

Greetings

During local safety conversations earlier this month, I was surprised to learn NZISM Northland branch previously existed in the early-mid 1990s! So, this month it is good to reflect on and remember those who have marched in the shoes long before any of us.

Thank you to Desarae Williams, valued-branch member and Whangarei District Council Health and Safety Manager, for providing an interesting insight into Ye Olde NZISM Branch.



I would also like to acknowledge another much-valued branch member Mark Montgomery. Northland branch have been extremely lucky to have Mark's mammoth support and energy given to safety for many years, so from us all past and present Mark - a big thank you!

We do have a number of events scheduled in coming months and naturally the committee will continue to be directed by Covid-19 levels and restrictions. We will keep members and the NZISM Northland event page updated.

Jeannie has tendered her resignation as committee Secretary, to focus more on juggling studies on top of her fulltime job. On behalf of the committee, thank you Jeannie for your contribution and efforts and best wishes with your continuing safety journey.

Rachel is currently assisting with the secretarial-side and as per NZISM Constitution - a new Secretary can be officially elected at the next AGM May 2021.

Lastly, warm congratulations to the recently formed Gisborne branch and members - well done ☺

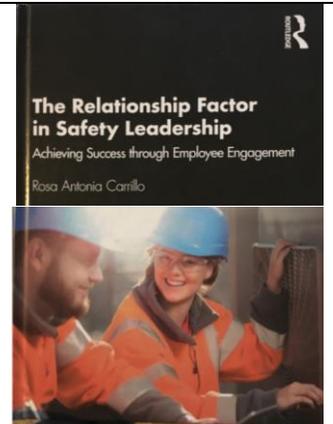
Kathleen Ferguson – Northland Branch Manager



Congratulations to our very own committee member Vaughan (and Lisa) Clyma - Amelia Elizabeth Clyma born 21<sup>st</sup> July at 3:42 pm weighing 8 lb 6ozs!

*'I have just finished reading this book "The Relationship Factor in Safety Leadership - Achieving Success through Employee Engagement" and loved it. It was one of those books that I found myself frustrated on days that I couldn't pick it up when I wanted...*

*I think the comments on the back cover sum it up better than I could! I thoroughly recommend this book, so check it out...!' ~ Rachel Elliott ☺*



**Northland Branch gives a warm welcome to new members:**

- Kelly Cullen - Advanced Concrete Pumping
- Kylie Gray - Croft Pole Distributors Ltd

**Upcoming Calendar Events:**

- 3 September 4:30 pm**- Contaminated Site Safety with Andrew Saunders, North Tec Lecture Theatre
- 17 September 4:30 pm** - Future Cannabis Law Reform - What Can We Learn? with Kirk Hardy - CEO TDDA, North Tec Lecture Theatre
- 24 September 7:30 am - 9:00 am** - CHASNZ Whangarei Roadshow
- 15 October full day** - Double-header Multiple Hazard (2) Sites Visit (further details tbc)

We are also always on the lookout for interesting speakers and topics to address the branch locally, or via webinar. For all contributions please email [northland@nzism.org](mailto:northland@nzism.org)

## Recent Branch Events

### Safety Differently / Safety II with Moni Hogg

On the evening of 30 July 2020, the branch was delighted to host the wonderful and inspirational Moni Hogg.

Moni's 17 years of experience as a Senior Health & Safety Practitioner includes specializing in the Safety Differently/Safety II approach.

Moni shared with us her journey, some of her learnings along the way, introducing and sharing some new tools with us.

Attendees took away a personal learning (if not several) from Moni's presentation. With Moni's approach -

***'Safety is not about the absence of incidents,  
it's the presence of trust, ownership,  
engagement and positives...'***

To receive a copy of Moni's supporting documents - email [northland@nzism.org](mailto:northland@nzism.org)



### 'From Zero to Hero' ... a presentation by Dr Steve Young



On Wednesday 5th August the Branch met for a presentation by Dr Steve Young.

Dr Young reported on the outcomes of New Zealand Aluminium Smelters Limited zero accident vision. The smelter has become one of the safest heavy industrial worksites in the world by focusing on elimination and isolating controls.

It was his work as a videographer, creating safety videos for New Zealand Aluminium during this period that led to an interest, then passion, and eventually a PhD in Health and Safety.

The talk was challenging. Any human contribution to safety measures, he argued, are fraught. Good safety behaviours such as systematic risk assessment can blind us to the risks of low probability yet catastrophic events.

Dr Young also briefly talked on his current project: Identifying pathways to qualifying Health and Safety practitioners in New Zealand.



For Steve's presentation on the Hierarchy of Controls

- <https://www.linkedin.com/post/edit/6519344849047687168/>

Reference to the Class I, II & III injuries - <https://www.linkedin.com/post/edit/6554183490986999808/>

Also -

WorkSafe's new Induction video is available to all NZ businesses to use during their staff induction process and provides new starters with an overview of their rights and responsibilities when it comes to keeping them healthy and safe at work - <https://worksafe.govt.nz/dmsdocument/1031-enforcement-decision-making-model>

## Ye olde Branch by Desarae Williams

Around the early to mid-1990s, a group of interested Northland Health and Safety members decided to form a sub-branch of Auckland NZISM. Most of us found the travel to Auckland, there and back on the same evening a bit much and wondered why we could not run our own branch.

Paul Jarvie, EMA and ex NZISM committee member helped us and we set up our own bank account and officers. Initially we were under Auckland, so they could support us.

I recall Dave Grey, from Golden Bay Cement was one of the initial Treasurers, we had a chap from the refinery, Karen Heffey from Company Health was Secretary and myself as Chair of the committee.

We had a good 10-12 members turn up to our monthly events including Mary Beaumont from the Northland Dairy Company, Marg from NDC Maungaturoto site, Lesley - another nurse from the NDC at Kauri, Jim Spheres from Northpower, Dr Jim McLeod occasionally, a great chap from NZ Safety, Mark Montgomery and Shona Kelly (as a visitor) from OSH, Robyn Deacon from Golden Bay Cement, some of the nurses from Company Health plus others whose faces I recall, but not necessarily their names.

Following on, we decided we needed something to galvanise us and we decided we would host the annual NZISM Committee the following year. We set up a conference committee and decided the one rule was, we would not stick to the rules. This gave us the space to host an event that did not necessarily follow the usual conference rules.

We ended up hosting a 200 person conference at Forum North which was a really great success.

I recall with some memories of the stress, when we discovered just before the conference we actually had no sponsorship in the bag. Fortunately I was in a position to drop everything and focus on doing some wheeling and dealing at the last minute to get the necessary sponsorship, finding I had a skill I was not aware of - getting many thousands of dollars locked in within a week before the conference - phew!

We had a very 'Northland' theme and opened the conference with the Otangarei School Kapa Haka group - they were awesome and a first-of-its-kind, at such an event. I recall the piano player - our hired entertainer on the social night that was probably the only 'dud' of the whole event.

So the branch ended up with a profit and we continued to meet monthly at Company Health premises (the old Meatworks site on Kioreroa Road), kindly donated by Dr Jim and Karen Heffey - both Directors at the time. Paul Jarvie from EMA continued to support us and after some time, we became a branch in our own right. We zealously guarded the money left over from the conference profits for some years. We used to have guest speakers and presentations, much like today and wine and some snacks.

Dr Jim used to give a mean presentation every now and again and we used to get some speakers up from Auckland too.

Over time committee members left and it became hard to find replacements. It was like after that conference, we were totally spent. I finally ended up being Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and it all got too much. At that time Branch Managers had to go down to Wellington quite regularly for meetings and I was again lucky NDC sponsored this.

Back then we talked about the membership levels and having a paid Manager, all of which has now come to pass. One of my memories is attending a strategic planning meeting, facilitated by a man called Bruce from Mountain Rescue who kept referring to his textbook on how to run strategic planning meetings. We were in a lovely lodge at Taupo and the social aspects were really fun but between the national and local business, it was a lot of work.

I left the Health and Safety field for a while and resigned my NZISM Officer roles. Some hung on for grim death, determined not to give the money in the account to Auckland and I think they had a grand dinner before it

folded, to ensure not a penny more than necessary left Northland. Eventually the committee and the branch died.

In hindsight I think health and safety around that time was a pretty hard industry to be in. It was still very much fight, fight, fight for the most basic safety controls and only the bigger companies, of which there were few - hired full time H&S professionals.

I have very fond memories of that crowd of good people, the conference, the endeavour of setting up the branch. But I also recall saying to Amanda when she set up the branch again, I will come along as a member, just as long as I don't have to be an officer – you can see, I had my turn at that. But it is really good to see the branch set up, active and in full swing again.

Dr Youngs presentation was followed by the 1<sup>st</sup> branch dinner at the presentation's venue, the Distinction Hotel, Riverside, Whangarei:



L to R: Ravi Kolluru, Sam Turner, Clinton Telfer, Prue Miller, Rachel Elliott, Vaughan Clyma, Dr Steve Young, Ngaire Young, (Andrew and Florence Saunders), Rob McAuley, Wendy Mosely, Mark Montgomery, Mike Lindsay, Kathleen Ferguson, Kelly Cullen. (Nik Jessop absent in pic)

*Please remember your Northland Branch committee is working hard for you to continue providing quality speakers and events as a part of your membership. There is also a lot of work that goes on in behind the scenes. Efforts put in are purely voluntary and it is vital the branch is supported.*

*If you know of anyone who would like to be added to the newsletter mailing list please let us know or if you have any questions, please email [northland@nzism.org](mailto:northland@nzism.org)*

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*Thanks Everyone!*