

## **WELLINGTON BRANCH**

Chair – Naomi Walker

The last 12 months have been a relatively active period for the branch, we have had a good turnout at our meetings, with increasing numbers of Young Professionals in attendance, which is great to see.

We ended 2018 with an absolutely brilliant talk from Dr Helen Neil, the General Manager of Operations at NIWA, on mapping the seabed of Queen Charlotte Sound and Tory Channel. Dr Helen Neil was a fantastic speaker and I know this talk was a highlight for many of those in attendance.

We kicked off 2019 with the LINZ VD2016 Hui, followed by a panel discussion to learn about the proposed changes to Wellington Water's As-built Specification. We hosted Steve Robson from Wellington Water, Charlie Latchford and Lane Unwin from 12d, and Johan Nel from Open Spatial. This meeting had the largest attendance of the year, not surprising given the topic, and was a great opportunity for members to have their voices heard.

For our last meeting, we were joined by James Mowat from LINZ, who told us about all the exciting changes proposed for Landonline.

The Young Professionals have once again had a busy year, with hosting monthly drinks for networking, laws and regs study sessions and the continued development of the What are you doing Wellington (WAYD) sessions, mixing with a large range of professional groups.

Advocacy was once again high on the agenda for the branch, particularly around the proposed as-built procedure changes at Wellington Water and the disestablishment of the Land Use and Subdivision Engineering Role at Porirua City Council. A very large thanks to Dion Mead for your efforts with the changes to the Wellington Water's as-built procedures, and thanks to Nick Taylor for his continued efforts to get surveyors in to CoPTTM.

Thanks to all members who contributed their thoughts for the letter we wrote to Porirua City Council. A special thanks to Stuart Kinnear putting together the letter to PCC on our behalf. Thanks to Colin McElwain and Ross Topham who accompanied myself, and Dave Gibson as a branch delegation to meet with PCC. We believe the meeting went well, and hopefully the efforts to improve branch relationship with PCC and open up the channels of communication will have benefits for our members.