

even a petition signed by most students still cannot guarantee its protection.

But not all our time here at the School concerns political intrigues, the severance party being an excellent example. Many thanks to the ex-NZFS bursar students.

Our keen activities officers have also provided us with a well attended and most enjoyable staff-student dinner, numerous sporting challenges, and the promise of a guided public house tour.

As with the end of every year we keenly await the publication of Te Kura Ngarere. This magazine is published annually by FORSOC and is a summary of the memorable and not so memorable events of the year.

A major activity that now involves many of the students is a Volunteer Forest Fire Team. The value to the students is hands-on experience in fire fighting and to Timberlands Canterbury a readily available group of trained personnel. I hope this sort of contact with the industry continues; it is something that all involved can gain from (and perhaps once we prove our worth we may see some contribution by the Corporation to FORSOC – a certain block of land in Ianthe forest would be nice).

**Pete Boyack,**  
**President,**  
**ForSoc**

## Questionnaire on NZ Forestry

A questionnaire was included in the journal handed out to participants at the Greymouth NZIF Annual General Meeting. Only 24 were returned (about  $\frac{1}{3}$ ) and so the results must be interpreted in this light. However some interesting points emerged.

Almost all respondents (96%) preferred the new format and the new name (78%) 'N.Z. Forestry'. Readability was described as good or very good and over 70% of respondents read more than 50% of the contents. It was interesting that people did not usually read the magazine at one sitting or solely at work, and that most readers 'sometimes' referred back to material.

A section of the questionnaire asked readers to rate the value of various sections of the journal. 'Comment' (opinion), 'Recent Events', 'Letters' and 'Articles' all rated slightly above high, on a scale of Very High, High, Fair, Low and Very Low. Another group, 'Conference Papers', 'Institute News' and 'New Information' and 'In our Contemporaries' averaged slightly below the 'high' level. 'Book reviews' and the 'Wood Price Indices', averaged a little above fair. There tended to be a wider range of opinion about the value of 'Institute News', 'Book Reviews', 'In

our Contemporaries' and 'Wood Price Indices'.

When asked to comment on the amount of material and balance between sections most readers felt that it was about right. However, between 22 and 30% of the replies indicated that 'Recent Events', 'Articles', 'Institute News' and 'New Information' had too little material, while 13% of the replies indicated we had too much 'Comment'.

Layout was generally described as good (75%) or very good (25%) and most liked the cover (87%). Half felt the magazine could do with more photographs and the other half felt this aspect was reasonable. Most people (90%) approved of the range of topics covered by articles. About half read most of them, while a quarter either read all or only a few.

There were also some useful written comments for the Editorial Board. It appears that members approve of their magazine but the questionnaire has indicated areas which the Editorial Board needs to pay more attention to. Our thanks to those who filled it in.

**D.J. Mead**  
**Editor**

## NZIF 1988 ANNUAL CONFERENCE MAY 11-15, THC CHATEAU HOTEL, TONGARIRO

The theme is "National Lands – Mechanisms of Management". The Hon. Peter Neilson, Associate Minister for State Owned Enterprises, will open the conference and Mr Max Peterson, retired Chief of the US Forest Service, as keynote speaker, will describe reactions and adjustments made in the US from greater environmental awareness and relate this to management of national lands.

Speakers have been approached who will present the expectations which we, the general public and taxpayers, have of the new government organizations. Speakers who are senior employees of the government organizations will reply as to the missions of their organizations and what measures have been taken, or planned for the immediate future, to implement the missions. Three separate sessions have been organized: (1) Department of Conservation and Ministry of Environment, (2) Forestry and Land Corporation, and (3) Ministry



Venue for the 1988 Conference – THC Chateau Hotel, Tongariro.

Photo: Dave Bamford

of Forestry. In each of these sessions, there will be a panel consisting of the main speakers and additional members who will broaden out the topic and allow

further discussion. The panel will answer questions from the floor.

The AGM has been planned for the mornings of Wednesday 11th and