



Where are they now?

Rachel WILSON

Lincoln University graduate in Bachelor of Environmental Management and Planning, 2013

DAVID BIRCH MEP, GRAD DIP RES STUDS ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYST, AL RESOURCES

David graduated in Resource Studies in 2010, and obtained a Masters degree in Environmental Policy in 2012. Since November 2012 David has been working as an Environmental Analyst with AL Resources, a small projects management consultancy in Christchurch that he did a research scholarship for in the summer of 2011/2012. David also sits on the Waimakariri Zone Committee of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS). The most useful elements from David's degrees that apply to his chosen career are environmental research into best management practices both in NZ and overseas, a good foundation in NZ environmental law, and familiarity with national, regional and district government policy, standards, plans and regulations.

The key focus of David's work is on reducing the environmental impacts of irrigated land use on Canterbury's water quantity and quality, and he is working closely with the regional council, CWMS Zone Committees, farmers and key farming industry players, to implement mitigation measures such as Farm Environmental Management Plans (FEMPs). FEMPs address irrigation efficiency, reducing nutrient leaching to water catchments, good soil management, preventing stock access to waterways, containment of stock effluent, riparian planting and protection/enhancement of biodiversity on private land. FEMPs will become mandatory tools in the near future for most farmers under new regional policies and plans, in order to maintain

nutrient leaching below specified catchment and land use limits, as set in the rules and regulations.

For the three years that David was at Lincoln University he was – and still is - a volunteer RM (resource management) Case Worker for Community Law Canterbury (CLC), a free legal service. This has helped his understanding of real RM issues, and complements his legal and planning training at Lincoln. This opportunity at CLC is available for most students in these lines of study.

David complements his environmental training and career with a passion for native conservation and restoration of indigenous biodiversity. He sits on the Silverstream Reserve advisory board, a partnership between a local community and the Waimakariri District Council to develop and restore a 52 ha piece of public scrubland astride a pristine spring-fed stream. David has managed the riparian planting of some 8,500 native trees, shrubs and grasses on 2 ha that were previously covered by rampant old growth weeds.

AGATHE GRENIER M.APP.SCI (EM) ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER, EDF

Agathe is a former student from France. She is now 28 years old and used to be an electronics engineer in France before she applied to study at Lincoln University. Agathe took the M.Applied Sciences in Environmental Management in 2010-2011 with a special focus on renewable energy infrastructures. She is now back in France after two wonderful years in NZ, and working as an environmental engineer at Electricité de France (EDF) as of January 2013. She is involved in very

innovative renewable projects such as a subsea tidal turbines project in the English Channel and floating wind turbines projects in the Mediterranean sea. Her first mission was to deal with the required documents to get the resource consents for the project developer and she was also part of the project management team looking at the environmental impacts of technical choices and dealing with public consultation. Her training at Lincoln was very appropriate to her new job especially the courses dealing with environmental law and resource planning, environmental impact assessment and environmental management systems. Agathe's experience of New Zealand was a significant plus during her job research especially due to our reputation in preserving our environment.

When Agathe first left France she planned to get work on renewable energy projects as an environmental engineer, and today she is more than satisfied as she is working on very advanced technologies she did not even dream of.

SHELLEY THOMPSON
M.APP.SCI (EM)
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNER

Shelley studied a Master of Applied Science in Environmental Management at Lincoln University during 2007, after completing undergraduate studies at the University of Otago. After graduating from Lincoln University, Shelley worked as a Graduate Planner at a global environmental and engineering consultancy based in the Hawkes Bay for a few years.

Following this Shelley travelled overseas for 2.5 years on her O.E. Based in the UK, she was unable to obtain planning work due to the economic climate and lack of UK experience and instead worked as a waitress and travelled frequently.

Shelley is currently working as a Resource Management Planner for an environmental and engineering consultancy based in Christchurch which involves the preparation of resource consents for industrial and commercial developments and rebuild activities. Shelley's post-graduate studies at Lincoln University assisted her in her job as a planner particularly due to the good understanding it gave of the Resource

Management Act 1991 and also the wide consideration of stakeholders and potential effects of activities.