



POORMAN'S STREAM RESTORATION CROSSES THE GENERATION GAP

Volunteers young and old have been working on restoring Poorman's Stream in Stoke. Nelson Nature recently held a morning tea to celebrate the work they have been doing and share stories and ideas about the future of the stream, from its source to the sea.

Poorman's Stream starts as a spring near the top of Marsden Valley and flows down through beech forests and regenerating kanuka and broadleaf slopes. It meanders through parks, reserves, past houses, shopping centres, industrial sites, and eventually into Waimea Estuary. Fish and eels make their way and up and down the stream, including some of our most rare and endangered species.

Groups caring for the stream range from primary school children to retired members of the community. Nayland Primary School students undertake weekly litter collections in Poorman's Stream, and have produced a series of informative brochures about the stream and how to care for it. Nayland College students have planted over 40 trees along the stream margin at their school, and have begun monthly State of the Environment Monitoring to provide better information on the health of the river. Nelson Christian Academy has undertaken intensive planting along the banks of Poorman's Stream as it runs through the school's

grounds. The Marsden Valley Trapping Group manage pest plant and animal species, and are restoring the native forest cover in the reserve. The Stoke Rotary Club have adopted the stream through Isele Park and do regular litter pick-ups and annual planting along the stream margin.

The groups each gave a short talk and presentation about their work. Clare Barton, Group Manager Strategy and Environment, said that having multi-generational groups working along the length of the stream brings different sectors of the community together with a shared purpose.

"It's wonderful to see so many people young and old working to improve the stream. Hopefully future generations will be able to enjoy looking after it as much as these groups do."



Students from Nayland Primary School, Nayland College and Nelson Christian Academy, and members of the Stoke Rotary Club and the Marsden Valley Trapping group get together for a morning tea.



Nelson City Council is collaborating with Countdown supermarkets to hold a "Drain Art Event" to remind people that fish and marine life are affected by anything other than rain going down the drain.

From 9am – 12 pm on Wednesday 7 December, Nelson school children will create art murals around the stormwater drains at each of the three Countdown Supermarket carparks – St. Vincent Street and Halifax Street in Nelson and Main Road, Stoke

As all three supermarket sites are on or near waterways, and Countdown staff will be on hand to reward students with prizes, and hand out refreshments and sunscreen. The event is also kindly supported by Resene Paints and Nelmac. So next time you are at

one of the Countdown supermarkets, take time to admire the work the children have done, and remember that "Drains are for Rain" – anything else that goes down the drain will pollute our waterways. Check out our new stormwater animation, courtesy of NMIT digital student Elaine Ang, at www.nelson.govt.nz/nelsonnature/animations.

Top image: Student Elaine Ang has created an animation with the message "Only Rain Down the Drain".



A CHRISTMAS TREE FOR ALL SEASONS?

Some of New Zealand's native trees don't need decorations to look beautiful at this time of year.

The pohutakawa is known as the "New Zealand Christmas Tree" but there are many other trees and shrubs that look wonderful at this time of year including manuka, kanuka, cabbage tree, pittosporums, wineberries and coprosmas. Send us a photo of your favourite 'New Zealand native Christmas Tree,' taken in the Nelson region, and be in to win one of six copies of the 2017 Forest & Bird New Zealand Conservation Calendar.

Email your photos to lynne.hall@ncc.govt.nz by Friday 16 December with your name, contact details and where you snapped the tree. Winners will be notified by email and the winning six images will be displayed on Facebook and featured in Our Nelson in the New Year. Images submitted must be your own.

