

Care of Creation Blog for July 2018

A Rocha Auckland plans activities planting or weeding on the second Saturday of each month but having the Waitakere ranges closed off because of Kauri dieback upsets some of the work there. A Rocha NZ now offers more free booklets by Dr Andrew Shepherd in the Rich Living series, adding one on Water and one on Food to the Climate Change booklets for discussion groups.

Anglicans Climate Action Network (AnglicansCAN) continues to prompt the Diocese towards planting trees, divesting from oil companies and looking towards less polluting power sources, and ways to capture CO₂. It also makes contact with other churches and organisations doing the same sort of thing. My part in this has been to look for parishes and people who will report on what changes they see or things they are doing in this regard, but making a real network of our people is not easy. Are you shy, gentle reader? Even here at Selwyn Village Boomerang Bags is asking our people to help in a project aiming to make alternatives to the single use plastic bag. What new things are happening at your place?

NZCIS (New Zealand Christians in Science) is the group offering lectures on the things we learn about the universe and ourselves by using scientific method alongside what theology teaches us. 7 pm Sunday July 8 Prof. N. Broome at 17A Powell St. Avondale, on The Bi-polar Nature of Modern Science; 7.30 Wednesday 25 July Prof. C. King at Maclaurin Chapel, on Models of Invisible Realities; 5.30 to 8 pm Wednesday 1st August Maclaurin Chapel Dr. Ruth Lawson-McConnell, on Healing and Attaching; 5.30 to 8 pm Maclaurin Chapel Dr Helen Saunders on Healing at the Margins: Reflections of a doctor working with refugees. There is more, all free, including a course in Otago (not free), but go to <hoggard.n@gmail.com> and ask Dr.Nicola Hoggard-Creegan herself to put you on the mailing list.

The news tells us of one group of fully electric buses in Wellington, while in Auckland shrewd operators of trucking firms are filling their fuel tanks outside of the high price area. We are not all singing the same song when it comes to preparing for the future. What could be done and what people will pay for are not the same thing. An example is shown in the pictures of logs swept down from forestry blocks by floods and making some East Coast farms unworkable. Ideally slash from forests could be turned into biochar capturing CO₂ and being used to improve soils, but foresters do not like fire and there is little demand for biochar as yet. A lot of it is needed to bring results. The city does help us in making everyone learn what to put in our recycling and rubbish bins, but changes come slowly and someone has dumped a bag of rubbish on the road where I can see it.

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