



Convergence Newsletter

Nr 48 — June 2018

Welcome to another Convergence newsletter! This month, we're looking forward to the maxi-gathering in the July school holidays — a chance to get away from it all for 5 whole days and reconnect with the Convergence family. We also talk about tree-planting, which is a great way to care for the land, and a fantastic open floor dance workshop coming up with Sybille and Jan. Hoping to see heaps of you at Journey's End in a few weeks!

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Convergence notices and newsletter

There now is an email list for Convergence notices, which are sent out more often than the newsletter, and are better for news that can't wait. You can get more information and opt-in here: <http://convergence.org.nz/notices>

Send notices you would like to be included to mynotice@convergence.org.nz

Contributions for the next newsletter can be sent to mynotice@convergence.org.nz . To receive the newsletters send email to info@convergence.net.nz and ask for it. The newsletter is produced approximately 4–5 times a year (before mini gatherings).

Maxi Gathering Wed 11 – Sun 15 July, Journey’s End

We reckon the theme is “Co-Creation”. Come and make it happen, whatever “it” is!

Suzy’s offering yoga, guided meditation (including meditation for muscle relaxation), and of course dancing. Rebecca’s planning more tree-planting, probably on the Saturday — see below.

We’ll get the sauna going, unless the recent rain has wrecked total havoc on it. We’re sure there’ll be sharing circles, jamming sessions and lots of talking round a big bonfire. Hopefully we’ll figure out a brilliant possibility for the theme for Convergence 2018/19 together. Lots of great ideas have been talked about already, so let’s kick them around the circle and see what we can co-create.

Arrive from Wednesday afternoon and leave Sunday afternoon. Pack-up will just mean leaving everything as clean and tidy as found. Come for as little or as long as you can — there is no need to come at the start, or stay till the end.

There’s no charge for the event, but bring your own breakfasts, and enough food to share for lunch and dinner for the whole time you’re there. The cabins are open for sleeping in (get in fast!), but none of the other buildings are.

Tree planting in May — and July!

At the May mini-gathering, a group of us spent a cool and very productive couple of hours planting native trees and shrubs.

We clambered round on the slope behind Amberley Hall and planted about 30 poroporo, which are fast-growing shrubs with long dark leaves. They spend summer covered in gorgeous purple flowers, followed by huge orange berries — great bird food. Nature’s having an impressive go at taking over that site already, and not only with weeds. There are a lot of young pines and gum trees — also great bird food and nesting spots. I’m forming a vision of graceful tall gum trees with native shrubs sheltering underneath them, and a lot of birds living happily among them.

From that slope, we moved across to the area behind the fire tent and planted a beech tree, a few lemonwoods, a lancewood or two, and some more poroporo. There’s a huge poroporo there already, so they must do OK. This area is badly exposed to the road now, so getting plants into it will make a big difference for shelter and privacy.

We didn’t just stuff the plants into the ground and hope, instead we put down weed mat around each little plant, gave it a nice fertiliser pill and put a protective sleeve around it to keep the bunnies and possums out.

We haven’t been back yet but the site owners have and told us that the natives are doing well. So let’s do more of it! I’m hoping for another great effort at the July gathering, probably on the Saturday. It turns out there are a lot of seedlings under the established native trees on site. Let’s move them to places where they can grow.

If you’d like to do some planting, bring gardening gloves, a spade and a sturdy trowel, if you have them. We’ll have some spares, so don’t worry if you don’t.

— Rebecca

Open Floor Dance and Art Workshop

Dear Convergence friends and those that have danced with me before, I will be offering a workshop in Christchurch, at the end of July, together with Jan Jean. Hope to see you there to share a weekend of connection, movement and art together. ([Jan Jeans link.](#)) This weekend workshop combines open floor movement & art to explore what builds your inner fire. Gathering tools to keep your inner fire alive throughout winter and listening to the wisdom of your body.

Sybille Feint and Jan Jeans are both qualified Open Floor teachers and together have lots of experience with offering movement and art workshops.

Venue: North New Brighton Hall, Christchurch

Tutors: Open Floor facilitators Jan Jeans and Sybille Feint

Cost: Friday public evening: \$25.

Fri, Sat, Sun \$280, early bird \$250 till 1 July, simple lunch included (Sat and Sun)

Hours: Public evening Fri 6.30–9pm, Sat 10–5pm, Sun 10–4pm

Credit: Counts towards open floor training credit 15 hours.

Register: sybille@danceandshine.co.nz

All ages, genders and movement abilities welcome.

Sybille Feint has been teaching different dance modalities for more than 15 years via weekly classes, workshops and week long retreats. She is also involved with several empowering youth projects and her passion for offering group work to both youth and adults is infectious.

Jan Jeans is an arts therapist and dancer who is passionate about the power of movement to transform and heal on the journey through life. She sees dance as a way of life, a practice to cope with whatever life can throw at you and a way to nurture your soul, which she wants to share with others.

Open Floor dance & art workshop



'Tending to your inner fire'

Friday 27 - Sunday 29, July

A weekend workshop combining movement & art to explore what builds your inner fire. Gathering tools and listening to the wisdom of your body.



Venue: North New Brighton Hall, Christchurch

Tutors: Open Floor facilitators Jan Jeans and Sybille Feint

Cost: Friday public evening: \$ 25

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Credit: this course counts towards open floor teacher training credit 15 hours

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All ages, genders and movement abilities welcome