

# HOW WE ARRIVED AT THIS YEAR'S LOGO



## CONFERENCE 2023

23 – 25 JUNE 2023, DUNEDIN

*Celebrating the Elements - Whakanuia te Taiao*

### CELEBRATING THE ELEMENTS

Members of the Southern branch are privileged to be working amongst the fabulous landscape of North Otago, Southland, Stewart Island, and Otago. Rugged mountains and coastlines dominate while lakes, rivers, bush and valleys inhabit the space between the mountain and the sea.

Like all celebrants in Aotearoa New Zealand, we are connected to and draw inspiration from the landscape around us. The landscapes in which we live are our home – they shape us as people, they shape our ceremony and our responses.

As New Zealanders we embrace our identity through the landscape. The whenua | land, ngā maunga | mountains and rivers | ngā awa sustain us and we can learn much from the pūrākau | stories that are part of the indigenous culture of Aotearoa.

The elements of fire, earth, air and water are universal and speak to our relationship with the world around us.

The four directions and the blessings that come with those from North, South, East and West can be found in many cultures.

The conference will be held in Ōtepoti Dunedin with all that Otago has to offer in its abundance of coastline and heritage. As celebrants we will be enriched so that we too may fly like the mighty toroa | albatross for which Ōtepoti is known.

We invite you to come join us to explore the elements in the landscape around us, to be inspired by the elements in your work as celebrants.

*Poipōia te kākano kia puawai  
"Nurture the seed and it will blossom"*