

# FACILITATION

*FMD, University of Waikato*

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## Bob's Gong

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup>, many Facilities Management staff, both past and present, joined with the University in celebrating the contribution that Bob has made to the University over his nearly 40 years service.

At a function held at the Academy of Performing Arts in the Whare Tapere Iti, a building with which Bob is closely associated, the University medal was presented to Bob by the Vice-Chancellor and Chancellor. Many of us shared in the celebrations of this event and Bob had a number of friends and acquaintances from far afield and times gone by in attendance. Amongst those who might be remembered by some in Facilities Management were Owen Smith, Terry McComish, Trevor Grant, Helen Carter, Norman Kingsbury, Don Llewellyn. It was also great to see that many Academic and General staff from throughout the University were in attendance as the role Bob has played has impacted on all staff currently in the University and indeed staff who have yet to be joining the University.



## (Most) Everything Recycled at the Shops

After a very long wait, our recycling bins have arrived for the Shops! Though Mark Thompson and I were initially concerned that these bins would be large enough to blot out the already meagre sun under the awning, they look quite at home now. Since their installation on 14 August, two bins of plastic and half a bin of clear glass have been collected (240 litre bins). I'm pleased to say that this is right on target with the volumes I estimated from my waste audits, so all that time spent with my head in rubbish bins has not been in vain.

I am planning to conduct further waste audits at the Shops to see if the percentage of recyclable material still going into the rubbish has decreased significantly.

Stay tuned!  
*Marganne*



## How to strengthen a retaining wall

The tallest School of Education retaining wall is in a dilapidated condition and was being strengthened this month with ground anchors to increase its factor of safety.



Driving the 6m long anchor rods through previously-drilled core holes in the retaining wall. The rods are formed from 25mm diameter galvanised reinforcing rod.



'Manta Ray' anchors, designed to penetrate the ground, are attached to the end of each rod. The anchors work on a toggle action, opening up at right angles against the soil when its rod is tensioned.



Using a hydraulic jack to open the anchors and then proof tension to 4 tonnes load. As a final stage, the end of each anchor rod is secured with a large nut and face plate, which serve to post-tension the rod.

## AAPPA Scholarship Award

Congratulations to Susan Jensen who has been awarded an AAPPA 2003 Scholarship. 'AAPPA' is the 'Australian Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers' (no - the acronym is not a mistake!) and the University of Waikato is a member. This is the same body for which FMD is organising the workshop in April 2004, as reported in last month's 'Facilitation'. Almost all tertiary education institutions in Australia and New Zealand belong to the Association. Every member will have had the opportunity to put people forward for the Scholarship, so the award is even more credit to Susan.

Arranged to coincide with the annual AAPPA Conference, which travels around Australasia and is being held this year in Adelaide between 28 September and 1 October, the Scholarship provides travel sponsorship up to a limit of \$A1500. This will enable Susan to attend the conference (John Cameron will also be there as another representative of the University of Waikato) and then, in accord with the Scholarship's intentions, visit several other Australian Universities to review aspects of their own FMD operations before returning home. As well as the University of Adelaide, Susan plans to visit the Roma Mitchell Arts Education Centre, also in Adelaide. Then on to Melbourne to visit FM departments at Victoria University and the University of Melbourne. So she will certainly have an intensive few days.

Once back in NZ, Susan will prepare a final report on her trip, including critical observations from what she has seen of other people's operations. This will be published in the AAPPA Journal following the Conference. We will look forward to reading it and sharing profitably from what Susan observes!

## FMD Social Club

### **Taupo bus trip:**

Reminder that the trip to Taupo is on 11<sup>th</sup> October - time is running out so please put your name on the board if you are planning to do this trip.

**Next social club meeting** is 10<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am in the Mailroom.

### **Raffles:**

Thanks for supporting the raffles. There is an additional raffle for a 12 volt battery drill which will be going round soon.

## Perpetual Motion - this makes Purrfect Sense

'A magazine' held a competition, inviting its readers to submit new scientific theories on ANY subject. Below is the winner:

When a cat is dropped, it always lands on its feet, and when toast is dropped, it always lands buttered side down. Therefore, if a slice of toast is strapped to a cat's back, buttered side up, and the animal is then dropped, the two opposing forces will cause it to hover, spinning inches above the ground.

This theory appears to receive endorsement from another reader:

I've been thinking about this cat/toast business for a while. In the buttered toast case, it's the butter that causes it to land buttered side down - it doesn't have to be toast, the theory works equally well with Jacob's Cream Crackers.

So to save money I think you just miss out the toast - and butter the cats. Also, should there be an imbalance between the effects of cat and butter, there are other substances that have a stronger affinity for carpet.

Consider that the probability of carpet impact is determined by the following simple formula:

$P = 3D \cdot S \cdot t(t)/tc$  where:

P = probability of carpet impact

S = the stain value of the toast-covering substance - an indicator of the effectiveness of the topping in permanently staining the carpet.

Chicken Tikka Masala, for example, has a very high S value, while the 3D value of water is zero. tc and t(t) indicate the tone of the carpet and topping respectively - the value of P being strongly related to the relationship between the colour of the carpet and topping, as even chicken Tikka Masala won't cause a permanent and obvious stain if the carpet is the same colour. So it is clear that the probability of carpet impact is maximized if you use Chicken Tikka Masala and a white carpet - in fact this combination gives a P value of one, which is the same as the probability of a cat landing on its feet. Therefore a cat with Chicken Tikka Masala plastered on its back will be certain to hover in mid air over a white carpet.

*Extract from Journal of Structural Engineering Society NZ (Inc), April 2003*