

ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21



**A ROCHA AOTEAROA
NEW ZEALAND**

ABOUT US | MŌ MĀTOU

A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand is part of the A Rocha family of Christian environmental conservation organisations currently active in 22 countries around the world. As a family, we focus on environmental science and research, practical nature conservation, environmental education, creation care and advocacy through a variety of programmes and initiatives.

In Aotearoa New Zealand, we seek to inspire, educate and enable communities to care for our unique environment. A Rocha Aotearoa NZ is actively engaged in practical community conservation work through our network of local group projects and the Karioi Project. These offer opportunities for volunteer involvement across the country. We are also involved in resourcing, empowering and building relationships among all those wanting to integrate creation care and sustainability into the life of the church in Aotearoa NZ through our Eco Church NZ project.

A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand (ARANZ) was registered as a charity in 2008 and our charity registration number is CC36274.

MISSION

To protect and restore the environment through community-based conservation projects, research, and education.

VISION

Together we want to see ecosystems restored and communities all across Aotearoa New Zealand actively caring for the earth.

GOALS

A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand's specific goals are:

- **PRACTICAL ACTION:** Well-resourced community conservation projects of local, regional and national significance.
- **EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT:** Inspiring creation-care for all ages through high-quality educational experiences.
- **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES:** A Rocha communities caring for creation and exploring ways for sustainable living.



Back row from left: Iris Lee, Mary Hutchinson, Stephen Pattemore, Philip Church
Front row from left to right: Pete Armstrong, Kristel van Houte, Nicola Hoggard Creegan

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As Chair, I never cease to be amazed at how much ARANZ achieves with so few people. A special shout out to Kristel, our inspiring director, and Iris, the administrator par excellence. We have a programme which spans field education for young children and teenagers in Raglan and in other parts of the country, intensive monitoring and investigation of traps and birds on a rugged seaside mountain, coordination of educational programmes and volunteers, together with our fledgling eco-church initiative. All of this is skillfully maintained and managed by Kristel and Iris.

We have had an encouraging year. In spite of post-COVID stresses and anxieties we have soft launched and then grown the Eco Church programme at a time when denominations were searching for answers and resources. Some churches around the country have extensive programmes and others are just starting on the journey. Eco Church has underlined our Christian convictions and the need for Christians to be thinking about climate and creation care. The programme also brings together churches from around the country, and is encouraging to local leaders who have often been working in some isolation for more than ten years. Even the Anglican Diocese of Auckland has come on board. And we are excited by our new hire, Amy Ross, who is looking after the Eco Church initiative in Wellington, one of our most promising hubs for ecological activity and awareness.

We continue to be governed by a dedicated and hardworking Board, and we welcomed two new members this year: Mary Hutchinson and Pete Armstrong. Pete is an engineer who has volunteered at Karioi, and Mary is an ex-GP, photographer and environmental activist.

Another of the highlights of this year was the international aspect of ARANZ. All 22 A Rocha Organisations signed a new Covenant and we welcomed a new International Director, Simon Stuart.

Nicola Hoggard Creegan
Chair of A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand Trust

A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand Trustees:
Philip Church (Treasurer), Stephen Pattemore, Mary Hutchinson, Pete Armstrong



MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Each year, we reflect on the year gone by. This last year can be described more than anything as a year of change; a year that has in fact changed the whole world.

These changes have also given us a wonderful reminder that we can do change! We were able to make drastic changes within a short period of time, and live with these changes – despite the changes being incredibly uncomfortable and perhaps hard too.

COVID-19 was also a reminder that we must continue to work for a stronger and more resilient environment; that we must look at nature-based solutions to overcome many of the challenges we face if we aspire to restore ecosystems and our communities.

Restoration work is both challenging and rewarding. Today, there are many community-led projects that include stream and river restoration, planting, predator control projects, recycling and repurposing initiatives, community gardens and policies being introduced that require improved environmental outcomes. It has been rewarding to see how A Rocha has contributed to these projects in Aotearoa.

Restoration is both about nature and people. It involves our relationships – with each other, with the Earth, and with God. We are in a unique position to work together, to engage in environmental work and to bring a message of hope to people and places that may feel a sense of hopelessness.

My prayer is for new beginnings – for restoration and healing to bring hope.

Thank you for all your support and friendship along the way.

Kristel van Houte
National Director
A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand



PRACTICAL ACTION

Well-resourced community conservation projects of local, regional and national significance.

A Rocha Aotearoa NZ is actively engaged in practical community conservation work. The Karioi Project and our network of local group projects offer opportunities for volunteer involvement across the country. Local groups are involved in a range of community conservation initiatives: wetland, native bush and stream restoration, a native tree nursery and planting projects. Working in partnership with other organisations and the local community, these groups are focused on restoring our locally unique and special places we all love.



Throughout this report, you will notice icons like these appearing on certain pages. These represent the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, adopted in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly. We are proud of A Rocha's part in the global effort to meet these ambitious goals by 2030.

KARIOI PROJECT



7 oi chicks fledged



**52 burrows
monitored**



**1747 traps deployed
and checked on Karioi
trapslines**



**814 Karioi Backyard
Hub traps**



**130 regular
volunteers**



**6920 volunteer
hours**

The Karioi Project inspires the amazing Raglan community to take a stand for nature and to protect the places we love. Together, we're turning the tide on biodiversity loss and successfully restoring our corner of the world.

LOCAL GROUPS



5 local groups

Tāmaki Makarau Auckland
Te Papaioea Palmerston North
Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington
Ōtautahi Christchurch
Ōtepoti Dunedin



12 local group projects

- Matuku Link Restoration Project
- Unsworth Reserve Restoration Project
- Te Auaunga Oakley Creek Restoration Project
- Adventist Native Plants Nursery
- Waiu Wetland Restoration Project
- Kopua Monastery Restoration Site
- Swampy Gully Restoration Site
- Supporting Friends of Owhiro Stream
- Shirley Stream Care
- Aranui Bike Fixup
- Tirohanga Camp Restoration Project
- Smith's Creek Restoration Site with STOP



1215 volunteer hours

✧ "Caring for nature is my value. It's one of the big rocks in my life. I mean, this is one of the things I want to put in place high in my personal list of things of consequence. I enjoy giving myself to a task like this." - Zane

"I like cleaning up. I enjoy the friendly people and this is such a complete change from the city." - David

"I love getting my fingers in the dirt. It's my heart. My love language with God is in the created world. It connects with my soul. Blue sky, birds, sound of water. It's so restorative." - Johanna

"We take too much away and don't give enough back. This is a tiny re-balance." - Isa



EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

Inspiring creation-care for all ages through high-quality educational experiences.

A Rocha Aotearoa NZ offers a range of educational programs and events for communities, churches and partner organisations across the country. Our programs may include place-based environmental education, practical conservation and biblical & theological reflection.

All our programs aim to inspire and equip people to care for all of creation. We hope to see individuals, communities, churches and partner organisations inspired and equipped to care for creation and explore sustainable ways of living. We also seek to engage and equip a new generation of environmental leaders and change makers.



EDUCATION IN NUMBERS



10 environmental education programmes / camps

248 participants

- Karioi Kids (7–8 years old)
- Karioi Rangers (9–12 years old)
- Manaaki Ao Year 0–4 Conservation Program
- Manaaki Ao Year 9/10
- Manaaki Ao Level II NCEA credits
- Manaaki Ao Year 13
- Sustain Camp, Raglan
- E3 Wilderness Journey, Otago
- E3 Wilderness Journey, Canterbury
- E3 Wilderness Journey, Ruapehu



— “ —

I wanted to take the time to thank the Karioi Team for the outstanding programmes you are offering in our community. My son loves the Karioi Rangers. We love how exciting, innovative and interesting each afternoon learning experience offers. I am impressed with the professional yet community feel the programmes offer.

There are strong values of kaitiakitanga and whakawhanaungatanga. We are grateful to the excellent kaiako and hope you continue to offer this outstanding programme for our rangatahi.

— ” —

— “ —

Thank you for your sharing in our service yesterday morning. It was super cool to hear your story and the reasons why you do what you do, and how it appears to have given you an ability to integrate your beliefs and actions in a cohesive and powerful way! That's not something that everyone manages so to see it and hear it as you were speaking was a privilege. And, inspiring!

— ” —



13 education & engagement events (conferences, workshops, sermons etc.)

543 participants



SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Communities caring for creation and exploring ways for sustainable living.

We believe that we are called to both individual and collective action – to live more sustainably. The Karioi Project, A Rocha local groups and Eco Churches offer places to explore with others how we can together seek the well-being of humans, the land and other species. These communities become places of ecological and personal transformation and education that inspires and equips people for creation-care, kaitiakitanga and sustainable living.



ECO CHURCH NZ PROJECT

The Eco Church NZ Project is a bold new initiative of A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand to support churches to actively care for God's earth as an integral part of their mission. Soft launched in July 2020 amidst COVID-19 restrictions, we welcomed 8 churches and 1 diocese to the Eco Church whānau in 2020.



I think it is great that we can be an Eco Church and that we have the Eco Church network. It is an important network to support each other and to hear ideas about how other churches do things. I feel that Eco Church is breaking down barriers between churches – it doesn't matter what denomination you are from or how you worship, we are all working together to make a difference in our communities and our world.

It's a much -needed initiative and restores care for God's creation at the heart of our faith. Christians should be leaders in environmental issues. The challenges to live more sustainably are huge but unavoidable, so here's a chance to demonstrate we care for the whole ecosystem.

ARANZ FINANCES

INCOME 2020/21

Karioi Project – Grants	\$288,352	58%
Karioi Project – Donations	\$42,845	9%
Karioi Project – Social Enterprise Income	\$43,618	9%
Karioi Project – Other Income	\$10,904	2%
Eco Church – Grants	\$18,651	4%
Eco Church – Donations	\$2,919	1%
General Grants	\$47,318	10%
General Donations	\$37,723	8%
Other income	\$935	0%

TOTAL INCOME **\$493,265**

EXPENSES 2020/21

Karioi Project – Programmes Delivery	\$335,689	73%
Karioi Project – Social Enterprise Costs	\$29,935	7%
Administration and Overhead Costs	\$62,686	14%
Eco Church – Programmes Delivery	\$29,882	7%

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$458,192**

Full audited accounts are available on request from new.zealand@arocha.org

ARANZ HUMAN RESOURCES



21 staff | 6.29 FTE

**8134.5 volunteer hours |
3.91 FTE**

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS, FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS

A Rocha worldwide family
Adventure Specialties Trust
Anglican Diocese of
Auckland
Auckland City Council
Bayleys Real Estate
Breezes Rd Baptist Church
Christchurch City Council
Cohé Group
Community Organisation
Grants Scheme
DV Bryant Trust
Department of
Conservation
EB Firth Charitable Trust
eCoast
Forest & Bird Valder
Conservation Grant
Friends of Oakley Creek
Friends of Owhiro Stream
Friends of Wainui Bush
FusionPrint
George's Beach Club
Glenice and John Gallagher
Foundation
Hughes whanau
Hutt City Council
Kaipātiki Project
Kāpiti Coast District Council
Keeping Good Company

Kessels Ecology
Kiwibank Predator Free NZ
Len Reynolds Trust
Longburn Adventist College
Longview Trust
Lottery Grants Board
Meridian Power Up Te Uku
Community Fund
Morning Glory Coffee
NZ Christians in Science
Oxford Tee Baptist Church
Pacific Development and
Conservation Trust
Papa Taiao Earthcare
Para Kore Marae Inc
Patagonia
Presbyterian Synod of Otago
and Southland
Raglan Apiaries
Raglan Area School
Raglan Backpackers
Raglan Community Charitable
Trust
Raglan Kayak & Paddleboard
Raglan Lions Club
Raglan Rock
Rhema
Sargood Bequest
Save the Otago Peninsula
Scripture Union NZ

St George's Epsom
SkyCity Hamilton
Support for Volunteering
Fund
Tainui hapū members
Te Whakaoranga O Karioi
Tearfund NZ
The Raglan Chronicle
Tirohanga Youth Camp
Trees That Count
Trust Waikato
Upper Harbour Ecology
Network
Waikato Regional Council
Wairua Design
WEL Energy Trust
Whāingaroa / Raglan
Community
Whāingaroa Environment
Centre
Whāingaroa Harbour Care
Wilberforce Foundation
WWF NZ
WWW Foundation
– Eco Churches around
Aotearoa NZ
– and many individual
donors!



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Conservation and Hope

ECO CHURCH NZ
AN A ROCHA AOTEAROA NZ PROJECT



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