



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 Branch activities now include Monthly Geography Dialogues with Wine. The Branch invites any members with ideas for other 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. See this month's abstract on Page 2.

As mentioned earlier this year, the UoA has welcomed a cluster of new geographers to the School of Environment, including: 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.

Last month we co-hosted (with the School of Environment) Noel Castree's seminar "Geography and global change science: relationships necessary, absent and possible". Noel was visiting from the Australian Centre for Cultural Environmental Research, Department of Geography and Sustainable Communities, University of Wollongong.

As this is the last newsletter for 2014 we wish you all a joyful festive season and that you start the New Year refreshed and ready for whatever 2015 will bring.

Auckland Branch Executive

Executive Office Holders

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Vice Presidents	June Logie, Mary Flaws
Chair	Karen Fisher
Secretary	June Logie
Professional Geography Liaison:	Kiri Le Heron
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Jane Evans	Jane Foster (AGTA)
Richard Le Heron	Daniel Exeter
Ward Friesen	Lyndsay Blue
Erena Le Heron.	David Hayward
Pippa Mitchell	Annie Bartos
Regan Solomon	JC Gaillard
Nick Lewis	

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 sixth meeting

Wednesday 19 November

University of Auckland
School of Environment
Room 731

The speaker will be
Robin Kearns with Joe Fagan

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 was launched on 22nd October with a presentation from last year's winner – see <http://www.nzgs.co.nz/> for the entry form or send an email to j.logie@auckland.ac.nz

For your diary:

Details for 2015 will be included in the February 2015 newsletter



Talking, walking and great divides: further questions about tramping and huts.

Robin Kearns and Joe Fagan

In this Dialogue, we reflect on a project reported on this year in the *New Zealand Geographer* that involves accounting for the cultural significance of tramping huts in the recreational landscape. Specifically we are addressing the 'great divide' between front country (lodge style) and backcountry (basic hut-style) accommodation. We illustrate the next stages of this work in progress drawing on an online survey of trampers. This leads us to ask two general questions that befit conversation over wine:

What is the role of the geographer in advocating for vulnerable elements of our heritage? And

What is the place of 'crossing the divide' between the business and pleasure of being a geographer?