



A quarterly newsletter for  
Club and Regional members of  
Friendship Force in New Zealand

**AUTUMN EDITION**  
15 May 2023

## News from the RSM desk

### IN THIS EDITION:

- ⇒ News from the RSM desk
- ⇒ FF National Gathering 2024
- ⇒ Journeys for 2023 and 2024
- ⇒ World Conference in Croatia
- ⇒ Individual Journeys
- ⇒ Next Friendship Flyer
- ⇒ Tauranga-WBOP Journey to Canada

Greetings friends, welcome to the Autumn Edition of our NZ Friendship Flyer.

Many of our clubs have been busy hosting inbound journeys over the summer, and from what I have seen and heard, they have gone really well. Don't forget to send me any photos you have that would be suitable to use for publicity purposes—preferably action shots of your ambassadors having fun with their hosts.

We have just received our outbound allocations for 2024, and these are listed on page 2 of this newsletter. It is intended that all these journeys are NZ-wide (open to all members) with the nominated clubs taking the lead and providing the Ambassador Coordinator. There is an exciting variety of destinations available to our members, so start thinking about which journey you might be interested in applying for.

We have two exciting global journeys in the pipeline—the Farming, Scenic & Hosted journey in November which is being hosted by six of our clubs, and I am about to advertise a new global journey called “Great Bike Trails of New Zealand” planned for February next year. That journey will be for e-bike enthusiasts from around the world and will be hosted by Hamilton-Waikato, Kapiti and Wellington, after which the ambassadors will travel to the South Island to do the Cromwell and Otago Rail Trails (including two days sightseeing with Pete Higginbottom). So it looks like an exciting adventure that we are offering, and I am hoping this will attract the next generation of Friendship Force members.

Meantime stay warm and let's hope we don't have any more weather events like the last few have been.

Ngā mihi, Debbie Lattey  
NZ Regional Support Manager

## Friendship Force National Gathering 2024

Announcing the dates and location of our 2024 National Gathering! The Wellington FF Club is hosting this event, so get it in your diary now.

Dates: Thursday 4—Friday 5 April 2024

Venue: Silverstream Retreat, Upper Hutt

Following the Gathering there will be home hosting offered by our local clubs over the weekend 6-7 April.

We are looking forward to planning another great few days of Friendship and fun.



# Journey to Canada with Tauranga-WBOP Club

The Tauranga-WBOP Club is still looking for ambassadors to fill its outbound journey to Haliburton Highlands & Winnipeg, Canada, in September this year. Ambassador Coordinator Jonathan Spink would love to hear from you—see details of this journey on p4 of this flyer.

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-WI8G2nuMvIA/edit#slide=id.gc6f90357f\\_0\\_5](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Tf2cX72YdZtTgsGjGr-JaafTPMXxoGL-WI8G2nuMvIA/edit#slide=id.gc6f90357f_0_5)

## Outbound Journeys for 2024

We have received our allocated outbound journeys for 2024. Although these have been assigned to particular clubs, they are intended to be NZ-wide journeys and will be open to any member to apply to join. The journeys are:

- ⇒ Isle of Wight, UK, May 2024—assigned to Northland and Wairarapa Clubs
- ⇒ Cairo, Egypt, October 2024—assigned to Christchurch and Hamilton-Waikato Clubs
- ⇒ Greater Hamilton & Burlington and Haliburton Highlands, Canada, September 2024—assigned to Wellington Club
- ⇒ North Moreton and Tamworth, Australia, September/October 2024—assigned to Kapiti Coast Club.

Once these journeys have been confirmed and ambassador coordinators have been appointed we will let you know who to contact. They do look like exciting destinations!

## Inbound Journeys for 2024

2024 looks like being a busy year for our clubs, with lots of inbound journeys allocated. Here's the provisional list:

Club	Inbound
Wellington	Great Bike Trails, global journey - Feb Sherbrooke, Canada - Nov
Northland	Kempsey, Australia - Oct Fort Worth, USA - March
Tauranga-WBOP	Kempsey, Australia - Oct Tucson-Southern Arizona, USA - Feb
Hamilton-Waikato	Great Bike Trails, global journey - Feb Greater Omaha, USA - Sept
Christchurch	Fort Worth, USA - March
Southland	Tucson-Southern Arizona, USA - Feb
Manawatu-Whanganui	Greater Milwaukee, USA - Oct Nova Lima, Brazil - April
Taupo	Sherbrooke, Canada - Nov Jakarta, Indonesia - May
Wairarapa	Greater Omaha, USA - Sept West Michigan & Cheyenne, USA - July
Kapiti Coast	Great Bike Trails, global journey - Feb Mie & Koriyama, Japan - March

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

So far seven New Zealand members have signed up to attend the Friendship Force World Conference in Dubrovnik this coming October. Would you like to join us? Malcolm Sime from the Wellington Friendship Force Club would love to hear from you if you are considering attending the conference—contact Malcolm at [malcolmS@esgasiapacific.com](mailto:malcolmS@esgasiapacific.com).



### *Your conference fee includes:*

- ❖ all conference materials
- ❖ a buffet lunch and coffee breaks
- ❖ local entertainment acts from Dubrovnik
- ❖ a souvenir bag containing your conference gifts
- ❖ a welcome drinks reception on the night of October 2
- ❖ a 'This Is Croatia' plenary session with keynote speakers
- ❖ a Friendship Force plenary session to bring you global updates
- ❖ workshops on Friendship Force matters and Croatian cultural themes
- ❖ our gala banquet on the night of October 5 with entertainment and dancing



### *Additional paid options include:*

- ❖ accommodation with breakfast
- ❖ a variety of fun excursions in and around Dubrovnik
- ❖ a spectacular sunset dinner cruise on a replica 16th-century Dubrovnik galleon
- ❖ pre-and-post-conference tours visiting Croatia, Italy, Slovenia, Bosnia, Serbia, Kosovo, Montenegro, and Albania

## Individual Journeys

This new programme gives members more opportunities to form friendships with inbound or outbound small groups and even individuals. It is an extension of the present 'Club to Club' Journeys that have formed the basis for FFI Journeys in the past.

To make this programme work, FFI needs members to register as hosts. Those who have registered for [my.friendshipforce.org](http://my.friendshipforce.org) will have recently received a post (like below) that includes a link to further information about the programme including questions you may have.

To make this programme work, FFI needs hosts. Please take these steps:

1. To participate, you must join [my.friendshipforce.org](http://my.friendshipforce.org).
2. Type into your browser [my.friendshipforce.org](http://my.friendshipforce.org), and open this using your user name and password. This will bring you to the FFI website where there is a section about 'Individual Journeys'.
3. Open the 'read more' button - and click on '[the individual hosting opportunities](#)' which will take you direct to the host registration form.
4. Complete the form (takes 5-10 minutes), and you will be up and running. Note: You would only be assigned one hosting unless you renew your invitation.

Of course for this scheme to work we also need ambassadors to sign up to take advantage of these hostings! If you are planning to travel somewhere in the world in the next year or so, check out to see if there are hosts in the cities you are visiting who might be willing to host you.

## Next Friendship Flyer

The next FFNZ Friendship Flyer will be the winter edition, and will come out in August 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.lattley@friendshipforce.org](mailto:debbie.lattley@friendshipforce.org).



friendship force  
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**