



Marlborough Convention Centre
Blenheim 16-19 April 2009

Registered Master Builders Federation Conference 2009

“Smart Moves for Success”

Conference Programme

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Building Excellence For Over 100 Years

Message from our President



Brent Mettrick
RMBF President

As President of the Registered Master Builders Federation, it will be my great pleasure to preside over the RMBF's 109th annual conference in Blenheim at the Marlborough Convention Centre.

We are especially thrilled to be hosted in wonderful sunny Marlborough by the Nelson and Marlborough RMB Associations. This is most definitely one of the more beautiful parts of our country and I'm sure you will all take great pleasure in your surroundings and sampling the local produce.

This year has been what any builder will describe as interesting. We have had regulations come and regulations go. Licensing (one of the largest events in our recent history) has been introduced and now with election input twists once more. The finance industry has all but retreated, the banks and world finance market shaken. Green building is coming to the fore helped by the political parties and driven by an ever increasing market. Everyone in the industry agrees that home affordability is paramount. We have a new RMBF CEO in Warwick Quinn as well as a new CEO for Master Build Services Monique Cupples. And it's fair to say we have all experienced tough times with some of our members still bearing the scars.

This year's conference theme is "Smart Moves for Success" a theme that could not be more apt, it is RMBF's way of helping our members focus on the opportunities available in an arena that is ever changing. We aim to give you the tools to take into this next year, not just to adapt and survive - but thrive!

An election tends to give the market great uncertainty. At this conference we will look forward to hearing the politicians clarify that uncertainty with their vision for the future. This insight will be central to our focus, and will help identify the main issues this term. We will be holding the Government accountable to delivering their mandate to ensure we are able to deliver ours to you, our members.

At this conference, key industry leaders, decision makers, industry stalwarts, and of course members, will gather to discuss trends, strategies, policy and options that face our industry as we move forward, and this unique event presents an opportunity for all of us to meet and network with influential figures in the construction arena, including suppliers, customers, service providers, educational bodies and government regulators.

This will be my seventh conference since becoming involved with RMBF and I continue to get immense reward from them as they go from strength to strength. Several first time attendees to the Wellington conference in 2008 commented that they "didn't realise what they were missing out on" and that they would definitely be attending in 2009.

I strongly urge all members to attend conference and begin to reap the rewards of networking with like-minded people belonging to the Building and Construction Industry's leading organisation.

Brent Mettrick
President - Registered Master Builders Federation

Welcome from the Marlborough and Nelson Associations

Welcome to Blenheim, New Zealand's sunniest town and location of the 2009 RMBF conference.

The Marlborough and Nelson Associations are thrilled to be hosting Conference and hope that the summer weather holds out so that they can show off the world-renowned attractions in the popular Marlborough Region – the stunning Marlborough Sounds, Peter Jackson's Aviation Heritage Centre and of course the huge array of first class wineries. What better time to take a few extra days to have a really good look around this fantastic part of the country?

Conference will be a great mix of work and play, with a great line up of speakers and interactive workshops and we're definitely making best use of the location for our social functions both at the convention centre and the wineries.

Remember to dust the cobwebs out of your chequebooks for the charity auction. This is a great way to show support for the fantastic work done by the Marlborough/Nelson Summit Rescue Helicopter.

We look forward to hosting you in Marlborough and know you will have a great time. Make sure you get in early and register for what is shaping up to be a very memorable conference.

Nick Robinson Past President MRMBA
Mike Wightwick President MRMBA
Liz Cadogan President NRMBA



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Conference Information

Accommodation

We are holding accommodation at a number of venues in Blenheim, chosen for the close proximity to the Convention Centre. Full details are included at the end of this programme.

Once you have decided on the accommodation you require, please **contact the venue and book directly with them** - mentioning that you are with the RMBF conference.

Payment for your accommodation is to be made upon checking out.

Travel

If you would like Laker House of Travel to organise your airfares to Blenheim, please indicate on the on-line registration form and they will contact you directly. Payment will be required by credit card upon confirmation.

Airport Transfers

A scheduled service will be operating from Blenheim Airport on Thursday 16 April and returning on Sunday 19 April. A full timetable will be advised to you prior to conference.

Conference Business Sessions

All Business Sessions will be held at the Marlborough Convention Centre in Convention Halls 1, 2 and 3.

Cancellation and Amendment Policy

All **amendments** received after 28 February will incur a \$50 per person fee.

All **cancellations** received after 28 February will incur a \$100 per person fee, plus any applicable travel and accommodation or other supplier cancellation charges.

Car Parking

There is car parking available at all of the accommodation and at the Marlborough Convention Centre.

Dress

Smart casual dress will be the order of the day throughout the conference, business sessions and functions - with the exception of the PlaceMakers RMB Wine and Food Festival which is based on the Marlborough Festival so we advise you to dress accordingly (**i.e. reasonably casual not Black Tie**).

Privacy Act

Details given on your registration form will be included on a delegate list which will be included in the list of participants, and distributed to those attending conference, including sponsors. If you **DO NOT** wish your contact details to appear on this list, please mark the appropriate box on the on-line registration form.

Special Requirements

Any attendees with special requirements (for instance prescribed medical diets, disabled access, special facilities for babies etc) are asked to advise details on the registration form.

Sponsor Trade Stands

All trade stands will be located in the Clubs Main Hall beside the Convention Halls. Morning teas, lunches and Happy Hours will be held in this area. We encourage all attendees to visit the trade stands during conference.

Registration

To register go to www.masterbuilder.org.nz and click on the 'Conference 2009' link or [click here](#).

Please ensure you book your travel (if required) and accommodation prior to registering on-line as these details will be required for your transfers.

You will receive a confirmation email on receipt of your registration. This email also serves as a Tax Invoice.

Final Registration Date - 28 February 2009

Package prices will be guaranteed until final registration date. Price and packages may be subject to availability after that date.

Payment Options

Payment options are by Credit Card or Direct Credit to Registered Master Builders Federation. Full account details are on the on-line registration form.

Delegate Package

Full registration includes:

- All evening functions including Happy Hours
- Attendance to all conference Business Sessions and Workshops
- Attendance to all conference Celebrity Speakers
- All morning teas and lunches as per programme
- Conference satchel

Partner Programme

As per the Delegate Package and costs.

Package excludes the Business Sessions and satchel but includes the Partners Excursion on Friday.

Sponsor Package

All inclusions and costs as per the benefit schedule appended to the sponsorship contract. **All sponsor company representatives must register on-line.**

Registration Fees

Full Registration (excludes accommodation)	\$799
ITM Welcome Function only	\$125
Carters Happy Hour and Charity Auction only	\$ 85
PlaceMakers Gala Dinner only	\$225

Saturday Optional Excursions

There are so many things you can do in an afternoon in Blenheim. We have arranged the excursions below, please indicate on the on-line registration form if you'd like to be included on one of these. For more information on these activities [click here](#)

Marlborough Aviation and Wine (min 20 people)	\$ 95
Guided Sea Kayaking (min 6 people)	\$129
Gourmet Wine and Food Cruise (min 30 people)	\$125
Mountain Biking (min 6 people)	\$129
Wine and Food of Marlborough Tour (min 15 people)	\$ 55

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Delegates' Programme

Thursday 16 April 2009

Morning/Early Afternoon	Attendees arrive into Blenheim (Scheduled airport transfers to accommodation)
9.00am	Registration Desk opens at Convention Centre
1.15pm - 2.00pm	Lunch – Trade Area
2.00pm - 2.30pm	Welcome Conference Address
2.30pm - 4.45pm	Address from Hon Maurice Williamson
3.15pm - 4.45pm	Business Sessions
4.45pm	Business Day Ends
5.00pm - 6.00pm	Happy Hour – Trade Stand area
6.15pm - 6.45pm	Coach Transfers to Welcome Function
6.45pm - 9.00pm	ITM Welcome Function at Wither Hills Winery
9.00pm	Coach transfers to accommodation

Friday 17 April 2009

8.30am – 9.15am	Carters Celebrity Speaker - Graeme Sinclair
9.15am – 10.00am	Business Session - Steve Lange
10.00am – 10.30am	Morning Tea – Trade Area
10.30am – 12.00pm	Workshops - Green Building and Business Best Practice
12.00 pm – 1.00 pm	Lunch – Trade Area
1.00pm – 1.45pm	Business Session - Gareth Keirnan
1.45pm - 2.30pm	Nulook Celebrity Speaker - Tawera Nikau
2.30pm - 5.00pm	Coach transfers to accommodation (Free time)
5.00pm	Coach transfers to Convention Centre
5.15pm – 8.00pm	Carters Happy Hour and Charity Auction
8.00pm	Coaches transfers to accommodation

Saturday 18 April

8.30am – 9.15am	Telecom Celebrity Speaker - Ginette McDonald
9.15am – 10.15am	RMBF AGM Investiture of Board
10.15am – 10.45am	Morning Tea – Trade Area
10.45am – 12.45pm	AGM (continued)
12.45pm – 1.30pm	Lunch – Trade Area
1.30pm – 6.30pm	Optional Tours – (Free time)
6.30pm	Coach transfers from accommodation
7.30pm – 12.00am	PlaceMakers RMB Wine and Food Festival at The Willows
12.00am	Coach transfers to accommodation

Sunday 19 April

Transfers from accommodation to airport.

Partners Programme

Thursday 16 April 2009

Morning/Early Afternoon	Attendees arrive into Blenheim (Scheduled airport transfers to accommodation). Free time
5.00pm - 6.00pm	Happy Hour – Trade Stand area
6.15pm - 6.45pm	Coach Transfers to Welcome Function
6.45pm - 9.00pm	ITM Welcome Function at Wither Hills Winery
9.00pm	Coach transfers to accommodation

Friday 17 April 2009

8.30am – 9.15am	Carters Celebrity Speaker - Graeme Sinclair
10.15am	Kids Club and Teenagers Excursion departs
10.30am	Partners Tour departs

5.15pm – 8.00pm	Carters Happy Hour and Charity Auction
8.00pm	Coach transfers to accommodation

Saturday 18 April

8.30am – 9.15am	Telecom Celebrity Speaker - Ginette McDonald
9.15am – 10.15am	Free time or Investiture of Board Kids Club and Teenagers Excursion departs
6.30pm	Coach transfers from accommodation
7.30pm – 12.00am	PlaceMakers RMB Wine and Food Festival at The Willows
12.00am	Coach transfers to accommodation

Sunday 19 April

Transfers from accommodation to airport.

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Functions and Activities

ITM Welcome Function

Thursday 16 April
Wither Hills Winery

Founded on the sincere belief that the finest wines are always created from exceptional vineyards, we kick off the social activities with a visit to Wither Hills, one of Marlborough's most popular wineries and built by RMB member Nick Robinson. A fantastic chance to taste some of winemaker Ben Glover's award winning wines of the region.

Carters Happy Hour and Charity Auction

Friday 17 April
Marlborough Convention Centre

After a full on day of conference business, relax and wind down with a drink and nibbles, followed by our legendary Charity Auction. The Charity for 2009 is the Marlborough/Nelson Summit Rescue Helicopter. We are always amazed at the way our members put their hand in their pockets to support these great causes.

PlaceMakers RMB Wine and Food Festival

Saturday 18 April
The Willows

The grand finale and always a major highlight of the RMBF conference. Join us at the fabulous "**PlaceMakers RMB Wine and Food Festival**". Food and wine of the region will be the order of the day set at the fabulous backdrop of The Willows. This is based on the Marlborough wine and food festival so we advise you to dress accordingly (i.e. **reasonably casual not Black Tie**).

GIB Partners Programme

Friday 17 April
Gardens, Crafts, Wine and Food

The Partners Tour gets more popular each year and we're sure Blenheim will keep the tradition going. Visit the stunning Upton Oaks Garden, visit the Drylands winery for a tasting and lunch followed by a further tasting at St Clair Family Estate and finished off with a sweet treat at the Makana boutique chocolate factory. [Click here](#) for more info.

Kids Club (and babysitting)

Friday 17 April

We will be running the ever popular Kids Club for the littlies. Blenheim promises to provide some exciting venues and activities for the kids in 2009. The comprehensive and fully supervised Kids Club Programme is for children ages three to 11 years and baby sitting will also be available during the evenings. Details of the day tbc.

Teenagers Excursion

Friday 17 April

The great outdoors activities that Blenheim offers will no doubt be a hit with the Teenagers Excursion. This day will be heaps of fun and is available for the children that are 12 years and over and is fully supervised. Details of the day tbc.

For a full Kids Club, Teenagers Excursion and baby sitting pack including costs, tick the applicable box on the on-line registration form and we will send you the information once the details are confirmed.

Celebrity Speakers

Graeme Sinclair



Author, director and often star of the popular television programme Carters Gone Fishin' Graeme Sinclair has dramatically demonstrated that being in a wheelchair is no impediment to having a successful career and enjoying every minute of it. Diagnosed with multiple sclerosis several years ago, Graeme has forged ahead with his career and TV programme, making Carters Gone Fishin' one of the most popular programmes on TV3.

His story is one of inspiration and motivation – of living every day as if it was your last – of change, from healthy successful TV personality one day to being confined to a wheelchair the next. He has very strong views on life and you will be inspired by his personal philosophy. To read Graeme's full biography [click here](#).

Ginette McDonald



Ginette McDonald was born by the sea in Wellington. From a large noisy Irish/French family, her independent spirit was nurtured by her parents, her convent school and the prevailing 'can do' Kiwi attitude.

Ginette's career has spanned over 30 years and she has done an enormous amount of theatre, television and radio in both NZ and the UK. She has produced and directed, written articles, opinion columns, reviews, after dinner speeches and debates. Most recently she won the International Best Performance at the Worldplay Radio Drama conference in Dublin. To read Ginette's full biography [click here](#).

Tawera Nikau



Tawera is one of New Zealand's most successful professional athletes. He is an excellent communicator, and people from all walks of life appreciate his down-to-earth delivery.

As a businessman, Tawera is a very successful property investor. He is also a Director of the Training company - Team One and is an accredited facilitator of their highly sought after PowerTrain programme. He has completed a Diploma in

Tertiary Teaching and is now studying for his Bachelor of Education.

In July 2003 Tawera badly injured his leg in a motorcycle accident. Given the choice of months in hospital and numerous operations to try and save his leg, Tawera took the option of having his leg removed so he could get back home to his children. He was back at work two months after leaving hospital. His goal is now to compete in the next Paralympics. To read Tawera's full biography [click here](#).

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Guest Speakers

Steve Lange



How did a young man with little passion for education become one of New Zealand's leading entrepreneurial businessmen? This is the story of Steve Lange and how Tony's Tyre Service became the largest independently owned tyre company in New Zealand.

At the age of 16, after working for a tyre fitter in Cambridge, he relocated and worked as a tyre retreader then realised that if he put his mind to it he may be able to make a career in this industry. After a few more years progressing through the industry he was approached to buy a little tyre store in Palmerston North. "YES"!! was the answer.

The mission statement was simple: - "To provide the best service in town and to sell as many tyres as possible". Business boomed. The rest is history. To read Steve's full biography [click here](#).

Gareth Kiernan



Gareth is the Managing Director of Infometrics Ltd, founded in 1983. They offer a range of economic consulting and forecasting services and have built a reputation for rigorous and independent work.

Gareth's presentations are on the economic outlook relevant to a clients' industry. His areas of expertise are financial markets and the building and property sector, and he has completed a

number of consulting jobs examining the residential construction industry.

Gareth graduated with a Masters Degree in economics from the University of Canterbury in 1998, and joined Infometrics early the following year. His presentations are widely regarded as very entertaining, thought-provoking and professional. To read Gareth's full biography [click here](#).

Business Sessions

Conference will have a number of interesting and informative business sessions and workshops around business best practice and focussing on the theme of 'Smart Moves for Success'.

Details of these sessions will be updated on the programme as they are confirmed.

Accommodation Information

Once you have decided on the accommodation you require, please **contact the venue and book directly with them** - mentioning that you are with the RMBF conference.

Please ensure you book your travel (if required) and accommodation prior to registering on-line as these details will be required for your transfer requirements.

Hotels

Copthorne Hotel

20 Nelson Street

Phone: (03) 5777 333

Copthorne.marlborough@millenniumhotels.co.nz

Scenic Circle Blenheim Country Hotel

Cnr Alfred & Henry Streets

Phone: (03) 578 5079

Blenheim.country@scenic-circle.co.nz

Motels

Ashleigh Court Motel

48 Maxwell Road

Phone: (03) 577 7187 or 0800 867 829

ashleighcourtmotel@xtra.co.nz

www.ashleigh-court-motel.co.nz

Waterfront Motel

09 Grove Road

Phone: (03) 579 4500 or 0800 081 568

Waterfront.motel@xtra.co.nz

www.waterfrontmotel.co.nz

171 on High Motel

Cnr High & Percy Streets

Phone: (03) 579 5098 or 0800 587 856

info@171onhighmotel.co.nz

www.171onhighmotel.co.nz

Centre Court Motels

58A Maxwell Road

Phone: (03) 577 7203 or 0800 577 800

centrecourt@xtra.co.nz

www.centrecourt.co.nz

Blenheim Palms Motel

Cnr Henry & Charles Streets

Phone: (03) 577 8845 or 0800 256 725

blenheimpalmsmotel@xtra.co.nz

www.blenheimpalmsmotel.co.nz

Lugano Motor Lodge

91 High Street

Phone: (03) 577 8808 or 0800 584 266

luganomotorlodge@xtra.co.nz

www.lugano.co.nz

Bella Vista Motel

81-89 Charles Street

Phone: (03) 579 3117 or 0800 235 528

bvblenheim@xtra.co.nz

www.bellavistamotels.co.nz

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