



## **AUSROCKS NEWSLETTER No 14 Spring 2013**

### **Welcome....**

to the Ausrocks Spring Newsletter. All of us at Ausrocks have been very busy over the past few months with a range of interesting projects, varying from quarrying investigations all over Queensland to underground trucking studies.

As well as this, the Ausrocks company structure and that of our Associates has changed with a special new addition to our workforce and our Associate Dianne Hayes forming the Roadpro Group for development and consulting.

Ausrocks is absolutely delighted to welcome our Senior Town Planner Wendy Wood on board as an Associate. We have worked with Wendy for the last three years on a number of projects and we value her commitment and efficiency - Wendy is an important part of the Ausrocks team. Wendy's interests include her family and a lifetime interest in hockey which she still plays with her daughter. Wendy is located at Buderim and will travel to our Sumner Park office as required. If you require to contact Wendy in regard to planning advice, her details are:

[wendy.wood@ausrocks.com.au](mailto:wendy.wood@ausrocks.com.au) Mob 0418 405 006

Regards,

**Alan Robertson, Director** Mob 0402 445 418

### **Ausrocks Goes Mobile**

Here at Ausrocks we have recently completed upgrades to our IT infrastructure that enables our staff to access our server remotely, which allows delivery of a higher level of service to our clients. This secure VPN (Virtual Private Network) connection provides Ausrocks staff with the ability to upload project data straight to our Ausrocks server whilst on the move or on site, not only allowing instant access to data directly from site by our office staff but also ensuring our client's data security in the process.

Access to the server is able to our staff not only via laptop with 3G wireless internet, but also via tablets and smartphones which means we are always within reach of our files and project data whilst out and about.

### **2013 Underground Space Workshop**

A very successful Fourth Underground Space Workshop entitled "***Underground Space in Brisbane –Let's Get Started***" was held at the Hawken Auditorium, Engineers Australia, on 30th August 2013. The workshop, in some ways mirrored the First Underground Space Workshop held in Brisbane in 1996. In fact 4 of the original attendees, Keynote speaker Dr Ray Sterling from the USA, Dr Harry Asche, Dr Brian White and Alan Robertson were at the 2013 workshop. Organised by Alan Robertson of Ausrocks and Diane Mather of Aurecon, the workshop was attended by approximately 65 interested persons including 10 students from the School of Civil Engineering at the University of Queensland.

In his introduction to the Workshop entitled "***Underground Space in Brisbane- Let's Get Started***" the author (Alan Robertson) indicated that there is a need to incorporate underground space planning into our new Brisbane City Plan and Major Project planning. This includes the identification of precincts within Brisbane which are suitable for underground space planning in terms of geological and geotechnical domains, topography and their proximity to areas of urban expansion. The concept of an underground space commercial development below the CBD or a Major Centre allows the placement of commercial buildings underground adjacent to the major population centres as well as releasing some unwanted above ground uses to underground, thus providing more area for parks and other recreational uses. This type of project can get started very quickly, providing the planning provisions are available.

The keynote address was given by Dr Ray Sterling and was entitled "***Sustainability and Resiliency Issues for Urban Underground Space***".

More details of the workshop can be obtained from the ATS website [www.ats.org.au](http://www.ats.org.au)

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## “Clever Innovation in the Mining and Quarrying Industry”

### Young Members Visit Quarries in Hong Kong and China

In early August 2013 Carl Morandy from Ausrocks, along with 8 other Institute of Quarrying Australia (IQA) young members from around the country embarked on a study tour that took them through Hong Kong and China. Along the way they saw a multitude of quarries ranging from the downright dangerous (private extraction pits in China) through to the best practice rehabilitation techniques employed at quarries in Hong Kong.

A highlight of the trip included travelling through some of the rural areas of China where the clash between traditional culture meeting the rapid growth of new cities is most apparent. The photo below was taken near Huidong where ‘hand tilled’ fields are being overtaken by a sea of skyscrapers.



Another awe inspiring event was visiting the Taisheng Quarry, where granite is extracted at a rate of 1.8 Million tonnes per month which is at least 5 times larger than any quarry on the east coast of Australia. Below is a photo of the group at Taisheng Quarry - not a bad view.



The trip lasted 12 days and ended with a few days to take in the local sights and sounds in Hong Kong. From all accounts the trip was a great success with all participants gaining a valuable insight into quarrying in Asia. The trip was heavily supported by the IQA and individual employers as well as the Hong Kong branch of the Institute of Quarrying. Participants would especially like to thank HM Chan and David Hogan for their management of the study tour. The next trip is scheduled for South Africa in 2014.

### More Interesting signs



The sign above has been sent in by our Associate Traffic Consultant, Dianne Hayes of the Roadpro Group (formerly Hayes Traffic Engineering).



The above sign is just a reminder to all about what contribution you can make towards Risk Management in relation to the oncoming bushfire season.

If you have a funny sign, please send to:

[Alan.Robertson@ausrocks.com.au](mailto:Alan.Robertson@ausrocks.com.au)

### **RoadPro Group makes Inroads**

Dianne Hayes is pleased to announce the expansion of her business to form the RoadPro Group, comprising of RoadPro Development (previously Hayes Traffic Engineering) and RoadPro Consulting. We have worked with Dianne on the traffic aspects of over 10 Quarry Development Applications during the past three years.

The very experienced Roadpro team of five can provide services involving Traffic Engineering, Road Safety Engineering, Active Transport Engineering, Road Safety Design and Stakeholder Management and Community Engagement for road planning, design and construction projects.

**Ausrocks – proud sponsors of the ATS Golf Day for the RBWH on Friday 11 October 2013.**