

## AGM Report - 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2020 – Regenerate sub-committee

Regenerate Banks Peninsula started brain storming a year ago about possible actions around environmental issues. The sub-committee was officially launched in February 2020 for Sea-Week.

**Sea-Week 2020** : 2 events were organised with the big help of Jesu Valdes, marine biologist.

- Panel talk with students presenting their studies about marine species on Banks Peninsula: Hector Dolphins, Yellow-Eyed Penguins and Leopard Seals. The donation at entrance paid the hire of the room (Boat shed). Over 60 people attended
- Quiz night with a local marine environment topic. The money raised was donated to Rachel Hickox to help with travel cost for her research on Yellow-eyed penguins.

### Plastic issues :

- Averil and Geraldine approached 4Square last July by email to offer a meeting to talk about possible alternative to plastic packaging (eg. Bulk bins). The offer was well received by John and Carrie however the return to level 2 Covid alert led to a cancellation of the meeting without being able to re-organise it since then.
- Flore has approached The General Store but the answer wasn't promising, probably due to the size of the shop.
- Averil approached the local Butcher who was very keen on accepting customer's own containers.
- Barry's Bay Cheese was also asked about the possibility of selling cheese bulk without packaging as an alternative to plastic packaged cheese in supermarkets. This is possible with their cheddar offcuts however the price offered is found a bit too expensive for an average family (\$25/kg vs \$10-15/kg for a packaged cheese at 4Square)
- Regenerate uses the Facebook page to promote Christchurch businesses who are using bulk bins (eg. Bin In, Good for...)
- A few more NZ food businesses have been contacted about the plastic packaging issue. Despite the awareness of the need to find alternatives to plastic waste, most businesses don't seem quite ready to make a change... However we can see our actions/letters as "plant a seed" in people's mind.

**Regenerative Agriculture talk** : finally took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October with 3 guests speakers. A very good turn out on the day and a few people willing to create a local farmer's discussion group around regenerative agriculture. To be continued...

**DIY** : Flore has been posting during October recipes to promote DIY products (toothpaste, deodorant)

The **Facebook page** is getting more and more followers and engagements from people so we are hoping to reach wider and wider...

**Penguin survey**: has been going at full steam since 1<sup>st</sup> of November. A film is being made by "Blue Cradle" following groups of volunteers in different places to count penguin's burrows. The film/documentary will be released for Sea-Week 2021.

**Carpooling**: Annelies is working hard on creating a network of people - and hopefully an App - to promote carpooling on Banks Peninsula and reduce emissions (anyone willing to help is welcomed). Since the creation of the sub-committee Regenerate BP has been increasing its network of people working in the same direction than us: Redcliff Eco-village in Chch, Little River group, Quorum Sense, marine biologists, Blue Cradle (collaboration between different people including Happen Films), volunteers, local businesses, community members etc