

# March 2019 NZGA Newsletter



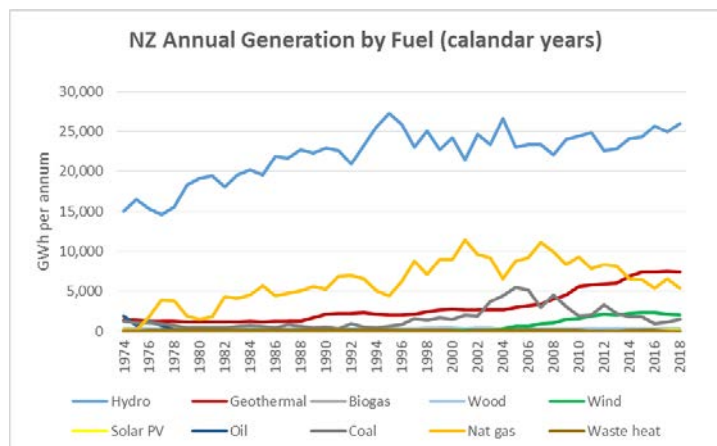
## WHATS BEEN HAPPENING

This newsletter brings another acknowledgement of the passing of an influential figure in New Zealand's geothermal community. Brian Hauauru Jones, one of the founding members of the Tuaropaki Trust, NZGA president from 1994 to 1996 and board member from 1996 to 2004, passed away on 24 August 2018. A memorial for his passing was held on [6 April 2019 at 11:00am](#) at Te Tokanga-Nui-a-Noho Marae, Te Kuiti. Brian was a quiet achiever, always very modest and gentlemanly, but he certainly had a lot of mana.

## INDUSTRY UPDATES

### Geothermal Power Generation in 2018

The [latest statistics](#) from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) show geothermal generation fell slightly (1%) during calendar 2018 from 7,459 GWh in 2017 to 7,377 GWh in 2018. Geothermal remained the second largest power technology representing 17% of total generation. Total renewable generation rose from 81.9% to 83.9% of total generation.



### Top Energy: Geothermal expansion to cut line costs to Northland

The \$300 million expansion of geothermal development in Ngawha will enable Top Energy to slash electricity costs to Northland's 64,000 residents. The [32-Megawatt generator near Kaikohe](#) is on track to be commissioned in October 2020.



### Top Energy: Chief Executive – a very fine Fellow.

Top Energy Chief Executive Russell Shaw has been recognised for his work in the field of engineering and achievement of outstanding results. Over the last decade he has been set on improving the reliability and resilience of the electricity network. On Friday March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019, he became an [Engineering New Zealand Fellow](#).

## OTHER NEWS:

### [Electromagnetic survey in lakes to build picture of underground heat.](#)

GNS Science and Bay of Plenty Regional Council are undertaking a [novel electromagnetic survey](#) of lakes in the Rotorua region, which will help scientists build a more complete picture of geothermal resources and volcanic hazards in the Bay of Plenty.



### [Ngawha Innovation Park gets funding for Feasibility study](#)

Backers of an [innovation and enterprise park](#) proposed near Kaikohe will receive \$890,000 from Provincial Growth Fund to test feasibility of the concept. The proposal is to test whether the geothermal resource can be used to develop higher-value product lines from existing businesses in the region.

### [Geothermal Milk Plant nearing completion](#)

New Zealand's [second Maori-owned dairy plant](#) project is on track to start producing in July 2019. The Kawerau Dairy will process up to 30 million litres of milk in its first year, using geothermal energy. The venture will focus on the people, land, and customers, giving the Kawerau dairy a point of difference.



### [NZGA to support nomination to IGA Board](#)

Greg Bignall from GNS Science has been selected as the candidate supported by the NZGA Board in his nomination for a seat on the IGA Board of Directors. We believe that Greg will be an excellent addition to the IGA Board with his vast work experience within the geothermal industry, both in New Zealand and around the globe.

## WHATS COMING UP...

### [NZGA Social Talk 2019 – 12 April, 5 pm Pig and Whistle, Rotorua](#)

“There’s gold in them there Wells” a presentation on gold exploration, geothermal and other stories by Dr. Kevin Brown, will be held at the Pig and Whistle from **5pm April 12**. Hope to see you there.

### [NZGA Seminar 2019 – Save the Date!](#)

The 2019 New Zealand Geothermal Seminar will be held **July 11, 2019** at the Millennium Hotel, Taupo. The theme for the seminar will be “Innovation and the Future of Geothermal in a Low Carbon World”. We will have an excellent selection of speakers from both the geothermal and other industries on a range of topics as well as lots of good opportunities for networking and discussion. Further details to come but please save the date in your diary.

## 2020 World Geothermal Congress

Abstract submissions have now closed, with ~2700 abstracts received by the committee. Responses of acceptances are slowly being received, with final papers due June 30, 2019.



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## Geosciences 2019

The 2019 Geosciences Conference will be held Sunday 24 (Icebreaker) to Wednesday 27 November at the University of Waikato, Hamilton. If you would like to propose symposia for this event [contact Peter Kamp](#)