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Builders • Joiners • Contractors



W F S A

C Lund & Son's precast team preparing for a pour.

A year of big strides

The end of the year always creeps up on you and then goes off like Guy Fawkes Day, and 2007 is no exception. As the holidays are approaching, we are in the midst of tendering for too much work so that hopefully we have enough lined up for the start of next year.

Our Insite magazine does a good job in temporarily focusing our attention on what everyone at C Lund & Son Ltd has achieved during the year. We don't devote enough time to that.

Everyone in our company strives to do everything well, and everyone

takes pride in what they do and in the building work they are a part of. Buildings are around for a long time so the best goal we can have is to aim for the best every time.

We need more people in the building and construction industry, especially young people with good skills and a willingness to learn. A lack of training is a major issue at all levels in our industry. There are lots of opportunities for everyone, whether they wish to pursue a hands-on and practical career path, a technical role, or a mix of both.

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Big workload keeps Timaru team hopping

The Timaru section of C Lund & Son is wrapping up a very busy year and looking forward to another one next year.

Timaru sites supervisor Dave Mason says after a turbulent 2006, which saw several new people added to the staff, 2007 has proved to be very productive.

"Everything has settled down much quicker than I thought it would, and we have become a big happy team. The only thing we are lacking is more manpower," Dave says.

A new addition to the management team is quantity surveyor Bryan Prestidge. In fact Bryan

worked for C Lund & Son before leaving 16 years ago to pursue a number of other ventures. They included managing a steel plant and operating his own garage door sales and installation business.

"Our contracts have gone well this year, and all the staff have done a great job," he says.

The early part of 2007 saw the completion of several projects that were begun in 2006. They included a new building for Timaru Motors, a storage shed for Canterbury Wool Scourers, and the \$2.2m Timaru Technology Education Centre (T-TEC).

Several other projects were started and completed during the year and several others are now underway and will continue next year. Completed projects included extending a storeroom and adding a mezzanine level to the local Briscoes department store and alterations to Canterbury Meat Packers' works in Ashburton.

A major job now nearing completion is a new \$2.3m workshop at Fonterra's processing

plant at Clandeboye, northeast of Temuka. The Clandeboye plant is one of the world's largest milk powder producers. It handles 11.7 million litres of milk a day and has a fleet of 70 trucks that collect milk from dairy farmers throughout Canterbury and beyond.

The workshop Lunds is constructing will be used for servicing the fleet of trucks. The 972sqm ground floor has two work bays and three mechanics' pits. The work bays are divided by offices and storerooms. Because the doors are generally open when trucks are being serviced and repaired, all the work spaces have under-floor heating.

Dave expects the busy pace of 2007 to keep up next year. Several projects including the new technology centre at Timaru Girls High are underway, and he hopes Lunds will get the nod to build a new five star hotel-condominium complex and upgrade Timaru's Stafford Mall. He says the company will also tender to build the town's new courthouse.



Work is nearing completion on the new truck workshop at Fonterra's Clandeboye plant.



Timaru school projects earn top marks

Several of C Lund & Son's big Timaru projects over the past couple of years have been prominent new school buildings.

They include the construction of the Timaru Technology Education Centre (T-TEC), overseen by Mick Leonard and Neville Ellery. This is a technology block used by all the city's intermediate schools, and the Timaru team has now started work a similar facility for Timaru Girls High School. Also nearing completion is a new performing arts auditorium for Craighead Diocesan School.

The two technology blocks are facilities where students do the more traditional hands-on technology courses – wood and metal working, cooking, and sewing – along with contemporary technology courses such as computers, electronics, structures and mechanism.

C Lund & Son completed the T-TEC block for the beginning of the 2007 school year. It is an architectural showcase with a tall central atrium and was designed by Christchurch company Ross Maguire Architects, which specialises in educational buildings. Ross Maguire says working with C Lund & Son was very good experience and quite unique.

"The supervision and administration of C Lund & Son's project team was extraordinary. We got to the end of the project with no major

disagreements or disruptions over changes or variations. I think this is because of the planning Lunds did for the job. They never simply presented me with a problem to sort out. If a problem arose they came up with a solution," Ross says.

Ross Maguire has also designed the \$2.1m technology block for Timaru Girls High. Although a similar size – 1300sqm – it will have a number of different features than T-TEC because it is designed for secondary rather than intermediate courses.

Lunds project manager Dave Mason says work is just getting underway on the Girls High project. "The site has been excavated, the footings are dug and reinforcing is in place. Now we are waiting for consent from Timaru District Council to proceed. We expect to have it finished by June 30th, 2008."

Dave says consents were also a bit of an issue with the \$1.9m auditorium at Craighead School. "We got started and then we had to leave the site for 10 weeks until the resource consent was granted. It is all but finished now, however."

The Craighead auditorium has concrete floors and is made of precast panels manufactured by C Lund & Son Ltd's precast division in Christchurch. Most of the seating in



Scaffolding in place at the Craighead Girls' School auditorium.

the auditorium consists of pre-stressed precast bleachers. Because much of this work – the precast panels, bleachers, and structural steel – was fabricated off site, forward planning and coordination were critical to both progress and carrying the work out safely.

The site was very restricted and the successful planning and execution of the structural phase of the project is a credit to Bruce Cole, Barry Chinn, and Dave Johns. The job required difficult crane lifts and specialised propping and scaffolding.

Structural steel team provides backbone to C Lund & Son projects

C Lund & Son has its own heavy metal band. The three-man team that runs its structural steel shop provides critical components for many of the company's construction and fit-out contracts in Timaru.

Dave Johns oversees the structural steel shop, which is manned by supervisor John 'Shorty' Hewson and leading hand welders Rodney Kerrison and Nick King.

"We are not a big team but we can supply everything for a job from the ground up – from the pins that hold boxing in place to structural steel framing," says Dave.

"We also provide all the cast in weld plates and channels that our precast factory in Christchurch uses."

The structural steel shop in Timaru has welding machines, gas sets, punches, shears, and a hack saw – everything needed to take raw lengths of steel and cut it, punch holes in it, shape it, and weld it. Along with standard structural steel, it can work with stainless and alloy steel.

One of the major contracts the steel team carried out recently was building all the balustrades and screens for the multi-story carpark next to the IRD building as well as handrails and other items for the fit-out of the IRD building itself.

For specialist folding or plate profiling it uses subcontractors, and it also uses specialist contractors to apply painted, powder coated and galvanised surfaces.



The structural steel team has provided the balustrades for the Inland Revenue's parking building in Christchurch.

Odd jobs and minor miracles



While every job C Lund & Son undertakes has its own unique features, a couple projects the company did in 2007 were more unusual than most.

It's not everyday that a building company is called upon to pigeon-proof the belfry of Christchurch Cathedral, for example.

As part of a major \$8m refurbishment, Lunds builders were brought in to do several "fiddly little jobs" on the Christchurch Cathedral, says quantity surveyor Matt Shankland. They included installing fire doors in the basement and replacing doors to the observation balconies up on the bell tower.

"We also refurbished the louvres in the belfry so they would open. They open the louvres when the bell ringers come in to do their thing but they were so covered in pigeon poo that they had stopped working. We also put in netting behind the new louvres to keep the pigeons away from the bells," Matt says.

"It wasn't a big job but needed a careful and skilful approach. John Taggart, Rex Jelleve, and Kyle Brookland all worked on the project for five or six weeks. It is not the kind of job you make money on. It is something we did out of civic duty."

Project coordinator for the Cathedral refurbishment Bill Fox says Matt and his team performed a minor miracle to get this job done.

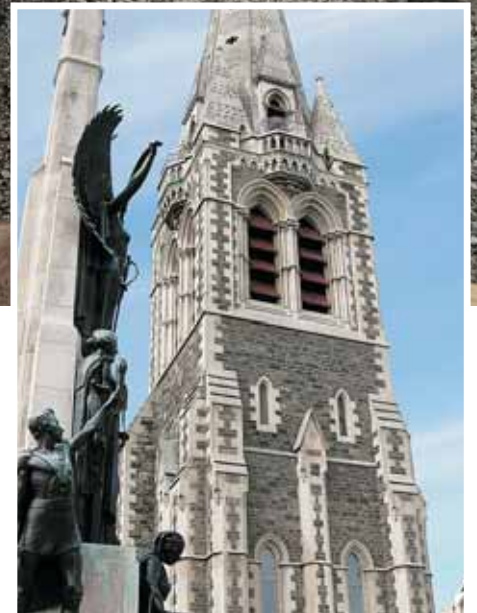
"Access to the louvres was either from the Lunds crane or up the 134 spiral steps in the bell tower. I have worked with C Lund & Son for nearly 50 years, and it is one of those rare companies that is always cooperative, professional and helpful," Bill says.

While the Christchurch boys were making the Cathedral safe from pigeons, some of Lunds' Timaru team were spending their Sundays fixing up railway bridges.

Timaru sites supervisor Dave Mason explains that the company had a contract with On Track, the NZ Railways Corporation, to replace four rail bridges. To keep the line open each bridge had to be completely replaced on a Sunday.

"To replace a bridge we lift up the track and then remove the old bridge. We then put in new precast abutments, which were made at our Christchurch precast plant.

"The new abutments are attached with bolts and grouting. Once the abutments are secured we lift the new bridge into place and then lower the tracks back down. It is a big day's work and full credit to the men Bruce Cole, Malcolm Elder and their team," Dave says.



Projects C Lund & Son have carried out this year include replacing railway bridges and pigeon-proofing the Christchurch Cathedral's belfry.

Just like taxes, IRD building had to be completed on time

For the past two years, the biggest project on the hands of C Lund & Son was the new Christchurch home of Inland Revenue, a seven storey office block on the corner of Cashel and Madras Streets.

The job involved all divisions of the Lund business – builders, structural steel, pre-cast, cranes, and joinery.

While the last touches are now being put on the adjacent parking building and on the fit-out of the upper storeys of the office building, the work of Jim Wells and his construction team is largely complete. All systems in the building have been commissioned and a formal handover to the tenant took place on November 6th.

Director Andrew Macgregor says both the tenant, Inland Revenue, and the building owner, Cashel Chambers Ltd, were very pleased that the project was finished precisely on time.

Just as they expect us to file our tax returns on time, the Inland Revenue wanted their new offices to be completed on a precise date.

"The Inland Revenue was able to begin occupying their offices on the dates set at the start of the project. It is a very big organisation, and it is a massive operation to shift all the people and systems to another building. They relied on their offices being ready on a precise date because they had to change over their computer systems," Andrew says.

"The occupation and handover went very very smoothly and we want to acknowledge that all our subcontractors have played their part and made their contributions so it would happen. Everyone worked in well in the later stages of the project so everything could be finished on time."

Because it had the main building

contract, C Lund & Son was responsible for the major construction and coordinating the work of all subcontractors related to it. Somewhat unusual for a building of this scale, Lunds also had the contract to do the fit-out for the major tenant, and this helped the two aspects of the project come together efficiently.

"Normally a big office block like this is built for the owner, who then turns it over to the tenant for fit-out. Because we have our joinery operation we bid for the fit-out contract too," Andrew says.

"We were able to coordinate the work of the joiners and builders in-house, which made everything much more straight forward and allowed us to complete the whole project more quickly."

Andrew says he is pleased with the Inland Revenue project, not only because it was finished on time but also because it is such an attractive building.

"For a big building it has clean, sharp lines. We have received lots of very positive comments about it."

IRD building

While they may make some of us sweat, our tax collectors will always be comfortable while at work in the new Inland Revenue building thanks to its state-of-the-art air conditioning system.

Christchurch company Professional Building Services (PBS) was responsible for designing, building, installing and commissioning the Inland Revenue building's mechanical services, which includes air conditioning, ventilation, and smoke extraction.

PBS project manager Martin Pfaff says the system has two air handler units, each of which provides 8000 litres of fresh air, and three air cooled chillers that provide air conditioning and heating.

"Each of the chillers is the

2007 saw the completion of the Inland Revenue building, the biggest office



a breathe of fresh air

Tegel rebuild feather in C Lund & Son cap

When he officially reopened Tegel Food's chicken processing plant in Hornby, Agriculture Minister Jim Anderton had some fine words to say about its contribution to the local community and the Canterbury economy."

Newspaper reports said Tegel Foods spent \$22m to rebuild the factory after it was destroyed a year ago in a massive fire that required all Christchurch's firefighting resources to extinguish.

What seemed to be overlooked in all the hoopla and media coverage is that C Lund & Son was the construction company that rebuilt the plant!

Once the site was cleared a Lunds team came in to pour the foundations and then the floors. Later they built a mezzanine floor that contains offices and machinery for making cartons.

Site supervisor Robbie Halliday says the Tegel plant presented a number of issues for the carpenters who worked on it. Because it is a large processing plant, pouring the floors had to be done quite carefully so they will drain correctly.

"All of the floors slope into different drains so that was a bit of a challenge," Robbie says.

"Another issue was access. The site is 60m x 60m and the building is 50m x 50m which doesn't leave a lot of space. That meant we sort of built it in two halves. The structural steel and roof was on one half while we were still working on the other half."

Installing the mechanical services at the Tegel plant was a major undertaking. The piped services are complex and required a high standard of coordination and workmanship to meet food industry standards. Food processing requires a number of different supply lines – hot water, warm water, chilled water, cold water, foam, chlorine, steam, and air – and drainage services are even more complex. This work was completed by David Browne Contractors, who did a very good job, Robbie says.

To ensure there is no repeat of the fire that destroyed the previous plant the interior cladding is Kingspan, which is a new insulated, fire-proof panelling used in buildings where a high level of cleanliness is required.

standard of air quality is maintained throughout. There are 228 fan coil units (or FCUs). Each of them has a temperature sensor so it can decide whether to heat or cool its zone.

"It possible for FCUs on the south side of the building to be running in heating mode while FCUs on the north side are cooling. This is relatively new technology in New Zealand and the Inland Revenue building is one of the first in the South Island to have it," Martin says.

The smoke extraction system PBS installed in the building has extraction fans that can remove 10,000 litres of air per second from the building.

Martin says the brain of the building is a computerised Building Management System. It can provide data and information on screen so technicians can see the actual status of each plant and, if necessary, change its settings.

"The tight timeframe and coordination with the other trades were the challenges on the Inland Revenue project. I'm pretty sure a few of my labourers lost a few kilos over the duration of the project, especially, when we came to the upper levels," says Martin
"Cooperation with C Lund & Son was a



PBS manager Martin Pfaff indicates one of the FCUs, which control temperature throughout the Inland Revenue building.

key reason why the project was finished without delays or major problems. We were pulling all on one string, and Steve Mouat made sure it was in the same direction."

PBS is a member of the Hastie Group of companies, which provides air conditioning installation and maintenance, as well as refrigeration systems in New Zealand, Australia, the United Emirates and the UK.

building to be built in Christchurch for 15 years.



Robbie Halliday (left) was site supervisor of the Tegel plant rebuild.

Skill and capacity help Joinery make impression



Two major jobs Lunds Joinery completed in 2007 were building and installing the bar at Soho Bar in Christchurch (top), and the fit-out of the Koru Lounge in the international terminal at Christchurch airport (bottom).



The joinery division of C Lund & Son has chalked up another very busy year, tackling a number of contracts that were challenging because of their scale and/or sophistication.

Contracts and accounts manager Glenn Chittock says the biggest job the joinery team took on was fitting out the seven storey IRD building.

"A lot of it was general joinery – cabinets, storage cupboards, and shelving. We got through more than 2000 sheets of board to manufacture it, mostly melamine," Glenn says.

"There was some more interesting work involved as well including woven screens and slotted ceiling panels. Currently we are making new sashes for the historic façade that has been preserved in the attached carpark building."

Last year Lunds Joinery did a major refit of the luxury Koru Club lounge in Christchurch Airport's domestic terminal. The success of that project enabled the team to win the contract to outfit the completely new Koru Club in the international terminal.

Glenn says the international lounge proved to be a bigger challenge because it is more extravagant and lavish than the domestic lounge.

"The architect seemed to have a free hand

in the international lounge, and he really got carried away. He uses lots of different colours and textures and some of the screens and panels are more like art than joinery.

"One of the panels is curved and made of lots of smaller pieces of wood glued together. Because it is curved, every stick in it had to be shaped by .7mm.

"Another interesting feature is a set of rotating fins in the shape of aircraft wings. They can be used to partition an area off for meetings. The surface on the wings is a metallic Anthra-Zinc over a timber frame. They also used Anthra-Zinc on the entrance way. We are actually using more and more metals and metal finishes in our high-end products these days," Glenn says.

The international Koru club project was fast-tracked and benefited from having many of our joiners up from Timaru assisting Hawkins Interiors with the fit-out. The results are outstanding.

Another interesting job the joinery team pulled off this year was manufacturing and installing bars in two pubs in a new building on Riccarton Road that overlooks Hagley Park in Christchurch. The Riccarton Clubrooms is a sports bar and it features a bar made of rough sawn, dark stained pinus radiata. The Soho is a restaurant/nightclub, and it features a bar made of jarra and leather.

"Ian McEwan and Phil Swatridge did an exceptional job and the workmanship is of a very high standard," Glenn says.

2007 brought saw some other changes for the joinery division. Its new loading bay was completed so it now has adequate storage space and a covered area to load trucks in.

Joinery also saw a change of personnel. Mark Baird leaves after 23 years with the team, and his replacement, Andrew Patterson, has been brought on board.

Mark says he wishes to thank everyone he worked with in his time with C Lund & Son, especially those in the joinery factory.



Training future builders

Along with overseeing C Lund & Son's Timaru building projects Dave Mason is supervisor for all the company's apprentice carpenters.

Dave says the company currently has 11 active apprentices. They must meet the qualifications established by the Building and Construction Industries Training Organisation (BCITO) to earn their national certificate.

"They have to complete 40 theory units and 41 practical units, which generally takes three and a half to four years. If they don't do the 11 month pre-technology course, then they generally go to night school one day a week to pick up the theory," Dave says.

Most Lunds apprentices do their classroom

training with Aoraki Polytech in Timaru or Christchurch Polytech.

As their supervisor, Dave is responsible evaluate their work and sign off that the jobs they have done are sufficient enough to complete the various units. This can mean travelling to Christchurch to check out the work of the apprentices working on sites there.

This year two apprentices – Michael Rate and Brad Sherrif – completed their carpentry apprenticeships.

"Congratulations to Michael and Brad," says Dave. "And to all the other apprentices, I must say I am very proud of the way you have presented your BCITO books this year with photos and sketches. Keep up the good work."

Apprentice Dan Turner at work on the early stages of the technology block at Timaru Girls, High School.



Staff say cheers to Bledisloe Cup match

It's not often that a company outing makes the front page of The Christchurch Press but that was the case last June when C Lund & Son shouted its employees a trip to Melbourne to catch a Bledisloe Cup test match.



Even the loss to the Wallabies at the Melbourne Cricket Ground couldn't take the shine off a trip that everyone agrees was a very good time.

Sarah Hill says the fun began late on a Friday afternoon when 76 Lunds employees jumped on a plane for Melbourne. On arrival they were trundled off to their hotel, Oaks on Market in the heart of the central business district.

That evening the festivities began in the hotel restaurant with drinks and the acknowledgment of 20 years long service for C Lund & Son employees, Glenn Chittock, Mark Baird, and Wayne Collins.

The next morning everyone was up early for

a breakfast cruise on the Yarra River. After that it was free time with many taking a chance to do the traditional Melbourne shopping spree.

great. After the function we all made our own way to the MCG. Everything was fantastic until halftime. After that the All Blacks seemed to go to sleep."

"There were a lot of Kiwis at the game but we were drowned out by the Aussies. They really got behind the Wallabies and they made so much noise."

After the game people had a chance to drown their sorrows out on the town if they wished. Sarah says a couple of the boys must have sank a few more than the others because when they got back to their rooms they discovered their room keys wouldn't work. It turns out they had ended up at the wrong hotel.

Sunday was again a free day. One group headed off to see Eureka Tower, the tallest residential tower building in Australia, others naturally went back to the shopping.

Sarah says Young & Lee tours put together a fantastic package for the tour, one that will go down in the C Lund & Son history books.



Sarah says late in the afternoon everyone regrouped for a pre-match function at the Long Room on Collins Street.

"The speakers at the pre-match dinner were



Stone cold outing for social club



A night of curling was one of the social club's 2007 outings.

C Lund & Son's social club is always looking new and different ways to amuse themselves. This year it was a go at curling, the ancient Scottish game that you can think of as bowls on ice.

With the region's strong Scottish heritage curling has long had a following in Maniatoto, Central Otago. Small wonder then, that the Maniatoto town of Naseby is host to the only dedicated indoor curling rink in the Southern Hemisphere.

In early August a busload of Lunds social clubbers set off from Christchurch and picked up another contingent in Timaru. After a barbecue lunch and a couple of watering hole stops along the way, the jolly group made its way to Naseby by early evening.

Once in Naseby everyone made their way to their own accommodation and met up later in the evening for the stroll out to the curling rink. This turned out to be something of an expedition since the rink is well outside of town.

Despite being somewhat the worse for wear, the Lunds curlers put in a good couple of hours on the ice (before heading back into town for a few more recreational drinks one imagines).

The next day was the return bus journey. The curling trip was organised by Trish Hickman.

Coming up next on the social club's calendar is a barbecue at Orana Wildlife Park.

The social club is a bargain at \$2.50 a week. If you want to join contact Sarah Hill in the Christchurch office.

More reflections on the year past

(From Page 1)

Someone who took enormous pride in his work and always encouraged new comers was Stu Davidson. Stu put a lot of effort into supporting younger members of our staff, and he took much pride in their progress. He also made sure everyone had their tool kits up to scratch.

Stu always kept our clients in mind and achieved exactly what they had set out to achieve. Because of this, he gained enormous respect from our clients, the consultants he worked with, and other members of the construction community. He was friendly, helpful and always fronted up for C Lund & Son Ltd as a true professional.

Subcontractors knew that it wasn't a good idea to let Stu down. The message they received after getting something wrong, being late, or being plain unreasonable was always very loud, completely clear and no-one was ever left wondering.

Anything was possible with Stu. Some might struggle with the idea of Stu parading around the office like he was on a Paris fashion show catwalk showing off the latest in European builders trousers that he'd somehow got his hands on. More typically he might ring up one morning just after he'd finished pouring half a meter of concrete, demanding to know where his sausages were... this the day after a barbecue had been held on another site to feed everyone during a 500 meter pour.

There are many, many stories and memories of the real character that Stu certainly was. His many friends at C Lund & Son miss him and we will be thinking of Belinda, Thomas and Luke at Christmas time. Enjoy your Christmas and have a beer for Stu.

Wishing you all a wonderful time at Christmas with your families.

Joanne, Andrew and Wayne.



Stu Davidson.

Memorial honours carpenter war hero

In March a gathering of military brass, local notables, politicians, and foreign guests assembled at the Bridge of Remembrance in Christchurch to witness the unveiling of a statue to honour one of the city's unsung heroes.

Henry Nicholas is Christchurch's sole Victoria Cross winner of World War I, and, until the statue was erected, there was little public recognition of his bravery.

On the 3rd of December, 1917 Private Nicholas single-handedly captured a 16-strong enemy position during an attack on Polderhoek Chateau in Belgium. He was awarded the Victoria Cross early the next year for his act of courage, which saved the lives of many fellow soldiers.

Later in 1918 he was also awarded the Military Medal when he again displayed fearless leadership and inspired his men to break an enemy attack of superior numbers in the Hindenburg Line of trenches.

Unfortunately, less than a fortnight later he was killed in a minor skirmish.

sculptor Mark Whyte has depicted Henry Nicholas without any weapons.



C Lund & Son was a major sponsor of the Henry Nicholas statue, unveiled in March.

C Lund & Son is one of the sponsors of the memorial statue that honours Henry Nicholas.

President of the Canterbury District Returned Servicemen's Association BJ Clark says the Park of Remembrance, where the statue stands, does not glorify war. Therefore,

Among those attending the unveiling of the statue were the French ambassador and a contingent of people from the French town of Le Quesnoy. Capturing Le Quesnoy from the German army was the New Zealanders' last major action in the war, and the people of the town continue to mark the important role New Zealand played in its history.

Joanne Macgregor says Lunds sponsored the statue of Henry Nicholas for two reasons. One is that Henry was a carpenter. He served as an apprentice with Christchurch master builder John Martin and worked for a time as a journeyman carpenter in Australia.

"The other reason is that the qualities of men like Henry Nicholas who stood out in times of war, such as working as a team and strength of character, are the same qualities it takes to be successful on a building project. We thought it was important to recognise that."

Technology training Lund's bugbear

Like any industry, building and construction requires a constant supply of qualified people.

Training new generations of engineers and carpenters is therefore a special concern of C Lund & Son and the company has put its money where its mouth is over the issue.

Concerned that there is a lack good material available to support the technology curriculum in New Zealand's primary and intermediate schools, director Joanne Macgregor has sponsored and helped produce two booklets aimed to spark the interest of school kids.

The first booklet was on the technology of bridges and the second, recently published, is on three famous South Islanders and their inventions. The new booklet gives brief biographies of Richard Pearse, Bill Hamilton, and John Britten and discusses the key concepts behind their machines – the airplane, the jet boat, and the motorcycle.

Joanne has not only focused on the youngest technicians, however. She is also raising her concerns about the lack of technical training that New Zealand's apprentice builders and engineers are receiving.

"I am concerned that the polytechs are training a diminishing number of people for technical positions in our industry. If the numbers in the courses drop, the polytechs can no longer afford to teach them. Courses are closing down all the time.

"We used to have the New Zealand Certificate of Engineering, which was a general course that produced graduates who were competent across a range of sectors. People like John Britten and Peter Blake had this qualification.

"The NZ Certificate offered great opportunities to students and facilitated a lot of movement of technical people among different roles and different industries.

"Now the training is very narrowly focused and it does not appeal to students.

Another problem is that the quality of teaching is deteriorating because of the lack of numbers, and it is less robust technically."

Joanne is raising her concerns with the Building and Construction Industries Training Organisation (BCITO) and she is also conducting a survey of businesses in a variety of industries to determine whether others share her concerns.

Joanne has had many responses back from the many sectors of our industry – consultants to subcontractors to local authorities. All the employers responded that they want a back to basics approach to training. They says that technical qualifications on offer are too limited and content is inconsistent.

They all struggle with recruiting at a technical level, and they say there is a chronic lack of knowledge and experience. They all replied that if graduates came to them with the equivalent of the former New Zealand Certificate qualifications (often current qualifications are marketed as equivalent but in fact are not) they could offer them valuable work experience in junior or cadet positions.

She believes the best action to take now is to determine which polytechs still deliver technically robust courses equivalent to the New Zealand Certificate programme, pass that information around, and ask employers to get behind those polytechs.



C Lunds wishes
all its staff and
colleagues in the
building
industry a happy
Christmas and
New Year.



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