

KiwEE News No.18 (Autumn 2016)

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Kia ora koutou,

2016 got off to a fantastic start by connecting so many of our country's amazing and committed environmental educators through attending our bi-annual NZAEE conference. The theme this year was *Activate, Agitate, Advocate* and it certainly did that.

There was a fabulous line up of key note speakers including Allison Cook who talked about the development of "the story of stuff" <http://storyofstuff.org/> which achieved a major game changer in the level of community engagement around an environmental message. Since then she has launched over a dozen movies that have garnered over 40 million views and nurtured a community of over one million change makers. Allison then participated in the remainder of the conference; we hope that she enjoyed her NZ experience.

Kirsty Albion, National Director of Australian Youth Climate Coalition, overwhelmed the audience with her drive and passion for empowering young people on the issue of climate change.

Her stories of positive outcomes this organisation is supporting young people to achieve were quite remarkable. More info on AYCC can be found here: www.aycc.org.au

Dame Anne Salmond and Malcolm Paterson also provided powerful thought provoking presentations, as did a whole range of our workshop presenters.

A big well done and shout out to the Auckland Branch of NZAEE who put all the hard work into creating such a fantastic conference filled with learning opportunities, great food and positive energy for us to all take back into our daily roles. The Wellington Branch is now considering opportunities for the next conference in 2018, so we'll keep you posted.

If the conference wasn't enough, our flagship event *Seaweeek* celebrated 213 events representing all our regions across the country this year. The theme "*Toiora te Moana – Toiora te Tangata – Healthy Seas, Healthy People*" will be continued next year. Again a

massive well done to our shining lights around Aotearoa (you know who you are!) working tirelessly each year to keep growing and growing Seaweek.

Our national executive team is in place and is reviewing its priorities and work programme for the year. We always welcome feedback and direction from our members, so please feel free to contact us and stay in touch. Likewise we'd love to share some of your great stories through this newsletter, so please let us know if you have something we can promote or share in future issues.

If you haven't visited our Facebook page yet we encourage you to do so, as this is where we share regular current posts that may be of interest to you. Check out <https://www.facebook.com/NZAssociationforEnvironmentalEducation>

As we are a members-based organization we appreciate your ongoing support through keeping your membership up to date and letting others know of the opportunity to become members. So, finally a big thank you to all our members.

Best wishes,

Michelle & Rhys

Co-chairs

News

New membership fees set at NZAEE Annual General Meeting

A well-attended AGM for NZAEE was held in February where the following members were elected to the NZAEE Executive:

Rhys Taylor Co-Chair , Michelle Elborn Co-Chair, Davina Hunt, Immediate Past Chair
Pam Crisp: Wellington, Sally Birdsall: Auckland, Jocelyn Papprell: Canterbury
Chris Eames: Waikato , Mark Oster: Southern.

Retiring Chair, Davina Hunt, outlined the following highlights of 2015:

- Seaweek- the biggest ever (see article below on 2016 Seaweek)
- Workshops for NCEA EfS Achievement Standards held in some branches
- MOU signed with Education Outdoors NZ (EONZ)
- Revision of NZAEE Policy and Procedures
- Revision of NZAEE Branch Guidelines
- Development of the NZAEE Communication plan
- The success of Facebook page
- The Advancing EE project
- Collaboration with NZQA and MoE in supporting teachers to deliver EfS Achievement standards

These changes to membership fees from 1/7/2016 were adopted by the meeting:

Membership type	Current	Proposed/Accepted	Number of Conference Registrations
Individual	\$40	\$50	1
Corporate	\$200 for 5 members	\$500 for 10 members	5
Stakeholder	\$500 for unlimited members	\$1000 for unlimited members	10

Evaluations of NZAEE Events



Activate, Agitate, Advocate - NZAEE Conference 2016



Marae Welcome for 2016 NZAEE Conference

From the organisers' perspective

Well it's done and dusted and almost put to bed ... until the next time... maybe 8 to 10 years!

Auckland Branch hosted the 2016 conference ... and we had a great time doing it! Organising a conference is hard work but there is nothing comparable which brings together a like-minded group, gives purpose and direction to meetings and a tremendous amount of satisfaction when people respond positively at the event.

Along the way we had the inevitable trials and tribulations, challenges and frustrations but we always remembered to make the meetings enjoyable – we sustained ourselves in a variety of ways appropriate to the time of day!

Taking turns to organise the biannual conference is a way of giving back to the Association and learning a whole lot of new skills – we encourage everyone to step up when it comes round to your region's turn.

Following this are thoughts about the conference from different perspectives – Ariana Burnet a Year 13 student from Western Springs College, Angela Hodgkinson from NZQA and Jocelyn Pappill on behalf of the Christchurch Branch NZAEE.

Also included is a sample of feedback from the conference evaluation forms.

Organising Committee: Cara Blomfield, Sally Birdsall, Hilary Chidlow, Bridget Glasgow, Richard Carter, Morag Vasilaiki, Rebecca Goffin, Sandy Bell-Jameson, Sue Wake, Adrienne Palwanker, Amber Pierce, Martin Ball, Hazel Meadows and Sarah Sheeran.

"You're doing really well, and you don't get told that enough." *Alison Cook*

Feedback on the conference - Activate, Agitate, Advocate (and Celebrate!)

1. “As a young change-maker, the NZAEE Conference was invigorating, inspiring, unifying and deeply uplifting. The chance to connect with so many people who care about sustainability was amazing, including international leaders who are making a difference on such a large scale.

I'd love to share some of the insights and learning that we shared, as I found them incredibly valuable and hope others do too.”

“Kirsty Albion (National Director Australian Youth Climate Coalition)’s message was extremely powerful and clear: climate change is a social justice as well as an environmental justice issue. She shared stories of how it is affecting the most vulnerable first and those who have done the least to deserve it, such as our neighbours in the Pacific who are risking losing their entire homeland and culture. ‘Big brothers don’t let their little brothers drown’.

“We can make a big difference, especially when we work together. Kirsty is the leader of the Australian Youth Climate Coalition www.aycc.org.au, a solutions movement driven by young people. Her advice for groups leading campaigns is to ‘throw everything at the wall and see what works’.

Start with something fun to engage people, include a strong petition, hold positive protests and awareness-raising events, and remember that all these big organisations and companies are made up of PEOPLE - people that you can talk to, be kind and informative too, and work together with for your cause.

“Alison Cook leads the Solutions Project www.thesolutionsproject.org , and has long been part of the innovative Story of Stuff. I was incredibly inspired by her sharing of the importance of rethinking our world systems, because ‘it shouldn’t be so hard’ to do the right thing. ‘We can use these situations when it is hard to do good, as if metal detectors who can see how things could be better ‘engineered’ in our society’.

“Alison believes a place where change-makers often go wrong is overloading people with the facts, instead of appealing to our shared human values. People don’t need to be swamped in any more information; we need stories. Stories of hope, change, and a better future.

“Brands are the current ‘storytellers of our time’ - every advert we see is designed to appeal to things we care about, like love, connection, community, health, kindness and other values. We can use this in activism, and it will make our campaigns much more effective!

“Try this activity: find three core human values to base an advert about an environmental issue around!

Youth Networking Workshop was a group of passionate youth in the same room envisioning a better future: heaven!

We asked questions like, ‘What would we like to see in our cities in 20 years?’ ‘How could urban transport and food production be improved?’ ‘How can we spread awareness of issues in kind, compassionate ways?’

All of us really are doing great, and it’s time to celebrate!

Ariana Brunet – Youth delegate, Year 13 Western Springs College, Auckland



Alison Cook and Youth delegates

2. Thoughts from a first time conference attendee

The 2016 NZAEE conference themes: ‘agitate, activate and advocate’ were clearly aligned with the series of workshops, keynote speakers and practical field trips. Overall, I found the event an organised, authentic and worthwhile experience and look forward to 2018!

Keynote speakers such as Dame Anne Salmond, Alison Cook – ‘Story of stuff project – USA’, and Katie from AYCC – Australia youth movement for climate change were hugely inspiring, informative and empowering.

The organisers ensured there was a range of workshops that considered cultural, environmental, economic and social aspects of sustainability. The facilitators exuded confidence, expertise and practical steps for educators and leaders to share this knowledge with their communities in the future.

The choice of field trips was numerous. I attended the Motuihe island trip. This was a wonderful day out on the Hauraki Gulf and to see first-hand the collaborative work that is progressing the restoration of the island. It was an informative tour led by an EfS secondary school teacher and enthusiastic volunteer on the island, and the DOC ranger, telling us the history of Motuihe and the vision for the future. It was also a wonderful opportunity to make genuine connections and network with other attendees.



Motuihe Island Field Trip

The morning teas and lunches were contemporarily nutritional, respectful of a range of peoples' dietary needs, and the modelling of sustainable practice for event management was cutting edge.

The conference dinner at the AUT 'Fale' was unique and unforgettable! This spectacular venue combined with local school children 'Cook Island drumming' as pre dinner entertainment was magic! The Pasifika influenced meal was of the highest and most delicious standard, and there was much dancing, mingling and fun had by all."

Thank you NZAEE!

Angela Hodgkinson NZQA.

3. A reflection from Christchurch

The 2016 NZAEE conference was a highlight for the Canterbury contingent with comments such as 'fabulous' and 'well worth the time' to be able to connect with others working in similar fields.

Generally our Canterbury team felt the themes of the conference were about moving from the individual to the collective, compassion not competition, and connectivity with the environment.

We all commented on the wide range of presentation and workshops we could select from, often finding it difficult to choose but each coming away with a new perspective or renewed energy. thanks to inspiring presenters.

Many from our team said Dame Anne Salmond's keynote was a stand-out, closely followed by Kirsty Albion and Allison Cook. With respect to Dame Anne, it was her quietly powerful expression of the importance of embracing a true Treaty partnership that had a huge impact on conference attendees. She really is a Pākehā cultural go-between, as her long-term immersion in, and research on, Māori society, ways of thinking and living (both past and present), provides us all with insights as to what we could learn for the benefit of our country.

Kirsty Albion's enthusiasm for the power of collective action and her story of the impacts that can have on large businesses as well as communities offered hope. Too often we can become overwhelmed by the likely impacts climate change will have rather than focusing on what we can do now; Kirsty's keynote was a powerful call to action.

The Citizen Muscle Boot Camp Allison Cook shared with us sparked 'Ah Ha' moments for many of us, and will act as an inspiration to keep on doing, and improving on, what we already do with respect to helping children and young people develop their skills and attributes as citizens.

As for the workshops and presentations too many to mention, but here's a few highlights from our Canterbury team:

- The Research Symposium – a useful update on what research is happening within the EE/EfS space; enlightening, informative, inspiring.
- CatchIT is a one-stop shop for data management and analysis for community pest control projects. <https://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~fewster/CatchIT/>
- Prevent Our Waste, POW - Funny videos on Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4D0asNBTNoVFTfWAafP7Jg/videos>
- Pūrākau as Pedagogy – with Haana Wilcox. This really made participants think about the storybooks used in class that tell a Pūrākau. A very useful and challenging workshop.
- Collaborative Community Conservation Education – A Youth Perspective and MAD – a great afternoon spent with awesome young people all keen to connect and truly make a difference for all our sakes. We think that there could be room for more input from these young people – they were articulate, focused and ready to meet challenges and to lay down some challenges to us older ones! They were each inspiring role models.

The field trips were to great destinations but just not enough time to take all that was on offer in. Two of us went to Motuihe Island and delighted in exploring it rapidly – we're keen to return!

All in all, the 2016 conference was a valuable sharing and learning time; it both challenges each of us to think differently and reinforces our commitments to keep on doing the things we are already doing to bring about positive behaviour change for a sustainable future.

Thank you to the Auckland team for bringing together another engaging NZAEE biennial conference.

Jocelyn Pappill on behalf of NZAEE Canterbury Branch



Field trip to Goat Island

And finally...A feed forward - for the next conference organising group?

A selection of comments, representative from a broad change of participants

- Best wishes to the Wellington Crew, kia kaha, it will be another great conference. Maybe keep the short workshops a bit longer or discard that type of slot. Once again, thanks for all the myriad of great things that happened over conference.
- It would be good to have perspectives from outside of the EE sector - people who face, and have overcome similar issues that we collectively face.
- I was very happy with it. It was my first one and everyone I spoke with thought it was really good and left feeling inspired.
- Consider your Australian colleagues... keep the focus international...
- Demand practical workshops. Allow for working outdoors. Same mingling style of conference dinner and similar dance band! Allow more time for moving between sessions. Sharing the chairing around the country was nice.
- Great venue. Loved that the Marae and Fale were on-site as well. Teachers had trouble with the timing as it was so early in the school year. They also however, don't like it being in January during the holidays. No idea if later in Feb, still before Uni starts would be easier?
- Think about having the odd person from a completely different discipline to provide exposure to a greater diversity of thinking, e.g. a strategy expert to help people think more strategically about how to achieve their environmental goals, or a conservative / business / economic advocate to help people understand what they are up against when trying to influence people perhaps not so immediately receptive to environmental issues.
- Younger people generally speak more rapidly than us ponderous old relics - and one of the many inspiring features of the conference was the number of thoughtful, passionate young people who were there.... (abridged)
- Timing of the conference made it very difficult for teachers to attend - need to make it easier/more attractive for teachers to attend. Fantastic to see a strong & active group of youth attending - keep this up!
- A particular highlight for me was the conference dinner :) I loved the thought and preparation that had gone into the design of the seating and kai and it worked so well! Small amounts of delicious kai being eaten standing, sitting or leaning was just brilliant and allowed for so many rich & exciting conversations - well done!! This idea could definitely be repeated at the next conference, along with another great band and of course good wine!
- More interactive sessions needed; doing, exploring....
- Keynotes were a real highlight for me, very inspiring.
- Dame Anne Salmond was outstanding and inspirational. She fully deserved the standing ovation.
- Keynotes were a highlight - great to see both Maori and youth perspectives.
- Absolutely top notch for an international audience and clearly locals agreed too!
- Awesome job NZAEE!



Seaweek 2016 simply stunning!

NZAEE's flagship event Seaweek 2016 was a huge success, breaking records yet again with 213 registered events around the country and 14 competitions.

The theme for NZAEE's Seaweek 2016 was "*Toiora te Moana - Toiora te Tangata, Healthy Seas - Healthy People*". The theme challenged us to delve deeper into our many connections with the sea and look at what we are learning from studying its wonders. The issues that affect the sea are not necessarily obvious or immediate and many originate from actions taken on the land. Making the connection between catchment and sea, surface and depth, water quality and ecology, our use of the sea and its health - and how that affects our health - were all areas to explore within this year's theme as well as reflecting on the lessons the sea teaches us.

This theme will be repeated for 2017 and 2018 and new audiences will be targeted for engagement with Seaweek. In 2016 the new audience was pre-schools and their whanau. Over 60 early childhood education centres (mainly Enviroschools registered) in the Auckland region were provided with Seaweek and Marine Metre Squared resources and encouraged to participate in Seaweek activities by their Enviroschools Facilitators. A feedback session is planned for May when the strategy for expanding the engagement in this sector during 2017 will be considered.

The Ocean Champion competition ran for the third successive year, sponsored by the New Zealand Coastal Society who donated a \$500 prize to the winner, which was presented by their Vice-Chair at the Bill Ballantine Memorial Lecture event in Auckland. The aim of the competition is to celebrate all those individuals, groups and organizations who work so hard to look after our seas and the marine life that lives in them. 7 nominations were received and the winner was Taranaki based advocacy organisation *Friends of Waipara River* who attended the award ceremony to collect their prize.

Many new resources were developed and launched specially for Seaweek 2016 including a resource by DOC on Taiko (black petrel), resources about the Revive Our Gulf mussel restoration project on the Science Learning Hub, Forest & Bird's seabird identification guide, a water safety resource for pre-school children by Watersafe Auckland and a resource based on Young Ocean Explorers also on the Science Learning Hub. We have already received feedback from DOC that they have had a good take-up of their Taiko resource and that the vast majority of online referrals came direct from the Seaweek website.

Thanks must go to all those groups and individuals around the country who organised and coordinated events for Seaweek 2016 because without their huge and largely voluntary efforts Seaweek simply would not happen.

Thanks also to Seaweek's national sponsors Foundation North (formerly ASB Community Trust), Department of Conservation, New Zealand Marine Studies Centre (Otago University), Ministry for Primary Industries, Environment Canterbury Regional Council, Greater Wellington Regional Council, The National Aquarium - Napier City Council, DSP Print Group Ltd, New Zealand Coastal Society plus many local sponsors.

Some Seaweeek Events:

Shark and Squid Dissections in the Town Centre!

Lab-in-a-Box was made available for local groups to use for three days at the start of Seaweeek in Dunedin.

Lab-in-a-Box is a shipping container transformed into a cutting-edge mobile teaching and research laboratory. It brings science equipment and expertise to the community to support and extend science knowledge outside of a traditional setting (see <http://labinabox.nz>).

It arrived on the back of a lorry, early on Saturday morning, and was gently dropped in the middle of the Octagon – the heart of Dunedin city centre.

Teams from the NZ Sea Lion Trust, Kiwi Conservation Club, Department of Conservation, NZ Marine Studies Centre and the Otago Museum took turns as running experiments and displaying information to engage members of the public.

The University of Otago's Marine Studies Centre took up residence one afternoon with displays and resources relating to marine food webs, and fresh plankton under the video microscope. The highlight of the day for a keen group of local children and adults was to watch and assist with the dissection of a Southern Arrow Squid and a Spiny Dogfish Shark, to gain a better understanding of these creatures and their role in the ocean, examining the stomach contents and finding out how humans impact on the marine environment.

Tessa Mills, NZ Marine Studies Centre



Sediment and Seashores project started during Seaweeek... great photo and written by kids!

<https://www.mm2.net.nz/posts/206>

Kayaking amongst the mangroves

The chance to explore the mangrove habitat which is part of the Whangarei Harbour Marine Reserve at Waikaraka by kayak was taken up by a total of 123 participants during two Community Guided Kayak Day's for Seaweeek 2016.

This free opportunity to celebrate Seaweeek was provided by the Experiencing Marine Reserves programme and funded by the Department of Conservation.



Participants were guided through the mangroves and colonies of hundreds of nesting cormorants (shags) with expert kayaking tuition from Pacific Coast Kayaks.

Event organiser Samara Nicholas says “This event gives people a clear appreciation for the biodiversity that is protected in this marine reserve”

“We had all ages (from 7 years up) participate and included locals as well as international students, one group travelled from Kerikeri to attend”

Event organiser : Samara Nicholas, Director, Experiencing Marine Reserves

Report from NZAEE Canterbury Branch

The NZAEE team in Christchurch has focused its energy on Seaweeek events in the first term and is currently planning at least three other events for 2016 .

Seaweeek was a very positive experience all round across Canterbury with events and activities in Akaroa, Timaru and Christchurch city. Leading up to the week a number of ECEs, schools and individuals created wonderful sea inspired art works which were submitted to the NZAEE branch sponsored **Art Competition**. Supported by Environment Canterbury staff, the 100 plus entries were sorted according to criteria with finalists being exhibited during **Estuary Fest** and judged by local artist, Glen Metcalf. To see the range of finalists and winners visit our Facebook <http://tinyurl.com/hcdxd5y>

Libraries across the city offered magical **storytimes for pre-schoolers** with good attendance; their Seaweeek displays were also wonderful for raising awareness of marine issues.

The **Sumner Community Association** also got behind the week, organising a range of events for different audiences – families, pre-schoolers, yoga practitioners, dune kaitiaki. A big thank you to Liz Kerslake for her efforts.

Hollie Hollander and her team at Akaroa Events again organised a really vibrant programme that attracted good numbers with the **Dinner cruise** and **Fishing information evening** being particularly popular.

In Christchurch city the **Great Seaweeek quiz** proved a great fundraiser for the local NZAEE branch, lifting our profile as did our joint hosting of Estuary Festival. Again the annual

Farewell to Godwits drew large crowds and celebrated these marvellously enterprising birds.

Our branch held a post-conference review meeting recently and we are now focusing on hosting a couple of Green Drinks events with one celebrating Cashmere High's win in the *Zayed Future Energy* competition. <http://www.cashmere.school.nz/co-curricular/world-environment-award.html> ; collaborating on an EfS workshop for teachers; and our AGM.

We remain an informal group operating via a Loomio web-platform & occasional meetings, without formally elected officers beyond Rhys as Treasurer & Jocelyn as secretary. The diversity of roles & skills people bring to the table means that we do get things done in the name of NZAEE.

Snapshots of six out of the 213 Seaweed events that took place across NZ



Whau River Flotilla



Goodbye Godwits



Piha- Love our lagoons



Long Bay group



Perky the penguin at the Great Seaweed Quiz- Christchurch



NZAEE Cant. Branch Seaweed Art competition

Upcoming Conferences

AAEE Conference 5-7 October 2016

Australian Association for Environmental Education (AAEE) 19th Biennial Conference 2016

[View online](#)



<http://www.aee2016.com/registration.php>

Conservation Inc2 Conference 18 – 20 May 2016

Conservation Inc2 will be hosted by the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust in Dunedin - wildlife capital of New Zealand .

More Information <http://www.yellow-eyedpenguin.org.nz/conservation-inc-conference-2016>

International Best of Both Worlds conference

September 26th-28th at YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado, USA

International Conference on Environmental Education

www.bobw2016.com

Resources

The Flock

The Flock is a creative and fun project. It will spread the message about the threats facing our migratory shorebirds and build support for their protection. Everyone can get involved by cutting out, painting or hosting bird gatherings that will grow, representing the cause through till March 2017.

Right now, we are creating The Flock. We need help with:

- Cutting out: creating cut out birds, ready for decorating
- Painting: Assembling and painting the cut out birds.
Why not get your school, club or organisation involved?
- Hosting: The Flock also needs places to roost as it migrates around New Zealand, If you have a good spot for them to roost, we'd love to hear from you.

We've got a lot of information on our webpage at <http://www.miranda-shorebird.org.nz/theflock> and I'd be delighted to talk more with you at a convenient time. Feel free to email if you have any questions or would like to get involved in some way.

Louisa Chase
Pukorokoro Miranda Shorebird Centre
www.miranda-shorebird.org.nz



Interactive App: 12 Huia Birds

We would like to introduce you to a new and free educational, interactive app, recently funded by NZ On Air, which brings to life the story of New Zealand's lost huia bird. It is intended to be a useful resource to support both environmental education and reading in English and te reo Māori.

Additional resources for educators are also available from the [12 Huia Birds website](#).

Available free on: [App Store](#) [Google Play](#) [Amazon](#).



Notices

Updated EOTC Guidelines – Bringing the Curriculum Alive

These guidelines are accessible online at <http://eotc.tki.org.nz/EOTC-home/EOTC-Guidelines> and have been updated to align with:

- The Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- The Vulnerable Children Act 2014; and
- The Health and Safety at Work (Adventure Activities) Regulations 2016

NCEA EFS Moderator Newsletter

<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/qualifications/ncea/subjects/education-for-sustainability/moderator-s-newsletters/february-2016/>

Registration of Interest – Assessor Support 2016

Assessment & Moderation have developed a new 'Registration of Interest' process for assessors to register their interest in requesting a speaker or attending a workshop. This information will then be used to plan the face-to-face regional workshops or to schedule online opportunities, based on teacher preferences.

Assessors are encouraged to register interest now. More information may be found in the [Assessment Matters Circular](#), together with the link to the registration of interest form.

<u>Your 2016 NZAEE National Executive</u>		
Please feel free to contact your national executive members at any time.		
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