

President's Report 2005

It is with great pleasure that I present my President's Report for 2005.

2005 has been another solid year for ISAAC. We have been able to build successfully on the foundations laid in 2004. In particular, our financial management is much stronger and more transparent and we can now be completely confident that we have a strong, secure, financial base.

Growth has been strong in membership, sponsorship, the insurance scheme and book sales. The conference has again been a highlight. As you will see in the Treasurer's Report, this has helped us post a healthy profit.

New and retiring directors

In line with our constitution, four Director's positions were vacated at this year's Annual general Meeting. One of those was already vacant following the resignation during the year of Bruce Moorman from WA. The other three were Martin Norris, David Galwey and Rodney Page. Martin decided to stand again for the Board, but David and Rodney both decided to retire. We thank them both for their efforts for our organisation.

Filling the vacancies are Martin Norris (Vic), Kiah Martin (Vic), John Atkins (NSW) and Jeremy Young (QLD). We welcome them and look forward to their unique contributions to ISAAC in the future. The new Board had its first formal meeting in Melbourne on December 9 & 10.

Membership

As at November 9, our membership is 384. This is a fantastic result, more than doubling our membership in two years.

Conference

Bringing the organisation of the conference in house has resulted in yet another improvement on our already impressive conference program. Our Conference Coordinator, Sharyn Kumnick, has worked diligently with the Conference Committee, to produce our smoothest and most highly praised conference to date. The new workshop program was extremely well patronised. Well done to all involved.

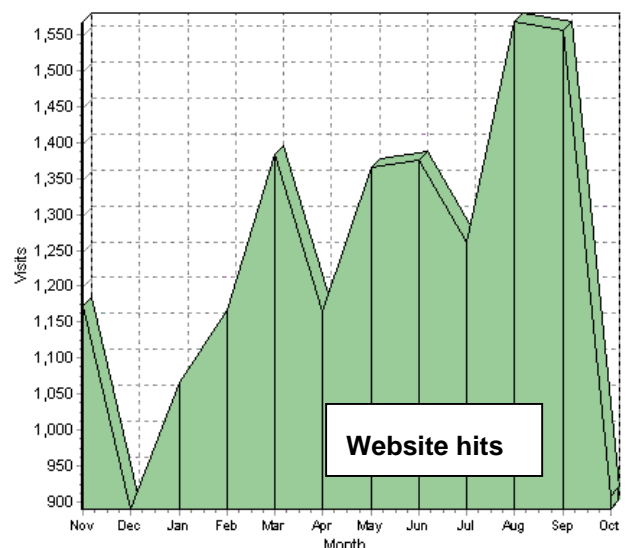
In 2006 our conference returns to Victoria, to be held in Geelong, just a short drive or train trip from Melbourne.

Administration

Another tireless year in the office from Sue, our Administration Coordinator, has seen the service to members continue at a high standard. Good work Sue. Remember to help Sue out by completing all your forms correctly for insurance or membership before sending them in.

Website

Our website has now had over 30,000 hits and is averaging about 50 hits per day in the approach to the conference. This has clearly become an important resource for our industry. A recent revamp has given





Promoting professional tree care

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our Special Interest Subcommittees, VTIO and WOTT, greater individuality. We are also now hosting the National Arboriculture Forum.

The new ISAAC Online Shop, providing secure online ordering, has had a slow but steady start. Our book and merchandise sales are strongly concentrated around our events, but we are hopeful that as people get used to our Online Shop that sales throughout the year will grow.

Standards Australia

Our inclusion on the Arboriculture Committee for Standards Australia is an achievement with which I am very pleased. Input into the standards that we use and that affect our daily lives is incredibly important. Now we have the opportunity to influence these important documents on behalf of our members and our industry. I'd like to thank David Galway for ably fulfilling our role on several committees.

We are currently working on the revision of AS4373 *Pruning of Amenity Trees*, as well as chainsaw standards, *Tree Valuation* and *Protecting Trees on Development Sites*.

National Arboriculture Forum

At the 2004 National Conference in Parramatta, ISAAC hosted the first ever meeting of 14 arboricultural organisations from around the country. From this meeting the National Arboriculture Forum (NAF) was formed to improve communication within our industry, throughout the country. For its first year, NAF was hosted by TREENET and we thank them for that. At this year's meeting, NAF resolved to move its website and forum to the ISAAC server, which has been done. You can find NAF at <http://isaac.org.au/naf>. A new communication protocol was also established and is working reasonably well.

Volunteers

Giving one or two hours a week, or the odd day assisting at an event, can make a huge difference to the success of your organisation, whether it be ISAAC, WOTT or one of the State groups.

Make a real contribution to your industry and volunteer.

Seasons Greetings

As I move into the third and last year of my term as president, I am extremely pleased with the work all the staff, Board and other volunteers have done for ISAAC. We have come a really long way in a short time and I thank each and every person that has contributed to that success, including you, our members, without whom none of this would be possible.

As we move into the festive season after what seems to me like a whirlwind year, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Craig Hinton'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Craig Hinton
ISAAC President

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