

Geological Society of New Zealand  
NEWSFLASH No 54  
12th September 2006

#### REGISTER FOR MASSEY BY 15th

You will need to get your registration in (with abstract) by the end of the week for the discounted registration fee. Late submissions are \$50 more expensive, which is a realistic costing of the extra work involved. Check the insert in the last Newsletter for postal registration (be quick) or the society's website ([www.gsnz.org.nz](http://www.gsnz.org.nz)) for online registration. All digital Abstracts must also be received on or before the 15 September.

#### AWARD NOMINATIONS BY 29th

I'm sure there is someone in your department whose work merits recognition or who has a new story worth telling around the country. It does wonders for moral - even to know that your colleagues think you are worth nominating. BUT before you go ahead, check the last Newsletter for the nature of each award and the society's website ([www.gsnz.org.nz](http://www.gsnz.org.nz) ? Awards page) for the special requirements for each nomination ? some awards have specific time constraints and one requires a nominator and seconder. Deadline for most awards is 29th September

#### NEWSLETTER ARTICLES BY 30th

Notes and articles of general interest to ktstanaway at [xtra.co.nz](http://xtra.co.nz) before 30th September

#### FIELD TRIP SAFETY GUIDELINES

Although serious accidents on field trips are rare, rock outcrops, particularly road-side ones, are hazardous. There is a legal obligation on trip leaders to warn participants of the risks and to minimize them as far as possible. There is also an obligation on participants to act responsibly. Check out the draft field trip safety guidelines, modified from the Kaikoura conference guidelines and Auckland branch guideline, on the society's website ([www.gsnz.org.nz](http://www.gsnz.org.nz)) - Field Trips page

#### RESEARCH COLLECTIONS GET PRIORITY

Cam Nelson has passed on a US circular stating that, after decades in the poor-house, "collections important for scientific research" (including rock and fossil collections) are to get priority funding from US federal agencies.

#### AUCKLAND "CITYSCENE"

Hugh Grenfell reports that the latest Auckland City Council "CityScene" newsletter gives the Society a front page plug in 140,000 households in Auckland. The Auckland Branch is running 4 fieldtrips within the boundaries of Auckland City as part of the September Heritage Week.

#### STALWART OF TARANAKI DIES

Susan Burgess reports that Bob Duncan, stalwart of the Taranaki Branch for many years, died a couple of weeks ago aged 89. Bob was a founder member of the Taranaki Branch and featured there as speaker, trip leader, president and tea-boy. At national level, he was keenly involved with the geo-preservation in the early days of the sub-committee.

Keith Lewis, President