



Southern Environmental Trust

Bob BLYTH

Convener of Southern Environmental Trust

ABSTRACT

In 1990, the then World President of Rotary International, Paulo V.C. Costa of Brazil, made an urgent call to Rotarians to “take up” global environmental action, and inaugurated Rotary’s “Preserve Planet Earth” Programme. Four areas of concern were focused on in the seminars at the first international conference – air, flora, fauna and water. The Southern Environmental Trust was formed in 1995 by the Rotary Club of Christchurch South on behalf of Rotary District 9970 to raise awareness within the community on environmental issues by holding annual public seminars. This followed four lectures organised by the Rotary Club of Christchurch South.

1. THE SOUTHERN ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST AIMS

- To promote public awareness of environmental matters pertaining to land, air, and water in their natural, adapted or artificial state.
- To promote use, development, protection, research and public interest in managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in a way or at a rate which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety including sustaining the potential of natural physical and resources to meet the needs of future generations.
- To encourage a public awareness of and commitment to care and consideration for the environment.
- To encourage special interest groups to listen to and respect each other’s views.
- To enable the public to be better informed about issues affecting their environment.
- To stress suitable occupancy and use of the environment.
- To facilitate study and research for the better understanding of issues.

2. PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL SEMINARS

1991	Professor Leon Phillips of the University of Canterbury – The Hole in the Ozone Layer
1992	Dr Mike Freeman, Pollution Control Officer at the Canterbury Regional Council – The Availability and Quality of Water in Canterbury
1993	Dr Freeman Patterson, eminent Canadian naturalist photographer and writer – Human Perception and Ecological Awareness
1994	Murray Binnie, Facilities Development Officer for the Christchurch City Council – The Setting-up of Christchurch’s First Community Composting Facility at Bexley
1995	Sir Edmund Hillary – Launch of Southern Environmental Trust
1996	Hon. Philip Burdon – Trade’s Impact on our Environment

1997	Controlling the Christchurch Smog
1998	Can we Afford to Breathe Easy?
1999	Wise Water Use: the Issues are not Crystal Clear
2000	The Estuary: Christchurch's Showpiece or Sump?
2001	Want, Not Waste
2002	Global Warming: Meltdown for Canterbury
2003	Have we got the Energy to Cope? Hon. Pete Hodgson, Energy Minister Dr Keith Turner, CEO, Meridian Energy Dr Don Elder, CEO, Solid Energy New Zealand Barrie Hill, Australian Nuclear Energy Expert
2004	Disaster – Are We Ready? Tony Boyle, ECan Rivers and Hazards Manager Bob Kirk, Professor, University of Canterbury Steve Christensen, Beca Geotechnical Expert on Liquefaction Jarg Pettinga, Association Professor, University of Canterbury, Geological Sciences Peter Kingsbury, ECan Hazards Analyst
2005	Water for All? Hon. Jim Anderson, MP, General Government Policy on Water Sir Kerry Burke, Chairman, ECan – Requirements: Human Use/Quality of Water Josh Carmody, Australian Water Allocation Expert Tom Lambie, President, Federated Farmers – Opuha Dam Experience and Irrigation
2006	The Greater Christchurch Urban Growth Strategy Vanessa Harvey, Director, SGS, Brisbane, Australia Wayne MacDonald, General Manager, Transport Planning, Transit New Zealand Ray Davy, Principal, Conway Davy Ltd Ken Tremain, Development Planning Specialist
2008	Changing Climates – Hot Topic for Canterbury The Hon. David Parker, Minister Responsible for Climate Change Issues Peter Townsend, CEO, Canterbury Chamber of Commerce David Wratt, General Manager, Climate Change, NIWA
2009	The RMA – Progress or Procrastination Peter Skelton Hon. Nick Smith, MP Mark Christensen, Anderson Lloyd, Lawyers Bob Batty, Planit CANCELLED
2010	No public forum due to earthquakes.
2011	No public forum due to earthquakes.
2012	Sustainable Water Use (Urban and Rural Canterbury) Peter Townsend, CEO, Canterbury Employers Chambers of Commerce Professor Ali Memon, Lincoln University Hon. David Caygill, Commissioner, ECan Dr Henry Hudson, Scientist Roger Young, Water Rights Trust

3. MARCH 2012 – SOUTHERN ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST SCHOLARSHIP

To The Southern Environmental Trust offers a scholarship to provide assistance to students from Lincoln University undertaking studies

related to environmental management. One scholarship is offered annually to a full time student studying at Lincoln University. The current value of the scholarship is \$1,500. Applicants who have successfully passed their first year of study in the Bachelor of

Environmental Management are eligible to apply. Applicants must also be New Zealand Citizens or Permanent Residents.

Further details and application forms are available from the Lincoln University website www.lincoln.ac.nz.

3.1. Previous recipients:

***May 2011 – Southern Environmental Trust
Scholarship Award 2011***

Laura Waterhouse

***June 2009 – Southern Environmental Trust
Scholarship Award 2009***

Anna Conroy

***May 2008 – Southern environmental Trust
Scholarship Award 2008***

Katie Collins