

Updating, informing, and connecting
PMINZ Central Branch members

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photo courtesy T.Cotter

PMINZ Central Branch Newsletter October 2017

Kia ora <<First Name>>

This year's New Zealand Project Management Conference was one of the best in recent memory – and I am merely echoing sentiments of all those who attended. It was all-inclusive with 60 tertiary students attending a free informative workshop on the Wednesday, and six lucky students sponsored to attend the rest of the conference.

I had interesting conversations at both personal and PMI levels with the Vice Chair of the PMI Global Board, PMI delegates from Australia and Asia-Pacific, New Zealand business and public leaders, and peers alike.

A lot of changes are afoot with PMI spearheading an active campaign to engage and elevate PM maturity in the private and public sectors in response to project failure reports locally and globally. I hope to provide more information

on this topic in the upcoming months.

Speaker after speaker shared invaluable advice about how to deal with sticky situations to developments and changes in the project management sphere. The message was quite clear – we all need to re-tool ourselves with all forms of project-related methodologies, tools, technical and soft skills. This shall make us all indispensable assets in any situation requiring a PM solution – all you have to do is pull the right tool from your bag and voila! Fixed!

These are my observations and take-aways from the conference. If you attended – what were yours? [Share yours with other members on the PMINZ LinkedIn.](#)

Kosam Nyamdela, Chair, Central Branch

Mentoring Programme

Mentoring is a long-term relationship that meets a development need, helps develop full potential, and benefits all partners: the mentor, the mentee and the organisation."

Suzanne Faure

Mentoring offers benefits to both mentees and mentors.

It:

- allows participants to grow professionally;
- provides a framework for participants to share the wealth of their knowledge and experience with each other;
- creates an environment for employees to develop their professional skills in project, programme and portfolio management;
- provides members with the opportunity to build their networks and improve their networking and communication skills.

Our PMINZ mentors have participated in mentor training or have had previous experience mentoring. PMI provides training for new mentors.

If you would like to find out more about the Mentoring Programme, or becoming a mentor or being mentored, please contact [Ian or Jane, Central Branch Mentor Coordinators.](#)

Meet the mentors



Ramesh Parmar MSc, PMP, has been mentoring business analysts and project managers for several years for PMINZ and through his work. Knowing that the mentees have taken actions to address the challenges they face at work and in their personal lives has given him immense satisfaction.

Ramesh has experience working in a range of sectors, for example, IT, manufacturing, education, sales and marketing, and government.



Alan Grant is the Portfolio Assurance and Reporting Manager, Immigration at the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE).

He has around 20 years' experience in project, programme and portfolio management. Alan is happy to support project or programme managers self-improve around a range of project management disciplines including; stakeholder management, communications, project team performance, governance and other areas of project practice.

He has been a PMINZ mentor four times, supporting a diverse range of previous participants.

Support your branch events

Take part in the October professional development and networking event in your area this month.

[Register for the Palmerston North panel discussion event.](#)

[Register for the Wellington presentation focussing on networking.](#)

Registering before the event helps us to confirm seating arrangements and catering orders. We also let the presenters know how many people they will be presenting to. We also prepare the PMINZ name badges for those who register online.

Unfortunately, this year, Wellington has had a very high rate of people registering for the event but then not turning up (on average about 20 people each month). If you register for the Wellington event and can't make it on the day, please let Steve know by emailing him at central.meetings@pmi.org.nz

Many thanks

Central Branch – the home of great volunteers

At last week's Project Management Conference, four Central Branch members were recognised for their contributions to the New Zealand Chapter of PMI. These people, as with all the PMI volunteers, carry out PMINZ work on top of their full time job and family commitments. Many of them volunteer for other organisations as well.

Nice one you guys! We sure do appreciate what you do for PMI and for the Central Branch!

Kosam Nyamdela, the Central Branch Chair, Wellington, was awarded the President's Award for 2017 for leading the constitution review and his commitment and drive to develop the Central Branch.

Sarndra Flay, from Wellington, was also awarded the President's Award for 2017 for her contribution to the annual awards process and the Project Management Conference over the last three years.

Two volunteers, Tania Cotter, Wellington, and Michael Hawker, Palmerston North, were finalists for the Volunteer of the Year Award.

- Michael has been the Manawatu-Whanganui sub-branch Certification Preparation Network programme facilitator since 2015. He runs two study groups each semester, one in Palmerston North and the other usually in Feilding, but this semester, in Levin. He developed the training materials and provides one-on-one assistance and coaching, resulting in increased certification holders and membership. Michael has identified and visited many local employers, encouraging certification participation and PMI membership. His candidate pass rate for PMI exams has been approximately 85%. He is also actively engaged with the wider sub-branch activities. The judges said: "*An asset to keep engaged*" and "*On reading his nomination, you*

think: "This guy is a keeper – look after him".

- Tania is the National Portfolio Lead for PMINZ Communications, and the Central Branch Communications Coordinator. Amongst her many other achievements Tania has developed a communications calendar and implementation plan, created the PMINZ Style Guide, and designed the new templates for all email communications. Tania writes the monthly Chapter and Central Branch newsletters, and the quarterly Volunteer newsletters, oversees the website activity and reviews the other region's email invitations. Tania is focused on identifying and communicating member benefits. The judges said: "*Again numerous contributions and numerous nominations shows the quality of the candidate and the appreciation for her contribution by her peers.*" and "*Communication is pivotal and Tania is an asset to PMINZ in getting the Chapter's messaging out to the Chapter and externally.*"

If you want to be part of a winning group of members who like to see change and improvement, and who like making things happen for others, [contact Kosam](#). We are always looking out for like-minded people to join the Central Branch Champions.



Have you completed the PMINZ Member Insights Survey yet?



Tell us what you think of our communications, the benefits PMINZ offers, what professional development you're interested in, if you want to use the PMINZ social media channels, and much, much more.

The survey will close at the end of October. So, if you are one of the 95% of our members who hasn't taken the survey yet – do it now. It's anonymous and it will take less than five minutes.

[Start the survey now](#)

No news fix next month

As no one offered to write the November Central Branch newsletter, there won't be another Central newsletter until early December.

We'd love some contributions! [Send them to the Communications Coordinator](#).



Thanks [The Grand](#) for providing free venue and AV facilities for our Central Branch member meetings.



Thanks [BECA](#) for your generous support and for providing the CPN meeting venue.



Thanks [Spark](#) for providing the venue for the Central Branch Committee meetings.

We are grateful for their support and encourage you to support, and use their services, where you can. If your business would like to find out about sponsorship opportunities, [contact Kosam, Central Branch Chair](#)

This newsletter was developed by PMINZ Central Branch for its members. We'd love your feedback and contributions to keep this relevant and interesting our readers.

If you wish to get in touch with the editor, please email central.comms@pmi.org.nz

[If you missed last month's newsletter, you can read it here.](#)

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