# **President's Report**

# To the ITEANZ AGM on 10 February 2016

I believe last year was the best year for ITEANZ since the 2005 ITE Annual Meeting that was held in Melbourne.

### The Team

President: Nick Szwed

Immediate Past President & Queensland Representative: Derrick Hitchins

Vice President: Tim Absalom

Treasurer & WA Representative: Andrew Somers

Secretary: David Nash

Assistant Secretary: Shelley Cao

Seminar Coordinator & Regional Victoria Representative: John Smelt

New Zealand Representative & District 8 Director: Don Mc Kenzie

Academia & Student Representative: Richard Tay

**Student Chapters:** 

Ahmed Mirza, Past President

Monash

Ricard Waid, President Monash Jerry Sheng, President RMIT

Membership Co-ordinator & Local Government

Representative:

Daniel Przychodzki

Newsletter Editor & NSW Representative: Aaron Hargraves

Web Master: Jared Tan

Ordinary Members: Andrew O'Brien

Ken Hall Peter Daly

Sahan Wijayaratna

Russell Webb

Nirosha Kariyawasam Sara Moridpour

If you'd like to know a little more about these people who are working for you go to: <a href="http://ite.org.au/exec\_board">http://ite.org.au/exec\_board</a> .

# The Program

The program of events was comprehensive and attracted attendances averaging around 70 to 80.

- Where Next for Road Authorities? Prof David Hensher 3 Feb
- 2015 Annual Breakfast Meeting speaker Luke Donnellan Minister for Roads & Road Safety,
  Minister for Ports 4 Feb
- Careers in Transport, Monash Szwed, Langdon, Rolland, Halden, Mirza & Tay 13 Mar
- Automated Vehicles Regan, Liersch, Ballingall & Somers 17 Mar
- Container Port for Melbourne Hermione, Bowyer & Van Duyn 30 Apr
- Sustainable Transport, Walking Rowlands, Rossiter & Burtt 28 May
- Gender Issuers in the Transport Profession Curnow, Di Lorenzo & Temple 30 Jul
- Careers in Transport, RMIT Szwed, Harrison, Halden, Cao & Tay 3 Aug
- Moving Ahead in Bendigo Budge, Sertori & Boyd 28 Aug
- Planning for Pedestrians Lowcock, Lawrence & Tay 8 Oct
- Monash Student Chapter AGM Szwed & Mirza 13 Oct
- Innovative Intersections Cleeland, O'Brien & Nash 5 Nov
- President's Dinner Kevin Devlin, Level Xing Removal Authority 17 Nov
- Governments Agenda on Road Safety Luke Donnellan Min for Rds & Rd Safety 15 Dec

You'll see that we are starting to make audio/video recordings of presentations and making them available on our website. So if you missed a seminar and would like to find out what transpired, thanks to Nirosha you can now do that. If you want to find out more, go to: www.ite.org.au.

This year's program is shaping up to be as good or better. Keep up the good work John.

## **ITE Study Tour**

In September we had a visit from an ITE Study Tour comprising John Kennedy (International President), Hibbett Neel (Past International President), Tom Brahms (Executive Director & CEO), Michelle Birdsall (Journal Senior Editor and Writer), Becky Malenke, Jonathan Kiser & Milton S. Carrasco.

The tour group visited Sydney, Melbourne, Auckland, Wellington & Christchurch. Their aim was to look at the innovative solutions being applied in Australia and New Zealand and meet with colleagues to discuss solutions for common challenges. They achieved their aims and we all had an enjoyable time together. Special thanks to Andrew O'Brien, Aaron Hargreaves, David Nash, Peter Daly, Don McKenzie & Peter McCombs for participating and helping out.

# Advocacy

At the end of 2013 we finalised our position paper on **Motor Vehicle Window Tinting.** In light of the long-standing and increasing emerging evidence that window tinting has a detrimental effect on road safety, we called on the Minister for Roads to review the *Road Safety (Vehicles) Regulations* relating to window tinting levels. We sent the paper to a number of government departments. We received a reply from Mr Mulder (then Minister for Transport) in January 2014 saying that VicRoads would raise the matter with the Strategic Vehicle Safety and Environment Group to determine whether a national review of regulations is warranted. In July 2015, having received no further advice we wrote to the new Minister Donnellan. We got a quick reply saying that our letter "will be responded to shortly". Six months later we still have no response. We have either asked a very difficult question that can't be answered or the wheels of government are moving more slowly than ever. You can see this paper at: <a href="http://ite.org.au/public/editor images/Vehicle%20Window%20Tinting%20-%20ITEANZ%20Position%20Aug%2014.pdf">http://ite.org.au/public/editor images/Vehicle%20Window%20Tinting%20-%20ITEANZ%20Position%20Aug%2014.pdf</a>

In October 2014 we made a submission to the Australian Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development in relation to a review of the *Motor Vehicle Safety Act 1989*. You can see more about this at <a href="http://www.ite.org.au/news/page/6/">http://www.ite.org.au/news/page/6/</a>

In September 2015 we wrote to the Premier congratulating him on establishing Infrastructure Victoria. We indicated that we support a robust and transparent approach to transport planning, project appraisal and community engagement. We said we support the development of a longer term infrastructure strategy for Victoria which is based on a vision of how we as a community would like to see Victoria develop into the future. We also believe that one of its key aims should be to seek multi-party support for project proposals. In December we received a reply from Gavin Jennings, Special Minister for State, inviting us to engage directly with Infrastructure Victoria during the development of the 30-year Infrastructure Strategy. If anyone would to get involved in process please let us know.

In December 2015 at the Minister Donnellan's talk on Road Safety, we handed him a statement about the Uncrashable Car. He has asked his advisers to have a look at it and meet with us to discuss it. You can see our statement at http://www.ite.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/Towards-the-Uncrashable-Car.pdf

If there are any other topics that you would like the ITEANZ to speak out on, please let us know.

# Working with EATP & AITPM

The Moving Ahead in Bendigo forum was our second joint event with Transport Australia Society (formerly Engineers Aust Transport Panel) and AITPM. This was very well attended and a huge success. A special thanks goes to Engineers Australia Bendigo Group who did most of the local organising for this forum.

This year we are planning to do something similar in Ballarat. Thanks go to John for his good work bringing everyone together.

#### **Awards**

The recipients of Awards for 2015 were:

- Contribution to ITE Tom Brahms
- Contribution to the Transportation Profession Emeritus Prof Jack McLean
- Emerging Transport Professional Chris de Gruyter
- Sustainable Transport City of Melbourne
- Student Paper Laura Aston
- Postgraduate Melissa Duell
- Award for Excellence Jared Tan

Thanks go to the selection panels for their good work.

### **Sponsorship**









RACV is a Corporate Partner and sponsors our annual Breakfast Meeting. GHD sponsor the Student Award.

SIDRA SOLUTIONS sponsor the Postgraduate Award. SMEC is a corporate sponsor.

There are plenty of further sponsorship opportunities which can be discovered on our home page.

### Students & Academia

Richard previously revived the Monash Student Chapter and last year set up a new Student Chapter at the RMIT. He has also hosted some of our seminars at the RMIT in the city. The Minister's presentation on Road Safety attracted an audience of about 100 in an excellent theatre in the RMIT. So many thanks go to Richard for his tremendous support.

Monash University Student Chapter members: President: Richard Waid, Vice President: Stefan Kitanovic, Treasurer: Thomas Lobely, Past President: Ahmed Mirza, Secretary: Vacant, Members: Anthony Panayotides, Xavier Calgaro, Sajjad Safiei, Mustafizur Rahaman, Farhana Nazinin.

RMIT Student Chapter members: President: Jerry Sheng, Vice President: Hamed Khademi, Treasurer: Lalith Hithamillage, Secretary: Robert Asquith, Events/Relations: Bashini Wettasinghe, Member: Albert Quian.

#### **Communications**

Thanks to Aaron we now have a regular Newsletter. Jared and David are keeping the Website up to date. District 8 Director Don has been doing a great job building bridges across the ditch and to North America. Aaron and Derrick have kept us in touch with events in Sydney and Brisbane.

# **Strategic Planning**

Ken, John and David have made an excellent update of our strategic plan which is currently being circulated to all members for comment. Please have a look at it and provide feedback.

### **Derrick Hitchins**

I wish to thank Derrick for his contribution to ITEANZ over many years. While he was President of ITEANZ a couple of years ago, he transferred to Brisbane with SMEC. He remained on the Board as Past President and provided us with information on what was happening in transport in Qld. You can see some of his contributions in our newsletters. Unfortunately for us Derrick's work has shifted significantly away from the world of traffic engineering, so he has decided to move on. Derrick took up the reins at a time when the Board was faltering. He helped to keep it afloat and to start building it back up. I sincerely thank him for that.

### **Andrew Somers**

I also wish to thank Andrew for his contribution over many years. He too is moving on to new pastures. Andrew made a special contribution when he took over as Treasurer and proceeded to update all our financial practices. He also set up our Sponsorship Guidelines. He leaves us in very good shape and we are very grateful to him wish him well.

Finally I would like to thank David and Tim for their support and the work they do behind the scenes.

You can see you have a very active Board that is working on a broad range of services for you.

For the year ahead a few of the themes that I would like us to focus on are:

- Strengthen links with ITE in North America,
- Strengthen links with Asia,
- Tackle diversity issues in gender and geography, and
- Continue to speak out on issues important to our profession.