

CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER

AGM AND CONFERENCE.

Friday 24 – Sunday 26 May 2024

Yet another apology for the delay. It is not just ProGuides who are busy during the tour season, but all the suppliers and service providers from whom we need service and cost details to finalise the conference registration. We are just waiting on a last couple of responses, and will have the registration form with you by the end of this week. In the meantime, set out below is the outline of the weekend programme, so that you can at least get travel bookings confirmed.

We are chasing up discounted accommodation options for members from out of Auckland to add to those included with the registration form. If you have favourite hotels/motels likely to support tour guides with good rates, do let us know (info@proguides.co.nz) and we will approach them to be added.

This conference will be a key time to share your views on the future of ProGuides as an organisation. It is not financially sustainable to continue as we are at the moment, so the time has come to face up to what we can and should do differently. A thought-starter discussion piece will be in the next newsletter to get some ideas circulating, so please do share your thoughts.

See you in Auckland on Friday 24 May!

Helen Tait

Chair

AGM AND CONFERENCE. PROGRAMME

Saturday, 25 May 2024

Wintergarden Café, Auckland Domain

8.30 a.m. Registration

**Morning Theme – Professionalism in Tour Guiding
What does the “pro” in ProGuides mean?**

9.00am – 1.00pm Sessions will cover:
- Legal obligations – Health & Safety, Public Liability, DOC Concessions
- Negotiating a professional contract. Panel discussion
- Qualifications and Certification, now and for the future.
- Do we want to encourage a certification requirement?
- Sharing hints for professional presentation & services
(to be continued through the Sunday famil tour)

10.30 Morning Tea

1.00 – 2.00p.m. Lunch

2.00 – 3.00p.m. ProGuides AGM

Following AGM Future of ProGuides
What do we want ProGuides to be in the future, and how do we get it there? A discussion paper will be circulated before conference. Come with your ideas and options

The daytime programme is free of charge to ProGuides members

**6 to 6.30 for 7.00 Conference Dinner(for those registered)
Venue details and cost to follow with registration form, as soon as cost is finalised**

Friday Programme

There will be an opportunity to gather on Friday for lunch, an afternoon session at Auckland Museum and an informal evening get-together at The Stables in Elliot St

12.30 onwards Lunch Auckland Museum Café

1.30pm **Auckland Museum** offerings for tours, including:

1.45pm Maori Cultural Performance plus opportunity to interact with the performers

2.30pm (following the performance) **Behind the scenes at the Museum.**

Presentation by Museum staff on their general tourism services and a chance to experience a personalised behind the scenes tour which the museum can offer to groups.

4.00pm onwards Make your own way to Auckland Central

6.00pm onwards Gather at Elliott Stables, 39 – 41 Elliott St.
Tables reserved for meet and greet. Choose your own drinks and food <https://www.elliottstables.co.nz/>

Sunday Famil tour. Bus transport provided by Moe Tours

8.45am Pick-up at Z Energy, Beach Road

9.00am Second Pick-up at bus stop outside Auckland Cathedral

Some details fo the programme are subject to final confirmation, additions and alterations, but it will include:

- Arataki Visitor Centre – Visitor Centre Talk about Kauri Die Back & their programmes – Coffee & Cookie
- Walk through the Kauri Forest
- Olive production visit
- Westbrook Winery Wine Tasting and platters etc (Lunch stop)
- Swiss Bliss Chocolatier, Waitoki
- Back to the city for a presentation on the Auckland Rail Project and how the link can be used for tourists

4.00pm Tour Concludes in the central city.

Bus transfer available to Auckland airport