

The Friendship Force of the Sunshine Coast



Celebrating 30 years

April 2019



Foreword

Our Club stands on a history of thirty years advancing the goals of Friendship Force – Sharing Hearts and Homes.

We celebrate our history – a proud history of achievement, fun and lifelong friendships. We are still a vibrant energetic group that delights in hosting and visiting people of different cultures.

This booklet summarises the club's beginnings, its leadership of office bearers, exchange directors, (more recently 'Journey Coordinators'). It notes the number of ambassadors (thousands) coming and going on hundreds of journeys. Hopefully it prompts warm memories.

Most importantly, the anniversary celebrations are about acknowledging the support from all the members who have been involved in maintaining our club. We acknowledge and thank community leaders, our patrons, for their support in promoting friendship and cultural understanding, especially highlighting the essence and vision of the Sunshine Coast culture to our visitors.

Times are changing and we are optimistic that, as we adapt to future challenges, we will continue to promote the central theme of Friendship Force:

Experience Different Views – Discover Common Ground.

Mike McFarlane

President, FF of the Sunshine Coast

The Beginning 1988/89

Glenys Marsh had moved to the Sunshine Coast from Cairns, where she had been in the Friendship Force club in that city. In the latter part of 1988 she had discussions with Gerald Weekes, Regional Representative FFI (South Pacific), about the possible formation of a Friendship Force club on the Sunshine Coast, and ultimately an exchange was proposed from Atlanta, Georgia, to the Sunshine Coast.

As a club was not in existence in early 1989, Glenys placed advertisements in local newspapers seeking host homes from interested people.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOME HOST A VISITING AMERICAN

Room required for 12 mature American couples and 7 singles, 14th to 20th April.
Friendship Force is an International non-profit organisation with clubs in 46 countries including 12 Australian and 16 in New Zealand.

A new club is starting in this area. If you are interested in sharing your home and making a new friend from USA, please contact G. Marsh on 47 2972.

A club was founded at a meeting at her home in Sunshine Beach on the 15th March 1989, just weeks prior to the anticipated visit by 29 Ambassadors from Atlanta. The Club was to be the 12th Friendship Force Club formed in Australia.

At the inaugural meeting the following were elected:

President	Glenys Marsh
Vice-President	Ken McGuire
Treasurer	Ann Main
Secretary	Helen Thomas
Assistant Secretary	Wendy Chandler

- Club Fees to be \$5.00 per person.
- Club Badges to be in the shape of Australia.
- Ongoing meetings to be held at members homes.

The First Year – 1989

First Inbound Exchange April 1989 – Atlanta Georgia to Sunshine Coast Queensland

Hosts

Glenys Marsh	Laurie Holmes
Wendy and Graeme Chandler	Gwen Torney
Barbara and Ken McGuire	Jean Loader
Mary Edwards (now Johnson)	Gloria and Henry Ball
Barbara and Clem Sowter	Helen and Vernon Gall
Ann Main	Dale Rivers
John Wain	Helen Thomas
Dianne Bitter	Moyna and Bruce Collett

27 ambassadors arrived on the first exchange for a six-day stay. They insisted that they had to go to the Barrier Reef and Fraser Island, as they would not be coming out this way again. They were told that this would be impossible in the time allowed, but Glenys managed to meet their wishes. They were met in Brisbane and transported to Noosa for an overnight stay in motel type accommodation. At 6am the following morning they left for Bundaberg by bus, to meet a boat to Lady Musgrave Island, arriving home at 11pm, when they were met by their hosts and taken home. A couple of days later they went to Fraser Island. There was no time for other planned activities, so they had a combined welcome /farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Since then...

Since its inception, the club has gone on 78 overseas journeys (to 22 different countries) and hosted 76 incoming overseas journeys (from 17 different countries). It has also hosted 24 Australian clubs and visited 25 local clubs.

The club hosted the Australian FF National Conferences in 2002 and 2017. After the most recent conference, we received this note from Sue Brannen, Australian Coordinator FFI

“Congratulations!!

I have just returned home after what I believe was the best Australian Conference ever! Well done and thank you for coordinating a very successful Conference, bringing together Friendship Force members from all around Australia.

Please convey my thanks and congratulations to your conference committee for giving us a well run, interesting and most enjoyable conference.”

In 2017, a new executive position, titled *Journey Mentor*, was created. The role of the Journey Mentor is to initiate the planning of the various club journeys until such time as the journey coordinators are appointed. Thereafter, to offer support and advice to a journey coordinator where requested.

In 2018 the club adopted a new shirt design, for both male and female members. We also decided to order carry bags, with a bright logo, for hosts to give to ambassadors visiting the club.



Club Firsts

1989	First Newsletter – June
1989	First AGM held November 12th at Avocado Gardens Restaurant, Burnett Street, Buderim.
1991	First Licensing Agreement signed on 31st April between Friendship Force International and The Friendship Force of the Sunshine Coast
1991	First attempted Outbound Exchange in May: Sunshine Coast to Seattle/Tacoma (Washington State) and Helena, Montana. This Exchange was cancelled due to lack of numbers but four members went unofficially – Wendy and Graeme Chandler, Mavis Rossiter and John Rogers.
1992	First regular home for the club meetings was the Maroochydore Neighbourhood Centre at 5th Avenue on January 1992. All general meetings were held there from January till November 1997, inclusive.
1992	First Newsletter in <i>Sunseeker</i> format was published in January 1992.
1992	First official Outbound Exchange was in March 1992: Sunshine Coast to New Plymouth and Christchurch, New Zealand. Exchange Director, Don McEwan. Ambassadors were Gloria and Don McEwan, Felicity and Jackie Sewell, Vat Hopkins, Janice Corey and Mavis Rossiter.
1993	General Meeting 25-7-1993 resolved to incorporate. Certificate of Incorporation issued by Department of Consumer Affairs. (No. IA-12542) on 21st October 1993.
1994	First Youth Sponsorship of Trent Campbell to Global Youth conference at Gosford, Australia.
1996	First trophy won at Australian conference in February
1996	First Bert's Safari
1996	First club T-Shirt introduced
1998	First club to win ALL THREE trophies in one year at an Australian Conference, in February 1998
1998	First Australian club to host an African Exchange
1998	First club member appointed FFI Field Representative : Gloria McEwan
1999	10th Birthday Celebration.
1999	September. Club's first Bridge Builder exchange.
2001	Club's first member appointed as Northern District Administrator: Graeme Donaldson, 2001-03
2002	Club held the Australian National Conference in February.
2003	February First "Host a Student Day" in conjunction with the Sunshine Coast University.
2004	15th Birthday Celebrations
2005	World Friendship Celebrations.
2006	Gloria McEwan's long service honoured.
2007	Northern Region Fun Day - New Uniform - first exchange tree planting.
2008	First bi-monthly picnic meeting — bus trip to Stanthorpe.
2008	First Winter experience: Canada in Ottawa & Winnipeg
2008	Heather Haythorpe appointed DFR Co-ordinator (2008-12)
2009	First Christmas in July
2010	21st Birthday Celebrations
2012	Two Wayne Smith Medals presented, to Gloria McEwan and Heather Haythorpe.
2012	Friendship Park established by Maroochy Regional Council.
2012	Stanthorpe Granite Highlands Wine Tour 9-12 July
2012	Two-day trip to Fraser Island in August.
2013	Japanese Children Humanitarian Exchange (22 Tsunami victims and 3 hosts were brought to the Sunshine Coast at no cost to them, thanks to fund-raising by our club and donations from other clubs around the world and individuals.)
2014	Gayle Macready appointed Northern District Field Rep.
2017	FF National Conference hosted by FF Sunshine Coast.
2017	Gayle Macready appointed FFSC's first Journey Mentor
2018	New teal-coloured club shirts and club bag (for visitors) introduced
2018	English Language Inbound Journey from Japan (shared with FF North Moreton)

Elected Office Bearers

Year	President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer
1989	Glenys Marsh	Ken McGuire	Helen Thomas Wendy Chandler	Ann Main
1990	Ken McGuire	Glenys Marsh	Wendy Chandler	Ann Main
1991	Ken McGuire	Charles Farquharson	John Rogers	Ann Main
1992	Clem Sowter	Charles Farquharson	John Rogers	Moyna Collett Keith Johnson
1993	Clem Sowter	Gloria McEwan	Ces Collins	Keith Johnson Dianne Schabel
1994	Gloria McEwan	Allen Humzy	Ces Collins	Dianne Schabel
1995	Gloria McEwan	Allen Humzy	Ces Collins	Dianne Schabel
1996	Ces Collins	Allan Delaney	Sybil Charlton	Bert Farmer
1997	Ces Collins	Graeme Donaldson	Sybil Charlton	Bert Farmer
1998	Graeme Donaldson	Sybil Charlton	Helen Kwong	Bert Farmer
1999	Graeme Donaldson	Sybil Charlton	Helen Kwong	Bert Farmer
2000	Sybil Charlton	Helen Kwong	Barbara Reid	Bert Farmer
2001	Helen Kwong	Heather Haythorpe	Barbara Reid	Bert Farmer
2002	Helen Kwong	Heather Haythorpe	Barbara Reid	Col Sakrewski
2003	Heather Haythorpe	Jim Haxton	Gabrielle Donaldson	Col Sakrewski
2004	Heather Haythorpe	Jim Haxton	Gabrielle Donaldson	Margaret Williams
2005	Jim Haxton	Helen Roberts	Gillian Dwyer	Bill Laws
2006	Jim Haxton	Gayle Macready	Gillian Dwyer	Bill Laws
2007	Gayle Macready	Gillian Dwyer	Bill Laws	Helen Kwong
2008	Gayle Macready	Gillian Dwyer	Bill Laws	Helen Kwong
2009	Gillian Dwyer	Ray Troyahn	Janice Collins	Bill Laws
2010	Gillian Dwyer	Ray Troyahn	Janice Collins	Bill Laws
2011	Ray Troyahn	Nev Berry	Laurel Dixon	Margaret Williams
2012	Ray Troyahn	Nev Berry	Laurel Dixon	Bill Laws
2013	Nev Berry	John Rundle	Christine Martin	Bill Laws
2014	Nev Berry	Mike Matthews	Christine Martin	Tony Linedale
2015	Mike Matthews Jim Haxton (Aug+)	Jim Macready	Anne Derksen John Gosney	Tony Linedale
2016	Jim Macready	Tom Ledwidge	John Gosney	Tony Linedale
2017	Jim Macready	Mike McFarlane	John Gosney	Bill Laws
2018	Mike McFarlane	David Allan	John Gosney	Bill Laws
2019	Mike McFarlane	David Allan	Glenis Ayling	Bill Laws

Note:

1. Prior to incorporation in October 1993, Office Bearers were elected in September but did not take office until the following January. Since 1993, Office Bearers have been elected in November and take office immediately. They are listed in the table above for the year following their election.
2. In 2017, a new position executive position, titled *Journey Mentor*, was created. This position was filled by Gayle Macready in 2017-18, and she handed over to Helen Treston after the AGM in November 2018.

Past Presidents, 1989-2010



Glenys Marsh 1989



Ken McGuire 1990-1



Clem Sowter 1992-3



Gloria McEwan 1994-5



Ces Collins 1996-7



Graeme Donaldson 1998-9



Sybil Charlton 2000



Helen Kwong 2001-2



Heather Haythorpe 2003-4



Jim Haxton 2005-6



Gayle Macready 2007-8



Gillian Dwyer 2009-10

Past Presidents, 2011-2019



Ray Troyahn 2011-12



Nev Berry 2013-14



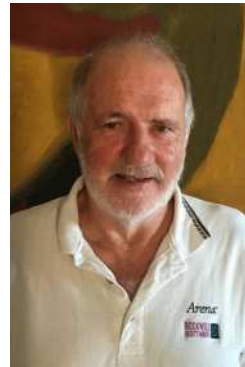
Mike Matthews 2015



Jim Haxton Aug-Nov 2015



Jim Macready 2016-17



Mike McFarlane 2018-19



Taken at the 25th anniversary dinner, this photo shows
11 presidents or former presidents of FFSC.

International Inbound Journeys

Year	Month	International Inbound Journey From	Ambass	Host Coordinator
1989	Apr	Atlanta, US	29	Glenys Marsh
	Sep	Post Aust. Festival	26	Glenys Marsh
1990	Apr	Charlotte, N. Carolina, US	25	John Rogers
	Oct	Sacramento, California, US	27	Barbara Sowter
1991	Jul	Taupo, New Zealand	8	Mary Johnson,
	Nov	Lincoln, Nebraska, US	19	Wendy Chandler
1992	Mar	Mainz, Germany	7	David Houseman
	Aug	Cleveland, Ohio, US	23	Barbara Sowter
	Oct	Atlanta, US	22	Don McEwan
1993	Apr	Springhill-W Coast Florida, US	16	Mary Johnson
1994	Mar	Miyagi, Japan	15	Ces Collins
	Nov	East Central, Florida, US	26	Judith Brunen
1995	Mar	Saitama, Japan	22	Lorna Humzy
	Sep	Hamilton, NZ	18	Felicity Sewell
	Nov	Derbyshire, England	12	Ces Collins
1996	Oct	Brussels, Belgium	12	Sybil Charlton
1997	May	Manawatu, NZ	10	Bob Crawford
	Aug	Osaka, Japan	24	Graeme Donaldson
	Oct	Springhill-W Coast Florida, US	17	Bert Farmer
1998	Mar	Lee County-Suncoast Florida, US	25	Dorothy Stephens
	May	Missoula, Montana, US	10	Peter Haythorpe
	Sep	Accra, Ghana	6	Clem Sowter
	Nov	Aichi, Japan	26	Helen Kwong
1999	Apr	Lancaster & Harrisburg, US	26	Gloria McEwan
	Jul	Napier, NZ	30	Lorna Humzy
	Aug	Taipei, Taiwan	18	Helen Kwong
	Sep	San Antonio Ballroom Dancers	19	Gabrielle Donaldson
	Nov	Moscow, Russia	19	Glenn Vickery
2000	Aug	Kumomoto, Japan	17	Shirley Sakrzewski
	Oct	Saitama, Japan	38	Graeme Donaldson
	Nov	Zutphen, Netherlands	22	Wendy Campbell
	Nov	Recife, Brazil	18	Kay Manthei
2001	May	West. Bay Of Plenty, NZ	14	Bernie Bill
	June	South Taranaki, NZ	18	John Shepherd
	Aug.	Marlborough, NZ	18	John Shepherd
	Nov.	Kiel, Germany	23	Kay Manthei
2002	Apr	Hamburg, Germany	17	Arnold Vandenhurk
	Aug.	Taipei, Taiwan	21	Arnold Vandenhurk
	Nov	Florida, US	16	Jean Ledwidge
2003	Mar	Calgary, Canada	16	Judi Gordon
	Oct.	Costa Rica	26	Peter Haythorpe

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International Inbound Journeys (cont)

Year	Month	International Inbound Journey From	Ambass	Host Coordinator
2004	April	Hertfordshire, UK	23	Jan Collins
2005	Feb	Dubuque, Iowa, US	21	Helen Kwong
	Mar	Connecticut, US	12	Bill Laws
	May	Greater Milwaukee, US	21	Shirley Sakrzewski
	Sep	Wisconsin, US	20	Jean Ledwidge
2006	July	Sacramento, US	16	Gayle Macready
	Sep	Rocky Mountains (Estes Park), US	17	Judi Gordon
	Oct	Honolulu, Hawaii, US	11	Shirley Sakrzewski
2007	Mar	Kiev, Ukraine	18	James Macready
	Jul	Whangarei/Auckland Nthshore, NZ	34	Margaret Williams
	Oct	Minsk, Belarus	13	Jean Ledwidge
	Nov	Tokyo, Japan	20	Arnold Vandenhurk
2008	Nov	Lugansk, Ukraine	27	Helen Kwong
	Nov	Netherlands	15	Ray Troyahn
2009	Oct	Leuven, Belgium	11	Judi Gordon
	Oct	Post International Conference Hosting	18	Jan Collins
	Nov	Braunschweig-Piene, Germany	26	John Gosney
2010	Apr	New Plymouth, NZ	8	Margaret Williams
	Oct	Albuquerque, New Mexico	20	Bill Laws
2011	May	Howick, NZ	12	John Gosney
	Aug	Costa Rica	13	Patricia Barry
2012	Nov	Coatepec, Mexico	18	Gillian Dwyer
2013	Mar	St Mary's Stratford, Canada	14	Marilyn Berry
	Mar	Japanese Children Humanitarian	23	Tom & Jean Ledwidge
	Jul	Central North Carolina, US	13	Heather Haythorpe
	Oct	Mid-Willamette, Oregon, US	11	Gayle Macready
2014	May	Wellington, NZ	10	Margaret Williams
	Sep	Kern Co, California, US	13	Bernie Treston
	Nov	Rostov-on-Don, Russia	8	Tom Ledwidge
2015	Oct	Toulouse, France	8	Patricia Barry
2016	Jul	Christchurch, NZ	18	Maggie Overend
	Sep	Austin, Texas	15	Gayle Macready
2017	Oct	All Indonesia	4	Jean Ledwidge
	Nov	Mundo Maya, Mexico	11	Judy Hill
2018	Sep	Japan (Hiroshima, Nara, Mie, Gifu, Tottori)	13	Helen Treston

International Outbound Journeys

Year	Month	International Outbound Journey To	Ambass	Ambassador Coordinator
1992	Mar	New Plymouth & Christchurch, NZ	7	Don McEwan
1993	Mar	Tokai-Tsu, Japan, All Australian,	23	Gloria & Don McEwan
1995	May	Derbyshire & Cleveland County, UK	18	Clem Sowter
1996	Nov	Chaing Mai Festival, Manila.	23	Gloria McEwan
1997	Sep	N. Carolina, Texas, S. Carolina, US	28	Graeme Donaldson
1998	Sep	Wairarapa, Taupo & Napier, NZ	28	Ces Collins
1999	Mar	Saitama, Niigata, & Osaka, Japan	28	Sybil Charlton
2000	Jun	S.Oregon/Chemnitz Arnhem,Germany	25	Helen Kwong
	Oct.	Paeroa-Hauraki, Wanganui, Marlborough, NZ	30	Graeme Donaldson
2001	May	Taipei, Taiwan & Sapporo, Japan	24	David Wood
	Sep	Richmond/Bingkampon Pioneer Vly, US	11	Peter Haythorpe
2002	Apr	Gisborne, Wellington, North Auckland, NZ	29	Margaret Williams
	Aug	Norderstedt, Germany; Hertfordshire, UK	18	Graeme Donaldson
2003	Mar	Osaka/Kumamoto, Japan	14	Helen Kwong
	Oct.	Brazil	13	Jan Collins
2004	Mar	Christchurch, Horowhenua, Hamilton, NZ	16	Helen Roberts
	Aug	Rocky Mountains, Colorado; Dubuque, Iowa and Louisville, Kentucky, US	11	Helen Kwong
2005	Sep	Calgary CA, Wichata City and Kansas, US	15	Heather Haythorpe
2006	Sep	Lugansk (Ukraine) and Minsk (Belarus)	18	Helen Kwong
2007	Apr	Yamaguchi and Sendai-Miyagi, Japan	15	Kay Manthei
	Jun	West of Scotland & Isle of Wight, UK	20	Jim Haxton
2008	May	Izmir Turkey and Cornwall, UK	6/19	Tom Ledwidge
	Aug	Missoula Montana; Columbia Cascade; & Greater Sacramento, US	22	Heather Haythorpe
2009	Mar	Nelson, New Plymouth, Westn Bay of Plenty, NZ	10	Gillian Dwyer
	Oct	Vietnam & Cambodia	6/13	Helen Kwong
2010	Oct	Surabaya & Yogyakarta, Indonesia		Tom Ledwidge
2011	Feb	Winter Wonderland in Winnipeg, Canada	34	Gayle Macready

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International Outbound Journeys (cont)

Year	Month	International Outbound Journey To	Ambass	Ambassador Coordinator
	Apr	Noord-Herne, Germany	15	Marilyn Berry & Tony Barry
2012	Mar	Peru and Mexico	11	Mike Matthews
	Sep	Stratford St Mary's, Ontario; North Illinois and Central Virginia, US	12	Marilyn Berry
2013	Apr	Leuven, Belgium. Toulouse, France (Discover France)	17	Ray Troyahn
	Sep	Koriyama & Aichi, Japan	17	Mike Matthews
2014	Oct	Noumea, New Caledonia	14	Ray Troyahn
2015	Oct	Karsiyaka Bay, Turkey	16	Marilyn Berry
2016	Nov	Wairarapa & Hamilton, NZ	16	Tony Sayer
2017	May	Hsinchu, Taiwan. Rostov-on-Don, Russia	15/12	Chris Harman
2018	Jun	Quebec & North Bay, Canada	16	Jim Macready



Wayne Smith medal recipients – 30 Nov 2014

Domestic Inbound Journeys

Year	Month	Domestic Inbound Journey from	Ambass	Host Coordinator
1990	Jun	Tamworth	3	Ken Mcguire
1992	Apr	Ipswich	20	Ken Mcguire
	Jun	Mount Barker	40	Barbara Sowter
1993	Oct	Tweed Valley	30	Bert Farmer
	Oct	Bundaberg	9	Clem Sowter
1994		Tamworth	14	Sinah Hoskings
1996	Jun	Ipswich	24	Graeme Donaldson
1997	Apr	Currumbin-Gold Coast	27	Bert Farmer
	Jun	Kempsey	15	Barbara Reid
1999		Bundaberg	12	Gabrielle Donaldson
2000	Jan	Brisbane	12	Judi Gordon
	Jun	Ipswich	14	Jan Collins
2003	Jul	Tamworth/Ipswich/Brisbane	38	Jim Haxton
2005	Jul	Perth	14	Graeme Donaldson
2009	Jul	Mt Gambier	18	Pam Ferguson
	Aug	Gold Coast	20	Patricia Barry
2010	Apr	New Plymouth	10	Margaret Williams
2011	Jun	Blue Mountains	15	Brian & June Foy
2012	Jul	South Australia	17	Tony Linedale
2013	Aug	Southern Sydney	20	Phil Martin
2015	Jun	Murray Bridge, SA	11	Anne Derksen
2016	Jun	Salisbury & Northern Districts, SA	15	Maggie Overend
2017	Jul	Kempsey	11	Anne Green
2018	Aug	Central Coast	9	Gillian Gosney

English Language Inbound Journey from Japan

We hosted 13 Ambassadors from Hiroshima, Nara, Mie, Gifu and Tottori clubs in 2018.

Our activities included a handover welcome picnic with FF North Moreton, English language classes on four mornings for about 45 minutes, work from a booklet to be done at home, and a diary written each night and checked by Hosts.

Our fun new experiences included learning two Australian songs and learning a line dance to one of them. We also did prepared tongue twisters each lesson with emphasis on words difficult for Japanese to pronounce.

Our activities included visits to the ginger factory, watching honey extraction from bee hives, visiting a dairy, feeding emus, visiting LifeFlight, a medical helicopter evacuation service, and going shopping and to the beach in Noosa.

Special memories for the Ambassadors were the kookaburra theme, singing and line dancing.

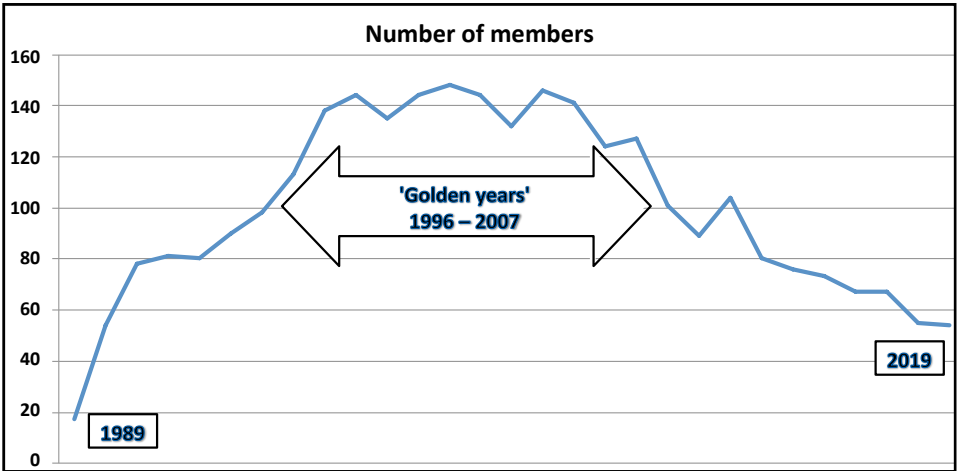
Domestic Outbound Journeys

Year	Month	Domestic Outbound Journey to	Ambass	Ambassador Coord
1992	Jan	Tamworth	3	Ken McGuire
	Sep	Ipswich	10	Ken McGuire
1993	Jun	Tweed Valley	29	Bert Farmer
1995	Jun	Bundaberg	17	Myfanwy Russell
1996	Mar	First Bert's Safari: Ipswich, Tamworth, Central Coast, Kempsey, Tweed Valley	21	Bert Farmer
1997	Feb	2nd Bert's Safari: Mt. Gambier, Murray Bridge, Casterton, Mt. Barker, Salisbury	22	Bert Farmer
	Jul	Currumbin-Gold Coast	34	Bert Farmer
2000	Feb	3rd Bert's Safari: Adelaide, Murray Bridge and Casterton	25	Bert Farmer
2005	Mar	Hobart	25	Judi Gordon
2008	May	Bundaberg	35	Margaret Williams
2009	Jun	Blue Mountains	19	Ray Troyahn
2010		There is no record of any domestic outbounds from 2010 to 2013		
2011				
2012				
2013				
2014	Apr	Adelaide	17	Mike Matthews
2015	May	Mt Gambier	10	Nelly Rogers
2016	Mar	Albany	14	Tony Sayer
2017	July	Southern Sydney	12	Margaret Hill
2018	Mar	Melbourne	10	Coral & Ron Usher

Summary of Journey Activities – 1989 to 2018

Type of Journey	No of Clubs Hosted or Visited	No of Ambassadors
International Inbound	76	1357
International Outbound	78	1410
Domestic Inbound	24	418
Domestic Outbound	25	504

Membership



Change is constant

We enjoyed strong growth in the early days of the club, with active membership of more than 100 for 11 years, as indicated in the graph as the 'Golden Years'. Then followed a decline in membership as the original members aged and alternative options for potential new members became available in the travel marketplace. However, the rate of decline in our membership has slowed since we became more pro-active in seeking new ways to attract more members and retain existing members, while keeping to the original goal of Friendship Force: "...through the travel of over 61,000 goodwill Ambassadors each year to share the lifestyle of a host family in another country for a week or two."

We have an active publicity officer, two very dynamic members looking after recruiting, and an eye-catching, attractive uniform. The Journey Development team has pursued the idea of themed journeys ('surf, sand and bush'; 'arts, crafts and gardens') to capitalise on the unique features of this part of the world. We have been able to maintain our membership numbers through a very active recruitment campaign in 2018, inducting 11 new members and, incidentally, recruiting several members for other clubs in the district through a spin-off from the media publicity. We anticipate similar activity in 2019.





Hsinchu, Taiwan



Quebec



Northern Illinois



Brussels



Leuven, Belgium



Mexico



English Language Journey from Japan





Albany WA



Quebec, Canada



Fun & games, North Bay, Canada



Meeting the Mayor & local MP, North Bay, Canada



FF Salisbury visit to Careflight

