



PIMA CHARITY GOLF DAY 2008 – another success

PIMA held their fourth consecutive charity golf day at Carnarvon Golf Club with the Association selecting Barnardo's as the supporting charity for the day.

We were fortunate to have near perfect weather conditions for the day along with a great response from our members to fill nearly all available positions and valued support from all sponsors. We have been fortunate to have two major sponsors supporting our day; many thanks to W&S Plastics and ASP Plastics for their continued diamond support along those many sapphire and cart and lunch sponsors for the day.

Prior to the game, there was a lot of scuttlebutt on how this year was going to be their year and had selected (or as I like say stacked) a team that would win the day. The driving range was also mentioned quite a bit too!

From my understanding (well Ok, first hand knowledge), there were a few side bets running so in all it was building up to a strong competitive day.

We were gathered for the briefing then nearing the end we heard the words "rule change" was mentioned, "If you have the drive, you then can't take your second hit". The captain of one team that I won't name kept saying, "We are stuffed now" seemed to ring out regularly which also obviously instilled a lot of confidence in other team members or so his team mate Lindsay, the faculty director mentioned to me!

We all moved off to our starting holes with those in the carts seeming to start nearest to the clubhouse while those footing it walked to each farther most corner of the course for the shot gun start. The stories obviously began from this point! During the days play, there were a lot of players that seemed fond of beach conditions along those keen on gardening or tree cutting, but overall the standard was high.



This years winner: Graham Aston has sent this picture of the Ken York Memorial Trophy, now proudly displayed at his Moulding Services premises.

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There were many prizes on offer, longest drive, straightest drive, nearest the pins and Ralph's favourite, the novelty drive. The course was again well presented with greens that surprised all for cored greens; they rolled true and fast.

With nutrients kept up to all on the course, everyone enjoyed the golf, which was the start of the stories that could have been. Cards were in and teams were entered into the computer with the top teams kept under wraps. The time had come to unveil the winning teams from the mixed and men's comp. The top two teams actually finished up with the same score but given that one was a mixed team and one wasn't, the winners were decided.

The winners of the mixed competition were Chris York's team who took out the Alex Pennicook memorial trophy.

The winners of the Ken York memorial trophy was a team made up from PPC Moulding Services and long-termers Roblan. Well done to all! With dinner served and enjoyed, prizes won and stories told, the day was a great success with everyone having made a great day of it and let's face it, how many other industries enjoy the kind of camaraderie that we enjoy within PIMA and the golf day.

CAD photo

There was one mystery of the night with the disappearance of a gold cup that was supposedly chained to some one's belt. All that could be said is that it must not have securely attached! CSI will be attending next year to help close this case! Not wanting to draw attention to this person, he was seen walking trying to hide the fact that it was actually missing by keeping a closed fist in his pocket! He will obviously be SHOUTING at future gatherings in effort to find that missing cup...good luck, by the way I don't think the chain will take off as fashion accessory on its own though!

A big thank you must to Ralph and his family for the work they do to make the day a special and enjoyable one.

I hope that everyone gets involved next year to keep this day the success that it is, but please register early.

For all those interested in the final 'financial' result of the day – PIMA raised \$16,000.00 for Barnardos.

This takes the total funds raised for charity over the 5 golf days we have run to \$107,000.00.



Important Diary Dates for 2008

PIMA AGM & Seminar	Wednesday	24/09/08
Ausplas 2008	October 7 - 10	
Plastics Pioneers Lunch	Thursday	27/11/08

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AUSPLAS 2008 UPDATE

PIMA will be at Ausplas

That is correct PIMA will have a stand at Ausplas.

The organizers of Ausplas have asked PIMA to be an official supported of Ausplas 2008 and in doing so we will have a stand at the show. Stand No. 269

The aim of PIMA's display will be to show the industries representatives what we can offer them. This will include information on the training programs we run as well as our various dinner meetings, presentations and charity events.

In presenting at this show we hope this will help expand our membership base with the potential to expand interstate.

On the stand we plan to run our Mould Your Career video presentation and we will display a wide range of examples of products produced from plastics. We will also have a range of samples for people to take away with them.

We might need to call on our members for samples etc. as we develop our display so please watch this space.

If you have any suggestions for the display please contact either Ralph Cable or myself.

Hope to see you at the show.

Keith Monaghan
President PIMA

Moulding Your Career – Introduction to Plastics 1

This course has been specifically designed as an introduction to the plastics industry and the processes they use and the products they manufacture. It will be especially beneficial to new entrants to the industry as well as to anyone wanting a more insightful knowledge of plastics materials and processes.

FOR SALE

Kawaguchi K80 1985 Spare parts only.

- Clamp/Toggle End – Excellent condition.
- Hydraulic pump and motor.
- Guarding, covers etc.
- Electrostatic Oil filter.
- Oil Cooler
- Various other components.

Contact: Craig Cook 02 -9638 5855



Movers and Shakers

Ian Dowling Joins the PIMA Committee

Your committee is pleased to announce that Ian Dowling has joined the committee and will add his 33 years of injection moulding experience to an already endowed committee.

Ian currently is the production manager at Roblan Pty Ltd, where he has served for 17 years. His committee duties will recognise his technical experience and therefore he will be assisting with training and technical seminars.

Chinaplas 2009 - *May 18 -21, Pazhou – Guangzhou*

Expressions of interest are sought for a group tour attending Chinaplas in 2009.

It is planned to have the tour guided by Industry people who have attended Chinaplas and frequently visit China on business.

Staying in 5 star accommodation this is an excellent opportunity to visit China, experience the culture and marvel at the rapid growth of the world's next superpower.

Why not bring your partner and experience the wonders of China together.

As well as visiting Asia's premier plastics exhibition sightseeing tours will also be part of the experience.

Contact Ralph Cable on ralph@productsearch.com.au to register your interest.

TAFE Graduation Dinner



Keith Monaghan - PIMA President

The annual TAFE Graduation Ceremony was held on the 3rd of June at the Carnarvon Golf Club. It is a night that is proudly sponsored by PIMA to highlight the achievements of the graduating students from the Polymer Section at Lidcombe College of TAFE. It was a fine gathering, a mix of industry representatives, TAFE management and staff and students with their guests. Keith Monaghan, the PIMA President, warmly welcomed all in attendance and stressed how important training is to our industry and outlined the different types of training PIMA and TAFE have been delivering. A three-course meal followed throughout which a number of presentations were delivered.

A report was delivered by Stephen Dawkins, the Head Teacher of Polymers, where he highlighted the training and education programmes that have been undertaken in the previous year as well as outlining the future areas where training will be offered. He made special mention of the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Programme that PIMA has been funded to undertake by the Department of Education and Training.



*Above: Stephen Dawkin, - Head Teacher of Polymers with Robert Vidler.
Left: Paul Brenna - ASP Plastics*



Paul Brennan Managing Director, ASP Group of Companies, Western Sydney President of the NSW Business Chamber, Chair of the Greater Western Sydney Manufacturing & Engineering Skills Development Task Force gave the key note address and highlighted the need for graduating students to think about further studies as they are the future of the plastics industry. He spoke about the history of an industry which is older than even the gold rush and the sewing machine. He also highlighted the challenges that lay ahead for the industry to tackle and therefore the importance of education and training for the industry.

Paul Brennan was joined by Frank Cahill, the Assistant Faculty Director of Engineering, Manufacturing and Environmental Sciences for the presentation of certificates and diplomas to the graduating students. It was very pleasing to see the industry support for the students through the sponsorship provided by Remtron in donating a micrometer to each of the graduating apprentices as well as to the advanced diploma graduates.



Certificate IV Polymer Technology
(left to right) Paul Kingsford, Ross Dickinson, Matthew Holloway, Allen Wilson



Certificate II Plastics
(left to right) Eduardo Arbandano, Terence Mui, Tarquin Bailey



Certificate III Plastics
(left to right) Chris Cilia, Nicanor Zarate, Waun-Chuan Chen, Jarrod Parker, Phillip Ryan

Robert Vidler, who graduated with an Advanced Diploma in Polymer Technology, responded on behalf of all the graduating students by thanking the staff at Lidcombe College for their effort and dedication to the students, over the years they had been attending TAFE, and thanked PIMA for sponsoring the night.

The TAFE Graduation Ceremony has become an important event on the PIMA calendar, one which will continue for many years to come, said Ralph Cable, PIMA's Secretary/ Treasurer as he thanked everyone for their attendance at the conclusion of a very successful night.

Animal Waste Gets Chance to Become Biodegradable Plastic

A process developed at the University of Waikato will allow animal waste to be turned into useful and biodegradable plastic.

The new process, developed over two years by University of Waikato chemical engineer Dr Johan Verbeek and Masters student Lisa van den Berg, can turn animal protein waste like blood meal and feathers into a biodegradable plastic using industry-standard plastic extrusion and injection moulding machinery.



University of Waikato scientist Dr Johan Verbeek says the bioplastic created from animal protein waste can be used for plastic

For Dr Verbeek, it is highly gratifying to use low-value sustainable waste to create a high-value product that breaks down without polluting the environment. "The material we can produce has the strength of polyethylene - the plastic used in milk bottles and plastic supermarket bags - but it's fully biodegradable."

"Proteins are polymers so we know they can be turned into plastics," Dr Verbeek said. "Plant proteins successfully been used to make bioplastics, but animal protein has always ended up gumming up the extruder. The process we've developed gets round that problem. People said it couldn't be done, but we did it!"

He said a group of design students was drawing up a blueprint for a commercial-scale plant to assess the commercial viability of producing bioplastics from animal protein waste.

Dr Verbeek expected the bioplastic would be suitable for agricultural plastic sheeting, seedling trays, plant pots and even biodegradable golf tees, for which, he said there was a surprisingly high demand.

University of Waikato Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford said farmers faced pressure to work in an environmentally sustainable way, and this type of innovation from the university could help them. Sustainability was one of the university's main drivers, he said.

The university is a strategic partner at this year's June 11-14 National Agricultural Fieldays, where the theme is the Science of Farming. Professor Crawford said the university produced graduates who contributed a great amount to land-based industries through studying the likes of chemistry, environmental planning and biological sciences at the university.

And this particular contribution is already turning heads. Novatein, the company set up to commercialise the scientists' findings, has already attracted an injection of venture capital from venture capital firm Endeavour Capital, through the university's commercialisation arm WaikatoLink.

The scientists' innovative process, which is being patented through WaikatoLink, is one of four new technologies that have attracted more than \$1 million in investment from Endeavour Capital. The funds will be used to develop prototype products in this case.

"Novatein has the kind of high-growth global market potential that we look for in new technologies," says WaikatoLink CEO Mark Stuart. "It's a source of plastic that doesn't rely on petroleum, so we also see it potentially being blended with conventional plastics to reduce the total petroleum load."

Source: University of Waikato

Moulding Your Career – Supervisors Training Level 1

This course helps supervisors understand their responsibilities in today's industrial climate and deals with OH&S, leadership, workplace personalities, harassment and discrimination, communication and managing time, people and production.

PIMA has developed this course to help employees in the plastics workforce carry out their roles more efficiently and with more knowledge and understanding.

PIMA OH&S News

NSW looks for ageing workers to stay longer

The NSW Government has released a plan under which people will be expected to stay longer in the workforce to offset the impact of an ageing population.

Minister for Ageing Kristina Keneally said an emphasis on older workers was important with the state government facing a likely budget crisis in 2030 and the number of people aged over 65 expected to double. Ms Keneally declined to say how long she thought people should keep working under the plan, presented by NSW Premier Morris Iemma at the 2020 summit in Canberra.

The plan, detailed in the report entitled *Towards 2030: Planning For Our Changing Population*, would allow the economy to have access to a pool of experienced older workers. A focus of the NSW proposal is increasing the number of people in the workforce in the years immediately before retirement age. But Ms Keneally told the media employers must also do more to keep workers in the future. "It's quite possible there will be a variety of arrangements.

The nature of work is changing, people are entering and exiting the workforce and that's why it's important employers consider more flexible working arrangements." In the next 12 months, the government will look to implement strategies to improve conditions for carers under the NSW Carers Action Plan 2007-2012. These include helping mature age workers meet their caring responsibilities for ageing family members, the combining of caring and work, and increased workplace flexibility for carers.

Employees want bosses to promote good health

More than half the 4300 employees surveyed nationally believe employers have an obligation to encourage their staff to be healthy. Results from the *Onetest Working Australian Opinion* survey also show employers who adopt healthy initiatives can expect improvements to productivity.

Ninety two per cent of respondents said they were happier and more productive at work when they felt their best physically and emotionally. Suggestions for a healthier workforce ranged from encouraging people to walk to work to providing staff with resources to facilitate a healthy lifestyle.

Another key finding of the survey was that 69% of people said a company's maternity/paternity package would impact on their decision to select an employer. "Given the introduction by the Australian government of incentives for having children, it is no surprise that a large majority of respondents indicated that good parenting packages are important when choosing an employer," the survey said.

New inspectors

NSW IR Minister John Della Bosca says 14 new WorkCover inspectors will help the government reduce workplace injuries by 40% and fatalities by 20% by the end of 2012. He said the agency had the country's largest, most highly skilled workplace safety inspectorate, with more than 300 inspectors. "By working closely with industry, WorkCover inspectors have assisted in bringing workplace injuries in NSW down to their lowest levels in 20 years."