

The Friendship Force of Wellington Inc.

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



President: Graham Wigley
13 Chilton Grove, Lower Hutt
Phone (04) 972 5170
e-mail: wigley@clear.net.nz

Editor: Sue Walker
23 Sailmaker Close
Whitby
Phone (04) 234 6242
e-mail: bobsuewalker@xtra.co.nz

Secretary: Ian Speden
20A Avalon Crescent, Lower Hutt
Phone (04) 567 4568
e-mail: iespeden@xtra.co.nz

Upcoming Events

Friday 19th to Sunday 21st February 2010

New Zealand Friendship Force National Conference

El Rancho
Waikanae

Sunday 7th March 2010

Picnic with the Kapiti Club.

Details to follow – keep the date free.



Monday March 1
World Friendship Day

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Dear Friends,

No doubt you are all wilting under this wonderful Wellington sunshine, don't you just wish we had an Inward Exchange coinciding with this weather!

The new year is underway and the committee held its first meeting on 26 January.

The annual combined **PICNIC with the Kapiti Club 7th MARCH is a trip, on a glorious day, to Soames/Matiu Island.** Look forward to seeing you all.

Your committee welcomes any comments or suggestions on the running of the club or on possible social activities, just phone a committee member.

Our Outward Exchange to Indonesia & Thailand leaves in April and we wish Bob and his group safe travels and look forward to hearing all about their exchange at a 'show and tell' evening after their return.

The Inwards Exchange from Perth scheduled for September is on track with Ian & Erica Speden being the Directors.

The Inwards Exchange from Brasnov, Romania, scheduled for November has yet to be confirmed.

You might recall the talk on Nepal and the photos of Sumitra, the young 16 year old girl in the wheel chair. We have received wonderful news to report that she can now walk with her two artificial legs and even better, last week she started school. Thank you so much for your donations.

Keep your eyes and ears open for new prospective members. We are sorry to have resignations from Val & Duncan McDonald, Jan & Gavin Browne and Margot & Jim Brough.

*Yours in friendship
Graham*

A shortened version of the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held Wednesday 9th December 2009.

- **Advertising:** Outwards Exchange to Thailand/Indonesia to be advertised in local newspapers (4) before Christmas if possible. Bob and Sue to draft an advertisement, with Graham and Ian to review (done), and David/Cindy to action.
- **Exchanges:** Bob and Sue reported on the arrangements for the Thailand/Indonesia Outwards Exchange, with bookings to be made with the selected travel agent as soon as possible.
- Smiths Scenic NZ Coach Tours contacted Graham to propose a tour of the South Island for the Brasov Inwards Exchange (Nov. 2010), and to seek contact information of the Brasov ED. Graham to reply to advise he will inform Smiths later, and to ask for itinerary details and cost (done and reply received).
- Atlanta sent a message to inform clubs that a new guidelines booklet on inwards and outwards exchanges will be sent to clubs about the end of November, 2009. Also, they reminded clubs that each club should have rules defining the conditions for the allocation to ED's of outward exchanges of a free air travel seat or the proportion of an airfare. The committee supported the principal of support for ED's, and to retain the condition that assistance be the choice of the ED. Our clubs guidelines propose that each ambassador provide \$50 to an Outward ED to cover administrative and other expenses, with any surplus

to be refunded. Ian to consult the clubs minutes to identify when the guidelines were established; members thought it may have been about 2001-3, at a meeting in the Belmont Domain Hall.

- The Dunedin Club has contacted other NZ clubs seeking information on the wording of conditions for an outward ED earning a seat. Graham to respond.
- The committee considered it desirable to have a list of our clubs exchanges, inwards and outwards. Ian to contact Noel Kilmartin to obtain the red book, with a report on the Saitama Exchange included.
- A proposal discussed to have a similar basic programme for all inwards exchanges, with allowance for summer and winter conditions. Committee considered the present procedures working well, and best left flexible.
- Confirmation given for funding for small advertisements with suitable wording seeking home hosts for appropriate inwards exchanges. Also, advertisements and flyers could be placed in local libraries and information centres.
- **Other Items:** Minutes of the 2009 AGM are to be sent, by email or post, to all members just before the 2010 AGM.
- Ian to send Atlanta a list of the new committee members.
- David to send Atlanta the clubs subscription fee for member numbers as at the end of 2009.
- **Committee Responsibilities:**
 - Sue W – newsletter.
 - Erica S, with Margaret S and Jeanette P (to be confirmed) – social events.
 - Liz Pyle – membership.
- Graham to consult Lynnda Bouzaid about the future of the membership database. Steps should be taken to ensure all members have provided the necessary information. Possibly advisable to have both a membership list and a list of those who are able to host and/or day host only.
- Considered desirable to have a list of gifts given to Inward Exchange clubs.

A shortened version of the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held Tuesday January 26th 2010

- Smiths Scenic Tours replied to Graham advising that a seven day tour of the South Island would cost \$1530, excluding meals.
- Ian to contact FFI Atlanta to ask if the new exchange guidelines have been issued, and are they available in hard copy (done).
- Agreed to amend the guidelines for ambassadors to provide only \$20 for the expenses of the Outwards Exchange Director. Liz/Sue
- Ian to consult the minutes and advise Graham on the guidelines on free seats for ED's of Outwards Exchanges.
- Liz to provide Ian with a list of past exchanges, with Ian to check minutes and prepare a final list.
- David and Bob to act on an advertisement designed to attract new members and for the Lamphun/Yogyakarta exchange.
- The guidelines for types of membership lists were discussed, with Graham and Liz to review, and for Liz to consult Lynnda Bouzaid
- David noted that the minutes for the Committee meeting of 12/10/2009 had not been confirmed, and that the meeting had agreed to a donation to the FFI legacy Fund of \$100(US) not \$150(NZ). Minutes confirmed, subject to the agreed amendment of the donation to \$100(US). David/Ian.
- Ian Reported that Perth scheduled for September 30 to October 7, 2010, after Marlborough then to New Plymouth. Good communication.
- Brasov, Romania, possibly in November, 2010. Ian to contact Brasov (done), and Graham reported that he had discussed the ED position with Judith Burch.
- Bob reported that communication with Yogyakarta is difficult, as has been found also by the Brisbane Club. Communication is through the Jakarta FFI Board member, and the difficulties apparently related to a Bali conference being organised by FFI.

13 ambassadors are confirmed, with plans for a four-day tour from Chiang Mai between the club visits.

- Walker's are encouraging two couples to come to the Kapiti/ Wgton picnic.
- Browne's resignation accepted, with Ian to send an acknowledgement to them.
- Graham subsequently advises that Margot and Jim Brough have also resigned.
- The Kapiti/Wgton picnic will be the first event; scheduled for March 7, with a trip to Soames/Matiu Island from the Wellington Railway Station. Possibility of a guided tour through the Historic Places Trust. Desirability of a "Plan B" in the advent of bad weather to be considered. Erica to contact Kapiti (Connon's) on arrangements (done).
- Other options are a "Show and Tell" evening on May 23, after the return of the Lamphun/Yogyakarta Exchange; and a meal at the Ayuthaya Thai Restaurant, Petone, in April when the exchange is away, possibly to be organised by Margaret Stewart. Erica proposed that a midday/afternoon event be considered.
- National Library email about Newsletters 68 and 69 to be acted on by Sue.
- David to confirm that the FFI Charter and Affiliation fees have been paid.
- The Kapiti/Wgton picnic day is to be the FFI World Friendship Day.
- Graham covered the main items listed in the FFI January 2010 Communique of 22/01/2010. He noted that Atlanta had a staff of 9 plus some part-time, and the need for a budget of c. one million; 25% of proposed exchanges were cancelled at a significant administrative cost; and the proposal of an increase in fees for 2010.
- Items in a Questionnaire sent to clubs were discussed, with Graham to finalise our response, and to forward Ian a copy of the completed document for our records.

Outward Exchange to Lamphun (Thailand) / Yogyakarta (Indonesia). Exchange Directors Bob and Sue Walker. If you wish to join this Exchange please let them know.

Gary Glynn visited Jogyakarta in Indonesia on a Friendship Force Exchange with the Taupo Club in 2007. We put the notes from a couple of his days in the previous Newsletter. We continue in this Newsletter with a few more notes.

Day 7

We had a very good illustration of the work performed at the Dr Yap Eye Hospital, an 84 year old 50 bed hospital, clean to perfection. It has an impressive record of training 31 doctors, 145 nurses, 370 students in 7 clinics, and performing thousands of eye operations each year. The hospital has subsidised levels of care, making it available to all. A museum contains examples of early equipment and a living area used by Dr Yap. There is a working rehabilitation centre for the blind and one young man inspired us with a rendition on the keyboard and singing, including his own composition. Very beautiful!

Next stop was an orphanage for 250 boys aged from 3 to 17 years. The school was destroyed in an earthquake earlier this year but their remarkable rebuilding plan is well on the way.

Further earthquake damage was evident at the Bantul area where half a hillside had slipped away killing 90% of the people. We saw how some of the homeless had been housed in a group of white igloo style buildings called 'Domes of the World'. Nearby we viewed a small furniture factory making chairs and beds etc.

Some distance away at Indra (Place on Hill) we enjoyed an excellent lunch and a fantastic view. We were shown a DVD of the tsunami and earthquake which devastated Indonesia recently.

Day 8

There was no organised program today so it was free time with our hosts. We were taken to view Prambanan Temple. Built in the 8th century, this is the largest temple compound dedicated to Shiva in Indonesia. Rising in the centre are three temples decorated with reliefs illustrating the epic of the *Ramayana*, dedicated to the three great Hindu divinities (Shiva, Vishnu and Brahma) and three



temples dedicated to the animals who served them. It was in a state of disrepair but being worked on. The stone blocks used in construction are amazing – to think they were made so long ago! The evening farewell function was a great success and took the form of an Indonesian wedding party. A happy program of items and music in lovely surroundings, a covered deck and the rain pouring down. It has been a truly great week.

This concludes the story, but I am sure you will understand that this would be a great place to visit so if you are interested in going on the Exchange to Yogyakarta (Indonesia) but have not decided give Gary Glynn a call and he will let you know that it is a great place to visit, then call Bob and Sue Walker to book your place on the Exchange.

Inward Exchanges for 2010 to Wellington.

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



Welfare

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.

* * *

Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.

* * *

WELLINGTON CLUB FRIENDSHIP FORCE CALENDAR

2010

- February 19th - 21st. New Zealand Conference at El Rancho, Waikanae.
- March 7th. Combined picnic with Kapiti Friendship Force Club.
- April Outward Exchange from Wgtn to Lamphun (Thailand) / Yogyakarta (Indonesia).
- September Inward Exchange from Perth to Wellington, Marlborough & New Plymouth
- November Inward Exchange from Romania to Wellington, Manawatu & Whangarei

Your Current 2010 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
	Jeanette Page	7/22 Ghuznee Street	Wellington	phone 801 9679
	Erica Speden	20A Avalon Crescent	Lower Hutt	phone 567 4568
	Lis Pyle	7 Petrel Lane	Whitby	phone 234 6655
	Joy Turner	23 Laurel Grove	Lower Hutt	phone 587 0078
	Margaret Stewart	15 Cecil Road	Tawa	phone 232 4202
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>

