



# IPWEA NSW Division Annual Report

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1 JULY 2016 to 30 JUNE 2017

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New South Wales



**IPWEA**

INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC WORKS  
ENGINEERING AUSTRALASIA

## Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia

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### IPWEA (NSW Division) Board of Management at 30 June 2017

<b>President</b>	Warren Sharpe OAM	(Eurobodalla Shire Council)
<b>Vice President</b>	Gary Woodman	(Gary Woodman Consulting & Project Management)

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### Board Members::

Grant Baker	(Blayney Shire Council)
Paul Gallagher	(Nambucca Shire Council)
Ken Halstead	(Mayor Wingecarribee Shire Council)
Garry Hemsworth	(Mid-Western Regional Council)
Bill Woodcock	(Complete Urban)
Will Barton	(Junee Shire Council)
Peter Shields	(City of Sydney)

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### IPWEA (NSW Division) Staff at 10 September 2017

John Roydhouse	Chief Executive Officer / Company Secretary
Arooran Manicks	Finance and Administration Manager
Mick Savage	Roads & Transport Directorate Manager
Jennifer Yap	Roads & Transport Directorate Research Policy Officer
Carina Jakobsen	Events & Operations Manager
Scott Lawrence	Sales and Marketing
Sean Burke	Directory Editor
(Vacant)	Sector Conferences
Elsie Pathmanathan	Coordinator Professional Development & Member Services
Eleni Ragogo	Events Coordinator
Laura Currie	Coordinator Member Engagement & Special Projects



New South Wales

# IPWEA

INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC WORKS  
ENGINEERING AUSTRALASIA

**IPWEA (NSW) is a charity established with the purpose of advancing public works excellence in Australia, particularly in NSW by:**

- ✔ conducting and publishing research into improvements to the processes used in public works and services to enhance NSW Communities
- ✔ working with government at all levels to ensure that the interests of the community are represented in regard to the public decision-making process relating to public works and services, and
- ✔ providing a forum for all people engaged in public works to discuss best practice and enhancing the future of NSW Communities

## Contents

- 4** President's Report
- 7** Chief Executive Officer's Report
- 10** Directors' Report
- 14** Financial Report
- 15** Foundation Report
- 16** Professional Development & Education
- 17** Events
- 19** Innovation Directorate and CIVENEX
- 20** Membership Services
- 21** Skills Shortage
- 22** Asset Management & Sustainability
- 27** Road Safety
- 29** Young IPWEA
- 31** Roads & Transport Directorate
- 33** Water Cycle Management & Environment
- 35** Regional Group Reports
- 43** Events Calendar

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



In the last of the three-year term of this Board, it gives me pleasure to present the 2016-17 annual report to IPWEA (NSW) members. The Board established a new strategic direction for the 2014-17 period and this year saw many outstanding milestones achieved. The rapidly changing paradigm has brought financial challenges and I commend the Board, our members and our team at IPWEA (NSW) for seeking out new opportunities to keep IPWEA (NSW) at the forefront of Public Works and Engineering excellence.

**IPWEA (NSW) is well positioned to lead the sector and help our members deliver on our mission of 'enhancing the quality of life of NSW communities through excellence in public works and engineering services'. This Annual Report outlines the numerous activities and overall performance of IPWEA NSW for the 2016-17 reporting period.**

IPWEA (NSW) is a registered charity and as a not for profit company (limited by guarantee) we remain in a sound financial position at 30 June 2017 despite a significant deficit result for this financial period. This year's deficit was primarily as a result of the decision to postpone the CIVENEX for 2017. The Board had deliberated on the future of CIVENEX and decided to pause this year's show, whilst developing the future direction for this long-standing event. We look forward to sharing more on this with you in the near future. The Board, our new Innovations Panel and the IPWEA (NSW) team has moved quickly to develop new income streams to partially offset this change in income. Nevertheless, financially this places greater emphasis on income sources derived from our publications, events and training.

In the meantime, the cumulated surpluses of IPWEA (NSW) and grant funding secured as an outcome of our advocacy continue to allow us to offer you, our members, quality services including training, knowledge sharing, opportunities for networking and personal growth, as well as technical publications to put members ahead of the game.

Our strategic direction to build and strengthen relationships and seek out opportunities for IPWEA (NSW) to help drive New South Wales forward has been well received by Parliamentarians and Government agencies.

We are proud of the achievements to date with new foundations built for infrastructure planning and reporting for the Local Government sector. This saw new definitions accepted and incorporated in the Office of Local Government's (OLG) financial reporting Updates 24 & 25. This was a vital first step in moving to improve the consistency with which financial reporting on infrastructure is undertaken as well as supporting improved credibility of Local Government and practitioners working within and for the sector.

Pleasingly, members have successfully influenced their Councils and regional organisations of Council to adopt the new road hierarchy, the short lived/long lived asset concept and many of the other strategies outlined in Update 24 & 25 to assist Councils meet Fit for Future targets.

Our end goal is to provide NSW communities with infrastructure and non-infrastructure solutions that deliver Fit for Purpose outcomes. This requires a further shift in the Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements for Local Government, from looking in the rear vision mirror at spending compared to depreciation and discussing 'backlog', to looking forward to the funding needed to deliver infrastructure maintenance and capital works based on condition, functionality and capacity.

We continue to work with the Office of Local Government to facilitate further changes to allow an aggregated funding need for the whole of Local Government infrastructure. If achieved, we will be able to develop a new infrastructure funding framework for New South Wales.

For our members working in the Water and Sewer sector, they would already be aware of the requirements to develop a 30 year forward looking Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy for each authority. This infrastructure plan is directly aligned to sustaining our infrastructure, providing safe and secure water supply and sewerage systems, protecting our environment as well as meeting growth in a new paradigm driven by climate change, increasing customer expectations, ever tightening water sharing plans, and emerging technologies that generate energy and reduce greenhouse gas impacts.

IPWEA (NSW) has advocated to Government to enable Councils and other Government agencies to provide similar forward planning for all infrastructure. A key success in our advocacy work has been the take-up of our media releases with follow-up media on Sydney and regional radio aiding to deliver key messages to the broader community. This required a shift in thinking from talking about 'asset management' and the 'backlog', to the future requirements needed to deliver social equity, community safety, economic and employment outcomes.

One of the largest challenges facing New South Wales is the poor road safety outcomes. We continue to advocate strongly for our wonderful Road Safety Officer programs to be secured and strengthened. The links however between our transport network management and poor road safety outcomes is clear, particularly as a result of the under-funding of basic road renewals such as resurfacing of our roads.

Despite a NSW Government plan to reduce injury crashes by 30%, only a handful of Councils



in NSW have a formal road safety plan. Yet in 2016 there were over 12,000 injury crashes and fatalities increased to 384 in NSW alone at an economic loss of \$7.6B. We must do better as a sector.

With about 90% of all roads looked after by Councils and 45% of fatal and injury crashes occurring on Council roads, we successfully advocated to Transport for NSW to secure \$380,000 for IPWEA (NSW) to train two Road Safety Auditors in every Council in NSW. We thank the Minister for Roads, Freight and Maritime Melinda Pavey MP, the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Andrew Constance MP, Tim Reardon Secretary Transport for NSW and his team for their foresight in supporting these critical capacity building programs.

This training is the next phase in building the capacity of members to be better able to deliver improved road safety outcomes for their communities.

We are now working on new guidelines on how to develop a formal road safety plan. Further training will follow,

allowing this key element of infrastructure planning to be brought to fruition. We already know from existing success stories, that some Councils are incorporating small changes combined with sound renewal strategies to provide significant improvements in road safety outcomes. Often the required works are cleverly integrated into existing infrastructure programs and/or achieved through the re-use of materials at minimal costs, or through specifically targeted grant funding programs such as the Black Spot Program.

By consolidating and improving our existing condition based asset management, building in the works required to improve road safety and projects that address capacity issues, we can, for the first time, create a consolidated transport funding plan for NSW Local Government. Infrastructure NSW, Transport for NSW and the Roads and Maritime Services are all open to working with IPWEA (NSW) and Local Government to see this outcome achieved. IPWEA (NSW) will continue to lead in this space and we ask all members to work

with us to achieve this critical outcome for NSW communities.

Of course, our work must extend to all infrastructure assets. To aid in developing the tools needed to assist members, we've created the NSW Asset Management Panel. This talented team from across NSW will present the work undertaken to date at the IPWEA (NSW) State Conference in November 2017.

On 20th June 2017, John Roydhouse, IPWEA (NSW) CEO, and I were invited to the NSW State Budget Lock up. Together we identified the recognition of regional water security, a focus on road safety and future training needs as highlights in the budget papers. It is really pleasing that this budget recognises the 40% job growth that has occurred in regional NSW over the last two years and is supporting major investment in regional NSW. This budget also strongly supports the city, and particularly the major growth areas of Western Sydney with a major focus on infrastructure capital works.

Highlights from 2016-17 include:

- A Notice of Motion being tabled to the NSW Parliament, to recognise the contribution of Engineers to the state of NSW.
- Direct advocacy on the need for Road Safety Audit training resulting in funding from Transport for NSW to train two officers in each Council.
- Pocket Sally taking centre stage at the 2017 Ministers' Awards for Women in Local Government.
- Delivery of the successful NSW Local Roads Congress at NSW Parliament Theatre ([www.ipwea.org/roadtransportdirectorate/](http://www.ipwea.org/roadtransportdirectorate/))
- The most successful State conference in recent history at Hunter Valley

including our Engineering Excellence Awards dinner. Congratulations to all who presented paper at the Conference and to our winners including Will Barton who took out the David Abbott award and Mark Roebuck who took out the Public Works Leader of the Year Award. A big thank you to our judges Geoff Fowler, John O'Connor and Greg Moran who covered the breadth of NSW to select the winners from our 101 nominations.

- Regional forums travelled to 11 locations across NSW with 448 people attending.
- We had a variety of different training courses, with over 500 attendees during 2016-17.
- Establishment of a new IPWEA NSW members panel on asset management
- Introduction of a new Innovation Panel, with representatives from Public Works Advisory, RMS and our previous Public Works Leaders in NSW.
- The launch of our new Industry conferences starting off with the Emerging Technologies conference held at Dolton House.

All of this is only made possible through the volunteer efforts of your NSW Board and I thank Gary Woodman (Vice-President, Audit and Risk Committee and Membership portfolio), Ken Halstead (Audit and Risk Committee, Water Cycle Management & Environment portfolio and IPWEA (Australasia Board member), Bill Woodcock (Innovation and CIVENEX portfolio), Grant Baker (Events portfolio), Will Barton (Skills Shortage portfolio and YIPWEA Australasian President), Peter Shields (Professional Development portfolio), Garry Hemsworth (NSW Roads and Transport Directorate portfolio)

and Paul Gallagher (Asset Management portfolio and representation on NAMS.AU). I also thank Nicola Daaboul for taking on the challenge of YIPWEA (NSW) President and all of our Group Chairs and Secretaries across NSW for the excellent work they do in supporting you as members.

It is heartening to see that our organisation is heading in the right direction with record number candidates contesting the 2017 Board election. Once again, my sincere thanks to all the current Board members for their dedication, passion and hard work provided to our Institute over the past three years.

On behalf of the NSW Board and you the members, I also recognise and thank our professional team at IPWEA (NSW) ably led by CEO John Roydhouse for their efforts in delivering enhanced services to you and to deliver on the advocacy strategies set by the NSW Board.

Finally I'd like to thank you, our members for your continued recognition of the many benefits of contributing to IPWEA (NSW) activities. We look forward to working for and with you to meet the many challenges and to make the most of the opportunities that lie ahead through active participation and deliberate collaboration.

It will be great to see you all in the Hunter Valley for the upcoming NSW Conference and Awards Dinner. It promises to be yet again an unmissable event.



**Warren Sharpe OAM**  
President IPWEA NSW

 @WarrenSharpe5

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT 2016-17



### A Focus on Diversity and Inclusion delivers Innovation.

**Last year I reported that the Board had considered the prevailing focus on disruption and the necessity for innovation when setting the strategic direction for IPWEA (NSW). Collectively, the Board has spent considerable time reviewing the business model, the needs of members and the need for the organisation to be proactive rather than reactionary, ensuring it continues to evolve and grow, and provide leadership and timely, relevant service delivery.**

Professional Associations are not exempt from the continual change in our community and must adapt to continue to represent the best interests of its members, for IPWEA (NSW), the larger public infrastructure sector and ultimately the communities that we all work and live in. If anything, that is even more true this year, with turbulent change unabated at all levels of government, but I am pleased to report that we have stepped up and met these challenges with significant success.

I closed my report last year with the following comment:

“*The continued economic pressures on all levels of government, the emphasis and*

*focus on public infrastructure by senior levels of government continue to point towards the need for recognition and registration of engineers. From an industry leadership perspective this will be a key focus for both the Board and staff of IPWEA (NSW).*”

The ambitious strategic plan and associated actions set by the Board in seeking to ensure IPWEA (NSW) is recognised as a skilled influencer of all tiers of Government and regulators; and to assist members with their careers and lift the profile of public works engineering is gaining momentum and IPWEA (NSW) is becoming a significant influencer and point of reference for the sector.

IPWEA (NSW) continues to build its profile with government agencies, with elected representatives and with other professional peak bodies including:

- Office of Local Government
- State Audit Office
- T Corp
- Transport for NSW
- RMS
- Infrastructure NSW
- LG NSW
- LG Professionals NSW
- Professionals Australia (LGEA)

There have been numerous submissions and reports provided to government inquiries and reports including a focus on autonomous vehicles and road safety. This collaborative approach has resulted in a significant program to up skill all road authorities in NSW, with funding for all NSW Councils to undertake Road Safety Audit Training provided by Transport for NSW as a first stage approach to safer roads. In monetary terms, this funding is significant - \$380,000 over 2 years - and has come in recognition of the efforts of our Road Safety Panel, our Roads and Transport Directorate and general advocacy efforts.

The introduction of the Asset Management Working Group Panel, has provided considerable strength to our ability to develop tools and strategic direction to assist practitioners in the import asset management sector, not just Engineers, but also our finance and general managers, elected representatives and state government agencies including the Office of Local Government and the State Audit office. Having a dedicated and committed representative panel has allowed IPWEA (NSW) to

have considerable input into the future asset management strategy, integrated reporting and strategic direction for all local governments in NSW working within the current local government reform framework.

This panel has also allowed IPWEA (NSW) to encourage diversity with a cross section of members from across the state; varying in organisational size, location, experience and gender. The panel, consisting of Nicola Daaboul, Kylie Kerr, Bridie Campbell, Jacqui Hansen, John Maretich and Geoff Paton, will launch a new dashboard approach to asset management at our State Conference in November.

We have also introduced an Innovation Panel, with representatives from Public Works Advisory, RMS and our previous Public Works Leaders in NSW, all practitioners in the industry. This panel provides a think tank for the tools, ideas, methods and reforms required for the sector to do its task more efficiently, more cost effectively and more safely for the benefit of our communities. The panel is making significant progress and it is very rewarding to have people with such engagement, commitment and insight working in the interests of IPWEA (NSW).

Over the period of the 2016/2017 financial year, members were invited to attend our eighth year of Regional Forums, our highly successful State Conference in the Hunter Valley, and the Local Roads Congress in Parliament House. These events are only possible through the support of our dedicated sponsors, partners and presenters and of course, our members.

We recognised the best of the best at our State Conference Awards Ceremony. We had 101 nominations for the 13 awards. These Awards continue to grow from strength to strength. It was

also exciting to have our State Public Works Leaders of the Year and our Emerging Leader recipients nominated for the Australasian Leader of the Year Awards in Perth.

The Regional Group Meetings as always, provided the opportunity for us to celebrate our Regional Networks and the wonderful work of the Chairs and Secretaries who dedicate their personal time to ensure that engineers across NSW have the opportunity to share their challenges and their successes with their peers at regular meetings throughout the year.

Young IPWEA is leading the way with its commitment to Diversity and Inclusion and building an exciting environment for the next generation of Engineers. The Pocket Sally initiative, has been a case study in thinking outside the square in the way we communicate our message, create awareness and discussion. YIPWEA (NSW) has developed a strong strategic and action plan which can only strengthen the support for the Institute, and at the same time, create leadership and engineering skills development opportunities for the immediate benefit of our younger and potential members.

Financially, the 2016/2017 year has delivered a significant deficit. This is not a position that has sat comfortably with the Board, but they have recognised the challenges and the reserve built up from several years of surplus. In short, this year has been one of exceptional circumstances.

Last year I reported that we were looking at relocating to new offices. Instead the Board made the decision to remodel our office into a very modern open plan working environment with a comfortable board room space. This configuration means we still have room for further

growth if required in the future. This has encountered some one-off costs but has allowed us to stay in the long term accommodation offered by the Foundation.

A review of the different business units within the organisation identified the source of the deficit which primarily can be attributed to the postponement of Civenex in 2017. Our events and professional development departments are performing well, providing timely and relevant conferences, forums and workshops. Careful attention to costs and overheads continues to be a managerial focus, yet retaining the strong member engagement and advocacy remains a priority. With membership fees only providing 9.6% of our gross income, it is imperative that the Board continually evolves the business with its offerings and income generation to ensure the longevity of the Institute through a return to financial surplus.

So to the future.

Our plans for CIVENEX are still in the pipeline with several options being pursued by the Board. We will be in a position to share the latest news by year end.

We have taken an innovative approach to the development of members and non-members by offering a new program of conferences. Our inaugural conference addressed the topic of Emerging Technologies in Public Infrastructure. It was a great success with overwhelmingly positive feedback, attracting an audience far beyond our membership, opening the IPWEA door to a wider audience.

The organisation is fortunate to have strong leadership from its Board members, led by Warren Sharpe OAM, Gary

Woodman, Ken Halstead, Bill Woodcock, Paul Gallagher, Garry Hemsworth, Peter Shields, Will Barton and Grant Baker. The Board has taken the organisation to a new level of advocacy and leadership within the industry. This has been evidenced with the strong relationship IPWEA (NSW) enjoys with parliamentarians across the spectrum and the level of interaction with government agencies.

Again, at the time of preparing this report, a Notice of Motion has been tabled in the NSW Parliament, recognising the contribution of Engineers to the state of NSW. Whilst there is still much to do in this endeavour, it is a significant step.

All Board members have a dedicated portfolio and

along with the staff have had considerable impact on the activities of the organisation. Advocacy includes regular board gatherings with Members of Parliament both Ministers and Shadow Ministers, regular meetings of the NSW President and the CEO with senior government officials from a range of agencies.

As we head into a Board Election, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our Directors for their wonderful service to the Board and our members and importantly to our profession and for their personal support and friendship.

The strong field of candidates for the Board election is testament to the leadership, the advocacy and the efforts of the current Board. To have so many

members, responding to the diversity message, raising their hands and wanting to participate and make a contribution to our future, does auger well.

Finally, the IPWEA (NSW) staff has undergone a few changes over the last year but I believe we now have strong, passionate and professional individuals who work as a team to provide outstanding customer service to our members. I want to offer my personal thank you to each of them for the support they have provided me over the past 12 months.



**John Roydhouse**  
Chief Executive Officer

 @ipweansw



## DIRECTORS' REPORT

The financial report was authorised for issue by the Directors on 15 September 2017.

The Directors present this report on the company for the year ended 30 June 2017.



### DIRECTORS

The name and details of the Company's Directors and Secretary in office during the year and until the date of this report are as follows.

#### Warren Sharpe OAM

President (from 16 October 2014)

- BE (Hons), LGE, EE&M, Ass Dip Management, GAICD, MIPWEA Director Infrastructure Services Eurobodalla Shire Council.
- IPWEA NSW Board 18 February 2011 – Present, IPWEA Australasia Board Member.
- Appointed 18 February 2011

#### Gary Woodman

Vice President

(from 16 October 2014),

Portfolio Director  
Membership Services

- BE (Civil), G. Dip.LGE, LGE, RPEng (Civil), RPEQ, FIPWEA, MLGMA, GAICD
- Principal Consultant Director, Gary Woodman Consulting & Project Management.
- Other Portfolio: Skills Shortage.
- Appointed 10 November 2002.

#### Ken Halstead Portfolio Director Water Cycle Management and Environment

- DipTech Eng (NSWIT), BE (Hons) (NSWIT), ME (Hons) (UOW), FIPWEA.
- IPWEA Australasia Board Member.
- Other portfolio: Roads and Transport Directorate/Road Safety.
- Appointed 15 December 2000.

#### Bill Woodcock Portfolio Director CIVENEX / INNOVATION

- BE, Grad Dip LG Mgt, FIEAust, FIPWEA, LGE, MAITPM, Accredited Mediator with the Australian Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators. Reg., General Manager, Government and Business Services.
- Complete Urban Pty Ltd.
- Other portfolio: Events.
- Appointed 21 October 2011.

#### Garry Hemsworth Portfolio Director Roads and Transport Directorate/Road Safety

- CPE, Director Operations - Mid-Western Regional Council. Chair Road Safety Panel, Roads & Transport Directorate Management Committee.
- Other portfolio: Professional Development.
- Appointed 16 October 2014.

#### Paul Gallagher Portfolio Director Asset Management, Sustainability and Coastal Management

- Assistant General Manager - Engineering Services Nambucca Shire Council.
- Other portfolio: CIVENEX / Innovation.
- Appointed 16 October 2014.

#### Grant Baker Portfolio Director Events

- GAICD, B.Surv/B.Eng(Civil) Hons, Newcastle, Director of Infrastructure Services, Blayney Shire Council, Works Officers Panel, Institute of Surveyors NSW.
- Other portfolio: Asset Management, Sustainability and Coastal Management.
- Appointed 16 October 2014.

#### Peter Shields Portfolio Director Professional Development

- BE (Hons) UTS, MBA, Technical Services Manager, City of Sydney, Chair Professional Development Panel.
- Other portfolio: Membership Services.
- Appointed 16 October 2014.

#### Will Barton Portfolio Director Skills Shortage

- BE Civil (Hons), DipEngPrac, Dip Mgt, Director Engineering Services, Junee Shire Council, Chair Young IPWEA Australasia, Skills Shortage Panel.
- Other portfolio: Water Cycle Management and Environment
- Appointed 16 October 2014.

## ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS

During the year ended 30 June 2017, there were 12 meetings of the Board. These included seven held by teleconference.

Attendances of Directors were as follows:

Director	Eligible	Attended
Warren Sharpe OAM	12	11
Gary Woodman	12	10
Ken Halstead	12	9
Bill Woodcock	12	9
Paul Gallagher	12	12
Peter Shields	12	11
William Barton	12	11
Grant Baker	12	11
Garry Hemsworth	12	11

### COMPANY SECRETARY

The Company Secretary at the date of this report is:

#### John Roydhouse GAICD Chief Executive Officer

Chief Executive Officer IPWEA (NSW) since August 2013, Secretary, NSW Municipal Engineering Foundation.

### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

IPWEA (NSW) is a charity established with the purpose of advancing the public works sector in Australia, particularly in NSW by:

- conducting and publishing research into improvements to the processes used in the industry
- working with government at all levels to ensure that the

interests of the public works industry are represented in regard to the public decision-making process, and

- providing a forum for all people engaged in the public works to discuss best practice and enhancing the future of the industry

### SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN STATE OF AFFAIRS

The financial position and performance of the Institute was particularly affected by the postponement of the CIVENEX trade show. The Board is deliberating on the future strategy of this long-standing event.

Whilst have developed other business strategies to minimise

the financial impact in future years. There have been no other significant changes in the company's state of affairs during the financial year.

### IPWEA (NSW) MISSION

To enhance the quality of life of NSW Communities through excellence in public works and services.

### IPWEA (NSW) VISION

IPWEA (NSW) is recognised as the leading professional association that effectively informs, connects, represents and leads public works professionals in NSW.

### SHORT AND LONG TERM OBJECTIVES

The strategic priorities are reflected by the 6 Key Focus Areas listed below. They cover the Portfolios set for Directors and other identified program areas. Built into the Strategic objectives are short and long term objectives including twelve month and five year objectives. This strategic approach identifies the specific actions that Staff and Board members are tasked to undertake in each of the 6 strategic objectives taking into account the Vision and Mission of IPWEA, current performance and benchmarks.

An annual report is prepared which monitors the current status and trends of the company in these key areas.

Key Focus Areas	Strategic Priorities 2015 -2017	
	Within one year	5 year target
<b>1. Delivery of an enhanced relevant membership experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved participation and engagement in Beaton Survey</li> <li>• IPWEA is alert to industry needs and has developed expertise in developing courses to meet these.</li> <li>• Progression towards Extension to Scope for the Registered Training Organisation</li> <li>• IPWEA has marketed the existing resources to all existing members</li> <li>• Young IPWEA participation in Regional Groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IPWEA is the first point of contact for members when they need professional help – advocacy, training, etc.</li> <li>• IPWEA has developed a Certificate or formal qualification in Public Works</li> <li>• Australian Public Works Engineers and technical staff are recognised as well skilled and professional.</li> <li>• Robust and healthy regional groups engage members at all levels.</li> </ul>

## Key Focus Areas

## Strategic Priorities 2015 -2017

	Within one year	5 year target
<b>2. Effectively engaging with strategic partners and stakeholders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of who the stakeholders are and what they need has been completed.</li> <li>• Board lunches promoted and expanded.</li> <li>• IPWEA seeks representation on boards and technical committees, panels, task forces, working parties, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a wealth of sponsorship opportunities and diversity of approaches.</li> <li>• Board lunches popular and sought after.</li> <li>• IPWEA is sought to be a member of boards and technical committees, panels, task forces, working parties.</li> </ul>
<b>3. Building Capacity of the Public Works Industry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IPWEA has successfully lobbied for an Engineer to be recognised in the legislation for each LGA.</li> <li>• Successful implementation of the State-wide mentoring program has encouraged members to advance their careers.</li> <li>• Courses are developed and provided either directly or in partnership with industry suppliers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IPWEA members are prominent within OLG staff and other relevant agency personnel.</li> <li>• Young Engineers aspire to become Engineering Directors within the public works sector.</li> <li>• Online summary of CPD points for members is available.</li> <li>• CPD is connected to registration for Professional Engineers in NSW.</li> <li>• IPWEA (NSW) can provide courses online to a global audience.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Brand Awareness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marketing and media communications strategy developed and implemented.</li> <li>• Develop courses on media training, communication, public speaking, etc.</li> <li>• Key themes for mainstream media identified and messages appropriately issued to the sector.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Results of public works professional marketing program reviewed.</li> <li>• A program of positive media comments and project showcases has developed IPWEA into the preferred source of comment on Public Works issues.</li> <li>• Media packs have been developed and given to chairs and secretaries with appropriate training.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Leadership of the Public Works Community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IPWEA advocacy has led to recognition and registration of Public Works Engineers.</li> <li>• IPWEA introduces “Fit for Purpose” terminology and methodology to the assessment of the Local Government reform process</li> <li>• Board has developed a program to attract a diverse range and skills onto voluntary committees.</li> <li>• Publicity has increased.</li> <li>• Usage grows 10% over 2015 levels.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IPWEA provides the ‘state of the industry’ reports for water and other public infrastructure, having assumed these responsibilities from the regulators and government departments.</li> <li>• IPWEA has encouraged women to enter the Public Works sector and they now comprise more than 10% of the IPWEA membership.</li> <li>• Promotion of Cadet Engineering program.</li> </ul>
<b>6. Sustainability of operations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk and Audit Committee have finalised review of all policy documents</li> <li>• Risk and Audit Committee have completed risk assessment and developed a Risk Management policy</li> <li>• Identification of strategic partnerships that could prove revenue generating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IPWEA Board Elections are fiercely contested with candidates aspiring to serve the Board.</li> <li>• All Board members and senior staff regularly have attended governance workshops and training.</li> </ul>

## MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (NSW Division) Limited is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the company being wound up:

### 1. Limited liability of members

*The liability of members is limited to the amount of the guarantee in clause 2.*

### 2. The guarantee

*Each member must contribute an amount not more than \$10 (the guarantee) to the property of the company if the company is wound up while the member is a member, or within 12 months*

*after they stop being a member, and this contribution is required to pay for the:*

- i. debts and liabilities of the company incurred before the member stopped being a member, or*
- ii. costs of winding up.*

## AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 given to the Directors by the lead auditor for the audit undertaken by Cutcher & Neale Assurance Pty Limited.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (NSW Division) Limited.

**Warren Sharpe OAM**  
President IPWEA NSW

 @WarrenSharpe5

Dated at this Day  
15 September 2017



## FINANCIAL REPORT



The financial position of IPWEA (NSW Division) remains strong despite of the trade deficit during the reporting period. During 2016/17 financial year, the company, IPWEA (NSW Division) made an operating loss of \$296.9k. This deficit resulted primarily due to the postponement of the CIVENEX tradeshow.

The NSW Foundation made a surplus of \$25.3k during the period. The solid asset base of the NSW Foundation should enable it to deliver a sustainable program of endowments, scholarships and programs to members.

### Summary Financial Performance

Full details of the Institute's finances are set out in the Audited Financial Reports however key result areas for the year are as follows:

IPWEA (NSW Division) Ltd	2017 \$	2016 \$
Revenue from ordinary activities	1,910,318	2,520,913
Cash at end of financial year	1,715,193	1,808,882
Profit / (Loss) after income tax expense	(296,974)	225,634
Net assets	1,348,611	1,645,584
Tax (credit) expense	-	(27,447)
Net (deficit) CIVENEX	(197,876)	(51,661)
Net (deficit) Events and conference	(77,873)	(74,487)
Net surplus Administration	9,101	5,172
Net surplus Professional Development	46,736	198,903
Net (deficit) Sector Conferences	(30,322)	-
Net (deficit) surplus Roads and Transport Directorate	(46,739)	120,260

Municipal Engineering Foundation	2017 \$	2016 \$
Operating (Loss) Profit	25,304	(23,429)
Non Current Assets	715,000	715,000
Net Assets	1,725,292	1,699,988

# MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING FOUNDATION REPORT

In 2016/17 the Municipal Engineering Foundation (MEF) continued with its role of supporting the activities of IPWEA (NSW) and its members.

The range of programs and support available to members through the Foundation include:

- 1 IPWEA International Study Tour
- 2 Young Leaders attendance at Conference(s)
- 3 Works Officers Study Tour and Conference
- 4 IPWEA Australasia Asset Management Study Tour
- 5 IPWEA (NSW) Awards for Excellence
- 6 Private Study Grants

The Foundation supported the Annual Awards for Excellence including the costs of judging and the preparation of awards. This successful IPWEA (NSW) program has enabled the important work carried out by Public Works Professionals to be showcased to the industry as well as to the local communities where these professionals work. The NSW Excellence Awards have been aligned with the Biennial National IPWEA Awards. This will mean that The Best Project Category winners and leaders from the 2017 and 2018 awards will be submitted as NSW nominations to the National Awards in 2019.

While the Foundation has supported many formally structured programs, there is also scope to reward individual initiative and scholarship. The Trustees will always welcome individual applications for endowments from members wishing to study and enhance their skills through overseas travel and exchange programs

or the like. As well, the Foundation works closely with the Board of IPWEA in NSW on a range of training and development initiatives which are designed to assist members with their personal professional development.

All these activities can only be delivered because the Foundation is operating with a strong asset base of both property and cash investments which have been carefully managed over the past 62 years. The cash investments are continually reviewed to maximise returns within the prudent restrictions of the Trust Deed under which the Foundation operates.

During 2016, the Foundation's investment in the Kent Street office occupied by the IPWEA was reviewed in detail. This followed the relocation of the National Office of IPWEA from

Kent Street to North Sydney. This review confirmed that the original investment is still providing a sound financial return for the Foundation as well as solid growth in the capital value of the asset.

I wish to again thank my fellow trustees Greg Moran, John O'Connor, Warren Sharpe and John Truman for their support and diligence over the past year. As well, the Trustees acknowledge the great support the Foundation received from John Roydhouse as CEO of the NSW Division and Secretary to the Foundation. Of course, all this good work would not be possible without the staff in the IPWEA (NSW) office who support John and the Trustees in such a professional way.

**Chris Watson**  
Chairman  
Municipal Engineering  
Foundation



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



**It has been another outstanding year for professional development. Feedback confirms we continue to deliver high quality and relevant development programs at a low cost.**

### **Important highlights from the past year:**

#### **Diploma of Local Government (Operational Works)**

We have broadened our Registered Training Organisation status to incorporate many of our most popular courses and a series of new ones. Each time participants now attend and pass these courses, it will count towards a Diploma of Local Government (Operational Works). By completing 13 of our nominated courses, the IPWEA (NSW) can award this Diploma. Prior learning from recently held courses will also be considered. Only 25% of people who attend our courses are members. This therefore represents a major opportunity for us to attract new members and promote the value of IPWEA (NSW). We anticipate this will motivate many individuals to continue a learning pathway with the IPWEA (NSW) over many years and further increase course enrolments.

#### **Road Safety**

It has been five years now since we first commenced running the Road Safety Auditor training. In the last few months we have had our RTO status reviewed

and extended for another 5 years. These courses provide an excellent ongoing service to the sector and a sustainable income for the IPWEA (NSW). 206 people have been trained in the last year alone. A significant highlight this year was the announcement at the Roads Congress that Transport for NSW will commit \$380,000 in funding over the next two years for Councils to receive free training for two staff members in road safety. Further to this, our Road Safety training was taken up by Transport for South Australia which is significant progress to extend our reach beyond the NSW border.

#### **New Courses**

The courses for Australian Rainfall and Runoff and IPART's Special Rate Variation Application have now commenced and are proving to be popular. We have also delivered a new course on flexible pavements in collaboration with the Centre for Pavement Engineering Education. Finally, work is well underway to commence running a two-day Urban Drainage course, and the first of these will be in October 2017.

Alongside the above, our

business as usual professional program continues to prosper. The income for the 2016/17 year was \$535,687. In contrast to private company competitors these funds are used to support the broader outcomes of the organisation for the good of the community.

It has been a pleasure to serve on the board, and it has been particularly rewarding to see the professional development portfolio continue to exceed expectations over this time. We have to credit this success to the remarkable job both Elsie Pathmanathan, our Professional Development Coordinator and CEO John Roydhouse do in this regard.

There is much more in the pipeline for professional development in the coming years. Some excellent relationships are being forged which will result in a broader range of courses and people that attend them. Even more prosperous days lay ahead!

#### **Peter Shields**

Professional Development Portfolio Director

## IPWEA (NSW) EVENTS PORTFOLIO



A mixed year of growth, stability and change for the IPWEA (NSW Division) Events Team! We continue to remain focussed on opportunities that provide our members with quality information, via both educational and networking events. We remain committed to delivering to our members opportunities to develop and enhance their networks, their technical and “soft” skills.

**After a couple of years of change, FY2017 has offered our Events and Operations Manager, Carina Jakobsen the opportunity to press forward with Performance Objectives identified in the IPWEA (NSW) Strategic Plan: -**

- Delivery of an enhanced relevant membership experience
- Brand Awareness
- Leadership of the Public Works Community
- Sustainability of Operations

Unfortunately, the Events Team has been presented with staffing difficulties, with the loss of our Events Intern Janina Bramm, who was required to return to Denmark at short notice due to her studies. Janina attended all Regional Forums in 2017 and enjoyed seeing regional and rural NSW while meeting the Institute’s members. Eleni Ragogo, our new Event Coordinator has since taken over and is settling in well.

Change came in the form of the NSW Local Government Reform agenda, and the need for IPWEA (NSW) to work harder to ensure it remained engaged with members, in an environment where members were starting to move across organisations at an increased rate. Despite

this the FY2017 event program had multiple opportunities for members to attend well produced, quality events, developed upon what the membership was asking for, in a cost effective manner and returned a surplus to IPWEA (NSW).

### 2016 AGM and State Conference

Following an analysis of the 2015 State Conference in Terrigal it became clear the Events Team needed to expand the State Conference to keep up with the increased interest around the event. A decision was made to expand the exhibition area, enhance training opportunities and offer a partners program, all whilst continuing to provide attendees with a relaxed venue to learn and network.

As a result, the 2016 State Conference was as a result held at the Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley Resort. The location offered the opportunity to provide attendees with an expanded program and exhibition suite, amongst quality facilities, all on a single site. With master classes for executives as well as young professionals, and a diverse range of presentations, our growing cohort of attendees were able to mingle and network

amongst a sell-out choice of sponsor and supplier trade stands, and engage with our partners, as we continue to enhance the quality of life of NSW Communities through excellence in public works and services.

Our Excellence Awards Gala Dinner continues to grow, with large numbers making new, and catching up with old friends, whilst enjoying dinner and drinks, celebrating the professional excellence of our peers, and being entertained throughout the night by Brian Nankervis of ABC RockWiz fame. The 2016 Awards Gala Dinner saw the introduction of the Minister for Local Government’s Award for Innovation in Local Government Engineering which was very well received. In 2017 we will see the State Conference back at Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley 8-10 November with a range of activities and a most topical program.

Registrants	Attendees
IPWEA (NSW) Members	109
YOUNG IPWEA (NSW) Members	22
Non Members	87
Industry Suppliers	69
Others	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>320</b>

## 2017 Local Roads Congress

For the fourth year, we held the Local Roads Congress at State Parliament House, followed by dinner in the Strangers Dining Room. The program once again offered senior Council staff and Councillors a fantastic opportunity to hear from senior executives from government agencies and mix with Members of the NSW Parliament.

The venue enables IPWEA (NSW) an opportunity to advocate on our members behalf, ensure Government is listening, and allow attendees to engage with Government in a relaxed business setting.

In 2017 we saw the keynote provided by Mr Kevin Anderson Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Roads, Maritime and Transport on behalf of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and the dinner speaker was the thought provoking Mr Don Murray, Executive Officer for the Review of Regional Infrastructure. The entire day and dinner was facilitated by Rob Carlton. Following on from dinner, many of those who were staying in Sydney then took the opportunity to enjoy the famous Vivid Light Festival.

Registrants	Attendees
IPWEA (NSW) Members	24
Roads & Transport Directorate Members	9
Non Members	26
Presenters	13
Other	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>

## Regional Forums 2017

Our Regional Forums remain a key opportunity for members to learn, network with their peers and receive updates from the IPWEA (NSW) Office and industry partners. Feedback from our membership and industry partners confirms our belief

that providing these events in regional areas is key to making sure we remain relevant with the membership.

As usual we had a Member of Parliament or Mayor doing the opening address at each venue around the State and we were fortunate enough to secure two ministers; the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight in South West Rocks and the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Minister for Local Government, which proves that the relationship between IPWEA (NSW) and Cabinet is stronger than ever.

In FY2018, we look forward to celebrating our 100th Regional Forum, which will be a gala event held at a landmark venue in Sydney. I look forward to seeing you there.

Forum	Attendees
Yamba	28
South West Rocks	42
Newcastle	46
Canowindra	35
Bourke	39
Barraba	35
Narrandera	27
Thredbo	35
Wollongong	44
Waverton	55
Windsor	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>448</b>

## Regional Group Meetings

The value of Regional Group meetings remains topical amongst the membership, but is at the same time critical to attracting new young engineers and practitioners to become members. Our volunteers, the Chairs and Secretaries continue to ensure we offer opportunities to find out what is happening locally, perhaps share some project insight and technical information. These events also offer the IPWEA (NSW) team the chance to meet the members, and talk about the vital work

IPWEA (NSW) is undertaking on its members' behalf.

As an important part of our organisation, I thank our volunteers for their efforts in sharing the IPWEA (NSW) message.

## The Events Team

FY2017 has continued to present its challenges to the Board and the Events Team, and again I must thank Carina Jakobsen for her patience, determination, passion and continued efforts in delivering an ambitious program of events with limited resources, and many challenges. With a new Event Coordinator in place and the expanded staff providing various projects, FY2018 will be an exciting year.

As the term of the current Board comes to an end, I wish to thank you all for the opportunity to work with you, in what must be considered a very strong term where we have been able to advocate and promote on behalf of our members, the wonderful profession of engineering.

John Roydhouse, thank you for your ongoing support professionally, and for the work you do in promoting an amazingly dynamic and professional organisation. I thank you, and our amazing team.

## Wrap Up

IPWEA (NSW) events offer a wide variety of opportunities to enhance your professional careers, and I urge everyone to continue to search for new ideas, and take those opportunities where you can, to attend an IPWEA (NSW) event. Whatever your involvement you are empowering yourself, improving your profession and supporting your peers. Get amongst it, and remember to seize the opportunity when it appears.

## Grant Baker

Events Portfolio Director  
IPWEA (NSW)

## INNOVATION DIRECTORATE AND CIVENEX



IPWEA (NSW) now has a new Portfolio titled “Innovation”.

**The two Directors with an overview of this new Directorate are Paul Gallagher and myself as lead and this portfolio encompasses the former CIVENEX event along with new additions to the services and initiatives of IPWEA (NSW). We are aiming to keep our members at the cutting edge of technology and industry trends. This particularly includes trends of the disruptive kind.**

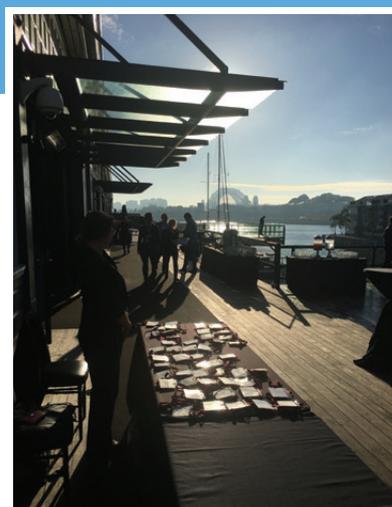
We welcomed and farewelled Loan Kiss, who was tasked with the responsibility of implementing new innovative Sector Conferences, Information sessions and industry Congresses.

Loan has already organised and run the very successful “Emerging Technologies in Local Government” Conference that included 12 case studies. This new annual event was well received and the program both thought provoking and informative.

With the input and drive for these new areas being overseen by the “Innovation Panel” which is made up of a high Calibre team of past “Public Works Leaders of the Year”, members such as George Bounassif and

Mark Roebuck, Directors Peter Shields and Grant Baker, as well as Industry input by Jason Gordon (RMS), John Anderson and Glen Edgton (Public Works Advisory) and Young IPWEA representation from Nicola Daaboul and Hamish Scroope. We also had input from IPWEA (NSW) staff Including John Roydhouse, Loan Kiss, Arooran Manicks and Carina Jacobsen. This team have been tasked with pushing the boundaries and to keep abreast of new trends and innovation on behalf of members. Their brief is to simply to identify new or potential tools and ideas that will assist our members in delivering on our mission to enhance the quality of life of NSW Communities through excellence in public works and services. Several projects have been identified and are in early stage development.

As reported elsewhere, this year saw the postponement of CIVENEX. This was not an easy decision but one taken after considerable due diligence by the Board. At the time of preparing this report the future for the event is being developed with a major announcement not too far away. The Innovation Portfolio is responsive to the



need to evolve and change to ensure the very best outcome for our members and the industry including the revamp for CIVENEX.

**Bill Woodcock.**  
Innovation and  
CIVENEX Director.

## MEMBERSHIP SERVICES



Currently our membership stands at 788 including student, associate, emeritus, fellow and honorary members. The year has seen continuation of the Organisational Champions concept with the Institute having over 50 Organisational Champions across the State.

**It is hoped that those Organisational Champions will continue to assist us to grow and retain membership.**

Membership Services staff are dedicated and focussed in this area supporting individual members, the Organisational Champions Network and the Regional Group Chairs and Secretaries. Staff have been able to continue to support the Regional Groups as required and to find ways to recruit members at Councils and other Organisations where there are no or a small number of members.

If you are serious about our Organisation and want to contribute, be an Organisational Champion, contact the Membership Services Staff for more information.

The year has seen the NSW Division Board continue with an appropriate Communication Strategy to members. NSW Division Staff are providing regular email newsletters or e-bulletins, the showcase journal, new membership packs and Regional Group Meeting updates. The membership was also provided with many ways to improve their professional development and

to network with each other with most probably the most successful series of Regional Forums across NSW ever held, an extensive Professional Development Program, and a NSW Local Roads & Transport Congress. Our Communities of Practice – Assets, Fleet, Land Development, Parks, Road Safety, Sustainability and Young IPWEA continue to enhance our knowledge and networking opportunities.

The Board and relevant Sub-committees was also able to lead through advocacy on local government reform and has engaged with IPART, Infrastructure NSW, T-Corp, NSW Public Works, Office of Local Government, Local Government NSW, Transport for NSW, RMS and other partners.

The Institute has also been working closely with the Local Government Engineers Association of NSW in helping to improve the infrastructure delivery and engineering capacity of local government in NSW. A joint strategy document has been produced that has helped to commence the process to improve the recognition of engineers and the improvement of skills across the industry.

So 2016/2017 has been an interesting year for the NSW public works and services industry and in particular NSW Local Government.

I am looking forward to 2017/2018 being a positive year with positive membership growth for the NSW Division of the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia.

**Gary Woodman**  
Membership Services Portfolio  
Director

## SKILLS SHORTAGE



2016/17 has seen the momentum continue for the Skills Shortage Portfolio, particularly with respect to advocacy for the recognition of engineering, cadetships, Young IPWEA and the role of engineers in local government.

**Young IPWEA (NSW) has gone from strength to strength and is now only two positions short of a full strength committee, needing representation from the Mid North Coast and Far North Coast Regional Groups.**

The Committee's work on sustainability of skilled staff in councils has been exceptional.

Their research into the history and current state of cadetships across NSW informed a submission to the NSW Government which has since seen advancements in that space toward the introduction of cadetships across all Government projects.

To read more on the activities of Young IPWEA – and trust me, there's a lot – head over to Nicola Daaboul, the NSW Young IPWEA Chair's report.

The recognition of engineers, their contribution to society and the importance of enabling safe, prosperous and sustainable communities has been a high priority for the Institute.

Off the back of the work undertaken with LGNSW, Professionals NSW and the Office of Local Government in the development of the Workforce Development

Strategy, the NSW Division has been working together with the Local Government Engineers Association on a more extensive position paper and report.

With the purpose of addressing and improving the infrastructure delivery and engineering capacity of local government in NSW, this report will detail a number of recommendations aimed at ensuring there is a transparent and visible pipeline of public projects, a sustainable public works workforce and appropriate management of public infrastructure assets.

The preparation of the report has highlighted opportunities for the more efficient delivery of public infrastructure assets, identifying skilled professionals as being inherent in ensuring that councils and state agencies are informed infrastructure buyers. This industry capability must also be expanded to reverse the ongoing trend of de-skilling, allowing the industry to provide greater capacity in the future.

This report will further bolster our advocacy efforts for the recognition of engineers moving forward, but will also support the NSW Division's calls for there to be a requirement that

all councils in NSW employ appropriately qualified and experienced public works professionals.

These two areas, along with cadetships, were given a shot in the arm with news that together they would likely receive support in the NSW Parliament from the NSW Government.

This advocacy work has of course been supported by opportunities such as:

- The annual parliamentary lunches, where the opportunity to raise these matters and others with senior members of the Government, Opposition, Cross Bench and agency heads exists at a one on one level
- The 2017 Roads Congress Communique, and
- The IPWEA (NSW) calendar of events, particularly the Regional Forums and State Conference

I look forward to what 2017/18 will bring in this critical area of the Institute's business.

**Will Barton**  
Skills Shortage Portfolio Director

## ASSET MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO



A primary role of the Board is to provide advice and support to the Office of Local Government (OLG) and Local Government NSW (LGNSW) in respect of sector development and government policy initiatives. The management of infrastructure owned and managed by NSW Local Government represents the key expenditure item for councils across NSW. This is one of the principal issues impacting councils as they try to move toward being 'Fit for the Future'.

**It has been another rewarding and challenging year in the Asset Management portfolio which has again played a profoundly significant role in the NSW State Government reform and continued development of IPWEA Australasia's NAMS AU project. More importantly, the success or failure of our industry to get this balance right has significant consequences for our communities in relation to risk management including directly impacting on public health and safety, and financial sustainability.**

The IPWEA (NSW Division) has taken a neutral position on amalgamations. This has allowed us to participate in forums and be viewed as assisting all parties as a recognised industry leader in the field of asset management practice in NSW. We are well placed to influence positive change with the continued development of improved criteria for the sustainable management of council infrastructure.

IPWEA (NSW) therefore has continued to enhance the development of discussion with OLG on the uniform auditing that is consistent with:

- Australian Accounting Standards

- ISO 55000 Asset Management Standards
- Integrated Planning and Reporting Manual for Local Government in NSW March 2013. (Premier & Cabinet -Division of Local Government)
- International Infrastructure Management Manual (IIMM). Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA)
- IPWEA NAMPLUS Advanced Risk Register Template
- IPWEA NAMSPLUS Asset Management Plan Template

### NSW ASSET MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

The NSW Parliamentary inquiry into Local Government Reform Special Standing Committee No 6 tabled its final 272 page report on the 29 October 2015. IPWEA (NSW) was referenced throughout the report in relation to infrastructure funding and asset management, recognising the cost shift to local government.

The report made 17 recommendations with particular emphasis placed on Recommendation 8 stating:

That the Office of Local Government, in consultation with the Audit Office of New South

Wales and local government representatives, develop guidelines to ensure greater consistency across councils in the treatment of assets, including:

- a depreciation methodology that more closely correlates with the actual asset of deterioration and considers the councils' priorities for the condition of the infrastructure
- quantifying the useful life of an asset
- determining the realistic residual values of assets
- the componentisation of assets.

IPWEA (NSW) and Australasia have taken a lead role to progressively build the capacity within our industry through the development of technical publications, provision of conferences, regional forums and training. The evolution of this work and the creation of NAMS.AU specialising in Asset Management has produced significant improvements in the number of Councils with asset management plans in place, at least to a 'core' level.

Politics is a strange beast at the best of time, and the change of Premier within the NSW State Government changed the



entire reform process overnight. The reform within NSW Local Government will still continue and the board will ensure IPWEA (NSW) remains at the table, an Asset Management Working Group Panel (AMWGP) was established by resolution at the April 2016 IPWEA (NSW) Board meeting to enhance the work undertaken by the IPWEA (NSW) Board with the Office Local Government (OLG).

The panel has now met five times, the inaugural meeting was held in October 2016 as a prelude to the state conference with each panel member being given a series of tasks to investigate and report back to the panel and onto the Board,

**Presentation on Dashboards;**

The OLG is seeking direction from the IPWEA on the use of a standard template or dashboard style information list that could be used to compare and also convey in layman’s terms the function and capacity, level of service and asset condition of infrastructure.

The AMWGP recognised that the IPWEA Practice Note 8 “Levels of service and community engagement” is a very good reference tool. Consensus from the Panel was to investigate how IPWEA could assist or develop further the implementation of Practice Note 8 “Levels of service and community engagement” across the state in particular providing some form of assistance for

the Councils not using any dashboard reporting (or where staff resources are limited), or the development of a simplistic dashboard.

Panel Member Nicola Daaboul presented a cut down version of her presentation to the 2016 State Conference on the work that she did at Blacktown City Council. The panel consensus was to investigate the development of some guidelines/definitions for dashboards and workshops to help Councils commence / continue with these dashboards and to create a similar tool for infrastructure risk that:-

- Reflects the condition scores 1 to 5 to retain consistency with other reporting formats for condition, functionality and capacity. Rather than using the terminology “Backlog” it uses “Unfunded Renewal Balance”. A tool that can be used to have a conversation with the community, other Councils and internally with staff. Entry of data via Excel which provides flexibility and ease of use. The panel considered the best way forward was to use a spread sheet to enter data, and then an application draws on this to then generate a graphical output. Accompanying the App would be a guide and industry training delivered through IPWEA (NSW).

The State Conference in November will see the official launch of the dashboards.

**Standard AM Policy;** The OLG would like to see a standardised policy across NSW LG. At the inaugural meeting there was general discussion regarding the Asset Management Working Group Panel (AMWGP) developing a typical asset management policy that IPWEA (NSW) can recommend to the OLG and Councils for use in NSW referencing industry standard documents.

The panel acknowledged the NAMS template and discussed the merits of a standard asset policy template and the consensus was to further investigate the content of existing policies for a potential standardised policy across NSW that referred to all of the relevant standards which would be a high level statement about the service delivery and commitment of the journey which also considered additional and disposal of assets and not the guidelines or procedures.

Further investigation is to be undertaken on the NSW Planning and Reporting - Asset Management Guidelines for the Asset Management Policy. Then Panel will then place a recommendation to the OLG (through the Board) about key elements of the intention of the Asset Management Policy.

**Assessment of Infrastructure Useful Lives (UL);**

The NSW Office of Local Government (OLG) has asked the NSW division of the IPWEA to provide guidance on the use of, and the assessment of Infrastructure Useful Lives (UL).

The NSW IPWEA Asset Management Working Panel (AMWP) has been tasked with developing Guidance documents for ULs for all infrastructure assets. The objective of this exercise is to develop a range of ULs that provide better consistency between actual ULs applied by



Councils across the state and engineering ULs that reflect ‘engineering reality’.

ULs are critical in terms of:

- Determining the depreciation costs that council’s apply to Infrastructure assets,
- Calculating the future expenditure required to ensure assets are renewed in a manner that allows them to continue to provide the desired Level of Service (LOS), and
- Enabling council’s to more accurately forecast Whole of Life (WOL) costs for infrastructure assets.

The IPWEA Asset Management Panel is intending to develop ULs for all asset classes, however, as Transportation assets account for the majority of Council asset portfolios and therefore have the greatest impact on depreciation, they are considered the priority. The Panel has developed a Research Brief to enable IPWEA to seek external funding and call for tenders from suitably qualified consultants and the Roads and Transport Directorate to develop regionally based ULs. The research brief has a focus on Transportation assets, but

will be expanded to cover all asset classes utilised within NSW Councils.

**Condition guidelines and NAMS v’s ISO maturity assessments:**

The OLG are seeking direction from IPWEA on whether maturity assessment could or should be mandated. Consensus from the panel at the first meeting was to use NAMS. There is concern that the maturity assessment gives a numerical rating, and it was acknowledged that some Councils were more advanced than others on the asset management journey and a lower rating of 1.0 - 1.5 may appear to be detrimental to a Council entity with respect to their available resources and the lower score may well be acceptable by their community.

Consideration in placing a wording against the numerical assessment instead of just a number in the maturity index overall score may address or ease the issue with a Council having a score of 1. This may also exasperate the issue as seen in the wording that surrounded Special Schedule 7 indexes.

IPWEA (NSW) will further discuss the issues of mandating the maturity assessment with the OLG, but have concerns that the good work undertaken by councils may not necessarily be represented in the NAMS score, (engineers are not good at selling themselves and hence our scoring could be lower than reality).

As the NSW representative, I have been asked to seek further investigation through NAMS of whether the scoring should be across each asset class and not overall as it was recognised roads may well be very high but buildings or another asset class very poor which aggregates a potential.

**NAMS.AU**

IPWEA has continued with a lead role at both the NSW and at Australasian levels to progressively build the capacity within our industry through the creation of NAMS. AU specialising in Asset Management. As the NSW IPWEA Board representative on the NAMS.AU Committee, I attended the two national committee meetings in Melbourne representing NSW.

The National Committee members have substantial knowledge and expertise across asset management and comprise of:

<b>Representing National Board:</b>	Peter Way (Chair)	IPWEA	Queensland
<b>Division Delegates:</b>	Paul Gallagher	NSW	Nambucca Shire Council
	Doug Bartlett	WA	City of Mandurah Council
	Angelo Catinari	SA	City of West Torrens Council
	Rob Little	TAS	Meander Valley Council
	Stephen Hegedus	QLD	Western Downs Regional Council
	Vito Albicini	Vic	Frankston City Council
	Al Monro	NZ	GHD
<b>IPWEA National Office</b>	Robert Fuller	IPWEA National CEO	
	Leon Patterson	IPWEA National Director Infrastructure	
	John Howard	Consultant, NAMS.AU Project Manager	
<b>Observer</b>	Mick Savage	Manager IPWEA NSW Roads & Transport Directorate	

Long standing advocates Peter Way and John Howard officially advised that they would be standing down from the committee to retire at the May 2017 meeting and handed the reins over to Murray Erbs (incoming Chair) IPWEA Queensland and Steve Verity incoming Consultant, NAMS.AU Project Manager.

On behalf of the IPWEA (NSW) Board and members we would formally thank both Peter and John for their valued contribution and wish both of them well and a happy retirement.

There are 335 councils and other organisations subscribed to NAMS.PLUS2 and NAMS.lite with a growing interest from overseas:

- Northern Territory  
12 Councils
- NSW  
138 Councils
- Tasmania  
26 Councils
- Victoria  
16 Councils - plus two external organisations outside of LG

- Queensland  
43 Councils plus one external organisations outside of LG
- Western Australia  
42 Councils
- South Australia  
52 Councils
- USA  
3 subscribers

### **NAMS.AU Training**

#### **Professional Certificate in Asset Management Planning:**

The IPWEA in partnership with CPD Live, JRA, and Connect developed an online professional certificate in asset management planning. It was developed from a Massive Open On-line Courses (MOOC) format which incorporates a greater participation and ongoing commitment from participants.

The course includes 8 modules conducted over an 11 week period. The modules are 90 minutes live presentation with the option of viewing a video of the live event. Viewing of all modules, contribution to discussion forums and

completion of multiple choice questions and/or homework after each module is compulsory.

Progress is recorded with 100% attendance and completion of all tasks and 2 assignments (including the development of a draft AM Plan) required to earn the professional certificate.

There is a developing international interest with *NAMS.PLUS2 Canada* being expanded into Canada with training programs conducted in Saskatchewan Province, and British Columbia.

#### **Review of IIMM with NAMS New Zealand:**

Version 5 of the IIMM is now published and was launched jointly at the 2015 Queensland and NSW State IPWEA Conferences. This new edition, driven largely by the need to better align with the ISO AM Standards included significant amendment / additions as well as updating a number of sections and new case studies:

- 460 copies have been sold in Australia and
- 208 in New Zealand.

The Quick Guide Supplement on how the IIMM aligns with the new ISO has been made freely available to anyone that logs onto the website and provides their contact details. This is seen as a means of promoting the IIMM.

### **International Asset Management Standard:**

The three ISO AM Standards are now well established and most public works entities are well aware of them. They are looking to use them in various ways but only a few are interested at this stage in moving to full certification. IPWEA NAMS continue to promote the Standards through articles in the Journals and our continuing involvement in MB19, the Standards Australia Mirror Committee.

On the global front, the original Project Committee 251 has now been converted to a Technical

Committee TC 251 and a number of other working groups have been established to address:

- Chairman's Advisory group
- Communications
- Feedback
- Finance (Peter Way has been appointed Convener of this working group)

A technical specification for Auditor Competence has been published by the Global Forum for Maintenance and Asset Management. JAS-ANZ the Australian/New Zealand body that certifies Assessment Bodies to carry out audits has also become involved and has developed a Specification for AM System Scheme that spells out the requirements to be met for such bodies. NAMS Committee Chairman Mr Peter Way has been involved with the AMC who are leading a revision of the Specification for auditor competencies.

### **In closing**

The asset management journey has seen significant improvements in data collection and quality of analysis to better inform asset management planning, and the integrated planning and reporting process underpinning Local Government. IPWEA (NSW) is a recognised leader in the field of infrastructure and asset management. Our ethos and connections within the Local Government industry mean we are well placed to influence positive change throughout our industry.

### **Paul Gallagher**

Asset Management & Sustainability Portfolio Director



## ROAD SAFETY



The increasing road toll in NSW coupled with an increasing proportion of fatalities occurring on Council roads is a cause for concern. The Road Safety panel will provide support for Councils wishing to develop Strategic Road Safety Plans and will continue to advocate on behalf of Councils needing an increased level of resources to provide better road safety outcomes for the communities.

**Following the reestablishment of the Road Safety Panel in late 2015, its activity has continued to increase during the current year.**

The Panel has met in July and December 2016 and June 2017. It has discussed a wide range of issues which have included:

- Road Safety Audit Update & Review
- Ongoing funding for the Local Government Road Safety Programme
- 2017 NSW Local Roads Congress
- The need for Council Road Safety Strategic Plans
- IPWEA (NSW) State Conference & Awards 2016
- Traffic Control Training
- Strategic Issues in Road Safety
- Ongoing advocacy for road safety practitioners

Over the past twelve months the Panel has assisted IPWEA (NSW) in providing input into the preparation of two Staysafe Committee submissions and reviewing the final documents prior to their lodgement. Submissions this year were:

- Inquiry into Driver Education,

Training and Road Safety

- Inquiry into Driverless Vehicles and Road Safety

Both IPWEA (NSW) and the Roads & Transport Directorate in conjunction with the Road Safety Panel made several submissions to the Transport for NSW NSW Road Safety Strategy 2012-21 Review. This important strategy will have significant implications for Councils across NSW.

The input of the Panel into these submissions greatly enhances their value to the StaySafe Committee and to the Road Safety practitioners across NSW.

The 2016 IPWEA (NSW) Annual Conference was held at the Crowne Plaza, Hunter Valley and again included a Road Safety Session on the second day. The annual Excellence Awards presented at the Conference included two Road Safety related categories:

### **Excellence in Road Safety Engineering**

**Won by:** Central Coast Council Spreading the Word – Local Government Road Safety

**Highly Commended:** City of Canada Bay Council – Bay Run, Thompson Street to Iron Cove Bridge

### **Local Government Excellence in Road Safety**

**Won by:** NSW Police Force Roadside Drug Testing Program

**Highly Commended:** Yass Valley Council – You Don't Have To Be Speeding To Be Driving Too Fast

Both of the winning projects went on to be finalists at the 2017 IPWEA National Conference.

As a result of a lot of hard work by the Road Safety Panel Conference sub-committee headed by Iris Dorsett, two excellent Road Safety Sessions were delivered to delegates. The result was:

- The Road Safety Stream attracted asset managers, design engineers, directors of various council departments, NSW Police from the Highway Patrol in addition to Council Road Safety Officers.
- Papers included:
  - NSW Police Force – Random Drug Testing
  - Innovation In Traffic Control Devices Through the TIPES Evaluation Scheme
  - A Safe System Hierarchy of Control For Local Government Assessment of Road Safety Issues

- Crash investigation – Police
- Refining Road Safety Strategies
- The Police Drug Bus was on display and attracted a high volume of interest from delegates.

Feedback from delegates confirmed that the wider array of topics attracted a wider range of

delegates. This is an important outcome if councils are to implement a broader view of road safety across the full range of their activities.

The increasing road toll in NSW coupled with an increasing proportion of fatalities occurring on Council roads is a cause for concern. The Road Safety Panel will provide support for

councils wishing to develop Strategic Road Safety Plans and will continue to advocate on behalf of Councils needing an increased level of resources to provide better road safety outcomes for their communities.

**Garry Hemsworth**  
Road Safety Portfolio Director



## YOUNG IPWEA

It's been another exciting year for Young IPWEA (NSW), with some changes to the YIPWEA NSW Committee.

### Your current YIPWEA Representatives are:

Regional Group / Role	Name
South Metro / NSW Chair	Nicola Daaboul
South East / Deputy Chair	Hamish Scroope
Central West	Nathan Koenig
Hunter Valley	Ben Jenkins
Illawarra	Kaitlin Christlo
Orana	Stephen Howlett
Metro West	Craig Hopfe
South West	Justin Shortis
New England North West	Dylan Reeves
Metro North	Megan Schlotjes
Mid North Coast	TBA
Far North Coast (North Coast)	TBA

We are still looking for volunteers for the Mid North Coast, Far North Coast (North Coast) Regional Groups so if you would like to be involved in leading the future direction for your region please contact me or your regional secretary.

The YIPWEA (NSW) Committee has been working hard to deliver results to its YIPWEA members.

I am delighted to report that over the past 12 months the following Actions have been delivered:

- A standing agenda item is now a permanent fixture on the Regional Group Meetings for Young members to present their work / current projects. We encourage you to come along to your Regional Group Meetings and perhaps get involved by sharing a recent project you have worked on or simply receiving an update on YIPWEA initiatives and events.

- There has been a great effort across the state to have a Regional YIPWEA Representative in all Regions on the Committee.
- This year the committee has been engaging with other young professional networks i.e. Public Works, RMS, Transport for NSW, etc. to ensure our membership reflects our industry as a whole. We have also been working with other young membership networks i.e. RMS to build membership and provide an additional avenue for networking and sharing of knowledge, for example the RMS Young Professional Network Diversity and Inclusion Event and the Professional Christmas Network Event.
- We have secured a Young IPWEA (NSW) event at our State Conference. We now have a YIPWEA (NSW) Professional Development

Workshop event held in conjunction with the State Conference, along with a networking event. We are excited about this year's State Conference Professional Development Workshop run by Ben Chopping from TWI.

- We have been busy engaging with NSW Councils in an effort to develop and support Cadetship Programs. We are delighted to report that on the 2nd of August the legislative assembly passed a motion that:
- Support cadetships for civil engineering across all Government projects, in order to ensure the long term workforce capabilities.
- We have been engaging with engineering universities and have been involved at CSU Bathurst EngFest event for the second year in a row. We also had a presence at the UTS Careers Days in August, and will continue to promote public works as a career choice to young professional engineers.

Pocket Sally has been busy continuing to bring attention to diversity in public works engineering. She attended Parliament House to celebrate International Women's Day where she gave a presentation along with Mr John Roydhouse, IPWEA (NSW) CEO. Not only did she make her presentation but also met with the NSW Minister for Local Government, Gabrielle Upton MP and the Minister for Women, Tanya Davies MP. Pocket Sally was also the recipient of a special award for Women in Local Government.

## Engineering Cadetships in NSW

During March-May 2017, YIPWEA (NSW) asked 132 Councils in NSW to participate in an Engineering Cadetship Survey. The survey gathered information from NSW Councils on the number and variety of Local Government Engineering Cadetships offered across the state. The results of the survey will be used to provide feedback to the Public Works industry as to the benefits of implementing Engineering Cadetship programs. YIPWEA (NSW) is also looking to prepare a 'best practice' resource for the development and delivery of such programs across NSW, which could be adopted nationally.

The results of the survey revealed that Councils who have previously run a Cadetship Program are more likely to run them in the future if there was a 'best practice' resource / guideline that details the development and delivery of an Engineering Cadetship Program. Councils that haven't previously run Cadetship Programs are less inclined to run them in the future, however they are interested in a 'best practice' resource. The likelihood of NSW Councils introducing a Cadetship Program is unclear, however reasons as to why NSW Councils don't currently run Cadetships are:

- Limited Resources (both internal staff to support the program and financial support).
- Location (Regional Councils who are situated too far from training institutions).
- Already have an existing graduate or trainee program
- Not historically part of the Council structure, and therefore not considered.

There was a general consensus from the survey responses that



a cadetship program should result in a Bachelor Degree Level or similar and should be completed within 4-6 years. There is varying opinions on the duration, payment of tuition, time allowances (both paid and unpaid), indenture periods and mandatory time spent working with the outdoor workforce.

Some of the reasons identified as to why Councils no longer support Cadetship Programs are:

- Previous attempts at running a Cadetship Programs were not successful or supported by Management.
- Difficulty attracting suitable candidates,
- Difficulty providing the level of support/ supervision and coaching/mentoring required by candidates whilst working on the job,
- No capacity in the organisation's structure to facilitate a Cadet,
- Currently have a Graduate or Trainee Program that is felt to be more important,
- Council's have always hired externally for qualified engineers

It is fantastic to see that a number of Councils will be running a Cadetship Program in 2018.

The Young IPWEA (NSW) Pulse Survey was distributed again this year, seeking to obtain opinions about the way Young IPWEA (NSW) operates. The survey was emailed out to all its Under 35 Members, we hope you completed the survey and provide your feedback. YIPWEA is committed to working towards improving any areas which the survey highlighted as potential sources of dissatisfaction, whilst building on the things we do well.

We are currently working on facilitating a YIPWEA (NSW) Mentoring Program so watch this space! We hope to have more information out to you shortly with the program commencing early 2018.

As always it is an exciting time to be involved in YIPWEA. Keep an eye out on the e-Bulletins for more information on future events.

**Nicola Daaboul**  
Young IPWEA Chair, NSW

## ROADS & TRANSPORT DIRECTORATE



The Roads and Transport Directorate was established as a joint undertaking between IPWEA (NSW) and Local Government NSW. It serves as a focus for research activities and the provision of technical advice to assist members in discharging their road management roles.

**The Directorate commenced operations in October 2004. Since then, it has been actively involved in Roads and Transport issues meeting the following objectives:**

- 1 Assisting members in discharging their road management roles:
  - Effectively
  - In accordance with current legal obligations
  - Using the most recent technical practices
  - Applying consistent and cost effective asset management
- 2 Assisting
  - IPWEA (NSW)
  - Local Government NSW
  - Individual Councils
  - Directorate Members
- 3 Lobbying
  - For a higher priority to be placed on road infrastructure provision and maintenance and
  - For a more equitable share of resources and funding
- 4 Providing for a vast technical and research resource on transport issues at a Regional, State, and National Level and in the process, be regarded as a credible source of local and regional roads and transport information for the industry.

The Roads and Transport Directorate Strategic Plan continues to focus on the following objectives:

### Objective 1

More equitable share of resources and funding for NSW Roads

### Objective 2

Members who are equipped to discharge their road management roles effectively

### Objective 3

Effective Transport Planning for NSW

### Objective 4

Be regarded as the credible source of local and regional roads and transport information for the industry

### Objective 5

IPWEA (NSW) is a more effective organisation because of the contribution of the Roads and Transport Directorate.

The Highlight of the year was the annual Local Roads Congress held at the State Parliament House on 5 June 2017. The Congress was attended in by Members of the NSW Parliament and Legislative Council, Councillors, Mayors and Local Government Engineers and Practitioners.

The presentations and panel discussion initiated meaningful dialogue between the resource speakers and participants on issues that local councils contend with as road authorities. The Congress delivered a communique which recognised the contribution that local roads make in supporting state and regional economies and recognised that while funding for the construction, repair and upgrade of roads has been extended, there is a need for this funding to be permanent and for the quantum to be increased to assist in addressing social equity, road safety and economic growth.

The Roads and Transport Directorate, on behalf of its members have been involved in many activities throughout the year including:

- 1 Completion of Projects such as:
  - Report on the NSW Local Road Construction Cost Forecasts 2016-2026
  - R&TD Membership funding review following the amalgamation of councils
  - Report on Regional Block Grant Funding
  - Report on Climate Change Risk Assessment for Roads and Transport Infrastructure



## 2 Submissions/Publications

- Submission to Staysafe Inquiry into Whole-of-Life Driver Education and Training
- Infrastructure NSW Submission - Local Government Transport Infrastructure Management in NSW
- TfNSW –Safety of School Children at Informal Bus Stops on NSW Roads
- Analysis of State Government Regional Road Funding Assistance-NSW
- Design and Management Considerations for Low Volume Local Roads in New South Wales -27th ARRB Conference
- Monthly Newsletters
- Information Sheets

## 3 Advocacy and Reporting

- Participation in the TfNSW Sydney CBD Road Safety Plan 2021 Forum
- Gave evidence to the NSW StaySafe Committee on the Inquiry into Whole-of-Life Driver Education Training
- Participation in the ALGA/Austrroads Local Government Forum

## The Directorate's ongoing Projects include:

- IPWEA (NSW) Standard Drawings
- Road Asset Benchmarking Project
- Parking Policy Guide
- Development of a joint Bridge Design course with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS)
- Guide to Accessible Open Public Spaces

## Current Assignments include:

- Austrroads Assets Task Force (ATF)
- Meta Data Project
- Use of Marginal Materials Project
- Level Crossing Working Group
- Grain Harvest Management Scheme Management Committee
- AustStab Project -Stabilisation of black soil roads
- NSW Location Intelligence Industry Advisory Committee
- RMCC Steering Committee
- RMS Network Connectivity Sub Committee Working Group

The three committees within the Roads & Transport Directorate (Bridge Working Party, Transport

Working Party, and Technical Committee) continue to actively provide important input and feedback on the Directorate's activities.

The Directorate's Manager, Mick Savage, continues to represent and advocate through participation in inter-agency committees and industry meetings including: National Heavy Vehicle Forums, Transport for New South Wales, Roads and Maritime Services, Road Freight Industry Council, Australian Local Government Association, Streets Opening Coordination Council, and IPWEA (NSW) Regional Forums.

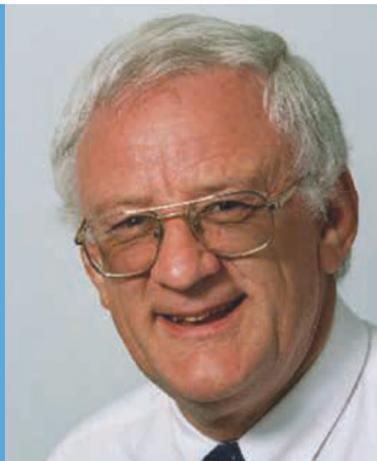
We have also appointed a Research and Policy Officer, Jennifer Yap, who has proven to be a valuable member of the team.

I would like to thank the Roads & Transport Directorate Management Committee for their effort and commitment throughout the year.

## Garry Hemsworth

Roads & Transport Directorate  
Portfolio Director

## WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT



IPWEA (NSW) continues to provide a significant leadership role in the field of water cycle management and environment demonstrated through a strong commitment to sustainability. Stormwater is regarded as a valuable resource, rather than as a waste product to be disposed of.

IPWEA (NSW) had considerable success delivering workshops focusing on the Australian Rainfall and Runoff (ARR) Revision Project with delivery of updated reports and recommendations. Feedback relating to the course showed that attendees wished to have more practical applications with case studies and different systems. As a result, a follow up 2-day workshop 'Urban Drainage Course (Australian Rainfall and Runoff)' was produced.

This course covers:

1 Introduction to Course

2 Urban Hydrology

3 Rainfall

4 Estimating Flows in Urban Drainage Systems

5 Modelling

6 Estimating Flow Volumes

7 Water Sensitive Urban Drainage (WSUD)

8 System considerations

In February 2017, IPWEA (NSW) in conjunction with the NSW Water Directorate, lodged a submission to the NSW Legislative Council Inquiry into the augmentation of water supply for rural and regional New South Wales.

This submission identified a number of areas where the Terms of Reference for the "Inquiry into the augmentation of water supply for rural and regional New South Wales" could be improved.

With a more environmental focus, IPWEA (NSW) supported the University of Queensland in publishing a student poster titled "Swimming performance of Australian freshwater fishes: Implications for culvert design" which draws attention to barriers to fish movements presented by culverts. This correlates with IPWEA (NSW) reinforcing the DPI





guidelines “why do fish need to cross the road?” (fish passage requirements for waterway crossings). More information can be found in the Roads and Transport Directorate November 2016 newsletter.

Many activities carried out by Councils require some form of environmental assessment and in many cases, a number of approvals may be required before work can lawfully be carried out. To meet this need, IPWEA (NSW) pulled resources together to produce a seminar which steps through the requirements of a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and how they should be prepared. One advantage of the seminar is the inclusion of case studies of complex situations often faced by Councils in gaining approval for activities.

In developing an additional workshop ‘Clearing Vegetation to make way for Infrastructure’, IPWEA (NSW) have incorporated real life issues and recognised that without proper preparation, constructing new infrastructure can create ongoing problems for Council and contractors. This is especially true when managing the competing aspects of the environment and constructing in public spaces. This seminar covers important questions such as, what permits or approvals are needed to clear vegetation? And, are there any heritage constraints?

### Conclusion

Local Government makes an overwhelming commitment to the provision of infrastructure in the water cycle management area, albeit with partial funding by the State Government. It could justifiably be classified as the ‘Doer’ in ‘government’

in Australia in the provision of infrastructure in this area. Annually local government in NSW makes a significant contribution to the treatment of sewage (wastewater) and the primary and/or secondary treatment of stormwater runoff from both existing and new residential neighbourhoods.

I have no doubt that local government in NSW is the ‘Doer’ in the provision of infrastructure in this extremely important area of its operations, whilst complying with environmental Legislation and World Health Standards. It is expected to (and does) undertake civil engineering works that improve living standards, reduce health risks and protect the environment.

### Ken Halstead

Water Cycle Management and Environment Portfolio Director

## REGIONAL GROUP REPORTS



### Orana Regional

**During 2016-2017 the Orana Regional Group office bearers were: Chairman Rolly Lawford and Secretary/Young IPWEA (NSW) Committee Representative Stephen Howlett.**

The group held two ordinary group meetings as well as an AGM and a Regional Forum. Meetings have been well attended with an average of over 20 attendees at each meeting. These meetings offer valuable networking opportunities as the long distances between Orana LGA's sometimes make it difficult to have regular 'face to face' time with our neighbouring local government colleagues.

The November 2016 meeting was a combined Orana and Central West Group Meeting held at Gilgandra. John Roydhouse provided an update on the latest matters from NSW head office, Stewart McLeod provided an

update on the Water Directorate, and Stephen Howlett and Nathan Koenig provided a Young IPWEA (NSW) update. The meeting was sponsored by Sharpe Bros, who presented an overview of the services they provide. After lunch, YIPWEA members Nafizul Akash and Ahmed Imtiaz from Parkes Shire Council provided a very interesting presentation on their career experiences and some innovative solutions they have developed for Asset Management in regards to Flood Damage.

In March 2017 the Orana Regional Forum was held in Bourke at "Diggers on the Darling". Presentations by forum sponsors made for interesting listening during the day. The evening dinner was a great event with a good time had by all in attendance.

In June 2017, the Orana Group Annual General Meeting and an Ordinary Meeting were held in Dubbo. At the AGM the incumbent Chair, Rolly

Lawford Secretary/Young IPWEA (NSW) Committee Representative Stephen Howlett were nominated and re-elected unopposed.

During the Ordinary meeting a comprehensive update on IPWEA (NSW) head office matters was presented by John Roydhouse. Steve Clayton briefed all present on latest LGEA matters and Stephen Howlett presented a Young IPWEA update. The meeting was sponsored by Brearley and Hansen, who could not attend the meeting but generously provided lunch for the attendees.

Finally, on behalf of Orana Group members, we thank the good people at IPWEA (NSW) Head Office for their energetic and invaluable support to our Group over the last twelve months.

**Rolly Lawford**  
Chairman

**Stephen Howlett**  
Secretary/Treasurer

## North Coast

During 2015-16 the North Coast Group held three Regional Forum meetings as follows:

### 1. Meeting held 21 October 2015

**Location** Bangalow  
Tea Rooms, Bangalow

**Attendees** 17

**Sponsors** Stabilcorp  
GravityWall Systems Pty Ltd

**Presentations from**

- IPWEA (NSW)  
John Roydhouse,  
Chief Executive Officer
- LGEA | Gordon Brock,  
Director LGEA
- Stabilcorp | Mark Pilgrim,  
Business Manager
- GavityWall Systems Pty Ltd,  
Peter Gradwell

### 2. Regional Forum held 15 February 2016

**Location** Ramanda Hotel, Ballina

**Co-ordinator** IPWEA (NSW)

### 3. Meeting held 28 April 2016

**Location** Casino RSM  
Club, Casino

**Attendees** 20

**Sponsors** BNP | Brick N Pave  
Vivid  
Global Synthetics

**Presentations from:**

- LGEA  
Gordon Brock, Director
- IPWEA (NSW)  
John Roydhouse  
Chief Executive Officer
- BNP Brick N Pave | Randal  
Black, National Manager
- Vivid | Craig Cavanagh,  
Business Development  
Manager
- Global Synthetics  
Greg Fleming, Business  
Development

Officers bearers for 2015-  
16 were Chairman: Jason

Young, Secretary: Hayley Collins. Jason relinquished the Chairmanship at the end of the year after a significant contribution to the group and a number of successful years in the role. The 2015-16 AGM was therefore delayed and held in February 2017 at the Regional Forum meeting held in Yamba where incumbent Secretary Hayley Collins was re-elected unopposed and Tim Mackney was nominated and elected Chairman.

On behalf of the North Coast Group members, we would like to thank officers and staff at IPWEA (NSW) Head Office for their ongoing commitment to the regions and support of the group over the year.

**Tim Mackney**  
Chairperson

**Hayley Collins**  
Secretary

## Mid North Coast

The Group held 4 meetings during the period from July 2016 to August 2017.

- 19 August 2016 – Hosted by Port Macquarie Hastings Council
- 19 November 2016 – Hosted by MidCoast Council
- 19 May 2017 – Hosted by Bellingen Shire Council
- 18 August 2017 – Hosted by MidCoast Council

In addition, a Regional Forum was held at South West Rocks on 1 March 2017.

In accordance with the regional agreement to rotate the responsibility every two years,

Duncan Clarke and Steven Pirlo from Port Macquarie-Hastings Council occupied the roles of Chairperson and Secretary at the start of 2017. This year also saw the integration of MidCoast

Water into MidCoast Council on 1 July 2017.

Regular meetings were well attended by approximately 25-35 members and provided an opportunity for a number of technical tours and presentations including:

- Houston Mitchell Drive Upgrade - Lake Cathie
- Stingray Creek Bridge Replacement - Camden Haven
- Dickensons Bridge Replacement – Ghinni Ghinni
- Land Slip Stabilisation – Gleniffer
- Cedar Party Bridge - Wingham

In addition, members were enlightened by the regular updates from IPWEA (NSW) and LGEA. One of the main benefits of the IPWEA (NSW) group meetings is an opportunity to network with neighbouring engineering counterparts and to discuss how others handle common work functions.

The group would like to recognise the contribution of Paul Gallagher from Nambucca Shire Council in his role on the IPWEA (NSW) Board and the two portfolios of Asset Management, Sustainability and Coastal Management; and CIVENEX

Thanks to our meeting presenters and sponsors including:

- Doval Constructions
- Waterway Constructions
- Regional Geotechnical Solutions
- Matrix Thornton Consulting Engineers
- Bridge Knowledge
- InQuik Bridging Systems
- Yotta
- NSW Resources and Energy
- Downer

**Duncan Clarke**  
Chairman

**Steven Pirlo**  
Secretary

## Southern Metropolitan

**The Southern Metropolitan IPWEA (NSW) Group has had a very interesting and thought-provoking year.**

We held 3 meetings throughout the year with approximately 25 to 30 attendees at each meeting.

The Executive Committee has changed as follows:

Tony Reed became Chairperson, Bill Woodcock Secretary and Peter Shields Local Projects Coordinator.

We also welcomed Nicola Daaboul on to the Committee as representing the Young IPWEA (NSW) in the Southern Metropolitan Group.

Our first meeting was held at the new Community centre called "The Connection", a \$21 m facility being completed at Rhodes for Canada Bay City Council.

This Facility includes modern design, Commercial Community Spaces, a Library and Multimedia display. The facility also includes 3D printing lessons and a programmable robot!

Right on the water in this new residential precinct, the distinctive design really sets it apart and will obviously provide major benefits in the future.

The sponsor was Dincel Systems showing us their innovative formwork system.

Thank you to John Osland and John Earls for hosting the meeting.

We attended the Combined Northern and Southern IPWEA (NSW) Forum at the Genia McCaffrey Centre for Sustainability and had a tour of the old coal loading facility.

The Minister for Local Government was the guest speaker.

The last meeting was held at the Randwick Sustainability Hub.

This facility is a showcase for sustainable design facilities on part of a previous military establishment.

The facility includes permaculture, solar power and wind power demonstrations.

The sponsors were Yotta Asset Management systems and Geofabrics showing their new Concrete mat product.

Thank you to Joe Ingegneri and Steve Audet for hosting the event.

At each "Professional Development Seminar" meeting of the Southern Metropolitan IPWEA (NSW) Group a highlight of the meetings was the excellent Local Projects.

A special thanks to the presenters.

Finally thank you to the younger IPWEA (NSW) members for attending the meetings and the department heads for allowing them to see how our Industry works.

**Tony Reed**  
Chairperson

**Bill Woodcock**  
Secretary

**Peter Shields**  
Project Coordinator

**Nicola Daaboul**  
Young IPWEA (NSW) Representative

## Illawarra

**The Illawarra group has struggled a little to maintain regularity this year with a number of distractions including amalgamations front and centre.**

The first group meeting in Picton in November 2016 was a chance to see first-hand the impact of the June flood and hear from the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and Advisian. SCS gave a tour of a demonstration restoration site on the banks of Stonequarry Creek employing techniques to use flood debris as a resource rather than waste product. Advisian spoke of their post event examination using an RMA model and that the real event had proved to verify the modelled flood behaviour in that the predicted flood levels closely matched the recorded water levels.

The second group get together was at the ever popular Regional Forum in Wollongong in March 2017. The event was held inside the WIN Stadium western grandstand and the group visited the Blue Mile Tramway shared path site. A new sea wall will significantly widen an existing path along the base of the cliff.

**Mark Roebuck**  
Chairperson

**Ian Berthon**  
Secretary

**Kaitlin Christlo**  
Young IPWEA (NSW)  
Representative

## New England North West

### The New England and North West Group held three meetings during the 2016/17 financial year.

The AGM was held in November, 2016 and hosted by Tamworth Regional Council. The former Chairman and Secretary, Brendan Moran and Jeremy Bartlett stood down after 2 years of service in the roles. The roles were filled by Ralf Stoeckeler and Mark Burgess, both from Armidale Regional Council. Josh Bennie (Tamworth Regional Council) was elected as the Young IPWEA representative, with Dylan Reeves (Walcha Shire) as his backup.

The meeting sponsor for the day was Sharpe Brothers who provided an interesting presentation for members and supplied lunch at a local hotel.

The March 2017 meeting was held in conjunction with the

Regional Forum in Barraba. The event was well attended by staff from various councils across the group as well as a number of consulting engineers and contractors. The Regional forums not only provide an opportunity to attend excellent technical presentations, but also an opportunity to network with peers who can't ordinarily attend the group meetings.

The June 2017 meeting was hosted by Glen Innes Severn Council. Following a general discussion on various matters, John Burton from Downer gave an interesting presentation about prefabricated bitumen rubber spray seal patches and their applications to repair potholes in streets, airport runways and span over gaps in timber bridge decks. Lunch was supplied prior to the meeting and after the meeting, members boarded a bus kindly provided by Glen Innes Severn Council to inspect the Sapphire Wind Farm located west of Glen Innes that

is currently under construction. The project involves the construction of 75 wind turbines with a blade tip height of over 200m. An inspection of the pouring of one of the footings was undertaken.

The area is buzzing with massive renewable energy projects. Apart from the Sapphire Wind Farm, work is well underway with the adjoining White Rock Wind Farm (stage 1 with 70 turbines almost completed), and work is about to start on the Glen Innes Wind Farm and the White Rock Solar Farm.

Finally, thanks to IPWEA (NSW) CEO John Roydhouse for attending all our meetings during the year and keeping members up to date with IPWEA (NSW) matters.

**Ralf Stoeckeler**  
Chair

**Mark Burgess**  
Secretary

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## Central West

The central west group of IPWEA (NSW) has seen a number of changes over the last year with our long serving chairperson, Phil King, relocating for another career opportunity. The group would like to extend a sincere thanks to Phil for all the work he has done for IPWEA (NSW) in the central west and wish him all the best in his future career.

The first meeting of the reporting period was held on 31 August 2016 in Blayney. This meeting was an extra-ordinary annual general meeting due to Phil King's departure. At the meeting Joshua Devitt was elected to the role of chairperson and Geoffrey Patton to the role of secretary. It was also agreed at this meeting that future AGM's would be held in

June to reflect the IPWEA (NSW) reporting period.

The groups next meeting was combined with the IPWEA (NSW) Orana group, held on 25 November 2016 in Gilgandra. The combined meeting has been a regular part of our calendar for a number of years and has provided opportunities for members to expand their professional networks as well as discuss matters that are relevant to a broader regional focus.

The IPWEA (NSW) regional forum was held on 13 March 2017 in Canowindra and was a valuable event for all who attended, of particular highlights were the insights into the work that transport for NSW are doing as well as the aid work being conducted by RedR. Attendance at this event was

strong, with a large number of younger members attending, some for the first time. Our group has been actively promoting attendance by younger members for a number of years and it is encouraging to see that these efforts are being rewarded.

The annual general meeting of the group was held on 7 June 2017, as a part of the EngFest event at Charles Sturt University in Bathurst. All three office bearers were re-elected unopposed to their respective positions. One of the items discussed was how the central west group can remain relevant and valuable to its members and the committee resolved to explore new ways to add value for members over the next twelve months.

*Continued page 39.*

From page 38.

We were also fortunate to have a number of the state YIPWEA committee members in attendance at our AGM.

On a more sombre note, the group was saddened by the loss of one of our retired group members, David Smith, who passed away suddenly earlier

this year. David was an active member of the group and his contribution to our profession will be missed.

On behalf of the IPWEA (NSW) central west committee, thank you to all our group members for your ongoing support and engagement over the last year. A big thank you also to the IPWEA (NSW) executive

team for their constant hard work, support of our group and commitment to IPWEA as a whole.

**Joshua Devitt**  
Chairperson

**Geoff Patton**  
Secretary

**Nathan Koenig**  
YIPWEA (NSW) Representative

## Hunter

**Hunter / Central Coast IPWEA (NSW) meetings are run in conjunction with our local LGEA meetings. These nights would not have been possible without our sponsors.**

September 2016: Central Coast



The Art House building

Council showed us The Art House building with the night at Kooindah Waters sponsored by GHD. (Picture below)

March 2017: Newcastle City Council provided us an insight into the Newcastle Beach leg of “The Bathers Way” pedestrian pathway and the nearby V8 Supercar track works. This site inspection meeting was held in conjunction with the IPWEA (NSW) Regional Meeting held in Newcastle.



IPWEA Regional Meeting held in Newcastle



Site inspection at Glendale Interchange

May 2017: Site inspection of water sensitive urban drainage network at Clemenceau Crescent Tanilba Bay and Lemon Tree Passage Boat Ramp. Port Stephens Council held a road safety themed night with presentation from our own groups Adam Mularczyk on “The Difference Between Life and Death”. Our sponsor Ingal Civil Products also presented their new products and lots of videos of crashing vehicles. Lesson learned from the night “meeting road standards doesn’t mean it is safe”.

August 2017: Lake Macquarie City Council took us on a site inspection at Glendale Interchange (picture shown) with the night’s meeting held at Warners Bay. The meeting was a “water” theme with special guests Professor George Kuczera providing an overview of the new Australian Rainfall and Runoff. Humes sponsored the night and provided a suitably water themed presentation.

We have also been fortunate and proud to have our own YIPWEA (NSW) Ben Jenkins speak at each of our meetings promoting young (younger I should say) engineers.

**John Maretich**  
Chair

**Adam Stewart and Rick Mackenzie**  
Secretaries

## Metropolitan North

**The Metropolitan North Group had two meetings during the 2016/17 financial year. The group first met in July for a local meeting hosted by Ku-ring-gai Council. The meeting was sponsored by Humes (Holcim). Presentations were provided on the following topics:**

- Peter Chambers, Humes - presentation on the wide range of Humes products including Stormwater Solutions.
- Murray Powell, Optimal Stormwater - presentation on the maximising value from council GPTs.
- Anthony Ogle, Ryde Council. Presentation on Council LED Streetlights with controls, Bus shelter and pole decorations, Asset Management Conference, Roads Congress, French Engineering student
- Mick Savage, Roads & Transport Directorate Manager - Roads & Transport Update
- Brindha Thiru, Organiser LGEA – Amalgamation Update
- Gary Woodman – Special Schedule 7

Following the presentations there were discussions on various topics including Local Government Reforms (amalgamations) as well as Ausgrid's latest street lighting proposals.

In February 2017, Parissa Ghanem the Strategic Assets Coordinator of Ku-ring-gai Council was elected as the new Secretary for Metro North group, with Anthony Ogle remaining the Chairperson. Megan Schlotjes from the Northern Beaches Council was also appointed as the Young IPWEA (NSW) representative of the Metro North group.

Northern Metropolitan group had their second meeting on 28 June 2017 in Ku-ring-gai Council. The meeting was sponsored by Vantage Pipes. Steve Bryan from Vantage Pipes gave a presentation on their products and capabilities. Alycia Vasilangos presented on LGEA update and key changes in the 2017 Award and informed the group that LGEA and IPWEA (NSW) are working on a joint industry reform submission.

John Roydhouse updated the group on IPWEA (NSW) activities and forums, new board elections and professional development opportunities. An interesting presentation was provided to the group by Vimal Vinodan & Anthony Ogle on LED Lighting with Smart Controls & Asset Management in City of Ryde.

Another presentation on Asset Management was by Parissa Ghanem concerning Project Life Cycle and Asset Capitalisation in Ku-ring-gai Council. Tim McCarthy of Morrison Low presented on the use of roads benchmarking in developing asset based service levels, explaining capabilities of Yardstick and comparing some regional and rural Council data on their roads' networks. Another presenter was Shawn Turner of Total Drains Cleaning (TDC). Shawn presented the capabilities of TDC.

**Anthony Ogle**  
Chairperson

**Parissa Ghanem**  
Secretary

**Megan Schlotjes**  
YIPWEA (NSW)

## North Coast Supervisors

**The North Coast Supervisors Group held its AGM on Friday 14th October 2016 at Pacific Hotel, Yamba. Here the old committee stood down and nominations called for vacated positions:**

The Committee for the following 12 months, are:

- President – Kerry John
- Treasurer – Chris O'Dwyer
- Secretary – Mark Ellis

During the meeting, general business was discussed such as issues with shark nets in Ballina and Bogabilla water main works being on hold. Annalena

and Blair from BSC also did a presentation about some of their recent products.

Our next meeting was held in Evans Head on Wednesday 22nd February 2017. There were 12 attendees and Kerry John and Chris O'Dwyer sent their apologies. During the meeting, the business from the minutes from our AGM were discussed and notice was given that Ballina had installed their shark nets and crowds have returned. During this meeting Jayden and his team from NuFlow gave a presentation.

We would like to thank BSC and NuFlow for sponsoring our

meetings. Our next AGM will be held in October, keep an eye out for details.

Any Council Supervisors in the Northern region are most welcome to attend our meetings. If you would like more information please contact me at [mark.ellis@chcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mark.ellis@chcc.nsw.gov.au)

**Mark Ellis**  
Secretary

## Metropolitan West Group

**During the 2016/2017 year, the Metropolitan West Group, which comprises councils across the Western Sydney (WSROC) and South West Sydney (MACROC) areas, met on one occasion.**

The meeting coincided with the IPWEA (NSW) Regional Conference program held at the Sebel Resort & Spa Hawkesbury at Windsor. The Regional Conference at Windsor was well attended, attesting to the popularity of this meeting forum as an opportunity to network and to hear about latest developments in the industry.

The Metro West Group usually

conducts additional group meetings outside of the NSW Branch sponsored events however, due to prevailing circumstances, directly affecting group organisers, additional meetings were not held.

The Metro West Group recognises and welcomes the opportunities provided by the various forms of IPWEA (NSW) initiated electronic information and communication services, but also recognises the value of personal networking and interaction; hence the Group looks forward to the recommencement of its group meeting program in 2017, followed by any other meetings, which may subsequently eventuate.

The Group continues to welcome new members from all Councils within the Group.

The Group has appreciated the support of IPWEA (NSW), Chief Executive Officer John Roydhouse and other IPWEA representatives, during the past year, as well as the receipt of topical and informative advice from the LGEA on industrial matters.

On behalf of the Group, both the Secretary Alex Burjan, and I would like to thank all members for their continued support and interest in the Group's activities.

**Hans Meijer**  
Chairperson

**Alex Burjan**  
Secretary

## South East

**It has been a relatively quiet, although productive year for the South East Region.**

During 2016/17 the South East Group office bearers were: Chair - Greg Miller (CLM Civil Engineering) and Secretary/ Young IPWEA (NSW) Rep – Hamish Scroope (Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council). Our group is lucky enough to be well informed by our State President who regularly provides a firsthand perspective of his meetings with politicians and government departments and gives the group an understanding of activities occurring at the state level.

A particular achievement for our group is the securing of our second meeting for the calendar year (scheduled for 18 August 2017) which is to be hosted by the ACT Governments Transport Canberra and City Services. It is fantastic to have the commitment and involvement from our Public Works colleagues across the border to

host a meeting.

The ACTs Governments involvement with the IPWEA (NSW) and continued input to our regional meetings is something we are very much looking forward to. To be informed on projects such as the ACT Light Rail Project, Pialligo Avenue (East West Corridor Management Plan) and the Monaro Highway (North South Corridor Management Plan) along with the networking opportunities it will provide will be invaluable to our members.

Our regional AGM was hosted by the Snowy Monaro Regional Council on 3 February 2017 at the Snowy Hydro Discovery Centre in Cooma. A total of 13 were in attendance. The meeting was followed by an inspection of the recently constructed 320ML, \$6.5million Lake Wallace Dam at Nimmitabel. Our Regional Forum was held at Thredbo on 29 March and was well attended and included a site inspection of the Thredbo Ski Resort Sewerage Treatment and Snow Making facilities.

The South East group has sought to make younger members welcome and have now included a standing item on the agenda for an update on the happenings of YIPWEA (NSW) or for a Young Member to provide an update on one of their projects/experiences. To assist in this process senior members (Managers/Directors) within member organisations have been asked to bring along a young engineer to their regional meetings or forums, or have them attend in their absence. Young engineers are the future of the industry and having them attend will provide a valuable opportunity to grow their professional networks.

The group looks forward to another successful year and the opportunity to further collaborate and share ideas and resources across our region and into the neighbouring ACT.

**Greg Miller**  
South East Regional Group Chair

**Hamish Scroope**  
Secretary/Young IPWEA (NSW) Rep

## South West Group

**The IPWEA (NSW) South West Group is home to six of the 20 new councils formed as a part of the 2016 NSW Government Stronger Councils program, presenting new and even more complicated challenges to many of the Engineers and Public Works Professionals of South Western NSW.**

Strong support from members across the region and their councils continued through 2016 with the September and December group meetings, and into 2017 with an excellent turnout at the regional forum. The South West Group was also very well represented at the IPWEA (NSW) State Conference, where several group members attended as delegates, presenters and award nominees.

Our meetings throughout the year were held on:

### **2th September 2016 - Wagga Wagga - Group Meeting**

The September meeting was hosted by Riverina Water County Council at their Wagga Wagga office. The NSW State Governments local government reform process continued to be an important issue, and at this meeting members received updates from both IPWEA (NSW) management and LGEA regarding both the council amalgamation process and the negotiations for the new local government award. Other issues affecting public works in rural areas were discussed; such as GPS vehicle tracking, gravel pit licencing and funding for flood damage repair. Group members also discussed the possibility of becoming more active in advocating for public works at a local level. Following the meeting, members were treated to a guided tour of the new Riverina Water Treatment Works, which at the time was under construction.

**2nd December 2016 - Narrandera Shire Council - AGM**  
Group Chair Mark Ellis, Secretary/Treasurer Ben Masters were re-elected unopposed to their positions for 2017. Incumbent Young IPWEA (NSW) Representative Matt Christensen chose not to pursue re-election and Justin Shortis was nominated and elected unopposed to be his replacement.

Following on from discussion at the last meeting, it was resolved that the South West Group should increase its involvement in local level public works advocacy, particularly targeting young engineers or prospective engineers within the South West NSW area. As such the group decided to offer a sponsorship opportunity to young engineers in the region to attend the IPWEA (NSW) South West Regional Forum.

At this meeting John Roydhouse provided an outline of the strategic goals of IPWEA (NSW) for 2017 as well as updates regarding the many upcoming events that IPWEA (NSW) was promoting or hosting.

Other discussion topics included the role of Regional

Organisations of Councils (ROCs) in the updated NSW Government framework for local government.

### **27th March 2017 - Narrandera - Regional Forum**

The 2017 South West Regional Forum was held at the John Lake Fisheries Centre, attracting approximately 25 attendees. The forum again proved informative and useful for networking in the South West Region, providing interesting presentations on GPS telematics, road maintenance and local government procurement policy.

The South West Group would like to thank John Roydhouse and the IPWEA (NSW) team for their ongoing support of engineers and public works professionals in regional NSW.

Finally I would like to thank all of the South West Group members for their continued support and participation.

**Mark Ellis**  
Group Chair

**Ben Masters**  
Secretary/Treasurer



## 2018 IPWEA NSW EVENTS CALENDAR



### Regional Forums 2018

North Coast	Monday, 5 March 2018	TBC
Mid North Coast	Wednesday, 7 March 2018	TBC
Hunter	Friday, 9 March 2018	Brown Sugar, Lake Macquarie
Central West	Monday, 19 March 2018	Racine, Orange
North West (Orana)	Wednesday, 21 March 2018	TBC
North West (New England)	Friday, 23 March 2018	Wallagarra Railway, Tenterfield
South West	Monday, 9 April 2018	Botanical Gardens, Wentworth
ACT	Wednesday, 11 April 2018	TBC
South East	Friday, 13 April 2018	TBC
Illawarra	Monday, 16 April 2018	Gibraltar, Bowral
Metro West	Wednesday, 18 April 2018	TBC
Metro North & South	Friday, 20 April 2018	Maritime Museum, Sydney
Local Roads Congress 2018	4 June 2018	Parliament House Sydney
State Conference 2018	7 – 9 November 2018	Crowne Plaza, Hunter Valley
Annual General Meeting 2018	8 November 2018	Crowne Plaza, Hunter Valley



New South Wales



**IPWEA**

INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC WORKS  
ENGINEERING AUSTRALASIA

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