



# Flow Back

Newsletter from the Backflow Group

Issue 6 February/March 2011

The Backflow Group of Water New Zealand produced this bi-monthly newsletter for you, the members – to keep you involved and informed on what is happening in the industry and the activities of the Backflow Group. For more information about the Backflow Group follow this link: [www.waternz.org.nz/backflowprevention.html](http://www.waternz.org.nz/backflowprevention.html)

## Contents

- A word from the Chairman
- Projects Update
- Survey Response
- Publications
- Calling for Regional Representatives
- Conference – 2011 Conference
- Competition – Worst Installation

## A word from the (Acting) Chairman – Graeme Mills

I have been asked to provide some information to meet our publication deadline for "Flow Back" At this time our thoughts are with our colleagues in Christchurch especially our Chairman, Richard. This is an area that has suffered immense destruction and Richard has been working some long hours to assist in the recovery.

We have confirmed Jon Lewis as our representative on the National IQP Technical committee. Jon also has the support of the Master Plumbers so this is seen as a "win win" representation. We look forward to receiving update report on activities from Jon. With the on-going developments of the National IQP

register, it is agreed that our ABT register will not be progressed or updated. For those who were not aware of the ABT register, this was developed some years ago to provide the industry with some sort of national system for those who can test devices. It was also developed as a result of the uncertainty and confusion within the Building Industry around IQP, LPB or any other acronym one wants to use.

One concern raised at our last meeting was the attendance at committee meetings. For our organisation to progress we must be able to have as full attendance as possible but it is acknowledged that there will be times when other priorities take over.

We get asked at times to make presentations to various groups on aspects of the backflow industry and over time some of our members have developed PowerPoint presentations for this purpose. We are now at a point where we need to have a consistent message and one that reflects the industry we are in. So to this end the committee have agreed to develop a standard

presentation covering: a) the backflow group and where it fits in the industry; and b) more general information on the issues we find every day. Each presenter can elaborate to the audience but the PowerPoint will now be consistent.

We have now completed our 2011 work plan and submitted this to the WNZ Board to keep them informed on our proposal for the year, and to also better indicate any financial support that may be required. I would also like to record your thanks for the support from our liaison, Hannah Dawson, who is leaving Water NZ on 4 March to explore greener pastures. All the best Hannah.

Graeme Mills

On behalf of Richard Aitken

Thank you to all those helping out on the various sub-groups:

Barry Beaurain	Brendon Harkness
Logan Macdonald	Nick Fleckney
Jon Lewis	Eric Palmer
Murray Ellis	Jono East
Geoff Swainson	Ray Galt
Jonathan Mackay	Derek Staines
Fiona Gavriel	Andrew Venmore
Stewart Weddell	George Little
Hugh Roscoe	Arch Murray

## Feedback from the Backflow Survey

Following the recent member survey, the results have provided some valuable discussion within the committee. Firstly, 41 responses were received which was a little bit disappointing considering 14 were from people who were not members of the SIG but were prepared to join. However, some of the comments were very interesting in respect to communications. Great to see that Pipeline and the Water New Zealand Journal are among the most read publications, with the new 'Flow Back' being high as well. Most respondents said that your SIG communicated effectively and five said no, the group did not communicate effectively or had negative comments.

So we will now enhance the good area of communication but unfortunately 'we cannot please all of the people all of the time'. It was interesting to see that members did not see the regional forums as an effective communication forum. So do we continue putting our energies in to these?

Thanks to all those who did take the time to respond.

### **Congratulations to Gareth Phillips from Christchurch City Council!**

You have won a registration to the 2011 Backflow Conference in Nelson on the 3-4 June.

Thank you to all those who entered the draw.

## Publications Co-ordinator

The committee would like to thank Aaron Buckley for his time and effort on the committee. Aaron has had to step down from his role as publication co-ordinator.

The committee is now looking for someone to fulfil the publications co-ordinator role. If you are interested in helping out the committee, please contact the SIG Liaison.

### **Calling for Regional Reps!**

Are you interested in helping the Backflow Group by presenting at a regional meeting in your area? We need your help to make these regional meetings happen, get in touch with the SIG liaison if you are interested!

## Conference

### – Graeme Mills

The aim of the 2011 Backflow conference is to provide delegates with an opportunity to increase your knowledge and understanding of backflow, network with peers and hear new and cutting edge backflow information. The conference preparations are well underway with an exciting and innovative programme being developed with stimulating keynote addresses from several industry leaders.

For more information on the programme, sponsorship, and exhibition details, check out the Backflow Conference on the Water New Zealand website in mid March! Visit: <http://www.waternz.org.nz/backflowconference.html>



**Backflow Conference 2011**  
3-4 June, Rutherford Hotel, Nelson

**2011 Backflow Conference**  
The 2011 Backflow Conference will be held on 3 and 4 June at the Rutherford Hotel in Nelson. Watch this space for more information to come.

**COMPETITION:**  
We want to see the worst installation you have seen! Send in your photo and be in to win a prize or the booby prize.  
Email the Group Liaison with your photo! [hannah.dawson@waternz.org.nz](mailto:hannah.dawson@waternz.org.nz)  
Thank you for all of the entries so far, the competition will be drawn in August

**Do you have any queries?  
We would love to hear from you!**

Either post a topic on the Backflow Page of the Water New Zealand Forum:  
<http://forum.waternz.org.nz/>  
or email the SIG Liaison  
[hannah.dawson@waternz.org.nz](mailto:hannah.dawson@waternz.org.nz)