

A ROCHA
AOTEAROA NZ



**PŪRONGO Ā-TAU
ANNUAL REPORT**

2025/26



Mō mātou | About us

A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand is part of the A Rocha family of Christian environmental conservation organisations currently active in over 20 countries around the world.

A Rocha Aotearoa NZ is actively engaged in practical community conservation work through the Karioi Project and our network of local group projects. These offer opportunities for volunteer involvement across the country. We also train and mentor environmental leaders through our education and leadership programmes. And through our Eco Church project, we resource and inspire church communities to integrate care of the environment and sustainability into their activities and community.

Pae Tawhiti | Vision

Ecosystems restored and communities across Aotearoa actively caring for the earth.

Pae Tata | Mission

To protect and restore ecosystems through community-based conservation, developing environmental leaders and taking practical action.

Ngā Arotahinga | Our Focus Areas



RESTORING ECOSYSTEMS:

Practical conservation for flourishing ecosystems and communities.



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE:

Meaningful reconnection with te taiao that inspires care and action.



FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES:

Empowered communities taking action for sustainability and resilience.

Te karere mai te Tiamana Message from the Chair

We live in times of environmental recklessness. But there is also hope. I have been encouraged on the wider front by Bill McKibben's new book *Here Comes the Sun*. It shows how many individuals, institutions and organisations are simply getting on with the transition to sustainable energy, and how this movement is becoming all but unstoppable. The sun, after all, shines on us all, and provides abundant, affordable energy. In the 2025 BBC Reith Lectures, Rutger Bregman, also stressed the importance of small groups of people remaining committed over many years to a shared purpose. All of this is encouraging for A Rocha. We are doing just that: practicing commitment to environmental restoration and sustainable living over the long haul, motivated by the conviction that this is part of the redemptive work of God, through Christ and the Spirit.

Abundant thanks to Kristel and the team at Karioi for a period of remarkable growth and maturity in the work. The Eco Church Project has also flourished over the last year, thanks to James, Iris, Mo, Di, and Millie. Both projects have received generous grants from Lotteries and local councils to continue the mahi, thanks to the fundraising work of Kristel and Iris. Kristel, James and Iris also joined the wider A Rocha family in the Philippines for the International Forum. We are, as always, grateful for the links and connections the wider A Rocha groups bring to our work, both in the Forum and through theological and conservation collaborations throughout the year. The Board has spent many months in conversation with Kristel and Iris, considering possibilities for reorganisation and new leadership structures for the future. That work is ongoing. Finally, heartfelt thanks to all Board members – Mary, Cynthia, Pete, Phil, and former members, Stephen and Gray – for their wisdom, generosity and commitment.



Nicola Hoggard Creegan

Chair

A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand Trust





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Sir David Moxon KNZM GCStJ

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Pete Armstrong

Cynthia Karikala

Dr Stephen Pattemore (till Sept 2025)

Gray Baldwin (till Jan 2026)



Te tau kua hipa

The year in review

Tēnā koutou katoa A Rocha whānau,

This year has been a reminder that meaningful change is built through relationships. Whether gathering with the global A Rocha family in the Philippines, welcoming A Rocha International's new Executive Director Ed Walker to Aotearoa, or working alongside churches, communities, and conservation partners here at home, I have been struck by the power of connection. Despite the distances, differences, and challenges we face, relationships continue to be the foundation upon which our work is built.

Here in Aotearoa, we have seen those relationships bear fruit in many ways. Eco Church recently celebrated reaching more than 100 churches engaged in creation care - more than double the goal we set ourselves five years ago. We have also seen young adults finding community, purpose, and encouragement through educational and connection programmes, building networks of friendship and leadership that give hope for the future.

At the Karioi Project, significant funding support has enabled us to strengthen restoration efforts and plan with greater confidence for the years ahead. Alongside this, we continue to grow a wider community of volunteers, supporters, businesses, philanthropists, and local partners who are investing in the long-term wellbeing of our landscape.

What inspires me most is seeing people come together across differences. Farmers and conservationists. Churches and scientists. Educators, practitioners, volunteers, and community leaders. These partnerships remind us that lasting change is built through trust, collaboration, and shared action. The transformation we seek rarely happens through a single breakthrough moment; more often it emerges through small, faithful acts of care repeated over time.

I am grateful for the growing community that surrounds A Rocha - here in Aotearoa and across the world. Together, we continue to restore ecosystems, nurture hope, and inspire people to care for God's creation. In a time when the challenges facing people and planet can feel overwhelming, I remain encouraged by what is possible when we choose to work together.

Ngā manaakitanga o te taiao, me te aroha noa o te Atua.



Kristel van Houte

National Director - A Rocha Aotearoa NZ





Te Whakaoranga o Karioi | The Karioi Project

Focused on Mount Karioi and the surrounding coastline, wetlands, and forests, Te Whakaoranga o Karioi works to restore biodiversity across interconnected mountain-to-sea ecosystems. Ongoing predator control and species monitoring are supporting the return and recovery of native wildlife, including kororā (little penguins), ōi (grey-faced petrels), matuku hūrepo (Australasian bittern), and pekapeka (native bats).

The Karioi Project is a community-led conservation and education initiative established through partnerships between Tainui o Tainui hapū, Ngāti Whakamarurangi hapū, A Rocha Aotearoa NZ, Whāingaroa Environment Centre, the Department of Conservation, Waikato Regional Council, landowners, and the wider Whāingaroa/Raglan community.



The Karioi Project... reflecting on the year

This year has been one of growth, partnership, and deepening connection across the Karioi landscape.

As our work continues to expand, one of the things that encourages me most is the willingness of people from all walks of life to work together for the benefit of nature. Through our partnerships with Ngāti Whakamarurangi, Raglan Area School, local landowners, volunteers, community groups, and supporters, we are seeing what can happen when people share a common vision for the future of this place.

Over the past year, we have continued to strengthen relationships across the mountain, coastline, wetlands, and surrounding farmland. It has been a privilege to work alongside landowners who have welcomed us onto their properties to support monitoring programmes for pekapeka, matuku-hūrepo, seabirds, and other native species. As someone with a farming background myself, it has been especially rewarding to see the trust and collaboration that continues to grow between farmers, conservationists, and the wider community.

We have also been grateful for the funding and support that is enabling us to expand predator control across the wider landscape. With several large landowners joining the project, we are preparing to extend pest management across more than 3,000 hectares around Karioi, creating stronger habitat connections and greater opportunities for wildlife to thrive.

Our education programmes continue to inspire young people to connect with nature and discover their own role as kaitiaki. Whether through school programmes, after-school activities, or hands-on conservation projects, we see tamariki and rangatahi developing confidence, skills, and a lifelong connection to the natural world.

Restoration happens through countless small acts of care repeated over time - a trap checked, a survey completed, a tree planted, a conversation shared. Each contribution matters, and together they create something far greater than any one person or organisation could achieve alone.

To everyone who has contributed to this journey - our team of staff and volunteers, iwi, landowners, schools, funders, supporters, and wider community - thank you. Your commitment to caring for Karioi and the wider Whāingaroa landscape gives us great hope for the future.

Ngaa mihi mahana,
Kristel


Te Whakaoranga O Karioi



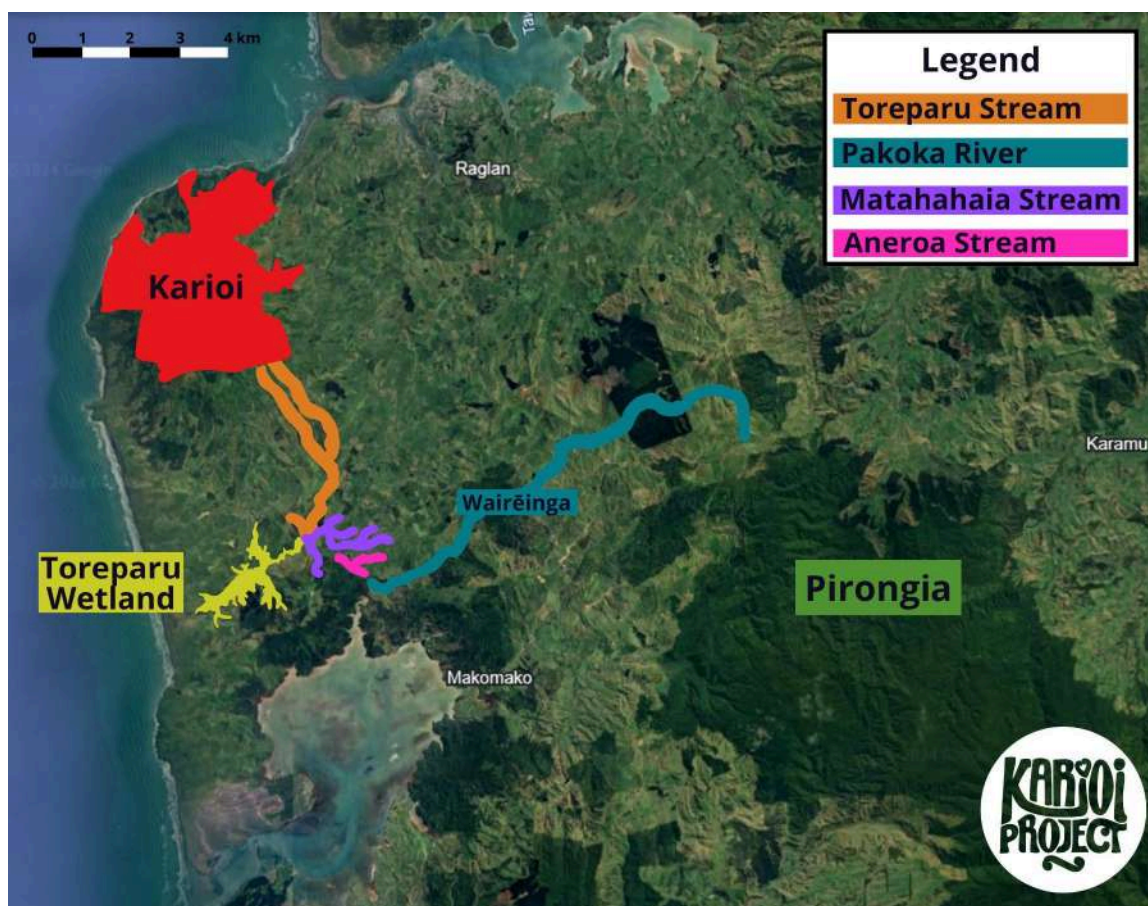
Kristel van Houte
Karioi Project Manager



Restoring ecosystems

Spanning from Whāingaroa to Āotea Harbours and linking ecosystems from Mount Karioi to Toreparu Wetland and the coast, Te Whakaoranga o Karioi works to restore ecological connections across a mountain-to-sea landscape. Through landscape-scale predator control, habitat restoration, species monitoring, environmental education, and community engagement, the project aims to increase biodiversity resilience and support the recovery of native species across interconnected ecosystems.

Working in partnership with landowners, iwi, community groups, councils, and government agencies, Te Whakaoranga o Karioi continues to expand coordinated conservation efforts across the wider landscape. Key goals include strengthening predator control networks, restoring freshwater and coastal habitats, increasing community participation in conservation, and building long-term ecological monitoring to better understand and support species recovery over time.



CUMULATIVE SINCE PROJECT'S INCEPTION:

- 2395 traps on Karioi traplines
- 246.4 km of traplines
- 4884 ha under stoat control
- 3334 ha under multi-species predator control



Monitoring Ōi

Te Whakaoranga o Karioi monitors ōi (grey-faced petrel) populations as a key indicator species.

Volunteers and staff monitor over 60 burrows between April - December each year, conducted a species-detection dog survey, and maintained wildlife cameras 24/7 to track breeding bird activity and chick survival. These combined methods provide essential data to guide predator control and protect this threatened seabird. The team also spends a day each year training with DoC seabird guru Graeme Taylor.



12 ōi chicks fledged
28% chick-fledging success

60 ōi burrows monitored
2 ōi banded

Monitoring Kororā

Thanks to effective predator control, kōrora (little penguin) are now breeding along our coastline. This year, volunteers and staff recorded nesting activity, chick survival, and predator interactions, providing vital data to support ongoing conservation and management decisions for this vulnerable seabird.



5 kororā chicks fledged!





Monitoring of Matuku-Hūrepo

In October 2025, Te Whakaoranga o Karioi participated in 'The Great Matuku-hūrepo Muster', monitoring bittern across 12 sites from north of Raglan Harbour to Ruapuke and towards Aotea Harbour.



Twenty volunteers took part, recording three individual male bittern during the October survey period. This number forms the population index used for monitoring and is doubled to account for females and non-vocal males, giving an estimated local population of six birds. These results represented a significant proportion of the Waikato region's recorded monitoring effort and detections for 2025.



Bittern were also heard in September and November, and two birds were sighted but not heard. As monitoring focuses on the number of individual males heard simultaneously, these observations are not included in the official population index. With only two years of data currently available (2024–2025), it is too early to identify population trends, with consistent monitoring over 3–5 years needed to establish this.

Alongside monitoring, Te Whakaoranga o Karioi continues to support community involvement in bittern conservation through wetland restoration, predator control, and increasing local capacity to identify and record matuku-hūrepo across the landscape.



12 sites monitored by listening

3 bitterns recorded booming across 2 sites

A further milestone during the year was the removal of disused historical netting from wetlands at the Mitchell eel farm. The work was carried out by Te Whakaoranga o Karioi team alongside 30 New Zealand Navy students during a community volunteer day.

Nets were removed from wetland ponds where they posed an entanglement risk to wildlife, helping improve the safety and suitability of habitat for matuku-hūrepo and other wetland species.

Monitoring of Pekapeka

Pekapeka-tou-roa (long-tailed bats) are monitored across the Karioi landscape, confirming widespread activity throughout Whāingaroa and important habitat areas around Te Mata and Toreparu wetland.

Following the initial 2023 survey, a second landscape-scale survey was undertaken in 2025 to help build a long-term picture of local pekapeka populations and habitat use.

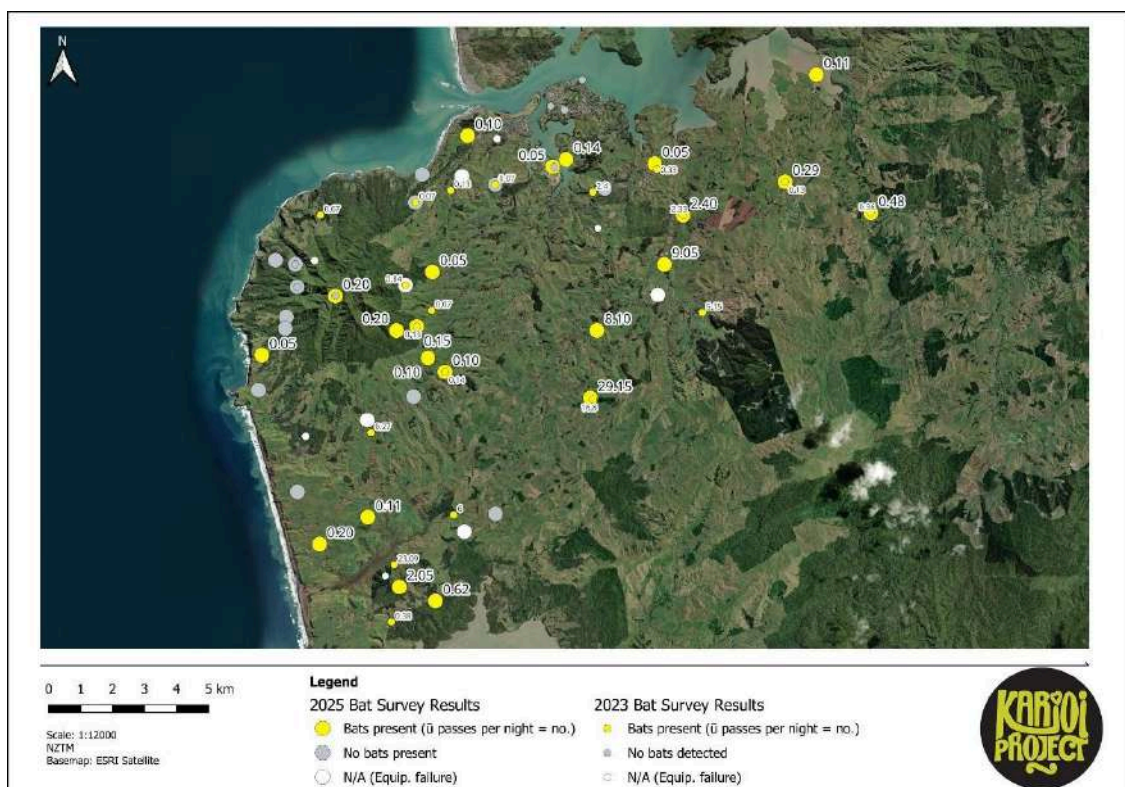
Pekapeka were detected at 63% of survey sites across the wider landscape, with the highest activity recorded in the Te Mata valley. Due to consistently high activity in this area, a targeted follow-up survey was undertaken across remnant kahikatea and podocarp forest habitats on private land during summer 2025/26.

Pekapeka were recorded at 95% of sites surveyed, confirming the Te Mata catchment as a significant habitat area. The highest activity was recorded at the remnant kahikatea forest in Te Mata Domain, with regular activity also detected along the Okete and Kauri Stream corridors.



Bats (Threatened - Nationally Critical) were detected at 63% of sites surveyed in 2025/26.

Pekapeka were recorded at 19 of the 20 additional survey locations in Te Mata - a bat hotspot!







Connecting people to nature

The Karioi Project's education programmes aim to connect people with nature and inspire care for te taiao through meaningful, place-based experiences. Through a diverse range of outdoor learning, conservation, hauora, and leadership programmes, we create opportunities for tamariki, rangatahi, schools, and the wider community to connect with their local environment, build confidence and skills, and experience the wellbeing benefits of time spent in nature and local blue and green spaces.

Karioi KIDS Programme (7-8 years)

Karioi KIDS is an after-school programme that encourages tamariki to explore, play, and connect with nature through fun, hands-on experiences. Through physical activities, conservation projects, and outdoor adventures, children build confidence, friendships, curiosity, and a stronger connection to their local environment and blue and green spaces.

Karioi RANGERS Programme (9-12 years)

Through place-based experiential learning, the Karioi RANGERS programme engages young people in hands-on conservation, outdoor challenges, and leadership opportunities. Activities are based around the diverse ecosystems of Karioi - whenua, wai, and moana - helping participants build resilience, teamwork, practical skills, and a deeper connection to te taiao and their local community.



- 56 Karioi Kids and Karioi Rangers participated across 4 terms.
- An overnight camp was part of the programme in Term 1.



Manaaki Ao (Earthcare) Programme (Year 0-13)

At Raglan Area School, the Manaaki Ao programme works with students from the junior years through to Year 13, building knowledge, confidence, and connection through kaitiakitanga, environmental restoration, and outdoor learning.

Through hands-on experiences in local ecosystems, students develop ecological awareness, leadership skills, teamwork, and creative problem-solving, while strengthening their connection to te taiao, community, and wellbeing. The programme also introduces pathways into conservation, sustainability, and environmental careers.

➡ 716 students from Years 0-10 participated





Hauora Mentoring Programme

Our Hauora mentoring programmes are grounded in the belief that all young people need different environments and ways of learning in order to thrive. Connection to nature, movement, purpose, belonging, and positive relationships are integral to wellbeing - yet many tamariki and rangatahi have fewer opportunities to regularly connect with the blue and green spaces that help people thrive.

Using conservation and connection to te taiao as the foundation, our programmes create safe, supportive, nature-based spaces where young people build confidence, resilience, leadership skills, friendships, and a stronger sense of identity and wellbeing through connection with whenua, community, and each other.



9 students participated in the Hauora mentoring programme
A total of 412 hours delivered
2 interns/trainees in 2025/26



Environmental Holiday Programme (6–12 years)

Our Environmental Holiday Programme provides tamariki with immersive outdoor experiences that encourage movement, exploration, and connection with nature during the school holidays.

Based on a free-play philosophy, the programme combines hands-on activities across the Karioi ecosystems of whenua, wai, and moana, and the wider Waikato region. Through conservation experiences and time spent in local blue and green spaces, children build confidence, resilience, friendships, leadership skills, and a stronger connection to te taiao.

➔ 229 places filled over the
school holidays!





School Visits & Visiting Groups

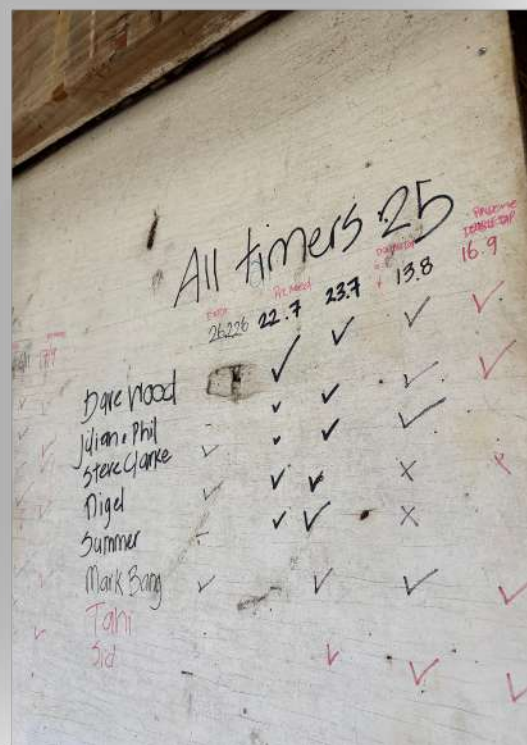
We offer “Living Classroom” environmental education and conservation programmes for local rural schools (Te Uku, Te Mata, Waitetuna), visiting schools, tertiary groups, and community organisations from across the Waikato, Auckland, and Bay of Plenty.

Through hands-on experiences in local blue and green spaces, participants build connection, wellbeing, leadership, and practical conservation skills while deepening their understanding of te taiao.

➤ 5 visiting groups from schools / tertiary programmes

➤ 2 visiting corporate groups







Fostering sustainable communities

Te Whakaoranga o Karioi nurtures sustainable communities by connecting people with nature and empowering them to take practical action. Volunteers of all ages can get involved in hands-on conservation work, from restoring native habitats to backyard hub trapping to protect local wildlife. Through these opportunities, participants develop skills, deepen their connection with Karioi's unique landscapes, and join a growing community committed to caring for the environment.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers remain at the heart of the Karioi Project. This year, volunteers contributed thousands of hours to conservation and community activities including checking traplines, bait deployment days, trap tunnel and trap-box working bees, seabird monitoring, weeding and community engagement days. Others supported the project through baking, shared meals, events, fundraising, administration, and helping create welcoming spaces for people to connect.

Their commitment, generosity, and passion are vital to protecting the maunga, ngahere, wetlands, and moana of Whāingaroa. Beyond the practical work achieved, volunteers help foster a vibrant and connected conservation community grounded in care for both people and te taiao.



355 volunteers

6,237 volunteer hours

19 community volunteering events





Community Events / Workshops

Community engagement remains at the heart of the Karioi Project. Throughout the year we created opportunities for people of all ages to connect with conservation through events such as Maui Dolphin Day, trap-box building workshops, community planting and working bees, trapping workshops, science talks, pub nights, and visits from conservation experts.

Demand for backyard traps and community involvement continues to grow, reflecting increasing local interest in protecting biodiversity and caring for te taiao. Alongside practical conservation action, we aim to foster a vibrant and connected conservation community where volunteers can learn, contribute, and build relationships.

The Karioi Project also regularly shares knowledge and stories through public speaking, workshops, radio interviews, podcasts, and wider media opportunities, helping inspire conservation action beyond Whāingaroa.

- 5 community engagement events (14.5 hours) with 165 attendees
- 3 social events with 140 attendees
- 5 radio interviews
- 10 online / newspaper articles / report





Karioi Backyard Hub

The Karioi Backyard Hub supports local landowners and residents with practical guidance, resources, and coordination for backyard pest control to build community action toward a predator-free Raglan.

- 537 households
(39% of Raglan households)
- 1861 backyard traps
- 208 social enterprise traps (serviced)





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Ngā mihi nui to our Funders and Sponsors!

Karioi Project Funders:

- COGS Waikato West
- Department of Conservation Waikato Office
- DOC Community Fund
- DV Bryant Trust
- Glenice & John Gallagher Foundation
- Lottery Environment and Heritage
- Patagonia
- Raglan Area School
- The Sargood Bequest
- Trust Waikato
- WEL Energy Trust
- Waikato Regional Council
- WWW Foundation
- Wonderful Giving Fund
- WWF Community Conservation Grant

Business Sponsors:

- Iso Bar
- Orca Eatery
- Raglan Boat Charters
- Raglan Four Square
- The Shack



Hāhi Tautaiāo o Aotearoa | Eco Church Aotearoa

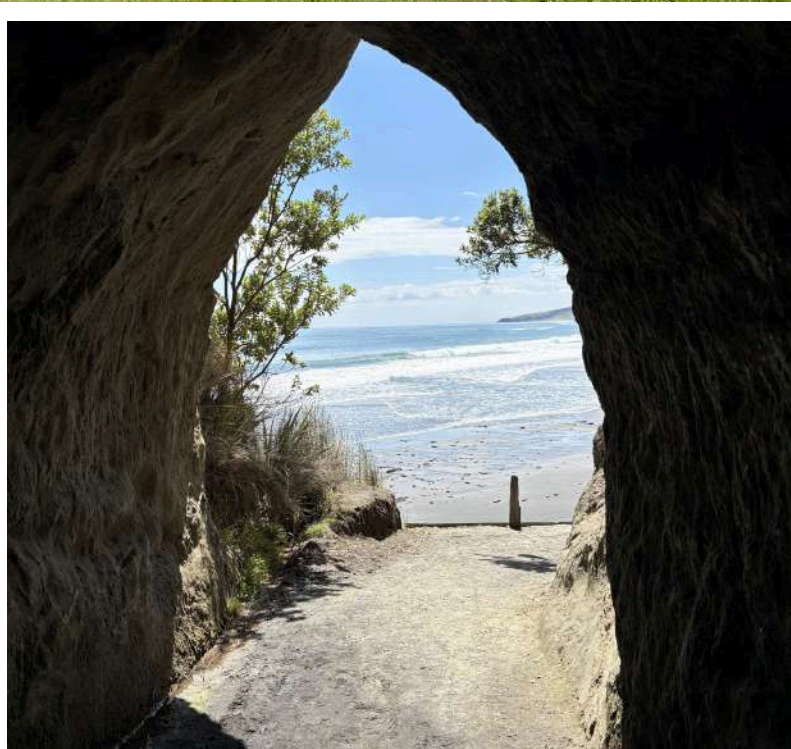
The Eco Church Aotearoa project is an ecumenical initiative to support church communities across Aotearoa NZ to actively care for God's earth as an integral part of their mission. Eco Church Aotearoa works alongside eco church kaihāpai (advocates), church leaders, environmental leaders, rangatahi and tamariki, denominational bodies, and other organisations - with the common goal to see church communities across Aotearoa NZ take practical action while growing a new generation of kaitiaki / inspirational environmental leaders.

Being a part of the Eco Church Aotearoa whānau means that we are not journeying on our own. We are part of a bigger mission spanning various parishes, church groups and denominations across Aotearoa NZ. We are gathering our efforts under one umbrella – to give voice and momentum to our efforts. We support each other through the celebration of knowledge and stories which inspires others to action.

The five key areas that we explore are:

- **Leadership, worship and teaching**
Te Hautūtanga, te Korōria ki te Atua, me te Whakaako
- **Church buildings and facilities**
Ngā Whare Karakia me ngā Rawa
- **Church land and grounds**
Te Whenua o ngā Hāhi
- **Community and global engagement**
Te Kōtuitui Hapori, te Kōtuitui o te Ao
- **Sustainable living**
Te Noho Toitū





Eco Church Aotearoa...

A gentle, embodied revolution

It is easy to get overwhelmed by the sheer scale of the ecological crisis. When we look at the state of the world, it is easy to default to fear, passivity, or consumer guilt. But over the past twelve months, the Eco Church Aotearoa network has quietly been offering a different path forward: one of robust hope and local, hands-on faithfulness.

We often talk about creation care as part of Christian discipleship, but what does that actually look like on the ground? It looks like an alternative "curriculum" for our lives - one that we learn with our hands in the dirt. It is what some call a covert liturgy of formation, where the simple, repeated practices of caring for our place gradually reshape our hearts, our desires, and our understanding of who we are.

When our churches engage in environmental projects, we are stepping back into our original biblical vocation to be caretakers and kaitiaki. This past year, this beautiful, embodied witness has been alive and well right across our network. We have engaged with faith communities all over Aotearoa to build relational pathways and ground their theology in local action. It has been just as alive in our youth networks, where rangatahi are deeply engaged with this kaupapa, proving that a faith active in restoration is good news for the Church and the world.

The Australian poet Michael Leunig wrote a prayer that captures our moment beautifully "may we undertake the journey without knowing the destination." That is "the art of a gentle revolution." We do not have all the answers to the world's massive ecological problems, and we cannot control the ultimate outcome. But we can choose to show up, plant trees, care for our neighbours, and worship the Creator through our actions.

When Churches care for creation together, we bear witness to a robust hope that our communities can see and experience. Thank you for being part of this gentle revolution over the past year.

Grace and peace,
James

James Beck
Eco Church Project Manager
ECO CHURCH
A ROCHA AOTEAROA NZ





Restoring ecosystems

Eco Church helps churches become active participants in the renewal of local environments and ecosystems. Christian communities are transforming church grounds and local spaces through planting projects, regenerative gardening, pest plant removal, composting initiatives, and partnerships with community conservation groups. These practical actions are creating healthier habitats, strengthening local biodiversity, and helping people rediscover their connection with the living world.

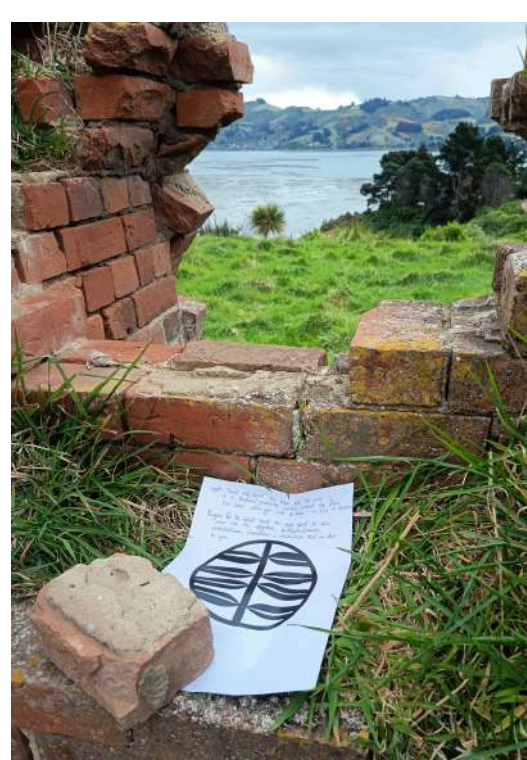
Young people have been a particularly important part of this work. Through the Good News Project and other Eco Church initiatives, tamariki and rangatahi have taken part in hands-on restoration activities that build practical skills, confidence, and a sense of responsibility for the places they live. By bringing together faith, learning, and action in nature, Eco Church is helping grow communities that care deeply for the flourishing of both people and ecosystems.

➤ June 2025: Good News Project (World Vision 40-Hour Challenge) @ Southshore Spit Reserve - 60 youth attended

➤ June 2025: Good News Project (World Vision 40-Hour Challenge) @ Unsworth Reserve - 10 youth attended

➤ March 2026: Good News Project @ Southshore Spit Reserve - 200 youth attended







Connecting people to nature

A key part of the Eco Church project is inspiring people to reconnect with creation and discover the joy and responsibility of caring for the natural world as part of Christian faith and discipleship. Through nature-based camps, hands-on conservation experiences, and ecology-focused learning opportunities, tamariki and rangatahi are building confidence, curiosity, and a deep sense of belonging in nature — helping grow the next generation of kaitiaki. In 2025, we offered the following education and engagement programmes:



He Māhuri Tōtara for Leaders

An environmental leadership development course for young adults and youth ministry leaders – offered in partnership with Wilberforce Foundation.

- ➔ June 2025, Raglan: 11 participants
- ➔ Sept 2025, Auckland: 12 participants
- ➔ Oct 2025, Dunedin: 11 participants



It was inspiring to connect with everyone, to get to rest in creation, to hear different stories and all the genius in the room, to lean into creation care in the biblical narrative and practice loving well in community - All in the name of Jesus!!



It created an overwhelming sense of relief to see there are other like-minded people in the midst of this chaotic world. I'm 98% sure it's given me the spark I needed to begin meaningfully connecting with people and church again.





Kahikatea Kids Holiday Programme

Four unforgettable days of adventure, discovery, and faith in the wild beauty of Christchurch's natural spaces. This hands-on holiday programme invites children to connect deeply with God's creation and explore what it means to care for it.

→ July 2025: 10 young people participated



Sustain Camp

A week-long programme in October for years 7-10 exploring Whāingaroa Raglan and learning how to contribute sustainably to the world around us, and how to sustain our relationship with God – offered in partnership with Scripture Union NZ.

→ Oct 2025, Raglan: 8 young persons attended!





E3 Wilderness Journeys for Rangatahi x 3 locations

11-day wilderness journeys for rangatahi (17-18 years) at three amazing locations in Aotearoa (Canterbury, Otago, Bay of Islands) in December each year focused on developing character and strengthening their connections with God, others and creation – offered in partnership with Scripture Union NZ and Adventure Specialties Trust.



Dec 2025

E3 Canterbury: 10 persons

E3 Otago: 10 persons

E3 Bay of Islands: 10 persons



E3 Wilderness Journey for Young Adults

7-day journey by sea kayak, foot, and bike for young adults (19-25 years) exploring Marlborough Sounds while living in community together and embracing questions of our faith and its intersections with life. Offered in partnership with Scripture Union NZ and Adventure Specialties Trust.



Feb 2026, Marlborough Sounds:
6 young adults attended!



Appreciating God's creation and connecting with God's creations on a deeper level. The community and the food! Talking with everyone here and appreciating the stillness / silence together.



Fostering sustainable communities



Through the Eco Church project, churches and Christian communities across Aotearoa New Zealand are being supported to integrate care for creation into everyday life, worship, and community action. Through workshops, regional gatherings, practical resources, the Eco Church Action Planner, and the sharing of inspiring Eco Church stories, congregations are taking meaningful steps to reduce waste, strengthen biodiversity, improve energy and resource use, and encourage more sustainable lifestyles.



Across Aotearoa New Zealand, Eco Church stories show how Christian communities are putting faith into action through care for creation and community. The story headlines over the next two pages reflect the many practical ways churches are living out creation care as part of Christian discipleship.



Practical Conservation, Waste, Community Engagement

Hawke's Bay Eco Church Beach Clean-Up



Worship, Prayer, Eco-Anxiety and Wellbeing

Hope and lament at St Paul's Symonds Street



Practical Conservation, Biodiversity, Community Engagement, Prayer

Bless the work of our hands and spades



Worship, Season of Creation, Children and Families, Youth, Education and Engagement, Community Engagement, Eco Tips, Prayer

Highlights of the Season of Creation at Hemi Tapu



Biodiversity, Education and Engagement, Green Spaces, Community Engagement

Albany Presbyterian Church Fernhill Escarpment nature walk



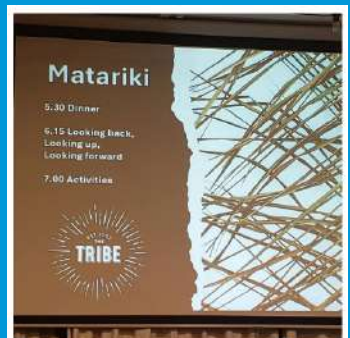
Children and Families, Calendar of Environmental Days and Events

Advent koru fun for the Childrens' Ministry at St Heliers Presbyterian Church



Community Gardens, Biodiversity, Education and Engagement, Food, Green Spaces, Season of Creation, Community Engagement

Celebrating creation in community at St Peter's Anglican Church, Kaikōura



Matariki, Children and Families

Matariki celebration at The Tribe Church



Energy, Waste, Resource Recovery, Compost

Faithful stewardship at St Philip's St Heliers



Youth, Biodiversity, Global Campaigns, Practical Conservation, Education and Engagement

Young people taking action for our climate



Education and Engagement, Eco-Anxiety and Wellbeing

Sustainability Champions workshop in Auckland



Community Engagement, Education and Engagement, Green Spaces, Prayer, Worship

Kāpiti Anglicans Lenten Pilgrimage



Transport, Cycling, Purchasing

Choosing to ride: A small shift with a big impact



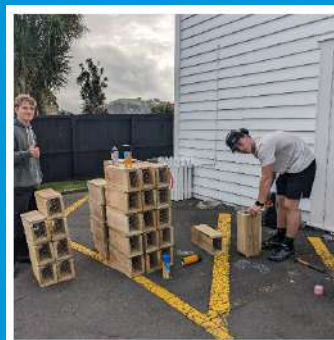
Water, Biodiversity, Green Spaces, Education and Engagement

Discovering Wharemauku: A parish pilgrimage with their local stream



Sustainable Buildings, Energy, Education and Engagement, Community Engagement

How Northcity Church is reducing energy costs with rooftop solar



Food, Biodiversity, Practical Conservation, Community Gardens, Youth, Education and Engagement

Practical and creative community action at St George's Epsom



Community Engagement, Practical Conservation, Biodiversity, Green Spaces

Golden light on new beginnings: Our Regenesi story



Waste, Community Engagement, Resource Recovery, Education and Engagement

Napier Repair Café: working together to make a difference in the Hawkes Bay



Waste, Compost, Worship, Community Engagement, Community Gardens, Green Spaces, Biodiversity, Practical Conservation, Season of Creation

Season of Creation at Alexandra Corps



Community Engagement, Biodiversity, Children and Families, Youth, Green Spaces, Eco-Anxiety and Wellbeing, Practical Conservation, Sustainable Lifestyles

A morning of mahi and connection in the Gully



Children and Families, Resource Recovery, Waste, Education and Engagement

Stitching creation together: Bunting project celebrates the Season of Creation sustainably



A Rocha Eco Orgs, Practical Conservation, Community Engagement, Waste, Sustainable Lifestyles, Education and Engagement, Youth

Praxis: Turning toward creation – the ARO journey



Season of Creation, Biodiversity, Waste, Community Engagement, Prayer, Practical Conservation, Youth

All Saints' Anglican Church Season of Creation 2025 highlights



Season of Creation, Community Engagement, Green Spaces, Food, Waste, Worship

Taranaki Cathedral's Season of Creation journey

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www.ecochurch.org.nz 

Education & Engagement

64 events (regional gatherings, workshops, sermons, online events, talks etc.)

3,232 participants

Eco Church Aotearoa network

111 church communities

5 denominational partners

Metrics as at 31 Dec 2025



Our Funders:

Wilberforce Foundation
Lottery Community Fund
Auckland Council
Anglican Diocese of Auckland
Christchurch City Council
COGS Auckland City
Community & Volunteering Capability Fund
Ann Sinclair Trust
Justice Compassion Trust
Individual churches
Individual donors

Denominational Partners:

Anglican Diocese of Auckland
Anglican Diocese of Wellington
Anglican Missions
Northern Baptist Association
Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa NZ

Project Partners:

Climate Stewards
Scripture Union NZ
Adventure Specialties Trust



Rōpū Ā-Rohe | Local Groups

A Rocha's network of local group projects work in partnership with other organisations and the local community to offer opportunities for volunteer involvement across the country. Local group volunteers are involved in a range of community conservation and sustainability initiatives: wetland, native bush and stream restoration, native plant nurseries, bicycle maintenance, education and engagement events, as well as engaging with church communities via the Eco Church Aotearoa project.

Our Local Groups

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

Volunteer Metrics

59 volunteer events
1369 volunteer hours

Our Local Groups' Restoration Sites:

- Matuku Link Restoration Project
- Unsworth Reserve Restoration Project
- Te Auaunga Oakley Creek Restoration Project
- Longburn Native Plants Nursery
- Waiu Wetland Restoration Project
- Kopua Monastery Restoration Site
- Supporting Friends of Owhiro Stream
- Kapiti subgroup restoration sites
- Tirohanga Camp Restoration Project
- Restoration work at Dunedin City Baptist Church

See our list of past events hosted by our local groups here:
https://www.facebook.com/ARochaNZ/past_hosted_events

See upcoming events by our local groups here:
<https://www.facebook.com/ARochaNZ/events>





Ahumoni | Finances

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



\$977,288
Total Revenue



\$777,506
Total Expenses

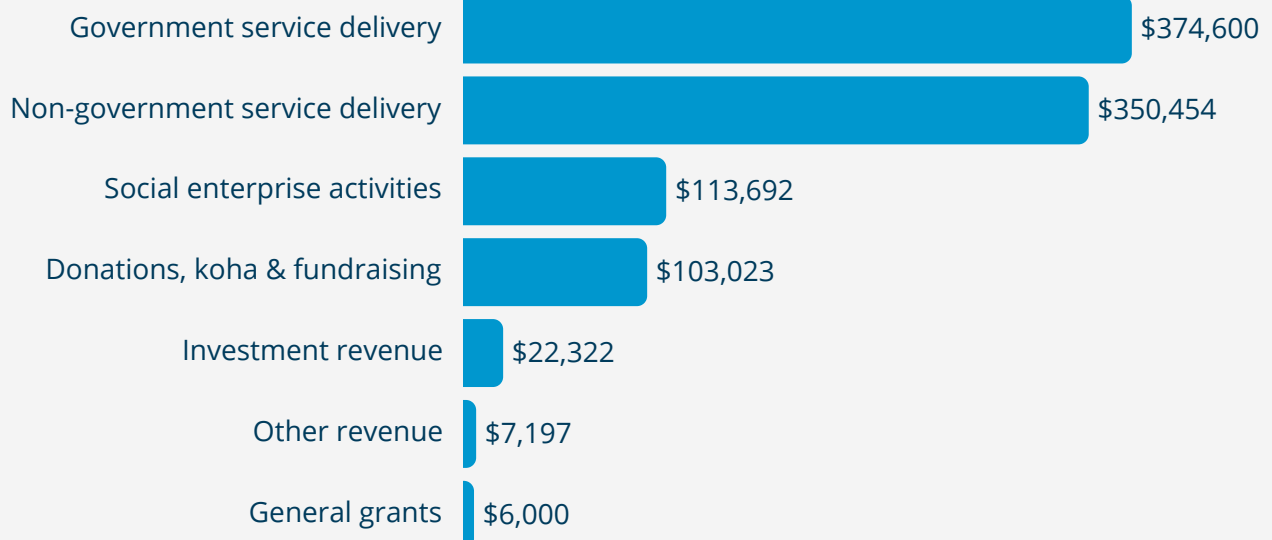


7.14
Employee FTE

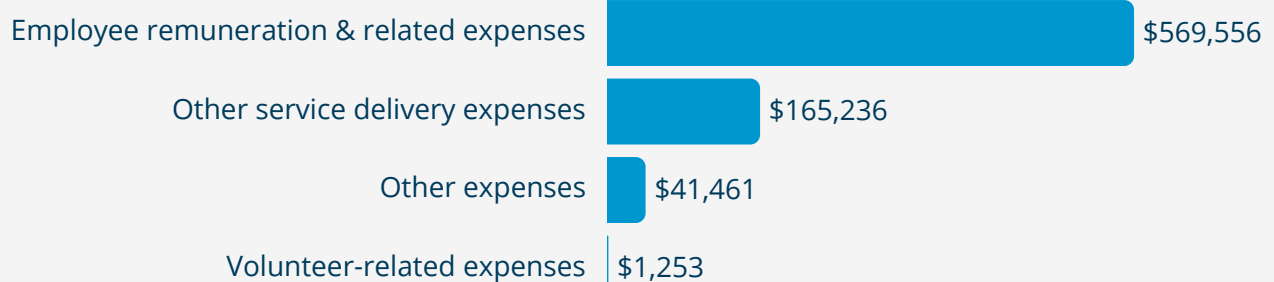


3.5
Volunteer FTE

Revenue



Expenses



About these figures

These categories align with our audited financial statements, prepared under the XRB Tier 3 reporting standard. They classify income and expenses by reporting category rather than by programme or activity, covering the Karioi Project, Eco Church, local groups and wider organisational activities. Employee remuneration includes staff working across these areas, including supporting volunteers, so volunteer-related expenses do not reflect the full resources committed to volunteer involvement



A ROCHA

AOTEAROA NZ

A ROCHA AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND:

email: new.zealand@arocha.org

website: arocha.org.nz

facebook: [@arochanz](https://www.facebook.com/arochanz)

instagram: [@arochaaotearoanz](https://www.instagram.com/arochaaotearoanz)

ECO CHURCH AOTEAROA:

website: ecochurch.org.nz

facebook group: [@ecochurchnz](https://www.facebook.com/ecochurchnz)

KARIOI PROJECT:

website: karioiproject.co.nz

facebook: [@karioiproject](https://www.facebook.com/karioiproject)

instagram: [@karioiproject](https://www.instagram.com/karioiproject)

Charity registration number: CC36274

