

## BOEE Newsletter: Winter/Spring 2023 Past, Present and Future

*Welcome to this BOEE Newsletter. You are receiving this occasional newsletter if you have registered with our website, taken part in a BOEE event, or indicated you wanted to hear more about our work.*

**Thank You** So winter is coming again, and it is time to thank all of those of you we have met through our events, website or other activities, as well as give you a heads-up to what is 'in the pipeline'. As many of you have found, our events are two way and both sides benefit from that interaction, so thank you for your support and interest in our work and *mahi*.

We are always delighted to acknowledge and thank those organizations who have directly supported our work, these organizations include The Rātā Foundation for their support of our office operation, The Department of Internal Affairs (Community Initiatives) for supporting our Dunes Day events, and The Institute of Environmental Science and Research Ltd. who have supported some of our fieldwork/Dunesdays with expert staffing to support our own staff expertise.

Some of you have specifically volunteered to assist at events, and to facilitate this we are opening a system on our website and where applicable also on the Eventbrite platform to allow you to book in as a volunteer at those events that you choose to. Different events, *e.g.* speaker events or field events have different needs, and particularly for field events we may ask you to come into the office (prior) to train you in (for example) in sampling, or making pH measurements. As an incentive for you to volunteer, if you assist in three events, we will now put you through the St John's 1 day first aid course. There are also other goodies *e.g.* BOEE sweatshirts/hoodies *etc.*

**Communities** Many of you will have been to a Dunesday, and we have now developed events for 4/5 local venues. Most of these venues include attendees making soil and water measurements. During winter we expect to be offering hot drinks or soup at some events. As with all our events this is free, although we would appreciate *koha*. Our next Speaker events are provisionally planned for August and October, and we envisage our next Dunesday events will be in July/August.

Mostly because a number of us will not be here, we are pausing our community activities for May and June. With the exception of June, we are planning to have the office staffed at least three days each week. Please do pop in to say hello: enter *via* the South entrance (Hawke Street) as shown below. Note, if the office is staffed, the BOEE flag will be outside. During June however, it is almost certain that the office will be closed but watch our web and social media pages for updates.

Also on the office, you will be delighted to learn, or at least we are (!), that subject to final council sign-off of the new annex, we now have access to kitchen, bathrooms and meeting room facilities at the office.

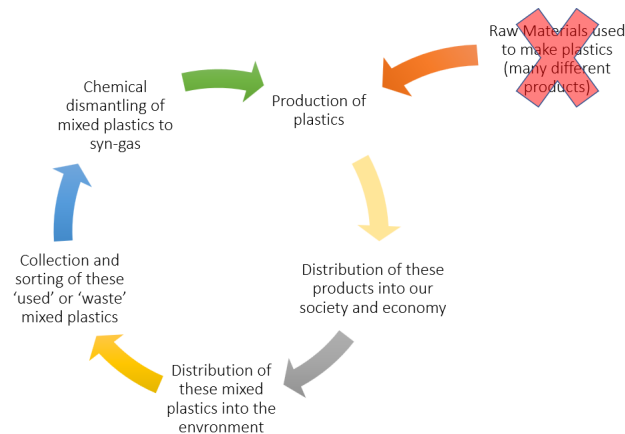


Te Waka Aroha St Faith's showing office entrance and new annex.

**Research** Currently our work is focused in the areas of waste, adaption and agriculture, (termed 'Wicked Problems'):

- a. Complete molecular re-use of waste including the closing of the plastic cycle.

### Closing the Plastic Cycle



Indicative description of plastics projects

- b. The economic costs and benefits of communities and the implications for adaptation decision-making.
- c. Milk and Meat v2: plant-based dairy and meat products.

Finalized Programmes and booking for our Winter and Spring events will be available on our website in July. If you would like to get involved in any of our activities, comment on or support BOEE in any way, please drop us an email (address above).

Ngā mihi nui.  
Simon Watts, Observatory Director.