

Care of Creation Blog – March 2021

COVID-19 and lockdowns make it very hard for planners to set a date for future meetings. In our last blog I wrote that we would have to wait until 6 March to meet with Cathy Bi-Riley and her Sustainability Champions and find out what sort of things they were wanting us all to do. Now I find this has been deferred to 22 May because of the Level 3 lockdown in Auckland. That is a long way off for someone who wants to submit a blog every month, and I know there are parishes who have not yet sent in persons to represent them. It is a slow process but produces some results.

A Rocha has also been postponing activities and meetings. Let's hope they will not have to put them off again. NZCIS will start the year with a seminar on teaching children science and faith. There will also be a series of planned meetings with other Abrahamic faiths, all at Maclaurin Chapel. And ISCAST (Christians in Science and Technology in Australia) will partner with NZCIS to host a series of 12 Thursday night conversations, starting after Easter.

A few days ago, Bishop Ross introduced a new group, Ordinary Saints. These young people are not really part of a care of creation team, although they will have regular days of social or ecological justice action and join us all in what we do as a diocese.

Then, with less Trump news, there has been space in the media to tell us about new discoveries: how a live ferret is now among us after geneticists worked from the genome of a dead and long frozen one; how there are vehicles on Mars and on the moon gathering information; how new medicines and new exercises are being discovered; how Pope Francis and Muslim leaders in Iraq can meet and agree about condemning violence; stories about police taking a kindly approach and about people who look for improving the prison system; a story about successes in treating HIV and about certain people who have a kind of immunity to it. There is still news on housing problems and earthquakes, and a certain amount on moving from fossil fuels to other ways of collecting power, although we now realise the change can only come slowly. The latest stories tell of microbes under great pressure and heat below the ocean floor, cut off from the oxygen used by other life.

All this comes to us on computers (such I am using), ultimately from the God we cannot see who tells us to call Him Father. It is proper to learn to take care of creation, even if many, just now, are being careless.

Jim Hunt for the Care of Creation Committee

njimihunt@outlook.com

ing ilenew things – ferret – lander on moon and Mars, medicines from plants , all sorts of exercises, ways to help the jobless. Housing,