

Quaker Climate Crisis Correspondent - 2

He waka eke noa We are all in this canoe together

Kia ora tatou katoa, Greetings Friends

Thank you for the kind feedback, and the encouragement. It is amazing what people are doing.

Quaker news

Liz B is now Editor for *Antarctica*, the New Zealand [Antarctic Society's](#) journal. Martin P and [Friends of Owhiro Stream](#) are not just improving Owhiro Stream but successfully working with local authorities to improve Wellington's waste disposal. Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) is working on reducing [plastics pollution](#) and improving the "[Impact of new technologies for climate protection on the enjoyment of human rights](#)" report.

Gray and I met with [Generation Zero](#), and hope to see their Yearly Meeting report for Quakers very soon. *Do we have Young Friends connections with Generation Zero?*

What's On

1. [Review of the Resource Management \(Infringement Offences\) Regulations 1999](#) - closes 31 March (current fines are seen as too low).
2. [What it takes to be a climate prepared city](#) - Webinar featuring Julie Fairey (Auckland Councillor Albert /Eden/ Puketepapa) and Matthew Bradbury (Associate Professor in the Landscape Architecture programme, School of Architecture, Te Puukenga) via Zoom, at 7.00pm, 28 March. Find out more and register [here](#). Thank you, Deborah, for the info.
3. [Equitable transitions strategy](#) - Government is undertaking work to ensure changes made to reduce our emissions are fair for all New Zealanders. The aim is an Equitable Transitions Strategy with the work being led by the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). A draft Strategy is due in June 2023 with a final Strategy due in June 2024. Find out how to get involved [here](#).

A turning point?

What sort of change is happening? There is scientific [debate about Cyclone Gabrielle](#) and [global warming](#). [Maureen Pugh's](#) human involvement in climate change doubts were shouted down by everyone including her own party. Cyclone Gabrielle may have us recognising our place in [Polynesia](#); or at least as islands similar to other islands in the Pacific / Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa, particularly when [Fiji is providing us with aid](#).

Those of us at the beginning are learning new words. I wanted to get them right, so I checked. *Adaptation* is about being able to [adapt, live and thrive in a more damaging](#)

climate, and Aotearoa NZ has a [National Adaptation Plan](#). *Mitigation* is about [reducing the amount of greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere](#). We have a [plan](#) for that too.

When it comes to Gabrielle, it looks like adaptation is more popular. Google 'Cyclone Gabrielle adaptation' (12 March) and you get 472,000 options. Google 'Cyclone Gabrielle Mitigation', and you get 158,000. Both are relevant for what happens next in the Cyclone Gabrielle response.

Quakers have a testimony to equality which relates to another part of the 'clean-up'. [Climate justice](#) is about the *just division, fair sharing, and equitable distribution of the burdens of climate change, its mitigation, and responsibilities to deal with climate change*, according to Wikipedia.

We already hear that residents in [Wairoa fear being forgotten](#) and reports of some in [Muriwai taking action into their own hands](#). Cyclone Gabrielle sliced its way through very different communities, and recent resident dwelling median sales prices may provide a proxy indication of some of those differences. How much is a house in Muriwai? At the time of writing (12 March), a residential dwelling was around [\\$1.7 million](#). What about Piha? [\\$1.2 million](#). Esk Valley? [\\$1.25 million](#). Contrast these with these with [Gisborne, \\$670,000](#); [Dargaville, \\$520,000](#); [Tolaga Bay, \\$315,000](#); and, [Wairoa \\$223,000](#).

Meantime, Australia is [spending billions on nuclear submarines](#), and the US based Climate Mobilization Network is moving away from school strikes to [climate survival](#) strategies.

Learning things

Quaker UN Representative Lindsay Fielder Cook's Summer Gathering presentation on the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27) is [here](#). See also her presentation to a [Catholic Climate advocacy forum](#).

Thank you Ronis for the [Australian Religious Response to Climate Change link](#), and Anne for the [Aotearoa NZ Religious Diversity Climate Action Group link](#).

Thank you Gray for [How to Fix a Broken Planet](#), by Julian Cribb, and Greta Thunberg, [The Climate Book](#), reviewed on Radio NZ [here](#). Or, if reading is too much, here is an enjoyable UN short course on [sustainable lifestyles](#) with lots of videos.

Finally, one of you wanted a photo of me, so here is a selfie. While I am alone in the photo, I take heart from us being together on the journey. It reminds me of a popular hymn when I was younger:

*We are pilgrims on a journey;
We are travellers on the road;
We are here to help each other;
Walk the mile and bear the load.*

Ngā mihi nui, Philippa

