

## October/Whiringa-ā-nuku News

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## **NZAEE Biennial Conference**



### **Taking the Next Steps – Te Ahu Whakamua**

20-23 January, 2010

Lindisfarne College, Hawke's Bay

Join us at the NZ Association for Environmental Education's biennial conference - *Taking the Next Steps – Te Ahu Whakamua* - in sunny Hawke's Bay in January 2010.

Check out the conference website [www.nzaeeconference2010.co.nz](http://www.nzaeeconference2010.co.nz) for full details and how to register. The site will be used to communicate conference news and updates, so bookmark it today and check it regularly to hear more about this essential conference for all involved in environmental education and education for sustainability.

Register now to take advantage of the Early-Bird discounted rates and secure your first field trip preference. Places are limited at this exciting conference, so register your place now!



**Seaweeek**

**7-14 March 2010**

Enquiries about Seaweeek 2010 are starting to come in, so it's a good time to provide an update on progress.

Sioux Campbell, NZAEE executive's Northland Branch rep, is helping NZAEE with the strategic development of Seaweeek next year - essentially starting to put the Seaweeek strategic plan into action. A number of key tasks have been identified for launching Seaweeek at a national level, the most critical of which is securing sponsors and supporters. Sioux is approaching groups and organisations likely to have an interest in Seaweeek 2010, particularly around the theme of fishing. A catch-cry will be decided once we know who our supporters are, although *Fish for the Future* (a former Seaweeek theme) may well make a re-appearance!

Sioux's work also includes liaising with sponsors, supporters and stakeholders, developing an implementation plan for Seaweeek, working directly with any national co-ordinator NZAEE is able to appoint, and developing a suite of role descriptions to assist those involved in making Seaweeek happen.

If you have any ideas (or even leads) on potential sponsorship - financial and in-kind - or any questions about or plans for Seaweeek please contact Sioux directly on 09 4344264 or [chameleon.1@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chameleon.1@xtra.co.nz).

You can check out the Seaweeek strategic plan on the NZAEE website <http://www.nzaee.org.nz/>.

Thank you to Annette Burgess and Linda Bercusson for their work this year in helping research potential sponsors and maintaining existing supporter relationships. This work has been extremely valuable in progressing Seaweeek 2010.

### **Green Cafe**

The Waikato branch of NZAEE has hosted our second *Green Cafe*. Part of the very successful *Cafe Scientifique* series run by the University of Waikato for the past few years, this *Cafe* addressed the issue of the role of natural spaces in our urban areas. The *Cafe* concept brings an audience together in the ambience of a local cafe for an informal talk over a drink or dinner.

This topic attracted a fantastic 75 people and we were entertained and informed by Professor Bruce Clarkson of the University of Waikato, who discussed environmental reasons for maintaining nature in our towns and cities; Tim Newton from Hamilton City Council who looked at the reasons why natural spaces may be good for people, using Hamilton's extensive gully system as an example; and Gerry Kessels who examined the balancing of environmental and development interests in our urban areas. There was much animated discussion after the speaker's short presentations, which

ranged from the increase in tui being reported around the Waikato urban areas, to the concept of biodiversity offsets in development. These *Green Cafes* are

attracting a diverse range and age of people and seem to be filling a need for an informal forum for open and frank exploration of environmental issues. Our next *Green Cafe* is planned for early 2010.

### **Draft Tertiary Education Strategy**

The [draft Tertiary Education Strategy](#) 2010-15 is out for consultation. It gives direction to NZ's tertiary education for the next five years setting out the Government's expectations and priorities for New Zealand's tertiary education system. The final document will guide the Tertiary Education Commission's investment decisions and act as a reference point for the Government's policy-making and relationships with the sector. The draft is weak on sustainability: it's alluded to in the higher level statements but entirely missing in the directions for teaching and learning. As it stands, institutions will not see sustainability as an imperative, instead they'll be driven entirely by productivity.

You are encouraged to provide feedback to the Ministry of Education by **6 November 2009**. You can do so by email to [tertiary.strategy@minedu.govt.nz](mailto:tertiary.strategy@minedu.govt.nz).

### **EE Stocktake Meeting**

A group of concerned environmental educators will meet in Wellington in late November to discuss the immediate future of school-based EE/EfS in New Zealand. With the loss of Maturanga Taiao, the imminent demise of the National EfS team and the loss

of government funding for the EnviroSchools Programme, we are in danger of losing the fantastic progress that these and other initiatives have given to school EE/EfS over the past few years. The purpose of the meeting is to take stock of where we are at and plan a way forward. A report on the meeting will be provided in the next newsletter. If you have any issues you would like considered at the meeting, please contact Chris Eames ([c.eames@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:c.eames@waikato.ac.nz)).

### **Project Lantern**

WWF's Earth Hour has created a new learning resource called *Project Lantern*, designed to give children from New Zealand and all around the globe the chance to show their vote for saving the earth from runaway climate change. The project encourages children to make a paper lantern, decorating it with words and images that express care for the environment and asking world leaders for action by making the statement, "I Vote Earth because..."

Handcrafted lanterns from schools around New Zealand will be collected by WWF and used in a public display in Wellington.

They will then be sent to Copenhagen for the crucial UN climate summit in December 2009, where lanterns from around the world will be paraded in the town centre, reminding leaders that the fate of future generations is at stake.

Making a lantern is child's play! Parents, teachers, after-school groups and children - we've produced easy step-by-step guides for how to make your own lantern and send it back to WWF-New Zealand by 20 November 2009.

Download your pack today from [http://www.wwf.org.nz/what\\_we\\_do/climate\\_change/project\\_lantern/](http://www.wwf.org.nz/what_we_do/climate_change/project_lantern/)

### **Examining Behavior Change Approaches in Response to the Challenge of Sustainability**

Check out these innovative approaches from WWF-UK's [Strategies for Change Project](#) for changing thinking and behavior in response to the profound social and environmental challenges confronting us today:

[Weathercocks and signposts](#) (WWF-UK, April 2008): WWF's Strategies for Change Project is a new work stream which contributes to the growing debate about how best to effect environmentally-friendly behavioural change. In particular, the project examines the importance of our collective social values in driving behavioural change, and the ways in which such values are shaped.

[The Natural Change Project's Action Research report](#), *Natural Change – Psychology and Sustainability*, reveals some exciting outcomes and recommendations for future behaviour change approaches and environmental

campaigns. A new and innovative response to the challenge of sustainability and to the growing evidence that current environmental campaigns are not resulting in the depth of behavior change necessary to address this challenge.

[A forum](#) for exploring ways in which social values and identity can be engaged - developed as part of WWF-UK's [Strategies for Change Project](#).

### **Te Kete Ipurangi database**

Have you seen Te Kete Ipurangi resource database lately? This database allows you to carry out a basic or filtered search for online resources. These resources are tools to support school managers and teachers in providing effective programmes for Education for Sustainability. Icon symbols also provide further information on each resource. Teachers are advised to evaluate this category of sites carefully for relevance and accuracy, and to consider any privacy and security issues before using them with students

[www.efs.tki.org.nz/Resource-Links](http://www.efs.tki.org.nz/Resource-Links).

### **Documentaries/Films**

NZ On Screen showcases New Zealand's unique natural heritage with the launch of a [collection](#) of prestigious nature programmes from Natural History New Zealand.

Aotearoa's landscapes and its magnificent treasures of birds, insects, and trees are

showcased in 15 award-winning titles. *The Nature Collection* has been curated specifically for NZ On Screen. NZ On Screen is the NZ On Air-funded website set up in 2008 highlighting New Zealand television and film. You can view *The Nature Collection*, and over 700 other titles, free of charge at [www.nzonscreen.com](http://www.nzonscreen.com).

### **Living with Coffee - Documentary**

*(New Zealand 2009; duration: 20 minutes)*

Directed by Diane Abad and screened as part of the New Zealand Human Rights Film Festival, this audio visual thesis narrated by Mike McRoberts takes us into the coffee trade.

As Colombia's smallest coffee farmers strive for a life free from conflict and illicit drugs, New Zealand coffee roasters and consumers search for a taste of justice. This revealing glimpse into the \$80 billion dollar coffee industry traces two coffee roasters from New Zealand on their quest to buy coffee at a fair price.

Copies can be ordered from [www.trademe.co.nz](http://www.trademe.co.nz), enter "living with coffee" in the search bar on the home page. Cost is \$30.00 inclusive of package and postage.

### **Green your business**

Want to know how to make your business even more environmentally friendly? Here

are a couple of tools to help you on your way...

### **Envirostep**

Envirostep is a no-cost, entry-level environmental management tool for small to medium enterprises (SMEs) in New Zealand. Developed by the Ministry of Economic Development in conjunction with a number of other contributors, Envirostep provides users with:

- An environmental performance score and profile
- Recommendations in becoming more efficient
- A strategic action plan
- Numerous links to other environmental tools

Envirostep allows SMEs to get a better understanding of their environmental issues and opportunities, and the practical steps they can take to manage them. It can also help SMEs with certification schemes.

Envirostep has the following components:

- A self-assessment
- An environmental report, score, profile, performance trend and recommendations for improvement
- An action plan
- A further information section, containing a [User Guide](#)
- A feedback page

For more information go to: <http://eco-verification.med.govt.nz/envirostep>

### **EnviroSmart**

EnviroSmart is a programme aimed at improving the 'environmental performance' of businesses. Sponsored by the Ministry for the Environment and twenty-two councils the programme will assist in:

- Implementing resource efficiency
- Implementing environmental procurement policies
- Adhere to relevant environmental accords, best practice guidelines and codes of practice
- Achieve [Enviro-Mark @ NZ](#) Level 3 Gold Certification

Committing to a two year time frame, businesses must achieve the programme [objectives](#).

EnviroSmart consultants will provide support to participating businesses, as well as workshops provided by Landcare Research. For more information [click here](#).

### **Diary**

#### **3, 4, 8 November**

##### **The Last Ocean - Ross Sea Protection**

Nov 3 – Auckland (Rm 3, Owen G Glen Building, 12 Grafton Rd, 7.30pm).

Nov 4 – Wellington (Theatre 1, Rutherford House, 23 Lambton Quay, Access Bunny St, 7.30pm).

Nov 8 – Christchurch (Christchurch City Art Gallery Auditorium 7.30pm).

Commercial fishing threatens this fragile ecosystem. Come and hear perspectives from Antarctic Ecologists Dr David Ainley (US) and Dr Peter Wilson (NZ) and presentation from New Zealand documentary maker Peter Young. This will be a night of stunning visuals and insightful interviews and discussion.

#### **12 - 13 November**

##### **The 7th New Zealand Cycling Conference**

will be held in New Plymouth. This year's theme is "Communities, connections and the economy". More information is available on the conference web page: [can.org.nz/conference/2009](http://can.org.nz/conference/2009).

#### **13 – 15 November**

##### **The World Comes to Waikato for the Organic Sector Conference**

Organics Aotearoa New Zealand (OANZ) looks forward to welcoming people with an interest in organics to the 2009 Organic Sector Conference – from 13 to 15 November at the University of Waikato – which focuses on the innovation inherent in organics and biodynamics.

With the first day devoted to the best of theoretical and applied research, and opportunities to visit a range of successful organic producers available on Sunday, the conference offers a wealth of information about organic production, science and markets.

The Organic Sector Conference has limited spaces and early registration is essential to

guarantee your place. Register [online](#) or [download](#) a printable registration form. More information about the conference can be found on the conference website – [www.goorganic.org.nz](http://www.goorganic.org.nz) – or by calling OANZ on 0800FUTURE.

**11 November – 22 December**  
**Copenhagen 2009 - Issues, Options, Outlook and Outcomes.**

The New Zealand Climate Change Research Institute and The Institute of Policy Studies are hosting a seminar series: *Copenhagen 2009 - Issues, Options, Outlook and Outcomes.*

**11 November:** Dr John Peet, formerly Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Canterbury

Talking past each other – the physics and economics of climate change

**13 November:** Dr Geoff Bertram Institute of Policy Studies, VUW

How not to design an Emissions Trading Scheme: Lessons from New Zealand

**18 November:** Launch of *Climate Change 101* a book by Dr Andy Reisinger, 12 noon, Lecture Theatre 1, Old Government Buildings,

**18 November:** Dr Andy Reisinger, NZ Climate Change Research Institute, VUW

Targets versus reality

**25 November:** Ambassador Dr Beat Nobs, Embassy of Switzerland

Prospects for Copenhagen

**2 December:** Judy Lawrence, NZ Climate Change Research Institute, VUW

New Zealand emission reductions and global agreements: Lessons from the last 20 years

**9 December:** Dr Morgan Williams, former Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment

The relationship between climate change and other global sustainability issues

**16 December:** Dr David Eng, Philosophy Programme, VUW

Allocating the burdens of dealing with climate change

**18 December:** Peter Wilson, Vector Ltd

The case for an independent advisory committee on climate change

**22 December:** Panel discussion: the outcome and implications of COP 15

For more information [click here](#).

### **NZAEE Contacts**

#### **Co-chairpersons**

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Trish Kirkland-Smith

#### **Branch contacts**

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### **About NZAEE**

The New Zealand Association for Environmental Education (NZAEE) was established in 1982 to promote and support environmental education.

Regional branches include; Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Wellington, Christchurch and Southern.

NZAEE seeks to promote environmental education by:

- Providing an environmental education network;
- Supporting the inclusion of environmental education in policy and curricula;
- Supporting environmental education initiatives;
- Coordinating workshops and seminars on environmental education.

### **NZAEE newsletter**

The newsletter of the New Zealand Association for Environmental Education is published six times a year.

- Material may be copied with due acknowledgement.
- The views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the Association.
- Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. Intending contributors should forward material as word documents by e-mail or post to NZAEE.

The next issue of the newsletter will be in December. Intending contributors should forward a copy no later than 20 November 2009.