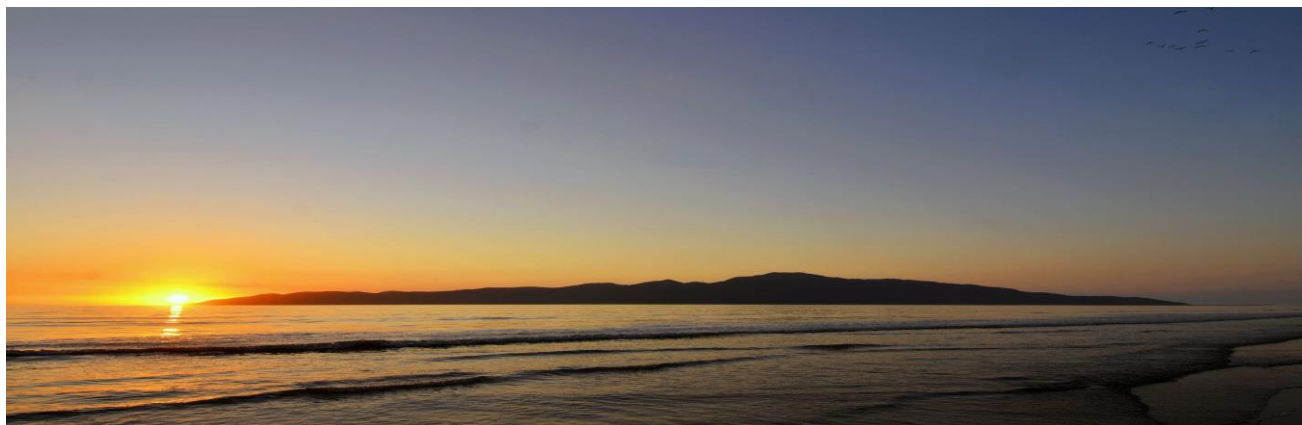




# friendship force

KAPITI COAST

**FEBRUARY 2024**



Club web address: [www.kapiti.friendshipforce.co.nz](http://www.kapiti.friendshipforce.co.nz)  
 Email Address: [kapiticoast@friendshipforce.org.nz](mailto:kapiticoast@friendshipforce.org.nz)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>February</b>		
14 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Coffee Morning Venue Salt and Wood, Ngaio Road Waikanae 10a.m.	RSVP Dee 021 1426441 <a href="mailto:heron7471@gmail.com">heron7471@gmail.com</a>
21 <sup>st</sup> February	Picnic at Otaihanga Domain with biking tour people. All are welcome. BYO picnic.	RSVP Debbie 021 689 348 <a href="mailto:debbie@otaihanga.co.nz">debbie@otaihanga.co.nz</a>
<b>March</b>		
12-17 <sup>th</sup> March	Visit from Koriyama and Mie Friendship Force Clubs in Japan. They will be with us for 4 days, 5 nights.	Jeanette Page Coordinator Ph. 027 300 9435
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Coffee morning tba	RSVP Dee 021 142 6441 <a href="mailto:heron7471@gmail.com">heron7471@gmail.com</a>
<b>April</b>		
4 <sup>th</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> April	2024 National Gathering – Silverstream Retreat Upper Hutt.	Registrar Lyndda Bouzaid <a href="mailto:tonyandlynnda@gmail.com">tonyandlynnda@gmail.com</a>
10 <sup>th</sup> April	Coffee morning TBA	RSVP Dee 021 142 6441 <a href="mailto:heron7471@gmail.com">heron7471@gmail.com</a>
April	LEO (Let's eat out) Lunch – TBA	Lois Horsfall, 021 154 4311
<b>May</b>		
11th May 2024 (Saturday)	Stage production of The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel. St. James Theatre 2pm.(Sat.) Anyone interested? Have heard rave reviews. Phone Dee or Fran and put your name down. Close off date 29 <sup>th</sup> February.	RSVP Dee 021 1426441 <a href="mailto:heron7471@gmail.com">heron7471@gmail.com</a> or Fran 027 240 2349

You will see details, dates and times in our 'dates for your diary' listings. Please add them to your diary or change dates, when you receive this newsletter so you do not forget. Reminders will be sent.

# President's Chatter

Hello friends. Well it's been a busy January for us, shifting from the farm after nearly 40 years there and into our new home at 387A Te Moana Road in Waikanae. Forty years of clutter took quite some clearing out, especially the three garages, but we did it. We are loving our new home and look forward to hosting Friendship Force gatherings in our lovely new garden.

As you know I have now relinquished my role as RSM and handed over to Liv Goudie in Whangaparoa. Liv is looking forward to attending the National Gathering in April where you can meet her – more about that shortly.

I am looking forward to leading the *Great Cycle Trails of New Zealand* ebike tour arriving in Auckland on the 10<sup>th</sup>. We are a group of 20 keen ebikers, with the 19 others from the USA and Canada, and all aged between 60-72. We will be arriving in Kapiti for our week's hosting on February 19<sup>th</sup>, with half the group being hosted here and the other half being hosted by the Wellington FF Club. Other than Don & Judy Keats, who also have ebikes, the rest of the hosts for this group have been recruited from our Kapiti ebike group, as I felt it was important that the hosts cycle with their guests. Hopefully we'll recruit a couple of new FF members from the biking hosts! The tour includes a week with the Hamilton-Waikato Club biking the trails there, and touring the South Island including riding the Lake Dunstan and Otago Rail Trails.

There will be an opportunity for you to meet our biking ambassadors on our non-biking day, which is Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February. We will be picnicking and playing games at the Otaihanga Domain from 1pm on that day, and we'd love you to join us so our guests – and our new hosts – can meet some of our club members. It's a BYO picnic, and if the weather is not conducive to outdoor dining we'll meet instead at Big Mac's Slabs where we can picnic undercover. Do put that date in your diary and come along to share in the fun.

You will have received information in the last few days about the 2024 National Gathering, to be held at Silverstream Retreat in Upper Hutt. Wellington FF club is organising this event which will take place from Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April, with most of the activities taking place on Friday 5<sup>th</sup>. Please do consider coming to Silverstream – it's a great opportunity to meet up with old friends and make new ones, and the accommodation is great. You can also take part in discussions on the Friday about the future focus for FFI and hear new ideas for growing and strengthening our clubs. We also have great entertainment planned for the Friday night. Day registration just for the Friday is available for the registration fee of \$140, as most of the expenses are incurred on that day. **As we have done for previous Gatherings, your club is happy to subsidise the cost of registration to the tune of \$50 per member.** We need 50 registrants to break even, so do support your organisation and come to Silverstream for the Gathering.

After the Gathering is over we are offering a weekend of hosting by Wairarapa, Wellington and Kapiti Coast clubs. If you would like to host some of your FF friends for two nights (Saturday and Sunday) please let me know.

Meantime enjoy the summer weather – it's certainly been changeable, but hopefully things will settle down now.

In friendship  
Debbie Lattey  
President

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# Coffee Morning

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February Valentines' Day

Venue: Salt and Wood Collective  
Ngaio Road, Waikanae

10a.m.

R.S.V.P. Dee Heron 021 1426441



**12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Koriyama and Mie Friendship Force Clubs.**

Jeanette Page phone -27 3009435 [jlpage@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jlpage@xtra.co.nz)

Jeanette is the Journey Co-ordinator and Rhonda her assistant for this trip. There are 10 members coming. A lovely programme is being organised for everyone.

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# 2024 National Gathering - 4th - to 6th April

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 our local clubs.

Put the dates in your diary and get registered now!

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## Kapiti Coast outbound journey to Tamworth October 2024

As you know our club was allocated an outbound journey to Tamworth, at this stage scheduled for October 2024. This journey will be open to anyone in Friendship Force New Zealand to join.

We need a Journey Coordinator to work with our travel agent Susanne to put this journey together. If you are interested in taking on that role, please contact me asap.

Debbie, [debbie@otaihanga.co.nz](mailto:debbie@otaihanga.co.nz), 021 689 348

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### In Memory of Margaret Walton who passed away on 29 December 2023



[Tribute from Alan Milne]

Margaret, together with Leicester, was such a wonderful club member and ambassador and we have enjoyed travelling with them, hearing of their adventures and sharing their hospitality at home and at their daughter's home.

Margaret made a great contribution to the club with her outstanding leadership as President in 2004, 2005 and 2006 during a very active time.

She was a coordinator for inward journeys in 1991 (Omaha, Nebraska), 1995 (Hamburg, Germany), 1999 (Tucson, Arizona), 2007 (North Bay, Canada), and domestic journeys from Western Waikato, Manawatu and Wairarapa.

Leicester was coordinator for an outward journey in 1993 to Changmai, Thailand and Margaret led journeys 2000 (Glasshouse Mountains and Newcastle, Australia), and in 2004, a domestic journey to Wanganui.

They virtually always hosted and together went on many journeys or exchanges.

One of the club's legends is the story of Margaret's training routine in 1999 at Jim Cooke Park in preparation for the Japanese squat toilets, sadly not completely successful, but a great story!

Margaret was a wonderful supporter of our club over many years and will be fondly remembered and sadly missed.

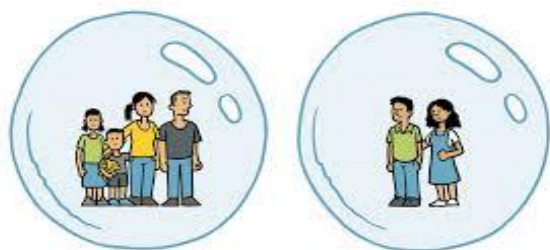
Alan Milne

## From the Editor FF Newsletter

Hi everyone and goodbye everyone – this is my last Kapiti Coast Friendship Force newsletter that I will be writing, so decided to give you all a little bit of history over the past 4 years I have been your editor.

I took over the editorship of our newsletter in January 2020 never realizing the chaos that was starting to rear 'its ugly head' a year later in January 2021. Designing a new look for the newsletter was relatively easy as I was also the editor at the time of our Women's group (formerly Kapiti Coast Probus Club). I wanted to make the newsletter easy to read, lovely photos and great activities. Sue Harris was the President at the time and we worked well together.

I became the President in 2021, a year none of us will forget the lockdown due to Covid for 6 weeks – how was I supposed to keep up the momentum and ideas of what we were allowed to do or not do. We got through this OK –being in our bubble. For 3 months that year, I produced a "Bubble" newsletter. Remember receiving this.? This was all about my experiences when I was trotting around the neighbourhood every day for 6 weeks in lock down, even me sneaking (thinking back ) because I was over that unmentionable age ( I wasn't allowed to leave my home just in case I caught Covid and possibly died) out to the supermarket as the freezer was getting low on food. P.s. by the way, that is not me standing behind the cat in the queue. Haha. Reading interesting news items in the paper and online. Boy, was I busy.



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Domestic trips in between covid rules and regulations:

**New Plymouth** – 18 of us took part in this trip with a tag on to visit the Whangamomina Hotel and the forgotten Highway.

**Christchurch** – had fun and games trying to connect with the Coastal Pacific train from Christchurch to Kaikoura – a planned trip to see the Whales in Kaikoura – timetable kept changing due to Covid rules, finally arriving Kaikoura but guess what, all four trips on the day we were there were cancelled due to the whales partying elsewhere, perhaps they had Covid rules too.

**Wairarapa** – fabulous 4 days but wait – 7 out of the 10 people who travelled got Covid – we were like dead flies falling!!



A trip to the **Chatham Islands** 17 of us climbed on board the Air Chathams flight from Wellington to Waitangi, Chatham Islands. Flying out to Pitt island – in a 6 seater – such beautiful scenery. Great weather and a great time we all had. The rules had relaxed a little for our trip to Hamilton and Great Barrier Island thank goodness.

As I read the past issues of the Bubble Newschat I was having little chuckles at one I had written and found it quite amusing..... **A few jottings will make you laugh**

- Half of us are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem.
- I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.
- I'm so excited – it's time to take out the rubbish. What should I wear.

Anyway it was a pleasure to be able to write nearly 50 odd newsletters and I hope you all enjoyed reading them.

Cheers Fran

*Stage production of The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel – St James Theatre  
Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024 2p.m.*

*If you are interested, please contact Dee Heron on 021 1426441  
[heron7471@gmail.com](mailto:heron7471@gmail.com) or reply to this email to Fran [frankennedy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:frankennedy@xtra.co.nz)  
no later than the 29<sup>th</sup> February so we can make a group booking.*

### 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 2024

President	Debbie Lattey	293 3252	021 689348
Treasurer	Wilson Lattey	293 3252	021 446 156
Secretary	Fran Kennedy	905 5491	027 2402 349
Committee	Lois Horsfall	298 8504	021 1544311
	Beth Lough	902 2383	027 7888822
	Dorothy Woods	905 9099	021 2963626
Newsletter writer	Debbie Lattey	293 3252	021 689348
Field Rep.	Graham Wigley		027 484 7446