

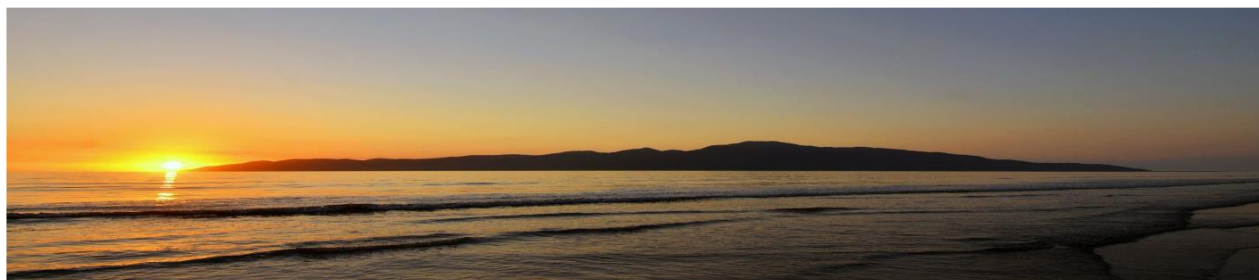


friendship force

KAPITI COAST

MAY – JUNE – JULY 2026

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



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May 2026		
Sunday 31 May 11.45am	Let's Eat Out The Jolly Pub and Kitchen, 93 Mazengarb Road, Prm	RSVP if coming to Lois mikelois@xtra.co.nz Ph 021 154 4311 or leave message on 298 8504
June		
Monday 8 June 10.00am	Coffee with Dee Venue Infinite Café, 340 Rosetta Road, Raumati Beach	No RSVP required, just turn up
Thursday 25 June 5.30pm	Happy Hour and dinner Club Vista, Paraparaumu Beach	RSVP if coming to Debbie debbie@otaihanga.co.nz Ph 021 689 348
July		
Monday 13 July 10.00am	Coffee with Dee Venue Summerset Café, 28 Park Avenue, Waikanae	No RSVP required, just turn up
Sunday 26 July 12.00 noon	SOUP LUNCH Midland Gardens Rec Centre \$5.00pp + raffle	RSVP to Debbie debbie@otaihanga.co.nz Ph 021 689 348

President's Chatter

Hello friends.

Our inbound journey from Vancouver Island is now over, and what a lovely group they were. Although there were only five of them (one couple and three single women) they made a great impression on us, enjoying everything we offered and being most appreciative. A full report is in this newsletter, but a highlight for them was their participation in the Citizens' Parade on ANZAC Day and the laying of a wreath on behalf of both our clubs.

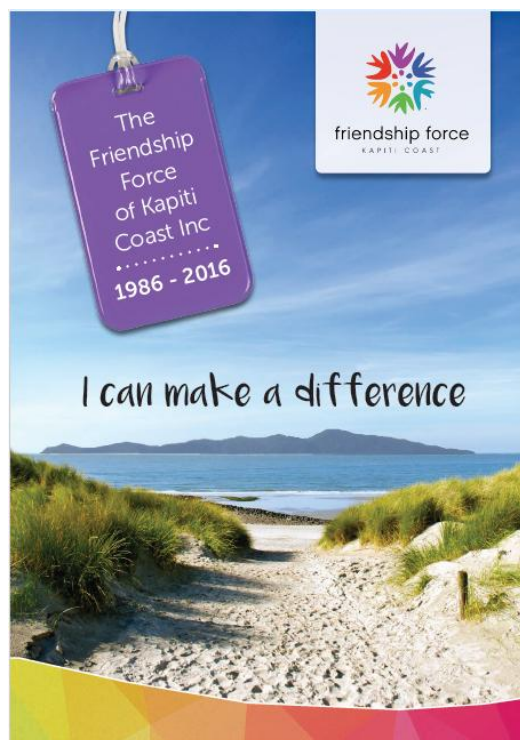
This newsletter has become quarterly – mainly to save me work! – and contains the programme for the next three months. As you can see we have the usual coffee mornings, LEO and dinner at Club Vista. We have also scheduled our annual Soup Lunch in July. As you will read in this newsletter, there are some big decisions to make about the future of our club and the Soup Lunch will be a good time to explore these. In the meantime please consider stepping forward to keep the club running as most of the current committee wish to stand down at this year's AGM.

In good news, did you know this year is our club's 40th anniversary? We began in November 1986, and you may remember Alan Milne wrote a book on our first 30 years back in 2016 – you may still have a copy tucked away somewhere. It is my intention to update that book to include the last 10 years, so it's a complete record. Copies of the book will be available at our celebration for those who would like a copy.

The Board discussed how we might celebrate this important anniversary, and plans are underway for a dinner in November. More details once they are confirmed.

Meantime enjoy this sunny spell and I look forward to seeing you at our next club event – the LEO at the Jolly Pub & Kitchen.

In friendship,
Debbie



Coffee Mornings

June

Date: Monday 8 June, 10.00am
Venue: Infinite Café, 340 Rosetta Road, Raumati Beach
R.S.V.P. No RSVP required, just turn up

July

Date: Monday 13 July, 10.00am
Venue: Summerset Café, 28 Park Avenue, Waikanae
R.S.V.P. No RSVP required, just turn up



Let's Eat Out

May

Date: Sunday 31 May 2026, 11.45am
Venue: The Jolly Pub & Kitchen, 93 Mazengarb Rd, Paraparaumu
RSVP: Lois, mikelois@xtra.co.nz, ph 021 154 4311 or leave a message on 04 298 8504

Happy Hour and Dinner

June

Date: Thursday 25 June, 5.30pm
Venue: Club Vista, Paraparaumu Beach
RSVP: RSVP to Debbie, 021 689 348
debbie@otaihanga.co.nz



Soup Lunch

July

Date: Sunday 26 July, 12.00pm
Venue: Midland Gardens Rec Centre, Midland Gardens
RSVP: RSVP to Debbie, 021 689 348
debbie@otaihanga.co.nz
Cost: \$5.00 plus raffle



Board Members needed

A number of your current Board members do not wish to stand again in 2026-27. This includes me as President, as I am committed to taking on the role of Inner Wheel District Chair in June, looking after 11 Inner Wheel clubs in the southern half of the North Island and organising three District Meetings. It's a big job and I can't do justice to both.

Fran has been on the committee for a number of years including previously as President and currently as Secretary. She wishes to stand down, having more than done her share. Also Lois wishes to stand down, as does Wilson from the Treasurer's role. Shirley is happy to continue as Almoner and Dorothy will continue to look after the catering.

If our club is to continue we need new committee members to take the club forward. Please consider whether you can put your name forward for one of the roles on the committee.

FFI Fees 2027

This information was recently sent to all by FFI:

Introducing Phase 2: A Global Framework

Phase 2 of the Membership for All initiative builds directly on what began in the United States. It extends the same core principles globally: fairness, equity, transparency, and long-term viability.

At the heart of this initiative is a commitment to aligning membership dues more closely with local economic realities. Dues are being assessed using a combination of objective economic indicators such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), alongside other strategic adjustment factors, including local growth challenges and the need to strengthen hosting capacity in different regions.

This approach allows us to move away from a one-size-fits-all model and toward a structure that better reflects the diverse contexts in which Friendship Force clubs operate around the world.

As a result of this new initiative, the FFI fees for New Zealand members have been set at **NZ\$70** per member.

In the past two years our club has subsidised increased FFI fees to keep them affordable. This is not possible long-term, and we are interested to hear from members as to how this will affect their ongoing membership of FFI.

It is intended that this will be discussed in more detail at our Soup Lunch in July, along with the future of our club in view of the above developments.

Inbound from Victoria- Vancouver Island, 23-30 April

Our small group of ambassadors from Vancouver Island were with us from 23-30 April, and below is a report on the journey.

Thursday 23 April

The group of five ambassadors arrived by car mid-afternoon after driving down from Auckland over several days. They consisted of one couple, Michael & Susan, and three single women, Brenda (AC), Heather and Dorothy. After afternoon tea at our home they dispersed with their hosts, who were Joan & Gary, Lynette and Jennifer. The Ambassador Coordinator Brenda stayed with us.

Friday 24 April

After a free morning exploring the area and visiting some of our attractions – Big Mac's Slabs was a guest favourite – we met for a welcome lunch at the Midland Gardens Rec Centre. Other than the hosts and guests only four other club members attended the welcome lunch, which was somewhat disappointing. However it went well and we enjoyed learning more about our ambassadors as they each introduced themselves.



Gary and Joan introducing Susan and Michael



Debbie introducing AC Brenda



Lynette introducing Heather



Jennifer introducing Dorothy

Saturday 25 April - ANZAC Day

Our guests had specifically requested they attend our ANZAC Day ceremonies, and wanted to lay a wreath at the memorial service. I organised one in advance and our club paid half the cost since it was from both clubs.



We attended the Citizens Parade at 9.30am, and here is a photo of the group with the wreath they laid.

In the afternoon we all attended an ANZAC Day concert performed by Beachside Harmony choir lead by Bridget O'Shannassy. The concert, which comprised a mix of songs, poems and readings, was absolutely wonderful and thoroughly enjoyed by us all.

Sunday 26 April

We were blessed with fine weather while the group was here although Sunday was a bit chilly, and the day's activities included a walk out to Waikanae Beach and around the Waimanu lagoons. Some of our ambassadors were real bird enthusiasts and loved the walk around the lagoons, where we even saw a flock of Royal Spoonbills.

The planned fish & chips on the beach wasn't such a good idea at this time of year, so we held it at the Lattey home instead. That worked really well and everyone loved our fish & chips.



Monday 27 April

Monday morning's activity was a visit to Nga Manu, including the native bird encounter. Apparently one of the ambassadors had a bird sit on her head, which was a thrill! They commented that there were a LOT of ducks at the reserve, hardly surprising when duck shooting season was about to start.

After lunch at the Latteys, hosts and ambassadors all sat down to watch the DVD "*Hunt for the Wilderpeople*". Our guests were entranced by the movie and thoroughly enjoyed it, as did the hosts who hadn't seen it for a while. It's definitely an iconic NZ movie and the ambassadors thought we should always show it to incoming groups.

The evening meal was a hosted dinner. Special thanks to Margaret & Don Champion and Jeanette Foote for welcoming our guests with a meal at their homes. It was much appreciated and enjoyed by our guests.

Tuesday 28 April

Tuesday saw the group head into Wellington, where the bird enthusiasts visited Zealandia and others explored the shops. All met up at Te Papa in the afternoon and spent about two hours in the Gallipoli exhibition, which they absolutely loved. A big thank you to Jill, Barbara and Joan who escorted the group for the day.

Unfortunately I came down with a stomach bug that day and had to withdraw from the rest of the journey and rehome my ambassador. Fortunately Joan & Gary had another guest room and were able to accommodate Brenda for the last two nights of their stay. It was so unfortunate as I never got to say goodbye to the group, but Joan and Lynette took over the organising and report that the last two days went very well.

Wednesday 29 April

On Wednesday the group visited Rangiatea Church in Otaki and reportedly loved the church and the grounds. They spent so much time there that they didn't have time to do the Otaki shops, but enjoyed lunch at Riverstone Café before heading back.

One of the things the group had expressed an interest in was a school visit, as several were retired teachers. When I mentioned the dyslexia class at Kena Kena School to Brenda she was very keen as it's an area they were very interested in. So I organised a visit which I understand went really well, they were fascinated by how the programme works and spent a good couple of hours at the school.

That evening was the farewell dinner at Club Vista. Again a very low turnout of non-hosting club members but the group enjoyed themselves very much. I'm just so sorry I missed it.

Thursday 30 April

The ambassadors were transported by shuttle to Wellington Airport to continue their adventures, spending a few days in Sydney before heading to Mt Barker for their second hosting.



Altogether they were a delightful group and a pleasure to host. They enjoyed and appreciated everything we had to offer, and reminded me of what Friendship Force is all about – that international connection and joy of showing off our beautiful district.

Debbie Lattey
Host Coordinator

What sayings do these pictures represent?

(Answers in the next newsletter – thanks to FF Manawatu-Whanganui for this item)



Almoner's Report

I have very little to report which I guess, suggests everyone is reasonably well.

I hope everyone is coping with the slightly lower temperatures and is well prepared for the cooler weather to come.

I can report that Nancy Ann Frizelle and Vic Olsson continue to be well cared for in Ryman's, Waikanae.

Please let me if you know of any member who is unwell.

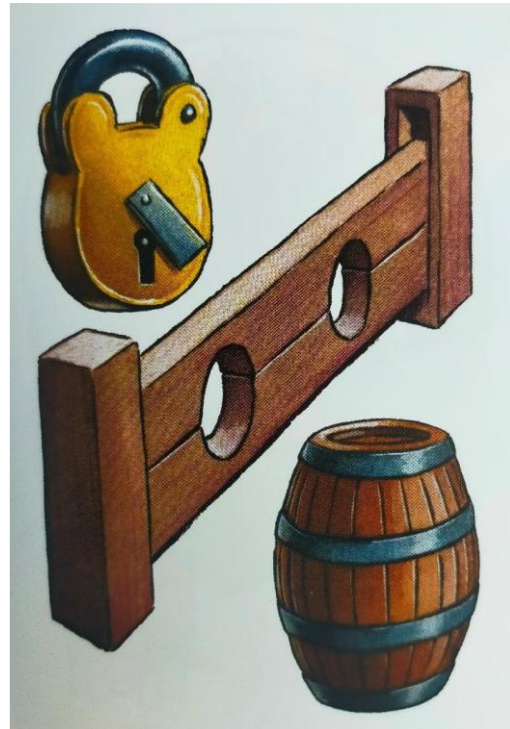
Keep well everyone.

Shirley Carke (Almoner)

Answers to previous puzzles



A sledgehammer to crack a nut



Lock stock and barrel

MANAGEMENT GROUP 2025-26

President	Debbie Lattey	021 689 348
Secretary	Fran Kennedy	027 240 2349
Treasurer	Wilson Lattey	021 446 156
Committee	Lois Horsfall	021 154 4311
	Dorothy Woods	021 296 3626
	Shirley Clarke	027 742 3131

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.