

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first issue of *LUPR*! This is a new venture for our planning programme, a journal with input from students, staff and other contributors and primarily edited by students. *LUPR* is a journal of the *Lincoln University Planning Association (LUPA)* and is an online publication produced twice each year. It is also a *Land Environment and People Research Centre* (www.leap.ac.nz) outreach publication and operates through the Environmental Management and Planning Research Theme.

The ambitious vision is "to be the pre-eminent source of information on planning issues, research and education in and affecting the Central and upper South Island". The focus is on local 'things' that do not warrant the attention of a national audience (which is catered for through *Planning Quarterly*). These are issues that sometimes appear ephemerally in local media, but with more planning depth or with follow-up, might be of particular interest to planners, researchers, students and teachers. We will also share news and views, and in forthcoming issues we plan an 'agony aunt' column for planners and planning students.

We hope *LUPR* also

- keeps the community, high school teachers, students and professional planners informed of local or regional topical planning issues.
- enables researchers to share updates and results of their work, and professionals to exchange information and views of local or regional, rather than national, interest.
- helps planning students develop skills in professional communication.

LUPR will complement and facilitate the roles of the *Planning Quarterly* and the newsletters and work of the Canterbury-Westland Branch of the NZPI and the Lincoln University Planning Association. We are also keen to address issues of concern to mana whenua and encourage capacity building in planning among indigenous peoples generally.

This issue is illustrative of the type of material that can be expected in future issues – Lincoln University lecturer Te Marino Lenihan discusses the tricky issue of developing ancestral landscapes using Pegasus Township; MWH's Tim Cheesebrough comments on implementing

national transport strategies; and Master of Resource Studies' student Richard Budd sheds light on the priorities issues around Canterbury water; undergraduates Carissa Harris, Lisa Arnott, and Sarah Hunt summarise some ongoing topical local issues; first year student Kelly Fisher explains the change from the BEM to the BEMP degrees; news items profile new staff member Dr Suzanne Vallance and Michael Shone's award; in the Outreach section there is a suggestion for a secondary school Planning and Decision-making topic or for university student research and design; and we conclude with a report on the NZAIA conference held in Nelson written by Auckland-based consultant Stacey Faire.

This journal has been put together on a shoe string budget and heaps of voluntary time from students – it is primarily their journal and they have taken ownership of it. We have learnt a lot in putting out this first issue and it is all complicated by people haring off to jobs all round the place. I am incredibly grateful for their work, as editors, writers and publishers. We have a number of improvements in mind, but their enthusiasm bodes well for a long future for *LUPR*. Please send us your feedback to help us improve.

Hamish Rennie
Editor-in-Chief, LUPR

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