

## Care of Creation Blog – April 2020

One thing I have noticed about the news these days is that people are saying that if we can cope with the COVID-19 pandemic, we ought to come out of it with some real international moves about climate change. There has been a lot of talk but not much action. The late John Allen showed us that when it comes down to doing the actual figures, one has to be very careful. Sweeping changes are not possible in practice. The moves must be made carefully, a little here and a little there. That is what is happening with Cathy Bi-Riley and her sustainability champions. Don't be too slow about it though! The health pandemic is teaching us to move quickly and together.

Auckland A Rocha has been active where allowed and is planning some weeding and planting activities for when the present lockdown is over. We are also wondering how Richard Storey and Liza are getting on, working for Interserve in Nepal.

New Zealand Christians in Science (NZCIS) has a report by Dr Nicola Hoggard-Creegan on visiting professors who will speak at Maclaurin Chapel and in other parts of the country, and on local meetings of various kinds where people can learn.

Auckland Climate Action Network (ACAN) retains its name but instead of promoting a Zero Carbon Plan now widens the view to Auckland Anglican Response to Climate Change (AARCC). Richard Milne has handed over management of ACAN to Nicola. An attachment about Dr Walter Jehne, an Australian with strong views and stories about regenerative farming, is an example of the sort of thing AARCC is listening to. The Church in New Zealand is challenged to report on its use of solar panels, alternatives to fossil fuels, gardening and farming practices which allow the soil to retain water and help the microscopic life, rather than destroy it by damaging fertilisers and chemicals. As a body, it is seen to have a prophetic ministry, with each ministry unit having a part, telling the world of a Creator whose work has been upset but who will accept our repentance and is guiding us still.

Studies of sea life and reports about keeping down predators on Southern islands remind us that this is good scientific work but beyond what our church groups can share in. DOC is the Department of Conservation. Christians like Brendan Donnell see God that is leading us into more than that.

Once again, I ask for help in doing this blog, as age restricts me and we look for younger persons in our Care of Creation committee.

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