

'Peace on Earth':

Anabaptism and Ecological Action in Aotearoa



A ROCHA



Christians in Conservation



**A Colloquium co-sponsored by:
A Rocha Aotearoa/NZ (ARANZ),
the Anabaptist Association of Australia and NZ (AAANZ),
and Urban Vision.**

**Saturday 29th May, 2010
(9am to 5pm)**

**Venue: Ngatiawa (Urban Vision Community)
Reikorangi Valley, Waikanae, 1hr from Wellington.**

At the beginning of the 21st century we live in a world facing catastrophic environmental degradation and embroiled in a seemingly endless, unwinnable 'war on terror'. How, in such a context, does the Church live as witnesses to the gospel, the good news of peace? Increasingly it is acknowledged that tackling the current environmental crisis is inextricably connected to broader attempts to bring about a more peaceful world. Indeed, the theme of Pope Benedict XVI's World Day of Peace message on January 1st, 2010 was: If You Want to Cultivate Peace, Protect Creation.

Such an emphasis on peace-making and peace-building is a strong element within the Anabaptist Christian tradition. While there are few established denominational churches from within this Anabaptist stream of Christianity evident in Aotearoa/New Zealand, Anabaptism has played an important role in the faith development of many individuals and Christian communities. Are their specific resources within Anabaptist theology and practice able to assist in a response to the current environmental crisis?

Call for Papers:

We are seeking papers/presentations that will engage with either one, or both, of the following themes:

- Anabaptism and its faith expression in the Aotearoa / New Zealand context.
- Christian (or, more specifically, Anabaptist) responses to the environmental crisis.

While the term *colloquium* is often used in an academic setting, the term, derived from Latin, means a conversation, a talking together. The organisers desire that the day will provide a forum for interaction between thinkers/theorists and doers/activists, offering papers/presentations of an academic quality and excellence which will stimulate thought and lead to reflective action.

Presentation/Papers can be either of a 25 minute duration (20 minutes presentation) and 5 minutes for discussion) or of a 50 minute duration, (40 minute presentation and 10 minutes for discussion). [As a rule of thumb, you talk at about 100 words a minute, so a 15 minute paper (in a 20 minute slot) should equate to roughly 1,500 words, and a 40 minute paper (in a 50 minute slot) to about 4,000 words.]

If submitting a proposed paper, please:

- (1) indicate what sort of time slot you are applying for,
- (2) include a 50-100 word abstract of the proposed paper.

These should be sent to Andrew Shepherd at andrewshepherd.nz@gmail.com or, if necessary, by post to: Private Bag 9036, Wanaka 9343. These need to be received by May 3rd, 2010.

Please also advertise the colloquium to those within your network who you think may be interested in attending and participating in the day.