



Convergence Newsletter

Nr 64 — November 2022

Welcome to the Drumbeat! This one has all the deets about the site prep working bee (please come!), the upcoming Convergence (yay!), plus early notice of a Convergence gathering near Akaroa in Feb 2023 and some other great retreats. Enjoy!

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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 get the newsletters emailed ask info@convergence.net.nz for it (note .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.

Looking to Convergence

Wow! After soooooooooo long we are going to have a full Convergence at Journey's End this year. I've got my ticket and I'm excited. You know, one of the things I remember about the last gathering was the baleful sun that flooded the whole site with strange orange light. While due to a haze of smoke drifting over from bush fires over in Oz, our ancestors would have cast this weakened light as a sinister omen or a warning for the future. This time they would have been right. Since the last Convergence we've been through a lot both as a country and as individuals. Those experiences have changed us: I know I've changed, and we'll be bringing those changed selves to Journey's End.

While each Convergence is different, the event will also be changed this year. The organising group looked hard at the way food creation was burning out the cooks every year. We asked if this was in the kaupapa of the event, and the answer was clearly that things have to be done differently. So, this year making yummy food for us all is going to be much more co-creative. With everybody lending a hand at some point and some people leading, the kitchen workshop will be humming!

Convergence has always been about finding the better ways of doing things. With changed people, changed perspectives and having had a good opportunity to take a look at what we do and why, the possibilities for embodying positive changes and for finding those better ways has never been more potent. As the smoke from the bush fires over in Oz reminded us, everything is connected. What happens there affects us here, and what we do here affects others. What happens at Convergence could make a world of difference to somebody, or make a difference in the World. Let the magic begin again!

— M

Back to Journey's End — site prep

4–6 Dec 2022 Journey's End

Back to Journey's End, yeah! Have a long weekend out and help prepare the site for Convergence. No ticket needed ☺. Do as much or as little as you like. We really need a crowd at this, please come if you can.

Bring food to share when cooking together for lunches and dinners. Bring your own breakfasts, sun protection, and whatever you need for a weekend away. Both lodges are now open and there are beds for everyone, but bring your own bedding.

We would like to make sure the water supply is adequate for Convergence, and that the lawns are mowed (please nobody put their tent on un-mowed grass because it creates problems with the site owners). Whatever doesn't get done will have to be done at the start of Convergence.

Tickets are on sale — woohoo!

Tickets for Convergence are on sale now, and early-bird pricing is available until the end of November. There is a limited number of tickets this year, and there are some big changes too, so please read up on it even if you're an old hand. Get the details and your tickets here:

<https://convergence.net.nz/event-details/>.

Pre-event organisation update

Pre-event organisation is well underway and going pretty smoothly. We're splitting the bigger jobs over more people this time—many thanks to those who've joined in, especially the people in Christchurch who are working on ordering the food.

A few things we need from the Convergence community

So far, we've got things pretty well sorted for marquees, composting toilets, sound system, hygiene supplies, firewood, supplies for cuddle cafe, massage tent etc, and—of course—ticket sales. And we've started working on food, cooking equipment, and site prep. So it's all going well, but we still need a few things that we can't provide ourselves:

- A place to park a chiller for some of December (see below).
- An empty trailer for taking back recycling, leftover food, rubbish and other things that have to go to Christchurch at the end.
- Supplies for the kids' tent—can you bring fun things for the kids?
- Empty Ecostore bottles (see below).

If you can contribute any of these things, please get in touch!

Thanks heaps

— Rebecca, on behalf of the pre-event team

Place needed to park a chiller in December

Have you got a large easily-accessible driveway in or near Christchurch, with access for a power cable? If so, we'd really appreciate parking a chiller at your place from 10–22 (approx) December. This one really matters; we'll be ordering a lot of cheese, vegan cheese, tofu, butter and spread, and we have to have somewhere to store it. So if you can help, please get in touch at mynotice@convergence.org.nz.

Empty dishwash and handwash bottles

We'll be getting dish wash and hand wash in bulk this time, but it comes in large containers and we'll need to fill it into smaller bottles. It'll be Ecostore brand, so it'd be great to be able to fill it into empty Ecostore bottles and save ourselves the trouble of labelling everything.

Please collect up any empty Ecostore hand wash and dish wash bottles you don't need any more, so we can fill them up at Convergence. Thank you!

Trailer for packing up after Convergence

Does anyone have a trailer they can take to Convergence, to help with getting the many things back to Christchurch after Convergence? It would be much appreciated. If you can help out please get in touch at mynotice@convergence.org.nz.

The theme is...

The theme for this year is:

Acceptance

Actually, there is no theme. But the acceptance of change is a good motto to go to Convergence with, especially this year.

Changes to Convergence

Change is inevitable, after all, we're not living on trees any more... and Convergence is re-starting with a few changes too. The main ones are:

- Arrival day is 27 December.
- Community building starts with the opening ceremony in the morning (Convergence time) of 28 December. Everyone is asked to be there for that, and not to miss out. After the opening we set up the kitchen, the marquees, clean the sauna, and do whatever else is needed for setting up. Everyone is involved in this.
- The kitchen operation and the cooking had become unsustainable, so new ways had to be found. This year there is no single person in charge, and each meal is prepared by a different team. It's a compromise between sharing the load while still cooking communally. Meals will be served in parts and you can mix your own according to your own dietary requirements.
- Because the shared cooking will take a little getting used to, tickets are limited to 200 this year. During November they can be had for \$250 (adult) early-bird. Ticket sales finish on 20 December or when 200 are sold.
NOTE—There will be no gate sales, and no sales after 20 December!
- On 3 January we pack up and tidy up in the morning and are ready to leave, and we finish with the closing ceremony in the afternoon. Everyone is involved in packing up too. Everyone has to vacate the site by the end of 5 January in accordance with the site hire agreement.
- It is likely that there will be COVID present at Convergence. All attendees will be expected to take responsibility for themselves and for the protection of others. Testing is encouraged, as is removing oneself from the site if testing positive or becoming ill. There is no way to isolate on site. Some tests will be available for use, but bring your own as well.

Read all the details at <https://convergence.net.nz/event-details/>.

Please don't give anyone a hard time over these changes, there was extensive consultation and the changes reflect the wisdom of the community as a whole.



Gathering near Akaroa

3–6 February 2023

You're invited to a Convergence style gathering at David's family's holiday home right by the sea in Lushingtons Bay, near Akaroa. This'll be a great chance to keep the Convergence energy going, and catch up with convergees in a beautiful peaceful place.

Details

When? Friday 3 to Monday 6 February 2023.

Where? 107 Lushingtons Bay Rd, one of three houses in the bay.

Food? Bring your breakfast, and food for shared lunches and dinners. 2 kitchens available.

Bring? Repellent, sun protection. Deck chair. Personal things + bedding.

Staying over? 5 bedrooms, 3 toilets and showers, room for campervans, and flat lawn for tents.

Activities

Swimming and boating! Walking, talking, connecting, sharing, eating, converging... Safe sandy beach for swimming. Deep sea caves to explore. Small yachts, kayaks, other watercraft available. Spectacular walking tracks to other bays.

More questions? Contact David Guthrey on 021 670 451. Please RSVP or phone before you go.

Getting there

<https://osm.org/go/uonvyujQ?m=>

Turn off onto Takamatua Bay Road before Akaroa, then take Quail Crescent, then Kingfisher Road, then Kotare Lane, then Lushingtons Bay Road—total 2 km along to the end, blue house on the right.

A 200m stretch on top of the cliff might not show as road on the map, but there is a drivable shingle road (through a gate), then 500m down the private road.

— David Guthrey



WWOOFing slots available at Tui Community

WWOOF right now—more info here:

<https://www.tuitrust.org.nz/visit-us>

The Pirate House

News to share with you from Sybille and Jay from Tui—here is a little peek of the video to come:

<https://vimeo.com/767144034/c66fa48dfe>

Something special has been going on for us!! Sybille's house, which has been a family home, is expanding. By the end of the year we want to be able to share with our home 'The Pirate House'.

It will be a place for small events up to 20 people, multi-day retreats and day workshops, and a wonderful place to DANCE. It is situated near the Tui Treefield and surrounded by gorgeous nature.

There will be a cool website (when we get it finished) and video launching soon.

Please contact us if you want to offer your support: admin@embodiedfreedom.co.nz .

Aroha Sybille & Jay

Inward Men's Gathering

5–8 January 2023

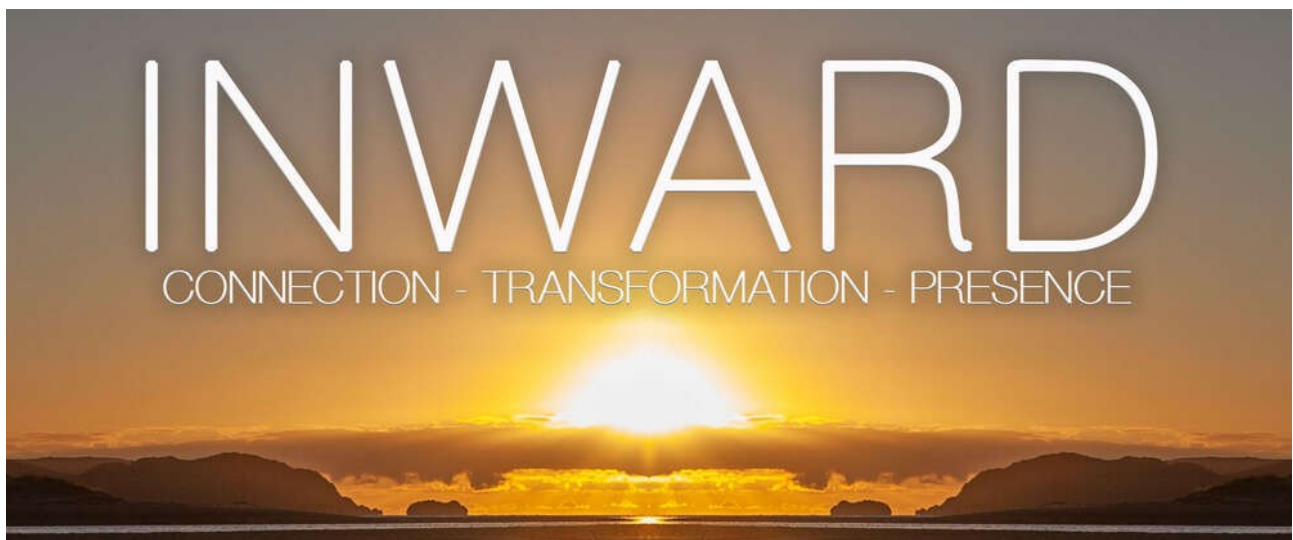
Kia ora Convergence whaanau—Come and Join us straight after your Convergence time at Tui Treefield for Inward Men's gathering.

INWARD

CONNECTION. PRESENCE. TRANSFORMATION.

CREATING NEXT MEN'S CULTURE

More info and registration: <https://inwardmensgathering.mystrikingly.com/>



Embodied Freedom Annual Men's and Women's Retreat 6th year

22–26 March 2023, Tui Events Park, Wainui Bay, Golden Bay

Possibility Management & Embodied Freedom Movement

Space holder Sybille Biedert & Jay Horton

A 5-day journey inspiring a new understanding of your feelings through Movement & Possibility Management.

Transform together—awaken and explore your relationship with your heart and connect with your authentic self.

(Pick up and drop off from Nelson Airport by request)

More info: <https://www.embodiedfreedom.co.nz/summerretreat>

This is some of the Feedback from the 40 people that joined at the last March Retreat

Village living / dancing / sharing for 5 days, a treat that can not be put into words. Creating a space of magic, transformation and connection, Men and Women relating with each other in a new way.

Every day opening to love through feeling all 4 feelings, anger, fear, sadness and joy. Experience the relationship with not knowing, while building trust with each other, listening to the voice of the heart and expressing what really matters.

Embodied Freedom

Workshops and Retreats



“Embodied Freedom opens a door to be in a space that is beyond your day to day life. Where there is an opportunity to get to know yourself. Your feelings, your inner world. And then to meet others from that embodied, free and authentic space.”