

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING COWRA 2014**

It is with pleasure that I present my seventh report as President of the Environmental Development and Allied Professionals Group.

The Group should be pleased with progress over the 2013/2014 year and of the level of support provided by the executive and the committee. Despite busy work schedules the committee has been able to maintain the many and varied activities of the group.

The committee has worked well organising the Cowra Conference with special mention of Luke Sheehan of Cowra Shire Council. It is particularly significant as we have joined with the Riverina Environmental Health and Building Professionals Group in organising our first joint conference. An excellent program has been developed with a visit to the Futures Forum on the second day in place our usual inspections.

The highlights of the year include the following activities:-

### **Lightning Ridge Conference 2013**

The Annual EDAP Conference held at "The Ridge " in May 2013 was outstanding with great support from the host Council, our members and some excellent speakers. The tours of inspection and the social activities made it a memorable event.

The Ridge was a wonderful conference venue and Matthew Goodwin did a tremendous job of hosting and sorting out the detail for the visits of inspection and social functions.

### **Committee**

The committee met during the year using teleconferences and face to face meetings. They have been an active and cohesive group working for the benefit of EDAP members. I would like to thank the committee for their contribution together with Cathy McGrath of Parkes Shire Council and Helen Lindsay of ARL Consulting for their administrative support.

The 2013/2014 Committee comprised:

Neil Diamond - Vice President  
Alan Lindsay - Secretary/Treasurer/Public Officer  
Mathew Teale  
Brendon Hayes  
Jeff Byrom  
Marnie Page  
Matthew Goodwin  
Luke Sheehan

## Training

The training subcommittee headed by Neil Diamond continued to facilitate training. Special mention is made of our Secretary /Treasurer Alan Lindsay for his tireless work in coordination of the training and keeping members informed. The following courses were conducted or planned during the year.

- Planning for Non Planners - Molong
- New DCP Workshop - Black Sheep Inn
- Health Issues Workshop - Orange
- Planning for Non Planners - Parkes (12 June 2014)

## Web site

The EDAP web site [www.edap.org.au](http://www.edap.org.au) has been further updated and is being frequently used by members in accessing training and conference information. The site has proven to be a great benefit to the group in centralising information on activities such as training and reduced printing and postage costs for conference program registrations and newsletters. The committee is always keen to improve the site and feedback is always welcome.

## Membership

Membership continues to be strong with in excess of 465 listed members. Maintaining up to date membership details requires a committed effort. Jeff Byrom and the staff at Bathurst Regional Council have assisted in maintaining accurate membership records.

## Newsletter

Newsletters were issued during the year and the committee feels that this is a great way of keeping the group up to date with activities and providing information on industry linked matters.

## Partnerships

The EDAP group has developed and maintained good partnerships with related organisations such as AIBS, DEPA, NSW Health, NSW Food Authority and the Riverina Group. EDAP supported the inaugural Food Authority State Conference in Sydney. I commend the Riverina Group in joining with EDAP for the Cowra Conference and look forward to combining with them for a conference in their area.

One disappointing aspect of this year has been the closure of the AIBS NSW Office and loss of the Executive Officer Position and some extremely capable staff. I feel that this was poorly managed and that overall it will be to the detriment of NSW AIBS members.

## Staff Movements

The group experienced a number of staff movements during the year. The known staff changes are as follows:

- Shane Wilson from WA to Carathool
- Andrew Johns from Parkes to DES at Lachlan Shire Council
- Ethan Davies from Cabonne Shire Council to Wagga Wagga City Council
- Claire Johnstone from Blayney to own private practice
- Leon Rodwell retired from Blayney Shire Council as DES
- Tim Stokes from Wingecaribbe Shire Council to Young Shire Council
- Michael Carter from Cowra to private practice
- Kate Albery from Kempsey Shire Council to Cowra Shire Council as DES

## Conclusion

The year has been another active one for the EDAP group in supporting the needs of professions in regional areas. The group will strive to support Environmental Health and Building Surveyors, Planners, Environmental Engineers and other related professions at the grass roots level.

I have enjoyed the past eleven years serving on the committee and the seventh year as President. The guidance and advice provided by the Secretary/Treasurer Alan Lindsay and support of the committee has been invaluable. I have nominated for the 2014/2015 EDAP Committee and trust that I have your support.

The group has continued to create opportunities for collaboration and for members to meet socially. Please enjoy the Cowra Conference and I look forward to catching up with you during the sessions or at one of the social functions.

Steven Campbell  
**President**  
**EDAP ( Western Group) Inc**