



Institute of  
Public Works  
Engineering  
Australia  
(NSW Division)

# IPWEA NSW DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT

1 JULY 2010 TO 30 JUNE 2011



# Contents

President's Report	4
Executive Manager's Report	6
Financial Report	8
Foundation Report	10
Professional Development & Education Report	12
Events	14
CivEnEx	17
Membership Services	18
Skills Shortage	19
Asset Management & Sustainability	20
Road Safety	22
Stormwater and Floodplain Management, Environment	23
Roads & Transport Directorate	24
Regional Group Reports	26
Events Calendar 2012	34

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## IPWEA NSW Board of Management at 30 June 2011

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**President** Greg Moran (Consultant)  
**Vice President** Stewart McLeod (Dubbo City Council)

### Members:

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Ken Halstead (UTS)  
John Truman (Ballina Shire Council)  
Gary Woodman (Cobar Shire Council)  
Cathy Kinsey (Campbelltown City Council)  
Stewart McLeod (Dubbo City Council)  
Geoff Metcalfe (Port Macquarie Hastings Council)  
Tony Reed (Waverley Council)  
Warren Sharpe (Eurobodalla Shire Council)

### IPWEA NSW Staff:

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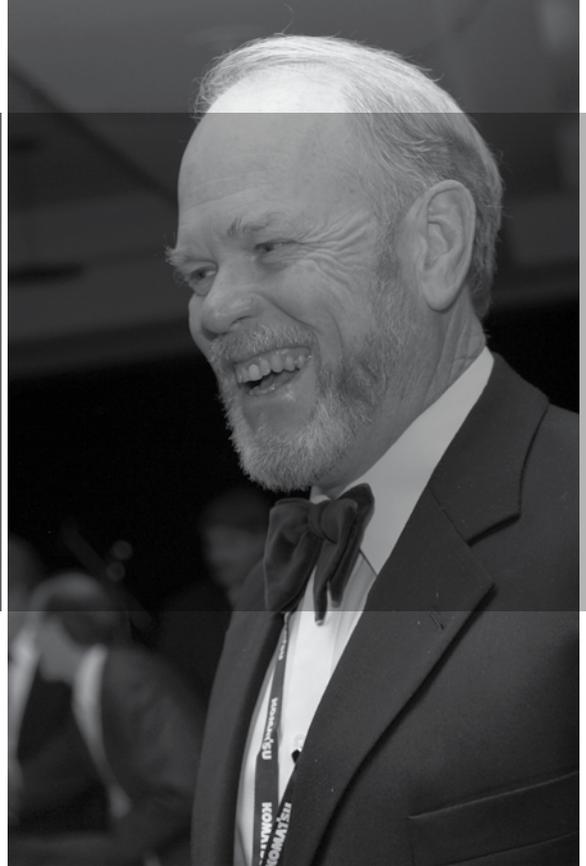
Mark Turner Executive Manager & Company Secretary  
John Roydhouse Executive Officer  
Michelle Burgess Events & Partnership Manager  
Sabrina Tande Professional Development Manager  
Kapil Sharma Finance & Administration Manager  
Mick Savage Roads & Transport Directorate Manager  
Lita Somogyi Personal Assistant & Membership  
Saveena Waraich Administration Assistant

# President's Report

It is with pleasure that I present this annual report to the membership of the IPWEA (NSW) on the activities and overall performance of the IPWEA for the 2010/2011 reporting period. During this period, the IPWEA has taken decisive action to improve our position with respect to membership, membership services and access through iMIs and the new website and our overall financial position: achievements that we can all be well proud of. The IPWEA continues to grow in strength through membership, affiliations, and leadership with recognition by like associations and our peers.

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The AGM and October 2011 meeting will herald the completion of the triennium for the current board and the introduction of the new board for 2011/2014. As I near the completion of my third year as IPWEA (NSW) President, I am pleased to report that the Institute has had a positive and profitable year due to the commitment of the Management staff and Board, and the organisation's management of key areas of activity within the IPWEA. The financial performance of the institute has been positive with the realising of a reasonable profit for 2010/2011 with our membership supporting areas such as Congress and National Conference, CivEnEx and Professional Development. We continue to be faced with the constant challenge of responding to member needs and maintaining member services in a changing environment and need the support of our membership in continuing to provide these services.



The major function of the year for the IPWEA membership was the State one day Conference / Roads Congress linked with CivEnEx which was supported in a major way by our industry sponsors. The IPWEA took a strategic approach to the conference/congress with a view to evolving this function due to the National IPWEA Conference being held in Canberra in August 2011. The highlight of the conference was no doubt the Conference dinner and annual Excellence in Engineering Awards. These awards showcase the initiative and innovative design and techniques utilised by Public Works Professionals and should be a source of pride and inspiration to us all. Congratulations go not only to the winners and highly commended for each category but to all Councils and Public Works Professionals who took the time to participate in these Excellence Awards. Well done. The National IPWEA Conference in Canberra during August was a resounding success with all who attended declaring it to be one of the best yet. Delegates and exhibitors all had a great time and will no doubt be entering the Darwin Conference in 2013 into their diaries.

The IPWEA wishes to thank Komatsu as the major sponsor for this event.

Regional Conferences were once again held throughout the twelve regions of the State. Due to the popularity of these one day events and the opportunity for more members to avail themselves of these "localised" conferences, these one day mini conferences were held in eleven centres

throughout the metropolitan and regional areas which were well supported by our membership and Councils with over 290 persons attending. These one day conferences have gained industry support and sponsorship allowing all Councils to send technical staff and engineers to a local 1 day conference. It is proposed that in 2011/12 the Regional conferences will be more popular as a result of your requests and support, with a calendar of these events having been published in the E-bulletin, the website and on the back page of this annual report. The IPWEA wish to thank our major sponsors WesTrac and Local Government Procurement.

The Roads & Transport Directorate has moved ahead this year with the release of further manuals to all member councils and during this past year has undertaken through the Technical Subcommittee to investigate a wide range of engineering issues identified by you. The outcomes and papers pertaining to these issues are being released as projects are completed. The RTD also undertook a third Benchmarking survey late last year which tied in closely with the two previous studies to show how our road conditions and funding scenarios are progressing. Thanks to the Manager R&TD, Mick Savage, and volunteers from the Technical Subcommittee committee for their great work.

Professional Development and the conduct of courses throughout the State continues to be a priority as requested by members and each of these courses is designed to meet your professional requirements. Road Safety Auditors courses will continue to be presented by the IPWEA as new course development is undertaken by the RTA. Your continued support for these courses is appreciated. IPWEA (NSW) is excited that it was successful in the first round of the Federally funded Critical Skills Investment Fund for the training of up to 185 staff across eleven Councils across the state. The second round of funding should see an increase in the number of Councils availing themselves of these opportunities.

We continue to face a real challenge with membership. It is recognised that a large number of engineers will retire in the next five years and the IPWEA need to replace these members and increase our membership base in order to provide a continued range of membership services, innovative courses and events which will meet the changing needs of our varied membership and associates. The initiation of the organisational champions program last year has been very

successful and we thank these members for their tireless work in this area introducing new members to the IPWEA so as to avail themselves of opportunities for networking, career and professional development in the future.

I recommend that you take some time to review the individual Portfolio Directors reports in order to realise what has been achieved this year. I would like to thank Dave Abbott and Geoff Fowler for the tremendous job they have done on an annual basis with judging of the Excellence Awards across the State. And I would especially like to thank the IPWEA Board for the tremendous job and achievements they have made over the past three years. The Board has worked really well together, forging closer ties with IPWEA National and providing improved services for the membership. This AGM marks the completion of the Boards Triennium period and the welcoming of the new incoming board, thank you to the board members who are leaving for your efforts over this three years. On behalf of all members, I would like to congratulate Stewart McLeod who was awarded the Public Service Medal (PSM) in the Queen's Birthday Honours list. This is great recognition for his service to Local Government and the profession.

The IPWEA could simply not run without the Professional staff employed by the Institute under our Executive Manager, Mark Turner and Executive Officer John Roydhouse. To all of the IPWEA management and staff, thank you for your commitment and dedication displayed especially at major events where a huge effort is required.

We at the Institute look forward to another successful year in 2011/12 and we look forward to your continued support and enthusiasm and hope to see you and your partners at the Annual conference in Coffs Harbour in May 2012.



**Greg Moran**  
**President**

# Executive Manager's Report

The year just past has been quite satisfying. As NSW was hosting the biennial National Conference, we were unable to hold our own full State Conference; presenting a challenge for both sponsorship and attendance. While forecasting the outcome was difficult, NSW benefitted from its spread of activities. This ensured a result which delivered on the mission of IPWEA to inform, connect, represent and lead. At the same time we achieved our financial goals: growth in retained earnings and a significant contribution to the Foundation.

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The work of IPWEA (NSW) has been undertaken by a team of competent and enthusiastic staff supported by our volunteers within our regions. I am thankful for the loyalty and support of all our staff: Lita, Kapil, Mick, John, Sabrina, Michelle and Saveena. We have also had continuing support from our overseas intern program. Through 2010/2011 the team welcomed Derya, Beth and Marit. While they gained valuable event experience, their contribution to us was rewarding.

In 2011, we continued our focus on delivering membership services. An increased confidence in the accuracy of our membership database shared with National (still not perfect!) has assisted in our communication with members. The introduction of our organisational champion programs has increased our presence in many local Councils. Our members who volunteered for these positions received training from Kevin Cahalane in communications and member engagements. These are skills which are transferable to their workplace.



Regional Conferences were delivered for the second year. We are grateful for the support of major sponsors which has enabled us to deliver these conferences at a reasonable price. Attendance at these events grew from the first year.

As noted above, we were unable to hold a State Conference due to NSW hosting the National Conference in Canberra. Instead, we hosted a one day forum, combined with our Awards for Excellence Dinner. The forum comprised three events: The Roads Congress, the Road Safety Forum; and for the first time, a Water Directorate forum.

The close proximity to other events, affected overall registrations, and the short duration prevented sponsorship opportunities. However, we acknowledge and thank our long-term sponsor Komatsu with their support for IPWEA through this time.

Our Professional Development program continues to be refreshed and new courses introduced. Development of new courses has been funded internally or by grants from the Office of Environment & Heritage. As the report is being written, IPWEA is embarking on a major new initiative; being the recipient of Federal Government's Critical Skills Investment Fund.

Civenex was a great financial success, with a record number of exhibitors. We were a little disappointed with attendance and we are looking to see how this can be addressed.

Timely communication with our members is achieved through our e-bulletin and the launch of the new website with an emphasis on social networking and member involvement. This will enhance the relevance of your Institute. The Showcase Journal has provided great opportunity to highlight the exciting projects undertaken by our members and provide insights into the careers and work of featured members. Keep these contributions coming!

IPWEA (NSW) and the Roads Directorate continued our role in advocacy on behalf of members. Apart from submissions and contact with State and Federal Government, we have representation on a number of groups including: CouncilSafe Network, Roadside Environment committee; Austroads Committees; Metropolitan Greenspace program; and Standards Committees.

The Board members have embraced their roles as Portfolio Directors with vigour and have been a great support to our staff and me; providing encouragement and mentoring.

I commend to you the Directors' and Financial Reports. The full details are contained in the signed financial statements available for download from our website. The summary reports on the following pages give a précis of each of our key result areas. The end result is an adequate profit as well as a significant contribution to the Foundation achieved through the support of members; the loyalty of our sponsors and exhibitors; and a dedication of a great team of Board members regional delegates and Staff.



**Mark Turner**  
**Executive Manager**



# Financial Report



The financial position of IPWEA (NSW) and the NSW Foundation remains strong following a sound trading performance. IPWEA (NSW) has been able to improve its retained earnings (net assets) to \$574,000. This is in line with Board objectives to increase working capital in line with inflation. The solid asset base of the NSW Foundation should enable it to deliver a sustainable program of endowments, scholarships and programs to members.

In 2010/2011, the company, IPWEA (NSW) achieved an operating surplus of \$21,573 after tax. During the year, the company reimbursed Foundation \$27,500 (ex GST) to cover for

expenses incurred directly in relation to company's operation, which were more than budgeted sums. Some of the company projects funded by Foundation include Organisation Champion, Group Chairs and Secretaries Forum, Excellence awards judgements etc.

A 21% increase in CivEnEx surplus contribution greatly towards the operating surplus. While, the Professional Development Program, Events and Conferences Department and Administration department made losses from operation, a small profit of \$5K was made by Road Safety Department.

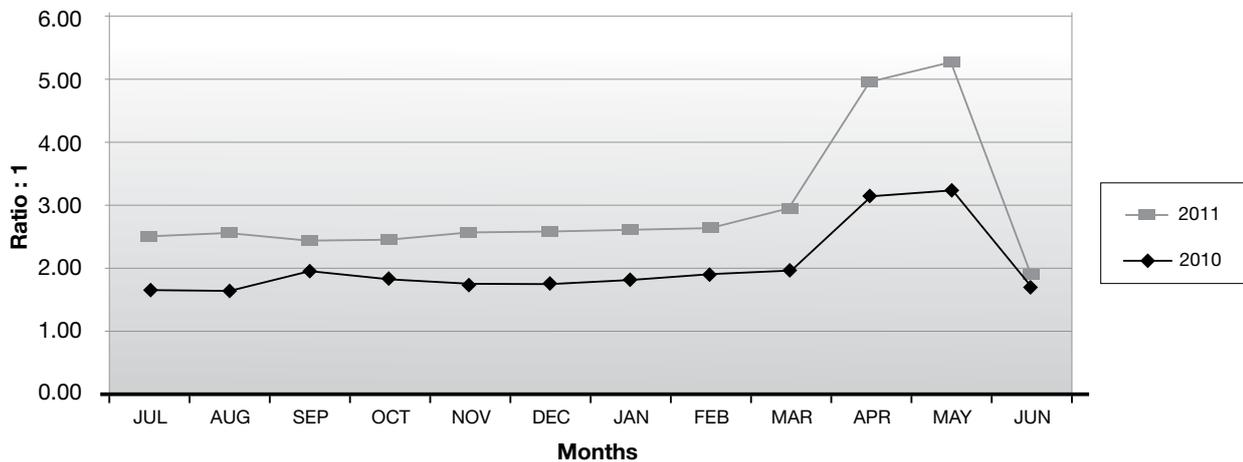
## Summary Financial Performance

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

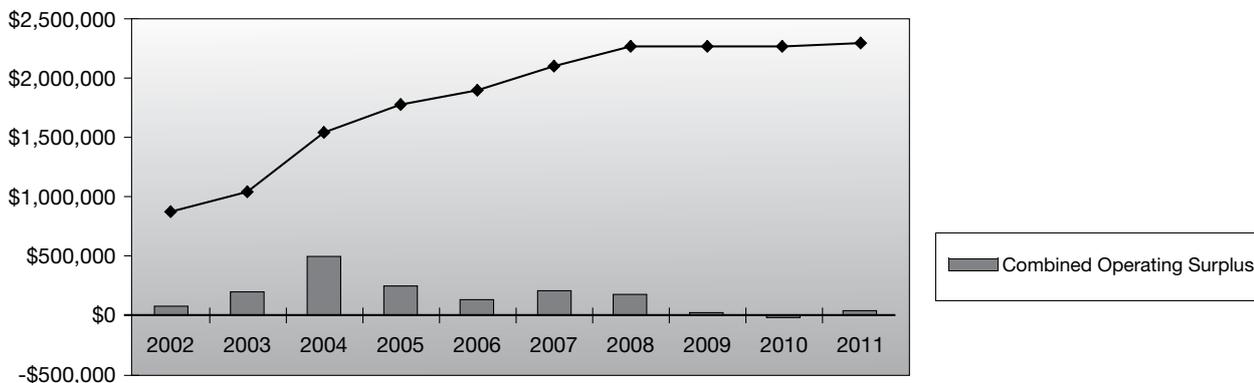
<b>IPWEA (NSW Division) Ltd (Audited)</b>	<b>2011 \$</b>	<b>2010 \$</b>
Revenue from ordinary activities	2,097,236	2,086,762
Cash at end of financial year	1,427,243	1,280,684
Profit (loss) after income tax expense	21,573	11,974
Net assets (liabilities)	574,440	552,867
Tax expense (credit)	11,621	(4,363)
Net surplus CivEnEx	422,114	349,200
Net surplus (deficit) Events and conference	(19,604)	89,313
Net surplus (deficit) Administration	(363,977)	(329,791)
Net surplus (deficit) Professional Development	(10,293)	(18,592)
Net surplus (deficit) Road Safety Program	4,954	(82,519)
<b>Municipal Engineering Foundation (Audited)</b>	<b>2011 \$</b>	<b>2010 \$</b>
Operating Profit (Loss)	680	(24,082)
Non Current Assets	700,000	670,000
Net Assets (liabilities)	1,713,620	1,712,940

The following charts give an overview of the monthly solvency of the Company and also an indication of the fortunes of the combined position of the Company and Foundation over the past ten years. The first graph highlights the financial challenges the company faces due to seasonal inflow of funds (CivEnEx and Conference being in May). In addition to maintaining good corporate governance, the company endeavours to expand sources of income and improve cash flows during first half of the year by holding events throughout the year (eg Regional Forums, Works Conference and strengthened Sponsorship/ Partnership deals).

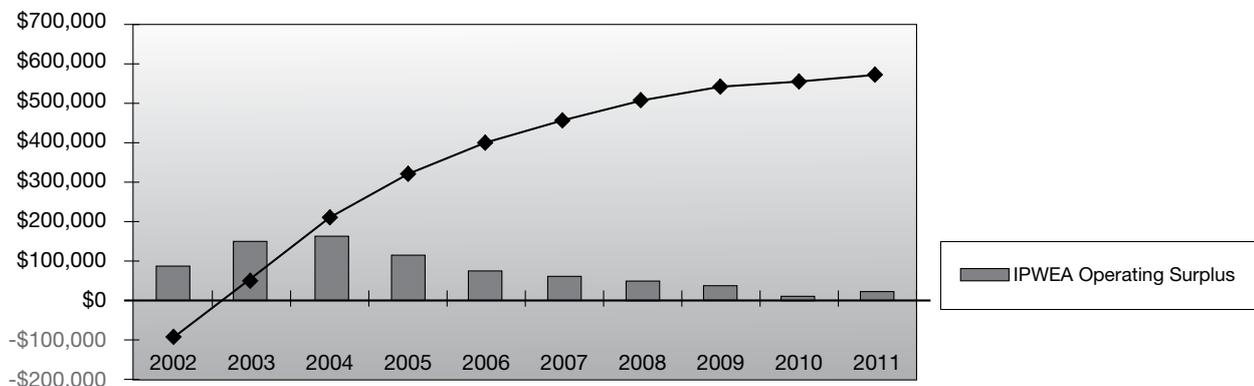
**IPWEA (NSW) monthly Current Ratio (excluding Funds held in Trust) versus 2009/2010**



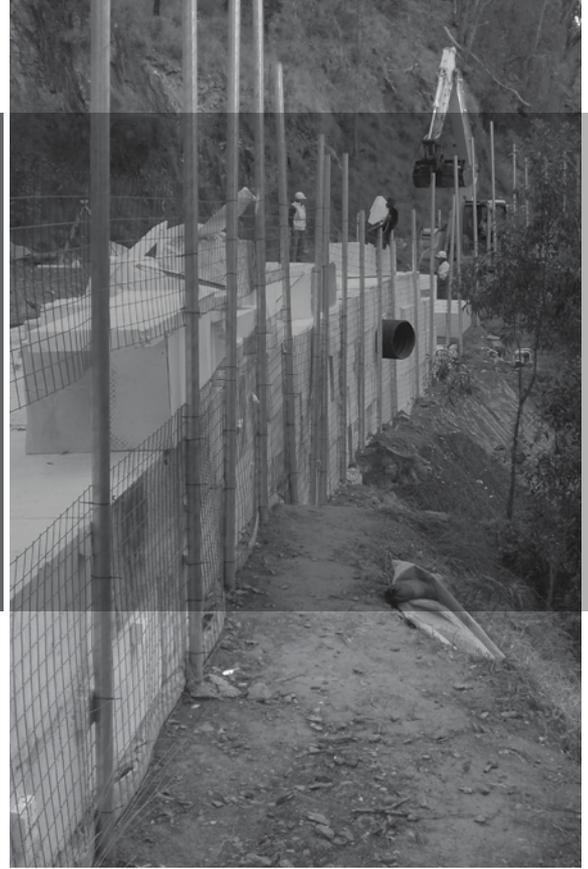
**IPWEA NSW and NSW Foundation Combined Track of Ten Year Financial Performance**



**NSW Foundation Track of Ten Year Financial Performance**



# Foundation Report



The trustees met several times during the year including teleconferences. In 2010/2011 the focus has been on delivering to the concise strategic/business plan supported by a five year sustainable budget and financial model.

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The strategic plan clearly identified that the Foundation should support the vision and mission of IPWEA (NSW). This plan identified 5 key result areas:

- **Governance and Stewardship.** The MEF will be a financially sustainable organisation capable of delivering consistent funds for the advancement of the science of Public Works Engineering.
- **Professional Development.** The Foundation will be a source of funds to permit the development of Professional development courses focused on the needs of IPWEA members.
- **Training and Expansion of Regional Groups.** The Foundation will be a support for the establishment, revival and training of Regional Groups.
- **Scholarships and Endowments.** The Foundation will provide funds to enable study, travel and exchange programs for IPWEA members. Intellectual capital derived from these programs will be shared with the broader membership.
- **Recognition of Excellence.** The Foundation will be a primary support for the recognition of excellence in Public Works Engineering. The Foundation will support the dissemination of knowledge gleaned from projects and their leaders.

The Foundation has had a successful year providing funds to meet most of these objectives.

The Foundation has funds available to support the Professional development program. However in 2010 IPWEA elected to fund new course development out of its own funds and by a grant from the Office of Environment and Heritage. The trustees have requested the IPWEA to consider the Foundation as a possible source of funding.

In early 2010, following submissions from IPWEA, the Foundation agreed to support a program for the training of Organisational Champions. The aim of this program is to have a trained IPWEA member in every council and major employer of members, who will be the focus for membership support. This program was implemented in full in 2010 and 2011. As noted elsewhere IPWEA now has 50 Organisational champions with the objective of having 100 in 2011/12. A review of the program has reduced the cost of delivery by utilising webinar technology.

An award for the Study Tour to US and UK was made to Cliff Toms from Port Macquarie Hastings Council. Cliff has prepared an excellent report The report is accessible from the IPWEA (NSW) web site.

The Foundation also provided two grants for members attending the Asset Management Study tour of New Zealand. The successful applicants were Ben Harris from Guyra Shire Council and Royce Toohey from Eurobodalla Shire Council.

A grant was also extended to Shereny Selim from Hurstville Council enabling her to present a paper at the International Conference for Women Engineers and Scientists (ICWES) in Adelaide.

As there was no State conference, the Foundation offered to fund Young Leaders to the National Conference in Canberra. Although seven young members availed themselves of this offer, the cost associated with the national Conference will be incurred in the next financial year.

The Foundation supported the Annual Awards for Excellence including the costs of judging and preparation of awards. Dave Abbott and Geoff Fowler undertook a big role in assessing the numerous awards in each category. The NSW Awards for Excellence have been aligned with the Biennial National Awards. The Best Project Category winners and leaders from the 2010 and 2011 awards were submitted as NSW nominations to the National Awards. I am delighted that Warren Sharpe from Eurobodalla Shire Council was presented with the Project Leader Award at the National Conference.

In 2010 the Foundation agreed to provide funding over 5 years to the "Build a bridge" program run by Compact and the REROC group of Councils. IPWEA members have supported the program for a number of years. The three day course in Wagga gives year 10 and 11 students exposure to public works engineering. They "graduate" from the course by building a bridge and getting over it! The foundation regards this and similar programs as a contribution to local initiatives seeking to address the engineering skills shortages. In a similar vein the Foundation also supported a "Women in Engineering" weekend at University of New England. This program

brings female year 11 students from all over NSW to Campus to sample the opportunities in engineering.

While the Foundation has supported many formally structured programs, there is still scope to reward individual initiative and scholarship. The Trustees will always welcome individual applications for endowments to study, travel, and exchange programs.

All these activities can only be delivered because the Foundation is operating from a strong asset base of both property and cash investments. The cash investments were reviewed in detail in late 2010 and a revised investment plan which maximised return while providing timely access to funds was implemented.

The trustees are grateful to IPWEA (NSW) for the "donation" of \$27,500. Combined with a modest revaluation of the 447 Kent St property, the Foundation was able to realise a small surplus. Our auditors are currently reviewing the gift recipient status of the Foundation along with the possible tax exempt status of IPWEA. This may assist in optimising future donations to the foundation.

I thank my fellow trustees for their support and diligence of the past year. As well, the Trustees acknowledge the great support the Foundation receives from Mark Turner and his staff in the IPWEA office.



**Chris Watson**  
**Chairperson of the Municipal Engineering**  
**Foundation**



# Professional Development & Education



It has been a challenging period over the past twelve (12) months with ever increasing pressures on the Professional Development activities.

This financial year the Professional Development Income amounted to \$225,644, with limited training budgets across Councils in New South Wales one of the factors affecting the bottom line.

Registration fees totalling \$177K were received from sixteen (16) courses during the financial year 2010/11 and represent 78% of the total PD income. This however is 27% below budget and reflects the increasing difficulty to attract the training dollar from Councils across NSW and presenters. The level of registration has also been affected due to reduced RTA activity.

IPWEA NSW is keeping up with the constant evolution of the Public Work sector with development of new courses and finalising some of these tends to be a lengthy process sometimes involving several stakeholders. Relating the PD program to skill gaps and current priority list of strategic public works issues is ongoing.

The Board's decision for the PD cost centre to absorb course development rather than seeking funds from the Foundation also has impacted on income with additional expenses to salaries.

The new edition of the Gangers Handbook was successfully launched during the 2010 Works Officers Conference in October. There were 473 manuals sold and income from the sales during the financial year 2010/11 was 92% above budget.

Other income received during the financial year included funding from DECCW (now Office of Environment and Heritage) to develop a course on recycled aggregates and linking it to our RTO scope.

Expenditure reduced by around \$28K. In line with the lower income, direct expenses including Venue Hire, (equipment hire, catering) and printing, postage were \$71K (98%) and \$4.4K (52%) below budget. Higher than budgeted payroll hours and staff training charged to the department off-set the lower direct expenses referred above giving a bottom line for the department of \$33K worse off than the budgeted profit of \$22K. These expenses included some of the course development costs and preparation costs for the Critical Skills Investment Fund (CSIF) submission.

Notwithstanding the above, there are many positives and opportunities ahead.

It is a long term goal of the IPWEA to be at the forefront of providing relevant continuing Professional Development in the Public Works Industry by providing a suite of Professional Development Courses that reflect the changing needs and aspirations of members and the communities that they serve.

Firstly, it was a major win for IPWEA securing the Critical Skills Investment Funding (CSIF) enabling training funds for Councils. Council over 200 employees benefit by a 50% grant and 90% grant for Councils with less than 200 employees.

New courses have been successfully developed, in particular the VETAB (now ASQA – Australia Skills Quality Authority) Accreditation of The 'Use of Recycled Material' workshop addressing the correct use of recycled materials in Pavements, Earthworks and Drainage construction and AUSLOT (awareness of utility surfaces assets) which will strengthen IPWEA's reputation in

the Utility Services Industry and in the Local Government, 'Management of Roads', 'Civil Liabilities', AUSPEC 'Environmental Impact Assessment' and 'Road design'.

Others nearing development completion include 'Giving Evidence in Courts' workshops which will be very useful in an ever increasing litigious society, 'Water Management'. These are expected to be launched throughout the year based on the industry needs and our members valued feedback.

It was a major concern of the Road and Traffic Authorities minimal support on Road Safety Audit courses what was once one of our most popular courses, however, IPWEA has reapplied to deliver these courses on behalf of the RTA.

The IPWEA has started to brand the Institute amongst Councils' H.R. representatives. New marketing initiatives have taken place such as promotional videos sent to all H.R. departments within Councils, attending and 'flying the IPWEA banner' at H.R. Conferences and development of Organisational Champions to increase professional developments market potential.

It is our objective to provide a range of courses linked to competency based qualifications and recognised within the scope of the Institute's RTO Certification, utilising available technologies for the delivery of same on a sound commercial basis.

Having this objective in mind, a review of short term and long term strategies identified the need to focus on competency based courses around National accreditation.

Formal qualification was agreed as the best way to go forward as it will give the Institution more weight and give short workshops due recognition. The idea that participants can do a workshop which is part of a Cert. III or Cert. IV level will provide more value to both participants and organisations, thus marketing of the courses will be easier. This is particularly noteworthy since securing the CSIF.

The short term strategies in the coming years are:

- Continue relating PD Program to a current priority list of strategic Public Works Issues.
- Strengthen our strategic partnership of mutual benefit to deliver PD and Education.
- Focus competency based courses around National Accreditation.
- Promote the Institute and PD amongst Councils HR representatives.
- Fully utilise the capability of delivery of e-learning and distance education solutions to the needs of our members.

- Increase revenue, attendance and profit from PD Program.

Please see the new and improved IPWEA website for details of all the upcoming training courses.

The Regional Conferences which received strong support both from attendees in the Regional Areas as well as a strong support from sponsors will continue to be rolled out in the current financial year.

IPWEA is constantly seeking feedback and is interested in progressing new and innovative training for the benefit of public works practitioners. There may be opportunities over 2 days to 'dovetail' training courses with our Regional Conferences. I urge the members to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the IPWEA and consider the benefits of maintaining their ongoing Professional Development.

Finally, it has been a difficult twelve months, but the efforts of the Executive and Professional Development Manager are to be congratulated in rolling out workshops and training so that as an organisation, provide you with all the opportunity to improve your skills and knowledge. Well done to John and Sabrina (and also Michelle in Events). It is certainly a team effort.

It would also be remiss of me if I didn't say thank you to our international intern Derya from Germany aiding our Professional Development team during the past year and welcoming Nadine Timmermans and Aukje, both from the Netherlands who will work in the events team and assist PD as required.

To finish, it is with sadness that Sabrina has announced she is departing overseas at the end of the year and is leaving IPWEA. On behalf of the Board and, personally, I would like to reiterate our appreciation of her hard work and work ethics as PD Manager during my first term on the Board and wish her all the best for the future.

*(Au revoir et nous vous souhaitons bonne chance pour votre avenir)*

**Geoff Metcalfe**  
**Professional Development & Education**  
**Portfolio Director**

# Events

IPWEA continues on an ambitious program of events and activities providing considerable opportunity for member activity, attraction and service delivery. The year has seen many successful and well supported events.

## Works Officers Conference

The year kicked off with an excellent Works Officer conference at the Novotel North Beach Wollongong. The event was held from 20<sup>th</sup> October to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010. The theme of “nuts and bolts of Local Government” was pursued by a good range of technical and social papers which dealt with everyday issues faced by front line Works Officers. An “awards for excellence” presentation was included with a themed conference dinner: come as a rock star dead or alive. Many of the delegates and sponsors went all out to dress for the occasion.



We also took the opportunity to recognise the valuable contribution made to IPWEA and the Works Officers movement by Dave Coulton and Ian Firman.

## Regional Conferences

The 2010/2011 Regional Conferences reinforced the success of inaugural 2009/2010 regional conferences. The event was appreciated by members, non members and sponsors alike. The ambitious undertaking of 11 events, with a combined Metro South Metro North event, in a short period requires a huge effort from staff, presenters, sponsors and regional group officials.



<b>November 2010</b>		
Thursday 4	Orana Group	Cobar Bowling and Golf Club Bloxham St, Cobar NSW 2835
<b>February 2011</b>		
Monday 7	South West Group	Quality Resort Siesta, 416 – 422 Wagga Road, Albury NSW 2641
Wednesday 9	South East Group West	Corrigans Cove, 204 Beach Road, Batehaven, Batemans Bay NSW
Friday 11	Illawarra Group	Sebel Hotel, 31 Shoalhaven Street, Kiama NSW 2533
Tuesday 22	Metropolitan North & South Group	Manly 16ft Skiff Sailing Club, East Esplanade, Manly NSW 2095
Wednesday 23	Metropolitan West Group	Rydges Hotel, 15 Old Menangle Road, Campbelltown NSW 2560
<b>March 2011</b>		
Monday 7	North Coast Group	Ramada Hotel, The Point Ballina, 2 Martin Place, Ballina NSW 2478
Wednesday 9	New England/ Northwest Group	University of New England Duval Conference Centre, Armidale NSW 2350
Friday 11	Mid North Coast Group	Rydges Port Macquarie, 1 Hay Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444
<b>April 2011</b>		
Tuesday 5	Central West Group	Turners Vineyard, 4929 Mitchell Highway, Orange NSW 2800
Thursday 7	Hunter Group	The Sebel, Kirkton Park Hunter Valley, 336 Oakey Creek Road, Pokolbin NSW 2320

The 2012 Round of Regional Conferences dates and locations have been confirmed in consultation with the regional chairs and secretaries.

Westrac have confirmed they would like to continue their sponsorship at the same level.

Local Government Procurement has indicated that they will continue for 2012.

Downer Australia, previously Downer Edi, is again interested in the Regional Conferences and negotiations are currently underway.

The Roads and Transport Directorate has again indicated they will financially contribute to the cost of these events.

### **One Day Forum and Awards Dinner 2011**

The NSW Roads Congress, the Road Safety Officers Forum and Water Directorate were part of the one day forum. The event consisted of a full and informative program followed by the Engineering Excellence Awards.

This event was constrained due to 2011 National Conference being hosted by NSW but despite numbers being lower than expected a successful event was conducted.

The Roads Directorate have furnished their own report but remain committed to being part of the IPWEA event, as have the Water Directorate but consideration will have to be given to how to increase numbers of delegates attending.

It was worthy to note that recognition was given through the attendance of Cllr. Keith Rhodes, the Hon John Ajaka MP, and David Elliott MP. The difficulty in gaining acceptances so soon after the State election proved to be a trial for all concerned.

The last minute keynote address proved to one that created discussion and received mixed reviews in our feedback. The decision to not use an external MC for the Excellence Awards was ultimately well received and constituted a major cost saving.

### **2011 International Conference Canberra**

Hosted by the NSW Division, the conference was organised by a committee comprising National Staff and Board members, NSW Staff and Board Members and the external Profession Conference Organisers (PCO). The event has proved to be very successful with extremely positive feedback from delegates and sponsors with many suggesting the conference was indeed the “best ever”. Canberra proved to be a ideal venue with the conference facilities suiting delegate needs in an inviting atmosphere. The presentations, the social activities, workshops and technical tours all proved to be very popular.

Congratulations to the team and the way in which the committee operated under the leadership of John Truman. NSW will again host the International Conference in 2025.

## Future Events

### Plant School

As a result of discussion with the New England North West IPWEA Group, it is envisaged a Plant Operations School be conducted in November or December 2011 in the New England North West Region. Following on from highly successful events previously run in this region, there is a strong desire to run another. David Steller and Greg Moran have volunteered to assist the Events Team to conduct the school. Komatsu have also offered their specialist training manager to assist with the practical on machine training. Early indications from the group meeting showed a high level of support and interest in this event. Area to be covered includes practical training in Grader Operations, Heavy Bitumen Patching, Compaction and Stabilisation along with looking at traffic control and Roadside environment issues.

It is hoped that the event may be taken to other regions as interest evolves.

### 2012 State Conference

In 2012, Engineers Australia are promoting the Year of the Regional Engineering Team and this provides an opportunity for IPWEA to support regional members.

The State Conference for 2012 will be a two day event incorporating Roads Congress, Road Safety and Water Directorate forums and

- Awards dinner on be held on first night of event
- The Conference be rotated regionally
- Break the nexus with Civenex

2012 IPWEA State Conference Novotel Pacific Bay Resort Coffs Harbour

- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2012  
Welcome Reception and Registration
- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012  
NSW Local Roads Congress, Water Directorate Forum. Road Safety Officers Forum IPWEA, Excellence Awards
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012  
IPWEA State Conference

### 2012 IPWEA Works Officers Conference

Novotel Pacific Bay Resort Coffs Harbour

- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2012  
Welcome Reception and Registration
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October  
Works Officers Conference and Dinner
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October  
Works Officers Conference

### Events Team

Under John's leadership, Michelle's dedication and the encouragement of our team of overseas interns, I again wish to express my thanks to IPWEA staff for their efforts in making the all the events a success and look forward to another year full of activities. I encourage all members of IPWEA to encourage support and attendance at as many events as they can to ensure ongoing successful outcomes and benefits.

### Tony Reed

Events Portfolio Director



# CivEnEx

An excellent open air exhibition venue at Western Sydney International Dragway (WSID) helped to ensure that the 56<sup>th</sup> CivEnEx held in May 2011 was a great show and one of our most successful. The new 60x25 metre permanent pavillion and extra paved area made the exhibition site more attractive to both exhibitors and delegates alike.

Our thanks go to the management and staff of WSID for their continued support and cooperation in providing the venue for CivEnEx. We now have a multi-year agreement in place with WSID which will ensure much-needed consistency of venue and marketing stability for the foreseeable future.

Attendance at CivEnEx. 2011 was comparable to previous years. There was strong local government support on the first day, with the Thursday crowd more representative of smaller contractors.

Exhibitor numbers in 2011 increased over the previous year, with all available sites being filled. The outdoor demonstration area operated again this year and attracted a steady stream of delegates.

Thanks go to the team of volunteer judges from the public works industry who had the difficult task of judging the exhibitor awards. Awards were presented on the Wednesday night at an exhibitor function held at the dragway.

Congratulations to the following exhibitors who received awards:

- **Best outdoor stand**  
Position Partners



- **Highly commended**  
Bakers Construction and Industrial
- **Best indoor stand**  
Seba KMT Aus
- **Highly commended**  
Emerdyn Urban Design Furniture Pty Ltd
- **Best new product**  
Matthews Equipment
- **Highly commended**  
Wacker Neusens
- **Environmental Product**  
Australian Urethane and Styrene Company
- **Highly commended**  
Tennant Company
- **Most innovative product**  
Seba KMT Aus
- **Highly commended**  
Komatsu

Congratulations to Frank and Susie Sticka and their team, along with the IPWEA staff, for organising another successful event. Planning for CivEnEx 2012 has commenced. Discussions are under way with Frank Sticka and WSID to make the exhibition and venue even better in the future.

Make sure you attend next year's CivEnEx on 16 and 17 May 2012 and encourage your colleagues and suppliers to be there. You can never have too much fun!

For further details see [www.civenex.com](http://www.civenex.com)

**Stewart McLeod**  
CivEnEx Portfolio Director

# Membership Services



Currently our membership stands at around 700 including student and retired members. This follows a further cleansing of membership data and a follow up of potential new members and prospects.

However, the year has seen the introduction of the Organisational Champions concept and following commencement of an extensive training program the Institute has now over 50 Organisational Champions across the State who will assist us to grow and retain membership.

It is hoped that over the next twelve months further training will be undertaken with a aim to have at least 100 Organisational Champions where most Council and relevant other Organisations contain an Institute Champion. 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 also saw the Board adopt an updated Communication Strategy. Dedicated Membership Services Staff are providing regular email newsletters or e-bulletins, the showcase journal and regional group meeting updates.

NSW Division Staff have also continued to work with IPWEA National Staff and consultants on our membership services management computer software iMIS to improve the services provided to members.

**Gary Woodman**  
**Membership Services Portfolio Director**



# Skills Shortage



The Skills Shortage Panel met once in September 2010. The Panel continued to refine the strategic plan developed in 2009 and adopted by the Board.

One of the underlying strategies for Skills Shortage Panel was to embrace the National Skills Shortage Strategies and alliances by the application of local solutions. Many of these “local solutions” are being delivered through the Professional Development, Membership and Events programs. Activities of IPWEA (NSW) which contributed to progress of the skills shortage agenda included:

- **Organisational Champions.** The membership initiative to provide a champion in each Council or significant private employer has progressed well.
- **Communications.** Substantial progress has been made on Communication through the Journal, e-bulletins and an existing web site.
- **Regional Conferences.** The first series of these ran during the year providing a broad range of technical papers intended to enhance members’ knowledge.
- **Relationship with Engineers’ Australia.** IPWEA (NSW) now participates in the EA Sydney Division Deans’ Forum. The forum draws together academics and program coordinators from the University, TAFE, Secondary and Primary School Sectors. EA and IPWEA are collaborating to cross-promote events and courses.

However the development of specific activities in our regional groups where local initiatives by IPWEA members and their Councils are making a difference demand individual recognition.

Eurobodalla Shire Council has continued with a great certificate program in conjunction with Riverina TAFE and has provided a training model suitable for other Regions.

Our South West Regions group continues to support the “Build a Bridge and get over it Program” – based in Wagga by providing members to mentor students during the two day camp. The Build a Bridge Program has been supported by grant from the Foundation for the next three years. IPWEA is currently reviewing how this successful initiative can be replicated or modified for other regions particularly the Metropolitan area.

Finally our New England North West Group has been active in promoting engineering as a career option to high school students. This has been delivered by personal presentations in class as well as support for career expos in Armidale and Tamworth. The UNE has also been active in hosting a “Women in Engineering” Weekend. This was supported by a grant from the Foundation.

Throughout 2010/2011, IPWEA has developed a strong relationship with Skills DMC. This has helped us identify the significant gaps which exist within our workforce and the Skills DMC programs have been utilised by our members’ councils to improve workplace training.

This relationship has also enabled IPWEA to secure Federal Government Critical Skill Investment Funding. Stage one of this program will provide heavily subsidised training for 185 places in 11 Councils. The benefits to IPWEA should start to flow in late September or early October. Further applications for funds are in hand.

These developments will help to maintain IPWEA (NSW)’s leadership in delivering competency based programs, designed to address the identified skills shortages within Public Works Engineering.

**Ken Halstead**  
**Portfolio Director Skills Shortage**

# Asset Management & Sustainability

IPWEA is recognised for its leadership in Asset Management. Through this leadership IPWEA continues to advance the development of the sector to respond to the challenges of managing infrastructure. To achieve this, IPWEA has resourced a program developed at the National level. The role of the Asset Management portfolio within the NSW division has been to provide input into the development of the national program, advocate at the state level, and provide the communication interface to ensure that the national program is connected and applied at the local level in NSW.

There has been a deepening maturity of the sector's understanding and application of asset management principles. To support this and further extend our leadership, IPWEA's asset management program has substantially expanded again this past year through NAMS.AU and the establishment of the Australian Centre for Excellence in Local Government (ACELG).

NAMS.AU is the National Asset Management Steering Committee. This is an internal IPWEA committee that allows the States Divisions to come together to share information and experiences and plan our program's development in a nationally consistent manner. IPWEA NSW remains committed to this process as a contributing member of NAMS.AU and thereby supports its work.

It is through the NAMS.AU program that IPWEA has continue to develop our suite of tools and



training such as the NAMSplus templates and industry support, condition assessment practice notes, the Infrastructure Financial Management Guidelines, and the International Infrastructure Management Manual (IIMM). A key project for 2010/2011, in collaboration with Ingenium (the NZ Association of Public Works Engineers), has been the development of a revised edition of the IIMM.

ACELG was formed by a consortium partners being the University of Technology Sydney, University of Canberra, IPWEA, LGMA and the Australian and New Zealand School of Government. In addition to IPWEA's role in the corporate governance and management of ACELG, IPWEA is the appointed manager for the Centre's Organisation Capacity Building Program.

The objectives of this program include developing the capacity of councils in terms of their approach to infrastructure asset management and financial planning. Through the resources available from this program, this year IPWEA released a new manual being Asset Management for Small Regional and Remote Communities (AM4RRC). This manual is focussed on assisting those councils who because of size or location find it difficult to resource or attract professionals with specific asset management expertise. Other major projects completed or nearing completion including a Long Term Financial Planning Guideline, a maturity model and a national data set. The maturity model will assist organisations through a self assessment and benchmarking process enabling them to focus on the development of their improvement strategies.

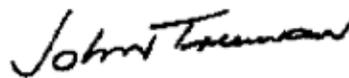
The NSW Division of Local Government has requested IPWEA to provide our expertise, resources and tools to deliver the asset management and financial planning program made possible from the Local Government Reform Fund. This fund has allowed us to offer all councils in NSW a subscription to NAMSplus for a year, copies of our manuals and subsidised training. In addition to this, the DLG has selected 42 councils to receive a grant to complete a maturity gap assessment and prepare an improvement plan, supported by training in the AM4SRRC Manual.

The reform fund program is substantial and combined with the requirements for NSW councils to comply with the new integrated planning and reporting guidelines, we consider that the interest and skill development for asset management in NSW will significantly increase. Therefore it will be important for us to continue to develop our program so that it remains the source of industry leadership and responds to the emerging needs of the sector.

Last year I reported that we had included sustainability into this portfolio to recognise that we need to develop a response to the needs of our members who are attempting to deal with the management challenge of developing sustainable infrastructure, particularly in response to climate change risks. Regretfully resources have been a

constraint again this year meaning we have not made any meaningful impact against this objective. It remains my view that both the National and NSW Boards need to continue to examine the role and service we are able to provide in this area.

IPWEA's asset management program remains a significant component of our activities. As reported above the program continues to develop and is now benefiting from access to external resources which will only further accelerate the expansion of our capacity. The leadership that this program provides should be a source of pride to the membership as it makes a major contribution to the recognition and awareness of our what our profession provides to the communities we serve.



**John Truman**  
**Portfolio Director Asset Management & Sustainability**



# Road Safety



The Road Safety Program continued to evolve in 2010/2011 as IPWEA sought to meet the needs of all members and their employers in delivering safer roads and reduced trauma to the communities they serve. The Road Safety Panel has helped to provide direction and counsel on the delivery of our program.

The future for Road Safety Officers within NSW Local Government still remains uncertain as no clear direction has been given by the RTA on funding for the Local Government Road Safety Program (LGRSP). The restructure of the RTA will see the role of road safety shift to the Transport for NSW portfolio.

Nevertheless IPWEA believes the skills which reside with our RSO members are extremely valuable to Councils and the community alike. Their value was highlighted in a joint submission prepared by IPWEA and the Roads Directorate on the National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020. The submission recognised that RSOs and similar skilled personnel have a role in delivering a safe systems approach to Road Safety at a local level. Our submission concluded:

*IPWEA (NSW) and the Roads and Transport Directorate of NSW support the intent and direction of the National Road Safety Strategy. However for the strategy to be effective, Local Government must be fully engaged in the process: from consultation; to design; and implementation. We offer (three) recommendations:*

- 1. Formation of partnerships between State Road Authorities and Local Government, recognising the expertise and developing the skills to deliver outcomes at the local level.*
- 2. Local Government include Road Safety Strategic planning in their overall risk management plan. We believe this can be achieved within the existing legislative framework.*

- 3. Additional funding and resources be provided to Local Government to effect the desired strategic outcomes without shifting the cost burden to local communities.*

I am also pleased that our RSO members are providing valuable input into our latest submission to the Staysafe Committee on the topic of school safety zones.

The Road safety forum was held on 17<sup>th</sup> May in conjunction with the Roads Congress and Awards for Excellence Dinner. The one day forum provided a range of papers on the theme "National Strategies-Local Initiatives". The forum started with a presentation on the forthcoming National Workplace safety legislation by Workcover NSW. This was followed by presentations on Work zone safety, the National Strategy, Road Safety auditing, the future of the RTA LGRSP and innovations in Road safety. Papers by three of our members showcased the local initiatives reflecting the ideals of the National agenda. I thank all of the presenters for an excellent program.

The Awards for Excellence Dinner continued with recognition of key Road Safety projects. Congratulations to Christine Long, Dubbo City Council and Wellington Council on receiving the Road Safety Award.

We noted last year that the VETAB accredited courses on Road safety auditing had not been picked up by the RTA but they remained a valuable asset in our PD portfolio. However the existing Road safety auditing courses were also revised and refreshed with new material and presenters in 2010/2011. They continue to enjoy strong support.

I am encouraged that our RSO members have remained dedicated and focussed on the role within Council and continue to deliver great outcomes. Keep up the good work!

**Warren Sharpe**  
Road Safety Portfolio Director

# Stormwater and Floodplain Management, Environment

Stormwater, flooding, climate change and the environment never seem to be far from the news headlines these days. Floods, extreme weather events, king tides and sea level rise impacts continue to dominate not only the news in Australia, but around the world. IPWEA members have a valuable role to play in bringing together the relevant information, assessing the impacts in our local area and disseminating this information to our communities in a manner that is relevant and timely.

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The IPWEA has continued to work with state government agencies including the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) through the past year. We are working towards the finalisation and dissemination of the Operations and Maintenance Guidelines for Stormwater Treatment Measures in partnership with the OEH. It is hoped that this document and the associated training to be delivered by IPWEA will be finalised in the coming months.

Information on climate change and the updates of rainfall data are starting to be provided by the BoM and CSIRO. This information contains great uncertainty and its use by public works officers will require simplification and agreed limits based on the best information available. IPWEA will continue to lobby for direction from state and federal government regarding what is required to ensure due diligence with respect to possible outcomes can be demonstrated by members.

The IPWEA is only one player in the management of stormwater and environmental issues. Coordination between State and federal government agencies, local government focus groups, other professional



associations and our communities continues to be an important focus for the IPWEA. The strategic direction to be taken by the IPWEA is to act as a lead agency for the dissemination of information and the facilitation of forums to allow involvement of all groups and agencies. The new IPWEA website will offer new opportunities for networking and information sharing in this regard.

While New South Wales has been relatively fortunate in terms of extreme weather events this past year, floods in the Lockyer Valley, Brisbane and Victoria, cyclones in North Queensland and other extreme weather events across the country and the world have shown us that emergency preparedness is more than just knowing what areas will flood and how strong houses and structures need to be. IPWEA members have a vital role to play in the coordination of information and resources to ensure timely warnings are disseminated to those affected, emergency response is managed and recovery following the event is executed in a timely and efficient manner to minimise stress, ensure the return of essential services and help with the clean up. IPWEA will continue to assist its members in carrying out these roles for our communities.

**Cathy Kinsey**  
**Stormwater, Floodplain Management and Environment Portfolio Director**



Institute of  
Public Works  
Engineering  
Australia  
(NSW Division)

# IPWEA (NSW) ROADS & TRANSPORT DIRECTORATE

The 2010 Road Asset Benchmarking Project was completed in May 2011 and two reports, the *Road Management Report* and the *Timber Bridge Management Report* were released at the 2011 Local Roads Congress. Data validation and preparation of the final reports was again carried out by John Howard from Jeff Roorda and Associates. Data collection for this project is difficult and time consuming requiring constant effort over a period of nine months. Despite this effort, it has still not been possible to obtain data from all councils with 142 of the 152 councils providing valid data.

- Road Access Issues – physical road constructed outside the legal road reserve.
- Improved Route Assessment Guidelines for HML applications on local roads.
- Intelligent transport options available to obtain greater benefit from existing infrastructure

Several of these projects have been completed and the remainder will be undertaken as resources permit.

The 2010/11 year has been a highly productive one for the Roads & Transport Directorate.

Because IPWEA (NSW) was hosting the National Conference in Canberra this year the NSW Local Roads Congress was held as a separate event during May. The Congress, held in conjunction with the Road Safety Officers Forum and the Water Directorate Forum attracted over 100 delegates who heard a wide range of topics confronting Road and Transport practitioners in Public Works.

The Technical Committee chaired by Mark Looney has had a very active year. The committee adopted a project programme which was subsequently adopted by the Management Committee. The ongoing programme includes:

- Collection and indexing of previously unpublished research projects carried out by Public Works Engineers
- Pavement and seal design information sheets
- The implications of the 4th power rule to the assessment of Higher Mass Limits Vehicles on local roads.
- Traffic Control Training
- NSW Local Roads Construction Cost Forecasts
- Optimum life of bitumen seals and asphalt surfaces for NSW Opportunities to lower the life cycle cost of bitumen and asphalt (Combined)
- Crushed glass in road pavements project



The venue selected at Doltone House, overlooking Sydney Harbour, was stunning. Planning for the 2012 Congress is well underway with the combined State Conference/Congress to be held in Coffs Harbour during May 2012.

The Roads & Transport Directorate was approached to provide local government input into the Federal Government's projects on the COAG Road Reform Plan (CRRP) and the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) Project. The Directorate made formal submissions on the CRRP project.

During the year the Roads & Transport Directorate has represented member's interests in a variety of forums including:

- The Road Freight Advisory Council 'Last Mile' Access Sub-Committee Meeting
- Climate Change Adaptation Panel Meetings
- LGSA Green Roads Forum Presentations
- IPWEA (NSW) Road Safety Panel Meeting
- National Pavement Management Systems User Group
- Waste Managers Conference Presentation Coffs Harbour
- NAMS Meetings
- Presentations at 10 Regional Group Meetings
- The Street Openings Conference
- RTA Road Maintenance Council Contracts (RMCC) Steering Committee.

As well as delivering presentations to:

- The IPWEA Works Officers Conference
- 2011 Local Roads Congress
- UTS Corporate Planning Course

- Greenspec information sessions around the state and
- A number of IPWEA Group Meetings

The other major project completed by the Roads Directorate during the year was the publication of the *NSW Local Road Construction Cost Forecasts 2010 – 2020 Report*. This report provides well researched forecasts of construction costs for local government road and bridge construction in New South Wales. The indexes capture changes over time in the cost of undertaking road works. These indexes include estimates of historical changes in costs, and also, forecasts of future changes in costs. The forecasts of the cost indexes are provided as a guide to making cost projections in relation to road works, as part of financial planning by local governments in New South Wales.

This year has been a busy year and I would like to thank all members of the Roads & Transport Directorate Committee for their committed efforts, thoughtful discussion and attendance at our meetings, especially elected members, Allan Smith and Ken Keith as LGSA representatives, whose input was invaluable.

**Warren Sharpe**  
**Roads & Transport Directorate Portfolio Director**



# Regional Group Reports



## IPWEA (NSW) Group Meetings

DATE	DAY	REGIONAL GROUP or OTHER EVENT	VENUE
1 July 2010	Thursday	North Coast	Alstonville
21 July 2010	Wednesday	South East	Queanbeyan
30 July 2010	Friday	Mid North Coast	Nambucca Heads
4 August 2010	Wednesday	Central West	TBA
18 August 2010	Wednesday	Metro West	Penrith
18 August 2010	Wednesday	New England North West	Walcha
19 August 2010	Thursday	Hunter	Cessnock
1 September 2010	Wednesday	Illawarra	Wingecarribee
2 September 2010	Thursday	North Coast	Casino
3 September 2010	Friday	South West	Tumut
3 September 2010	Friday	Orana & Central West Combined	Wellington
8 September 2010	Wednesday	South East	TBA
9 September 2010	Thursday	Metro South	Mascot
2 November 2010	Tuesday	Regional Conference Central West Group	Orange
4 November 2010	Thursday	Regional Conference Orana Group	Cobar
12 November 2010	Friday	South West	Wagga / Narrandera + AGM
17 November 2010	Wednesday	New England North West	Tamworth + AGM
18 November 2010	Thursday	Hunter	Maitland
24 November 2010	Wednesday	Illawarra	Kiama
3 December 2010	Friday	Orana	Narromine
3 February 2011	Thursday	Hunter	Motto Farm (Raymond Terrace)
4 February 2011	Friday	Mid North Coast	Forster

7 February 2011	Monday	Regional Conference South West Group	Albury
9 February 2011	Wednesday	Regional Conference South East Group	Batemans Bay
11 February 2011	Friday	Regional Conference Illawarra Group	Kiama
22 February 2011	Tuesday	Regional Conference Metropolitan South Group Metropolitan North Group	Manly
23 February 2011	Wednesday	Regional Conference Metropolitan West Group	Campbelltown
23 February 2011	Wednesday	Central West	Parkes
2 March 2011	Wednesday	Illawarra	Wollongong
4 March 2011	Friday	South West	Junee
7 March 2011	Monday	Regional Conference North Coast Group	Ballina
9 March 2011	Wednesday	Regional Conference New England/ Northwest Group	Armidale
11 March 2011	Friday	Regional Conference Mid North Coast Group	Port Macquarie
18 March 2011	Friday	Orana Group	Narromine
31 March 2011	Thursday	South Metropolitan	Mascot
5 April 2011	Tuesday	Regional Conference Central West Group	Orange
7 April 2011	Thursday	Regional Conference Hunter Group	Cessnock
4 May 2011	Wednesday	Central West	Cowra
1 June 2011	Wednesday	South East Group	Bega
3 June 2011	Friday	South West Group	Berrigan
8 June 2011	Wednesday	New England North West	Moree
16 June 2011	Thursday	Hunter	Wyong
24 June 2011	Friday	Orana Group	Dubbo (AGM)
3 June 2011	Friday	Mid North Coast	Kempsey
30 June 2011	Thursday	South Metropolitan	Mascot

## Central West

The Central West Group had 2 meetings this year as well as the Regional Conference. The tyranny of distance and the increasing cost of time out of the office have had some impact in numbers attending. In an effort to counter these detractions and add some value to the meetings, the meetings were loosely based around themes of interest for example, Waste Water Treatment, Environmental Obligations, etc. This seemed to work to a certain extent and it is hoped that we can continue to promote our meetings on this basis.

April 5 Regional Conference was held in Orange, a very enjoyable time together with some excellent presentations across a wide spectrum of interests.

May 4 Group Meeting in Cowra, was sponsored by Fulton Hogan, with a guest presentation from Hunter Water Australia and presentation on the Project Management of Cowra's new Sewer Treatment Plant. This was followed up with an inspection of the plant.

August 5 Group Meeting in Forbes, sponsored by Forbes Shire Council, presentation from LGEA and a case study on a recent Land & Environment Court Case involving road maintenance.

Our next meeting is proposed to be November 2 in Orange.

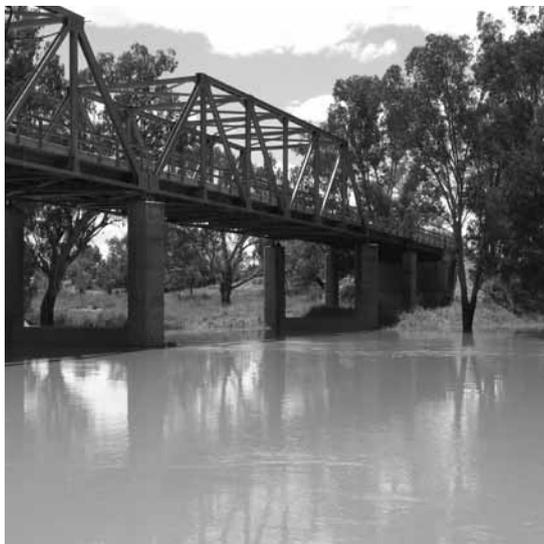
**Phil King**  
Chairperson

**Josh Devitt**  
Secretary

## Hunter

**John Maretich**  
Chairperson

**Rick Mackenzie**  
Secretary



## Illawarra

The Illawarra Group had not held a meeting since 25 November 2009 until 2 March 2011.

The March 2011 meeting was convened by the Chairperson, Lindsay Dunstan and hosted by Wollongong City Council.

A site inspection of the newly re-opened section of Keira Street, known as the Transit Mall was undertaken prior to the meeting.

Following the meeting a presentation was given by Fulton Hogan of the history, growth and service offered by the company, who also sponsored dinner.

A new Chairperson and Secretary were nominated at the March meeting and with renewed interest, the future for the Group looks promising.

**Mark Roebuck**  
Chairperson

**Royce White**  
Secretary

## Metropolitan North

The Northern Metro Group did not meet during 2010/2011 except for the combined Group meeting associated with the AGM and the Regional conference held in conjunction with metro South.

In August 2011 the group held a meeting and as changes to my workload doesn't give me time to carry out the Secretary's role properly Anthony Ogle has volunteered to support John Van Hesden.

**John Van Hesden**  
Chairperson

**Jim Turner**  
Secretary



## Metropolitan West

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During the 2010/2011 year, the Metropolitan West Group, which comprises councils across the Western Sydney (WSROC) and South West Sydney (MACROC) areas, met on one occasion due to the coincidence of other IPWEA events held at times normally set aside for Metro West Group meetings.

The Metro West Group met in August 2010 at Penrith RSL with approximately 30 persons attending.

The meeting received generous support, sponsorship and a presentation from On-line, The Pipe Services Company, which is an Australian company specialising in sub-surface location and detection techniques. In particular, On-line, supplies cable & pipe locating services, drain clearing, non-destructive testing and CCTV pipe inspection services.

Topics reviewed and discussed included:

- Industrial and Professional Issues
- Road and Transport Directorate
- Road safety initiatives
- Topic of special interest
- Review of Group meeting time(s) and information presented

The subsequent meetings, nominally scheduled for November 2010, February and May 2011 were not held with members respectively being encouraged to attend the IPWEA NSW Annual General Meeting held at Coogee, the Regional Conference program held at Rydges Hotel Campbelltown, the IPWEA Annual Forum held at Darling Harbour and CivEnEx at Eastern Creek.

The Metro West Group looks forward to a full meeting schedule for the coming year with meetings confirmed for September and November 2011 and the receipt of advice that the Regional Conference Program will be held in April 2012, well after the proposed February 2012 meeting date.

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

The Group continues to appreciate the attendance of IPWEA NSW, Executive Manager Mark Turner 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

## Mid North Coast

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The Group held 4 meetings during the period from July 2010 to June 2011.

- 30 July 2010  
Hosted by Nambucca Shire Council
- 12 November 2010  
Hosted by Coffs Harbour City Council
- 4 February 2011  
Hosted by Great Lakes Council
- 3 June 2011  
Hosted by Kempsey Shire Council

In addition a Regional Conference was held at Port Macquarie on 11 March 2011.

During the year the positions of Chairperson and Secretary were passed from Ben Lawson and Greg Powter from Coffs Harbour Council to Ron Hartley and Stuart Small from Great Lakes Council in accordance with the regional Agreement. The group would like to thank Ben and Greg for the sterling job they have done over the past two years.

Meetings were well attended by approximately 40 members as well as representatives of IPWEA and LGEA and provided an opportunity for a number of technical tours and presentations including:

- Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Act and Regulations
- Local Government Procurement
- Solar Lighting
- Coffs Harbour City Council switchboard construction
- Energy Metering and Conservation
- Telemetry Protocols and Compatibility
- Bakers Road Detention Basin
- Resource Sharing by Richmond Valley Council
- Mitchell St Footbridge, South West Rocks
- Riverside Drive, Nambucca Heads, Landslip

In addition members were enlightened by the regular updates on the award provisions and negotiations provided by Gordon Brock, senior industrial officer LGEA, as well extensive updates on the business of IPWEA by John Roydhouse, Executive Officer, and Mark Turner, Executive Manager.

Members of the Mid North Coast Group are well represented throughout the industry with 11 members attending the National Conference and Andrew Sales from Coffs Harbour presenting two papers, and Stuart Small one paper to the National Conference. The group is also fortunate to have Geoff Metcalfe representing them on the IPWEA NSW Board of Directors and Noel Chapman (as Secretary) and Stuart Small representing them on the LGEA Committee of Management, with these members providing feedback to the group on events that are happening in both organisations.

Thanks to our meeting presenters and sponsors including:

- Signature Prints
- Monadelphous Engineering
- GHD
- BrickNPave Pty Ltd
- Tyco Water
- Schneider Electrics
- Serck Controls
- Local Government Procurement
- Coates Hire
- Solar G

**Ron Hartley**  
**Chairperson**

**Stuart Small**  
**Secretary**

### **New England/ North West**

The Group held four meetings during the year at Walcha, Armidale, Moree, and Tamworth. The AGM in Tamworth saw Michael Bryant (Chair) and Ben Harris (Secretary) step down and David Steller and Anthony Rintala take over the chair and secretary roles. Meetings were sponsored by Tilta Industries and Fulton Hogan and we thank them for their support. The Regional Conference in Armidale was well attended and opened by UNE Departmental Professor Head of the Science and Arts Professor Jenny Shaw continuing this group's close working relationship with the University of New England.

Key issues that the Group worked on during the year were:

- Initiatives targeted at the skills shortage with several members providing major input into the industry advisory panel for the UNE BTEch degree course in civil and environmental engineering.
- Support of the Science and Engineering Challenge held at Armidale, Tamworth, Inverell and Narrabri.
- Careers advisory open days in Tamworth and Armidale.

- Support with members providing site visits for year 10 students at the inaugural 'Women in Engineering' Weekend held at UNE.
- Progress on development of the Plant Operators School to be held in December 2011.
- IPWEA Foundation support to member Ben Harris to attend the NZ Asset Management Tour in November 2010.
- Sponsorship of UNE Engineering Society Team to the Bridge Building Competition in Sydney.

Members hosting meetings provided interesting site visits to Tamworth Indoor Sporting Complex and Moree Waste Management facility and Solar Farm site. This year saw the departure of long term and proactive members Murray Erbs and Paul Keech to the warmer climes of Queensland and their support at a local level will be missed.

**David Steller**  
**Chairperson**

**Vacant**  
**Secretary**

### **New England/ North West Works Officers**

Members of the North West Works Officer contributed strongly to the organisation and delivery of the Works Officer Conference held in Wollongong.

In March, we met in Glen Innes with Ian Firman and Mark Ellis along with John Roydhouse, Michelle Burgess, Mick Savage and Mark Turner to plan future events and activities for Works Officers.

**Dave Coulton**  
**Chairperson**

**David Graham**  
**Secretary**



## North Coast

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The Group held a number of meetings throughout the year.

### 1. Meeting held July 1, 2010

Location: Turning Point Function Centre, House with No Steps, Alstonville

Chair: Garry Hemsworth

Secretary: Corey Ryan

Attendees : 18

#### Election of Office Bearers

Secretary – Corey Ryan indicated he would be stepping down from the position. Barry Goodwin was nominated for the role and seconded.

Chair – Garry Hemsworth indicated he would be stepping down from the role. No nominations were received for this role. The position was declared vacant. Garry agreed to act in the role until it was filled.

**Sponsor: SEE Civil**

#### Presentations by:

- **IPWEA / LGEA – NSW – Mark Turner**
  - IPWEA Update
- **Katrina Luckie, Regional Development Australia**
  - Report and description on Regional Development Australia Background, Roles, Key Issues
- **Phil Klepzig, Manager – Lismore City Council**
  - Options in Waste Management at Lismore Council.
  - Other landfill issues included
    - » Increasing levy
    - » Produce next cell
    - » Cap old cells
    - » Gas extraction
    - » Leachate treatment
- **Sponsor – SEE Civil included Site Visit to**
  - The Alstonville Bypass – Update on Progress, Design and Construction Issues

### 2. Meeting held September 2, 2010

Location: Casino RSM Club, Casino

Chair: Garry Hemsworth

Secretary: Barry Goodwin

Attendees : 28

**Sponsor: KernMobile**

#### Presentations by:

- **IPWEA / LGEA – NSW – Mick Savage**
  - IPWEA Update

- **Metgasco – Mick O'Brien**

- Information on the Casino Gas Project and Richmond Valley Power Station

- **Country Energy – Richard Wake**

- Lismore to Murwillumbah Upgrade

- **Sponsor – KernMobile – Ian Gordon**

- Update on current Intelligent Field Systems
- Integration and capabilities with Local Government Functions
- Latest Internet technology

### 3. Meeting held December 2, 2010

Location: Tweed Civic Centre South Sea Islander Room, Brett Street Tweed Heads

Chair: Barry Goodwin

Secretary: Will Fenwicke

Attendees: 22

**Sponsor: TilTip Technology**

#### Presentations by:

- **IPWEA / LGEA – NSW – Mick Savage**
  - IPWEA Update
- **Jason Young – Tweed Shire Council – Organisational Champion**
  - Brief background on Jason and importance for Organisational Champions
- **RTA – Banora Point Upgrade Alliance – Leonna Kelly and Jason Moran**
  - Update on Progress of Project
- **Sponsor – Ian Richards – TILTIP Technology**
  - Update on newest TilTip Trucks available and demonstration of multifunctional uses

### 4. Regional Conference held March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**Location:** The Ramada – The Point, Ballina

**Chair:** John Roydhouse Executive Officer

**Secretary:** Michelle Burgess

**Attendees:** Approx 38

**Sponsors: Westrac and Local Government Procurement**

#### Presentations by:

- **Local Government Procurement – Angela Tesoriero**
  - The practical Aspects of the Evaluation Process
  - The Necessity of an Evaluation Plan
  - Establishing Criteria
  - Watching Weight
  - Implications of Poor Practice
- **IPWEA / LGEA – NSW – Mark Turner**
  - Skills Shortage National Strategies – Local Solutions

- Build a Bridge Cadetships and University Awards
- State Forums and Awards Day
- Civinex 2011
- International Public Works Conference
- **IPWEA / LGEA – NSW – Mick Savage**
  - Roads and Transport Directorate
  - Recycling Materials
  - Construction Cost Index Project
  - Use of glass sand in Construction
  - Road Asset Benchmarking
  - Land Matters Manual Project
  - Road Condition Assessment manual
  - RMCC review
- **Skills DMC – Workforce Planning in the Resources and Infrastructure Sectors – Paul Humphreys**
  - Skills DMC
  - The Resources and Infrastructure Training Package
  - Skills Maximiser
- **IPWEA NSW – Greg Moran – President IPWEA NSW**
- **Sponsor – WESTRAC – Murray O’Dea – Manager**
  - Systems and Tool management
  - GPS Systems and Trends
  - Machine Health and Life Cycle Costs
- **Old Timber Bridges, Risks and Requirements – Mal Montgomery – Bridge Inspection Officer – LGES**
  - The requirements of Inspecting old timber bridges and calculating their load capacities in terms of structural performance
- **AUS-SPEC Update – Bill Woodcock – IPWEA Presenter and Principle – Business and Government Infrastructure – Complete Urban**
  - Update on AUS-SPEC and developments
  - AUS-SPEC Seminars
- **Local Regional Presenters**
  - Garry Hemsworth – Executive Director of Infrastructure Services Lismore City Council**
    - Outline of Infrastructure Review at Lismore City Council
  - Greg Mashiah – Manager Water Cycle Clarence Valley Council**
    - Detailed Grafton and Maclean Sewerage Augmentation Project

**Garry Hemsworth**  
Chairperson

**Barry Goodwin**  
Secretary

## North Coast Works Officers

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Mark Ellis and Ian Firman met in Glen Innes with Dave Coulton, Dave Graham, John Roydhouse, Michelle Burgess, Mick Savage and Mark Turner to plan future events and activities for Works Officers.

**Ian Firman**  
Chairperson

**Mark Ellis**  
Secretary

## Orana

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The Orana Regional group continued for 2010/11 with the same officers: Ian Bailey (Dubbo) as Chair, and Owen Johns (Wellington) as Secretary Treasurer.

We held three meetings as specific group meetings, as well as one short procedural meeting combined with the Regional Conference in Cobar in November.

The intention with our meetings is to try to reduce the “standard meeting agenda items” to a minimum, and thus allow more time for technical discussions and presentations, as it is felt these discussions are more beneficial for our professional development and interest. Of course, it is also great to meet with our colleagues to find out what we are each up to, and what is happening at other Councils!

In September 2010 we met at Wellington Cave’s site, and had a very informative presentation from Allan Nicholson – Principal Salinity Officer – Statewide Programs (DECCW). Salinity and its effects on all our Civil Infrastructure can be significant if we don’t do our asset building in smart ways. It can be worked with if we know what are the signs and the best methods of preventing damage. At the same meeting we had another presentation about Water Sensitive Urban Design, which is typically related to the salinity issue.

In March 2011 we held a meeting in Narromine, which was a little less well attended, partly due no doubt to the workload aftermath of the floods in NSW in late 2010, which have affected many LGA’s and given us heaps more work to get done in a short space of time! However, right on topic, Peter James, RMCC Manager from Wellington gave a very helpful demonstration to some ‘outside the box’ use of the REFLECT software, to gather field data for Wellington’s Flood Damage assessment and RTA submission. REFLECT is a very useful system. Komatsu was the meeting sponsor, and they showed us the features of one of their new excavator models.

At our AGM in June 2011, the Office Bearers were again re-elected, and for the technical presentation, Stephen Howlett, Project Engineer at Dubbo City Council, gave a good account of a major stormwater pipe installation project he is delivering in the Dubbo CBD. Lots of publicity, public consultation and reporting has been a feature of the project, and it is going very well, on time and on budget (\$3.5M). Stephen also wrote an excellent article in the Civil Engineers Australia Journal in June 2011 about the project. It will be completed in early 2012. Fulton Hogan gave a good presentation of their products at short notice, and their meeting sponsorship, as well as their long term commitment to serving Local Government generally is appreciated.

**Ian Bailey**  
Chairperson

**Owen Johns**  
Secretary

## **South Metropolitan**

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The Group has operated with solid membership attendance over the last year. At the meeting held on 31 March 2011, our guest speaker and sponsor was Phil Scott from Local Government Procurement. He gave an interesting presentation on the services available through Local Government Procurement not only in terms of their service contracts but also the support function they offer councils in terms of procurement and procurement policy. Robert Esdaile from Waverley Council gave a local presentation on the use of recycled glass in asphalt and concrete pavements. The election of officers was also held with Mr Bill Woodcock being elected to the Group Chair and Mr Tony Reed being elected to the Group Secretary.

The meeting held on 30 June 2011 was very well attended with 35 members in attendance. The guest speakers were John Ajaka, Parliamentary Secretary for Transport & Roads and David Mephram, form Coordinator Transport Futures Gold Coast City Council. It was good to see that John's presentation focused on the need for the State Government to consult with Local Government in order to understand the local network issues and the specific community needs within each local government area. He acknowledged that in order to make NSW the Premier State for business roads and transport is a major issue and as a result Local Government is an important player. David provided a detailed presentation on the proposed Gold Coast City Council Light Rail Project and highlighted the planning lead time requirements and costs in developing a financially viable scheme. The sponsor the day was Fulton Hogan Pty Ltd and Craig Vergelius gave a comprehensive presentation on the products and services provided by this company.

Members of the group participated in both the Regional Conference held in Manly, State Conference held Sydney and the National Conference held in Canberra.

**Bill Woodcock**  
Chairperson

**Tony Reed**  
Secretary



## South Eastern

The South Eastern group had a very active year during 2010/11, holding meetings at Queanbeyan in July and December 2010, Yass in September 2010, and at Merimbula in June 2011.

All meetings were well attended with host Councils providing presentations of major projects and activities in their LGA. This proved very interesting for all members and enabled the sharing of ideas and experiences in dealing with the issues that inevitably arise during these projects. Examples of presentations provided are:

- Queanbeyan City Council tender/contract review process;
- Yass Dam Raising Project;
- Queanbeyan Indoor Sports Centre;
- Queanbeyan City Council Traffic Model;
- Merimbula Jetty Redevelopment;
- Bega Valley Council IPR process and long term financial plan.

Other topical issues discussed during the year were:

- Asset Management;
- Development specifications;
- Integrated Planning and Reporting;
- Industry skills shortage;

A number of sub-groups have been formed over the year to investigate some of these issues.

One of the major achievements is obtaining support from NSW IPWEA to develop a standard for road condition rating that is intended to be able to be used by all Council to provide a consistent approach to methodology and allow comparisons across Council as well as aggregation of data to aid in lobbying of state and federal governments.

The group has experienced excellent participation throughout the year and is grateful to the support of IPWEA staff, who have attended all of our meetings and presented updates on current activities.

**Warren Sharpe**  
Chairperson

**Simon Cassidy**  
Secretary

## South West Group

Three meetings were held during 2010/2011 as well as the regional conference held in Albury.

### 1<sup>st</sup> September – Tumut Shire Council

Meeting discussed civil liability allowances with councils around south west region to gauge who is being paid the allowance. Then discussion about local issues with road funding and speed zoning on unsealed roads. John Roydhouse updated IPWEA issues.

Finished off meeting with site visit to Blowing Dam to see upgrading of the dam wall and spillway.

### 4<sup>th</sup> March – Junee Shire Council

AGM meeting held over from November 2010 due to unexpected workloads on members following the storm and flooding.

AGM saw election of new Chairman being Gary Arthur from Cootamundra Shire Council and Mark Ellis also from Cootamundra SC as Secretary/ treasurer.

Attendance of 12 local area representatives.

Ordinary meeting discussed local issues including logging trucks on local roads as well as IPWEA update from John Roydhouse.

Meeting Sponsored by Local Government Procurement with presentation made by Angela Tesoriero.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Berrigan Shire Council

Meeting well supported 27 representatives present.

Meeting discussed options for sponsoring the local 'Build a Bridge' program to encourage school students to take on engineering as career. Update on union issues from Melissa Shaw from APESMA/ LGEA . Mark Turner gave update on IPWEA issues. Presentation and discussion on Road/Rail interface agreements between Councils, RTA and rail authority.

Meeting Sponsored by Fulton Hogan Industries with presentation from Tim Caldwell.

Overall thanks to past Chairman Matt Hughes and Secretary Geoff Neill. Also thanks to our sponsors and hosts for our meetings.

**Gary Arthur**  
Chairperson

**Mark Ellis**  
Secretary

# IPWEA NSW 2012 Events Calendar

Date	Event	Location/Venue
<b>2012</b>		
Monday 20 February	Regional Conference	Central West Group Parkes / Forbes
Wednesday 22 February	Regional Conference	Orana Group Nyngan
Friday 24 February	Regional Conference	New England / Northwest Group Tamworth / Moree
Monday 5 March	Regional Conference	South West Group Echuca
Wednesday 7 March	Regional Conference	South East Group Jindabyne / Cooma
Friday 9 March	Regional Conference	Illawarra Group Moss Vale / Bowral
Monday 19 March	Regional Conference	North Coast Group Ballina
Wednesday 21 March	Regional Conference	Mid North Coast Group Forster
Friday 23 March	Regional Conference	Hunter Group Wyong / Central Coast
Tuesday 17 April	Regional Conference	Metropolitan West Group Windsor
Thursday 19 April	Regional Conference	Metropolitan South Group Metropolitan North Group Sans Souci
Mon 7 – Wed 9 May	2012 IPWEA NSW State Conference	Coffs Harbour
Wed 16 & Thur 17 May	CivEnEx	Sydney Dragway, Eastern Creek
Wed 17 – Fri 19 October	2012 IPWEA NSW Works Officers Conference	Coffs Harbour



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