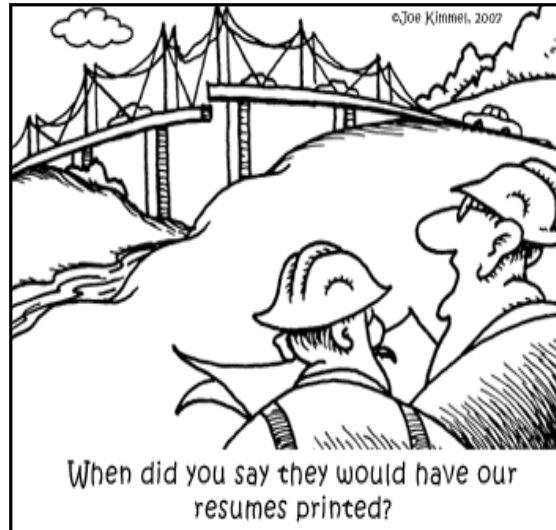


NAWIC NEWSLETTER  
July 2008



**EVENT CALENDER**

30 July—Guest Speaker—Tania Williams  
13th / 14th August—Coke Cola Careers Expo  
Late August – AGM  
Sept / Oct —CIF Event  
December – Christmas Function

**President's Report**

We have started the year with a couple of site visits, firstly, an out-of-this –world residential renovation, and recently a commercial building. Thanks to CentrePort for allowing our visit, and to Aaron Muir Fletcher's Project Manager for taking us around. It was an amazing opportunity to see inside this partially complete new feature to the waterfront. We looked around from bottom to top, at the highest point we were standing on temporary scaffold platform about 20 odd metres up. We were told about the clip-on slabs and the art work on the Quay side face. It was another fantastic chance to get onsite. This visit was so popular, that 30 very disappointed people had to be declined from attending due to maximum numbers. Make sure you get in quick for any other site visits as we have a couple of others lined up during the year.

NAWIC is involved again in the organisation of the Construction Industry's – Build Your Future Stand, held in August at the Coke Cola Careers Expo at the TSB Arena. This is an ideal place to encourage young students to consider an exciting career in our industry.

A warm welcome to Sonia Barker who has joined the NAWIC Board recently.

I am looking forward to our next guest speaker, Tania Williams, MWH Central Regional Manager, 2005 ACE NZ Future Leader Award Winner. Hope you find time to attend this inspiring event.

Regards,  
Stacey Mendonça

**F1 / F2 - BNZ Site Visit**  
**Special Thanks to Aaron Muir from Fletchers & Sonia Barker**  
**from Centreport**



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NEXT PLANNED EVENT

*Introducing TANIA WILLIAMS*

You are invited to hear about this remarkable women's  
career

We are delighted to have Tania Williams as our guest speaker. Tania is currently the MWH NZ's Central Regional Manager, responsible for a team of 240 staff, 11 locations and annual revenues of \$30m. She has been involved in significant projects world wide, and she is one of few people to have worked successfully in senior project roles in the transportation and water/wastewater markets. In August 2005 she won the ACENZ/Telecom Future Leader Award and is considered a rising star within MWH NZ and internationally.



When:- 12.00noon - Wednesday 30th July

Where:- Hugo's Bar (Behind the Loaded Hog)  
Accessible access and facilities available

A Light lunch will be provided

Cost:- NAWIC Members - \$5.00  
NAWIC Database Non Members - \$10.00

As entry is limited please contact Janine Greening at  
[janineg@fcc.co.nz](mailto:janineg@fcc.co.nz) to secure your place.

## RECIPE

### *Cinnamon chicken with couscous*



#### Ingredients

- 1 medium boneless chicken breast, skin removed and thinly sliced
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 2 tablespoons plain flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves
- 300g can chickpeas, drained
- zest of 1 lemon
- 2½ cups hot chicken stock
- 1-2 tablespoons toasted pine nuts or almond slivers (optional)
- ¼ cup raisins
- freshly ground black pepper
- 1 handful fresh coriander, chopped

For the couscous:

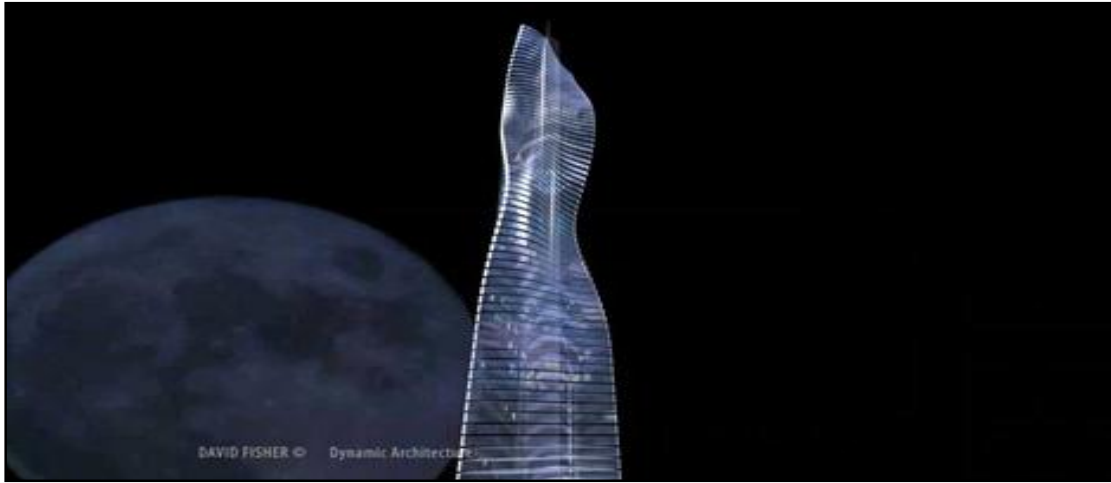
- 2 cups couscous
- 2 cups chicken stock, boiling

- Step 1** Heat the oil in a non-stick pan and gently fry the chicken until sealed and turning golden. Toss in the chopped onion and reduce the heat, cooking until the onion is soft.
- Step 2** Add the flour and spices and gradually stir in the hot stock. Mix continuously as you trickle in the liquid.
- Step 3** Add the raisins, lemon zest and chickpeas and simmer for 10 minutes, stirring from time to time.
- Step 4** To prepare the couscous, place in a large bowl, pour over the hot chicken stock and mix gently, ensuring all the couscous is moistened, then cover it with a plate or lid and set aside for around 5 minutes. Fluff the couscous with a fork, then spoon onto a serving platter.
- Step 5** Add half the toasted nuts and half the coriander to the sauce. Taste and season with pepper. Spoon onto the prepared couscous, and garnish with the remaining nuts and coriander.

## ADVERTISING

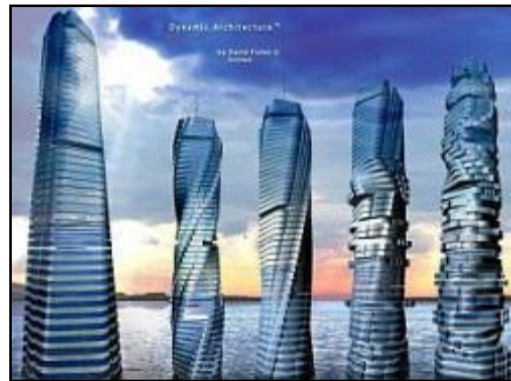
Advertise in our classifieds section: members free, non-members \$25

## WHAT GOES ROUND



After taking in an expansive view of Manhattan from a friend's apartment, architect David Fisher came up with a way to make the most of a good location -- a rotating building. Fisher now hopes to build his so-called dynamic towers -- prefabricated sun- and wind-powered skyscrapers that will keep changing shape as each floor rotates around a central axis -- in Moscow and Dubai by the end of 2010.

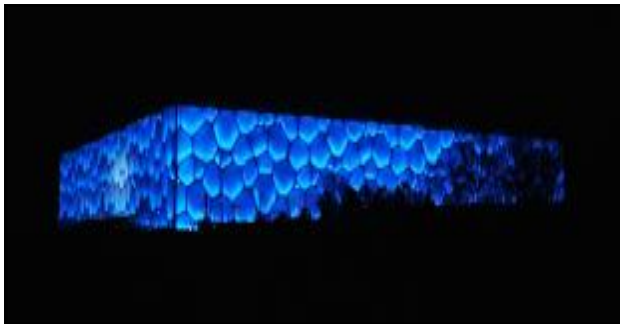
The towers are expected to generate enough electricity for themselves and other nearby buildings from solar panels and wind turbines fitted horizontally between each floor. People who own an entire floor will be able to simply speak to control the rotation, with speeds varying from an hour to three hours for each full rotation.



## WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

[www.businessweek.com/innovate/architecture](http://www.businessweek.com/innovate/architecture)

Features many international buildings, including Beijing's National Swimming Center which incorporates pillows of ETFE, a lightweight material akin to Teflon. LEDs are integrated into the pillow frames.

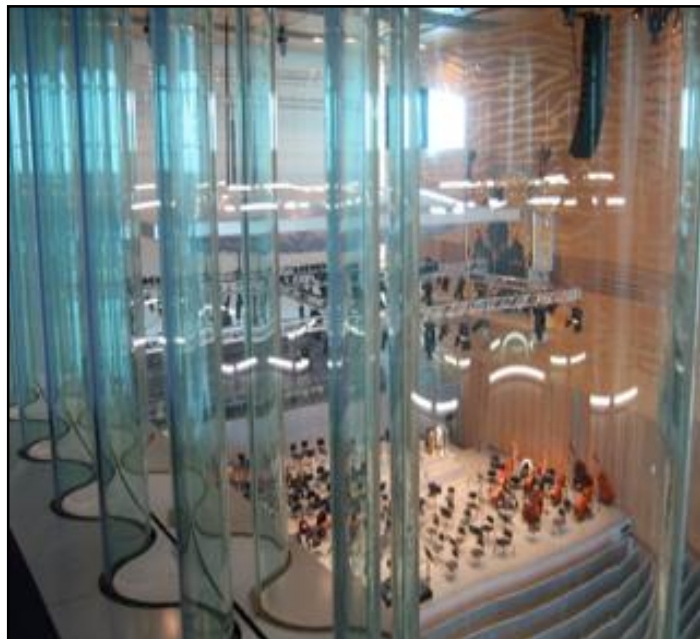
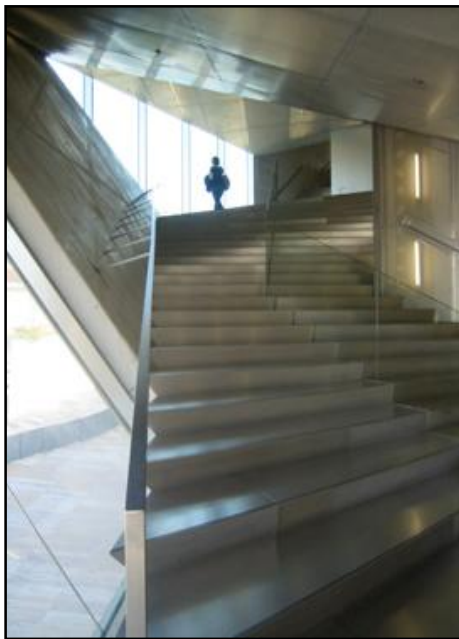


*International Buildings*  
*This Month—Portugal—Casa Da Musica*

Article & Photos Courtesy of Sonia Barker

While across in the UK for a friend's wedding earlier this year, I was lucky enough to spend a few days looking around Portugal, and visited the recently (2005) completed Casa da Musica by Rem Koolhaas.

Here are a selection of the photo's taken on my afternoon exploring this building. They happily let you just wander around, opening doors and discovering a mad array of performance spaces and terraces, with stunning views across the city and down into the main concert hall thru windows of corrugated glazing.



## NO JOB IS TOO BIG OR SMALL



Ruth Brown never knitted woollen booties for any of her eight grandchildren - she made them little wooden tables instead.

The 75-year-old Christchurch woman has shunned the pastimes expected of most grandmothers to spend the past 20 years as a builder.

Brown held a teaching post in Auckland for most of her life, but the job sent her "a bit ragged round the edges", so she took a year off in the 1980s and travelled through Canada.

Returning to New Zealand, Brown stayed with friends in Christchurch, where her practical skills were employed for odd jobs. Then came the idea to build a new career. "I was always more interested in taking things apart and putting them back together," she said in her tool-laden Mount Pleasant garage. "I never thought being female could hold me back." Brown sold up in Auckland and returned to Christchurch to start Ruth's Reliable Renovations, a four-day-a-week business that has kept her fed and happy for the past 20 years.

Brown is mostly self-taught, except for a boatbuilding course where she was the only female student. "The men all stood around in a corner treating me like I was a bit of cotton wool, but I just walked in one day and said, 'What's bloody going on here?' I didn't go back to swearing, but they treated me the same after that," Brown's mainstay is maintenance work for social agencies such as the Women's Refuge and Comcare Charitable Trust, but extra work pours in through word of mouth, particularly from women living on their own who feel more comfortable with tradeswomen in the house. She believes her business thrives because, unlike most builders, she is happy to accept small jobs and never leaves tools or swathes of dust and dirt in her wake. "And I'm not stupid enough to pick up the heavy things," she said. Brown would like to see a change in the support structure to attract women into apprenticeships, which should include plans to send women to building sites in pairs. Wellington researcher Cathy Tracey ([cathytracey22@hotmail.com](mailto:cathytracey22@hotmail.com)) is looking for women who were used in a 1982 Department of Labour publication about women working in non-traditional roles.

(Printed with Permission from Nawic Member Cathy Tracey)

## Personal Profile Sonia Barker

**Name -** Sonia Barker

**Current Position**

Programme Manager Commercial Property... which is a long  
winded way of saying Client Project Manager

**Where do you work?**

CentrePort Wellington. Sonia has worked there since  
November 2005.

**What are you currently working on?**

I am responsible for the delivery of CentrePort's commercial  
property projects both in Harbour Quays, our commercial  
development along Waterloo Quay, and out at Seaview.  
Currently the two live projects are the BNZ building by  
Jasmox, situated beside the Bluebridge Ferry terminal, and the  
soon to be on site Customhouse designed by Studio of Pacific  
Architecture.



**Have you always worked in the Construction Industry?**

For most of my career yes, except for a short 2 year stint managing IT & Finance projects to see  
what it was like... I missed design too much and returned to Construction. I think I decided to be  
an Architect when I was 12 and my parents built a house. But by the time I was going to  
University I had realised that I had better management skills than design ones, so following a  
Bachelor of Building Science degree and a Commerce degree, I was lucky enough to start my  
career as a Project Manager working with Carson Group on Te Papa. Since then I have spent the  
majority of my career in the UK working on various large projects and retail roll outs.

**Favourite Cheese?**

English Stilton - blue or apricot.

**Who is your hero?**

My Dad.

### MEMBERSHIP

To join NAWIC Wellington or  
if you are on the move . . . . .

Please contact Nicola Yortt  
email: [nicolay@formway.com](mailto:nicolay@formway.com)

NAWIC, PO Box 27 182,  
Marion Square, Wellington



### BOARD MEMBERS

Stacey Mendonca – President  
Nicola Yortt – Vice President  
Gillian Topping – Treasurer  
Keryn Thompson – Secretary  
Emily Reich  
Janine Greening  
Sonia Barker

### WEBSITE

[www.nawic.org.nz](http://www.nawic.org.nz)

We are looking for someone with website development knowledge to help us update our website, if you can  
help please contact a board member.