

IPWEA TASMANIA

ANNUAL REPORT (2014)



Mission, Vision, Values

IPWEA Mission:

To enhance the quality of life of Australian Communities through public works and services.

IPWEA Vision:

To be recognised nationally and internationally as the leading professional association that effectively informs, connects, represents and leads public works professionals for Australasia.

IPWEA Values:

IPWEA people share a set of core values that define our accepted standards and behaviours.

They define us as an organisation, the way we work together, and with our members, communities and stakeholders.

Respect – we treat people with fairness and equity, acknowledging our communities and heritage. We provide a safe, nurturing environment.

Integrity – we demonstrate honesty, transparency, fairness, and clear boundaries in all our interactions.

Passion – we strive, stand up for what we believe in, and go the extra distance. We want to make a difference to people's lives.

Excellence – we are committed to excellence in everything we do. We are innovative, responsive, and continually raising the bar.

Recognition – we recognise the contributions that IPWEA people make, and we celebrate their successes

Ownership – we hold ourselves accountable for our actions, take ownership, and deliver on our promises.

2013/2014 COMMITTEE

Heath Macpherson – President

Gary Neil – Vice President

Paul Breaden – Treasurer

Darren Carlson – Secretary

Bevin Eberhardt – PWEFT

Oliver Heyward – YIPWEA

Mat Greskie - National Representative

Damion Beety – National Representative

Brian Edwards – Committee Member

Geoff Webb – Committee Member

Harry Galea – NAMS Representative

Keith Midson - Committee Member



PRESIDENTS REPORT

Heath Macpherson

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After a busy first year as president it is an opportune time to look back and reflect on what the Tasmanian Division has been able to achieve in the last 12 months.

Last year's AGM was followed by a member's dinner sponsored by Roadways. This was the 29th Annual Dinner sponsored by Roadways, so this year's 30th will be a special occasion celebrating this long standing relationship with Roadways and I would like to thank them for their generous support over the past 30 years.

The big event for the year was the IPWEA/TAMS Annual Conference held at the Albert Hall in Launceston. It was an excellent conference with the theme "Looking Forward, Look Back" highlighting how much things have changed over the years in public works and looking at possible developments into the future. A big thank you to the organising committee led by Shane Eberhardt for all their hard work.

Prior to the conference a members dinner was held to acknowledge the contribution of retiring member Leyon Parker and Jack Ridderford who was retiring from the PWEFT board. The recipient of the PWEFT grant, Anna Wilson, presented at the dinner what she learnt from the International Public Works Conference in Darwin with a particular focus on community engagement.

February the branch held a technical session on the new Workplace Health and Safety laws that have now been in effect for over a year. This session was followed by a members dinner and networking session. At the dinner retiring member Bill Lawson's significant contribution to public works and the engineering profession was acknowledged.

In April IPWEA Tas in conjunction with the AWA Tasmanian branch held a stormwater symposium in Launceston. This was a great opportunity for the members of these two organisations to catch up, network and hear some very interesting presentations on stormwater.

In July, Dr Penny Burns presented a technical session on asset management that was followed by a members and partners dinner at Salamanca Inn in Hobart. Dr Penny Burns is highly regarded in her field and told some amazing stories in asset management during her long career.

Last year also saw the completion of the new Municipal Standard Drawings and Subdivision Guidelines. These were released in conjunction with the Local Government Association of Tasmania and have been very well received by Local Government, suppliers and contractors. The first review of these drawings and guidelines is currently under way.

- There have been a number of significant changes in the state over the last 12 months including the passing by parliament of the Urban Drainage Bill to

replaces the Drains Act of 1954 and amendments to the Local Government Act to incorporate new legislation on Asset and Financial Management.

- The IPWEA Tas division have recently funded through its foundation 3 recipients to an Asset Management study tour of New Zealand. Congratulation to Frank Chen, Rob Little and Emilio Reale on their successful applications.
- The Australasian board have also been very busy with the recent addition of New Zealand to the board and delivering numerous training courses, practice notes, an international conference and many other services.
- I would finally like to take the opportunity to thank the committee and Carmel Clark for all their hard work throughout the year to help deliver the various events that have been held, and continue to prove more events into the future. I hope that the members continue to support this great organisation and encourage new members to join and I hope to see you at events during 2014-15.

I encourage members to talk to non-members and explain to them the many benefits of IPWEA membership which include:

- **Recognition** – Private, local government and public sector organisations recognise IPWEA members as professional, respected and reliable.
- **Networking** – Regular opportunities for practitioners to network with fellow practitioners are provided to discuss public works trends and processes. These include forums, workshops, AGM, member dinners, State and National Conferences.
- **Skills Development** – A variety of skills development opportunities are provided including forums, seminars, workshops and conferences.
- **Scholarships and Awards**– Members are provided the opportunity to access scholarships for study and study tours through the Public Works Engineering Foundation.
- **Committees** – IPWEA has technical committees which review legislation and documentation for local and state government agencies. Members can nominate their areas of expertise and contribute to future policy and documentation.
- **Publications** – There are a range of publications produced by IPWEA.
- **IPWEA E-news** – Up to date information is emailed to members on a regular but non-intrusive basis.
- **Public Works Engineering Magazine**– Six national magazines are provided each year that discuss topical public works issues, and include information on upcoming conferences and other events.
- **AskYourMates** – Members can be involved in an email exchange of problem solving for other members

AUSTRALASIAN BOARD REPORT

Tasmanian Representatives - Damion Beety & Mat Greskie

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The last twelve months has seen several significant highlights at the national level.

The inaugural Darwin Conference was held in August 2013, which given the distance was well attended and resulted in a surplus for the National Board and each of the states.

It has now been 12 months since IPWEA NZ became a part of the Australasian group. As part of the integration the Board held the last meeting in Auckland to coincide with the New Zealand Conference.

Last year the concept of a consistent IPWEA Membership Model with parallel membership fees was approved by the Board and this was adopted by all the State Divisions. This has resulted in an increase in fees for Tasmanian members, however the capitation fee that is paid to the National office was reduced providing additional funding for member functions. The membership subscription fees are set jointly by the Divisions at an annual joint meeting of Presidents and Division Executive staff.

Professional Advancement, Workshops and Publications from National Office

- Professional Certificate in Asset Management Planning (launched May)
- Practice Notes for Asset Management
- NAMS.PLUS Asset Management
- Asset Management for Small Rural or Remote Communities
- Infrastructure Financial Management
- Long-Term Financial Planning
- Buildings AM Workshops
- Storm Water Drainage Workshops
- IPWEA Fleet Management Certificate
- *New Project* Fleet Safe Online Driver Training Program
- *New Project* Fleet Safe Online Driver Training Program

PWEFT REPORT

Bevin Eberhardt

(Trustees: Bevin Eberhardt (Chair); Brian Edwards (Treasurer); Phil Gee; Damion Beety; Mat Greskie)

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In 2013 /2014 long time Foundation trustees Jack Riddiford & Ron Sanderson retired. Both were thanked for their hard work and commitment. Past IPWEA presidents Damion Beety and Mat Greskie were welcomed as new trustees. Bevin Eberhardt was appointed as Chair.

It was confirmed that the administration of the Foundation funds would be undertaken by the Treasurer of the IPWEA Committee in the future. Brian Edwards retained the position of Treasurer of the foundation for endorsement purposes.

The Foundation DEED is currently being reviewed to reflect past changes and future requirements. The final document will be presented to the members prior to the Annual General meeting in 2015 for ratification.



Anna Wilson, Project Engineer, Brighton Council made a presentation in Launceston on 7 November 2013 in respect to the National Conference in Darwin. Anna gave a presentation to members on her experience at the conference. The Foundation grants are open to young members giving them the opportunity to attend the Annual National Conference with aim of supporting their professional development and advancing their career objectives.

The following IPWEA members received grants to the Asset Management tour to New Zealand, 19-24 October 2014:

- Frank Chen-Stormwater Assets Officer-Hobart City Council
- Rob Little-Asset management Co-ordinator-Meander Valley Council
- Emilio Reale-Executive Manager Infrastructure Services-Huon Valley Council

The recipients will give presentations on their experience and learning's to an IPWEA-Foundation function in early 2015.

PWEFT will be offering up to two grants to members that would not usually have the opportunity to attend the National Conference which in 2015 is being held in Rotorua, New Zealand from June 11-13.

The grants will contribute to registration fees, accommodation and air travel.

Further information will be available in the New Year

YIPWEA REPORT

Oliver Heyward

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Since its establishment in 2012, Young IPWEA national has already achieved a significant amount including the launch of a new community of practice for young members including an 'ask your mates' style forum; an invitation to the Young IPWEA national chair to be an observer on the Australasian Board; and the renaming of the "Emerging Leaders Award" to the "Young IPWEA Emerging Leaders Award". Also, Young IPWEA New Zealand has recently been launched with great success!

This year Young IPWEA national has been quite active at the Australasian level with a recent update to the two year action plan. The action plan sets out 8 goals which the Young IPWEA chair and divisional representatives aim to achieve by the end of the two year term. Of particular relevance to the Tasmanian Division, these goals include building stronger linkages with other young professional networks and advocating for Young IPWEA and public works as a profession at schools and universities.

In late 2013 Young IPWEA visited UTAS and spoke to a 4th year class studying asset management. Also, the action plan aims to implement a mentoring program which will enable young members to learn from more experienced members in other organisations. This will be of great benefit to young public works professionals in Tasmania.

In Tasmania, the number of members known to be 35 or under and therefore eligible for Young IPWEA has increased from approximately twelve to nineteen. With limited numbers distributed across the state it has been difficult to justify or organise member services which are separate from that of the broader IPWEA membership. If however members would see value in having technical or social events held especially for Young IPWEA, the numbers now may make this viable!

If you have any ideas on taking this forward or would like to assist in any way please contact Oliver Heyward



NAMS REPORT

Harry Galea

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Over the past 12 months the NAMS Committee have addressed or been involved in the following issues:

- Significant expansion of NAMS training and tools to New Zealand since expansion of IPWEA (National) to include N.Z. Division (7th Division) - 2,200-3,200 members.
- Direction of new federal government appears non-aligned to independency of Infrastructure Australia (set up by previous government). Lack of funding in federal budget appears to spell the end of Infrastructure Australia.
- IPWEA have available for member smart phone/tablet apps on 'Events'; 'Conference' and normal 'IPWEA' site.
- Are currently developing a practice note on 'Towards more sustainable Street Lighting'. Its focus is more policy related issues.
- An issues paper has been prepared on debt in local government. This paper suggests that the closely managed use of debt by local councils would address infrastructure backlogs and positively support sustainable local communities and organisation performance. (Debt is Not a Dirty Word: The Role and Use of Debt in Local Government, prepared by John Comrie). As a comparison this equates to a person with \$60,000 income, owning a \$600,000 house and having \$16,000 loan (debt).
- An on-line Professional Certificate in Asset Management Planning' is now available. There are 8 modules over 10 weeks - significant use of webinar, videos and forums. This certificate is for para-professionals and an alternative to the tertiary UTAS qualifications. The course cost is \$1,800.
- Bi-annual IPWEA 'Sustainability in Public Works' will be held in Tweed Heads between 27-29 July 2014. Next National Conference will be in Rotorua between 11-15 June 2015 - this will coincide with International Public Works Conference (expect 800 delegates to NZ conference).
- UTAS graduate diploma in asset management has been replaced with a Professional Honours Post Graduate Degree. Changes were necessary to qualify for university government funding. Special entry is still available but more stringent assessment. (The new 'Professional Certificate in Asset Management' is designed for para-professionals)
- Resurgence of ADAC process (Asset Design As Constructed) with wider use in south-east Queensland and business case preparation by IPWEA (SA) division.

REGIONAL ENGINEERING GROUPS

South – Darren Carlson

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The Southern Infrastructure Group (SIG) meets regularly and consists of representatives of many Southern Councils and private organisations with an interest in public works.

The group has been rejuvenated and momentum is gathering pace with a productive discussion of a variety of issues leading to the inception of positive action plans.

The need in Tasmania for a coordinated approach to the development of stormwater management plans and the associated modelling task; and the impending review of the new Tasmanian Subdivision Guidelines and Standard Drawings have been key discussion points. To progress these two issues it was decided to form smaller working groups to progress specific technical discussion/review/outcomes for these critical areas of public works business.

Anyone with a passion for public works engineering in Southern Tasmania is encouraged to come along to our meetings

Contact Darren Carlson for more information - dcarlson@kingborough.tas.gov.au

North – Harry Galea

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The group meets every two months with representation from all councils in northern Tasmania. Matters that we are currently working on include:

- Training for developers, contractors and council staff on Erosion Control and Environmental Management Guidelines
- Developing a region wide approach on handling traffic management plans used by third party contractors
- Reached a clear understanding with DIER on responsibilities of each party within a State road reservation in the urban area
- Met with DIER on the suggestion of preapproval of Heavy Vehicle Routes

Items that are listed for consideration at future meetings include:

- Street lighting retail contestability
- Ensuring head of power to implement WSUD policy for new subdivisions
- Actively encouraging resource sharing/joint service provision in the areas of bituminous surfacing, hydraulic design, street sweeping, kerbside services, condition assessments, street pruning and professional and technical capacity
- Adequate DIER resources for line marking and traffic control signage

North West – Gary Neil

The North West Regional group also meets regularly to discuss issues in their region. An MOU outlining an agreed approach to managing reinstatement works in the road reservation has been developed and agreed to by the majority of Councils in the North West and Taswater.

The purpose of the MOU is to:

- Establish communication protocols between Councils and Taswater
- Set reinstatement standard and timelines
- Clarify roles and responsibilities when each of the parties is working on or near each other's asset

In using the MOU the aims are to ensure timely reinstatements, to agreed standards and mitigating potential risks due to poor communication.

With the introduction of the interim planning schemes, the role of a Council's infrastructure manager in providing advice and prescribing conditions during the development and subdivisions approvals process has changed.

The north west group are working to establish consistent processes / approaches in relation to interacting with the new planning schemes. A working group has been established in that regard.

Contact Gary Neil for more information - gneil@burnie.net



Members & Partners Dinner Salamanca Inn, Hobart

IPWEA / TAMS ANNUAL WORKS & ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

LOOKING FORWARD / LOOKING BACK

The Albert Hall, Launceston

November 8 2013

2013 Conference Organizing Committee:

- Chairperson – Shane Eberhardt (IPWEA)
- Secretary - Liam Seymour (IPWEA)
- Treasurer - Andrew Howell (IPWEA)
- Sponsorship - Peter Stacey (TAMS) &
Josh Coates (IPWEA)
- Technical & Partner's Tours - Harry Galea (IPWEA)
- Dinner - Murray Fordham (TAMS)



The 2013 Annual Works and Engineering Conference was held in the Albert Hall, Launceston on November 8 2013.

Over 100 delegates attended the conference opened by Launceston Mayor, Mr Albert van Zetten.

A diverse range of speakers including keynote Norm McIlpatrick from DIER and Rebecca Duffy from Holm Oak Winery reflected on the changing landscape through the use of spatial and other contemporary technologies.

The Partners Tour and Conference Dinner were once again highlights of the Annual gathering.

2013 Conference Technical Tour

The 2013 Technical Tour started at Inveresk with a tour of the Launceston Flood Protection Scheme after which the group were driven to Brady's Lookout.

Morning tea was held at Holm Oak Vineyard and included a tour of wine making facilities.

Following morning tea and the Holm Oak tour the Beaconsfield wastewater reuse scheme was visited.

Finally a tour of the Beaconsfield Gold Museum was undertaken followed by lunch at in the Museum.





2013 Conference Dinner – The Albert Hall



YOUNG IPWEA EMERGING LEADER AWARD 2015

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The Young IPWEA Emerging Leader Award seeks to inspire excellence and dedication in public works by recognising the achievements and potential of young public works professionals.

The primary focus of the Award is on career service to the public works profession rather than on any one single event or project or service to the Institute.

The Award has been established to recognise and encourage young **IPWEA members** who have demonstrated commitment to the profession and the Institute. Their early endeavours show clear potential for future growth within the public works industry. The Award promotes the concept that length of career does not necessarily indicate leadership abilities or potential for service.

To be eligible for the Divisional Award the nominees must:

- Be an under 35 member at the time of their nomination
- Be active within the Institute
- Show strong/active leadership
- Exert a positive influence in the industry
- Demonstrate they are giving back to the community/public

If you know a young person who meets the above criteria and would like to nominate them please email tas@ipwea.org for an application form.

Annual Works & Engineering Conference 2015

The 2015 IPWEA / TAMS Works & Engineering Conference will be held in the North West– keep an eye on your member's newsletter and the IPWEA Tasmania website for more information.

IPWEA Australasian Conference 2015

Rotorua NZ

June 7-11 2015

www.conferenceteam.co.nz/ipweanz2015/registrations.html