



Presidents Report
Annual General Meeting of GOVIS 2004
16/9/2002

GOVIS - A YEAR OF MAINTAINING SERVICE

General:

I'm surprised to find myself sitting back at the front table, as President of GOVIS and delivering this report. For those that are not aware, during the year, we lost some familiar faces from around the committee table, being Deidre Butler (President) and Mark Carroll (Secretary), who both moved into the private sector. For the remaining members of the committee, this has meant an increased workload, above all other work and family commitments. The impression I have of this year has been one of solid achievement for GOVIS. As an organisation we have continued to do, what we do so well - organising over 20 events, a conference with over 300 attendees, running several mailing lists, a website and generally ensuring our members have the opportunity to liaise with each other.

Forums:

A number of volunteers have helped to continued to run the GOVIS general forum, as well as five specific interest forums:

- GOVIS (209)
- Egovernment (155) - Brendan Kelly
- Information Management (140) - Ros Coote, Paul Jones, Michelle Edgerley, Selena Smeaton
- Information Technology (103) - Rob McNie
- Security (94) - Neil Sanson
- Websites (139) - Ian Kemp

The effort of forum co-ordinators has ensured that events have been well attended and very successful. Thank you to those who have put their time and effort into these activities.

GOVIS Website:

David Fitzgerald-Irons has once again capably managed the GOVIS website. A challenge for the upcoming year will be considering how to improve communications now that new tools such as the Government Shared Workspace are becoming available.

GOVIS Conference Details:

We received a tremendous level of support for the last conference with 350 delegates and 120 vendor and trade registrations. This continues to provide GOVIS with a sound financial foundation upon which to achieve our purposes.

Planning is well underway for next years' Conference - GOVIS 2005. I am pleased to say that we will maintain the same fees as previous years, while continuing to maintain the same quality of programme. In addition, we are offering new value by offering a complimentary (free) guest registration for dinner participants, and a quiet breakout area for coffee/chat.

GOVIS Future:

We are now in a financial position to deliver additional benefits to GOVIS members and their member agencies. If you have been reading the mailing lists, you will have seen some of the initiatives we are developing:

- SIGS sponsorship programme - the committee is working on the criteria for sponsoring selected Forum members to attend conferences and return with a report;
- Out-of-Wellington - GOVIS is now taking what we do well, to the regions - we will be holding our first out-of-Wellington seminar on 24th September, at Statistics NZ in Christchurch (thanks to Rosemary McGrath) - which should remind us all, that GOVIS members exist all over New Zealand;
- Videoconferencing/webcasting pilot - the committee at its last meeting recently approved a project to look at videoconferencing/webcasting of our presentations.

These initiatives hold great promise in creating additional ways we can achieve the objectives of our organisation.

Pat on the back:

Acknowledgement goes to

- Ros Coote for who has ably taken on the role of GOVIS Secretary;
- David Fitzgerald-Irons who continues to manage the financial affairs of GOVIS in such a way as to embarrass us all with the size of our bank balance (more on how we will fix this later);
- Trudy Rankin as overall forum coordinator;
- Wider committee members (Greg Goulding, Julie-Anne Maloney, Michelle Edgerley, Rob McNie (who is stepping down for a while)) and also the forum coordinators who have done a great job through the year; and GOVIS members for your continued contribution and involvement through the past year

I welcome this opportunity to continue working alongside a great bunch of people, doing something we believe is worthwhile and of value to the public sector.

Mike Pearson
GOVIS President