

R Users Groups Report 2014

Activity in R Users Groups (RUGs) around New Zealand (Auckland, Wellington and now Christchurch as well) has continued to flourish in 2013/2014 (since our last AGM), as detailed below.

The NZSA is keen to continue to endorse and celebrate the strong links between R and the current New Zealand statistics community, and a new R Users Groups Representative will soon be taking over (hopefully!) from John Haywood on the NZSA Exec. Further developments or suggestions in regard to the growth of the NZSA's involvement in this increasing popularization of the use of R are very welcome - please contact us and let us know what you think is the best way to move forward.

RUG meetings around New Zealand, late-2013 to 2014, are listed briefly below.

The Auckland R users group (AKLRUG), organized by JieFu Yu and Lisa Chen:
2 May 2014;
15 July 2014;
22 October 2014.

See the AKLRUG Meetup site for more details on all those events:
<http://www.meetup.com/Auckland-R-Users-Group-AKLRUG/>

The Wellington R Users Group (WRUG), organized by James Hogan (MBIE) and Shirley Wu (Harmonic Analytics):
17 December 2013;
17 March 2014;
28 August 2014;
20 November 2014.

See the WRUG Meetup site for more details on all those events:
<http://www.meetup.com/Wellington-R-Users-Group-WRUG/>

The fledgling Christchurch R Users Group, initially set up in early 2014 by Ian Westbrooke (DOC, who also helped get the Wellington group up and running in 2013!), have had two meetings so far, on 30 January and 29 May 2014. At the inaugural meeting Ian gave a presentation on "Statistical Analysis Using R Language: Experiences from the government sector - MBIE and DOC", while at the second meeting there were presentations by Arin Basu (University of Canterbury), "Integrating R within other software - how this can be done from within software like SPSS, SAS and Stata" and Alasdair Noble (AgResearch), "Writing Reports using knitr".

See the following Canterbury Tails website entries for more details on both Christchurch meetings:

<http://www.math.canterbury.ac.nz/canterbury-tails/event/95>
<http://www.math.canterbury.ac.nz/canterbury-tails/event/103>

John Haywood
R Users Groups Representative
November 2014
