

Convenors' Report

Several New Zealanders attended the IAIA meetings in Lisbon, Portugal from 17-23 July. It was a pleasant setting on the Estoril Coast, about half an hour out of central Lisbon by train. A brief but welcome respite from our recent winter! And fascinating to be in one of the other great centres of navigation and exploration in the world.

The conference was notable for the wide range of participants from many countries. With the Portuguese language link there were particular strengths in participation from parts of Africa and South America.

It is certainly no longer an organisation dominated by North American academics. If there is a bias now, it is towards staff from 'institutions' involved in the administration of environmental procedures in governments and multilateral agencies.

At the conference the final report of the "International study of the effectiveness of environmental assessment" was presented (see "publications" column below for details). The report presents the findings and recommendations of the study that has taken place over the last three years, at the initiative of the IAIA and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

It includes short case studies to highlight points and issues. Environmental assessment is described as one of the most successful policy innovations of the 20th Century, one that has grown in just 30 years to be a formal process in more than 100 countries as well as multilateral organisations such as the World bank.

The study developed four main themes that included i) guiding principles and values; ii) new

dimensions such as strategic environmental assessment and the assessment of cumulative effects; iii) strengthening the process and decision making; and iv) capacity building, especially in developing countries. The study signals a move towards a focus on sustainability, informed and influenced by the EA process. New Zealand appears well to the front of the field with our Resource Management Act.

The main part of the conference was organised into a number of workshop streams, allowing time for discussion as well as the usual paper presentations. Social assessment came through in a number of themes, but one of the most innovative was a series of sessions on the role of environmental assessment in business and industry. Private sector organisations are taking some key initiatives, with Shell International, for instance, preparing a set of internal guidelines for SIA which has recently been published.

Another recurrent theme was the interest and activity around strategic environmental assessment. This means the development and application of techniques of assessment beyond site specific projects to areas of policy and programme development. While we have made some progress in this area in New Zealand, there remains much more potential than practice in application of the process and techniques of social assessment to the development of policy and programmes for central and regional government.

At the annual IAIA Board meeting in Lisbon the New Zealand Chapter application was formally

This issue...

Issues co-ordinators: Nick Taylor and Julie Warren

Editor: Jo Lynch

Reviews, research, publications: Wayne McClintock

Production: Rachael Fogarty

Contents	Page
Convenors' Report.....	1
Internet Home Page	2
Showing off or showing up the city?.....	5
Blackboard.....	11
Publications	12
Regional meetings	14

approved. This means that the ASA will act as the New Zealand Chapter of IAIA. We anticipate that this will help to broaden our membership, particularly in the areas of resource management, planning and the assessment of environmental effects, providing us with an opportunity to advance social assessment and participatory planning as key aspects of an integrated approach to environmental assessment.

Note that this move does not mean that members of ASA have to join IAIA as full members, although we do suggest that some of you would find it very useful if you or your organisations did join. ASA members will enjoy benefits from affiliation with this international organisation and network, but obviously not the full benefits of membership, such as the journal, newsletter, section groupings and reduced rate at conferences that are available to full members.

There is considerable interest in having one of the IAIA conferences in New Zealand, possibly as soon as 1998, and a proposal will be explored in detail with Rita Hamm, executive director of IAIA, when she visits here in early August.

In the meantime if you have any queries or suggestions about the IAIA link or a conference here, please get in touch with either of us.

Of immediate interest regarding conferences is our own forthcoming event at Flock House from 18-20 October. With this newsletter we have enclosed a brochure with preliminary information on the Programme and costs. This will be an occasion for discussing important issues for our field of work, as well as being a venue that provides plenty of opportunities for fun and relaxation. New members and others are most welcome to join in. Your early registration will be appreciated by the hard working Wellington organising group.

We have noted previously the importance of e-mail and the internet to our activities of networking and professional development. In this issue we start a new column called "home page", with information on new developments, particularly with discussion groups. If you have any other contributions, information or ideas for SIAN, please get in touch. Hope we will see lots of you at Flock House in October.

NICK TAYLOR AND JULIE WARREN, CO-CONVENORS.

Internet Home Page

Purpose of this Column

The internet is a new medium being used by an increasing number of ASA members. The purpose of this section of SIAN is to act as a forum for exchange of information on internet resources of interest to ASA members. Nick Taylor and I would like to run this "column" within SIAN over the next few issues and see how it goes.

To kick off this new section of SIAN, we are including here the first part of a series of articles highlighting some of the matters of interest that Nick Taylor and I are aware of, or which you as readers have drawn to our attention. This issue focuses on mail lists.

If you know of internet resources or services that you think of interest to ASA members, then please drop a line to Nick Taylor (n-taylor@chch.planet.org.nz) or myself (James Newell) (jnewell@mera.actrix.gen.nz).

The IAIA-SIA Mail List

We have been looking into how best to setup a communications point for ASA members on the internet. We had considered setting up a World

Wide Web (WWW) page, setting up a newsgroup, or setting up a mail list group.

In the event, the IAIA (International Association for Impact Assessment) has now set up a series of mail list groups including one devoted to Social Impact Assessment. We suggest that NZ ASA members use the IAIA-SIA as an initial step towards internet services for ASA members. Mail lists are able to be used by anyone who has e-mail access to the internet, and thus make a good starting point.

About the Internet

The internet is a global computer communications network. The initial global backbone for this communications system was an operating system called unix. Unlike locations on the globe, points in this network appear to the user to be the same distance apart (for most purposes). It doesn't matter if a node or user in the network is in China, England, Dunedin, Suva or Los Angeles, it seems to the user as if they are right on the user's desktop.

The internet supports a number of means of communication. A user connects to the internet

through an internet service provider (IP). Universities and research organisations were some of the first large groups of users connecting to the internet in New Zealand. There are now a wide range of private companies providing commercial internet services to users. To connect to the internet you need a suitable computer such as a PC, a modem, communications/internet connection software, access to a telephone line and an account with an internet service provider. The internet service provider is your “gateway” into the internet.

E-mail

The internet supports a range of services. The most basic internet service is electronic mail. Electronic mail allows text files to be sent from one user to another other user connecting to the internet within a short space of time. This could be minutes or hours depending on the pathway from one user to another on the internet.

Many internet users can only access the internet by dialling up rather than having a dedicated internet feed. If mail is sent to a user using a dial-up mode for internet connection, then any e-mail message for that user won't be read until the user dials up and clears the mail box held in their name by their internet service provider.

E-mail messages can have files attached to them which may contain “binary” (non-text) files such as computer programmes, documents created in software packages such as Microsoft Word or Excel, images stored in various graphic formats, or such exotic binary files such as audio or video files.

Such non-text files are encoded in special character formats for transfer such as uuencoding. They are usually represented as hexadecimal code. Such encoded attached files can be automatically translated back into their source binary format by many of the e-mail software packages. In other cases the message recipient will need to use an appropriate translator to decode the attached file.

Mail Lists

The mail list is a special kind of e-mail service that provides a means by which individual messages sent to the list by any list subscriber are broadcast by a “mail list server” to all other subscribers to that list. Such mail list services are often set up by professional groups or users of software as a means of maintaining an ongoing dialogue /information line on matters thought to be of general interest.

A mail list consists of a computer or “server”

connected to the internet which maintains a list of those who would like to receive e-mail sent to the mail list server. Anyone who is a member of the list can send an e-mail message to the mail list server. The “list server” then automatically forwards this e-mail message on to all other subscribers to the mail list.

Mail lists can be moderated or unmoderated. Messages sent to moderated mail lists are screened by the list moderator to ensure that they are in keeping with the purpose of the mail list. Messages sent to unmoderated lists are not screened in any way before being forwarded to list subscribers.

Discussion groups of interest

Social Impact Assessment

The SIA (unmoderated) mail list group is organised under the auspices of the IAIA by Dr. Frank Vanclay at the Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, Australia. The discussion group was created to foster an interchange of information and ideas between SIA professionals. Subscription to the discussion group (as for most internet resources at this time) is free.

Amongst the things that may be discussed are the following:

- descriptions of objectives and methods of SIA
- critiques of SIA theories, methods and approaches
- identification of target audiences/perceived uses for different SIA tools
- encouraging application of appropriate SIA methods
- presenting and interpreting results of social impact assessments
- methods for adapting existing SIA tools to additional situations and site conditions
- data and databases for SIA
- appropriate social indicators useful in SIA
- relevant conference and seminar announcements, calls for papers and research/extension proposals, job announcements, abstracts and reviews of articles and reports, and interim research reports are all appropriate and welcome postings; and
- announcement of research plans, to encourage collaboration and/or reduce overlap in effort.

To subscribe to the SIA mail list, you send a message containing the word “subscribe” in the subject line to the address **IAIA_SIA-request@listserv.csu.edu.au**. You should then receive an automatic acknowledgment from the list

server and all subsequent e-mail messages sent to the list will automatically be forwarded to you.

To post a message to the entire discussion group, send e-mail to IAIA_SIA@listserv.csu.edu.au. Please be sure to give a concise clear subject. Only subscribers can post to the list.

IAIA Professional Development

The IAIA Professional Development (unmoderated) mail list group is hosted by Dr. Frank Vanclay at the Centre for Rural Social Research, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, Australia. The discussion group is facilitated by Ilyas Baker, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Mahidol University, Salaya, Nakhon Pathom 73170, Thailand.

This mail list was created in order to promote efficient professional interchange around issues of professional development. These might include, for example:

- training needs of IAIA members
- training methods and materials
- training opportunities
- networking among members
- the roles and purposes of IAIA
- IAIA publications and conferences
- the code of ethics for IAIA members; and
- the future of IAIA

Notices of training courses, relevant publications, training materials etc. may also be useful. From time to time the Professional Development Committee may post notices informing subscribers of its work or soliciting opinions on particular issues relevant to the development of IAIA.

To subscribe to the IAIA Professional Development mail list, you send a message containing the word “subscribe” in the subject line to the IAIA_PROFDEV-request@listserv.csu.edu.au. You should then receive an automatic acknowledgment from the list server and all subsequent e-mail messages sent to the list will automatically be forwarded to you.

To post a message to the entire discussion group, send e-mail to IAIA_PROFDEV@listserv.csu.edu.au. Please be sure to give a concise clear subject. Only subscribers can post to the list.

IAIA EUROPE

The IAIA Europe (unmoderated) mail list group is administered by the Centre for Rural Social Research at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga, Australia and hosted by Dr. Martin Birley,

Health Impact Programme, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK. The participants will be members of IAIA who are based in Europe or involved with EU projects or seeking European collaboration.

The discussion group was created because of interest expressed by IAIA members, to promote efficient professional interchange around impact assessment issues in Europe and to promote initiatives related to the EU. This discussion group focuses on the same issues as listed for the IAIA-SIA Discussion Group above.

To subscribe to the IAIA Europe mail list, you send a message containing the word “subscribe” in the subject line to IAIA_EUROPE-request@listserv.csu.edu.au. You should then receive an automatic acknowledgment from the list server and all subsequent e-mail messages sent to the list will automatically be forwarded to you.

To post a message to the entire discussion group, send e-mail to IAIA_EUROPE@listserv.csu.edu.au. Please be sure to give a concise clear subject. Only subscribers can post to the list.

IAIA URBAN: Urban Environmental Issues

I haven't subscribed to this service and so the information on this group is based on information forwarded by Frank Vanclay. The IAIA Urban Environmental Issues (unmoderated) mail list group is administered by the Centre for Rural Social Research at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga, Australia and hosted by Charlie Wolf (e-mail: CPWOLF@aol.com). Charlie Wolf is IAIA's NGO representative at the United Nations' New York site, which also happens to be the location of the Habitat II Secretariat. (Habitat II is the “City Summit” held in Istanbul last June).

The discussion group was established for discussion of issues, problems and progress in developing and utilizing methods, tools and theories in the understanding of environmental and social issues involved in urban design and urban expansion. This was particularly intended to promote discussion in the lead up to the UN City Summit held in Istanbul in 1996.

To subscribe to the IAIA Urban mail list, you send a message containing the word “subscribe” in the subject line to the IAIA_URBAN-request@listserv.csu.edu.au. You should then receive an automatic acknowledgment from the list server and all subsequent e-mail messages sent to the list will automatically be forwarded to you.

To post a message to the entire discussion group,

send e-mail to **IAIA_URBAN@listserv.csu.edu.au**. Please be sure to give a concise clear subject. Only subscribers can post to the list.

RURSOC-L: Rural and Agricultural Sociology

This is a mail list intended for discussion of rural and agricultural sociology by sociologists, economists, students, etc. It is run by Gianluca Brunori at Dip. di economia dell'Agricoltura, Via del Borghetto 80, 56124 Pisa, Italy (e-mail : agroprog@vm.cnuce.cnr.it).

To subscribe to the list, send an e-mail to **listserv@vm.cnuce.cnr.it** and type in the first line of text **subscribe rursoc-l <<name><<surname>**. You should then receive an acknowledgment with further instructions on participation in the discussion group.

International Sociological Association

This is a mail list is intended as a forum for discussion of matters related to the International Sociological Association.

To subscribe to the list, send an e-mail to **isa@sis.ucm.es** and type in the first line of text

JOIN ISA DISCUSSION GROUP. You should then receive an acknowledgment with further instructions on participation in the discussion group.

EXTRES-L: New Zealand Extension Research issues

This was established by Noel Bridgeman at Taranaki Polytechnic, New Plymouth, for the discussion of New Zealand Extension Research issues. I haven't seen much activity on it in the short time that I subscribed, but it is a New Zealand discussion list and thus is especially important that local internet users sharing that interest should be aware of it.

The List Managers are Dick Kuiper (d.kuiper@massey.ac.nz), Mark Paine (painem@agresearch.cri.nz), Roger Wilkinson (wilkinsonr@landcare.cri.nz), and Noel Bridgeman (noelb@taranaki.ac.nz).

To subscribe to Extres-L send a message containing **SUBSCRIBE extres-l** to **listserv@taranaki.ac.nz**.

JAMIE NEWEL AND NICK TAYLOR

Showing off or showing up the city?

The social impacts of major events

A paper presented at IAIA 96, the 16th Meeting of the International Association for Impact Assessment, Lisbon, Portugal, 17-22 June, 1996 and reprinted in SIAN with the permission of the author.

Around the world urban areas (sometimes nations) are using big events to try to regenerate and promote particular places. It sometimes seems that there is scarcely a city that is not claiming loudly that it is hosting, about to host or just bidding for the event that will make the eyes of the world shine upon it, the feet of the world itch to visit it and the cash of the world pour forth to rejuvenate it. (Moorhouse 1991: 822)

Events present special challenges for social impact assessment (SIA). The larger events typically have wide ranging impacts over space and time. Procedures for their assessment tend to be ad hoc or even vague and uncertain. Rarely are the events themselves captured in legislated environmental impact assessment (EIA) provisions. Institutional

responsibilities are sometimes unclear, multiple and even contested. Some impacts associated with hallmark events are both difficult to analyse as well as to mitigate.

Many of the impacts of hallmark events are cumulative impacts which present added problems for the impact assessment of large events. Especially for events with long lead times, such as Olympic Games, the nature and dimensions of the event may change significantly over time, further complicating effective impact assessment and management.

This paper will firstly define the term hallmark event and capture some of the dimensions that impact assessment must address. The motivations behind staging events-showing off the city-will be examined, with examples drawn from recent events. Events have impacts and often negative ones. These impacts frequently show up the city rather than show it off. Some of the common and not so common impacts of events will be briefly discussed. Finally, the social impact assessment of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games will be analysed and some critical lessons for the assessment of

similar large scale events will be highlighted.

What are hallmark events?

In the tourism literature, such big events, as described by Moorhouse in the quotation above, have been termed hallmark events. The most quoted definition of hallmark event is Ritchie (1984: 2):

Major one-time or recurring events of limited duration, developed primarily to enhance the awareness, appeal and profitability of a tourism destination in the short and/or long term. Such events rely for their success on uniqueness, status, or timely significance to create interest and attract attention.

This definition emphasises the role of hallmark events in promoting and developing a city's or a region's tourist image or tourist market. Ritchie

(1984: 4-10) analyses the effects of these events in terms of economic, tourism/commercial, physical, socio-cultural, psychological, and political impacts. Hall (1989: 4) reiterates this concept of the hallmark event, emphasising that its primary function is 'to provide the host community with an opportunity to secure a position of prominence in the tourism market for a short, well defined, period of time'.

The hallmark event is thus more than a mere sporting event or cultural festival, it is an instrument of economic development. Figure 1 shows the main features of hallmark events. The larger scale hallmark events (such as Olympic Games, Expos, Formula One races, historic milestone celebrations) have significant environmental and social impacts and can often condition changes in the development of urban areas, especially inner cities.

Figure 1: Impact model of hallmark events

Organisational features:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• establishment of dedicated event organising authorities by government;• components of the event, such as venue construction, may be private/public sector partnerships, though some events are solely private sector organised and funded;• special enabling legislation may be enacted.
Tourism impact:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a focus on national and international tourist markets;• high visitor numbers, both attracted to the event itself and to the general promotion of the destination.
Financial impact:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• possible major national, state or municipal financial involvement;• high expenditure on staging the event (including construction of venues) and by the visitors themselves.
Environmental and social impact:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a wide range of environmental, social and economic impacts that may not be confined to the specific duration of the event or the physical environs of staging sites;• impacts may be cumulative in nature and difficult to quantify or to assign precise cause and effect;• these wider impacts may be positive and/or negative on the host communities.
Special impacts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• there is a major psychological emphasis, which may take the form of city boosterism, increase in civic or national pride, or merely a 'must see' promotion;• host population attitudes (positive, negative, neutral, conflicting) to the event may be a significant component of the event's success.
Time dimension:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• major impacts may occur well before to well after the event (possibly up to 5 years each side).

Source: author, work in progress.

Motivations behind hallmark events – showing off the city

Usually the motivation to stage hallmark events is framed in terms of local, regional or national tourism development (Frisby & Getz 1989: 7; Hall 1992: 17; Ritchie 1984: 5). This is considered either in terms of increasing tourist numbers, tourism industry profitability, or destination promotion and awareness.

However, increasingly hallmark events, especially the larger events, are sought in order to boost a city's broader international status, promote investment or to accelerate urban redevelopment (Hall 1992: 17).

Hallmark events provide an opportunity to 'show off' the city for a variety of economic, political and status reasons-motivations that exceed the simple chase for the tourist dollar. This is even more so for the global or world city. However, many hallmark events do not take place in world cities.

Out of the five final contenders for the 2000 Olympic Games, only Sydney and Berlin could be designated as world cities. Possibly, the lure of a hallmark event for the non-global city is partly the fame of world city status for albeit a short period of time.

One quality that surrounds the promoters of hallmark events, be they governments or private organisations, is enthusiasm. The benefits, particularly economic and status enhancement, are regarded as too alluring to dismiss. This enthusiasm tends to the hyperbolic with events like the Olympics; the most prominent example being the nationalist fervour surrounding the 1936 Olympics in Berlin.

Opposition to hallmark events is often labelled unpatriotic by event organisers and host governments alike. This political backdrop can make the task of dispassionate impact assessment especially difficult. This is even more the case if formal or informal impact assessment occurs during the bidding phase for events such as Olympic Games.

The impacts of hallmark events — showing up the city

Major events, such as the Olympics and international sporting competitions, have often been the site of political demonstrations or protests (Hall 1992:94-6). The most dramatic recently were the protests surrounding the Berlin Bid for the 2000 Olympics. This campaign largely targeted the likely housing impacts of the event and the need to direct investment into the pressing infrastructure

problems facing that city. Hallmark events have a repeated tendency to show the bad sides of cities, as well as having a range of negative effects in themselves. Too often with the staging of hallmark events, showing off the city results in 'showing up' the city.

In some instances, the showing up of the city can be spectacular. For instance, the Mexico City Olympics in 1968 were designed to show Mexico as part of the first world; however, the violence surrounding the event and the army presence told a different story. Montreal's massive debt post the 1976 Olympics revealed a city overwhelmed by union troubles, construction delays and spectres of corruption (Sudjic 1992: 237).

Barcelona's high-handed treatment of prostitutes and the homeless made press headlines around the world during the 1992 Olympics (Winnipeg Sun, 5 June 1992; Journal de Genève et Gazette de Lausanne, 11 July 1992), a situation which is feared to recur during the Atlanta Olympics this year (Atlanta Task Force For The Homeless 1993: 20).

The impacts of hallmark events are not confined to the spectacular or headline grabbing. They span the full spectrum of environmental, social, economic and political impacts. They also can occur well before to well after the event. For example, new house prices in Barcelona rose by 250% between the Olympic announcement in 1986 and the actual event in 1992, a spectacular rise by domestic standards (Barreiro et al 1993:34). In terms of after effects, Olympic debts can skew city finances more than a decade later.

Roulac (1993:18) comments that Olympic Games do not automatically bestow favourable publicity or economic prosperity. He asserts that with these events both 'positive and negative aspects about a region are showcased and magnified'.

Figure 2 selects some of the observed or predicted impacts of recent hallmark events. Many of the impacts associated with wider processes of urban change that hallmark events engender may be categorised as cumulative impacts.

The table also lists the varied forms of impact assessment conducted. It demonstrates the diversity of impacts emanating from hallmark events and also the lack of standardised procedures for assessing such impacts. The real value (and the damage) of such events for cities is quite unpredictable. Ultimately, these impacts show up a city's ability to manage the extremes of everyday existence when placed under pressure by a major

Olympic debts can skew city finances more than a decade later

Figure 2: Social impacts of recent hallmark events

Event and location	Type of SIA conducted	Type of impact predicted or observed
Olympic Games Los Angeles, USA July – August 1984	Community economic impact assessment prior to the event.	Predicted traffic congestion impacts did not occur.
Grand Prix Adelaide, South Australia November 1985	Economic impact assessment within a broader post-event impact study.	Increased traffic accidents due to mimicking behaviour. Noise and decrease in amenity around location of track. Anti-social behaviour and vandalism.
America's Cup Fremantle, Western Australia October 1986 – February 1987	Standard SIA prior to the event by Fremantle City Council, a housing impact study, resident attitudinal surveys, and post-event impact assessment.	Loss of low income housing, especially boarding houses. Consumer price increases. Positive enhancements to the city through urban improvements.
Australian Bicentennial Sydney, New South Wales Milestone was 26 Jan. 1988; events throughout 1988.	No SIA; limited monitoring of housing impacts by local groups.	Loss of low income housing. Conversions of boarding houses to tourist accommodation.
World Expo Brisbane, Queensland April – October 1988	Community initiated impact assessment by local groups. Federal government sponsored post-event impact assessment.	Loss of low income housing and escalation in rents. Evictions for redevelopment of exhibition site.
Winter Olympics Calgary, Canada February 1988	Limited SIA prepared by the City of Calgary. Economic impact assessment prior to the event. Comprehensive series of resident attitudinal surveys from 1983–88.	Increased tourism. Enhanced status for local industry and local economic benefits. Long term community benefit from Olympic facilities.
Olympic Games Seoul, Korea July 1988	Tourism industry attitudinal survey, encompassing wider economic, political and social issues.	Enhanced tourism destination status and promotion of distinctive Korean cultural identity. Beautification' schemes resulted in evictions in poor neighbourhoods.
Olympic Games Barcelona, Spain July – August 1992	Strategic approach to SIA, due to context of extensive urban redevelopment and infrastructure programs. Economic impact assessment prior to the event. Post-event impact studies by Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.	Land price escalation. Large rent increases for commercial and residential property. Gentrification of working class neighbourhoods. Large scale urban redevelopment and infrastructure works. Harassment of homeless persons and street sex workers during Games. Out-migration of youth and disadvantaged groups.
Winter Olympics Lillehammer, Norway January - February 1994	Project Environment-Friendly Olympics formed by local and national environment groups as a direct response to threats of environmental degradation.	House price rises. Road and public transport improvements. Environmental enhancements. No increase in crime.
Olympic Games Atlanta, USA July – August 1996	The city sponsored a profile of the 'six Olympic impact neighbourhoods' and developed an economic development plan. Community impact assessment by local housing groups. Investigations by expert professional panels.	New city ordinances enacted which compromised the civil rights of homeless persons. Demolition of public housing for Olympic Village. Accelerated gentrification of African-American neighbourhoods.

Source: author, work in progress.

event.

Social impact assessment of the Sydney 2000 Olympics

In Monte Carlo, on 23 September 1993, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced Sydney as the successful city to host the 2000 Olympic Games. Initially, the theme for the Sydney Games was to be 'The Athletes' Games' (McGeoch & Korporaal 1994:138).

However, with the involvement of Greenpeace Australia in the preliminary design of the Olympic Village, it soon became known as the 'Green Games'. This focused the public mind both on the potential of the Olympics to achieve sustainable benefits but also on the possibility of negative effects too.

The initial obligation for an SIA for the Olympics derived from the commitment made in the Environmental Guidelines, drawn up by Sydney Olympics 2000 Bid Limited's Environment Committee. This was for SIA to be conducted as part of the planning and construction of Olympic facilities (Environment Committee 1993: 3).

The guidelines were subsequently annexed to the NSW environmental planning and assessment system through the gazettal of State Environmental Planning Policy No. 38 in November 1993. However, the triggering of the so-called Preliminary Social Impact Assessment of the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games (Keys Young 1995) was essentially a political decision made outside of legislative mandates.

The scope of the SIA was far broader than the impact of specific venues and focused on the effects of the event itself. This allowed a 'clean slate' approach to be taken, permitting inclusion of issues not directly related to venue sites and also involving rural communities in the SIA process.

A framework document was produced in mid-1993 to guide the SIA process should the Sydney Bid be successful (Johnston & Deakin 1993). This was prepared by a State government agency, the Social Policy Directorate, which was responsible for the development of social policy. The Sydney Olympics SIA was viewed by the Directorate as an opportunity to promote the practice of SIA more widely for a range of public and private decision-making processes.

The framework document strongly advocated a participatory issues based approach and cited the work of Taylor, Bryan and Goodrich (1990) as a

model. The document also commenced the task of scoping both the range of likely impacts and also the various publics potentially affected by the Games.

A public issues paper was released in August (Keys Young 1994) to aid the public consultation process, which involved six public workshops in the metropolitan area and two in rural New South Wales. Public submissions were called for and the final report was publicly released in February 1995 (Keys Young 1995).

Some of the impact categories identified in the final report were: accommodation and housing, transport, employment and training, consumer protection, environment protection, health and

human services, security and civil liberties, sport and recreation, cultural activities and cultural diversity, disability issues, local/metropolitan/regional effects, public finances, ticketing and media coverage, and on-going information, consultation and decision-making.

The SIA report was released prior to a State election. Consequently, the

implementation framework was unresolved and the report focused on broad principles for impact management. The fate of the report's 37 detailed recommendations will be decided once the impact management framework has been established, following a reorganisation of Olympic co-ordination and venue construction responsibilities.

A number of non-government organisations took a lead role in steering the SIA and in the wider public debate surrounding the event. An economic impact study (KPMG Peat Marwick 1993) had been produced prior to the IOC decision, primarily to bolster public support for the Bid in its final stages. This asserted that the net benefit of the Games to the Australian economy would be A\$7300m and 156,200 annual new jobs.

A study commissioned by Shelter NSW, a housing lobby group, compared six hallmark events and their impacts on housing (Cox, Darcy, Bounds 1994). The comparative approach of this study underlines the value of post-event assessments in informing processes in other cities.

The Shelter study warned of potential negative effects such as rising rents, conversion of boarding houses to tourist accommodation and also harassment of the homeless during the event. Similarly, the Public Interest Advocacy Centre pointed to potential civil liberties concerns and advocated that Sydney had the opportunity to make

The legacies of hallmark events are far-reaching, going beyond the monuments or white elephants left after the last visitor leaves

the Games the 'human rights Games' (Johnston 1994:1).

Direct public consultation involved focus groups and public discussion workshops. The focus groups generally reported a positive attitude to the Games, with some concerns about ticket availability and free-to-air television.

The workshops were mainly stakeholder consultations and were more critical of likely Games impacts, particularly negative housing impacts. Intervenor funding, as practised fully during the SIA for the Toronto Bid for the 1996 Olympics, was not utilised, though the initial framework document had suggested its use during the impact management phase (Johnston & Deakin 1993: A-13).

In the Toronto case, seven groups were funded by the City Council to develop their own independent SIAs or 'intervenor reports'. These groups included the Canadian Folk Arts Council, Citizens for a Safe Environment, Women Plan Toronto, the Metro Tenants' Association and the Waterfront Coalition (Lenskyj 1993: 83-4). No intervenor report was uncritical of the Toronto Bid and two groups urged withdrawal and use of the funds for local social and environmental projects.

Recommendations and conclusion

This paper has demonstrated that hallmark events have widespread social as well as environmental impacts. For this reason, hallmark events should be captured in EIA processes and procedures. Since hallmark events are by definition public events, public involvement should be part of such SIA procedures, with the conscious aim of minimising negative impacts and sharing the benefits of the event. Due to the one-off nature of such events as well as their unpredictable impacts, retrospective impact assessment or audit is especially warranted.

For events such as Olympic Games and Expos, such retrospective assessment should form part of the international bodies' post-event reporting requirements. Such assessments would become a valuable aid in the EIA and SIA of similar events in other cities or regions. Therefore, this paper recommends the following:

Recommendation 1

That large scale events be subject to social and environmental assessment processes and procedures with public participation in the process.

Recommendation 2

That organising bodies for large scale events be required to conduct a full retrospective environmental and social assessment/audit of the

impacts of the event in order to inform future planning and assessment, in particular the International Olympic Committee should require host cities to produce such an assessment/audit along with the Official Reports of the event and that these form part of the official event archive for use by future bidding or host cities.

The legacies of hallmark events are far-reaching, going beyond the monuments or white elephants left after the last visitor leaves. Hall (1992: 82) acutely observes that SIA asks the difficult question of who benefits? As such it 'goes to the very heart of why cities host hallmark events in order to improve or rejuvenate their image and attract tourism and investment'. The theme of Sydney's Olympic bid was Share the Spirit. This could be adopted as a motto for SIA-sharing a spirit that not only addresses cultural and market disadvantages but also bequeaths beneficial legacies to future generations.

GARY COX

References

- Atlanta Task Force For The Homeless 1993. *The Criminalization of Poverty: City Ordinances Unfairly Target Homeless People For Arrest*. Available from TFFTH, 363 Georgia Ave., SE, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Barreiro, F., Costa, J., Vilanova, J. M. 1993. *Impactos Urbanísticos, Económicos y Sociales de los Juegos Olímpicos de Barcelona '92*. Barcelona: Centre d'Estudis Olímpics i de l'Esport, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.
- Cox, G., Darcy, M., & Bounds, M. 1994. *The Olympics and Housing: A Study of Six International Events and Analysis of Potential Impacts of the Sydney 2000 Olympics*. Sydney: Shelter NSW and the Housing and Urban Studies Research Group, University of Western Sydney, Macarthur.
- Environment Committee 1993. *Environmental Guidelines for the Summer Olympic Games*. Sydney: Sydney Olympics 2000 Bid Ltd.
- Frisby, W. & Getz, D. 1989. "Festival Management: A Case Study Perspective". *Journal of Travel Research* 28: 7-11.
- Hall, C. M. 1989. "Hallmark Tourist Events: Analysis, Definition, Methodology and Review" In *The Planning and Evaluation of Hallmark Events*, edited by G. J. Syme, B. J. Shaw, D. M. Fenton & W. S. Mueller. Aldershot, England: Avebury.
- Hall, C. M. 1992. *Hallmark Tourist Events: Impacts, Management and Planning*. London: Belhaven Press.

Johnston, C. F. 1994. Sydney 2000: *'The Human Rights Games' - A Submission to the New South Wales Government Preliminary Social Impact Assessment on Human Rights and Civil Liberties Issues for Sydney's Olympics and Paralympics*. Sydney: Public Interest Advocacy Centre.

Johnston, C. F. & Deakin, E. 1993. *Sydney Olympics 2000: Approaches and Issues for the Management of Social Impacts*. Sydney: Office on Social Policy, New South Wales Government Social Policy Directorate.

Journal de Genève et Gazette de Lausanne 1992. "La Prostitution au Coeur de l'Événement Olympique". 11 July.

Keys Young 1994. *Social Impact: 2000 Olympics and Paralympics – Background Information & Questions for Consultation*. Sydney: Keys Young Pty Ltd.

Keys Young, in association with KPMG Management Consulting & King, A. 1995. *Preliminary Social Impact Assessment of the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games*. Sydney: Office of Olympic Co-ordination, New South Wales Premier's Department.

KPMG Peat Marwick in association with the Centre for South Australian Economic Studies 1993. *Sydney Olympics 2000 Economic Impact Study*. Sydney: KPMG Peat Marwick Pty Ltd.

Lenskyj, H. 1993. *More Than Games: Community Involvement in Toronto's Bid for the 1996 Summer Olympics*. Toronto: Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

McGeoch, R. & Korporaal, G. 1994. *The Bid: How Australia Won the 2000 Games*. Melbourne: William Heinemann Australia.

Moorhouse, H. F. 1991. "The Planning and Evaluation of Hallmark Events: Book Reviews" *Urban Studies* 28: 822-25.

Ritchie, J. R. B. 1984. "Assessing the impact of hallmark events: Conceptual and research issues" *Journal of Travel Research* 23: 2-11.

Roulac, S. 1993. "Place Wars and the Olympic Games". *The Futurist* Nov-Dec: 18-19.

Sudjic, D. 1992. *The 100 Mile City*. London: Andre Deutsch.

Taylor, C. N., Bryan, C. H. & Goodrich, C. G. 1990. *Social Assessment: Theory, Process and Techniques*. Christchurch, New Zealand: Centre for Resource Management, Lincoln University.

Winnipeg Sun 1992. "Marching to Olympic Drum: Prostitutes, Transvestites Will Be Moved to Different Area". 5 June.

Blackboard

Australian Evaluation Society Conference 1996
 August 28-30: *Evaluation: How can it improve quality?* at VUW. Pre-conference workshops 26-27 August. Contact: Convention Management, Box 2009, Auckland.
 Tel (09) 360 1980; fax (09) 376 1980.

Sixth International Conference on Applied and Business Demography
 September 19-21 1996, in Ohio. Contact: K V Rao, Department of Sociology, Bowling Green State University, Ohio, OH 43493, USA.
 Tel (419) 372 7240; fax (419) 372 8306.
 E-mail: adconf96@bgsuvax.bgsu.edu

ASA Annual Conference
 October 18-20. Flock House (near Bulls): *Social assessment, social policy and community development — making the links*. See brochure with this newsletter.

Action Learning, Action Research and Process Management Association Conference
 October 25-26, Singapore. For information contact Jacqueline Low/Kereen Pereira, Membership Services Division, Singapore Institute of Management, Management House, 41 Namly Ave, Singapore 267616. Tel 462 9428/462 9222; fax 469 1559/468 0779.

ANU Regional Science Association Conference
 September 23-25, ANU, Canberra. Theme: *Regional Agenda with the New Federal Government*, with three streams — Regional Analysis, Regional Policy and Planning and Regional Development Practice.

Labour, Employment and Work Conference
 November 28-29, Wellington. Contact: Dr Philip Morrison, Geography Department, VUW. Tel (04) 472 1000. E-mail Philip.Morrison@vuw.ac.nz

Sociology Conference
 November 29 – December 1 1996, at Victoria University, Wellington: *Putting Sociology to Work*. Contact Kevin.Dew@vuw.ac.nz, telephone (04) 472 1000 or fax (04) 495 5041.
 E-mail Allison.Kirkman@vuw.ac.nz

Institute of Australian Geographers and New Zealand Geographic Society Joint Conference
 January 28-31 1997: *Islands, Culture, Economy and Environment*. Contact Les Wood, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Tasmania, GPO Box 252C, Hobart,

7001, Tasmania, Australia. Tel 61 (02) 202489; fax (02) 202-989; e-mail IAG97@geog.utas.edu.au

IAIA '97: 17th Annual Meeting

28-31 May 1997, New Orleans, USA: *Reflections on water: learning from history and assessing the future*. For information contact Rita Hamm, fax 1 701 231 1007. IAIA Executive Office, NDSU-IBID, Hastings Hall, P O Box 5256, Fargo, ND, USA.

DON'T FORGET!
Register early for the
ASA CONFERENCE

Publications

Recent social research on migrants and poverty, summarised by Wayne McClintock

A study of migrant women in Christchurch

Recently 24 members of the Society for Research on Women (SROW) met with 50 migrant women living in Christchurch to discuss their experience of immigrating to New Zealand. The women were mainly in their 30s and 40s and came from 20 countries.

Several topics were discussed with the women in eleven group interviews: their perceptions of New Zealand and the reality on arrival, the advantages and disadvantages of life here, their participation in local activities, practical problems, the education system, and any changes in role compared with their country of origin. The major findings of the study are summarised below.

Perceptions and reality on arrival

Prior to their arrival most women viewed New Zealand as a beautiful country with friendly people and a good public education system. None of them had been forewarned about the cold winters, the high cost of advanced education, the shortage of jobs, or that language barriers would make settlement here difficult. Most migrant women experienced culture shock and discovered the reality of life in New Zealand did not match the attractive image that drew them here.

Advantages and disadvantages of living in New Zealand

Nearly all of the women commented positively on some feature of the quality of life in New Zealand. The features they valued were the peaceful environment, the space, the clean air, the lack of crowding in the cities, and the opportunities for children. Furthermore, some of them appreciated the freedom they had to control their own lives.

The greatest disadvantage these migrant women experienced, however, was their difficulties with communicating in English. Some said they were too embarrassed to ask New Zealand speakers to slow down, and several felt they were ignored because they lacked fluency in English. They also expressed concern about the misleading nature of the government's immigration policy and hostility from sections of the community towards migrants. Several women, for example, reported that their children were verbally abused and bullied by local children.

Participation in local activities

Most women wanted to participate in local activities, although many of them had difficulties making friends with New Zealanders. They cited several barriers to forming these relationships including limited language fluency; the busy character of New Zealand life; a lack of information about local customs (e.g. hospitality) and facilities; and the major interest New Zealand women have in sport which women from other countries have had no opportunity to develop. Many migrant women had found the churches supportive, while others noted that activities associated with their children's school provided opportunities to meet New Zealanders.

Practical problems

The main practical difficulties experienced by the migrant women were obtaining their preferred ethnic food, finding suitable clothing, and the driving practices of New Zealand motorists.

Education system

Before their arrival in New Zealand many migrant women heard that the country had a good education system. For many families it was a major factor influencing their decision to migrate here. The great majority were satisfied with the type of education available in NZ. They commented that it was less pressured and broader than the systems existing in their countries of origin.

Their children had greater opportunities for cultural interests and enjoyed school more in New

Zealand. Some women, however, maintained that New Zealand teachers are too permissive and that many local children are badly behaved. Others would like a more structured approach to education in New Zealand with stricter rules.

Changes in role

The roles of these women in their countries of origin differed markedly. Women from several countries, however, were more subject to the authority of their husbands and extended family than is the case for New Zealand women. Some migrant women noted that coming to this country has given them a greater degree of freedom from the expectations of their extended family. Most of them view New Zealand women as very independent and New Zealand men as more likely than their own menfolk to perform household tasks.

Copies of the eleven page summary of the study, or further information, may be obtained from Margaret Sweet, the President of the Society for Research on Women (Christchurch Branch) at 29B Hamilton Ave, Christchurch 4 (phone 03 351 5607).

Other new publications

Barry Sadler (1996) *Environmental assessment in a changing world: evaluating practice to improve performance* Final Report, International study of the effectiveness of environmental assessment, Canadian Environmental Assessment agency and The International Association for Impact Assessment.

Power and Politics in Provincial NZ: a test of the growth machine theory Jill N McPherson (Charles Crothers Ed) 1996, University of Auckland, Department of Sociology, Working papers on Sociology No 229.

The New Zealand Poverty Measurement Project

The New Zealand Poverty Measurement Project is funded by the Foundation for Research Science and Technology. It is a multi-disciplinary project led by Charles Waldegrave of the Social Policy Research Unit of the Family Centre in Lower Hutt, Bob Stephens of the Public Policy Group at Victoria University, and Paul Frater of Business Economic Research Ltd, Wellington.

The study indicates the extent of poverty in New Zealand up to 1993, and analyses the effects of the major social policy changes in 1991.

Method

The research team used a focused group methodology to establish a poverty line for the minimum adequate household expenditure. They consulted with groups of low income householders about their current experiences and estimates of minimum adequate survival costs to calculate the poverty line. Then they compared those results with the household expenditure and income data of the Household Economic Survey of Statistics New Zealand.

Summary of major findings

Waldegrave and his colleagues established their poverty threshold at 60 per cent of the median, equivalent, household, disposable income. Although they calculated the poverty threshold both before and after housing costs, the results presented below are on the basis that housing costs have been taken into account.

Some of the major findings of the study are:

- About a fifth (18.5 per cent) of households in New Zealand are below the poverty threshold.
- Housing costs are the largest single cause of poverty.
- Single parent households with children are the largest household type living in poverty. Seventy-three per cent of this household type are below the threshold and they constitute 21 per cent of those who are poor.
- The incidence of poverty is more than 3 times greater among Pacific Island families, and more than 2 times greater among Maori families, than it is amongst Pakeha families.
- Pakeha households are two-thirds of all households below the poverty line.
- About two-thirds (64 per cent) of families residing in Housing New Zealand dwellings are below the poverty threshold.

Other publications

The above summary is based on a press release "Most Recent Findings in the New Zealand Poverty Measurement Project" which was distributed by the research team in April. Other publications about their poverty measurement project include:

Stephens R., Waldegrave C., and Frater P (1995) 'Measuring Poverty in New Zealand' *Social Policy Journal of New Zealand*. Issue 5, December.

Waldegrave C. and Frater P (1996) 'New Zealand: A Search for a National Poverty Line' in Oyen E., Miller S., and Samad S. (eds). *Poverty, A*

Global Review: Handbook on International Poverty Research Scandinavian University Press, Oslo.

Further information and copies of the above publications may be obtained from:

Reverend Charles Waldegrave
The Family Centre
Box 31050
LOWER HUTT
Phone (04) 569 7112, fax (04) 569 7323.

Incorrect e-mail address

In the last issue of SIAN there was an article by Dianne Buchan about involving communities in conservation initiatives.

At the end of the article an e-mail address was provided for anybody wanting to ask for a copy of the IUCN Manual. The editor apologies — the e-mail address was incorrect and should be: gbf@hq.iucn.ch

Regional meetings

Canterbury Branch of the ASA

Some interest has been shown in the local meetings of Canterbury ASA members. We get together for a combination of professional development and general networking five or six times each year.

This year has been particularly successful, combining an accessible and comfortable venue (provided by the Fendalton Service Centre) with a topic which everyone is interested in — participatory development.

Our usual format has been to have a speaker in for an hour or two, then follow up with a business meeting/networking meeting where we talk about our current projects and plan the next session. This is usually attended by fewer people, so we have decided to rise from the tea and biscuits in the office scenario and now go to a local bar/cafe.

We have a mailing list of about 50 people, which includes private consultants, local government staff, academics, and people with a general interest in social assessment. We may get from eight to 18 people along, depending on the timing and topic under discussion.

The notice for each meeting includes a summary of the last one, and I include the last two summaries, to give people an idea of what is achievable — with much less effort than a formal training session would require. Having a coherent theme for our speakers seems to be working well.

Meeting 3 May 1996

Public participation and the planning process

Chris Kerr, Asset Planning Manager, and Rex Harrison, Senior Corporate Analyst, Christchurch City Council and Bronwyn Hayward, Lecturer in Public Policy, Lincoln University

Chris Kerr spoke first, outlining the Christchurch

City Council's problems in soliciting public input into planning for service provision. The Council is legally required to publish an annual plan and analyse submissions from the public relating to it. However, the 300 – 400 submissions received tend to react to aspects of the plan which specific individuals dislike and do not represent the general public.

To broaden public input, a series of focus groups were run by a consultant. These presented a series of service options and sought general feedback. Ten groups, each homogenous but reflecting differences in age, gender, and socioeconomic status within the city were held. This series was followed by a statistical survey.

Useful feedback on the options was received from the groups (including general satisfaction with the Council's performance), but trade-offs were not discussed (eg would people sacrifice some footpath care for more street lighting). Members of the focus groups were approached individually and asked to run a computer programme which would provide a conjoint analysis of the options, ie it would assist them to rank the options and specify which items they would be most prepared to trade.

Participants enjoyed both processes, and came up with a set of themes which challenged Councillors' traditional understandings of ratepayer preferences. Rex Harrison introduced the formal consultation processes carried out by the Council every year, and the annual survey of ratepayer satisfaction. The resulting discussion noted the need to gather information from many sources, given that no single process was likely to fully reflect ratepayer interests. The possibility that people might hold more than one point of view, eg as consumers and as political actors was mooted.

But perhaps even more importantly, discussion noted the difficulties in moving from the practical problem solving approach characteristic of this exercise (does the Council spend more on street lighting and less on curbs and channels), to look at underlying values and preferences for the types of urban environments in which people want to live.

Bronwyn Hayward tailored her presentation around the points raised in the previous discussion. She introduced the group to a number of theorists working on issues around raising public participation, particularly John Dryzek and Iris Young. At the central and local government level, citizens of democratic systems are seeking more commitment than just voting, but we lack adequate means of conceptualising this process. Consultation can be used as a form of legitimisation of government processes or more actively encourage direct involvement.

Bronwyn reminded us that consultation may lead to educational processes, which create debate and encourage people to reason rather than directly involve people in decision-making and that this is a valid approach so long as this goal is clear. Attempts to promote consensus can in fact polarise people just by presenting options to them.

We should also accept that seeking consensus may not be desirable given that people differ in their ability to put forward their cases (personal resources and ability to communicate vary). Will people act on communal or individual interests during consultation?

Procedural justice may be more important than actual outcomes. The nature of the options put to people will also affect participation — these may be extremely narrow, hiding several higher levels of decision-making which are not negotiable.

Again discussion revolved around the problems with existing methods of inviting participation — do we use our current range of face to face methods because they are the best, or because we are familiar with them? How do you cope with the changes in people's priorities given we live in a constantly changing context? How many examples of successful consultation processes actually exist? How do you move from specifics to encouraging people to develop and express values?

Meeting 7 June 1996

Experiences with the recent Christchurch City Charrette, "Shaping your Christchurch" and other charrettes.

Di Lucas, Landscape Planner, Lucas and Associates

Di Lucas began her presentation by commenting that people who have entrenched opposing positions often do not realise how much common ground they also hold. She also enlightened us as to the source of the word charrette, now used for on-going participatory landscape planning processes, by referring us back to French artists who finished their work while it was taken by barrow to then be judged by the Academy.

Di's first experience of the charrette process was in Kingston. This community was divided over various issues and she was specifically invited to run a process which would help people agree on a community landscape plan. Thirty-five people from this small community spent a morning together discussing what they wanted and by the afternoon had found the common ground needed to put together a plan. The process of discussion also showed up those ideas which did not fit in with the majority view and these were abandoned.

Since Di's first experience of the charrette process in Kingston, she has facilitated several charrettes, involving communities of varying sizes. The things they have in common are the enthusiasm shown by local communities and the quality of the brainstorming in a short time. Much more progress can be made if the right atmosphere can be created — a plan is put together by the community — they do not just review a finished plan. Spontaneity is important.

Di has also made sure a professional team is available to put the plan on paper quickly so that people can see what was achieved and comment on it while ideas are fresh. For example, in Arrowtown, where 80 people attended a weekend charrette, a team of six was able to produce a draft plan on the Monday, which was checked by participants, then ratified by the next council meeting.

The plan produced by the charrette may have no formal status in the council's planning round, but it provides councils with a useful form of feedback. The plan will not necessarily be expensive to implement. A meeting with the Sumner community confirmed that they wanted to maintain a casual and comfortable atmosphere and preferred not to see their suburb "smartened up." Ideas which achieve both council goals (eg intensification of housing) and community goals (eg preservation of the local character) may come out of brainstorming sessions.

Councils may be involved in funding the process itself, but communities themselves have often paid for the process and may wish to do this to keep control of their ideas. In this way the process cannot become a rubber stamping or tinkering with ideas already put together by council staff.

Although spontaneous discussion is the goal, this does not occur without considerable advance organisation. It is important to invite the whole community and flyer, posters and radio advertising are used. Council staff are consulted so that base information is available on the day and council staff may also attend. Lots of visual material is used during the charrette.

During the charrette people are divided up into small groups to work on themes the whole group has set at the beginning of the day. A loose agenda was set and publicised in advance for Christchurch's three day charrette so that people could attend a session of interest but this is not needed for shorter ones. Drop boxes etc can pick up ideas which germinate after the charrette is over. Revisiting the plan annually might keep the goals in view as well as making a place for new ones.

There was a great deal of discussion on the extent to which those attending represented their communities and how important this was. It is possible the same sorts of people make submissions and attend charrettes, and it is just as difficult to check what those who do not attend think - specific tactics are need for groups such as children or the elderly.

The comment was made that "capture" which may be a problem sometimes, at least leads to ownership. Although many members of a community do not attend this does not necessarily mean that their views have suppressed. It is possible that the charrette process can polarise a community as they deal with issues not yet publicly debated but then this can be handled in a constructive atmosphere.

Commercial interests may not attend charrettes, but they have shown considerable interest in the results. The plans have sensitised people to what they want in their communities and made them more vocal about dealing with proposals which go against their goals — whether initiated by council or private interests. A council is not obliged to take notice of such plans, but is unlikely to ignore them completely.

SIAN is compiled and published by members of the Association for Social Assessment (Inc.) and distributed **free** to SIA Network members.

Its aim is to encourage **contact** and **sharing** of information between all those interested in social assessment in New Zealand. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of their various employers or the Association.