

Climate Justice Taranaki Newsletter

30th December 2011

Kia ora koutou,

we were all enjoying the sunshine and hot weather and now that the rain kicked in, at least we don't have to water our gardens! Hopefully you all have some time off work to spend time with friends and family.

It's been a tremendous year for Climate Justice Taranaki! Our group is now one year old and we think we've had significant achievements in terms of raising concerns around the oil and gas industry in Taranaki and also around climate change issues. This is certainly not a time to keep our heads stuck in the sand.

We would like to thank everyone who has been part of this journey and encourage all of us to stick around and build a people's movement to actively address the root causes of climate change. As a group, we've held several public meetings across Taranaki, a rally and a protest in New Plymouth, a renewable energy forum, an action in Waitara, presented submissions to regional council and deputations to community boards and got some great media based on our own research.

We are excited about what next year will bring. Recent meetings to form a coalition between Taranaki environmental groups and hapu are very promising and we encourage you all to come to Waitara for our first big event on Waitangi Day (more below).

We also encourage you to join us in getting your community group to be recognised as a key stakeholder in the Taranaki Regional Council **Freshwater Policy review in 2012**. Contact TRC in the phonebook and ask for a free copy of the policy so you can have more of a say in the protection of this priceless resource.

So enjoy summer and stay in touch via our Facebook Group
(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/205878806095057/>) and we will see you next year, no doubt.

Climate Justice Taranaki

UPCOMING EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

WAITANGI Weekend event - 5-6th FEBRUARY 2012

Nga Kaiwhakapumau i te Tika is the name given to a new environmental coalition which includes members of Ngati Tawhirikura, Otaraua and Manu Korihi hapu, the Friends of the Waitara River, Forest and Bird, the Marine Protection Society, Hive, Waitara Surfcasters Club, Climate Justice Taranaki and others.

To raise awareness around issues of water pollution in Taranaki we are organising a DIY community event over Waitangi weekend. There will be speakers, music, waka ama and fun for the whole family. Contact us if you would like to contribute. Bring some kai and your tent for camping too. More details will be sent out in our next newsletter but mark the dates in your diary now.

HIVE TARANAKI SUMMER WORKSHOPS FOR FAMILIES

These New Plymouth workshops are designed for children aged 5-13 years and organised by Hive Taranaki - the Environment Centre. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to join in. To register, contact Kama by email (bee@hivetaranaki.co.nz) or ph 06 7696-008 by Jan 20th.

Tuesday 24th January - Ecological Treasure Hunt
10.30am-12noon with enviroschools facilitator Rachel Eckersley. \$5 per family.

Wednesday 25th January - Rongoa Maori Plants That Heal 10.30am-12noon with rongoa expert David Warren. \$5 per family.

Thursday 26th January - Bike Skills
9am-12noon with Let's Go and Sport Taranaki. No Charge. Bikes are available for kids who don't have one.

Friday 27th January - Beach Detective
9am-10.30am with environmental educator Nathan Hills. \$5 per family.

OTHER WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

Jan 27th - Introduction to Cheese-making.
with Maria Lempriere. Ph 06 752 3929 or email maria@wheturangi.co.nz.

Feb 12th - Building A Solar Oven
with Dee Turner. Ph 06 7522181 or www.avonstour.co.nz.

Feb 20th - Smallholder's Guide to Livestock
with John Earney. Ph 06 7522181 or www.avonstour.co.nz.

Mar 6th - Creating a Food Forest
with Dee Turner. Ph 06 7522181 or www.avonstour.co.nz.

April 10th - Making a Chook Dome / Tractor
with Dee Turner. Ph 06 7522181 or www.avonstour.co.nz.

April 11th-15th - Australasian Permaculture
Convergence - Resilience By Design. Turangi.

A gathering of permaculture people from around the Pacific, Australia, and Africa. Meet Bill Mollison, Rosemary Morrow, Robin Francis, Geoff Lawton, Kay Baxter and many more! www.apc11.co.nz. To car share, email Kama (bee@hivetaranaki.co.nz).

KEEP THE COAL IN THE HOLE SUMMER FESTIVAL IN SOUTHLAND

There is now less than one month to go until the Keep the Coal in the Hole Summer Festival, which is being held in Southland from 20-23 January on Mike Dumbar's farm, right next to the pilot lignite-to-briquettes plant currently being built by Solid Energy. We want to make sure as many people attend the Festival as possible. That means reminding you to register at the cheaper early-bird rate - and it also means giving you an alternative way of registering if you're having trouble with our online registration form.

You can register online here:
<http://nocoalsummerfest.org.nz/>

A. Trouble Registering Online? Here's What To Do:

Step 1: Email coalactionnetwork@gmail.com with "Summer Festival Registration" in the subject line and let us know you've had a problem

Step 2: We will then send you the contents of the Festival kaupapa, information page and registration form

Step 3: You send us the completed registration form and we will add you to the list of those attending, and send you payment instructions. We apologise for the difficulty some people have had in registering.

B. Single-Day Registrations on Saturday 21 January

Single-day registrations are available for \$10 on the Saturday of the Festival, but please let us know that you're coming – email coalactionnetwork@gmail.com

C. Carpooling

If you would like to arrange carpooling to reduce your transport costs in getting to and from the Festival, we suggest that you use this website to arrange it:

<http://www.nationalcarshare.co.nz/>

At the Festival itself, there should be opportunities to arrange rides back from the Festival.

D. Op-Ed on Nonviolent Direct Action

Preparation for nonviolent direct action (NVDA) will be one of the important streams of activity at the Keep the Coal in the Hole Summer Festival. Kristin Gillies of CANA wrote an op-ed piece on nonviolent direct action which appeared in the Southland Times recently. It is now on our blog, and it's well worth reading:

<http://coalactionnetworkaotearoa.wordpress.com/2011/12/04/on-lignite-and-civil-disobedience/>

Coincidentally, a massive NVDA campaign against the Keystone XL oil pipeline in the US has succeeded in making President Obama postpone a decision on the pipeline until after the 2012 US Presidential Election. Forcing a postponement may not seem like much, but it's often the first step in getting a project cancelled altogether - and considering the wealth and power of the forces promoting the pipeline, this is a significant success.

PETITIONS!!

If you haven't yet signed the two petitions to 'ban fracking' and 'stop new oil & coal' please do so here then send it to your friends and family and ask them to sign on too:

<http://www.greenpeace.org/new-zealand/en/take-action/Take-action-online/No-New-Oil-or-Coal/>

<http://climatejusticetaranaki.wordpress.com/what-you-can-do/>

Climate Justice Taranaki

<http://climatejusticetaranaki.wordpress.com/>

http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_205878806095057

<http://nodrilling.wordpress.com/taranaki/>