

Climate Emergency Correspondent 2024, No 4. 2 Paengawhāwhā

'if the realms of Tāwhirimātea (god of the winds), Tāne Mahuta (god of all living things), Papatūānuku (mother earth) and Tangaroa (god of the sea) are sustained, then the people will be sustained'. Ngāi Tahu ki Murihiku ([2008](#))



Land Transport Policy Statement protesters at Parliament

Kia ora f/Friends

We have a mouse in the house. I blame the cooler weather (not our housekeeping) and point to my achy joints for seasonal confirmation. Mousey is either smart and an expert at mousetrap avoidance or enjoys an atypical mousey diet. He/ she/ they is thwarting Predator Free Khandallah (Fletcher Branch).

Thank you everyone for all the information. It is easy to feel overwhelmed, isn't it. However, there are some simple basics right now:

Need to Know

1. [April 5 climate strike](#) – This Friday. Times vary, so check the website <https://www.facebook.com/schoolstrike4climatenz>
2. [Fast Track Approvals Bill](#) – webinar from Forest and Bird [here](#) (thank you Stephen). Handy info on submission writing from the Climate Club [here](#). Government is [committed](#) to *prioritising regional and national projects of significance; facilitate or procuring funding for regional and national projects of significance; make it easier to consent new infrastructure including renewable energy; simplifying the planning system and related statutes including the Public Works Act and the Reserves Act. Make submissions [here](#) by 19 April.*
3. **Kay Harrison (ANZ Climate Change Ambassador), and Lindsey Fielder-Cook (Quaker United Nations Office)** will be at a Yearly Meeting Session on 26 April.
4. **Quaker climate weekend 19-21 July** - (An opportunity for everyone to bring their issues/opportunities/interests and join with others with mutual interests. Thank you Margy-Jean, Ronis, Marion; and panelists Cathy Breed ([Climate Club Aotearoa](#)); John Michaelis ([Nelson Tasman Climate Forum](#)); [Mike Joy](#) (Te Herenga Waka Victoria University Wgtn).

Climate left right out - Government's recent [Budget Policy Statement](#) mentions 'environment' once and 'climate' not at all (p.5-6). The statement is important, because that is how the money get spent.

Even the [International Monetary Fund](#) (IMF) states that Aotearoa NZ's structural reforms need to "boost the housing supply, revive productivity growth, lower emissions, and *address challenges from climate change*" [emphasis mine].

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.

Maybe this is why climate is left out - In the latest opinion survey, 19% of us rate climate change as one of our top three issues. We are much more concerned about inflation/ cost of living (59%); housing (33%), healthcare (33%), crime / law and order (27%), and the economy (25%). People most likely to rate climate change among their top three issues in Aotearoa NZ tend to be aged 65+ (27%). People least likely are those aged 18-34 (15%) or Māori (15%) (See [IPSOS NZ Issues Monitor](#) February 2024). Māori are more concerned about issues facing Māori (29%), and poverty and inequality (28%); young people are more concerned about crime / law and order (20%). More immediate priorities?



Inspiration from the Karangahake people

Cow belching in Aotearoa

[Federated Farmers](#) are concerned our climate targets might be unrealistic; the article was in the last newsletter. We got two responses.

Quaker 1 responded: *my thoughts are that they [Federated Farmers] are criminal. ... decades of Federated Farmers resisting any progressive policies on reducing climate emission, support[ing] continuing lack of action and giv[ing] no thought to the world which our children will inhabit. Their arguments confuse our increase in emissions, with other countries not meeting targets, ignoring the fact that many countries have made substantial reductions, and we are standouts in our per person emissions. The challenge is how to advance such a position in a 'Quakerly' way.*

Quaker 2 sent a blog featuring the following comment from former Federated Farmers President Owen Jennings - *NZ has 1% of the Ruminants - ruminants as a whole only make up 14% of emissions – Why are they trying to tax and coerce our farmers out of farming beef/dairy cows??? Why are they brain washing the masses into believing farming is bad for the climate?*

Angsting? Worry not - [Turning anxiety into action](#)

Resources

[Right tree in the right place to help reduce fire risk](#) and [Economics of Happiness](#) film (thank you Jillian); [forest restoration around cities](#) (thank you Joel); [Fast Track Approvals webinar](#) from Forest and Bird (thank you Stephen); [Climate: The Movie](#) (thank you Stuart – my skeptical friend); [Psychology and climate change](#) (thank you Gray); Does [environmental stress affect our brains](#) (thank you Jonathan).

Things to do

[Coromandel Watchdog](#) is collecting dollars; [Climate Council webinar](#) 11 April, 8.00 pm; How to be ecologically friendly – [stop mowing the lawn](#) (thank you Jonathan who kindly mows our lawn); [350 Homegrown energy petition](#)

Last word: [Rod Oram](#)

(3 November 1950 – 19 March 2024)

See you soon, Ngā mihi nui
Philippa



Southerly arriving last Friday

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