

# New Zealand Ready Mixed Concrete Association Inc.

NZRMCA Newsletter, May 2007

Issue 1/2007



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone. 2007 is moving fast, so I thought I'd take this opportunity for a quick catch-up.

Planning for the joint conference is well under way, with Council discussing it at length. Whilst there has been concern voiced regarding a joint conference, I believe this arrangement will continue to benefit the Association.

We will retain our identity through separate sessions, and at the same time enjoy the synergies and economies of scale afforded by being part of a larger event.

We have some personnel changes. The Central North Island region has a new chairman in Jeff Burgess of Supacrete. Good luck to Jeff and many thanks to his predecessor, Karl Campbell.

I'm also delighted that David Peterson, General Manager of Firth Industries has joined Council and that Bob Officer, General Manager of Allied Concrete has agreed to oversee the financial operations of the Association.

Council has been working on a business plan for the year. Whilst the plan has

yet to be finalized, it is likely to include a number of projects supporting the core themes of growth, quality, member support and technical proficiency.

It is pleasing to note from the region reports that you are all extremely active.

On a final note, I would like to thank Dene Cook for his sterling efforts as Executive Officer. I wish Dene all the very best in his new role as National Technical Manager with Firth.

**ROB GREEN  
PRESIDENT**

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## NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please let Angelique know at [admin@cca.org.nz](mailto:admin@cca.org.nz).

## REPORTS FROM THE REGIONS

### SOUTH ISLAND

Rob Uffindell gave an excellent presentation on the aggregate supply issues that are coming up in the medium term. He identified the extraction areas close to Christchurch that will be depleted within 20 years, and also highlighted the fact that reserves from the Waimakariri River could run out by 2017. Population growth will further affect areas where metal can be extracted. The next meeting will be held in Nelson on 3 May 2007.

### SOUTHERN NORTH ISLAND

Chaired in Scott Ferguson's absence by Cameron Lee, this meeting was attended by Rob Green, President, who outlined some of the

areas where Council is focusing its attention. Angus McMillan updated the meeting on the New Zealand Master Concrete Placers' Association.

### CENTRAL NORTH ISLAND

The region met in March. Jeff Burgess of Supacrete was appointed as the new Chairman. A guest speaker Peter Rae, a respected rowing coach, gave an interesting speech on the history of the Maadi Cup and the sport of Rowing within New Zealand.

### NORTHLAND

Northland members held their first regional meeting for 2007 in March. It took the form of an annual social event, at which wives and partners, along with

associates and suppliers, shared a meal and an evening together. As always the occasion was well supported. At the Friday afternoon meeting, a farewell tribute was paid to Tom Brien, who at the end of last year resigned his position as Northland Regional Manager for Firth Concrete. Tom has played a significant and very positive role in the regional activities. Firth has employed Kayne Young as Northland Area Manager. We congratulate him on his appointment and look forward to his participation on behalf of the region.

### AUCKLAND

Based on a recommendation from David Peddie, Manager, Market Behaviour for the Commerce

Commission, the Region is establishing a working group to evaluate waste streams for returned concrete, to be co-ordinated by Graham Payne. The progress made by the Concrete Pump Safety Working Group was welcomed. The Group has adopted a code of practice to deal with safety and environmental issues. An association of pump operators will also be formed. It was felt that construction companies would support this initiative and urge pump operators to join the association.

Jane Henley, CEO of NZGBC will give a presentation to the next meeting on the Green Star office rating tool. August's AGM will be held in the Bay of Islands.

## FAREWELL

### LINTON KING

It is with great sadness that we report Linton King recently passed away. Linton was a life-long friend of the Association and will be greatly missed. A minute's silence was observed at February's Auckland region meeting.

## PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

### ROB GAIMSTER

Rob Gaimster, project manager with CCANZ, has taken over from Dene Cook as executive officer of the Association.

## SUSTAINABILITY – SHOULD WE CARE?

Concrete is consumed in enormous quantities throughout the world to shape the built environment. Only water is consumed more. But does concrete contribute to sustainable development?

Sustainability is currently a hot topic. Most of us would subscribe to the definition of sustainability which is concerned with meeting our

present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs or leave lasting problems.

Concrete is a fantastically versatile and sustainable construction material. It lasts, can be moulded into any shape, performs well under fire, is thermally efficient, can be recycled, absorbs some of the CO<sub>2</sub>

associated with cement production et al. Furthermore, the ready mixed concrete industry has contributed significantly in process efficiencies, recycled initiatives and innovative new products.

The role of concrete in sustainable development will be a major focus of CCANZ in coming months....so watch this space!

## MINISTER ATTENDS CCANZ WORKSHOP

Hon. Clayton Cosgrove, Minister for Building and Housing, attended CCANZ's Annual Planning Workshop, held on 1 March in Auckland. The Minister provided a useful overview of the reforms that are transforming the building

sector and also previewed forthcoming proposals that aim to improve the energy efficiency and sustainability of buildings.

The Workshop was well attended by leaders from the cement and concrete

association. A five-year strategic plan was outlined including core themes of organic growth, sustainability, training and education, competitive construction systems and legislative and regulatory framework.

## FOR THE DIARY

**NZRMCA Council Meeting, Wellington, 23 May 2007.**

**Concrete Industry Conference, Wairakei, Taupo, 27-29 September 2007.**

Concrete's role in sustainable development will feature prominently on the agenda this year, in what promises to be another informative event. The Conference agenda and schedule of activities will be available soon.

**NZ Master Concrete Placers' Association Conference, Christchurch, 27-29 July 2007.**

This year's conference is about working smarter not harder around the office, to earn more and therefore get more out of your company. The always entertaining opening night debate will, this year, be hosted by Gary McCormick.

### NZRMCA Region Meetings:

REGION	DATE	VENUE
South Island	3 May 2007, 5.00 p.m.	Trailways Motor Lodge, Trafalgar Street, Nelson.
Northland	25 May 2007	To be advised.
Auckland	29 May 2007, 3.30 p.m.	Auckland. To be advised.
Central North Island	14 May 2007, 3.00 p.m.	Tauranga Game Fishing Club.
Southern North Island	24 May 2007	Cornwall Cricket Club, Hastings.

## DID YOU KNOW.....

One of the first uses of self-compacting concrete in UK was in 1999, to fill the four composite columns that support the sliding roof of the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff. The client was the Welsh Rugby Union!