

The Friendship Force of Wellington Inc.

P. O. Box 22-197, Khandallah, Wellington. New Zealand



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Upcoming Events

Field Reps Day – Sunday 30th August 2009 at 10.30 am (wet or fine).

Venue – Sanson Community Hall, Philip Street, Sanson (off State Highway 1 – Opposite Sanson Hotel).

Cost - \$6 per person. Bring a plate of finger food to share.

Join up with all the other Friendship Force Clubs in our area.

Programme :	10.30 – 11.00am	Mix and mingle for morning tea. Brief exchange promotions
	12.00 pm	Lunch – Soup and rolls provided
	1.00 pm	Competition for the Nuts and Bolts Trophy
	2.00 pm	Discussion on Friendship Force matters
	3.00 pm	Afternoon tea and departure.

Please let Joy Turner (Phone 587-0078) or Graham Wigley (Phone 972-5170) know if you can attend and we will try to organise transport, we also have to advise Manawatu of numbers by 22nd August for catering purposes.

Games Afternoon - Sunday, 20th September 2009

2.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Maungaraki Community Hall, Dowse Drive, Maungaraki
(Parking down and out the back of the Building)

Bring : Games of your choice

Afternoon tea will be provided

11th October 2009 – Social Event

22nd November – A.G.M

6th December – Christmas Social Event

Keep these days free. More details in the next Newsletter.

PRESIDENTS NOTES –

It was great to catch up with you all at the film and talk evening as Jenny and I have missed the last two Friendship Force functions.

The **Fun Day at Sanson** is coming up on **Sunday 30 August**. It will be good to participate and meet members from other Clubs. Join with Joy Turner, co-ordinator, and have a great time.

Please give Noel Kilmartin your hosting support for the **incoming exchange from Saitama, Japan**. The Japanese people are lovely to host and are very gracious for all you do for them. Please offer to Dinner Host if you are unable to host on this occasion.

(We will then catch up with you on March 2010 when Brasnov (Romania) arrive !)

On a personal note, the Nepal volunteers thank you for the donations made at the film evening. It was the equivalent of about 5000 Nepalese rupees and with an evening meal at the hotel costing 80 rupees, you can see the donation will go a long way in Nepal.

All keep warm,
Graham Wigley

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A shortened version of the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held Monday 6th July 2009**Inwards Exchanges:**

- Saitama (Sept.2009) – request to accept more ambassadors, but Horowhenua able to host only 21. Visit from Oct 30th to Nov 14th, in Wellington 7th to 13th Nov., then depart to Auckland on the 13th for a day in Auckland. Exchange subcommittee to present a programme at the next meeting, once the composition of the party is known, Subcommittee to have a meeting on July 16th or 20th.
- Brasnov (Feb. 2009) – Graham to confirm an Inward ED.
- Ian to contact Whangarei and Manawatu about the dates; Wellington wants their exchange during early – mid February before the FF National Conference (19-21 Feb.).
- Perth (Oct. 2010) – Speden's agreed to be the Inward ED's. Ian to notify Perth.

Outward Exchanges:

- Lamphun/Yogyakarta (early-mid April) – Graham to be the contact for the present. Cindy to send a notice to the NZ E-Flyer. Bob to obtain flight costs and to inform Cindy. Presently, 10-12 members interested. A Taupo club member who has been hosted in Yogyakarta has offered to provide information and advice.

Social Events:

- Ian to send the Hector's an email thanking them for their organisation of the successful "Guess who is coming to dinner" event.
- Uncertain who from the Club may attend the Sanson Nuts and Bolts Field Reps event (30th August); to be promoted in the next newsletter.

General Business:

- Bob reported on the availability of badges in NZ, and is to get costs for the two options. Badges required for c.58 members. Agreed that the club pay up to \$700 for new badges, with extra blanks to be included.
- Amendments to our FF Club Profile discussed, with Ian to circulate an upgraded revision which emphasises the attributes of the Wellington region.
- Home hosting after the FF National Conference (Feb. 19- 21) to be promoted to members at the July 26 event. Next newsletter to include a request that members interested in home hosting notify the Secretary (Ian). Ian to advise Alan Milne, Kapiti, of the actions, and to inform him that our club has an Inwards Exchange in early/mid February just before the National Conference

and, also, the Wellington Festival of Arts just afterwards. (Take note – if you are interested in home hosting some Friendship Force members from other New Zealand Clubs from 21st to 23rd February please contact Graham Wigley – Phone 972-5170 urgently.)

Next Meeting at Graham & Jenny's house, 13 Chilton Grove, Lower Hutt, Monday 17th August 2009, at 7:30 pm. Any member can come to a Committee Meeting but they cannot vote.

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Exchanges.

Outward Exchange to Lamphun (Thailand) / Yogyakarta (Indonesia).

This is a Report from the Friendship Force of Taupo who recently went to Yogyakarta.

In our recent Outward Exchange to Yogyakarta, Taupo club carried out one of the aims of FFI – that of crossing the barriers of distance, culture, language and political differences to create a world of friends and goodwill. The members at Yogya are all friendly and made every effort to host, entertain and educate us to the extent that we put this Exchange down as one of the very best our club has made.

We were hosted by the Mayor of Jogya and visited the Solo FF club for one day. We met some very interesting and friendly people and learned about their culture and customs. We met the local artisans who make silver jewellery and paint batik material. One particularly interesting person is Dr. Paulus who runs a dragon fruit orchard and plant nursery using only reforming addicts, with all proceeds going to charity. A fascinating and interesting man.



We were given the opportunity to meet the local children at a kindergarten, at a primary school, at an orphanage, and at an eye hospital. We learned something of their Muslim religion. We were entertained by Javanese dancers, an Indian puppet show, a school choir, a group of young dancers, a blind organist/singer and the absolutely brilliant Ramayana ballet.

We saw the sights of the ancient Borobudur Temple, the Sultans Palace, the Water Castle, the Prince's Palace, a very old Cemetery in the old town, the volcanic Mount Marapi and we dipped our toes in the Indian Ocean.

We saw the aftermath of the May 2006 earthquake in Yogyakarta. We saw the piles of rubble where houses and mosques once stood. We saw the crevice into which 70 houses disappeared. And we saw the rebuilding that has taken place since.

At no stage did we ever feel unsafe. We spent a considerable amount of time out and about in the public areas, and were treated with nothing but consideration, courtesy and friendliness. We took care about our hygiene and not to use local water, and none of our 20 Ambassadors experienced any stomach problems. Altogether, we had a wonderful experience and recommend it to others.

We need to get this Exchange off the ground, it sounds such an interesting place to visit and judging from the comments above it will be a great Exchange. There were a number of people who were interested in this Exchange at the AGM held last year. If you are interested in this Outward Exchange please let Graham Wigley know.

Inward Exchange from Saitama, Japan.

Noel and Dorcas Kilmartin (the Exchange Directors) have received the hosting lists from Saitama. They will be in Wellington from 7th to 13th November 2009. If you can host, dinner host or day host please give Noel and Dorcas a ring on 567-3225.

Inward Exchanges for 2010 to Wellington.

We have an Inward Exchange from Romania due in February 2010 and an Inward Exchange from Perth due in September 2010 (Exchange Directors – Ian and Erica Speden). We look forward to a couple of exciting weeks ahead.

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A message from FFI

In response to requests from Clubs around the world, the new FFI marketing video is ready for you to use in your public relations efforts, to tell the Friendship Force story around the world.

Please check out the FFI website for a link to either watch it on-line or download it for later viewing. We're so pleased to offer this newest public relations tool for you to use to promote the Friendship Force and its mission.

This short video (4 ½ minutes) is the ideal length for you to take with you whenever you have a public opportunity to introduce the FF to a new audience. (This might be a church group or Kiwanas or Rotary Club).

Today you will find the English language version and coming soon, we will be up-loading versions in Japanese, German, Spanish, Portuguese and also another version with English subtitles.

Let us know how this works for you. We love hearing your success stories.

Thanks for all you do to make our organisation strong. Together we are changing the world.

In friendship,

George.

During the first half of 2009, Friendship Force clubs successfully completed 105 exchanges with a total of 1,807 ambassadors. This is a significant accomplishment during a year when the world is seeing a considerable reduction in international travel. We anticipate even greater numbers for the second half of the year. Congratulations to all our Exchange Directors, along with Ambassadors and Hosts for their contribution to these successful exchanges.

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Pizza and Information.

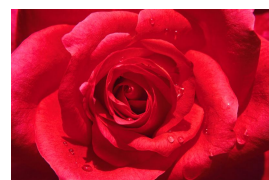
About 30 Members turned up on Sunday afternoon, 26th July to hear Liz Pyle and Sue Walker talk about their time in Ethiopia and their experiences building "Homes for Humanity" there. What an interesting insight into the country, the people and their adventure.

Afterwards we had a talk by Graham & Jenny Wigley and Brian & Judith Clarke about their trip to Nepal, helping out over there building a hospital, visiting the schools, making curtains and building tracks.

A most enjoyable afternoon hearing about some fascinating facts and stories and all topped off with pizza, a couple of wines and catching up other Members. Well done to Liz, Sue, Graham, Jenny, Brian and Judith for keeping us entertained.

Welfare

Rob McGovern is still recovering, Judith Clarke returned from Nepal with a broken ankle and Lynn Pollock has been in hospital. We hope you are all on the mend. If you know of any members who are not well, had bereavement, had an accident or are in hospital please let Claudie Mouzouri or Judith Clarke know and they will send a card, visit or ring them up.



WELLINGTON CLUB FRIENDSHIP FORCE CALENDAR**2009**

August	19 th - 28 th . Edmonton Festival, Canada
August	30 th . Field Reps Day at Sanson.
September	20 th . Games Afternoon.
October	11 th Social Event
November	7 th - 13 th . Inward Exchange from Saitama, Japan
November	22 nd . AGM
November	19 th - 22 nd . International Conference will be held in Ohinawa, Japan.
December	6 th . Christmas Social Event

2010

February	19 th - 21 st . New Zealand Conference at El Rancho, Waikanae.
February	Inward Exchange from Romania to Wellington, Manawatu & Whangarei
April	Outward Exchange from Wgtn to Lamphun (Thailand) / Yogyakarta (Indonesia).
September	Inward Exchange from Perth to Wellington, Marlborough & New Plymouth

Your Current 2009 Committee

President	Graham Wigley	13 Chilton Grove	Lower Hutt	phone 972 5170	
Secretary:	Ian Speden	20A Avalon Crescent	Lower Hutt	phone 567 4568	
Vice-President:	Bob Walker	23 Sailmaker Close	Whitby	phone 234 6242	
Treasurer:	David Mazey	6 Meadowcroft Grove	Johnsonville	phone 478 7773	
Committee	Sue Walker	23 Sailmaker Close	Whitby	phone 234 6242	
	Cindy Switzer	6 Meadowcroft Grove	Johnsonville	phone 478 7773	
	Jeanette Page	7/22 Ghuznee Street	Wellington	phone 801 9679	
	Noel Kilmartin	51 Porutu Street	Lower Hutt	phone 567 3225	
	Erica Speden	20A Avalon Crescent	Lower Hutt	phone 567 4568	
	Joy McNicoll	39A Clutha Avenue	Khandallah	phone 479 1098	
	Auditor	Tony Bouzaid	43 Chapman Street	Johnsonville	phone 478 5963
	Field Representative	Yvonne Elliott	30 MacArthur Street	Levin	phone (06) 368-5500

The Wellington Club website is :<http://www.newday.co.nz/site-ff/about.html>