

## ESR Events 2007

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### Small is Good: the Business of Microgeneration in New Zealand

ESR Auckland Branch

- **Date:** Thursday 15th November 2007
- **Time:** 7.30pm
- **Venue:** Room 1.439, School of Engineering, University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street, Auckland.
- **Speaker:** Aaron Clarkson.  
BE (1st hons), recipient of the 'Technology for Industry Fellowship', he is currently studying towards a Masters in Environmental Engineering at the University of Auckland while being supported by Vector Ltd.
- **Abstract:** Microgeneration technologies (from micro-wind turbines to micro gas turbines) are fast becoming a commercial reality in grid-connected applications. The widespread dissemination of microgeneration could be a good thing for New Zealand's electricity system and market place, however the role of Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) in this new era will be critical. This presentation will look at the ways in which DNOs can capitalise on these new opportunities with an in-depth investigation of micro wind turbines in the urban environment, drawing on some key learnings from the Vector SWIFT wind turbine trial.

For further information,  
Contact: Aaron Clarkson  
Email: [aaron.clarkson@vector.co.nz](mailto:aaron.clarkson@vector.co.nz)



### Stop Killing Civilians

- **Date** Wednesday 7th November 2007
- **Time:** 6.30pm

- **Venue:** Room 1.439, School of Engineering, University of Auckland, 20 Symonds St, Auckland.
- **Speaker:** John Rodsted is an Australian photographer who has a compelling presentation of still and video images documenting the lethal impacts of landmines, cluster munitions, and other explosive remnants of war in Afghanistan, Lebanon, Laos and elsewhere.

"I've witnessed first-hand the deadly explosiveness of cluster munitions on civilians. This weapon's days are numbered. We need to get rid of clusters now."

- John Rodsted

This speaking tour is hosted by the Aotearoa/NZ Cluster Munition Coalition, a coalition of New Zealand organisations calling for an end to cluster munitions.

For more information contact:

Cluster Munition Coalition coordinator

Oxfam New Zealand

Tel: (04) 496-9628

email: [wellington@oxfam.org.nz](mailto:wellington@oxfam.org.nz)

Web: [www.stopclusterbombs.org.nz](http://www.stopclusterbombs.org.nz)



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## Sustainable Freshwater Management, Towards a Sustainable New Zealand Approach

- **Speaker:** Heather Stonyer
- **Date:** Thursday 18 October 2007
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

Heather Stonyer will describe the main recommendations of the report commissioned by NZ Business Council of Sustainable Development on the sustainable management of fresh water in NZ. She will cover the mechanisms for equitable management and protection of New Zealand's freshwater streams, rivers, lakes and ground water.

For further information contact:

Thomas Neitzert

Email: [thomas.neitzert@aut.ac.nz](mailto:thomas.neitzert@aut.ac.nz)



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## Life after Oil?

### Co-hosted by Engineers for Social Responsibility and the Green Party of NZ

- **Speaker:** Richard Heinberg
- **Date:** Wednesday 10 October 2007
- **Time:** 6:30pm
- **Venue:** Lecture Theatre B28 (Under Library), The University of Auckland, 4 Alfred St

Richard Heinberg will speak on life after peak oil.

He is one of the world's foremost Peak Oil (oil depletion) educators and has earned his reputation lecturing, writing several well-known books and appearing in popular films. He is a journalist,

educator, editor, lecturer, and a Core Faculty member of New College of California where he teaches a program on "Culture, Ecology and Sustainable Community". Since 2002, he has given over three hundred lectures on Peak Oil to a wide variety of audiences-from insurance executives to peace activists, from local and national elected officials to Jesuit volunteers.

For further information contact:

Neil Jacka

Email: [njacka@xtra.co.nz](mailto:njacka@xtra.co.nz)

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## Wind Energy - Where is it going?

### Combined meeting with IET Auckland Branch

- **Speaker:** Ray Brown and Scott Morgan
- **Date:** Thursday 20 September 2007
- **Time:** 7:30pm, Refreshments in the Atrium from 7:00pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

Brown and Scott Morgan will overview Meridian's recently completed 58 MW Southland wind farm and discuss potential future developments. Updates will be given on wind farm technology, and power system integration and the associated challenges that presents, particularly in compliance with the electricity governance regulations, power quality, etc.

For further information contact:

Thomas Neitzert

Email: [thomas.neitzert@aut.ac.nz](mailto:thomas.neitzert@aut.ac.nz)

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## Up Before the Beak - Motor Vehicle and Marine Accident Analysis in the Courtroom

- **Speaker:** Chris Marks. ME (Mech), FIPENZ (Mech), FIMechE
- **Date:** Thursday 16 August 2007
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

Chris will discuss the origins of vehicle crash forensic work, its evolving technical basis, the range of expertise commonly involved, the available specialist training and the significant constraints that exist when working as an expert in the forensic context. He will use some past cases as illustrative examples.

For further information contact:

Neil Mander

Email: [neilman@clear.net.nz](mailto:neilman@clear.net.nz)

Phone: 0-9-625 9306

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## Habitat for Humanity - Tsunami Housing

- **Speaker:** Tony Lanigan
- **Date:** Thursday 19 July 2007
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room WS 114, AUT University, 24 St Paul St, Auckland

This talk will discuss the provision of a policy framework for disaster relief and the provisions of housing in the aftermath of a disaster.

For further information contact:

Thomas Neitzert

Email: [thomas.neitzert@aut.ac.nz](mailto:thomas.neitzert@aut.ac.nz)



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## Energy, Climate Change and Carbon Neutrality

Event report available: [Energy, Climate Change and Carbon Neutrality](#)

- **Speaker:** John Blakeley - Research Fellow, Sustainable Energy Research Group, School of the Built Environment, Unitec
- **Date:** Thursday 21 June 2007
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

### Topics to be covered include:

- The contents of the Prime Minister's 13 February "speech from the throne" (on carbon neutrality and NZ becoming truly sustainable), and some immediate reactions to it by financial commentator, Rod Oram.
- Some discussion on whether or not the carbon neutrality definition includes methane, or only carbon dioxide emissions.
- Some background information on percentages of greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture, energy, industrial processes and other sources; the relative percentages of carbon dioxide and methane emissions; and comparative rates of increase of carbon dioxide and methane emissions since 1990 (the base year for the Kyoto Protocol).
- A summary of the five government discussion documents on energy and climate change released in mid-December 2006.
- A summary of outcomes from the joint seminar of SEF and the Energy Federation of NZ (EFNZ) held in Wellington on 16 February, especially in identifying some gaps in the above discussion documents.
- Some key points from the SEF submission on the above documents, and especially the draft NZ Energy Strategy.

For further information contact:

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# An Economy for Spaceship Earth

## Special ESR Auckland Branch Meeting

- **Speaker:** Prof. Peter G. Brown - School of Environment, McGill University
- **Date:** Monday 14th May 2007
- **Time:** 6:00pm
- **Venue:** Lecture Theatre PLT1, Science Centre, Bldg 303, The University of Auckland (cnr. Wellesley and Princes Streets)

Prof. Brown will show that the current economic order rests on mistaken scientific, metaphysical, and theological assumptions. He will take five simple questions and show that current economic theory does not offer coherent answers to them. These are:

1. What is economy for?
2. Where is it?
3. How big should it be?
4. How does it work?
5. How to think about waste?

Prof. Brown will talk about what a new economic order based on the idea of respect for life and the geophysical and biological systems on which it depends. To begin a glossary is offered in which many of its key terms of economics are redefined. These can include: budgets, resources, distribution, production, consumption, money, efficiency, and comparative advantage. It is shown why it is better to be in step with the universe rather than ignoring it. In conclusion, a definition of cosmic citizenship is offered.

Donation of a gold coin is suggested, to help cover costs.

For further information contact:

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## ESR Annual General Meeting

Event report available: [ESR Annual General Meeting 2007](#)

- **Date:** Saturday 24th March 2007
- **Time:** 5:30pm
- **Venue:** Oakridge Conference Centre, Unitec New Zealand, Gate 4, Carrington Rd, Mt Albert, Auckland

### Business

To receive the ESR Annual Report, items of general business, and election of the 2007 Executive.

Nominations are called for President, Secretary and Treasurer. Each nomination must be signed by the proposer, seconder and countersigned by the nominee. They are to be forwarded to: Secretary ESR Auckland, P.O. Box 6208, Wellesley St, Auckland 1141



# ESR National Conference 2007: Engineers and Peak Oil

Event report available: [ESR 19th National Conference](#)

Event report available: [ESR 19th National Conference Workshops](#)

- **Date:** Saturday 24th March 2007
- **Venue:** Oakridge Conference Centre, Unitec New Zealand, Gate 4, Carrington Rd, Mt Albert, Auckland
- **Host:** The School of the Built Environment, Unitec New Zealand

The 2007 ESR Annual Conference will focus on both the implications for engineers of the depleting sources of oil and how society and the engineering profession will need to adapt to rapidly increasing oil prices and dwindling reserves. New technologies will be needed and there may be significant changes to the way society functions.

## Programme

- 8:30 - 9:15 am Registration
- 9:15 Opening address: Richard Fenwick
- 9:30 Setting the scene - What is peak oil all about?; John Blakeley & Tim Jones: - Setting the scene
- 10:00 Workshop - Is oil supply a problem and how should we be addressing it?
- 11:00 Morning tea
- 11:30 Implications of getting by on much less oil; Gerry Coates: - Looking at options for energy supplies, transportation, plastic supplies, medical, drugs, etc
- 12:00 noon Workshop - What should ESR be doing to assist in preparing for changes?
- 1:00 pm Lunch
- 2:00 Maintaining food supplies - the impact of growing biofuels; Elizabeth Yeaman: - Can we produce enough food if there are only limited supplies of high priced oil and a significant area is devoted to growing biofuels?
- 2:30 Workshop - How will society be fed and goods transported?
- 3:30 Afternoon Tea
- 4:00 What should NZ be doing to prepare for the impact of Peak Oil?; Jeanette Fitzsimons: - Public education, research and development, caution on motorway spending, scenario development modelling
- 4:30 Workshop - What should ESR do to promote understanding and preparedness for the impact of Peak Oil?
- 5:30 ESR Annual General Meeting
- 6:30 ESR Social hour and dinner

Lunch and morning/afternoon teas are included in the Conference registration fee. An informal dinner will be arranged at a separate venue in the evening to suit those wanting it. The dinner cost will be in addition to the registration fee.

The Conference will be followed at 5:30pm by the ESR Annual General Meeting.

## Accommodation

No specific arrangements are being made as part of conference organisation. We note that there are two or three motels within easy walking reach of the conference venue.

## Registration

All are welcome.

Please fill in an [Application Form](#).

## Contact

ESR Conference Convenor, P.O. Box 6208, Wellesley St, Auckland 1141

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## Green Chemistry

Event report available: [Green Chemistry](#)

- **Speaker:** Prof. Terry Collins - Carnegie Melon University
- **Date:** Thursday 22nd February 2007
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

Green Chemistry is the design and application of chemical products and processes to reduce or eliminate the use and generation of hazardous substances.

Speaker Professor Terry Collins will be in Auckland to receive a Distinguished Alumnus Award on the 23rd of February. Professor Collins, from Carnegie Melon University in Pittsburgh is world renowned as the co-inventor of Green Chemistry and has developed compounds as catalysts for chemical processes previously considered obnoxious or toxic.

Sir John Ingram describes Terry as not merely a brilliant academic of world standing; he is a sincere, pragmatic environmentalist and a concerned and caring humanist. These qualities have been relentless drivers in his continuing discoveries, his leadership in the field of Green Chemistry and in the zeal with which he disseminates his knowledge and that of his team.

For further information contact:

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