Mikes News Jul 21

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 21 Jul 1969 | 1st moon walk <https://www.nasa.gov/mission/apollo-11/#.UtmgLOuBr-k> |
| 21 Jul | 7pm Robyn Deniz talk on Antarctica. Tauranga Yacht Club, Sulphur Pt. $10 |
| 23 Jul | 9-3 Great Lakes Centre Taupō [Energy Career Pathways field trip](https://www.taupo.biz/event-details/energy-career-pathways-empowering-the-future-energy-workforce), for Yr 11-13 students |
| 25 Jul | 2am Science is Cool online conference starts. Sign up [here](https://www.thepocketlab.com/scic) to access recording |
| 27Jul-2 Aug | Vanuatu Bislama Language week [www.mpia.govt.nz](http://www.mpia.govt.nz/) |
| 30 Jul | NZGA Winter Seminar in NZ Geothermal Week |
| 25 Jul | 2am Science is Cool online conference starts. Sign up [here](https://www.thepocketlab.com/scic). |
| 27Jul-2 Aug | Vanuatu Bislama Language week [www.mpia.govt.nz](http://www.mpia.govt.nz/) |
| 28 Jul-2 Aug | NZ Geothermal Week. NZGA Winter Seminar, held this year on 30 Jul |
| 29-30 Jul | STEMM student challenge at Lower Hutt Town Hall |
| 31 Jul | Free PLD on geothermal ecosystems, Craters of the Moon, Taupo. Book with [Rachel](mailto:rachel@greeningtaupo.org.nz?subject=Geothermal%20Ecosystems%20PLD). |
| 1 Aug | Deadline to apply [here](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__u36672548.ct.sendgrid.net_ls_click-3Fupn-3Du001.CwVgPvr4-2D2B1uwlyWVR1pO8s6xQzDIq0UZOl92tglUGEsb-2D2F35QXwR57oH-2D2F5nTBMMQkJ2Cp-5Fkosi3356XLmNdLAYKG4558vXrMXweY9-2D2BpTLDHlMxUZJroMq79s-2D2F5ZQFGbgMRKoN9otoSFT1bweeh-2D2FrMOZQvqXB9-2D2F2hAZi5V53xCGeaf6hE94DppaK17cDiCfGDLZ3r6dhinJCC3DzxSh18MlUVxn4Y3zc4kQWz6FqNmwJ93yCWKcVrdxZ2zLWbYRBCEPH8R7b5DvTo1QSf9EtAxFukFownwvtUajNhHFyj4UwXhkqxxgpUAtsvxIr8133ver1sPishXeGzAreykOYdwgXS-2D2BSciA30OAfyyXlJN9-2D2Ffjxhcaahs68-2D2Boh9PxUzN1rOKozwXqWBX6DrQIYDPWEIvEAZdeAL6fVsbf-2D2F5wEidyzTWZ5g0qOVmkEBPDSpbd5irku-2D2FqFP4tmeUVZGecqoS5th1BfNXaHjIXp8P7Wt8fumEuk4CfGXXnvUpCf8h5yl-2D2Fx6STRZ1z7MI2lh2YU1CVSCoq5bwG4mOObRtX5OnQkYMo3ca8s5Xe-2D2FUkmZt-2D2FYT00Fko5P2hTkfyAufmIEkoU-2D2F47Np6tIZ5JQrsHzkqcfOpF8AoCevzfvnuNqfMVNxwL8RbaQLXBJXU-2D2FB8DyAPXEvcaQ9riRq51rQ9iK9ZVNfbSpAAn5UP5gGSRlD-2D2Fd1kEg0TgA0uCYEd5dg18T6yY35bS9mDLUokdZKeHXp-2D2B75k-2D2F9dERcc3YkV119zFF02h46wF5HX6F8guP1TumwaE8fPxpMfPT-2D2FRNXzICITc9CVT3cLZ3Ea-2D2BHZE154qEtyemEK8QWKQYWsB5as6w8idjUglAhc099blV0GioZMAjcPtPtUAseAbPw9ScLBXBwXdJB-2D2FTEZ9KKCokuOUtk-2D2Bavp28WeejSTAF3bch887XgbQiYS5veVEKSX5Pv23UaJvDwljdB66mLjoXN-2D2B-2D2FfSoM2OzZZ63k1vZlWQo9mZlhyuJIdKYdyByN9W5p7cU-2D3D&d=DwMFaQ&c=_Zm2Kb9yJrso4r0-N78Ezl-a6DfgMbIISn5tZXXqWk4&r=I4t3OY05W1bnXHXflNn0KW-m4avpn2I9ilsjwkiERM4&m=jPUz92l9z92uhgt2WrRKHaWJSVJKvIN1Lklhg5nTCao_NmMXeRQXF9zjYXupVji0&s=jCOFEYGvhftDA9mF2NHqMkaRzOZa8yS52ksJkjeUt_0&e=) for Ch Ed Trust awards for chemistry gear. |
| 3-9 Aug | Cook Islands Māori Language week, Te Reo Māori Kūki Āirani [www.mpia.govt.nz](http://www.mpia.govt.nz) |
| 4 Aug | [LEARNZ](https://www.learnz.org.nz/Sanctuary253) virtual field trip to Maungatautari Sanctuary Mountain ecosanctuary. |
| Moon | NM Jul 25 1Q Aug 2 FM Aug 9 3Q Aug 16 |

1. Talk that may be relevant for us
   * The Rutherford Medal winner Professor Richard Beasley CNZM FRSNZ is giving lectures in Napier, Wgtn, PN, Nelson & Chch on unexpected findings from influential research programs in the **health sciences**. <https://www.royalsociety.org.nz/news/tales/>
2. You can now get your free tickets for STEMFest, happening in Tauranga on Sun 28 Sep. <https://events.humanitix.com/stemfest-2025>
3. Our the Rainbow Warrior at Halsey St Wharf Sun 20 Jul. [More info](https://www.facebook.com/events/1432738191407265/1433498871331197/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%5b%7B%22extra_data%22%3A%22%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22surface%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22permalink%22%7D%2C%7B%22extra_data%22%3A%22%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22surface%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22permalink%22%7D%2C%7B%22extra_data%22%3A%22%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22surface%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22permalink%22%7D%5d%2C%22ref_notif_type%22%3Anull%7D&utm_source=theaucklandbagel.com&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=this-week-next-week-in-auckland&_bhlid=a4d5027115990f1bc2b727171f91d7522427dc06)
4. iNaturalist is running the Great Southern BioBlitz from Fri 24 – Mon 27 Oct. Poster attached
5. Over two Saturdays, **2 and 9 Aug,** experienced editors from Wikimedia Aotearoa NZ are running a **Wikipedia edit-a-thon** to create & improve articles focused on Aotearoa NZ's unique native flora & fauna at **Ōtari-Wilton's Bush, Wgtn.** 10am-4pm. Bookings required, $5 per person. [More info.](https://events.humanitix.com/nz-species-editathon-wellington)
6. Vanuatu Language week <https://www.mpp.govt.nz/programmes-and-funding/pacific-languages/pacific-language-weeks/vanuatu-bislama-language-week/>

Info

1. Student opportunities:

* **Ak schools are invited to join in the Alchemists Competition,** **Th 27 Aug.** This inter-school event is a competitive, card-based challenge. Info [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QOKoIWoBRY_T_okL8DyWs8wKPrdAO_4S/view). Register [here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeHU-IQxDtysHmK4FTyFqxJaBwfdNvjLN9XUIdKWXhXbzgvWg/viewform).
* Students can now register for the 2026 NZ **Chemistry Olympiad** Competition. The training group selection exam will be held on about 15 Sep. Please [register before 8 Sep](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/study/academic-study/science/science-outreach-for-schools/chemistry-olympiad).
* **Girls on Ice** Aotearoa runs an expedition 12-22 Jan, exploring Ruapehu’s glaciers. <https://www.inspiringgirls.org/goi-aotearoa-nz> Apply by midnight 17 Aug
* [MacDiarmid Institute’s **Discovery Camp**](https://www.macdiarmid.ac.nz/news-and-events/events/discoverycamp-2026) is a fully paid-for science camp for current year 12 & 13 Māori & Pacific Island students with a genuine passion for the science 19-23 Jan 2026 in Ak. Students experience hands-on science with some of NZ's top researchers! Apply by 17 Aug.
* [MacDiarmid Institute’s **Nano Camp**](https://www.macdiarmid.ac.nz/news-and-events/events/nanocamp-2026) is fully funded & in Wellington 19-23 Jan 20-26. Hands-on investigations with top scientists for current year 12 or 13 students with a strong academic background who are hoping to continue with science. Apply by 17 Aug.
* **National Fencing Day Wed Aug 6 at Wairakei, Taupō. Attached.**

1. Congrats to the 4 students who represented NZ at the recent International **Chem Olympiad** in Dubai. Cael Sia (Rangitoto College), Alex Zhao (Westlake BHS) & Joseph Guo (Hamilton BHS) were awarded Bronze medals while Kelly Liu (Pinehurst School) received an Honourable Mention.

Resources

1. Biology:
   * Science Learning Hub resource on the [mobile scanning **electron microscope** UoW can bring to school](https://www.sciencelearn.org.nz/resources/mobile-scanning-electron-microscope) and [a general resource](https://www.sciencelearn.org.nz/image_maps/a-scanning-electron-microscope-in-the-classroom-resources) on this tool.
   * Interactive module on the **cell cycle** in a cancer context <https://www.biointeractive.org/classroom-resources/eukaryotic-cell-cycle-and-cancer>
2. Agricultural and Horticultural Science:
   * **An article on growing & milling wheat in Aotearoa** <https://thespinoff.co.nz/kai/01-07-2025/aotearoa-is-a-great-place-to-grow-wheat-so-why-do-we-import-so-much-flour>
   * **HATA newsletter** <https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:AP:ed18d2f1-6235-472d-868c-01e6afcc75a1>
3. Earth & Space Science:
   * An ELI activity investigating **radioactive dating** <https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/366_Radioactive_dating.pdf>
   * Julian Thomson has a **classroom-ready course on earthquakes** for middle school & high school. Avail from 25 Jul for USD $170; $85 til then. [Info here](https://courses.outtherelearning.co.nz/p/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJuZXdzbGV0dGVyX2xpbmtfaWQiOjMyNzI5OTd9.Q4l4RX-cXpwMpBprPqCZXPj55BIlbCFdO9Q1eHUPlTk/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJzdHVkZW50X2lkIjoyMjcwNDEyMCwibmV3c2xldHRlcl9pZCI6MjU3NzIwMH0.CrY1vAcUwVMVAqzQFSdhADACm6YmRFqPr3M_f5RUOs0).
4. Chemistry:
   * Article on the chemistry of **fizzy drinks** <https://edu.rsc.org/everyday-chemistry/what-makes-some-soft-drinks-fizzier/4021318.article> (limit of 2 applies to classroom resources only)
   * Ptable is an **interactive periodic table** showing names, electrons, and oxidation states. Visualizing trends, 3d orbitals, isotopes, and compounds <https://ptable.com/#Properties>
5. Physics:

* Making a marble run to reinforce ideas about gravity, friction, conservation of energy & **roller coasters** <https://www.teachengineering.org/lessons/view/duk_rollercoaster_music_less>
* A collection of [resources](https://www.physicsclassroom.com/Teacher-Toolkits/Terminal-Velocity/Terminal-Velocity-Complete-ToolKit) on skydiving & **terminal velocity** – readings, interactive simulations, videos, labs …

1. Primary & intermediate:
   * An **air pressure** demo <https://www.abc.net.au/education/experiment-pressure-fountain/13958560>
   * **live cams** of different animals <https://explore.org/livecams/explore-all-cams/brown-bear-salmon-cam-brooks-falls>
2. Science:
   * Lian & Vicki over at BayScience have posted info on a local scientist**,** [Juliet Linzmeier](https://www.bayscience.nz/post/scientist-highlight-juliet-linzmeier)**,** working on **seaweed** and suggested possible learning and assessment activities to give teachers some ideas on how students might use seaweed in the science classroom.
3. A science book you or your students might like to read
   * ***Tsunami****,* by Kimiko Najikawa ([read aloud](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u96s7wvzSC8)). An old man who saves his village from a tsunami. Teaches that long, strong earthquakes and sea retreat precede tsunami.

Can you help?

* + - 1. BEANZ, HATA, NZASE, NZIP & SCENZ are asking teachers for key points for the **MoE’s curriculum** team to consider.  Please give your thoughts in this [survey.](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScdyFWMxxOAp5U7H8iOq_rDJkv9vo8xfU783j2zzSfwWd7ijw/viewform)Forward to colleagues, as the aim is to get feedback from NZ secondary teachers of any science course. Deadline 28 July.
      2. The Moths & Butterflies of NZ Trust is surveying people who spend time in the outdoors (as many teachers do!) to find out **if wasps are a problem** in NZ. Info [here](https://www.nzbutterflies.org.nz/project/pest-wasps-survey/). Deadline 31 July.

Professional Learning & Development (PLD) Opportunities

* + - 1. A reminder that NZASE & Science Alive are offering **primary science** PLD this term. Attached
      2. **ESSENZ** PLD webinars this term, 7-8pm on Thursdays (register [here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfY-RYalEnoa-MW1BxS-NVblv6bhjpLqFwO6aty3jXroAcWJw/viewform)): 91191 Extreme Earth Events 24 July; 91414 Atmosphere Systems 31 July; 91193 Physical Principles in Earth Systems 7 Aug
      3. **Aquaculture Learning Lab has online courses, some free, some cost.** <https://www.aquaculturelearninglab.com/ourcourses>

Technician

* + - 1. The Ministry of Health Office of Radiation Safety has recently published information on the use of **radiation in schools.** Make sure you are aware of your responsibilities. Attached
      2. **SciPAD technician’s notes** are available [here](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ndv24kpyf8udgdz/AAA6fE0ysAG3ib13dTv5-dAta?dl=0)

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ndv24kpyf8udgdz/AAA6fE0ysAG3ib13dTv5-dAta?dl=0>

Cheers, Mike

Mike’s News is brought to you with the generous support of NZASE and Warp Computers