

and to consider registering. We will be seeking feedback from them, whether or not they decide to register, on how we can make further improvements to make the scheme more attractive. As the number of registered members increases, we will start working with employers and others to promote registered members and to seek information on what employers expect from such a scheme to enable them to recognise its merits and give preference to those who have registered.

Registration is something that all NZIF graduate and full members should aspire to. I invite you to at least consider registering and hopefully to go all the way. The sooner you start the sooner you will benefit and the sooner we build the critical mass of registered members we need to sustain the scheme.

## New Editor

I welcome the appointment of Piers Maclaren as the new editor for the New Zealand Journal of Forestry. Piers is well known and has been a frequent contributor to the Journal. I am confident that the Journal will maintain its standards and continue to grow in stature under his care. I also thank and congratulate Euan Mason for his contributions as Editor over the last three years. In that time he has grown the Journal, maintained its professional standards and managed to coerce a wide range of high quality papers from a diverse range of authors.

Andrew McEwen

## Recognition of achievement - Dr Andrew McEwen, Dr Chris Goulding and Kit Richards

There is no better form of recognition than acknowledgement by ones peers - who can better judge the quality and calibre of performance than those in whose midst the recipient toils?

Similarly there is no better way to exhibit professional capability than by identifying those who set the benchmark for the group or sector making the award.

At the 2008 Annual General Meeting in Palmerston North the Institute brought further credit upon itself when it recognised three of its members who exemplify the principles and practices that we hold so proud. The record of the meeting will show that Dr Andy McEwen, and Dr Chris Goulding were made Fellows of the Institute, while Kit Richards was unanimously voted Forester of the Year.

It is worth reflecting on each of these recipients as the basis for the awards was in each case different and reflects the breadth and depth of the NZ forestry profession.

Andrew McEwen became President of the Institute at the 2008 Annual General Meeting, the culmination of a long period of service to the Institute and an even longer period of service to the practice of forestry in New Zealand.

His nomination for recognition as a Fellow of the NZIF was made in;-

1. Recognition of his contribution to forest practice and science particularly in the field of mensuration and management modelling where he was awarded his PhD. Dr McEwen worked as both a scientist and project leader in this field of science over the period when mensuration science and IT came together to largely revolutionise technology of forest measurement and the systems that supported it.

2. Acknowledgement of his more recent role and recognition as one of the "Senior Statesmen" of the forest industry including involvement in providing high level advice on matters such as historical forest land administration, associated Maori land issues and most recently advising the forest industry on matters associated with levying forest growers for industry development purposes, etc. Specific roles such as the following are evidence of this wider industry representational role.
  - a. Trustee, Haparangi A4 Ahu Whenua Trust (November 1995 - February 2001)
  - b. Chairman, National Exotic Forest Description Steering Committee (1988 - 1997)
3. Outstanding service to NZIF including through the provision of the Newsletter for the past 3 years, a similar period on Council including two years as Vice-President, service on local committees over much of his forestry career, presentation of papers at various



*President Andrew McEwen with the President's Burl.*

NZIF sponsored conferences, etc. His recognition as the inaugural recipient of the NZIF Forester of the Year award in 2005 was tangible reflection of this contribution.

In their summary the nominators noted that "...we believe that Dr McEwen has achieved a level of eminence in the forestry profession that is widely recognised amongst his peers, that he has set high standards and provided leadership to the profession in key areas and has willingly used his time and his ability to promote the causes of both the profession and the Institute in the wider community to such an extent that his recognition as a Fellow is entirely appropriate".

**Chris Goulding** has had a long career in forest research. He has a B.Sc. Forestry Hons degree from Aberdeen and a Ph.D. from the University of British Columbia 1972. He joined the then NZ Forest Research Institute and apart from a short spell with McMillan Bloedel Ltd in Canada has since worked in the development of forest inventory, forest management and mensuration, resource monitoring, management science and decision support systems at Rotorua.

He has published extensively both in NZ and overseas - authoring or co-authoring some 60 refereed papers and producing numerous other reports. Notable to most NZ foresters, as a member of the Mensuration Project Team in the late 1970s he developed the MARVL (Method for the Assessment of Recoverable Log Types) pre-harvest inventory system which is still widely in use today. He was also part of the teams developing a range of growth and yield models used to drive several of the modelling systems widely used in the forestry sector.

Chris has represented NZ forestry in several international fora, being on at least two IUFRO committees and has been NZ representative on the IUFRO International Council. He has also been the NZ representative on the Australia/NZ Forest Management and Measurement Research Working Group. He is now a Principal Scientist at Scion (NZ Forest Research Institute Ltd). His nominators noted "...Dr Goulding's achievements in NZ forest research over more than 35 years, and his international assignments and appointments to positions on international bodies as a New Zealand representative demonstrate his commitment to NZ forestry and his overall eminence in the profession".

Chris has regularly been involved in Institute affairs, serving as local section secretary presenting at a number of conferences and is most recently a member of the NZIF Council.

**Christopher (Kit) Richards** - NZIF Forester of the Year 2008 has also had a significant career in New Zealand forestry, more particularly in the areas of indigenous forest management and environmental performance. Appointed as Graduate Forester to the West Coast in 1986

for the next 15 years Kit played a major part in the successful development of sustainable management practices for both beech and rimu forests. This involved understanding the dynamics of all aspects of the forest ecosystem and evolving techniques to ensure these could be maintained in sustainably managed systems. Kit was also involved in quantifying the plantation forest resource in the same region, and particularly in identifying some serious threats to on-going production. He also played a lead role in the process of obtaining FSC certification of Timberlands West Coast's forest; at that time one of the first companies to do so.



*Kit Richards*

Later Kit shifted to Rotorua to develop and direct the environmental management processes of PF Olsen & Company Ltd. He was almost immediately called upon to work with:

- The Rotorua District Council's targeted rating committee which was set up to establish a rating formula for the extra costs involved with nitrogen pollution of Lakes Rotorua and Rotoiti.
- The Nitrogen Trading Study Group, a MOTU research project looking at the feasibility of developing a nitrogen trading system for properties around Lake Rotorua's margins. The project was targeted at reducing nitrogen emissions into lake waters.
- The Environment Bay of Plenty Land Use Futures Committee as a forestry representative.

However the factor that more than any other, led to his nomination as Forester of the Year came from his lead role in compiling, restructuring, editing, and management through the final printing and ultimate launch of the NZ Environmental Code of Practice. This included a major contribution to its content. The Code updates and replaces an earlier Code of Practice produced by the Logging Industry Research Association a decade or so earlier and widely used by territorial local authorities as their environmental standard. Virtually all major forest owners now use the Environmental Code of Practice as their standard.

Kit has meanwhile been active in a number of forest industry and NZIF roles where he has used his background in forest ecology and environmental processes to good advantage, and his award as NZIF Forester of the Year 2008 was supported by loud applause.