



A quarterly newsletter for club and global members of Friendship Force in New Zealand

**SUMMER 2023**

## News from the RSM desk

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Greetings friends, welcome to the summer edition of our NZ Friendship Flyer.

Over the past few months I have been enjoying learning my new role as RSM and getting to know (virtually) the other members of staff around the world. We all work from our homes (there is no head office for FFI) so working around different time zones can be a challenge. I have regular check-ins with Jeremi and am happy to raise any issues you might have with him, so please don't hesitate to ask.

Planning for incoming journeys to our NZ clubs has been going well, and clubs are working hard to give their incoming ambassadors a true Kiwi experience. A new development this year is the adding on of NI and SI tours to the club hostings. Pete Higginbottom is being kept busy with SI tours and our travel agent, Susanne McCardle, is working with a number of incoming groups to arrange their travel in the North Island. Putting a complete package together for incoming groups makes it a much more attractive sell for them to their members, and ensures they will have a truly memorable experience when they come here.

The Tauranga-WBOP Club is opening their Canadian journey to other FF members in NZ—see their flyer on p3. If you are interested in this journey please contact Jonathan Spink—details are on the flyer. It looks like a great trip.

Information about the World Conference in Dubrovnik is now available—see item on p2. Page 4 includes information about a proposed new scheme—Small Personal Tours—which may interest you.

Take care everyone, and enjoy your incoming ambassadors.

Ngā mihi, Debbie Lattey  
NZ Regional Support Manager

## Financial Services Officer role

For the past four years, Jo Tinworth of the Taupo FF Club has been our Financial Services Officer. Jo's role has been to expedite the transfer of FFI membership levies and inward and outward journey fees between New Zealand and the USA. Jo has done a terrific job under sometimes difficult circumstances, and has worked with the Field Rep team to keep things running smoothly.

Jo decided in December to relinquish this role, and I have taken it over as part of my Regional Support Manager responsibilities. All enquiries regarding transfer of funds or payment of FFI fees should now come to me. The email address Jo used will now be redundant, so please use my official email address of [debbie.lattey@friendshipforce.org](mailto:debbie.lattey@friendshipforce.org).

I visited Jo and Bob just after Christmas and presented Jo with a glass platter in appreciation for her services to Friendship Force in New Zealand. Thank you, Jo, for all you have done, and enjoy your new free time.



## Friendship Force World Conference Dubrovnik, Croatia, 2-5 October 2023

Information is now available about the World Conference in Dubrovnik in October. Dubrovnik is one of UNESCO's World Heritage sites, said to date back to the 7th Century. Nicknamed *The Pearl of the Adriatic*, Dubrovnik offers stunning beaches. It has so much to offer us for our first World Conference in four years—we have been apart for so long, and we cannot think of a more beautiful place in which to reunite for fun and friendship. With exciting workshops, cultural presenters, and our usual opportunities for learning and sharing, this is sure to be a memorable experience for all of us. You can find all the information here: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1i-rm\\_0JHKn9hyuEEe5DoEvaoJWV0y6Nn/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1i-rm_0JHKn9hyuEEe5DoEvaoJWV0y6Nn/view)



*Sheraton Dubrovnik Riviera Hotel at Srebreno Beach*

Malcolm Sime from the Wellington FF Club is planning to attend the conference, and is keen to hear from anyone else who might be interested. Contact Malcolm at [MalcolmS@esgasiapacific.com](mailto:MalcolmS@esgasiapacific.com).

I will be attending as a staff member. It would be great to have a New Zealand contingent at the Conference, so do think about coming on this wonderful adventure with us!

Debbie Lattey, RSM

## Outbound Journeys for 2023

Listed below are the NZ club outbound journeys in 2023. If you are interested in any of these journeys please contact the club directly to see if there are any spaces available.

- ⇒ Taupo to Sydney (2 clubs) & Blue Mountains, Australia, March 2023
- ⇒ Wellington to Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho & Lower Columbia, USA, 16-30 June 2023
- ⇒ Northland & Wairarapa to Mt Gambia & Perth, Australia, Sept-Oct 2023
- ⇒ Tauranga-WBOP & Christchurch to Haliburton Highlands & Winnipeg, Canada, Sept 2023  
**The Tauranga-WBOP club is actively recruiting members for this journey – see details on p3 of this Flyer**
- ⇒ Hamilton-Waikato to West Alajuela (Costa Rica), and Napa-Sonoma & Greater Seattle, USA, Aug/Sept 2023

Looking for something different? Check out the global journeys open to all members by clicking on the link to the FFI Journey Catalogue: [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Tf2cX72YdZtTgsGjGr-JaafTPMXxoGL-Wl8G2nuMvIA/edit#slide=id.gc6f90357f\\_0\\_5](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Tf2cX72YdZtTgsGjGr-JaafTPMXxoGL-Wl8G2nuMvIA/edit#slide=id.gc6f90357f_0_5)

## Inbound journeys this summer

The following inbound journeys are planned for this summer. We hope you all have a wonderful time with your ambassadors.

- ◇ Tauranga-WBOP—hosting Greater Boston, USA—18-25 February
- ◇ Christchurch—hosting North Moreton & Brisbane, Australia—13-20 February
- ◇ Manawatu-Whanganui—hosting New Caledonia—20-26 February
- ◇ Wairarapa—hosting Mount Barker, Australia, early March
- ◇ Tauranga-WBOP—hosting Cedar Rapids, USA—31 March—6 April
- ◇ Taupo and Wairarapa—hosting Hsinchu, Taiwan, 18-28 April
- ◇ Wellington—hosting Sunshine Coast, Australia, 28 April—5 May



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NEW ZEALAND

## Tauranga-WBOP Club invites you to join our journey to FF Winnipeg & Haliburton Highlands



**12<sup>th</sup> September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023**

### FF Winnipeg 13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September

- Manitoba Legislative Buildings, Museum, Science Centre and Planetarium
- Nature day trip to Brokenhead Wetlands Ecological Reserve in the Interlake area
- Historic walking tour of Old St Boniface and The Forks

### Independent travel 20<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September

- Fly to Toronto, stay &/or
- Visit Niagara Falls, Agawa Canyon &/or
- Visit Montreal, Ottawa, &/or Quebec City, etc.....

### FF Haliburton Highlands 26<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October

- Annual studio art tour
- Haliburton Forest & Wolf Centre
- Steamship

**Costs** – These are in the vicinity of **NZ\$1,500** for overnight in Vancouver (optional) plus 13 nights being home-hosted. For accommodation and land travel six nights 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September allow **NZ\$1,200 upwards.**

**Travel & Arrival:** You will need to pay for your own airfares *Auckland to Winnipeg; Winnipeg to Toronto; and Toronto to Auckland* approx. **NZ\$3,000 if you book by April/May.** Plan to arrive Winnipeg Airport on 13<sup>th</sup> September by about 2pm.

#### Notes:

- ❖ The host clubs require Ambassadors to be fully vaccinated and boosted for Covid 19.
- ❖ You will be required to have full travel insurance.

**If you are interested in this Journey, please register with  
Ambassador Coordinator Jonathan Spink [jono.bspink@gmail.com](mailto:jono.bspink@gmail.com) 07-572 2091**

**We will ask for a \$50 deposit in May**



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## NEW ZEALAND GLOBAL

### Global Membership News

The NZ Global team continues to consider new ways we can contribute to the Friendship Force goal of creating a World of Friends contributing to a World of Peace.

- ◇ We have our maximum number (30) of accepted applications for the inbound journey late this year.
- ◇ We also have a wait list. Members from Australia, England, the USA, and Canada will all be with us for 20 days in November. The ambassadors will be divided into 3 groups of 10 and be hosted by Northland, Hamilton or Tauranga-WBOP, and then Kapiti, Wellington or Wairarapa clubs for 4 nights at each hosting.
- ◇ They will then cross Cook Strait on the Interislander and travel to Christchurch on the Coastal Explorer Train before going on a 10-day scenic and farming tour of the South Island. John Hannah is our Ambassador host and will be traveling with them for their journey from Wellington. Thanks to those clubs what have agreed to host.
- ◇ We are working to get media coverage of this journey as a way to attract new members. We will have arrangements for new members to experience journeying with FF in 2024.
- ◇ The Global team has offered to FFI to pilot another new approach to journeys. See below for more information on this.
- ◇ We have already had one individual FF member spend 10 days in NZ and she was hosted in Tauranga and Christchurch.
- ◇ We are currently in the early stages of planning for another inbound global journey in 2024, with a focus of experiencing some of the Great NZ Cycle Trails.
- ◇ The NZ Global team is also working with Jeremi and FFI board to clarify the role of Global clubs and how they should operate. This may also result in a change of name from Global.

Please shout out to John Hannah our Global team coordinator [john@impacttransport.co.nz](mailto:john@impacttransport.co.nz) - Phone +64 21 902 685

### A brand new initiative—Small Personal Tours (SPTs)

The Global Membership Group in New Zealand is looking to see if there is any interest amongst NZFF members in the idea of Small Personal Tours (SPTs).

These could be tailored around your interests, which may appeal to international visitors who could be keen to visit NZ. They could encompass interests such as trout fishing, golf, painting, photography, gardens, hiking/biking, bowls, croquet or any other interests members might have.

The idea is that numbers would be limited to a maximum of 4 people for ease of transport, and they could be hosted with NZ members for 1-3 nights each in a few different locations.

ONLY if you have any interest in the above idea would you please email Malcolm Sime at [malcolms@esgasiapacific.com](mailto:malcolms@esgasiapacific.com) and let him know:

- ◆ You are interested in finding out more about this scheme
- ◆ Your field of interest is?
- ◆ How many days would you be willing to host?
- ◆ Where are you based?
- ◆ Do you have a holiday home, and where is this located?
- ◆ If you are NOT hosting, are you willing to make your holiday home available, and if so, what is the cost per night?
- ◆ Is there anything else you would like to share or say at this stage?

Remember, this is just an initial enquiry to see if there are NZ members interested in the above. Malcolm has indicated he is happy to run one pilot SPT, and then this whole idea could be reassessed. However, in the meantime, please ONLY REPLY if you have any interest.

FFI is looking at the possibility of introducing something internationally along similar lines, which would enable NZ members to be hosted overseas and pursue the interest that is common to them and their host.

I hope by now you have joined my.friendshipforce—here's the link to sign in: [https://my.friendshipforce.org/en/users/sign\\_in](https://my.friendshipforce.org/en/users/sign_in).

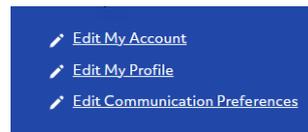
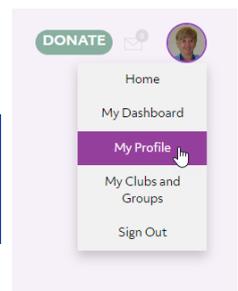
Not sure what's on the *my.friendshipforce* website, or why you should sign up to it? Here's a video run-through of the site and what it offers (8 mins) <https://vimeo.com/759847797/9d1ab83bf9>

In summary, the reasons why you should sign up to my.friendshipforce include:

- ◇ Myff is a password-protected, member-only site which contains tools, news, the journey catalogue, a help centre, an events calendar, your club's page and announcements for club leaders, and search for clubs and interest groups.
- ◇ You will be assigned a FF member number which you will need in order to register for any future domestic or international journeys, and you can print your membership card from the website.
- ◇ All journeys you participate in will be recorded in your personal record, so you can easily look back at where you've been.
- ◇ In the near future you will be able to make payments for journey fees and even your membership dues directly to FFI, saving international transfer fees.
- ◇ You will receive regular updates from FFI including the journey catalogue, an occasional newsletter and other information (see screenshot below).

Did you know that you can easily edit your preferences so you only receive the communications you are interested in? Here's how to do that:

1. Click on your picture (or the picture placeholder) in the top righthand corner of your screen, then click on **My Profile**.
2. Go to **Edit Communication Preferences**
3. Edit your preferences by turning on or off the types of communication you would like to receive (examples shown below). You can also opt out of optional emails altogether by clicking on the red button at the bottom.



### Edit My Communication Preferences

Which information would you like to receive from Friendship Force via email? Please set your preferences using the options below.

Newsletter (A few times per year)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Journey Catalog Updates (1x/month)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Region-Specific Updates (4x/year)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Blog Post Updates (Daily)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Event Updates (Daily)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Announcement Updates (Daily)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If you want to opt out of all FFI communications, aside from membership updates and urgent notifications, please click below.

**OPT OUT OF OPTIONAL EMAILS**

## Next Friendship Flyer

The next FFNZ Friendship Flyer will be the autumn edition, and will come out in May 2023. Contributions are always welcome, especially positive news and inspiring stories of your journeys or hostings and new friendships made.

Please send your stories, photos or items to [debbie.lattey@friendshipforce.org](mailto:debbie.lattey@friendshipforce.org).