

Flow Back



Newsletter from the Backflow Group

Issue 15 August 2015



Backflow

WATER NEW ZEALAND | SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

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The Backflow SIG are now on Facebook and LinkedIn. If you haven't joined these groups already please do so now. The committee looks forward to the discussions the members will create through these channels.



[Facebook](#)



[LinkedIn](#)

Please note: you will need to be logged in to view the Facebook page.

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

Post a topic on the Backflow page of the Water New Zealand Forum
<http://forum.waternz.org.nz>

OR

Email the SIG Liaison
Amy Aldrich
amy.aldrich@waternz.org.nz

The Backflow Group of Water New Zealand are looking to produce a 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: <http://www.waternz.org.nz>



A Word from the Chair

A word from the chair? Well it's more like a few groans from the couch at the moment. Graeme has recently undergone triple bypass heart surgery and although there has been a little extra drama than he had hoped, it sounds like our captain is back on deck and going ok.

It's a big 12 months coming up for Graeme. As usual Graeme will be heavily involved with our group driving things forward all while trying to manage his commitments with his role within council. At this stage we are seriously looking at having the 2017 training seminar in Tauranga – Graeme's home town. Perhaps it's his last as chair.

Wishing Graeme a full recovery and we look forward to seeing him soon.

We need your help..

The Backflow Committee have put together a short survey for those that were unable to attend this year's event. This feedback will be considered when planning the next event in the hope that the committee will be able to accommodate more of the member's needs.

By completing the short survey you are put in the draw to win a messenger bag kindly provided by Wilkins.

The survey can be found on the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9JWD3M3>



Tech Tip

When installing a RPZ that the relief drain is plumbed into the DWV waste system you should use a trap primer to keep the drain line trap charged as the RPZ may not relieve water for long periods of time letting the trap seal dry out.

Training Seminar 2015

The Water New Zealand Backflow Training Seminar was held 23-24 April 2015 at The Mercure Resort Queenstown. This year the Backflow Group Committee took a new approach to what has previously been the Backflow Conference and included a strong emphasis on the training side of the industry. Hydroflow and Pentair kindly held CPD courses that delegates and those close to Queenstown were able to attend.

Sessions included updates from Master Plumbers, Water New Zealand and Plumbers working in the industry throughout New Zealand and overseas. Presentations on Backflow Philosophy's in Tauranga and Hamilton and a presentation from Eeva-Liisa Wright from Hamilton City Council via video conferencing also featured in the programme. The Backflow Group Committee provided an update on their latest project, the Survey Standard and what was happening in New Zealand regarding Backflow.

The conclusion of Thursday's events was followed by an opportunity to network at the Awards dinners, sponsored by Water Supply Products. The dinner was held in the restaurant at the Skyline, which gave delegates the opportunity to see some of the spectacular views of Queenstown when travelling up the gondola. Entertainment for the night was provided by Mojo, a local talent who performed an acoustic duet. Awards were handed out to each of the committee members for their contribution to the committee and the work they put in behind the scenes. Tauranga City Council were awarded the Best Backflow Programme for a New Zealand Local Body and Graeme Mills was awarded the Golden Check, which has previously known as the Golden Tap.

The Training Seminar concluded with a Pub Quiz, which was a fun and interactive way to finish the day. The teams were rather competitive challenging themselves with a wide range of general knowledge questions. Many of the teams walked away with some great prizes, which were made possible thanks to the exhibitors, Hydroflow, MacDonald Industries, Pentair, Reliance, Water Supply Product, and Humes who kindly donated to a worthy cause.

Thanks go out to the Sponsors and exhibitors, Water Supply Products, Hydroflow, MacDonald Industries, Pentair, Reliance Worldwide, and also Connexis for their compendium insert. Without the support of the sponsors and exhibitors these events would not be possible. Lastly thanks go out to the Backflow Group Committee for the time and effort they have contributed to ensuring the event was a success.

The Backflow Group Committee intends to hold events throughout New Zealand in the coming year. We hope to see you at these events; otherwise we look forward to seeing you at the next Training Seminar to be held in 2017.



Time is up..

As of July 2016 ALL water suppliers must now comply with the new drinking water legislation. The large water suppliers needed to be compliant a few years ago. Now that the smaller drinking water suppliers have reached their deadline it means EVERYONE should now be compliant. The main duties to comply include obligations to: Take all practical steps to comply with the drinking water standards AND to introduce and implement water safety plans for the water supply.

Ultimately this should see an increased focus on backflow prevention to help protect the water supply.