times it seemed that paying for installation, maintenance and testing of the sprinkler system was a bit over the top but we are delighted that it has paid dividends for us now. We do have contingency plans in the event of a major disruption but we would not have been able to cope with the loss of the factory. In my opinion the sprinkler system saved us from a major loss and damage was limited to about 50 square feet (5m²) by the operation of just 5 heads. The sprinkler system worked brilliantly*

Finally there are now two fully ISO 17020 accredited Sprinkler system certification authorities . for further details see - Aon New Zealand www.aon.co.nz - Aon Sprinkler Certification and Verifire - www.verifire.co.nz

Kind Regards

Peter G. Hughes

"FM Global, (Factory Mutual Insurance Co) is pleased to let you know about the availability of a new Web-based application that permits external down loading of our Property Loss Prevention Data Sheets, free of charge at

www.fmglobal.com Then just follow the registration path for the download access. This new self-service feature allows anyone with Internet access to register on the site and download our data sheets on demand, from any location worldwide. As such, the application ensures only current information is available and creates an easier/affordable way for architects, consultants and contractors to meet our clients' requests to build to FM Global standards. For more information on our data sheets delivery, please refer to our Frequently Asked Questions document."

Rejoining the NZ Branch.

It has never been easier to re-join the Institution. In the UK this year over 300 former members have been re-instated and are now able to access a wide range of benefits including entry to the Members only web site area. Just follow the following simple process; Provided that your previous records can be found, and that membership has lapsed only once, re-instatement can be effected by paying the current years subscription. There is currently no financial penalty for re-instatement. Contact any Branch Councillor.



TRIBUTE

NZ Branch pays tribute to those Hamilton fire-fighters who were injured in the Tamahere Icepak Coolstores fire. Both Adrian Brown, and Derrick Lovell were members of the Branch. We offer our deepest sympathy to Derrick's family and friends.

Letter from Sweden.

Following is a copy of a letter sent to the NZFS National Commander Mike Hall from **Stefan Svensson** of the Swedish Rescue Service following last years Conference where he spoke

on several topics including technology and future plans for the Swedish Service.

"Dear Mr Hall

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the New Zealand Fire Service and to the New Zealand Branch of IFE. I was really honoured by the invitation and the possibility to visit New Zealand. The visit was quite an experience and it gave me a few ideas for my future work. I was especially thrilled by the similarities between Sweden and New Zealand. It was very interesting to see the quality of your fire-fighters and fire Officers, I got the impression that the IFE has a lot to do with this.

Also the quality of the Conference in Wellington was impressive. I believe it is very hard to get a similar type of discussion in Sweden, especially regarding the use of new technology. Fire Officers in Sweden tend to stick to simple operational problems and its very hard to get to "think outside the box" and look at problems from larger perspectives. I got the impression that Sweden has a lot to learn from you. I would also like to express my gratitude to Mr Marcel Sanders for taking care of me during my visit. He did a really good job and I sincerely hope he will be recognised for this. Once again thank you so very much for giving me this opportunity. I look forward to seeing you and your staff again in the future. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Stefan Svensson.

CONFERENCE 2008



The Institution of Fire Engineers (NZ Branch) in association with The Forest and Rural Fire Association of New Zealand (FRFANZ) presents



Training for Fire Risk Management Palmerston North, 6-8th of August, at the Convention Centre.

The FRFANZ and IFE Management Committee look forward to your attendance at the combined Conference 2008. For more information on Accommodation, Venue, Field trips and Registration, go to the website www.ife.org.nz

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Web site: www.ife.org.nz

VACANCIES ON BRANCH COUNCIL;

There are 4 vacancies on Branch Council for the coming year. The current term is up for **Brian Davey, Bruce Irvine** and **Kristin Hoskin**. Also **Phil de Joux** is retiring from Branch Council at the AGM.

Nominations are needed for the 4 vacancies.

Brian and Kristin are eligible for re-election and have indicated a willingness to stand again.

Nomination Paper for Branch Councillor	
To:	The Executive Director Institution of Fire Engineers P O Box 3961 WELLINGTON
I hereby nominate:	_____
To serve as a Branch Councillor on Institution of Fire Engineers, NZ Branch	
NOMINEE'S FULL NAME:	_____
NOMINEE'S GRADE:	_____
NOMINEE'S SIGNATURE:	_____
(I hereby consent to this nomination)	
PROPOSER'S FULL NAME:	_____
PROPOSERS GRADE:	_____
PROPOSERS SIGNATURE:	_____
DATE:	____/____/____
DATE POSTED TO I F E:	____/____/____
This nomination form to be returned by close of business on 9 July 2008.	