



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT LAW ASSOCIATION NELSON/MARLBOROUGH BRANCH

JULY 2005 NEWSLETTER

1. **Newsletter**

The local committee intends to produce a short monthly newsletter, containing such things as the latest national RMLA news, court case law notes, and local planning/legal issues. This newsletter is the first example. Contributions are welcomed. Please contact Hugh Briggs at strathavenlodge@xtra.co.nz. The newsletter is to be distributed only to RMLA members and the distribution will be via e-mail.

2. **Growth Forum**

NZPI organised an event in November 2004 that addressed numerous regional issues re the environment and urban/rural-residential growth. Its desired outcome was the establishment of a Regional Growth Forum, consisting of urban and rural industries/businesses, local authorities, environmental groups, and professional bodies. At its recent AGM, NZPI agreed to look at ways of continuing such a coming together of those parties involved in that Forum, but had some concerns about NZPI leading such a Group. It nevertheless intends to send a flyer to all interested parties (particularly to those that took part) to "test" the waters. At a recent meeting of the Regional Issues Group of the Chamber of Commerce, it was suggested that the Chamber could act as the coordinating body, as it is NZPI policy for the Institute not to become involved in specific issues such as this as a body corporate. It was recommended that the membership of the Forum include 2 reps from the professional bodies such as NZPI and RMLA.

Could RMLA members give some feedback on the concept and how it could operate? Material on the Regional Growth Workshop is available from Hugh Briggs (Committee member and NZPI Chairperson) at 545 1195 or strathavenlodge@xtra.co.nz. Hugh will email you the material.

3. **RMLA Events July 2005 - June 2006**

The Committee has already organised some events for most of this year (2005) but is planning ahead for 2006. Can members please identify what topics they would like to be included, as serious or as social events, or tell the Committee of any other events they are aware of?

There are also a number of other workshops, seminars or conferences that members might like to go to, which have been included below (some of which have yet to be organised):

17 August – Justine Dawe (MfE) on Climate Change and RMA implications – at NCC Council Chamber 5.30pm

13 September – Fiona McLeod on Conservation Legislation – at NCC Chamber at 5.30pm

20-21 October – Urban Design Workshop by MfE and NZPI
run by two urban designers at cost of \$700, with workshops. Register by 27 September through NZPI nzpi@ihug.co.nz

October: MfE/NZPI/RMLA Court Practice Workshop with Environment Court and 50th celebration of the Court (proposed)

This will follow similar sessions held elsewhere with a presentation by an Environment Court Judge, and to celebrate the 50th year of the Court some lighthearted discussion about amusing (or otherwise) experiences in the Court. A cover charge of \$10 per head will cover refreshments and drinks.

Xmas Trip (with NZPI) – BB Cruise in November

A (combined) party with NZPI members on the new BB Cruise launch on the harbour. You can have a choice of a shorter 2 hour cruise with drinks and nibbles only (about \$20 per head) or a longer meal cruise (about \$30 per head). Could members please advise Hugh which they would prefer.

Proposed Social Session with the Environment Court – Jan/Feb 2006 (when in town)

A social event with the Court when it is next in session, as was successfully carried out in Blenheim last month.

4. Other Events

Other events of interest to members:

Tsunamis – Impacts of one in Nelson (lessons from Boxing Day)

Public Meeting organised by IPENZ on Thursday 28 July 7pm at the Suter Theatre, limited seating, first come first served

Resource Consent Hearings

Organised by MfE and NZPI for practitioners (mainly staff and consultants, but legal representatives would be welcome to make their contributions). Likely date to be in late August or early September.

5. Submissions

Utilities and the Road Corridor

The Ministry of Economic Development has released a Discussion Paper “Review of Issues affecting Utilities and Road Rail and Motorway Corridors” with submissions due by August 5. It can be viewed on http://www.med.govt.nz/irdev/econ_dev/utilities-corridors/

NUGS and TDC Urban Growth Variations: Members may have been involved in making submissions on these for clients or as concerned individuals. Members are reminded to keep a close eye on progress.

NPS Transmission Workgroup this meets fortnightly. It is now to report in October, as the proposed July date has been extended. Public consultation is now expected to occur after the election

NPS and NES - a significant policy announcement is expected from government on the proposed programme over the next 2 years, including an update on the existing NPS projects such as Biodiversity and Infrastructure. Roads, Electricity and Telecommunications are potential NPS topics.

A Raw Drinking Water NES (not to be confused with the Ministry of Health’s Drinking Water Standards 2005 – this is water before it goes into the treatment plant) is currently under development. It takes a multi-barrier approach ie: what risk is in the catchment, as opposed to what standard of treatment is required.

Oceans Policy - this is due to resume in the near future.

6. NZPI – RMLA partnership

It has been agreed by both organisations that it would be prudent to work very closely together, both from events and social point of view to maintain our viability as professional groups inextricably linked together. It has proven difficult to get sufficient numbers to meetings organised solely by one group or the other.

7. Local News

Items from NCC Council newsletter (on website) – Millers Acre Information Centre opened 19 July; NUGS submissions available on website; NUGS issues to be work shopped on 3 August, with package for comments by end of 2005; Biosecurity site for information on www.protectnz.govt.nz

8. Quality Planning Website

Members should be aware of this excellent website and make use of it, and get the monthly newsletter. It is an excellent tool for keeping up to date with progress throughout the RM world.

9. Committee membership and roles

The Committee consists of the following, with their roles:

Chairperson:	Brian Dwyer	03 578 5339
Secretary:	Rob Harris	03 546 0351
Treasurer:	Nicholas Burley	03 548 2269
Committee:	Hugh Briggs	03 545 1195
	Camilla Owen	03 546 6223
	Fiona McLeod	03 546 9335
	Nigel McFadden	03 548 2154
	Gerard Praat	03 544 7888
	Mark Lile	03 545 0330

10. Professional Development Requirements

The MFE is planning to ask both the RMLA and the NZPI for feedback on what professional development requirements people have (short of accreditation in specialist areas), with a view to assisting better resource management outcomes. For example, workshops on potential issues could then be provided. Could members please give this some thought.

11. Accessing the RMLA website

Remember to make use of the national RMLA website and see what is on it.

12. RMLA Conference - the timetable is now out and early bird registrations close on the 31st July. It has an excellent programme. If you haven't got a programme, go onto the website and download it and the registration form from it.