



EVENTS AROUND CANTERBURY

26 February - 6 March 2011

Back to the Future!

The culture, history & traditions of the sea.

Kia kaha tangata moana!



Seaweed is a national event to celebrate and raise awareness of our unique coastal and marine environment. Visit the national website for information, competitions and national Seaweed events – www.seaweed.org.nz

Christchurch/Central Canterbury events calendar

Sunday 20th February

EVENT: Annual 'Farewell to the Godwits/Kuaka' at Southshore Spit

Join the ceremony to farewell the Eastern bartailed godwits. A guided walk by the Christchurch City Council Park Rangers will take you to nearby birds. See these wonderful jet-setters before they begin their migration back to Alaska and Siberia. Spot prizes! Music by 'Natural Magic' plus a bookstall. Special guest, Kevin Woodley. BYO binoculars if possible.

Who: Suits all ages.

Cost: FREE – no bookings required

When: 6:30pm.

Where: Meet end of Rockinghorse Road, Southshore, Christchurch. Bus No.5 Hornby-Southshore. Off street parking available. No dogs please!

Event organised by the Christchurch City Council and Avon-Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust.

Supported by Environment Canterbury and Ornithological Society.

Sunday 27th February

TOUR: Hector's Dolphin cruise with Christchurch Wildlife Cruises

Depart from Lyttelton for a 1.5 hour Dolphin and Wildlife Tour on a 16 metre luxury catamaran. Tour includes an informative nature and history commentary. Spot prizes!

Cost: Adults \$30 (over 50% discount) Youth 5-15yrs \$15. Under 5yrs FREE

Bookings essential

Who: Everyone who wants to see dolphins at play

When: 11.00am - 12.30pm

Contact: Christchurch Wildlife Cruises (03) 328 9078

ORIENTATION: "Walk and Talk" guided tour through the sand dunes at New Brighton Beach

Activities guided by Christchurch City Council Park Ranger. Spot prizes to be won!

Cost: FREE – **Bookings essential - limited spaces available**

Who: Families (children need adult supervision)

When: 10.00am - 11.00am

Where: Meet at New Brighton Library. No dogs please!

Contact: New Brighton Library (03) 941 7923 to book

Tuesday 1st March

MEETING: Avon-Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust Public Meeting

Speakers: Neil Barr (NIWA) and Jen Skilton (University of Canterbury).

Cost: FREE – No bookings required

Who: Everyone interested in the future of our estuary

When: 7.30 - 8.30pm. Refreshments available from 7.15pm

Where: Mt Pleasant Community Centre - McCormack's Bay Road, Mt Pleasant

Wednesday 2nd March

TOUR: Fieldtrip to Te Roto Wairewa

Learn from a member of the Wairewa runanga about the eel fishery and the life history of eels in Lake Forsyth/Te Wairewa.

Cost: \$10 if you require transport to Birdlings Flat

Who: All ages (children need adult supervision)

When: 1pm

Where: Meet at Birdlings Flat carpark

Contact: Leslie Shand (03) 379 0316 to book transport

Saturday 5th March

COMPETITION: Sandcastle competition at New Brighton Beach

The inaugural "New Zealand Sandcastle Competition" run by the Pegasus Bay Charitable Trust will be the largest sandcastle building competition in New Zealand.

Who: Fun for all ages!

When: Sandcastle Building Starts 9:00am - 3:30pm

Where: Between the pier and the New Brighton Surf Club on Marine Parade New Brighton

For more details and registration forms please refer to the website:

www.newzealandsandcastlecompetition.co.nz

TOUR: Hector's Dolphin tour with CHCH Wildlife Cruises

Depart from Lyttelton for a 1.5 hour Dolphin and Wildlife Tour on a 16 metre luxury catamaran. The tour includes an informative nature and history commentary. Spot prizes.

Cost: Adults \$30 (over 50% discount); Youth 5 - 15 yrs \$15; Under 5 yrs FREE

Bookings essential

Who: Everyone who wants to see dolphins at play.

When: 11:00am - 12:30pm

Contact: Christchurch Wildlife Cruises on (03) 328 9078

Christchurch/Central Canterbury events calendar *continued...*

Sunday 6th March

CLEAN-UP: Heathcote/Opawa-ho River Clean Up – Woolston

You are invited to join the Roimata (Woolston) Community Inc in a community river clean-up. Please wear gumboots, sunhat and sunblock, gloves and suitable clothing for the weather on the day! If possible bring your own reusable bag or bucket to help limit the use of plastic rubbish bags. Followed by BBQ. Cancelled if raining!

Cost: FREE

Who: Everyone wanting to help clean up the Heathcote River (children must be accompanied by an adult)

When: 3.00pm - 4.00pm

Where: On Foot: Meet at the Historic Wharf corner of Ferry Road and Richardson Terrace.
Kayakers: Meet by the footbridge, corner of Richardson Terrace and MacKenzie Ave

EVENT: Duvauchelle Community Day

A fun-filled morning of exciting, hands-on activities including cultural perspectives, stream exploration, planting, recreational water quality sampling demonstration, environmental art and more! Free BBQ provided.

Cost: FREE!

Bookings essential (limited spaces available)

Who: Fun for everyone!

When: 10:30am - 2.30pm

Where: Duvauchelle Showground

Contact: Debbie Eddington, Environment Canterbury (03) 687 7813;
Email: debbie.eddington@ecan.govt.nz

TOUR: Charlesworth Reserve/Lower Heathcote river meander with Christchurch City Council park ranger

Who: Anyone with an interest in the enhancement of our City parks and wetlands

When: 4.00pm - 5.00pm

Where: Meet at the Charlesworth Reserve carpark in Charlesworth Street (off Ferry Road)
No dogs please!

Organised by the Avon-Heathcote Ihutai Trust and Christchurch City Council Park Rangers.



COMPETITION: 'Kids 'n' Kastles' family fun day, New Brighton beach (by the Pier)

Part of the inaugural New Zealand Sandcastle Competition, sandcastle builders will compete for trophies and prizes.

Children's competition: Kids-N-Kastles will be open to individual children 12 years and under to compete for trophies and prizes.

Families Competition: Teams of amateur sandcastle builders to compete for trophies and prizes. Open to families of 2 Adults and 4 Children not necessary from the one family.

Dream up your own team name and register online when the registrations open.

For more details and registration please see the website:

www.newzealandsandcastlecompetition.co.nz

Wednesday 9 March

TALK: Public talk on the need for more Marine Reserves in NZ

Speakers include Doug Craig (Forest and Bird), Former Researcher for the North Nelson Hokoiorangi Marine Reserve Gazetted 2006

Cost: FREE – No bookings required

Who: For those interested in marine reserves

When: 7:30pm

Where: The Canterbury Workers Educational Association (WEA), 59 Gloucester Street, Chch

Contact: Doug Craig 021 235 3552

Hosted by Forest and Bird.

Thursday 24 March

CELEBRATION: Estuary restoration celebration

First anniversary of the removal of wastewater into the estuary. Special guest entertainer Roger Lusby. Guided 20 minute walks by CCC park ranger. Children's sing-along. Spot prizes! Sausage sizzle provided. Presentation by Mayor Bob Parker.

Cost: FREE – No bookings required

Who: A celebration for everyone

When: 5.00pm - 7.00pm

Where: McCormack's Bay Reserve, next to Children's Playground
(beside Mt Pleasant Community Centre)

North Canterbury events calendar

Saturday 19th March

EVENT: Waiopuka Fyffe Site Seaweed Community Day

The home of mahinga kai and whaling - the activity that brought the first Europeans to our area - the Waiopuka Fyffe Site is on the perfect location for our Seaweed Community Day. Come along and discover some more of our own beautiful backyard.

Cost: Free!

Who: Fun for all ages!

When: 11.00am

Where: Waiopuka Fyffe Site, 62 Avoca Street, Kaikoura

Contact: Ann McCaw (03) 319 5835

South Canterbury events calendar

26th February - 6th March

ART: Fill the courtyard with fish

Come in during Seaweed and draw a fish in chalk – over 600 tiles to decorate! Each drawing earns an entry in a prize draw.

Cost: Free! No bookings required

Who: A celebration for everyone!

When: Duration of Seaweed during library hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9.00am - 8.00pm Tuesday, Thursday: 9.00am - 6.00pm

Saturday: 10.00am - 1.00pm Sunday: 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Where: Timaru District Library

COMPETITION: Colouring competition and Seaweed quiz

Entry forms available at Timaru, Temuka and Geraldine Libraries

Friday 4th March

STORY TIME: Fishy Tales

Seaweed Story Time at Timaru District Libraries

Cost: Free – No bookings required

Who: Children ages 6 and under

When: 11:30am

Where: Timaru Library, children's area; Temuka and Geraldine Libraries.



Canterbury's spectacular coast: Information & Resources

SEA CHEST

The Sea Chest kit is full of local coastal information and is free to all schools, interested community groups and individuals in Canterbury.

The kit includes:

Canterbury's Spectacular Coast booklet

Canterbury's Marine and Coastal Animals booklet

Teaching units for primary schools: Rocky Shore, Coastal Wetlands, Dunes

Fact sheets on local coastal issues and unique features and animals of Canterbury's coast.

For **FREE** copies of any of the resources, please contact:

Debbie Eddington, Environment Canterbury

Phone: (03) 687 7813

Email: debbie.eddington@ecan.govt.nz



Cover Image: New Zealand fur seal/kekeno

Kekeno (*Arctocephalus forsteri*) are members of the Otariidae family of pinnipeds, fin-footed carnivorous marine mammals. They are distinguished by visible external ears and hind flippers which rotate forward.

This pointy-nosed seal has long pale whiskers and a body covered with two layers of fur. Their coat is dark grey-brown on the back, and lighter below; when wet kekeno look almost black. In some animals the longer upper hairs have white tips which give the animal a silvery appearance.

Kekeno are very good swimmers and weaned pups will turn up almost anywhere around New Zealand. A pup tagged on the west coast of South Island has even been recorded in Australia. On land they sometimes become disoriented and have been found in unusual places such as back-yards, drains and streets.

Kekeno feed mainly on squid and small mid-water fish but also take larger species such as conger eels, barracuda, jack mackerel and hoki mostly off the continental shelf in depths greater than 22 metres.

Interesting websites:

www.seaweek.org.nz

Visit the national website for information, competitions and national events.

www.nzaee.org.nz

New Zealand Association for Environmental Education – educating for sustainability

www.ecan.govt.nz

Environment Canterbury's website includes information on local coastal issues, activities and swimming water quality. Environment Canterbury is the regional coordinator of Seaweek.

www.doc.govt.nz

This Department of Conservation (DOC) site has information about the protection of New Zealand's natural and historic heritage, how and where you can enjoy public conservation places and how to get involved in conservation.

www.estuary.org.nz/about

The Avon-Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust is a non-profit organisation formed by the general public and supported by Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury.

www.forestandbird.org.nz

Protecting our native plants, animals and wild places, on land and sea. Help us to help nature.

www.blackcat.co.nz

Black Cat Cruises helps create some of the most memorable experiences to be had on the water anywhere on New Zealand's Canterbury coastline.

www.lastocean.co.nz

Amazing website by the Last Ocean Charitable Trust. The pristine qualities of the Ross Sea ecosystem make it one of the world's great natural treasures. Help the Ross Sea become a Marine Protected Area. Visit their website and find out how.

www.newzealandsandcastlecompetition.co.nz

Regional Coordinators



Local Supporting Organisation



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Ataubai

National Coordinators



National Supporting Organisation

