

In this issue:

- **Merry Christmas from UP!**
- **[Back due to demand: Bloggers Predictions 2008 !](#)**
- **[AGM summary](#)**
- **[Unlimited Prize](#)**
- **[Sponsorship UPdate](#)**
- **[Website UPdates](#)**

Merry Christmas from UP!

Another year has come and gone and it's time once again to put up the Christmas tree. It's been a great year for UP with plenty of new members, new sponsors (thanks guys!), and a rejuvenated committee to take us through 2008 and beyond.

We've started planning for next year, so you won't be without your fix of networking (and pizza and beer) in 2008. First off the bat we've got the 2008 Bloggers' Predictions event on Wednesday 30 January: the 2007 event was such a success that we're doing it again (more info below).



As things start to wind down for the year and the weather starts to become warmer the UP Committee would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy summer.

Back due to demand: Bloggers' Predictions 2008!

Do you want to know what's going to happen in 2008? Then come along to the UP New Year's Party on Wednesday 30 January: **Bloggers' Predictions 2008**.

A year ago we asked leading Wellington bloggers to predict the future for 2007. Well, the future is now, so we're doing it again and first off we'll see if they got it right.

Our bloggers that attempted to predict 2007 were David Farrar of Kiwiblog fame, Mauricio Freitas of Geekzone Guru (crowned Visionary of the Year for 2007), Hamish MacEwan local visionary, Philip Fierlinger turntable technologist, Tom Beard Wellurbanite and Wellingtonista's Web-Writing-Wellingtonian of the Year.

Once again, we've asked Wellington's best bloggers to gaze into the future and tell us what the big news will be in the next twelve months. The wisdom of their prognostications will astound you...or amuse you at the least. The blogger who makes the best predictions – as voted by the audience – will be crowned **UP Visionary of the Year for 2008** and receive an official certificate, a beautiful tiara, and full bragging rights... at least until 2009, when we will vote again on whether to revoke their title.



We predict that this will be another great UP event. Come to drink, meet and mingle, before assembling to hear the bloggers reveal all their own forecasts and those made by their readers. Then you will vote for the blogger who has made the most plausible yet unexpected claims about the year ahead. The blogger with the most votes will take the prize...until 2008.

The evening will conclude with a traditional Unlimited Potential feast: free pizza and beer! [RSVP now](#) to reserve your spot!

AGM Summary



Thanks to the record crowd who showed up for the Unlimited Potential AGM on 1st November.

True to her word Mayor Kerry Prendergast opened the event, with the Wellington City Council recognising the importance of UP in promoting ICT as a great industry by

providing the venue and catering out of appreciation for the great things our network is achieving. We would have liked to hear some hot off the press inside info on the digital strategy and other ICT issues but many thanks all the same for some great hospitality.

We also heard an update from Mike Brown of WebStock on what's in the lineup for next year. Tim Norton of planHQ had just returned from a trip to the US and gave us the [whistlestop top tips](#) for taking Silicon Welly to Silicon Valley.



The AGM is also a time to thank the exec (that's us) for their hard work during the year, and two of our founding members, Nicola and Tony received Life Membership of UP as recognition for all their amazing efforts over much more than just the last year. Welcome to new UP exec members Ruth McDavitt, Jayne Wallis, Sarah Lock and Tim Copeland and welcome back to Arun Stephens.

Unlimited Prize - \$1000 to the top student in Computer Science, Level 3 at Victoria University

As you all know and regularly tell your friends, Unlimited Potential exists to inspire and connect young, and young at heart, like-minded individuals associated with the Information and Communications Technology industry, to recognise their potential and encourage them to take action. As well as our great events, forums, and networking opportunities we are delighted to announce that we are now sponsoring the Unlimited Potential prize at Victoria University. The prize supports an outstanding computer science student in recognition of the importance of top quality graduates to realising the unlimited potential and ongoing success of Wellington's ICT industry. It's a small step to getting more grads in our industry and we look forward to announcing the first winner at Christmas. For details on how to enter contact Marika Wessels at Vic.

Sponsorship UPdate



We're enjoying the association with our new gold sponsor, Ninetwenty. You may have dealt with Momentum before, but after recognising the need for a dedicated and specialist approach for the IT&T market the Ninetwenty brand was launched earlier this year as

specialist IT&T Career Management Agents.

They have just launched their new website www.920.co.nz which they're interested in getting your thoughts and feedback on. Feel free to write some comments on the actual news stories and blogs on the website.

Keep an eye out in the New Year for the launch of the "Who is NZ's IT Rock star" competition – www.itrockstar.co.nz. And if you are nearby and fancy a Latte and chat they invite you to pop into the Ninetwenty Career Cafe anytime: Level 10 Cigna House Cnr Willis/Mercer.

Website UPdates

The UP website has had a service under the hood in the last month. After your feedback from the last newsletter we've made a few improvements:

- Our forums now allow you to include images and links in your posts
- We've fixed issues with blank password reset emails and made it easier to get involved – with your RSVP, forum, and membership synchronising into one account
- We're working on improvements to our email notifications to make it easier for you to control your contact preferences and leverage more of the capabilities of our Calcium email software, and,
- We are developing ideas for an RSS aggregator for your blog feeds and favourite sites.

If you've got any pictures from events or other media please let us know by emailing them to pix@up.org.nz - we're always interested in seeing an event from your angle.

It's been a great year for UP, and we're looking forward to ramping it UP again in 2008. See you all at Bloggers' Predictions in the new year!

**With Love,
UP Executive**

A big thanks to all our sponsors, without whom we wouldn't be able to run any of these events:

GOLD



NineTwenty Career Agents

SILVER



Wellington City Council, Vision Recruit, Infinity Solutions, Regional EDA Ltd, NZ Wireless, gen-i

ASSOCIATES



Calcium eMarketing Solutions, Hell Pizza, Wigley & Company, Silverstripe, Wellington Regional Chamber of Commerce, Creative HQ