Two awards in two months for Clare Feeney

"Bright Star" of the Year - 2009 - NSANZ Auckland (National Speakers Association), December 2009
Joint winner "Outstanding Contribution" Award, NZ Assn. of Resource Management, November 2009

Winning two awards in the last two months of 2009 is a hugely affirming end to a year of great changes, lots of hard work and the sustained encouragement of my family and friends and my clients and colleagues.

"Bright Star" Award

On 12 December 2009, I won the "Bright Star" of the Year - 2009 - NSANZ Auckland award from a field of three entrants.

This annual award recognizes a new member of the Auckland Chapter of the National Speakers Association of New Zealand (NSANZ) who shines on the platform and exemplifies the ethics and qualities of the speaking profession.

Opposite: Sally Mabelle (left)**,** The Voice of Leadership and President of the Auckland Chapter of the National Speakers Association of New Zealand, announcing Clare Feeney as the "Bright Star" of the Year - 2009 - NSANZ Auckland.

I owe my receipt of this award to the many people who have helped me in the 14 months since I joined this wonderful association and to Ann Andrews of The Corporate Toolbox, who suggested that I apply. Standing at second left, Ann is my mentor and the most wonderful person and sensational businesswoman you could ever hope to meet. The other award-winners in the photo above are internationally acclaimed speakers alongside whom I am honoured to stand.

Find out more about NSA New Zealand at http://www.nationalspeakers.org.nz/.

From left: **Mike Handcock** (Rock your life), **Ann Andrews CSP** (The Corporate Toolbox), **Clare Feeney** (Productivity from Sustainability), **Ngahihi o te ra Bidois** (Ancient Wisdom and Modern Solutions), **Allie Mooney CSP** (Personality Plus).

NZARM "Outstanding Contribution" Award

On 4 November 2009 Brian Handyside of Erosion Management Ltd and I jointly received the "Outstanding Contribution Award" from NZARM (the New Zealand Association of Resource Management). This award is conferred from time to time in recognition of any special contribution to resource management in New Zealand that significantly promotes the philosophy, science or practice of resource management.

This award surprised and touched us both, and we acknowledge the role of the Auckland Regional Council in developing the overall erosion and sediment control programme of which our training workshops are but a part, as well as the initiative shown by many other regions around New Zealand in taking up similar programmes.

The first Outstanding Contribution Award was presented to Garth Eyles at last year's Conference for his untiring efforts over the years. Garth was already a towering figure in New Zealand water and soil conservation when we were both at University many years ago, and to us this emphasizes more than anything else the significance of our award.

In issuing this award for work done in the context of land development – more urban than much of the vitally important soils work carried out by NZARM members, we believe this award also acknowledges the importance of urban environmental management. Many rivers and coastal waters around New Zealand are affected by a mix of urban and rural land uses and their impact on soils (among other things) and we believe that NZARM has a great contribution to make towards more sustainable soil management in all contexts.

Find out more about NZARM at http://www.nzarm.org.nz/.