



Sunseeker



Volume 28 Number 1 - The Friendship Force of the Sunshine Coast Inc. – January 2017

Changing the Way You See the World

President: Jim Macready

Vice-President: Mike McFarlane

Secretary: John Gosney

Treasurer: Bill Laws

Exchange Co-ordinator: Gayle Macready

Editor: Tony Sayer

International website:

www.thefriendshipforce.org

FF Sunshine Coast Website:

www.friendshipforcesunshinecoast.org.au

FF Australia Website:

www.friendshipforce-aussie.org.au

FF Sunshine Coast email:

suncoastff@gmail.com

The Friendship Force pledge

As a member of the Friendship Force,
I recognize that I can make a difference.
I recognize that I have a mission.
That mission is to be a friend to the people of the world.
As I embark on this adventure,
I know that others will be watching me.
I know that, through my example to my fellow citizens
and the people of other countries,
the cause of friendship, love and peace can be furthered.

I can make a difference

Meeting Dates

Board Meetings	General meeting	Picnic Meeting
17 Jan & 14 Feb 2017	22 January 2017	TBA

Dates For Your Diary

22 Jan	Wirreanda Park, Buderim, following General Meeting
TBA	Dine Out: TBA (not until March)

President's Ponderings

The Christmas season which has just passed has been a very busy time for Gayle and me with twenty five family members joining us for the celebrations. As the last one departed, we left for Sydney and in that city and en route managed to visit each of our children in their new or newly renovated homes.

It is now time to throw ourselves back into Friendship Force and gather up the threads of its various projects and ensure that all are thriving. Firstly the FFA Conference will be our main priority and it is only one month away. At present we have about 130 registrants which is a little disappointing but hopefully a few more will eventuate over the next few weeks.

The first Board meeting of the new year will be on Tuesday, 17th January, followed by the first general meeting on Sunday, 22nd. These two meetings will allow us to follow up on all upcoming exchanges and the conference planning and to bring all our members up to date.

Don't forget the picnic at Wirreanda Park after the general meeting. Merrilyn Rundle has the planning for this well in hand. Pies will be available and money will be collected at the general meeting.

I wish all our members a very happy and prosperous New Year and hope that each of you manage to find wonderful new experiences from friendship Force.

In friendship,

Jim Macready, President

FF Australian National Conference

About a third of the 127 registrations so far are from our Club. We will have some jobs to be done on the days of the conference by members of our club; I'm sure we will have no trouble filling those.

We have reached the stage where we will not make a loss. Preparations are going well.

We have had to cancel the Noosa tour due to lack of numbers.

Jim Haxton, Convener

Meet your Board and other Office Holders for 2017

Executive

President: Jim Macready

Vice-President: Mike McFarlane

Secretary: John Gosney

Treasurer: Bill Laws

Exchange Co-ordinator: Gayle Macready

Other Office Holders

Social Activities: Merrilyn Rundle

Membership: Gillian Dwyer

Dine-outs and Merchandise: Pam Ferguson

Morning Tea: Helen Treston

Raffles: Coral Usher

Almoner: Marilyn Berry, assisted by Peg Turner

Sunseeker editor: Tony Sayer

2017 Conference Chairman: Jim Haxton

Flags and Banners: Glen Gordon

Publicity: Jean Ledwidge

Website and Data Base: Mike McFarlane

Microphone monitor: John Rundle

Next General Meeting

Sunday 22 January 2017, at 9.30 am
Millwell Rd Community Centre, Maroochydore

General Meetings for 2017

22 Jan, 26 Mar, 4 Jun (delayed May meeting), 23 Jul, 24 Sep, 26 Nov

Board Meetings for 2017

17 Jan, 14 Feb, 14 Mar, 2 May, 11 Jul,
15 Aug, 12 Sep, 17 Oct, 14 Nov

Club Calendar

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Notes
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Board Meeting 17 Jan, 2pm
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	General Meeting, 9:30am
29	30	31					

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Notes
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Board Meeting 14 Feb, 2pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28					

Greeters and Morning Tea Helpers

Please note that to allow sufficient set up time you will need to be at the hall from 9 am. If you won't be attending please make arrangements for another member to replace you.

Will greeters please look after new members and visitors and introduce them to other members to make them feel at home.



Morning tea and Greeters

Greeters

Ron & Coral Usher



Morning tea

Peg Turner

Margaret Williams

Barbara & David Wood

Inbound Exchanges

All Indonesia

October 2017

#13322 ED Jean Ledwidge



So far about 10 ambassadors have signed up, but more are expected. I have been in touch with members from Solo, Surabaya and Jogjakarta, some of whom we have met before on an exchange to the latter two clubs. We discussed activities they might be interested in and they seem very keen to come here.

I will form a committee and organise a program after the conference excitement dies down.

Jean Ledwidge

Lincoln, Nebraska, USA

Early November 2017

#13269 ED Judy Hill



The group from Nebraska are expecting at least 12 ambassadors to come, and know our limit is 15. This exchange will be from 5-12 November provided present planning holds.

I will be looking for people willing to join the exchange committee, and for expressions of interest in hosting, cohosting, dinner hosts etc so planning can begin. they will be with us .

Judy Hill

** ED wanted for 2017 **

We have been allocated a Domestic outbound #13502 to Southern Sydney (Jun/Jul). We need an ED for this exchange.

Outbound Exchanges

Hsinchu, Taiwan (11-18 May 2017)

#13062 ED Chris Harman



The Host E.D. is Wan Fang, President of the Hsinchu Club, who will escort us on the bullet train from Taipei to Hsinchu. Most of us will stay in Taipei at the same hotel on the night of May 10. The Host itinerary program should arrive soon.

Tom Ledwidge has put together our photos and a short bio for the booklet. John Gosney is negotiating Mayoral pleasantries exchanges between Sunshine Coast and Hsinchu. John has procured donations of Australian flags to present to whomever.

Rostov-on-Don, Russia (20-27 May 2017)

#13063 ED Chris Harman



13 of our members and one from another FF Club

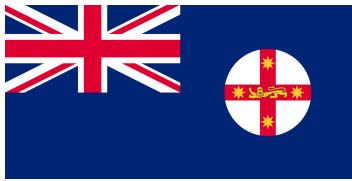
The Host E.D. is Oxana Menshikova. While on her present trip to NSW and Queensland, Oxana met with our Exchange Committee, in person, on December 23. Oxana is to negotiate in Rostov for a smooth process for us to apply for Russian Visas. Tom Ledwidge has put together our photos and a short bio for the booklet. John Gosney has procured donations of Australian flags to present to whomever.

Chris Harman

Reminder – If you are travelling on exchange with another FF Club, please remember that your application has to be signed by our President.

Other Activities

Kempsey, NSW **Between 20 Jul and 18 Aug 2017** **#13503 ED Anne Green**



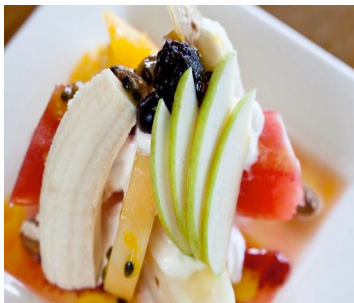
The number of people who have expressed interest in this Exchange is rising! They have all heard about our beautiful winter weather. We have the opportunity to share our beautiful balmy warm winter weather combined with the warmth of our Sunshine Coast hospitality with these Kempsey Club members over this time in July.

Iain and I travelled with this club on our first Friendship Force Exchange to Canada and New Hampshire. We are looking forward to renewing friendships with these enthusiastic people.

Please check your program for this time and let me know how you can be involved as hosts, cohosts, and dinner hosts at our next general meeting. I am looking forward to talking with you. We shall be coordinating an organising committee to assist in working out a scintillating program for the Exchange.

Anne Green

Dine Outs



Because of the Conference in February, the next Dine Out will not be until March.

Pam Ferguson

Social Events



Happy New Year everyone!

This is a reminder that we are going to Wirreanda Park after the next general meeting on the 22nd January.

It is our tradition to acknowledge Australia Day at the meeting which falls closest to the date, and we usually go to Wirreanda Park after the meeting, weather permitting.

This year we are having meat pies from Beefies Pies which are conveniently across the road. Gayle Macready will take the orders and collect the money at the meeting. The pies will be \$5.00 each and some one will go and collect the bulk order and bring them back to the park.

Everyone needs to take all their own picnic gear, including tables and chairs, drinks and anything extra you would like to eat, and we will meet at Wirreanda park after the meeting.

Unfortunately John and I won't be there as we will be visiting our daughter in Cooktown.

Have a great time, and we will see you all at the Conference.

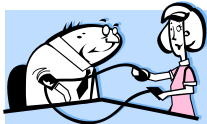
Remember there is no picnic meeting in February. We would normally have a picnic meeting in February, but given the timing of the Conference at the end of the month the Board decided to cancel it for that one time. The Conference is going to be a fabulous time of fellowship and encouragement. I am looking forward to it. In the meantime, enjoy those pies, and I will join you in spirit with one too.

Merrilyn

February birthdays



Bernie	Treston	3 Feb
Helen	Treston	7 Feb
Anne	Green	15 Feb
Jim	Macready	18 Feb
Tony	Barry	23 Feb
Nev	Berry	25 Feb



To all those members who are not feeling well: we hope you make a speedy recovery. If you know of anyone who is on the sick list would you please contact Marilyn Berry, who will send a cheery "get well" message.

Have you changed your postal address?



If you change your postal address, phone number, email address, etc. would you please remember to let either the database administrator (Mike McFarlane) or the *Sunseeker* editor (Tony Sayer) know of the changes.

Thank you, *Editor*

Next Sunseeker

Please put "Sunseeker" in the subject line and email contributions to Tony Sayer by Friday 17 February 2017.

If you neglect to include "Sunseeker" in the subject, your email may get overlooked in my busy email Inbox.

Editor

Boarding of flight 2017 is announced !

Your luggage should only contain the best souvenirs from 2016

The bad and sad moments should be left in the garbage.

The duration of the flight will be 12 months.

The next stop-overs will include:

Health, Love, Joy, Harmony, Well-being and Peace.

The Captain offers you the following menu

Which will be served during the flight:

A Cocktail of Friendship - A Supreme Dose of Good Health

Au Gratin of Prosperity - A Bowl of Excellent News

A Salad of Success - A Cake of Happiness

Everything accompanied By bursts of laughter.

Bon voyage & enjoy your trip on-board flight 2017 !

**HAPPY NEW YEAR
2017**

Thanks to Marilyn Berry for this cheery piece