

## **GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND NEWSFLASH 53**

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### **GEOSCIENCES '06: deadlines on 15 Sept**

This year's GSNZ Annual Conference with the theme "Our Planet, Our Future" is being held jointly with the NZ Geophysical Society at Massey University from Mon 4th December to Thurs 7th December. Full details and registration forms are in the July newsletter and on the GSNZ web-page ([www.gsnz.org.nz](http://www.gsnz.org.nz)). Accommodation will be at four brand new student halls. Reminder: abstract and early registration deadline is Friday 15 September.

### **GSNZ AWARDS**

The Awards Subcommittee is calling for nominations for Society awards for 2006. Except where noted, the closing date for nominations is Friday 29 September 2006. There are no forms or specified formats for applications, but nominators are asked to read the full by laws covering these awards, including eligibility requirements, which are available on the Society's website (<http://www.gsnz.org.nz>) on the Awards and the Rules pages. Please consider nominating a colleague or student, or even yourself where appropriate. This need not be an onerous task: short, punchy proposals are often the most convincing, provided they are complete and well-reasoned. Announcement of most recipients of the prizes will be made at the AGM and/or Conference Dinner at the Annual Conference in Palmerston North. This year the Awards Subcommittee Convenor is Nick Mortimer. All nominations should be made by email to: awards at [gsnz.org.nz](mailto:awards@gsnz.org.nz) (MS-Word attachments are acceptable).

### **NEW ZEALAND GEOLOGY ONLINE**

The first national online encyclopaedia in the world!! Launched last year, Te Ara, the Online Encyclopaedia of New Zealand, recently added 117 new articles in the theme of "Earth Sea and Sky". They are designed as a readily accessible introduction for the lay public and secondary school students here and overseas, but most also include references to more in-depth information. Browse directly at <http://www.teara.govt.nz>. Even easier, Nick Mortimer has just put a new page on the GSNZ website ([www.gsnz.org.nz](http://www.gsnz.org.nz)) called "About NZ Geology" that includes a list of the all the new Te Ara Geology topics - just click on the one that interests you.

### **GEOLOGICAL RESERVES**

Check out the Geological Preservation Subcommittees work both on our site [www.gsnz.org.nz](http://www.gsnz.org.nz) under Interest Groups but more comprehensively at <http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~bw.hayward/NZGI/>. Bruce Hayward (hope you got to the Hochstetter) and his devoted group are making sure that we and future generations will have the classic geological features of New Zealand more or less intact to admire and study. Check on what is listed near you!!

### **GEYSERLAND REPRINTED**

The Geological Society's Guidebook #13: Geyserland: A guide to the volcanoes and geothermal areas of Rotorua by Bruce Houghton and Brad Scott has been reprinted yet again. It's available for \$19.95 from our distributor, The Bush Press, P.O. Box 33-029, Takapuna 1309. Email: [bush.press@clear.net.nz](mailto:bush.press@clear.net.nz)

### **AUCKLAND ISLANDS BICENTENARY - FLEMING DIARY**

200km south of Bluff, the remote, Sub-Antarctic Auckland Islands were sighted by whalers on 18th August 1806, although Polynesian may have found them centuries earlier. A one day symposium on Friday 18th August at the Royal Society rooms in Wellington commemorated the bicentenary of recorded history, covering the geology, biology and archaeology of the islands. Details at: <http://www.rsnz.org/events/akl-isl/> In WWII the islands were considered a haven for

enemy ships and were garrisoned by "coast-watchers". One of these was Charles Fleming who, in the absence of German raiders, meticulously mapped the geology and recorded the unique fauna of the islands. Helped by a small sponsorship from the Geological Society, Fleming's illustrated diaries have just been published by his daughter, Mary McEwan, who also published his biography last year. For details email mary.mcewen at xtra.co.nz.

#### **CLIMATE CHANGE - AUCKLAND WORKSHOP**

On Saturday 26 August, the Royal Society and Auckland Cathedral Chapter (an interesting combination) will be holding a Climate Change Workshop at the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Parnell, Auckland. The meeting will examine the evidence for global climate change, human impact and, if it's real or probable, what personal and policy responses are available. Details on <http://www.rsnz.org/events/climate/parnell.php>

#### **FORUMS ON SUSTAINABILITY**

The New Zealand Society of Sustainable Engineering and Science (NZSSES) is holding a series of forums. The next is at Landcare's East Tamaki Campus on Friday 15th September. Details on [www.nzsses.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.nzsses.auckland.ac.nz)

#### **PLATE BOUNDARY DEFORMATION & FLUID FLOW**

Rick Sibson (Otago), Ian Graham (GNS), Jarg Pettinga (Canterbury) and others are organising a very multidisciplinary "Active Fluid Flow and Deformation around the New Zealand Plate Boundary Discussion and Workshop" at GNS Avalon, Lower Hutt from 28th to 30th November with a one day field trip across the plate boundary zone between two days of debate. Participation is restricted so contact one of the above organisers soon if you are interested - Rick.Sibson at [stonebow.ac.nz](mailto:stonebow.ac.nz) or I.Graham at [gns.cri.nz](mailto:gns.cri.nz)

#### **AUSTRALASIAN INTIMATE MEETING**

The INTIMATE group (sounds good) will be meeting at the University of Canterbury Field Station at Kaikoura (good venue) 30th November - 1st December (one year late to the day for the 50th). They will be discussing Australasian and Antarctic events stratigraphy (including ice cores) plus projects for INQUA in Cairns August 2007. Registration is just \$30. Contact james.shulmeister at [canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:canterbury.ac.nz)

#### **FAREWELL PENNY**

Penny Cooke is off this week to UK to start her new career in forensic archaeology. All of us on the National Committee are going to miss her enthusiasm, pertinent input to discussions, willingness to volunteer for the lousy jobs, prompt action and happy presence. Good luck, Penny.

Keith Lewis, President