

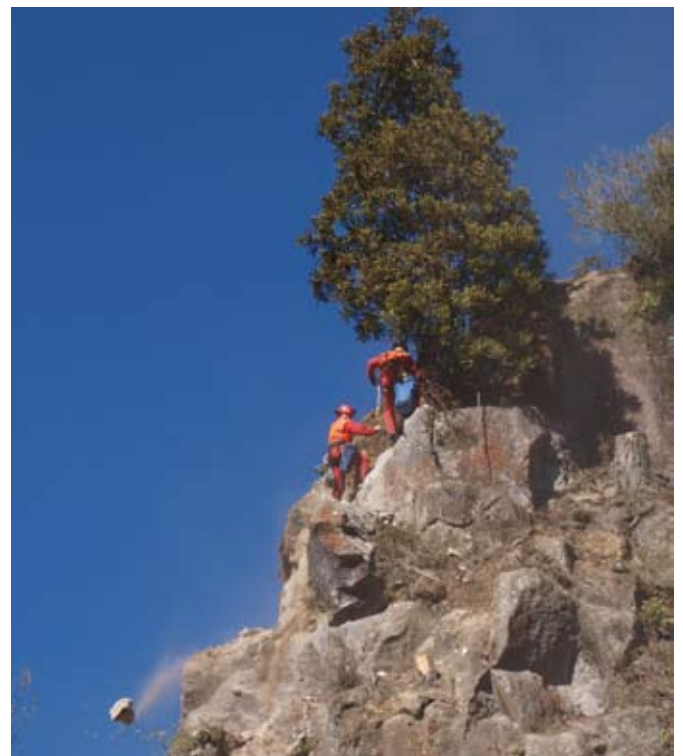
Welcome to the mid-year edition of our newsletter. Staff have been very busy on jobs throughout the north island, often away for several weeks at a time.

One job that may have recently come to your attention is the drill and blast operation being carried out on SH36 north of Ngongotaha, Rotorua, by Avalon for Downer EDI Works. This project will involve us for a few months as a roading realignment takes place.

Below is a photo taken after a blast, before the road is cleared. This is just one part of extensive works being carried out by Downers. We are contracted to use our expertise to cut back the pinnacle; allowing the road to be realigned before a new bridge.



Loading explosives on blast day.



Scaling of loose rock removes some of the hazard for people & vehicles working under a slope by day and the public by night.

We have also been involved in several structural and building inspections, which can reveal the good, the bad and as you can see below, the **ugly?**



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Avalon had a stand at a conference held this year in Hamilton. It was good to meet so many people and put some faces to the names and voices we hear from throughout the year.

Congratulations to **Peter Till** of Ruapehu District Council who won the bottle of wine from our stand.

Of interest to several people attending the conference, was our ultra light and mobile drilling rig, pictured below.

For those that like statistics; we can drill holes up to 100mm in diameter and 20metres deep. It can top hammer, down hole hammer, auger, with air or water, making it very suitable for installing drainage on slopes. These photo's are from work on the Northern gateway site earlier this year.



While completing a large scaling job, it was found that one new staff member had entertainment skills that kept up motivation on site, in what was wet, cold and cheerless weather at times.

Perhaps it was homesickness for John, but it was probably fortunate that they weren't working in town!

