

2007 APEN/RIRDC Excellence in Extension Award winners

Fiona Best and Dr Mark Paine



The 2007 APEN awards were sponsored by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation and were presented by Neale Price (President, APEN) and John McKenzie (representing RIRDC) at the Forum dinner at the University House, ANU, Canberra on November 13.

The award for the 2007 "Young Professional" was awarded to Fiona Best because she demonstrated a high level of extension leadership and innovation in her six years with Birchip Cropping Group. She has been described as a fantastic ambassador for extension in agriculture. With the growth of BCG, Fiona now manages a team of extension and communication staff delivering agronomic, farming system, environmental and economic messages to both farming and industry audiences. She is attributed with strengthening the mix and targeting of communication and extension approaches within the Group and

for developing a formidable network. The 2007 Grains Research Expo was attended by over 600 farmers, researchers and industry representatives. Fiona's effectiveness in leading the development of innovative and engaging extension programs is demonstrated by the increased resources BCG has attracted over the last five years; nearly a three-fold increase in project funds for communication and extension work. Fiona spoke well in her acceptance speech and her CEO Alexandra Gartmann was proudly in attendance at the dinner.

The award for "Experienced Professional" was awarded to Dr Mark Paine for his significant and innovative contribution to dairy extension - and the extension profession more generally - over recent years. Mark has been totally involved in extension research and projects focused on pushing extension theory and practice to greater heights to achieve even

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Perhaps you have a project or know of one who may be eligible to apply for the next APEN Awards for Excellence in Extension. The awards are for APEN members and they include registration, travel and accommodation to an APEN Conference or Forum. The next ones will be announced about six months prior to the 2009 APEN International Conference in WA. The APEN website has more details about the Awards.

better outcomes for the clients of extension. One recent example has been the Continuous Improvement in the Dairy Industry project (funded by Dairy Australia and undertaken with Kate Roberts and Ruth Nettle) which has investigated a number of extension programs across the country. The aim was to identify how best to support farmers who approach their business as an ongoing improvement process - and hence developing a 'simple' framework for thinking through the design and evaluation of extension programs for dairy farmers (and for other industries). Mark's work has extended across the Tasman - with an example being his involvement in a team which developed 'guidelines for Farming Systems Research and Learning'. Mark has had a significant impact on extension practice and the practice of extension research. Mark also gave a great acceptance speech and his wife and a number of his colleagues were present at the dinner.

There were two other nominations and the selection committee, Dr Jeff Coutts, Dr Jess Jennings and Neale Price, felt that they were of a high standard and showed excellence in extension. Certificates of commendation were awarded to Heather Lawson and Phil Franklin and the Victorian Department of Primary Industries Beef Extension group. Their certificates were accepted for them by members of their organisations.

Heather, a new APEN member, is a Dexcel Consulting Officer based in the centre of the South Island of New Zealand. She has demonstrated strong leadership and excellence in extension as demonstrated in her leading role with Dairy Business Action Groups. These groups provide an interactive forum in which dairy farmers can learn and practice physical and financial management and benchmarking skills. Group members can progress to BIZ Plus which provide an opportunity to demonstrate the application of learning gained. The approach demonstrates a high level of skill in implementing and applying adult learning, action learning and providing a producer driven learning environment and there is good evidence of participation resulting in strong outcomes for participants and the industry generally.

Phil Franklin and the Victorian Department of Primary Industries Beef Extension group have been awarded for a Certificate of Commendation for the 2007 APEN/RIRDC Award for Excellence in Extension for "PRACTICAL BEEF MARKETING - An innovative workshop for beef producers." The

description of this workshop series indicates that it provides a valuable example of good extension principles.

The aim of the Practical Beef Marketing course is "to help producers turn off cattle that meet market specifications and increase their profitability" and it consists of 8 sessions and culminates with a personalised beef marketing action plan and a supply chain tour.

There are 6 key features of this workshop that make it different to other courses:

1. The use of a focus farm where the group meets each session and a mob of cattle (say 15 head) are assessed for fat cover and muscling and suitability for the market at each session. These same cattle are then sold into the target market and their carcasses assessed for compliance to the market specifications.
2. The use of adult learning principles to ensure that the different learning styles of individuals is catered for. Coutts et al (2004) identified 2 extension models: Programmed Learning and Information Access that are incorporated into this workshop.
3. A supply chain tour that incorporates a visit to a processor, a boning room, a retailer and a wholesaler to provide the whole marketing picture to producers.
4. A personalised marketing action plan is developed.
5. The workshop is evaluated through pre and post course surveys.
6. The workshop provides an excellent networking opportunity for producers when the social aspects of meeting together cannot be underestimated. This has been particularly important during the drought. It has contributed to both human capital (that is at the individual level) and social capital (at the group and broader community level) as discussed by Coutts et al, 2004.

All nominations addressed the selection criteria well. They are –

- The use or development of extension principles in the work.
- Evidence of the effectiveness and efficiency of the work.
- The applicability of the work in the broader practice of extension

APEN Forum'07 –

Poster submissions

These are the posters which were submitted for the forum.. Authors would be happy to send abstracts or answer any queries. Please contact them via their email addresses.

Title	Author(S) And Contact Details
Improving the skills of women in the safe production, promotion and utilisation of indigenous vegetables in Vietnam	Virginia Brunton & Michelle Smith NSW Department of Primary Industries virginia.brunton@dpi.nsw.gov.au
Extension and its role within NRM and Agriculture-the case for a “one to one” salinity advice service.	Mike Clarke Dept of Agriculture and Food, WA MGClarke@agric.wa.gov.au
The attitudes and behaviours of dairy farmers towards natural resource management in NSW	Rebecca Cross University of New South Wales ra.cross@yahoo.com
Effective catchment partnerships: defining and improving a partnership approach to achieving NRM gains	Bruce Cumming, Terry Batey & Rabi Maskey Department of Primary Industries, Victoria Bruce.cumming@dpi.vic.gov.au
The national saltland service – what is it and what could it do for you and your clients?	Nick Edwards & Ed Barrett-Lennard SARDI & Dept Agriculture and Food, WA edwards.nick@saugov.sa.gov.au
Novel combinations: qualitative research and technology	Cristine Hall, Crimp s, Hochman Z, Gaydon D, Poulton P and Howden M CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems, Australia cristine.hall@csiro.au
Problems of building capacity for emergencies that are spasmodic and may be 30 years apart.	David Jones Department of Primary Industries, Victoria david.jones@dpi.vic.gov.au
CQBeef – better economics & environmental futures	Long P, Best M, McCosker K & Sullivan M Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries peter.long@dpi.qld.gov.au
Weed management practice change by Victorian linear reserve managers*	Ugo Mantelli Department of Primary Industries, Victoria Ugo.mantelli@dpi.vic.gov.au
Weed management practice change within the Victorian garden industry*	Ugo Mantelli Department of Primary Industries, Victoria Ugo.mantelli@dpi.vic.gov.au

* Details in article on page 4



Mike Clarke



Nick Edwards



Cristine Hall



Peter Long

Title	Author(S) And Contact Details
Weed management practice change within the Victorian fodder industry*	Ugo Mantelli Department of Primary Industries, Victoria Ugo.mantelli@dpi.vic.gov.au
Weed management practice change within Victorian local government*	Ugo Mantelli Department of Primary Industries, Victoria Ugo.mantelli@dpi.vic.gov.au
Rebuilding information networks after the tsunami	G Tinning, R Lines-Kelly, P Slavich, N Moore, M McLeod NSW Department of Primary Industries gavin.tinning@dpi.nsw.gov.au

* Tackling Weeds on Private Land

Ugo Mantelli, & the "Tackling Weeds on Private Land" team



A delegation of three team members from Victorian Department of Primary Industries' (DPI) Tackling Weeds on Private Land (TWoPL) initiative presented four posters at APEN Forum 07, which summarised the project's community engagement approach with four of the initiative's five key stakeholders.

Tackling Weeds on Private Land was a three-year, \$9 million initiative delivered by the Victorian Department of Primary Industries to help the community more effectively manage weeds and prevent their spread. The initiative successfully concluded at the end of June 2007.

By working with targeted stakeholders, the initiative encouraged landowners to accept their weed management responsibilities and to support the work that is already being accomplished by the community, to reduce weed spread and protect Victoria's environmental and agricultural assets from the threat of pest plants.

The four posters:

- Victorian Garden Industry: Growing change in weed management
- Victorian Fodder Industry: Practice change in weed management
- Victorian Linear Reserve Managers: Proactive approach to weed management
- Victorian Local Government: Creating practice change for weed management

outline the systematic approach implemented by TWoPL to engage with the stakeholders, to effect practice change in the collaborative management of weeds across the state.

In October 2007, the TWoPL team was awarded the Daniel McAlpine Award, the DPI Science Award for outstanding achievement by DPI staff in research, extension, regulation or policy.



The "Team", shortly after accepting the 2007 Daniel McAlpine Award (DPI Science Award for outstanding achievement by DPI staff in research, extension, regulation or policy)

APEN 2009 International Conference

Wednesday 11th to
Friday 13th November 2009
Mandurah, Western Australia

The Australasia Pacific Extension Network (APEN) has released dates and opportunities for participation in its International Conference, which moves to Western Australia in 2009.

The conference will take place at the Mandurah Performing Arts Centre from the 11th to 13th November 2009, and will include internationally acclaimed keynote speakers, invited papers, poster presentations and field tours showcasing

the latest extension policy, services and methods to ensure sustainability and productivity.

Regional Coordinator for Western Australia, Tracey Gianatti, is assembling a Conference Organising Committee drawn from major government, non-government organisations and industry to deliver a stimulating conference focussing on the role of extension in enabling change in individuals, communities and industries.



About Mandurah

Mandurah is one of the fastest growing regional cities in Australia. In the past 15 years, the City's population doubled from 29,900 in 1991 to nearly 59,000 in 2006. The five-year average rate of population growth is 3.6%.

Approximately 74kms south of Perth, Mandurah is blessed with a unique blend of coast, bushland, industry and inner-city living. A tourist's paradise, Mandurah is considered the gateway to the South West.

Mandurah is abuzz with large numbers of residents and visitors daily, although history reminds us this is nothing new. In fact, the name Mandurah was actually derived from the Aboriginal word, "mandjar", meaning the "meeting place".

The City of Mandurah boasts the finest waterways in Australia, with everything from

fishing, crabbing, swimming, recreational cruising and waterskiing on offer for enthusiasts.

Creative planning - including a number of residential canal developments with boat access to the Peel Inlet - demonstrates just how Mandurah retains its uniqueness compared to other cities.

A variety of **transportation** options are available to reach Mandurah, including vehicle hire and the eagerly awaited train service from Perth CBD to and Mandurah Transit Station.

Accommodation options are extensive from breezy self-contained apartments nestled next to the waterways or canal side bed and breakfasts to beautifully appointed resort villas with magnificent ocean views, the choice is endless in Mandurah.



APEN National Forum'07

“Capture, consolidate and communicate - the changing nature of contemporary extension”

13 - 14 November 2007, University House, Canberra

Rosemary Currie



Co-creating the Australasian extension publication (AEP)

Forum'07 was the collaboration by leading natural resource managers, extension professionals and delegates to develop an historic cross disciplinary extension publication the working title of which is The Australasian Extension Publication (AEP), to be published in 2008.

What an interesting and thought provoking event! Some loved it, some were not so sure, some were frustrated. There was much to hear, posters to read and much to discuss but not enough time. Cris Popp facilitated discussion on the first day and during pre-dinner drinks in the garden had us doing laughter yoga to ease any tension – a good skill to take away with you.

There were 103 registrations and their state of origin was as follows:

NZ	2	2%
NT	2	2%
ACT/NSW	39	38%
VIC	29	28%
QLD	15	15%
SA	8	8%
WA	5	5%
TAS	3	3%
	103	



Peter Andrews from Australian Story fame was our guest speaker at dinner and he told us about Natural Sequence Farming and how a weed is not necessarily a pest and can help (with other measures) bring the landscape back to a more natural shape with pond to pond water flow rather than water flowing into creeks (drains) and causing erosion.

Day 2 Forum concurrent sessions were sponsored by Meat and Livestock Australia, DPI Victoria and Greening Australia Exchange Program with themes for the sessions being Climate Change with a presentation from CSIRO, Weeds, and Participatory Research.

Professor Richard Bawden opened and closed the Forum with inspiring talks. He still

saw “Extension” as “Engagement” by the end of the Forum and encouraged APEN to get the book published and keep on its core work (professional development, representation, networking) to keep in front of that herd of stampeding elephants - change.

Grain and Graze, Land and Water Australia, was a major sponsor for the event. “Our congratulations go to Gill Stewart for speaking so well and demonstrating the amazing benefits of best practice extension. Her talk showed the passion for the project and closeness of relationships with growers, through to the learnings and successes of Grain and Graze.”

APEN is grateful to all sponsors for their support.

Outcomes:

Old relationships were rekindled and new ones were made in this great networking opportunity and we'll make more time during APEN events for the networking in the future.

Papers for the AEP are on the web (www.apen.org.au/forum07) and will be reviewed with regard to feedback from the Forum and from APEN member's comments by email. A book will be published using these reviewed papers and the feedback from the forum. The book may be restructured as a result of the feedback and the intention is to have it published in 2008.

Evaluation forms will help develop a Walk the Talk manual for running a forum for extension professionals.

The CSIRO's session on Climate Change sponsored by MLA provided interesting facts and the opportunity to comment on the presentation of these facts to the general public.

The Department of Primary Industry, Victoria sponsored session on Weeds disseminated current research and extension practices in this field. Alternate views were also presented.

The Greening Australia sponsored session on participatory learning and Greening Australia's Exchange Program provided interesting facts and the chance for co-operation in the field.

The forum was an opportunity for APEN to develop and strengthen partnerships and alliances with the NRM sector and our regional partners. Our hope is to distil the collective wisdom present at the forum so that APEN can continue to service, lead, and provide strategic direction through the ever changing rural and regional landscape of our current time.



Australian Government
Rural Industries Research and
Development Corporation

RIRDC Shaping the future



Australian Government
Land & Water Australia



Department of
Primary Industries



APEN Annual Report 2006 - 07

AGM 2007

At 7.30am on Day 2 of the APEN Forum '07, 22 members attended the 2007 AGM in the Common Room at University House, ANU, Canberra. There were apologies from Neels Botha (NZ) and Chrissy King (Editor). The meeting ran smoothly with the President's and Treasurer's report being given (and following). These were then followed by the election of office bearers and at this meeting we had only one position needing to be elected, as all other committee members still had part of their three year term left, but no nomination. Nominations were called from the floor and Ceris Crosby agreed to become the SA Regional Coordinator on the APEN Management Committee. Neale Price nominated Ceris and Amabel Fulton seconded the nomination. Neale was pleased to announce Ceris duly elected and welcomed her to the committee.

The 2007/2008 Management Committee (contact details on the back page) is:

President:

Neale Price *Queensland*

Vice President & Treasurer:

Jess Jennings *New South Wales*

Secretary:

Amabel Fulton *Tasmania*

Committee:

Greg Owens *Northern Territory*

Derek Foster *Queensland*

Alison Medhurst *Victoria*

Ceris Crosby *South Australia*

Tracey Gianatti *Western Australia*

Neels Botha *New Zealand*

Past President:

John James *Queensland*

Editor:

Chrissy King *Queensland*

Heather Shaw, Victoria was confirmed as APEN's Public Officer and Bob Travers & Associates, Albury as the Auditor for 2007/2008.

Although no special or general business had been notified, Neale called for any general business. Conflict of interest issues were raised regarding Jess Jennings being the paid coordinator of the Forum and the production of the Australasia Extension Publication. As a matter of transparency, the MC had discussed the issue with members through the eBulletin, had called for tenders for the position and selected Jess as most appropriate from the field of three tenders and had excluded Jess from the MC discussions about the tenders and issues regarding forum finances.

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APEN President's Report for 2006/07

Neale Price, President

The last three APEN AGMs have been held by teleconference so it is great to have the opportunity to have this AGM in a room together at an APEN event.

We have communicated APEN events and other related issues through the monthly eBulletin to all of our members. Sometimes articles have been sent to the Secretariat just after an eBulletin has gone out that will be out of date by the start of the next month. We are happy to receive notices and positions vacant up to about the 2nd of each month to go in that month's eBulletin.

John James developed the APEN Mentoring Scheme which we launched at this time last year. Eight pairs of mentors and mentees have been meeting in person or by telephone on a regular basis through the year. John and Roe have hosted a number of tele-meetings with the mentors and mentees as separate groups to support them with their journey. Final meetings will be held over the next couple of weeks and an on-line evaluation will be held. The mid-term evaluation indicated that both mentors and mentees were enjoying and benefiting from the experience. As mentioned in last week's eBulletin registration for the next group of mentees and mentors is

now available through the website.

A successful APEN workshop 'Integrating NRM and production—for professionals facilitating change in rural Australia' was held on March 29-30, 2007, Rydges, North Hobart, Tasmania. Twenty five professionals working in agricultural and/or natural resource management (NRM) programs from lots of different industries and from all over the country attended the first day when findings of the project, exploring options for extension and engagement programs to integrate NRM and production in current extension and engagement programs, were presented. A key finding was that the design phase was paramount to the success of the project. On the second day of the workshop fourteen people participated in applying project design and strategies to integrate NRM and production into their extension projects. It was a valuable hands-on day where people got some good help with issues that were troubling them. The workshop, run in partnership with Rural Development Services, was offered to other APEN Regions and this has been taken up by WA.

On 26th February last a final report from the House of Representatives Standing

Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry on the Inquiry into Rural Skills Training and Research was posted on the web. A full copy of the report (or summary of key recommendations) can be found at: www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/ruralskills/. John James, Greg Leach and myself took part in the inquiry and put forward some ideas that have been taken up within the recommendations.

The Report's 29 recommendations include Revitalising agricultural colleges across Australia, Developing a national extension framework to revitalise extension services and Linking research funding to the provision of extension services.

The report criticises States for reducing the provision of extension services over the last few decades and praises the efforts of some industry groups for trying to fill the void. It goes on to say that "The provision of rural extension services has undergone enormous change in recent times as State Governments move out of this field and private operators move in. There is a concern that this process of transition has created gaps in the availability of services and a loss of corporate memory and career opportunities amongst

President's Report for 2006/07

extension professionals. The Committee has called for the development of a national extension framework to address these issues. The provision of high quality extension and advisory services is essential to the progress of rural and regional Australia".

The actual recommendations related to this conclusion are:

Recommendation 28

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government, in conjunction with the State and Territory Government and industry, develop a national extension framework to coordinate the provision of agriculture extension services nationally, and define the roles and responsibilities of governments, industry and extension providers.

Recommendation 29

The Committee recommends that the Australian Government include a specific extension component in all funding arrangements for agricultural research organisations in receipt of federal funding, including Research and Development Corporations and Cooperative Research Centres. This funding should be provided in addition to, not at the expense of, research funding.

The State Extension Leaders Network (SELN) of which APEN is an invited member is already working on many of these aspects. I welcome the majority of these members here to this event.

Regional activities

The rationale for having Regional Coordinators on the Management Committee is that we hear about things happening around the APEN Regions (the seven states of Australia and NZ/ Overseas).

There has been APEN activity occurring in some of our Regions and I congratulate those who have organised and supported these events. These include:

- The Melbourne Cluster held two events this year with guest speakers. A "dinner at the pub" on the topic of "The Psychology of Sustainability" had over 50 attendees and "Bananas and Bombs - town planning in tsunami affected Sri Lanka".

- The WA Region held a workshop run by Rural Development Services on Integrating NRM and production. There were 18 participants at the workshop held in July.

- The SE Qld Cluster ran an event in Brisbane "Extension on the Fringe - Sustainability & the City" in November last year. Twenty five attended.

- Queensland members ran a state-wide eExtension workshop in July this year with participants in Toowoomba, Longreach, Mareeba and Nambour being linked at the same time. A total of 33 people participated in this ground breaking event.

- The APEN NZ cluster, in collaboration with AgResearch, played a key role in an Organics Farming event in October. Jeff Coutts visited Hamilton, New Zealand and provided training in using small groups to gain information in June. Both activities were not APEN specific but APEN formed part of them.

- The NSW Regional coordinator and cluster coordinators have been very busy working towards the APEN 2007 National Forum.

All these activities have had both member and non-member presenters and participants. They have provided valuable networking and professional development opportunities. Our intention is that all members will have more opportunity to be involved in such activities, and encourage more clusters to meet within regions and interest group clusters to meet over the Internet in email discussion groups.

Although we have a number of Cluster Coordinators, some Regions do not have a representative and therefore the level of local activity has not been as great as we would have liked.

Other activities

ExtensionNet had three issues in the last financial year with Dr Christine King as Editor. As always, the Editor would appreciate any contributions from the members for ExtensionNet.

APEN continues to work collaboratively with the Australian Farm Business Management Network to produce an Extension Farming Systems journal and I would especially like to thank Neels Botha and Roy Murray-Prior for their continuing efforts.

The APEN MC was happy to accept the proposal from the Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia together with the Western Australian branch of APEN to host the 2009 International APEN Conference in November 2009. Planning for the venue,

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themes and thoughts about possible sponsors are in progress and we look forward to further developments

The Management Committee has met by teleconference every second month to progress a range of issues, all under the umbrella of the Business plan. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each of the members... John James (Past President), Jess Jennings (Vice-president, Treasurer & NSW RC), Amabel Fulton (Secretary & Tasmanian regional coordinator (RC)) Chrissy King (Editor), Derek Foster (Qld RC), Alison Medhurst (Vic RC), Greg Owens (NT RC), Tracey Gianatti (WA RC), Neels Botha (NZ RC) and Jenny Cleary for her time as SA Regional Coordinator. Jenny has moved off the committee because of changing job commitments and we hope for a full contingent and a period of stability and further achievement in the coming year. I would also like to thank Rosemary Currie, our Secretariat, who enables most of the management committee work to actually happen.

As a matter of accountability, *Table 1* outlines the meetings we held and the participants at each.

Conclusion

This year has been busy for me at work, making attendance at all MC teleconferences difficult. This situation will continue as I have commitments in Taiwan, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea and UAE during the first 6 months of 2008. However, my VP Jess has done a great job chairing the meetings when I was not available. We trialled an evening meeting for the last teleconference and will discuss this issue at our face-to face meeting this afternoon and tomorrow. APEN has continued to function well and it is great that Jess Jennings, Laura Hassan, Roe Currie and Jane Weatherley have brought this forum together so well. The efforts of all involved and particularly the authors writing chapters for the book to be published from this event are acknowledged and appreciated. We look forward to the finalisation of the resulting publication over the next year, encourage members to interact at the local level as well as through the email system and look further ahead to the next International Conference in Western Australia in 2009. Thank you for your support of APEN.

ENET

Table 1

Meeting	Date	NP	JJ	JRJ	AF	CK	DF	AM	GO	TG	NB	JC	RC	Total
#071	7/12/06		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	9
#072	8/2/07	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	11
#073	28/3/07	Y		Y						Y	Y		Y	5
#074	23/5/07		Y	Y				Y		Y	Y		Y	6
#075	26/7/07			Y	Y	Y				Y			Y	5
#076	20/9/07	Y	Y	Y			Y		Y	Y			Y	7
Total		3	4	6	2	3	3	3	3	6	3	1	6	

APEN Annual Report 2006 - 07

APEN Treasurer's Report for 2006/07

Jess Jennings, Treasurer

This report is based upon an audit of APEN's finances conducted by Bob Travers & Associates, Chartered Accountant, Albury, NSW.

The APEN financial position at June 30, 2007 remains reasonably sound with total equity of \$35 218. APEN's operating loss for the 2006/2007 financial year was \$27 801.

Tables 1 and 2 record the profit and loss situation and Table 3, the Assets and Liability situation.

APEN is dependent on conferences generating a surplus of around \$20,000 and forums \$10,000. The surplus is from sponsorship deals and registration income. This is shown in Table 2 where figures show that the larger surpluses indicate a year with an International conference, a smaller surplus the year with a National forum and years with losses indicate that no national event was held. The even larger loss for the 2006/2007 financial year is because APEN paid the Philippines Extension Network the last funds from the AusAID project that we had been holding, the Mentoring Scheme and region events ran at a slight loss, membership income was down, APEN had to pay commercial rates for the website and money was paid towards the APEN 2007 Forum.

A healthy surplus is essential for APEN to be able to underwrite future conferences and forums as well as cluster activities. We will need to continue to take steps to increase general (non-conference or forum) income by at least 20% to ensure the efficient and effective running of APEN.

It is expected that the sponsorship received for the APEN 2007 Forum will enable it to make a surplus and that the sales of the Australasian Extension Publication will also assist.

As with any Association, finances are a constant issue for the Management Committee to deal with.

As Treasurer I would like to acknowledge Rosemary Currie's diligent and efficient management of the organisation's finances, an input that makes my role considerably easier to perform.

Table 1 Income and Expenses

	2004-2005 Total \$	2005 -06 Total \$	2006-07 Total \$
Income			
Advertising	118	59	550
APEN Forum (Policy forum July 04 support from RIRDC and CRRRI-Q)	9 386	-	-
APEN Conference	-	36 102	-
APEN Mentoring Scheme	-	-	720
APEN CVCB Workshops	-	17 919	-
DAFF Project: Leadership series	87 937	9 436	-
Membership	28 400	25 178	22 484
Reference Resources	-	32	-
Region Activities (formerly Chapter Activities)	4 984	-	701
Region Events (formerly Chapter Events, 0506 Qld NRM Symposium & WA workshops)	4 872*	39 500	-
Sundry Receipts	2 301	15 292	-
Sponsorship (0405 HAL sponsorship of ExtensionNet, 0506 DA sponsorship for APEN Awards)	4 788	5 000	-
Interest Received	769	542	1826
TOTAL	143 555	149 060	26 281
Expenditure			
Accountancy & Audit Fees	1 047	1 030	1 068
Administration	24 483	20 163	21 027
APEN Award	-	2 328	-
APEN Mentoring Scheme	-	-	1 100
APEN project AEP & Forum 07	-	-	3 000
APEN / CVCB workshop expenses	-	13 184	-
Bank & Government Charges	2 503	3 751	802
Catering	3 245*	-	-
Cost of Meetings	1 498*	2 790	149
Conference Costs APEN	2 065	18 959	1 450
DAFF Young People's Project	68 980	29 998	-
ExtensionNet	14 435	9 793	11 738
Insurance	382	382	382
PAIDS AusAID Project	8 139	-	3 715
Policy forum	9 417	-	-
Printing, Stationery and Postage	682	268	614
Promotion (Members Directory & membership brochures)	1 852	3 079	928
Provision for impairment of receivables	-	604	297
Region Events Payments	4 876	27 433	1 659
Speaker Expenses	1 023*	-	-
Sundry Expenses	265	-	1 072
Website	-	3 500	5 081
TOTAL	144 892	137 262	54 082

Table 2 Profit and Accumulated funds

	2002-2003 Total \$	2003-2004 Total \$	2004-2005 Total \$	2005-2006 Total \$	2006-2007 Total \$
Net Profit/Surplus	-5 043	6 207	-1 337	11 798	-27 801
Accumulated Funds	46 351	52 558	51 221	63 019	35 218

Table 3 Assets and Liabilities as at June 30

		2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
Assets	Cheque Account	47 174	28 380	17 319
	Term Deposit	6 000	6 000	20 000
	Chapter Accounts	810	753	0
	Grant Account	4	0	0
	Cash	0	0	0
	Accounts receivable	9 145	34 977	1 090
	Provision for impairment of receivables	-	-604	-297
Total		63 133	69 506	38 112
Liabilities	Accounts owing	11 116	6 487	2 735
	GST owing	796	0	159
Total		11 912	6 487	2 894
Equity		51 221	63 019	35 218

New APEN members

If you've recently joined APEN, welcome! You'll reap plenty of professional and personal rewards. If you've been in APEN for a few seasons now, be sure to say hello to the new members.

Janet Sloan



I currently work for the Dept. of Primary Industries based in South West Victoria, Australia, as an Extension Officer in the Dairy Team. I'm very keen to improve what I do by learning from others experience. I studied at Hawkesbury Agricultural College when Richard Bawden was head of Ag. My degree was a fabulous experience of adult education and learning in action. I have been involved in Education & Extension ever since as well as starting a family, and a wholesale nursery.

My role with DPI involves working in two main areas. Profitable Feeding Systems and Resilient Dairy Communities. In both areas, my aim is to encourage systems thinking; & empower farmers with the tools to make well informed choices that meet their needs. I love my work, and count working in this area as a huge blessing.

Bruce Howie



I am motivated by new ideas and innovation. The uptake and effective adoption of rural research is one of my passions. I recently established C-Qual Agritelligence Pty Limited to focus on issues of knowledge management – primarily in terms of knowledge capture, access and dissemination.

In 2000 I launched C-Qentec Diagnostics Pty Limited, and remained Managing Director until it was absorbed into Bayer in 2006. C-Qentec was a technology start-up company that commercialised novel DNA and protein diagnostic tools for agricultural applications. Previously I led the R&D program for Rh_{ne}-Poulenc (now Bayer CropScience), with local and international responsibilities, gaining 25 years experience in agricultural R&D management and technology commercialisation.

I have participated in three CRCs as a director and worked extensively with RDCs and many of Australia's significant agricultural research organisations leading to a very clear understanding of the challenges in delivering R&D outputs.

In C-Qual Agritelligence I am interested in both the development of practical extension skills through targeted professional development and the effective use of new tools for knowledge capture, access and dissemination. These include web 2.0 networking and collaboration tools as well as new generation decision support technologies.

Welcome to these new members who have joined since last edition. Many joined by attending either an APEN workshop in WA or the Forum last month. We're glad to have you on board.

Mehnaz Ahmed NSW
Peter Andrews NSW
Peter Ball Tas
Elaine Barclay NSW
Belinda Barr SA
Richard Bawden NSW
Bill Bowden WA
Virginia Brunton NSW
Bernie Bugden NSW
Steve Carr WA
Rajendra Chapke INDIA
Kristy Chapman WA
Neil Cordon SA
Rebecca Cross NSW
Helen Dugdale NSW
Sharn Edwards NewZealand
Nick Edwards SA
Neville Fernando Vic
Chris Gazey WA
Michael Goldberg NSW
Mike Grazby WA
Jane Hamilton Qld
Justin Hardy WA
Peter Howden Vic
Bruce Howie NSW
Brent Jacobs NSW
Carolyn Kabore Vic
Sean Kenny Vic
Robert La Grange Tas
Caroline Lemerle ACT
Jo McCloskey NSW
Rod Miller SA
Jane Morton Qld
Kieran Murphy Vic
Rohan Nelson ACT
Louise Newman Qld
Lauren O'Connor ACT
Roger Packham NSW
Shahab Pathan WA
Sally Phelan WA
Sally Rayner WA
Scott Ridsdale NewZealand
Janet Sloan Vic
Richard Stephens NSW
Gavin Tinning NSW
Brett Upjohn NSW
Dedee Woodside NSW

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Season's Greetings!

from the ExtensionNet Team!

Guidelines and deadlines

Submissions should be made in MS Word 6.0 with minimal formatting. A portrait photograph of the author is required. All photographs, figures and/or tables ought to be provided as separate files (preferably TIF or JPEG; photos scanned at 300 dpi). Feature articles should be around 1000 words and minor articles 500 words. The editor reserves the right to edit submitted material to meet space restrictions. Letters to the editor or general items of news of interest to the network are welcome. Articles should be submitted at least four weeks prior to publication.

Preference is given to articles that are grounded in some form of project or event.

Editing: Rosemary Currie, John James.

Layout: Ross Tasker, Snap Printing Wodonga, Victoria.

Production management: Rosemary Currie, APEN Secretariat, Wodonga, Victoria.

Opinions expressed in ExtensionNet are not necessarily those of the Australasia-Pacific Extension Network (Inc.) unless otherwise stated.

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