

ESR Events 2000

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Is Climate Changing?

Event report available: [Is Global Warming Really Happening?](#)

- SPEAKER: Dr Jim Salinger, Senior Climate Scientist, National Institute of Water and Atmosphere Research Ltd (NIWA)
- DATE: Thursday 16th November 2000
- TIME: 7:30pm
- VENUE: Room 3.407, University of Auckland, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street

Abstract

Global mean surface temperatures have increased by 0.4-0.8 degrees-C since the second half of the 19th century, with the ten globally averaged warmest years all occurring since 1983 (Karl et al., 1999). At the same time there have been clear precipitation trends for parts of the globe. Observed trends and variability in climate and sea level for Oceania (Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific) show that annual surface air temperatures increased between 0.4-0.8 degrees-C throughout most of the region in the period 1951-1993, with precipitation changes.

This change has provided a background on which climate shifts, driven by the recently discovered process, the Interdecadal Pacific Oscillation (IPO), has occurred. The IPO operates on time scales of two to three decades, and causes major shifts in Oceania climate. This talk will identify the main trends and variability in climate that have occurred in global and Oceania climate during the 20th century, the changes, the mechanisms behind these and future climate projections for the 21st century.

Speaker Background

Dr Jim Salinger's interest in climate matters started early, whilst in southern New Zealand when he built his own climate station in Dunedin, observing the warm nor'westers followed by the cold sou'westers that can blitz the southern provinces.

A leading climate change expert and Lead Author for the IPCC Third Assessment Report, he has

been involved in researching and monitoring past and current climate trends, as a university climate researcher, for the former New Zealand Meteorological Service, and now as a senior climate scientist with NIWA. He leads various research programmes on climate variability and change in New Zealand and the Southwest Pacific.

For further information contact:

Sean Finnigan
Email: seanfinn@clear.net.nz
Phone: 0-9-263 9269



Cleaner Production in New Zealand

Event report available: [Cleaner Production in NZ](#)

- SPEAKERS: Peter Mittermuller, Resource Efficiency Advisor, Auckland Regional Council and Clare Feeney, Director, Environment and Business Group
- DATE: Thursday 19th October 2000
- TIME: 7:30pm
- VENUE: Room 3.407, University of Auckland, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street

Abstract

Cleaner Production is the way ahead for business into the future. It focuses on resource efficiency - looking up the pipe to the source of waste and inefficiency, instead of simply at disposal. It advocates the adoption of cleaner technologies as an alternative to end-of-pipe treatment technology. This is beneficial to both the company's bottom line as well as to the environment. The presentation will give a background of Cleaner Production initiatives in New Zealand and the new nation-wide advocate for Cleaner Production, "BusinessCare". Several case studies and technical solutions will give the audience more insights into the engineering and other initiatives undertaken. The cleaner production initiative for the building industry, 'REBRI' (Resource Efficiency in the Building and Related industries) will also be addressed.

For further information contact:

David Roche
Email: david.roche@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 0-9-626 2711
Fax: 0-9-626 2711



Passenger Transport Initiatives in Auckland City

Event report available: [Passenger Transport Initiatives in Auckland City](#)

- SPEAKER: Denis Mander
- DATE: Thursday 21st September 2000
- TIME: 7:30pm
- VENUE: Room 3.407, University of Auckland, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street

Abstract

The region's growth and transport strategies make it clear that Auckland's transport system has to make huge changes if it is to meet expected demands for moving people and goods. Passenger transport has a key role in the package of transport solutions identified by these strategies. The Passenger Transport Action Plan seeks a doubling of passenger transport's market share within ten years. But for a large proportion of Aucklanders, passenger transport isn't something they would willingly choose to use. So a big push is now on to transform passenger transport. Initiatives to achieve this range in impact and risk. Importantly, the number of "success stories" is mounting.

For further information contact:

David Roche
Email: david.roche@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 0-9-626 2711
Fax: 0-9-626 2711



Stormwater - an environmental problem or a resource? A low impact design approach

Event report available: [Stormwater - an environmental problem or a resource? A low impact design approach](#)

- SPEAKER: Earl Shaver, Technical Specialist for Sediment Control and Stormwater Management Programmes, Auckland Regional Council.
- DATE: Thursday 17 August 2000
- TIME: 7:30pm
- VENUE: Room 3.407, University of Auckland, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street

Abstract

Auckland Regional Council launched its environmental guide "Low Impact Design Manual for the Auckland Region" in June. Earl Shaver has had a major input in the preparation of this manual which aims to change traditional engineering approaches to stormwater control. Earl will talk about the new approach using low impact design. He will also discuss constructed wetlands for stormwater control and treatment and the use of sand filtration to ensure that discharges to streams and estuaries will not cause degradation of our environment. Earl came to Auckland Regional Council in 1997 after many years of pioneering work at the Maryland and Delaware Departments of Natural Resources in USA. He is the author of many papers on the stormwater management and treatment and has received prestigious awards for his work.

For further information contact:

David Roche
Email: david.roche@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 0-9-626 2711
Fax: 0-9-626 2711



The Treaty and Settlements - Answers or Questions?

Event report available: [The Treaty and Settlements - Answers or Questions?](#)

- SPEAKER: Sir John Ingram CBE, former Managing Director of New Zealand Steel Ltd and

chairman or director of a number of public and private companies. Now retired, John is active in the areas of conservation, the environment, tertiary education, and in youth skills training.

- DATE: Thursday 20 July 2000
- TIME: 7:30pm
- VENUE: Room 3.407, University of Auckland, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street

Abstract

There is a deplorable lack of understanding by the majority of the New Zealand population about the Treaty, the Tribunal and how it works, grievances, the settlement process and its objectives.

John draws on his experience as a past member of the Waitangi Tribunal to give his views on these matters and to refute some commonly held non-Maori criticisms of the process.

For further information contact:

David Roche
Email: david.roche@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 0-9-626 2711
Fax: 0-9-626 2711



Sun Power - Electricity On Tap

Event report available: [Sun Power - Electricity On Tap](#)

- SPEAKER: Simon Cope, of Sunpower Co, Renewable Energy Specialists
- DATE: Thursday 15 June 2000
- TIME: 7:30pm
- VENUE: Room 3.407, University of Auckland, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street

Abstract

Traditional electric power supply systems require large generators which are usually remote from their loads. Long and sometimes vulnerable transmission systems are needed to connect the two.

A better system would have many small generators as close as possible to their loads, with a transmission network serving only to balance out generation and load imbalances.

Such a system can be achieved by using solar energy which is delivered free to suburban households, to industrial and to commercial sites. On-site conversion of solar to electric and thermal energy is convenient, practical and economic. On-site storage enables households to be much less dependent on the transmission network and remote generators.

For further information contact:

David Roche
Email: david.roche@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 0-9-626 2711
Fax: 0-9-626 2711



Rainwater Harvesting In The Developing World & Water

Supplies In Dhaka Slums

Event report available: [Rainwater Harvesting In The Developing World & Water Supplies In Dhaka Slums](#)

- SPEAKER: John Gould, Regional Director International Rainwater Catchments Systems Association, and Water for Survival Christchurch Committee member.
- DATE: Thursday 18 May 2000
- TIME: 7:30pm
- VENUE: Room 3.407, University of Auckland, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street

Abstract

Rainwater harvesting, one of the worlds most important water supply techniques is beginning to enjoy a resurgence in popularity. Could this ancient technique be part of the solution for next century's increasing water supply shortages? John Gould has recently co-authored "Rainwater catchment Systems for Domestic Supply: Design Construction and Implementation" recently published by Intermediate Technology Publications in London. As Projects Officer, Christian World Service, John has recently been to Bangladesh to appraise and monitor projects funded from New Zealand. While there, he was able to visit a Water for Survival project to provide water supply and sanitation to Dhaka slum dwellers. City authorities making forced evictions from a number of the slums added to the difficulties of this project.

For further information contact:

John La Roche
Email: johnwfs@clear.net.nz
Phone: 0-9-528 9759
Fax: 0-9-528 9752



Water For Survival Annual General Meeting

- DATE: Thursday 18 May 2000
- TIME: 7:00pm
- VENUE: Room 3.407, University of Auckland, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street



Do we have a Sustainable Power Supply?

Event report available: [Do we have a Sustainable Power Supply?](#)

- SPEAKER: Bryan Leyland MSc, CEng, FIEE, FIMechE, FIPENZ, is an Electrical and Mechanical Engineer specializing in power generation and power systems.
- DATE: Thursday 13 April 2000
- TIME: 7:30pm
- VENUE: Room 3.407, School of Engineering, University of Auckland

Abstract

A modern city must have adequate roads, electricity, water and sewage.

Although security of power supply to Auckland CBD itself will be excellent once the tunnel is

completed, Transpower's supply to Auckland and North has serious weaknesses. Although there are several economic solutions, all would be very difficult to get through the RMA process in the time available.

The intent of the RMA is to provide a reasonable balance between development and the environment but this intent seems to have been lost.

The paper discusses these factors and proposes a range of solutions.

Adequate time will be allowed for discussion.

All interested are welcome to attend.

For further information contact:

David Roche

Email: david.roche@xtra.co.nz

Phone: 0-9-626 2711

Fax: 0-9-626 2711



Nihotupu Tramline Walk

Event report available: [Nihotupu Tramline Walk](#)

- DATE: Sunday 19 March 2000
- TIME: Start any time between 9.00am and 2.00pm, walk takes 2.5 hours
- VENUE: Start from Arataki Visitor Centre, Scenic Drive Titirangi, Auckland

Details

The Nihotupu Tramline Walk is an annual event when the public are invited to enjoy a walk through the water catchment area. Buses will take people from Arataki to the start of the walk at the entrance to the Upper Nihotupu Dam on Piha Road. The walk goes through magnificent bush, past a waterfall and around the lake edge to the Dam. Sausages and drinks will be on sale at the dam where there will also be a display of WaterCare and Water for Survival pictures. From the dam the walk is along the level tramline through six tunnels to the Scenic Drive where buses will take people back to their cars at Arataki. Parking attendants will direct parking along the Scenic Drive near the Arataki Centre. Please park safely and only as directed. Bring torches for tunnels and \$5 per adult donation for a Water for Survival hygiene and sanitation project in Papua New Guinea. Light refreshments can be purchased at the Upper Nihotupu Dam and near the end of the walk.

A poster advertising this event is available as a PDF file: [WFStramline.pdf \(41KB\)](#).

For further information contact:

John La Roche

Email: johnwfs@clear.net.nz

Phone: 0-9-528 9759

Fax: 0-9-528 9752



The Invisible Hand, Money and the Universal Income

Event report available: [The Invisible Hand, Money and the Universal Income](#)

- SPEAKER: Helen Marsh
- DATE: Thursday 16 March 2000
- TIME: 7:30pm After ESR and Auckland Branch AGMs
- VENUE: Room 3.407, University of Auckland, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street

Abstract

What should social policy aim to achieve, and why do present structures and policy fail? An examination of Universal Basic Income (UBI) as an element in the constitution of money. Would some form of UBI be 'better'? Consideration of diversity and conflict within the UBI movement and 'Earthshares' radical UBI proposal.

All interested are welcome to attend.
For further information contact:

David Roche
Email: david.roche@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 0-9-626 2711
Fax: 0-9-626 2711



ESR Annual General Meeting and Auckland Branch Annual General Meeting

Event report available: [ESR 16th AGM and Auckland Branch AGM](#)

- DATE: Thursday 16 March 2000
- TIME: 7:00pm
- VENUE: Room 3.407, University of Auckland, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street

Abstract

The business of the Meeting will be to receive the ESR national annual reports and to elect the incoming National Executive, followed by general business pertinent to the annual general meeting.

Nominations are called for the offices of President, National Secretary and National Treasurer. They should be forwarded, by 14 March 2000, to:

David Roche
Email: david.roche@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 0-9-626 2711
Fax: 0-9-626 2711
Post: ESR, P.O. Box 6208, Wellesley St, Auckland

Please note that Rob Wilkinson has served as President for three years, and in accordance with Section 11 (a) of the Constitution is not eligible for re-election as President.

The ESR Annual General Meeting will be immediately followed by the ESR Auckland Branch Annual General Meeting.

The business of the meeting will be to receive the Auckland Branch annual reports and to elect the incoming Auckland Branch Executive, followed by general business pertinent to the annual general

meeting.

Nominations are called for the positions of Auckland Branch Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee members. Prior nominations are preferred, but will be accepted at the meeting.

Following the two Annual General Meetings, Helen Marsh will speak to us about The Invisible Hand, Money and the Universal Income.

All interested are welcome to attend.
For further information contact:

David Roche
Email: david.roche@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 0-9-626 2711
Fax: 0-9-626 2711

