

# Society for Engineering in Agriculture Electronic Newsletter

## June 2003

### FROM THE EDITOR

As Mike Collins is very busy right now and there have been a few changes in Committee tasks this is an effort to keep in touch with members.

First a BIG thank you to Grant Roberts for his work in getting out the Newsletter in the past, as well as looking after the web pages – good luck in your new endeavour, Grant.

This Newsletter is likely to be less regular than Grant Roberts managed, particularly if YOU do not forward me items. Anything remotely interesting to agricultural engineers (almost everything?) may be submitted. Your comments/suggestions are also welcome.

Paul Harris

### SEAg AGM

The National Committee has agreed to hold the AGM in conjunction with the [ISTRO Conference](#), to be held from 13-18 July at the [University of Queensland](#) St Lucia Campus, Brisbane.

The AGM will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday July 16, so people from Toowoomba can take advantage of transport for the tour to Gatton – contact [Jeff Tulberg](#) for details.

The Agenda will include discussion of a possible fee increase for next year, as the level has not increased for some time but costs have increased. The National Committee is aware of the need for value for money and would like to raise the profile of the profession and offer members more services (but this all costs money), [let us know what you think SEAg should be doing for you](#).

### SEAg CONFERENCE 2004

Time to start thinking of papers, funding and where to go for the next conference, due in 2004.

### BRANCH ACTIVITIES

#### Qld

A site visit to a grain handling facility to combine a student trip with a society trip – contact [Guangnan Chen](#)

#### NSW

[Helen](#) is organising a trip in September to Bourke to look at irrigation and a river cruise and dinner.

### PUBLICITY

The National Committee are seeking opportunities to raise public awareness of our profession, any suitable items, opportunities or ideas will be welcome.

## INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS

From the CIGR lists:-

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to inform you about new content at symposium's web site. So, please be so kind and drop on it to pick-up something new. [http://www.agr.hr/aed/aed\\_symposium.htm](http://www.agr.hr/aed/aed_symposium.htm)

Sincerely Yours

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## USQ STUDENTS GROUP

Open day is coming up in August. We are hoping to do something there, and hopefully attract a few potential students.

There were only 3 1<sup>st</sup> years this year and a couple of students will be completing their course after the mid year exams that are just finished.

Following are some of the topics of the final year Agricultural Engineering student projects being undertaken at USQ in 2003. At least half of these projects are employer or industry sponsored.

- Numerical investigation of the aeration of grain silos
- Techniques for the calculation of infiltration characteristics for a surface irrigation beyond the advance time
- Mechanical weed control using inter-row cultivation with GPS and vision guidance  
Development of a folding arrangement for a 18m Scaribar to reduce road transport width and height
- Artesian bore cooling grid evaluation
- Study of dam evaporation

[http://www.studentguild.com.au/club\\_homepage.asp?clubid=4163](http://www.studentguild.com.au/club_homepage.asp?clubid=4163)

## HAVE YOU BEEN RECEIVING YOUR MAGAZINE?

It has been brought to the attention of the National Committee that some of our members have not been receiving their Magazine of choice, containing the Leading Edge. Leading Edge regularly publishes interesting stories, highlighting some excellent Agricultural Engineering work going on around the country.

If you have not been receiving your quarterly magazine (Cotton, Sugar or Grain) and Leading Edge please let the Membership Secretary know as soon as possible.

## SOME INTERESTING WEBSITES FOR THIS EDITION

### Employment

<http://www.nrmjobs.com.au/index.html>

<http://jobsearch.monster.com.au/>

<https://jobs.nsw.gov.au/Start.asp>

<http://jobs.qld.gov.au/Organisation/default.asp>

### Professional Development

Often people with an engineering type of brain, as most of SEAg's members possess, can memorise numbers, solve logical problems and think 3 dimensionally. Unfortunately many of these gifted people are less proficient with tasks that involve spelling and writing.

<http://www.wordsmith.org/> - may help you increase your vocabulary and think in different ways with words. There is an automatic "word of the day" which can be emailed to you. This is also an anagram server to stretch those intellectual muscles that may not be getting a lot of use.

### General Interest

From ABC Western Plains NSW - Learn a little about yourself - <http://www.emode.com/>

Personality tests. Regardless of what people say, it really does seem we want to be categorised and boxed as a particular type of something... On the internet you can find your true personality type, as well as what dog you would be, what car suits you, and what cast member of 'Friends' you are...

## JOINING SEAG

For membership of the only professional body dedicated to the application of scientific knowledge to agriculture through engineering principles.

<http://www.ncea.org.au/seag/join.htm>

We now have a Membership Secretary, Scott Barber. If your email address is about to change, send a brief message to:

[mailto:sbarber@dlwc.nsw.gov.au?subject=SEAg Membership](mailto:sbarber@dlwc.nsw.gov.au?subject=SEAg%20Membership)

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SEAG ENEWS

All contributions welcome. It doesn't have to be Nobel Prize material, just current

- <mailto:paul.harris@adelaide.edu.au>

## RECEIVING THE SEAG ENEWS

If you do not have email access (i.e. you have received this Newsletter by other means), send your alternative contact details to:

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If you prefer not to receive this message, [reply](#) with the subject line as "REMOVE" and you will be rubbed out.