



Geography **Auckland**



Kia ora tatou ...

The Auckland branch of NZGS promotes the activities of geographers and the development of the discipline in the Auckland region. It has proven an effective platform for hosting and sponsoring public seminars and workshops, and talks by prominent local and international geographers; running competitions for schools; providing opportunities for young geographers to attend conferences; and for bringing geographers together to discuss issues of public and disciplinary concern. One recent initiative is to seek better links with professional geographers beyond the university and schools. One recent success has been the Innovative Fieldtrip Competition (see News for Teachers).

The Auckland activities now include monthly Geography Dialogues with Wine. The Branch invites any members with ideas for activities to bring them forward for discussion and development. It also encourages new members to join. Membership of the New Zealand Geographical Society includes branch membership.

As mentioned previously, the UoA has welcomed a cluster of new geographers to the School of Environment, including: Karen Fisher, Mark Dickson, Murray Ford, John Tunnicliffe, Francis Collins, Annie Bartos, and JC Gaillard. Professor John Morgan has joined the Education Faculty. All bring fresh ideas and talents to our community.

The next Dialogues will be held on Wednesday 20 May. See page 2 for JC Gaillard's abstract.

Auckland Branch Executive

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Nick Lewis	Jane Foster (AGTA)
Richard Le Heron	Daniel Exeter
Ward Friesen	Lyndsay Blue
Erena Le Heron.	Tom Etherington
Pippa Mitchell	Annie Bartos
Regan Solomon	JC Gaillard
Brendon Blue	

What's on?

MONTHLY GEOGRAPHY DIALOGUES WITH WINE

These meetings give a chance for Geographers to talk informally about their research.

The Auckland Branch invites you to attend the first meeting

Wednesday 20 May

University of Auckland

School of Environment

Room 731

The speaker will be

JC Gaillard with students: Loic Le

De, Sushma Shrestha, Anthony

Gampell, Katherine Hore, Alice

McSherry and Kate Boersen

4.00pm to 5.30pm

**Celebrate Geography,
Get excited**

Karen Fisher (k.fisher@auckland.ac.nz)

June.logie@me.com (secretary)

News for teachers:

2015 Innovative Field Trip Competition – see the NZGS website: <http://www.nzgs.co.nz>

For your diary:

Monthly Geography Dialogues with Wine

20 May, 24 June, 19 August, 23 September, 21 October, and 25 November



Exploring Disasters: A Social Science Perspective

Kate Boersen, Anthony Gampell, Katherine Hore, Loic Le De, Alice McSherry, Sushma Shrestha, JC Gaillard

School of Environment, The University of Auckland, New Zealand

The study of disasters is a growing field of research. This is reflected in the diversity of research being undertaken within the School of Environment at The University of Auckland. This seminar will provide an insight into some of the research carried out by six postgraduate students.

Firstly, **Loic Le De** will explore **the importance and role of remittances in the face of disasters**; their long-term effects on people's recovery, and the implications remitting during and after such events may have on migrants who assist those in the country of origin.

Sushma Shrestha will then discuss her research on **recovery following small disasters using Nepal as a case study**. Anthony Gampell will introduce his typology of disaster recovery games. This typology was specifically designed to deconstruct disaster awareness building video games and mainstream disaster orientated video games and identifies how games instill disaster awareness, portray hazards, vulnerabilities, capacities, disasters and DRR.

Katherine Hore and Alice Mc Sherry will look at a series of **projects fostering participation in disaster risk reduction (DRR)** – a wide spread practice based on a theoretically grounded and reflective rationale and the lack of reflection in relation to how the processes and outcomes of participation relate back to this rationale.

Finally, **Kate Boersen** will detail **her research on recovery in Napier, Hawke's Bay, following the 1931 earthquake**. These diverse research projects all hope to contribute to disaster knowledge and to be of benefit to those working in the disaster field.