



Convergence Newsletter

Nr 62 — October 2021

Welcome to this issue of the Convergence drumbeat. The big news is—tickets are on sale! Early bird pricing until the end of October. There are some big changes this year, make sure you read all of the details and remember there'll be no tickets sales after 30 November.

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Convergence notices and newsletter

There 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 have included to mynotice@convergence.org.nz

To receive the newsletters ask info@convergence.net.nz for it (note the .org/.net difference!).

The newsletter is produced approximately 4–5 times a year (e.g. before working bees). Please send contributions for the next newsletter to mynotice@convergence.org.nz. Upcoming newsletters and deadlines are announced on the notices list.

Tickets for Convergence!!

Tickets are on sale now! Yeeahh!!

Be aware that the only constant is change though: like last Convergence, early bird tickets are only available during October, so there is another fortnight to score one. Standard pricing is available during November. Be aware that there will be **no ticket sales after 30 November** and **no gate sales** this time! See below for further details and the refund policy.

To participate, head over to <https://convergence.net.nz/> and select “tickets” in the top right.

Covid-19 and Convergence

Kia Ora Koutou.

As we stated recently in the newsletter we anticipate being at level 1 by the time Convergence is scheduled and we are really looking forward to a rich community experience together.

Tickets will be on sale at the early bird price as usual from 1 Oct. Standard tickets can then be purchased as usual from 1 Nov; but only up until 1 Dec. After 1 December there will NOT be any further ticket sales. There will be NO gate sales this year.

If it becomes clear that NZ will not be at level 1 for the Convergence event before Dec 1st you will be given a full refund. If the Alert levels change after 1 Dec and we are unable to have Convergence we will need to retain ¼ (25%) of the ticket price to help pay for the costs that Convergence has already committed to. This includes fresh food planted for the event and non-refundable deposits that have been paid. For ease and expedience of ticketing, and also to ensure quick refunds back to you, we ask that if possible, you pay for your tickets using a credit or debit card on the website.

The Trustees and other organisers will meet late in November to assess the Covid-19 situation in New Zealand to ascertain if we can indeed go ahead.

Safety

Convergence can only go ahead at alert level 1.

In terms of alert levels and protocols we will be adhering to the New Zealand Ministry of Health Guidelines before, during, and after Convergence and we expect your active cooperation in this. We reserve the right to ask you to leave if you are not in alignment with these protocols.

If you are unwell prior to Convergence we ask that you stay at home until you are well again. If you become unwell during the event you may be asked to isolate, or to take a test, or to go elsewhere and return again when you are well. We anticipate setting up a health team on-site to support in this process.

We would like you to treat Convergence this year as a retreat and to bring all that you need with you so as to reduce the need for comings and goings off site. This keeps it safer for all who are on site. For those very few trips that do need to be taken off site we will have a Sign Out and Sign In board in the Welcome tent (which becomes the Tweens Tent once we kick off) for you to use.

We do have a contact tracing QR code for Convergence that you can use on arrival. We will have a record of everyone attending and their phone numbers from ticketing (which is now required by law).

We will have more focus on hand sanitation, including cleaning stations. Please bring a personal hand towel so that we are not transmitting viruses to each other via damp communal towels. Some other things in the way Convergence is set up will be a little different this year to help support safer interactions.

In terms of emotional safety we ask that you dig deep to find respectful ways to negotiate differing perspectives about the Covid-19 situation and associated impacts.

We are all learning as we go and the Covid-19 situation is changing all the time. For our part we commit to being up to date with the Ministry of Health guidelines and implementing them as required.

Nga Mihi,

The Trustees

— Gordyn, Jazelle, Gavin, Gail, & Jeff.

Mini-Gathering and site preparation

There were no Mini Gatherings this year, but we will have to have one to prepare the site for use by Convergence. It'll be great to soak up the spirit of Convergence again after such a long absence! It will be a weekend early in December. The date will be confirmed asap, and you can check here: <http://convergence.org.nz/>

There's a shed there too that needs finishing, so we can store e.g. the stage for next year.

Festival requirements

The government has so far stated that large events and festivals this summer can only be visited by those who got vaccinated to protect themselves and everyone else from that eeww you-know-what. So far, details are unavailable, so nobody knows yet whether Convergence will count as "large". Remember it takes a full 5 weeks to pick up maximum protection, so you'll need to jump onto the [JabberWaka \(link\)](#)¹ sooner rather than later to avoid potentially missing out. There are now many similar places all over the country where anyone can just waltz up for their bit.

As well as a summer of fun and connection, you can also take part in protecting the very vulnerable of our community, and leaving hospital space for those who desperately need it. We realise not everyone agrees with the government's approach but the newsletter editors would appreciate if you didn't vent your anger about government policy at them.

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¹ <https://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/news/126673323/the-jabberwaka-cometh-to-canterbury-for-super-saturday-vaccine-drive>

The ground is twitching, a fire building, elders gathering, even the birds are tweeting...

1–30 November 2021, various places

A not-for-profit 3 part wilderness/meditation/rite of passage retreat that will empower young adults with the resources to function well in what Joanna Macy calls the Great Turning.

We believe the world is hungry for true adults. Bright free minds capable of leadership, insight and community. Growing and grounded in their birthright to belong, guided by their souls gift for the world.



What will a young person gain?

- Skills for living with presence. Foundations for a continuum of compassionate awareness for self, other and the more than human world.
- Knowledge of and engagement in sacred arts. Skills to turn struggles and grace into the arts of word, image, and movement.
- Ritual / Empowerment / Initiation
- Nature connection as a tried and true pathway to a sense of belonging.
- Courageous inquiries that investigate the trauma and addictions that can live beneath the shine, a collective inheritance of a consuming, conforming culture.
- Deepening understanding into the works of Joanna Macy, Bill Plotkin, Deep Retreat and Open Floor.

Two important things to be aware of:

1. For people who have limited financial resources but a strong motivation to participate, we have a number of scholarships.
2. There are 3 parts to the retreat and you can apply to come to all of them or select the aspect that is speaking brightly to you. For more information click the link below or email Jaime8Ju@gmail.com.

Our recent newsletter explaining everything about the offering

<https://mailchi.mp/c368dfa354de/supporting-young-people-to-become-true-adults-an-affordable-3-part-meditationwildernessrites-of-passage-event>

2022 in the Tui Events Park

Inward

7–9 January 2022, Tui Events Park, Golden Bay

3 day nature based journey into responsible manhood. Tribal Aliveness, Nature Connection & Possibility Management. Facilitators Jay Horton & Tristan Girdwood.

More information and sign up jaypheye@gmail.com

Unapologetically Alive

10–13 February 2022, Tui Events Park, Golden Bay

4 Day Evolutionary Women's Retreat

Women Empower Women, Empowerment, Creation, Connection

Open Floor Movement & Possibility Management Fusion

Facilitators Sybille Biedert & Julia Neumann

More information and sign up admin@embodiedfreedom.co.nz

Embodied Freedom Annual Retreat

23–27 March 2022, Tui Events Park, Golden Bay

5 Day Men's & Women's Movement Retreat Year 5

Special Edition this year is the new big pentacle to dance under

Awaken & Open your Body, Heart & Soul

Open Floor Movement & Possibility Management Fusion

This retreat will invite you to take your ability to navigate your inner world to another level and use your feelings as the compass for your life.

A journey to find out what it means to create deeper intimacy with ourselves and other people.

Facilitators Sybille Biedert & Jay Horton

Investment: super early bird \$590 / early bird \$680 / full price \$750

More information, videos, photos: <https://www.embodiedfreedom.co.nz/summerretreat>

Sign up: <https://forms.gle/FzUehgpCickUzSUk6>