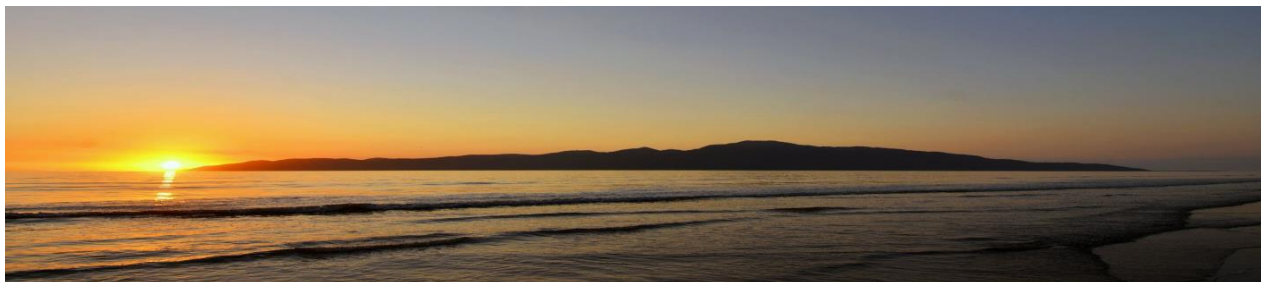




friendship force
KAPITI COAST

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2025



Club web address: www.kapiti.friendshipforce.co.nz
Email Address: debbie@otaihanga.co.nz

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February		
Wednesday 19 February	Coffee with Dee Venue Columbus Café, Mitre 10, Paraparaumu	RSVP Dee Heron heron7471@gmail.com ph 021 142 6441

March		
Wednesday 12 March 10.00am	Coffee with Dee Venue tba	RSVP Dee Heron heron7471@gmail.com ph 021 142 6441
Sunday 23 March 11.45am	Let's Eat Out Salt & Wood, 11 Ngaio Road, Waikanae	RSVP Lois Horsfall, mikelois@xtra.co.nz , ph 021 154 4311, or leave a message on 298 8504

April		
Wednesday 9 April 10.00am	Coffee with Dee Venue tba	RSVP Dee Heron heron7471@gmail.com ph 021 142 6441
Wednesday 30 April 5.30pm	Happy Hour & dinner Club Vista, McLean Street, Paraparaumu Beach	RSVP Debbie Lattey debbie@otaihanga.co.nz ph 021 689 348

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.

Our 10 ambassadors from Hamilton-Waikato have now departed after a spending four nights with us, and they were lovely guests. They all enjoyed the garden party on Sunday, visited Nga Manu or Southwards and Big Mac Slabs on Monday, and explored Kapiti Island on Tuesday. Other than one of the ambassadors falling and hurting himself on the Island the journey went smoothly and we thoroughly enjoyed our time with them.

Special thanks to our hosts Lois, Joy, Don & Judy, Rhondda and Jennifer, who opened their homes to our visitors. Also thanks to day hosts Beth and Shirley, and dinner hosts Jill, Shirley and Margaret & Don. We also dinner hosted. Our final night saw about 30 of us dining at Club Vista, and the Club President was very happy to have us there and even welcomed the Friendship Force Clubs of Kapiti Coast and Waikato over the PA system – great publicity for us!

Our Garden Party on the Sunday went very well. We had between 70-80 members here from five New Zealand Clubs (Kapiti, Wellington, Hamilton-Waikato, Tauranga-WBOP and Manawatu-Wanganui) plus of course 11 ambassadors from Long Island, New York who were being hosted by Wellington. And it was lovely to have Lawrence Kirby, the Deputy Mayor, come to the occasion. There is a selection of photos from the day in this newsletter.

At our garden party we took a moment to remember former US President Jimmy Carter, and reflect on his contribution to Friendship Force International.

An unexpected highlight was when Field Rep Graham Wigley presented Kapiti Coast club with the Newsletter Award for 2024. This appears to be the first time we have won it, so I was really chuffed. It was judged by Taupo who won it last year. Now we are the judges for 2025.

We are continuing with the usual coffee mornings, a LEO and a Happy Hour over the next few months. We hope to see you at some of those occasions. Meantime enjoy the summer sun while it continues to shine down upon us. 😊

In friendship
Debbie Lattey, President



Coffee Mornings

February

Date: Wednesday 19 February, 10.00am
Venue: Columbus Café, Mitre 10, Paraparaumu
R.S.V.P. Dee, 021 142 6441

March

Date: Wednesday 12 March, 10.00am
Venue: TBA
R.S.V.P. Dee, 021 142 6441

April

Date: Wednesday 9 April, 10.00am
Venue: TBA
R.S.V.P. Dee, 021 142 6441



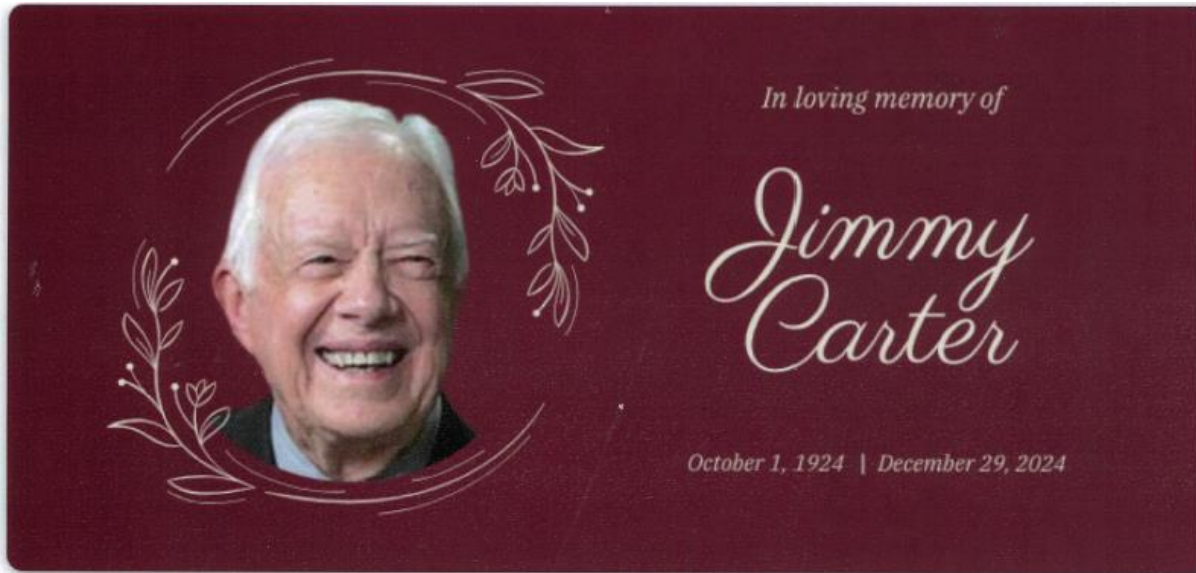
Let's Eat Out

Date: Sunday 23rd March, 11.45am
Venue: Salt and Wood, 11 Ngaio Road, Waikanae
RSVP Lois Horsfall **BY THURSDAY 27TH**, mikelois@xtra.co.nz, ph 021 154 4311, or leave a message on 298 8504

Happy Hour

Date: Wednesday 30th April, 5.30pm
Venue: Club Vista, Paraparaumu Beach, 5.00pm
Organiser: Debbie, 021 689 348 – no need to RSVP, just come if you can





Friendship Force honors the memory of the late President Jimmy Carter with deep gratitude and fondness. A Nobel Peace Prize laureate, President Carter passed away on December 29th at his home in Plains, Georgia. Nearly 50 years ago, his pivotal role in founding Friendship Force helped shape an enduring legacy of global connection and peace.



**President Carter: Unveiling
The Friendship Force**
Wednesday, March 2, 1977 The Washington Post

*President Carter during toasts at last night's dinner,
Rosalynn Carter and Gov. Reubin Askew of Florida.*

On March 1st, 1977, the newly inaugurated President Carter, in support of his long-time friend, Friendship Force founder Wayne Smith, formally introduced Friendship Force at a White House gathering of State Governors. The two men could not have known how much this decision and the vision behind it would impact world communities in the next 45 years. What began as an experiment has become a global phenomenon, with thousands of people from more than 80 countries participating as Friendship Force hosts or citizen ambassadors.

Post-presidency, Carter continued with his gracious support of our organization for many, many years and the late First Lady Rosalynn Carter served as our Honorary Chairperson until 2002. The Carters attended the International Friendship Force Conference in 2000 to celebrate the retirement of Friendship Force's then-president, founder Wayne Smith.

Despite the Carters officially parting ways with the organization in 2003, their championing of human rights and their core message of peace continues to be upheld by Friendship Force to this day.

Friendship Force International owes a profound debt of gratitude to President and Mrs. Carter for their unwavering advocacy and steadfast belief in the organization and its mission. Friendship Force members are invited to post a tribute on the Carter Center's website [here](#).



Friendship Force founder Wayne Smith, left, with the First Lady and President Jimmy Carter in the late 1990s at FFI's office in Atlanta

Photos from our Garden Party



Lois greeted attendees as they arrived and sold them raffle tickets



Jim Glasser from Long Island with Tony Bouzaid and Graham Wigley from Wellington FF, and Kapiti's Deputy Mayor Lawrence Kirby



Members and guests enjoying the occasion and each other's company





As always the food was plentiful and went down a treat, especially the delicious ham provided by Wellington FF





There were some wonderfully creative hats on display, especially amongst our American visitors!





Graham and fellow guitarist treated us to a singalong



Our tribute to former President Jimmy Carter included a bowl of peanuts!

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	021 689 348
Secretary	Fran Kennedy	905 5491 027 2402 349
Treasurer	Wilson Lattey	021 446 156
Committee	Lois Horsfall	298 8504 021 154 4311
	Beth Lough	902 2383 027 788 8822
	Dorothy Woods	905 9099 021 296 3626
Newsletter writer	Debbie Lattey	021 689 348
Field Rep.	Graham Wigley	027 484 7446