



Sunseeker



Volume 30 Number 1 - The Friendship Force of the Sunshine Coast Inc. – January 2019

Changing the Way You See the World

President: Mike McFarlane

Vice-President: David Allan

Secretary: Glenis Ayling

Treasurer: Bill Laws

Journey Mentor: Helen Treston

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 Meetings	Picnic Meetings
13 February	27 January	24 February

Dates For Your Diary

27 January	General Meeting, Mapleton Mens Shed, at 10:00am
20 February	Dine-out: Three Bar & Grill, Dicky Beach, at 11:45am
24 February	Picnic Meeting at Mike and Robyn McFarlane's home



Your 2019 Board: Bill, Helen, Glenis, Mike and David

President's Musings

Happy New Year to all, as we hit mid-January in readiness for the first general meeting this year.

We have retained our membership numbers of about 51 (on the expectation that a few late-payers will renew) due to successful recruiting campaigns and members inviting friends to join.

Membership renewal – that is, attracting new members of the age many of us were when we joined – is vital to the success of Friendship Force: new energy, new ideas, lots of fun hosting international visitors and experiencing other cultures.

Nevertheless, membership renewal at the District level (we are in the Northern District of Friendship Force Australia) is quite lethargic and I wish to canvass suggestions from members on strategies that might assist FF membership across all clubs at the district and national levels.

One such idea is to re-examine traditional FFA roles. For example, it may be desirable to transform the roles of District Field Representatives (DFRs) and FFA Liaison members, from 'representation' to 'development', with explicit roles for renewal, publicity, policy development, and suggestions for new club initiatives – eg, multi-club hosting, multi-club journeys.

Similarly, given the current nature and frequency of National Conferences, agenda development and conference hosting may be better considered as a function of a District Committee, rather than as a rostered role of individual clubs. This would take pressure off small clubs, and avoid locations deemed 'unsuitable' at a given time of year – eg, Cairns in the cyclone season.

Anyway, our current DFR, Dennis McLean will be visiting us at the next General Meeting, and will no doubt update us. I would be grateful if we could assist him as DFR with some practical suggestions relevant to the future of Friendship Force in our District.

In friendship,

Mike McFarlane
President

Board Decisions

Board Meeting 10 January 2019

1. Cornwall inbound journey costs per ambassador and the booking sheet were approved.
2. Board meetings will now be held at 2pm on the second Thursday of the month, with venues rotating monthly.
3. The Board confirmed the practice that membership fees paid by new members who join after 1 July cover the subsequent year.

Glenis Ayling
Secretary

General Meetings 2019

**27 Jan, 24 Mar, 26 May,
28 Jul, 22 Sep, 24 Nov**

Board Meetings for 2019

**14 Feb, 14 Mar, 11 Apr, 9 May,
13 Jun, 11 Jul, 14 Aug, 12 Sep, 9 Oct,
14 Nov, 12 Dec**

Forthcoming FF Journeys

INTERNATIONAL JOURNEYS 2019

Inbounds 2019			
5-11 March	#15195	Cornwall, UK	Carol Harman
November (TBC)	#15259	Central Virginia, USA	??

Outbounds 2019			
20-27 May	#15080-1	Austin, Texas	Jenny Allan
10-17 May	#15080-2	Albuquerque, New Mexico	Jenny Allan

DOMESTIC JOURNEYS 2019

Inbound 2019			
20-27 June	#15344	Newcastle	??

Outbound 2019			
23-30 August	#15354	Mt Barker	??

***** We need Journey Coordinators for both domestic journeys, and for the inbound Journey from Central Virginia *****

Helen Treston
Journey Mentor

Potential Journey Mentors please see me asap



Greeters and Morning Tea Helpers

Please note that, to allow sufficient set up time, you will need to be at the school 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

(January meeting)

Greeters

Iain and Anne Green



Morning Tea

Adrienne Solomon

Shirley Cooper

Helga Descy

Jan Bell

Morning Tea

As the January General Meeting, in Mapleton, is also our lunch venue, a light morning tea will be provided at 10am, just before the start of the meeting.

Please bring your own cups for the tea or coffee and I will bring the lamingtons.

The lunch will be a **BYO** to share, following the meeting.

Jenny Allan

Dine-outs in 2019

Our new Dine-outs Co-ordinator, Bill Laws, has arranged a tentative booking at **Three Bar & Grill**, which is located on the bottom level of the Portobello Building at the Caloundra end of the Dicky Beach shopping precinct – opposite the Council Beach Car Park.

The date: Wednesday, 20th February.

This will be the first Dine-out for year 2019, and Bill can find no record of the Club's having used this establishment in the past.

The restaurant provides a three course lunch special of Main/Drink/Desert for \$25 per person. Below is a sample of the options available (<http://www.threebarandgrill.com.au/menu/>):

Mains: Fish; Lemon Pepper Calamari; Seafood Linguini; Mushroom & Cheese Croquettes; Steak; Mussels; Pastas & Vegetarian options (most are served with salad & chips)

Desserts: Chocolate Mousse; Pannacotta; Mixed Berry Pavlova

Drinks: Glass of wine, beer, soft drinks. Coffee is restricted to the options of flat white or cappuccino

The restaurant has both indoor and outdoor dining options. Inside has air-conditioning and fans but is restricted to groups of around 10. Larger groups can be catered for outside, which is under cover and has electric fan options.

To formalise the booking, Bill will require some idea of the numbers attending by 13th February.

Dine-outs complement the good work of our Activities/Events Coordinator in providing current/past members and prospective members with an opportunity to enjoy one another's company over a meal, in convivial surroundings and an environment unrelated to meeting procedures. It has proven to be well supported by new members, singles and couples who appear to enjoy meeting other members in a more relaxed environment.

Please list this date in your diaries and let's make our first dine-out for 2019 a resounding success.

Diners should assemble at the restaurant at 11.45am for a noon lunch.

Inbound Journeys

Cornwall UK

5 to 11 March 2019

#15195 HC Carol Harman



Important Information - please read & copy the attachments at the end of Sunseeker – they are:

A) Dinner Hosts, B) Program, C) Booking Form

You will need to bring these to the Australia Day Meeting on Sunday 27th January at the Mapleton Men's Shed.

After the General Meeting, I will convene a short Journey meeting to:

- a) answer any questions about the Program; and
- b) collect your tear-off sheets from the Booking Form, so that we can make accurate bookings at the venues.

Before the Meeting I suggest that (i) Co-Hosts contact Hosts, and (ii) Hosts contact Dinner Hosts, in order to discuss the level of support needed.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Carol Harman

PS There's more on Cornwall on page 8



Outbound Journeys

New Mexico and Texas

10 to 27 May 2019

#15080 AC Jenny Allan



The Austin club has sent a list of cultural and thematic options so that they can plan on a program of activities and places we might like to visit while we are with them. After this month's General Meeting, I would like all of our ambassadors to sit together for lunch to review the list of activities on offer.

The Albuquerque coordinator has sent a photo (see below) of January snow piled high in their backyard like a winter wonderland. I sent them one of our plants wilting under a 35 degree heatwave!

We are so lucky that May will be a lovely mild month for all of us to meet and spend time together.

Jenny Allan



Albuquerque in January

Port Isaac, Cornwall

Look carefully and you might see Doc Martin

Other Activities

Social Events



Happy New Year everyone. Are we all rested and refreshed after our holiday season?? Me neither. Who is responsible for inventing school holidays I want to know!

Well, we can get together on the 27th January and compare our aches and pains. Our General Meeting is at the Mapleton Mens Shed again, in Delicia Road, Mapleton. For those who weren't with us last year, Delicia Road is the first street on the right after you've turned in Mapleton Road (where the pub is). The Mens Shed isn't very far along. We will get started with morning tea at 10am which will be supplied by Jenny Allan as usual. Tea and Coffee supplied, but bring your own mugs. Then the meeting will follow, with lunch at the end. Bring along a plate of cakes or sandwiches to share and it will be laid out ready by the end of the meeting. No need for tables or chairs this time, but bring your own mugs ...and also plates. Plus a cold drink if you want it. As usual we will have an Aussie theme for Australia Day, so dress up if you would like to. There might be a bit of entertainment as well.



Oz Day 2018 at Mapleton

On February 12th, the Gordons – Glen and Judi – are inviting us all to their place for a wine and cheese social gathering. It's not a wine appreciation event – just a get-together with some wine and cheese and nibbles. Glen and Judi are supplying the wine and nibbles for \$15 a head, starting at 4:30pm and finishing at 7pm. If any folk would like to go on to dinner in Caloundra afterward they might like to arrange it with others at the time. It's a while since we've had time just to sit around and chat.

And the Picnic Meeting on 24th February will be a bit different, too. It's going to be at the McFarlane's home. Some time ago Mike offered to run a short tutorial for us to get familiar with using the Website. I suggested we combine this with the Picnic Meeting and have some fun as well. Robyn is going to run a 'Crazy Whist' game, which is a hugely popular interactive card game. You don't have to be a card sharp to play. We will start with morning tea at 10am and Mike will do the computer tutorial straight away. Then we will have lunch and play the game afterwards. If folk don't want to go to the computer session, come for lunch and Crazy Whist. No tables and chairs needed, though if you have a card table it would be handy. And bring your own lunch and morning tea, and mugs and plates. Not to share this time. Just bring your own food for the sake of simplicity. Mike will be sending out a separate notice about the computer tutorial, so stay tuned.

See everyone next Sunday.

Merrilyn

Celebrating 30 years of Friendship Force Sunshine Coast

A **Save the Date** for the 30-Year Anniversary luncheon will be sent to members, past members, Australian clubs, Northern District Liaison Officer and Australian FFI representative shortly.

We have received a Sunshine Coast Council minor grant to fund the printing of the 30-Year Anniversary Booklet.

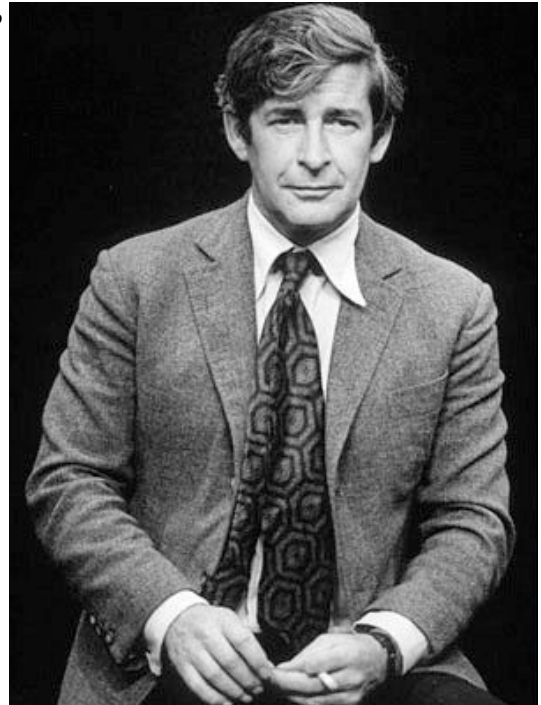
WHO AM I?

Do you have a photo of yourself taken when you were approximately 30 years old? We would like to have it for our Photo Board at the 30th Anniversary Lunch. It is a guessing game to encourage mixing among members and to see who has a keen eye for recognising faces.

If you have a photo, please put your name on the back of it and bring it along to the dinner. We will return it to you after the event.

David Allan

Did someone say “Dave Allen?”



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

Have you changed your address?



If you change your postal address, phone number, email address, etc, would you please remember to **update your details** on the Members' Database. You will find this facility in the *Members Only* area of the club's website.

Editor

Next Sunseeker

Please put “Sunseeker” in the subject line and email contributions to the Editor, Tony Sayer, by 15 February.

If you neglect to include “Sunseeker” in the subject line, your email may get **overlooked** in my busy email Inbox.

Editor

More on Cornwall

The Cornwall Inbound Journey is offering a variety of very Sunshine Coast activities, including a special **Indigenous Culture Experience** that involves didgeridoo playing, bush tucker tasting, an introduction to a few Aboriginal legends, a nature walk, a wander through an art gallery, a hands-on art session and morning tea. Hope to see you there.

David Allan

