

New Members Welcome and Information

CHANGING THE
WAY YOU SEE
THE WORLD



Explore • Understand • Serve®



Nau mai, haere mai and welcome, to the Wellington Club. You have made a great decision in choosing to join Friendship Force and should make new friends both locally and overseas, as well as participating in club activities.

The following tells you a bit about Friendship Force. The FFI web site has a wealth of information www.thefriendshipforce.org; we have our own web site too, that keeps you up to date with what we are doing www.friendshipforce.co.nz/wellington. The newsletter is published on the web site.

We encourage you to have a good look at these sites. Be aware the Wellington club site is still a work in progress and incomplete. Any queries can be directed to Rhys Morris, President: 04 567 7656 or 021 854 800 or rhyslyn@clear.net.nz

The best way of understanding is to participate! And we hope to get you know you as you join in with club activities. You are notified of these in the newsletter and by email. There is an opportunity to host or travel and it is expected that you become involved with the club's activities.

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE

is an international, non-political, non-sectarian, and non-profit organization. The sole aim of the Friendship Force is to foster peace and understanding throughout the world by means of personal contacts and shared experiences achieved through a programme of home hosting. The Friendship Force was founded in the USA in 1977 by Wayne Smith under the auspices of President Jimmy Carter and is coordinated from the international headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. There are over 300 clubs in over 60 countries throughout the world. The Friendship Force is not a travel club although the core activity is travelling in groups, to stay with like-minded people in other countries (a cultural exchange). The first priority is to develop friendships and through this to generate understanding across cultural boundaries.

Exchanges

Most clubs in New Zealand participate in at least one outward and two inbound exchanges per year. Each year clubs all over the world nominate clubs they would like to visit and the clubs they would like to host. These requests are sent to and collated by Friendship Force International in Atlanta. Visiting groups, usually about 15 - 20 people from the 'ambassador' club, travel to, and stay as, guests in the homes of host club usually for about 1 week. By so doing, ideas and experiences are shared, cultural horizons are widened, trust and mutual respect is developed, and truly memorable times are enjoyed. An exchange is a sharing experience for hosts and ambassadors. Lifetime friendships are formed.

The Ambassador Club: the Ambassador Club appoints an Exchange Director whose task is to arrange the visit, invite club members to join the exchange programme, liaise with the host club's Exchange Director, and make travel arrangements. Briefings (workshops) are arranged to learn about the host clubs to be visited, their country and customs, and to ensure ambassadors understand and are prepared to uphold the principles of The Friendship Force.

The Hosting Club: the Host Club provides ambassadors accommodation with its members and arranges a programme that usually includes a welcome and a farewell event. A day trip is often included and, for the remainder of the stay, the hosts may show their ambassador guests the local points of interest. However, most importantly, ambassadors are welcomed into everyday living and sharing of the host's lifestyle. The host does not receive any remuneration. The hosting club receives a per capita sum from the ambassadors to offset the costs of the programme for the incoming exchange ambassadors.

A Real Living Experience

You can enjoy:

- Unique travel experiences focused on friendships.
- Host interesting people from around the world.
- Participate in community activities that promote lasting friendships.

Activities:

The Wellington club holds regular activities throughout the year. Our innovative Social Committee plans these events for entertainment, information and getting to know one another. The AGM is held in November/December. Annual club fees are due immediately after AGM. We encourage all members to come to activities and to bring friends to introduce them to Friendship Force. The newsletter and web site will keep you informed. You can contact a committee member at any time, check the phone list or current committee list.

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 upon this adventure, I know that others are watching me. I know that through my example to my own fellow citizens and the people of other nations, the cause of friendship, love and peace can be furthered. *I can make a difference*

Friendship Force Song

Let there be peace on earth and
let it begin with me. Let there
be peace on Earth the peace
that was meant to be.

With God as our Father,
brothers all are we, Let me
walk with my brother, in
perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me let
this be the moment now.
With every step I take let
this be my solemn vow,

To take each moment and live each moment
in peace, eternally. Let there be Peace on
Earth and let it begin with me.