

Climate Correspondent 2024, No 10, 28 Whiringa-ā-Nuku *Arohatia te Taiao: Love for the Environment*

Kia ora koutou dear f/Friends

Naomi was two years ahead of me at high school, probably getting a good education while I was busy playing cards. Now, Fiamē Naomi is Samoa's Prime Minister and has been entertaining all the Commonwealth Heads of Government.

Mr Husband is entertaining me. I tell Mr Husband it is raining. [Fiamē Naomi](#) tells 56 Government heads that climate change is *the greatest threat to the survival and security of Pacific people*. [King Charles](#) offers every encouragement for action, ... [and that] ... *If we do not, then inequalities across the Commonwealth, and beyond, will only be exacerbated with the potential to fuel division and conflict*.

Here at home, Friends have been busy. See John Michaelis and the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum' [There is a Clean Energy Future](#) video. Congratulations to Anya Bukholt-Payne on receiving a scholarship to BANFF filmmakers academy. Anya is going to make climate change documentaries as well as other activities.

Thanks to Joel, Anne, Alistair, and Marilyn, Aotearoa NZ Quakers were able to rapidly craft a [submission](#) seeking the withdrawal of the *Crown Minerals Amendment Bill* with 20 minutes to spare. The Bill promotes petroleum exploration and production and therefore reverses Aotearoa New Zealand's Quaker supported climate change policies about moving away from fossil fuels. We reiterated our post-Covid desire for a government which [leads with integrity, shares information based on evidence, and engages with communities prior to decision-making](#).



Mr Husband makes a very good cuppa

Read this bit

Climate Change Ambassador – [Stuart Horne](#) is Aotearoa New Zealand's new one (more below).

Conference of the Parties (COP 29) - will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, 11-22 November 2024.

Quaker United Nations Office's [Care of Creation address to the World Plenary](#) – presentation on our global context (thank you Lindsey)

Crown Minerals Amendment Bill – see Quakers' [submission](#) - thank you for the alert Joel (see above).

Fast Track Approvals Bill- Basic Radio NZ information is [here](#). Campaigns info is [here](#) (thanks Climate Club)

[Aotearoa NZ and Climate Change easily understood overview](#) –Climate Change Commission Chair Rod Carr – thank you Deborah

Trying to understand – are we at cross-roads?

1. Pacific peoples' action

- a. At CHOGM, Tuvalu's Prime Minister and others warned Australia, Canada and the UK that they are responsible for over 60 percent of emissions generated from extraction across Commonwealth

Note: this newsletter is not an official Quaker publication. It aims to assist Aotearoa NZ Quakers' knowledge of action and thinking around climate change, and therefore reflects a variety of views.

countries since 1990 despite having 6 percent of the population ([Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative report](#)).

- b. Samoa, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Niue, Palau, Nauru, Republic of Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Timor-Leste, Antigua and Barbuda, and Colombia have all joined Vanuatu and Tuvalu's call for a [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty \(FFNPT\)](#). Other supporters include both [Wellington City and Kāpiti](#) District Council.
- c. Pacific Churches declared *[o]ur stories are the lived realities of the science of climate change and the result of a lack of commitment and action to reduce carbon emissions, phase out fossil fuels and change from unsustainable lifestyles and development models* [Tuakoi-Lei declaration](#), May 2024.
- d. Vanuatu spearheaded a call to the International Court of Justice to clarify countries' legal obligations to combat climate change and protect vulnerable communities. [Aotearoa NZ](#) was a co-sponsor of the call. Hearings are due to begin 12 December 2024.
- e. Aotearoa NZ Quakers are the only Aotearoa NZ national faith organisation to have signed the call for a [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty](#). *Aotearoa NZ Quakers are the only Polynesian country represented in the world Quaker family.*

2. Global challenges

- a. COP 28 last year committed to move away from fossil fuels. [Simon Watts](#), our Climate Change Minister told COP 28 ... *New Zealand remains resolutely focused on transitioning to a low-emissions future; to supporting Pacific resilience and collectively decarbonising the global economy. ... We're also committed to collaborating with our Pacific neighbours on climate change. It is the number one security threat to our region. ... The commitment of New Zealanders from across all levels of government, the private sector, NGOs, iwi Māori, is clear.*
- b. *Following COP 28 ... every extraction wealthy country – developed and developing – had plans to increase their oil and gas extraction* [Lindsey Fielder Cook](#) (QUNO).
- c. The multilateral environment has many pressures; military conflicts, high levels of debt, fears about supply chains, and food insecurity.
- d. [Huge amounts of money are needed](#) – for humanitarian aid, climate finance, Loss and Damage to help those lives already destroyed by climate change – these remain underfunded or based on loans rather than grants in a world increasingly crippled by debt - [Lindsey Fielder Cook](#).
- e. Watch these themes at [COP 29](#). Join the Aussies [prayers and meditations for COP 29](#).

3. What about Aotearoa NZ?

The pressure is on and maybe Taranaki is symbolic of challenges we face?

- a. Government tells us [Aotearoa NZ](#) has a problem around [energy security](#); one reason for the rush over the Crown Minerals Amendment Bill.
- b. Three weeks ago, [sea-bed mining](#) in Taranaki for iron ore, vanadium and titanium was included among prioritised [Fast-Track projects](#) (used for renewable power sources) despite [local iwi concern](#).

Note: this newsletter is not an official Quaker publication. It aims to assist Aotearoa NZ Quakers' knowledge of action and thinking around climate change, and therefore reflects a variety of views.

- c. A few days ago, Bluefloat Energy (Spanish) cancelled plans to build a [wind farm](#) off the Taranaki coast, saying there were issues around about [sea bed mining proximity](#).
- d. Yesterday, Aotearoa NZ and other CHOGM participants signed the [Apia Commonwealth Ocean Declaration](#) designed to help protect ocean environments.
- e. [Stuart Horne](#), Aotearoa New Zealand's new Climate Change Ambassador will be at COP 29. Previous postings include Samoa and Brussels. He has led MFAT's Middle East and African Division.

Learning and Doing

The 1872 publication of ... "Return of Owners of Land" showed that less than 1 percent of the population owned more than 98 percent of English land. In the twenty-first century Lincolnshire in East Anglia, one prime fenland, shows flat mono-farms of cereal grains and looks very like the giant fields of the American and Canadian midwests. Annie Proulx, Fen, Bog and Swamp, Scribner, 2022

Petitions: [Waste to Energy](#) incinerator opposition – thank you Joel;

[No Sandmining Bream Bay](#) – Thank you Stephen.

Webinar - [Dealing to the climate crisis - Prof James Renwick](#), 5.30 – 6.45pm, Wednesday 6 November.

Quaker Earthcare Witness mapping project [here](#).

Research

[Climate projections dataset](#) – Find out how warm /cold/ dry /wet is it likely to get [at your place](#)? The maps outline likely directions of change. (thank you Justin).

[Aotearoa NZ and Offshore Mitigation](#) – Motu report.

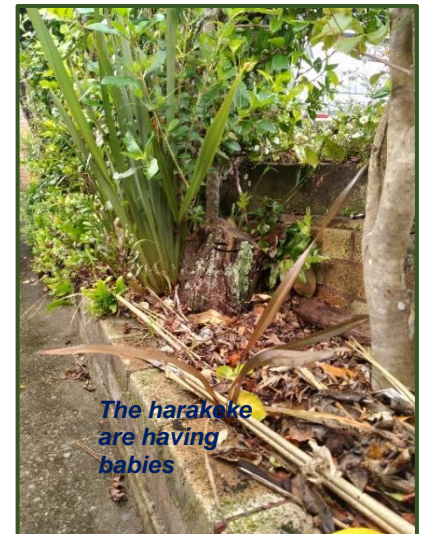
Inspiration

Wetland restoration [video](#); and Very Interesting Creature [here](#) (thank you Jillian)

We like watching the eels slithering over and under each other flashing their fins at Travis Wetland / Ōrua Paeroa. Our little granddaughter jumps up and down with excitement. My Kai Tahu boss once explained that Ōrua Paeroa was

used primarily as a mahinga kai, a food resource. Fire at [Whangamarino](#), a wetland, is not good.

Mahinga kai; Food; Life.



Last Word

"These we can eat now. These are for the tangi. These are for seed. And these, e kare mā, are your Kūmara"

Haare Williams from *Matauri Bay*

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou

Philippa

Note: this newsletter is not an official Quaker publication. It aims to assist Aotearoa NZ Quakers' knowledge of action and thinking around climate change, and therefore reflects a variety of views.