

The Ronald Hicks Memorial Award

The Ronald Hicks Memorial Trust Fund was established in 1984 to recognise and commemorate the contribution that Ron Hicks made to water and wastewater management in New Zealand from the mid-1950s until his death in 1983. Ron joined the Auckland Metropolitan Drainage Board from the UK as Chief Chemist at the time when the Manukau Sewerage Purification Works was under development. He became widely respected as an international authority on domestic and industrial wastewater treatment practices, and it was through his efforts from 1957 to 1959 that the NZ Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association, the forerunner of Water New Zealand, was formed. Ron Hicks' legacy is remembered annually through the Ronald Hicks Memorial Award made *to the author(s) of an article or paper considered significant in solving or clarifying sewage treatment or water pollution problems in New Zealand*.

The Trust Fund is administered by three trustees who together comprise the judging panel for the award. The current trustees are:

Mark Milke, Christchurch (Chairman)
David Ray, Hamilton
Paul Barter, Nelson

Nomination

Visit www.waternzconference.org.nz for nomination details for the current year's Ronald Hicks Memorial Award.

Prize

This award will be made to the author(s) of an article or paper considered significant in solving or clarifying sewage treatment or water pollution problems in New Zealand. Awards may take the form of cash, books, equipment, etc, as seen appropriate to the Trustees in each case.

Water New Zealand acknowledges the services of the Trustees, namely Chairman Dr Mark Milke, from the Department of Civil and Natural Resources Engineering at the University of Canterbury; David Ray from Environmental Management Services Limited in Hamilton, and Paul Barter from the Cawthron Institute. The Trustees comprise the judging panel.

Past Recipients of the Award:

| Year | Recipient | Paper |
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| 1985 | Robert Wilcock, Scientist of DSIR Water Quality Centre, Hamilton | Describing studies on reaeration in selected New Zealand rivers using methyl chloride as a gas tracer. |
| 1986 | Cliff Tipler, Civil Engineer of Steve Fitzmaurice & Partners, Christchurch | The controlled discharge of chemically treated meatworks effluent to the Waimakariri River. |
| 1987 | David Adamson, Civil Engineer of Taupo District Council | New technique for sewage treatment, describing the selection, design and commissioning of a sequential batch reactor sewage treatment plant at Acacia Bay on Lake Taupo. |
| 1988 | Joint Award | |
| | John Fitzmaurice of Humphrey Archer and Rob Fullerton of Steven, Fitzmaurice & Partners | Anaerobic contact Wastewater Treatment, Tirua Casein Complex, NZ Co-op Dairy Co.Ltd. |

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| | Martin Ferner, John Harding and Rob Green, Civil Engineers of Levin Borough Council and the others of BCHF Ltd, Wellington | Levin Borough Land Based Effluent Disposal System. |
| 1989 | Joint Award | |
| | Bryce Cooper, Scientist of DSIR Water Quality Centre, Hamilton | Developing management guidelines for river nitrogenous oxygen demand. |
| | John Quinn and Paul McFarlane, Scientist for work they conducted while at Massey University, resulting in their paper. | Epilithon and dissolved oxygen depletion in the Manawatu River: Simple models and management Implications. |
| 1990 | Ian Gunn, Public Health Engineer, Auckland University | Evapotranspiration for on-site residential wastewater disposal the New Zealand experience. |
| 1991 | Adrian Goldstone and David Peterson of Cyrus Gold (NZ) Ltd & Harrison Grierson Consultants Ltd | Development of treatment and discharge strategies for the Golden Cross Mine. |
| 1992 | Graeme Keeley and John Skipper of Canterbury Frozen Meat Co Ltd | The use of aerobic thermophilic composting for the stabilisation of primary meat waste solids. |
| 1993 | Joint Award | |
| | James Cooke of NIWA | Nutrient transformations in a natural wetland receiving effluent and the implications of waste treatment. |
| | Bryce Cooper of NIWA | Coupling wetland treatment to land treatment: An innovative method for nitrogen stripping. |
| 1994 | Ray Hedgland of Fraser, Thomas Ltd | Taumarunui Sewage: A culturally acceptable treatment solution. |
| 1995 | No Award | |
| 1996 | Paul Bickers (MIRINZ) for his research towards his M Tech | The aerobic treatment of reverse osmosis permeate and its reuse in the dairy industry. |
| 1997 | Taupo District Council | For their project which resulted in their sewage effluent no longer being discharged to the Waikato River, but sprayed across pasture which is then cut and sold, bringing in a substantial income. The article that described this process appeared in the September 1996 Journal. |
| 1998 | Adrian van Niekerken and Doug Drinkwater of Rangitikei District Council | For the paper they presented at the NZWWA Annual Conference in 1996 titled Managing stressed oxidation ponds by remote control. |
| 1999 | Humphrey archer and Stuart Donaldson | Low cost upgrading of oxidation ponds for public health protection |
| 2000 | Chris Tanner and James Sukias of NIWA, Hamilton and Colin Dall form the Northland Regional Council | Constructed wetlands in New Zealand - Evaluation of an emerging Natural wastewater treatment technology. |
| 2001 | Rob Davies-Colley of NIWA; Andrea Donnison of AgResearch and David Speed from the School of Chemistry, Queens University of Belfast, Ireland | Towards a mechanistic understanding of pond disinfection. The paper was presented to the 4 th International Conference on Waste Stabilisation Ponds held in Marrakech, Morocco in 1999. |

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| 2002 | Paul Barter of the Cawthron Institute | Investigation of pond velocities using dye and small drogues: A case study of the Nelson City waster stabilisation pond. |
| 2003 | No Award | |
| 2004 | Joint Award | |
| | David Ray, Editor and fellow co-authors for their authorship of: | New Zealand Municipal Wastewater Monitoring Guidelines. Published by the NZ Water Environment Research Foundation in October 2002 |
| | Andy Shilton and Jill Harrison for their authorship of: | Guidelines for the Hydraulic Design of Waste Stabilisation Ponds. Published by the Institute of Technology and Engineering, Massey University in 2003. |
| 2005 | Louis Schipper from the Dept. of Earth Sciences at Waikato University and Stewart Cameron from the Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences in Taupo | Denitrification Beds: Final Nitrogen Removal from Wastewater. |
| 2006 | John Moore, Cliff Tipler and Graham McBride | Comparing Human Health Risk Outcomes for the proposed Christchurch City Ocean Outfall: A quantitative Approach. |
| 2007 | No Award | |
| 2008 | Giles Altner | |
| 2009 | Megan Devane, Brent Gilpin, Beth Robson, Fariba Nourozi and David Wood | Decision analysis trees for identification of faecal sources in water |
| 2010 | Jurgen Thiele of Waste solutions, a division of CPG (NZ) Ltd, Dunedin | Municipal sludge digester upgrade for biofuel production. |
| 2011 | Chris Tanner, James Sukias and Charlotte Yates of NIWA Hamilton | Multiyear Nutrient Removal Performance of Three Constructed Wetlands Intercepting Tile Drain Flows from Grazed Pastures and NZ Guidelines: Constructed Wetland Treatment of Tile Drainage |
| 2012 | Paul Weber, Mark Pizey, Fiona Crombie, Glenn Rutter, Phil Lindsay, Dave Thomas, Don Elder, Joe Wildy, Tony Cooper and Phil Rossiter of Solid Energy | Addressing the Environmental Effects of Mining on the Ngakawau River |
| 2013 | Peter Browne | Overcoming Rotorua Lakes Ecological Challenges |
| 2014 | Rob Fullerton | Full Scale Tubular Bioreactor for Hydrogen Sulphide Removal |
| 2015 | Rainer Hoffmann, MWH, Stuart Hildreth, Sicon Ferguson and Christopher Salkeld, Sicon Ferguson | New Zealand's First Full-Scale Biosolids Solar Drying Facility |