

AHSCA – A NEW CHAPTER STARTS !

The AHSCA will be celebrating its 40th anniversary in Queensland in two years' time. It has grown from a small group of hydraulic consultants to an organisation with Chapters in most States of Australia with a membership base of over 1,000.

The AHSCA has always provided a forum for Hydraulic consultants to meet and discuss issues relevant to our profession. It has provided a voice for our members in all levels of government, allowed us to give direction on the formal education of hydraulic consultants as well as representation on Australian Standards and other similar organisations.

Next year marks my 40th anniversary with the AHSCA. For me, there have been two major milestones during my time as a member.

The first milestone was the establishment of our Research Foundation, part of the National Body of the AHSCA. We have now completed, in association with the University of the Sunshine Coast, our first research project, the design of box gutters and associated overflows, sumps and downpipes for flows of up to 100 litres/second. Members who have completed the required training modules, can now offer performance-based solutions for the design of roof drainage systems outside the limitations of AS 3500.3. The result will be more cost-effective solutions, particularly for larger roof areas.

The second milestone is a more recent event. Through the efforts of one of our Queensland Chapter members, Peter Downey, who resides in New Zealand, we have now established a Chapter in that Country. We held our first meeting in Auckland on the 2nd October 2019. Representatives of most State Chapters travelled to Auckland to be there and help celebrate this auspicious occasion. We were overwhelmed with the attendance, anticipating around 35 guests, and ending up with close to 50. This would be the most successful start to any Chapter of the AHSCA.



Peter Downey & Mark Alexander (Chairman of the AHSCA Research Foundation) addresses the members of the New Zealand Chapter



The Queensland representatives at the inaugural New Zealand Chapter meeting – Terry McKendry, David Mitmannsgruber and Chris Tritton

Members of the New Zealand Chapter will now be able to undertake the roof drainage training modules, provide input and representation on Australian/New Zealand Standards and also take up opportunities to further their education.

We wish them well and they will receive all the support that the National Body and the State Chapters can provide to them.