



friendship force

KAPITI COAST

OCTOBER 2023



Club web address: www.kapiti.friendshipforce.co.nz
 Email Address: kapiticoast@friendshipforce.org.nz

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 11 th October	Coffee with Rhondda 10a.m. Venue : Salt and Wood Collective, 11 Ngaio Road, Waikanae	r.s.v.p. Rhondda 904 4168 021 0721016
Sunday 29 th October	“Let’s Eat Out” lunch - Venue: The Jolly Pub and Kitchen, 93 Mazengarb Road, Paraparaumu New time of 11.45	r.s.v.p. Lois 298 8504 021 154 4311 mikelois@xtra.co.nz
4 th to 8 th November	Inbound Global scenic and farming journey – 10 people to be hosted in Kapiti. More information to come.	Journey Coordinators Fran and Beth
Sunday 19 th November	An invitation from Wellington who are hosting members from the Friendship Force Charlotte Club in USA. See “ It’s a date’ info in newsletter.	r.s.v.p Fran 027 2402349 - 04 905 5491 or reply to this email
November 2023	AGM – date TBA – possibly Sunday 26 th Nov.	
December Christmas get together date TBA	Venue TBA	

Chatter

....You will see details, dates and times in our 'dates for your diaries' listings. Please add them to your diary or change dates, when you receive this newsletter so you do not forget. We will send out reminders.



Finances

Our Treasurer Wilson will be sending out shortly an invoice for our 2023/2024 subs. Debbie has been in touch with Jeremi at FFI and attached is a summary of what was discussed.

2024 FFI Membership Fees

I have been talking to Jeremi about setting the NZ\$ value of FFI membership fees for 2024. As you know they are rising to US\$30 per member, but as that equates to just over NZ\$50 with our current weak exchange rate, Jeremi agrees that it's too big a jump from the 2022 fee of NZ\$35. He has offered to set the fee at NZ\$43, and I hope our members will be okay with that. We didn't pay any membership or domestic journey fees in 2023, so we've had a good deal this year and the fee only equates to about \$3.50 a month, less than a cup of coffee!

Scenic and Farming Tour of New Zealand – 4th to 8th November

Final tweaking of our programme is underway. Friendship Force members from the UK, Canada, USA, Australia and Belgium will be arriving on our shores in the first week of November. As a club we will be hosting 10 people from the 4th to 8th November. We have 8 single ladies and one couple joining up with us.

We are still one host short – any offers of help please.

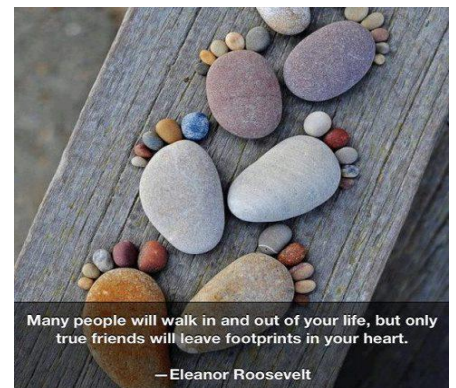
Day 1 We are organising an interesting itinerary – our first day Sunday 5th November we will be going to the US Marine Memorial at QE2 park, a tram ride and a visit to the tram museum. Lunch at Paekakariki, then a visit to the museum at the Paekakariki station. If time permits we shall visit several of the art galleries on the Art trail. A quick drive up Paekakariki Hill to look at the magnificent view. Fish and Chip Meal on the beach – weather permitting.

Day 2 Monday 6th November will be spent at Southwards car museum, lunch at the Big Mack and plenty of time to check out the fascinating working shops there. Dinner with the host.

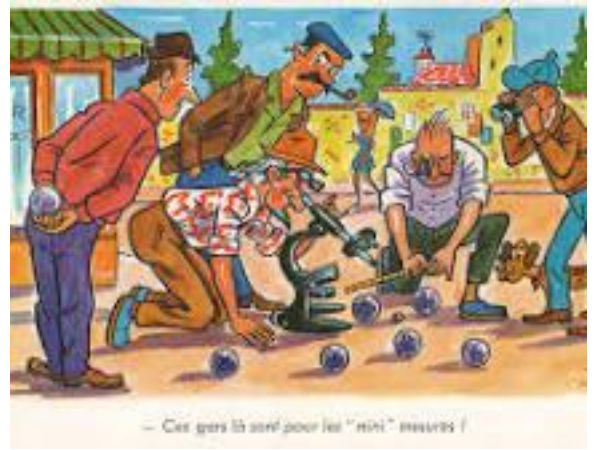
Day 3 will be spent lunching at Ruth Pretty's restaurant in Te Horo, a walk around Otaki shops and a visit to the Rangiataea Church in Otaki which is the oldest Maori Anglican church in New Zealand and also a visit to Artscape in Otaki – showing casing local artists' work.

Farewell dinner at The Waterfront – Guests to take hosts out to dinner.

Day 4 – final day with a trip back into Wellington to meet up with FF Wellington and FF Wairarapa guests.



It's a date



Wellington FF are hosting FF Charlotte USA on the 19th November and are hosting them for the day on the Kapiti Coast.

They have invited our Club to join them for this fun activity. Meeting at the Pentanque Club in Aorangi Road, Paraparaumu at **2.45p.m.** to introduce their visitors and some of our Club to the game of Pentanque and then on to Graham Wigley's Waikanae Beach House (address tba) for nibbles and drinks and then on to TUK TUK restaurant for dinner at 6.30p.m. (dinner is optional for us) Let's support them with their hosting, it should be a fun time. **Can we get atleast 6 or 8 of our club members to join up with them. R.s.v.p. to Fran 027 2402349 or 905 5491 or reply to this email.**



Note from the Editor:

The Team of 12 arrived back from their very successful domestic journey to Hamilton/Waikato. We took umbrellas and packed for rainy cold weather. We were lucky the weather decided to change it's mind and we had some very nice days indeed. Our first attraction (only 4 of us went) was Hobbiton. Everyone else had been



before. The others in our group spent most of the day in Cambridge. What a day we 4 had, a fabulous and very informative guide came with the tour and it was exciting being on the film set of this famous trilogy. We experienced the real Middle-Earth in the heart of Waikato stepping into the lush pastures of the Shire, as seen in The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies. We walked around the 12 acre set, past Hobbit Holes, the Mill and into the world famous Green Dragon Inn. We had a complimentary exclusive Hobbit Southfarthing beverage to finish our Middle-earth adventure.



A trip to the Waikato Velodrome on our second day, located in Cambridge. This is a world class facility – there's lots to do there from beginners to NZs medal winning track cyclists. There is also a lovely coffee shop called The Bikery Café –

serving very luscious food....



Reflections.....



On our 3rd day we visited the Hamilton Gardens. The 54 hectare park is based on the banks of the Waikato River and includes enclosed gardens, open lawns, a lake, a nursery, a convention centre and the Hamilton East Cemetery. They said the best time to visit the gardens was in the Spring, however, we were a little early to take in the abundance of colours which comes alive in a

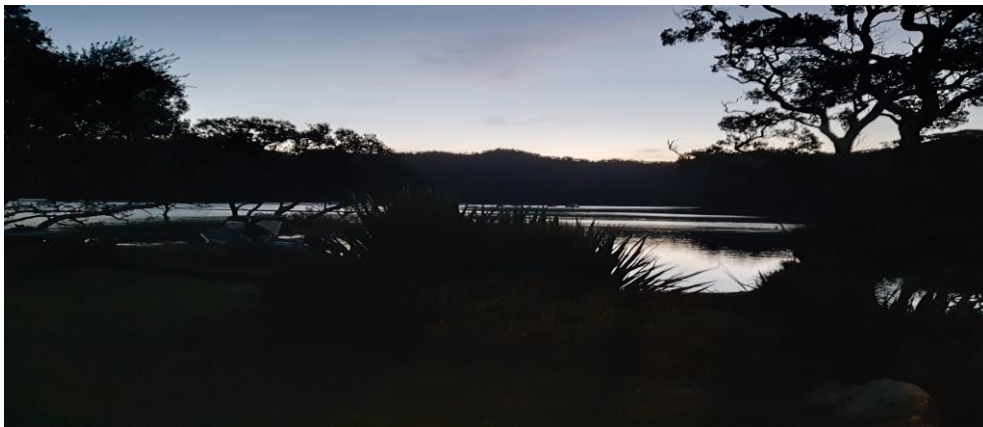
rainbow of colours. The gardens have been designed to both calm and invigorate you. At Hamilton Gardens the focus is on the different types of gardens that have been developed over the past 4,000 years. A wonderful day was had by all.



On our fourth day, we took the bus from Hamilton to Auckland Airport. We were off on another excursion - to Great Barrier Island for 4 days. We chartered a 12 seater plane to take us over and back.



What a paradise we found. Population between 900 and 1200 – increases dramatically during the summertime. The island lies in the outer Hauraki Gulf 100 ks. north east of central Auckland.



A scenic 30 minute flight is all that it takes to transport yourself back in time to a very special and unique part of NZ. The island is NZs only National Marine park. Over 70% of the land is protected Conservation Park with night skies rated 'second to none', the whole island is a Dark Sky Sanctuary. To visit this island is to

experience life off the grid, under the radar and on the edge..it really is a world of its own!

Our 4 days was up so quickly and we flew back into Auckland. 8 of our team boarded planes for home, the other 4 of us stayed in Auckland for a few days. Our trip was coming to an end all too quickly.

2024 National Gathering – 4th to 6th April

The Wellington FF Club is organising another fabulous weekend for our clubs at the 2024 National Gathering. The venue will be Silverstream Retreat in Upper Hutt, and the dates are 4-6 April 2024.

There will be two nights staying at Silverstream Retreat and then weekend home hosting by clubs in our area including ours. Put the dates in your diary and watch for more information to come.



What's coming up



Good Wednesday Morning
Coffee | Images

Coffee Morning – Wednesday, 11th October

Venue: Salt and Wood Collective,
Ngaio Road, Waikanae

10a.m.

Contact Rhondda 904 4168 or 021 0721016



Let's Eat Out

Venue:
The Jolly Pub and Kitchen,
Mazengarb Road, Paraparaumu

Time: 11.45a.m.
(note slighty earlier time)

Date: Sunday 29th October 2023

r.s.v.p. Lois 298 8504
021 154 4311 mikelois@xtra.co.nz

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE PLEDGE

As a member of the Friendship Force I recognise **that I can make a difference.**
I recognise that I have a mission.
That mission is to be a friend to the people of the World.
As I embark on this adventure I know that others will be watching me.
I know that through my example to my fellow citizens and people of other
countries, the cause of peace and friendship can be furthered.
I can make a difference.

MANAGEMENT GROUP 2023

Treasurer	Wilson Lattey	021 446 156
Immediate Past President & Newsletter writer	Fran Kennedy	905 5491 027 2402 349
Committee	Margaret Swain	021 146 6066
	Lois Horsfall	298 8504 021 154 4311
	Rhondda Harris	904 4168 021 072 1016
	Debbie Lattey	293 3252 021 689 348
	Joan Martin	021 241 2866
	Beth Lough	902 2383 027 788 8822
Field Rep.	Graham Wigley	027 484 7446