

ARANZ May e-news



(Microsoft clipart)

Sustainable living – what is it? We all continue to develop our perspectives with God's guidance. Here's offering a series of Bible studies that you may find helpful to encourage our collective Biblical reflection and challenge us in our daily lives. Please feel free to use them in your local group meetings:



Climate and sustainability Bible study series. Published by Jubilee Centre in partnership with Tearfund International.
<http://www.tearfund.org/Campaigning/Resource+zone/>

Each month a link to online Biblical resources for local group reflection will be provided. We'd like to encourage you to use these (or any other resources that you have), as well as the prayer calendar in your local groups. If you have resources that you would like to share, we'd be very grateful if you could let us know by emailing: Liza.Storey@arocha.org

A Rocha in Auckland (Leaders: Jim and Clare Drury)

The A Rocha Auckland Local Initiative Group official launch will be held on 'International Biodiversity Day', Saturday 29th May from 4-9.30pm at Eden Community Church, Mount Eden, Auckland. Jim and Clare will let us know more about this special event next month!

A Rocha in Waikato (Leader: Kristel van Houte-Howes).

We have started to meet together (once a month) for a **prayer breakfast**, and it feels like a blessing already! We hope that this will be a time to bring our national and local activities to the Lord, to encourage one another and to build one another up spiritually in the work we share.

Karioi Project (Leader: Kristel van Houte-Howes)

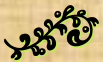
The pest control work is on-going and Kristel is keen to introduce new people to some of the skills and tasks involved! We have now set up rat trap lines in **Bryant Reserve**, as well as random cat, stoat and possum traps. The group will also be setting the rat traps on **Sunday 31st May @ 1**

pm. The Big Weekend event was a great success in drawing together some of the local enthusiasts, and sharing some of the trap-making skills.

A Rocha in Manawatu (Leaders John Flenley and Keith Young). Report by Carol Johnson.



Rocha in Wellington (Leaders: Helen Cranshaw and Diana Kiernan). Report by Diana.



A Rocha in Christchurch (Leader: Steve Muir)

Possum baiting work is going ahead with volunteers who do the lines in Kennedy's Bush. There are still some pig issues being worked on but hopefully the missing bait stations will be replaced. Steve Muir is making an oral submission to the CCC on their draft climate change strategy and has been asking for input from the local group. They also had their last meeting on Sunday 23rd May, when Professor Peter Wenz (from the University of Illinois at Springfield, USA), led some discussion on "How Much Should I Do to Heal the World?" In other words, how can we who live in industrialised countries make ethical consumer decisions without impairing our own flourishing?

A few members of the A Rocha group are helping at a free bike maintenance workshop coming up at the Linwood community art centre June 12 1-4pm!

Other news (Kristel & National Team) and others

*The first **ARANZ Annual General Meeting** and Trustees meeting were held in Auckland on Wednesday 26th May, 2010. Trustees and several of the Auckland Local Initiative Group attended. Chairman's Report, Local group reports were presented and a statement of ARANZ financial accounts. Minutes will be sent out to local groups shortly.

* Both Kristel van Houte-Howes and Richard Storey will be attending the A Rocha International Leaders Forum, to be held from the **8-14th June, in Les Courmettes, Southern France**. This will be an important time of fellowship for leaders from the different A Rocha projects around the world and also important for the strategic planning that will be undertaken at the forum for A Rocha's future development. Please pray that leaders hear God's wisdom and direction for the future as they also celebrate what God is already doing!

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(click on NZ/Aotearoa)

