

# THE NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY



The New Zealand Institute of Chemistry, founded in 1931, is the professional organisation of chemists in New Zealand. Unlike organisations of other professions such as engineers, medical practitioners, lawyers or accountants, chemists do not have to be registered with the organisation to practice. Thus it is a voluntary organisation whose purpose is "to support, develop and promote all aspects of chemical science, and to support the needs of its members". It is a member organisation of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

There are just two grades of membership, Member and Fellow. Anyone with an interest in chemistry may become a member, but one must apply for election to fellowship. Fellows must have both educational qualifications and some years of employment as a professional chemist with appropriate responsibilities.

The NZIC is run by its Council, which consists of President, 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents, Immediate Past-President, General Secretary/Executive Officer, Treasurer and a Representative of each Branch. Its addresses are [NZICOffice@nzic.org.nz](mailto:NZICOffice@nzic.org.nz) and [WWW:http://www.nzic.org.nz](http://www.nzic.org.nz)

There are six regional branches; Auckland, Waikato, Manawatu, Wellington, Canterbury and Otago. Each branch has its local committee and organises meeting, visits and activities in its area.

One of the strong features of the NZIC is its specialist groups which organise conferences, symposia and newsletters:

- Analytical Chemistry
- Chemical Education
- Chromatography
- Electrochemistry
- Fats and Oils
- Inorganic and Organometallic
- Organic Chemistry
- Physical Chemistry
- Polymer Chemistry
- X-Ray Crystallography

The NZIC publishes a bimonthly journal called "Chemistry in New Zealand", and features news and articles of interest to chemists at large. It also produces annually four issues of CHEM NZ, an educational publication directed at schools. This has developed an international reputation and goes to schools in the United Kingdom which are associated with the Royal Society of Chemistry.

The Council selects chemists to be recipients of a number of awards each year, and runs an Education Trust Fund.

On occasions it produces special publications, such as this edition of "Chemical Processes in New Zealand".

Written by John Packer.