



Cam Wylie

Highlights for Summer/Autumn

Committee held a face-to-face meeting in Wellington

AusIMM technical and general meetings have been held in Wellington

The Branch Conference has taken shape and is developing fast

A visiting lecture series was successfully completed with lectures in Westport and Auckland

4 delegates were sponsored to the New Leaders Conference in Newcastle

The student and young professional group is initiating an effort to coordinate vacation work opportunities with our leading mining companies suppliers

5 delegates attended the annual AusIMM Congress held in Tasmania

AusIMM Congress 2012 will be held in Auckland

Letter from the Chairman

Congress is an important and significant event which brings the leading members, students and branch representatives of the Institute together. Congress 2012 gives New Zealand members and the whole country unprecedented access to leading mining professionals in New Zealand.

Congress New Zealand 2012 will be the first congress to be held outside Australia. The occasion recognises the dedication and service of a long line of New Zealanders since the inception of the Institute in the 1880's. New Zealand has an impact in the Institute that extends well beyond our small membership which constitutes only 2% of the AusIMM general population. Thanks to all those current and serving members of the Institute which together bring this event home.

The branch committee is busy. From an outside perspective, I always viewed the AusIMM as a black hole, an abyss in which I poured my annual fees. Communication is the problem, because the committee and executive of the Institute is very busy.

It has been extremely encouraging to see very good attendance at all of the "local" events held to date this year. It's helped by the lure of sponsored beer of course so we urge all member organisation to offer to host an event, and local members to volunteer interesting lectures talks or topic ideas to your committee. The institute only works by your engagement.

The 2011 AusIMM Branch Conference is progressing well with detail and field trips well developed. The conference back-to-backs with the Mine Geology conference also being held in Queenstown the week before. Please support both if you can.

The New Leaders Conference was held in Newcastle and the NZ Branch sent 5 worthy delegates. I haven't heard back from that group, but the students group at Congress thought it was fantastic. I need to remind all "young professionals" (no Roger, that is not you) that this event actually caters for new graduates up to about 5 years out of University. You are encouraged to attend.

A NZ "student" Facebook has been set up by the young guys on the committee with I understand 177 hits in the first 24 hours. Really great stuff and we encourage new ways to interact with our student body. These guys are also working on ways to coordinate student vacation work with our mining and service companies.

If you get a letter, even if you don't like it, we want and need you to engage with us. Students and the young professionals are essential to the life of our industry we must support, mentor and develop them for a resilient industry.

Finally, I am writing on my way back from Congress in Tasmania. I went there jaded and tired from a heavy work and business schedule including back-to-back trips to project in the Philippines. The Congress lifted me, inspired me and re-connected me with the people in our industry.

The theme was professional development and resilience. It is a topic which is extremely important to me and I believe increasingly to New Zealand. We face some difficult times ahead and we need to be ready. With the agreement of the AusIMM Professional Board, the NZ Committee is going to engage with IPENZ to ensure that the AusIMM is at the table around any national accreditation or certification moves in the industry. This is a serious issue on which we must actively engage. We will also engage with Exito in the same manner.

Finally, I'd like you to know that a group of students are visiting from the Woolongong Branch in July using funds raised by themselves through industry sponsorship and Institute support. 16 students and staff are bussing around many of our operations around Auckland the Waikato. This is a great opportunity developed entirely at their own initiative and supported by the host companies in New Zealand. If you are in Auckland around the start of July, we'd love to get together with this group and show some good old Kiwi hospitality!

A long message, but an important number of events. Please engage with your Branch. You get so much more out of it!

Cam



Dr. Basil Beamish

AusIMM

THE MINERALS INSTITUTE

New Zealand Branch

AusIMM New Zealand Branch Visiting Lecturer Dr. Basil Beamish

The AusIMM New Zealand Branch is planning a second visiting lecturer for 2011: Basil Beamish from the University of Queensland will visit during the two weeks of October 3 to October 14. He will give two-day short courses in Christchurch and Westport and lectures in Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, Christchurch and Greymouth. Dates and venues are to be announced. Please contact Tony Christie (email t.christie@gns.cri.nz) to go on the mailing list if you are interested in attending one of Basil's short courses or lectures.

Biography: Basil Beamish is a Senior Lecturer in Mining Engineering at The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia and an academic staff member of Mining Education Australia (MEA). He received his BSc Hons degree in Exploration Geochemistry from The University of Tasmania, his MSc degree in Mining Engineering from The University of New South Wales, and his PhD in Mining Engineering from The University of Auckland for research on "Sorpton of Gas by Coal and Associated Phenomena in Underground Mines". His current research focuses on coal spontaneous combustion, although in 2011 he will be renewing his interest in gas contents of coal.

Since 2005, Basil has been the Director of the Spontaneous Combustion Testing Laboratory at The University of Queensland, which provides consultancy services to all the major coal companies in Australia and New Zealand as well as overseas clients in the US, Indonesia, Africa, India and Canada.

Basil was awarded the 2009 AusIMM Jim Torlach Health and Safety Award for his service to the industry and education. He is also an invited member of the working party preparing the updated versions of MDG1006 Spontaneous Combustion Management Guideline and MDG1006 Technical Reference for the Mine Safety Division of the New South Wales Department of Industry & Investment.

Short Course Title: Spontaneous Combustion Assessment and Management

Description: This two-day short course will familiarise participants with the latest concepts in spontaneous combustion assessment and management, incorporating the up-dated information contained in MDG1006 Spontaneous Combustion Management Guideline and MDG1006 Technical Reference. These two documents form the standard for leading practice in all coal mine operations in Australia. Examples will be presented of case history studies from both opencut and underground coal mines.

Contacts:

If you have any questions, comments or queries on anything you see in this newsletter, or you would like to join the AusIMM, please feel free to contact one of our friendly NZ Branch.

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Canterbury Earthquake

Our thoughts are with the people of Canterbury as they deal with this hard time, remember stay strong and be there for one another!

Kia Kaha

AusIMM prize at school Science Fairs

As part of AusIMM's commitment to education, the New Zealand Branch contributes a prize to each of the school regional science and technology fairs in the following centres:

Far North
Central Northland
North Shore
Auckland
Manukau
Waikato
East Waikato
Bay of Plenty
Eastern Bay of Plenty
Taranaki
Gisborne
Hawkes Bay
Manawatu
Wairarapa
Wellington
Marlborough
Nelson
Canterbury
Central South Island
Otago
Southland

The AusIMM prize is \$50 cash and a copy of the colourful book "A continent on the move" presented for the best earth science related topic, with a preference for mining and minerals-related topics. AusIMM's participation in these science and technology fairs is a good way of raising the profile of minerals, mining and the AusIMM in the community.

AusIMM has the opportunity of providing a judge for the AusIMM prize at each of the fairs. If any NZ Branch member would like to act as a judge at one of the fairs please let Tony Christie know and he will send you more information and contact details. The fairs are generally held in August and September. The feedback from people that have acted as judges in the past for the AusIMM prize is that it is a very worthwhile experience.

Tony Christie
Email t.christie@gns.cri.nz;
phone 04 570-4682



AusIMM New Leaders Conference Newcastle

The AusIMM New Zealand Branch sponsored 4 students and graduates to attend this year's New Leaders Conference

The AusIMM New Leaders Conference is an annual event aimed at students and young professionals with an interest in the mining and metallurgy sectors. The conference provides an opportunity to learn from seasoned industry professionals and network with like-minded people. This year the AusIMM sponsored four New Zealand delegates to attend; Sophie Bainbridge, Gayla Bonham-Carter, Joanna Druzicka and Andree Wallace.

Newcastle seems to have a reputation for being very industrial, and this is perceived as a negative thing. But for those who are actively involved in industry, instead of bypassing Newcastle on the way up the coast, I would recommend taking a look. It is an excellent example of how attractive an industrial town can look. The port is lined with palm trees, and the residential areas are separated from the industrial areas by a small ferry ride across a bustling fisheries harbor. This made it the

ideal venue for a conference that's underlying message encouraged integrating and managing the development of our industry in a sustainable way as we move forward in to the future.

The conference itself was held over two days; with seminars covering a wide range of topics, from personal

MSc topics, to career advice and lecturers from mining company representatives dealing with specific issues they have faced. But the overwhelming majority focused on the growing demands on our industry due to an ever increasing population. Of course with so many young and enthusiastic minds bundled in to one room hearty debate ensued.

The 'Meet and Greet' drinks and nibbles were held after the first day of seminars, this was a very successful evening with everyone enjoying themselves. Us Kiwis were never short of conversation being the only International delegates.

The following day the AusIMM thought they would try something new – a Student Congress. Student's, and some graduates, sat around tables and were given time to discuss the future of AusIMM, and how it can be the best it can be for up-and-coming leaders. Hopefully this will result in some positive outcomes in the future!



Aside from the conference itself, we had a great time exploring Newcastle, seeing all the magnificent bird life and maritime history,

Gayla, having lived on a yacht for a period of her life was right at home taking photos of the birds and explaining about the different wildlife.

On the last night the four of us went out to celebrate a successful conference, new friends and Andree;s engagement a few days prior! We had a delicious meal of Balinese and all left feeling incredibly inspired and grateful for the opportunity we had been afforded.



AusIMM NZ Branch Visiting Lecturer – Cont.

General Lecture Title: The Expanding Australian Black Coal Industry - An update on the new coal basin frontiers and existing project expansions

Abstract: In 2010 Australia produced 356 Mt of coal and exported 159Mt of metallurgical coal and 141 Mt of thermal coal, valued at 43 billion dollars to the economy. These figures are set to increase on the back of sustained high coal prices, expanding overseas markets and the rise of new coal basin frontiers as well as expansion of existing projects. There has been a steady growth in mining operations in Queensland, with new mines being developed in the Surat Basin, completion of the new Clermont open-cut at a cost of 1.3 billion dollars, coalescing of the large Goonyella – Riverside opencuts, major feasibility studies of coal deposits in the Galilee Basin, and the move to underground longwall operations from Bowen Basin opencuts that have reached their strip limits. In New South Wales, there is a similar picture with new mines opening in the Gunnedah Basin (Narrabri Underground Longwall) and extensions to existing mines (Mandalong underground). New technologies are also being employed to increase recovery of resources, and some of these will be presented.

Technical Lecture: Quantifying the Accelerating Effect of Pyritic Mineral Matter on Coal Self-heating

Abstract: Historical observations have often indicated that pyritic mineral matter can increase the propensity of coal self-heating. However, the true effect has not been measured in sufficient detail to provide reliable quantification for mining operations to decide what their risk is for management purposes. A recent case study will be used to show both the test method that is most appropriate for quantifying the effect of how dangerous this feature of certain coals, if present, can be. One of the key elements of understanding the effect is the identification of the form of pyrite present. Recognition of the importance of this key aspect of coal geology is often overlooked.

AusIMM now on Facebook!

The AusIMM has now hit Facebook!! Join us at 'AusIMM Students-NZ' for photos, updates on student events and opportunities in NZ. Palatable sized bites of information keeping you up to date on the goings-on, all from the click of a mouse.



Up-coming Events

June 22: Meeting - Turning Northland's minerals opportunities into reality. Wayne Brown, Mayor Far North District Council and Richard Barker and Tony Christie, GNS Science. Simpson Grierson, Level 28, Lumley Centre, 88 Shortland Street, Auckland, 5.30pm drinks, 6pm lecture. Contact Tony Christie: tchristie@gns.cri.nz

August: Education Endowment Trust applications reviewed and awards notified

August 27 - 30: NZ Branch Annual Conference, Queenstown.

August-September: Regional School Science Fairs (presentation of AusIMM prize)

October 3 - 14: Basil Beamish, AusIMM NZ Branch Visiting Lecturer short courses and lectures at various locations to be announced.

Nelson Meetings

For some time informal discussions/drinks have been taking place in Nelson – guest speakers and topics of interest provoke thought among like-minded people. These have so far proven themselves to be very popular. So pop along! These are held on the first Friday of every month in the Nelson offices of Golder Associates (Level 3, 295 Trafalgar Street – above Cafe Affair).