



## Convergence Newsletter No. 69 Jan 2024

Welcome to the January Convergence Newsletter.

In This Edition:-

1. Lushington Bay beach event – this coming weekend!
2. We need someone Mechanically minded!
3. Convergence Facebook page. How to access it.
4. A co-living, co-housing and community proposal.

### Convergence Notices and Newsletter

Send notices you would like to have included to [info@convergence.net.nz](mailto:info@convergence.net.nz) To receive the newsletters ask [info@convergence.net.nz](mailto:info@convergence.net.nz) for it.

### **Lushington Bay stay 2024 is confirmed!**

From Thursday 1 February to Wednesday 7 February inclusive, Convergence is invited to stay at David Guthrie's family bach in Lushington Bay, Akaroa. That is, all through Waitangi weekend. Come and stay for as many or as few days as you like.

This is a Convergence style gathering at David Guthrey's family holiday home right by the sea in Lushingtons Bay, Takamatua, near Akaroa. This'll be a great chance to keep the Convergence energy going, and catch up with Convergees in a beautiful, peaceful, and downright luxurious setting.

#### Details

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

Food? Bring your breakfast, and food for shared lunches and dinners for as many days as you intend to stay. A few drinks is a good idea. 2 kitchens available.

Bring? Repellent, sun protection. Deck chair. Personal things + bedding. Bring togs if you want and towels. Beach things like inflatables and things to toss about would be good. There are coastal walks nearby so bring your walking gear. Books or games to share for the evening, and music if you play.

Staying over? 5 bedrooms, bunk beds, 3 toilets and showers, and flat lawn for tents. There's campervan parking atop the grassy knoll behind the house.

## 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. Probably visits to Akaroa by motor boat.

## Getting there

Turn off to Takamatua Bay before Akaroa, then take a left to Quail Crescent, then right at Kingfisher Road, then Kotare Lane, then left again to Lushingtons Bay Road—total 2km from the main road to the end—a blue house on the right.

About 2/3 up the hill Lushingtons Bay Road turns to gravel – keep going! A 200m stretch on top of the cliff might not show as a road on the map, but there is single lane drivable shingle road (through a gate), then 500m down the steep private road to the Bay.

More questions or to reserve a space? Contact David Guthrey on 021 670 451. Please RSVP or phone ahead before you leave home.

— David Guthrey

You are welcome to stay for all or some of the days. Shared food, the good company of your fellow Convergees, and plenty of water toys to play with (the house is right on the beach) guaranteed.

Normally there is no public access to this bay except by boat – so don't miss out!

p.s. Please label any food you don't want used for communal cooking!

p.ps. Do you feel unwell, with any of these cold or flu-like symptoms before arriving?

- Fever
- A new or worsening cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Sneeze or runny nose
- Loss of smell or taste

If yes, please do not come this time, and let David know.

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Kia Ora Whanau. Hope you all had a great time at this year's Convergence.

We are looking for someone in the Convergence whanau with a mechanical bent to service our fire pumps; plugs, points, filters, oli change, etc. They haven't been serviced since before Covid (about 5 years) and although they only run for about an hour every year we can't afford to risk them breaking down for lack of basic maintenance. The grass fire that swept through Loburn last week destroying houses, sheds, cars and a church serves as a timely wake-up call for us. So if tinkering with motors is your thing and you're up for giving a little back to Convergence with one of the many behind the scenes things that keeps Convergence going give Gordyn a ring on 0210773565. He's waiting eagerly to hear from you. :-)

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If you've ever attended Convergence - we have a Facebook page you can join. The page is a place for those that have attended Convergence to share news, events, and enable connection with each other. This Group is intended to be a safe space for everyone to stay in touch with each other, express opinions, and be heard, all in a respectful way.

It is administered by the principles that are embodied at the Convergence Festival:

- Community
- Sustainability
- Co-creation
- Participation
- Awareness
- Respectful Engagement
- Self-Responsibility
- Healing and Personal Growth.

You'll need to answer three simple questions to apply to join;

Question 1

Have you attended Convergence? This group is only for people who at least attended Convergence once.

Question 2

Which year(s) did you attend Convergence?

Question 3

Do you agree to the Convergence Facebook Group guideline "This Group is intended to be a safe space for everyone to stay in touch with each other, express opinions, and be heard, all in a respectful way"?

Your application will be automatically rejected (by facebook) if all three questions aren't answered and you'll be asked to re-submit. It is amazing how often this happens.

Love M

Hello dearest Convergees.

The beautiful memories from this years festival are still shining.

Is co-living, co-housing and community something that sparks your life force?

If so, get in contact. We are a small group based in North Canterbury/Chch which has common interests and are meeting to explore the possibilities and are ready to commit.

The proposal is to purchase a big old country house, hotel, or school that we can retrofit into a residential community project of about 12-20 people, and to be located in Canterbury NZ (but potentially could be elsewhere).

The project has roots in the global ecovillage movement, but the particular vision is to create a semi-experimental, next-generation, living community based on the premises of human connection, emotional development, conscious communication and engaged collaboration.

The rationale for this project stems from today's increasingly atomised society. Many observe that we live in a time characterized by disconnectedness and hyper-individualism. Yet, we now know that isolation is actually an evolutionary danger signal. For instance in brain scans; loneliness and rejection are felt in the same way and in the same place in the brain as physical pain. By learning from working closely together on this project, we aspire to help evolve a set of skills, a capacity that enables real connection and real change.

This project is about community in the deeper more social sense of the word. Our core driver is that human connection and conscious collaboration are urgent priorities for humanity. In coming together to work both on this project and on the participants' relationships, we can engage directly and actively with a process of societal transformation. When we consider the current period of social upheaval, we can see the timeliness and the significance of this initiative.

There is also the option to purchase the old Gricklegrass community farm in Oxford where I have been living since 2023.

If this ignites or fans a flame inside your heart, let's connect.

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