

EcoLent 2020

We are becoming increasingly aware of the pressure which our planet is under from our continued use and abuse of its natural resources.

Part of the stated mission of the partner churches of Chartwell Cooperating Parish is 'to care for the Creation.'

This resource is offered to you as a Lenten practice, something for you to 'take up' as we follow the journey of Jesus to the cross and each play our part in caring for the environment.

I hope you will find a few ideas each week which are helpful for your reflection, increased awareness and hopefully, action.

Sharon Ross Ensor, Chartwell Cooperating Parish



Week Five. March 25— 31 (choose as many of these ideas as you like)

Theme: Maintaining and increasing biodiversity

Take action

- Pick up any litter you see (and don't drop any yourself!) to avoid danger to wildlife.
- Join a neighbourhood group involved in restoring or preserving eg a local gully restoration group
- Consider setting up a bird feeder for the winter. For a 'bird pudding' recipe (something children might be interested in making) go to: <http://www.nicholsgroup.co.nz/assets/Kids-Gardening/PDF/kids-activities-bird-feeds.pdf>
- Plant a native tree in your garden to encourage native birds. For guidance check out this website:
- Keep your cat well fed and indoors at night as they tend to be lizard eaters and a bird deterrent.
- Create a wood pile in your garden for skinks, weta etc to 'hang out' in.
- Set up a worm farm <https://compostcollective.org.nz/worm-farming/#Getting-started>

Acknowledgments: *Eggs and Ashes* Ruth Burgess and Chris Polhill, Wild Goose Publications 2004. Thanks to Anna Casey-Cox.



Check out a website:

- Read about why diversity matters <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/more/biodiversity/about-biodiversity/biodiversity-new-zealand>
- Read about the restoration project on Mount Karioi, Raglan, which has been spearheaded by A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand, A Christian conservation organisation. <https://www.karioiproject.co.nz/>

Take a walk:

Enjoy walking around Hamilton Lake this week. <https://www.visithamilton.co.nz/see-and-do/attractions/hamilton-lake>

Read some scripture:

Psalm 104 '...O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures...'

Pray a prayer:

God the Holy Trinity,
whose dance spins in chaotic order,
so grace our living as one and many
that we define ourselves not by how we differ,
but by how we blend and weave in the sparkle of
your design.
So may our lives worship you, weaver, thread and
pattern. Amen

Watch a movie:

Wall-e - In the distant future, a small waste collecting robot inadvertently embarks on a space journey that will ultimately decide the fate of humankind.