



friendship force  
MELBOURNE



## **THE MELBOURNE MESSAGE**

Newsletter No. 81

January, 2012

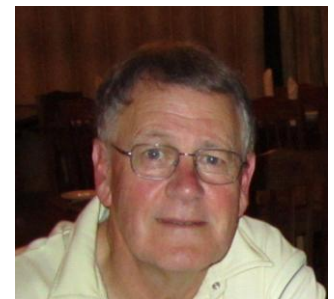
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Web Sites -

Atlanta: – [www.thefriendshipforce.org](http://www.thefriendshipforce.org)  
Australia: – [www.friendshipforce-aussie.org](http://www.friendshipforce-aussie.org)  
Melbourne: [www.melbournefriendshipforce.org.au](http://www.melbournefriendshipforce.org.au)

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Alan Cawsey**



Welcome to 2012. I hope you all had a happy Christmas with family and friends and that the New Year will be a healthy and prosperous one for you.

After a couple of relatively quiet years we are about to undertake a busy three months.

The year has already started for the Conference Committee as we approach this significant event for the Melbourne Friendship Force Club in February. Now is the time for all members to support the Committee and your attendance at the recent workshop has given us the confidence that we will be hosting a great conference. Please remember to check your emails regularly as this will be our main means of communication over the next few weeks.

Over the last few years we have had a successful social event to celebrate Australia Day. I look forward to seeing you all again at this year's function on the 26<sup>th</sup> January.

We look forward to our incoming exchange from Blumenau, Brazil in March. The exchange committee is putting together an exciting program. Please remember that you can participate in the exchange program even if you are not able to host.

I welcome the new Board and look forward to your participation during 2012. Sincere thanks to Nola for your work on the Board over the last two years.



## NOTES FROM THE BOARD



1. The Board approved the purchase of a projector after the Conference, subject to available finance.
2. New members not on line will be charged \$10 extra to cover printing and postage of correspondence, including the newsletter.
3. It was approved to pay Southern DFR fees of \$30.00
4. The club insurance is paid and up to date
5. The Club Charter with FFI has been renewed for 2012.

### MELBOURNE FRIENDSHIP FORCE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR 2012

<b>President/Webmaster</b>	<b>Alan Cawsey</b>
<b>Vice-President/Membership</b>	<b>Graham Gallop</b>
<b>Secretary/Public Officer</b>	<b>Nina McPherson</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Bob Lambert</b>
<b>Assistant Treasurer/Safety Officer</b>	<b>John Ford</b>
<b>Social Coordinator/Merchandise</b>	<b>Jan Felstead</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Liz Cawsey</b>
<b>Exchange Coordinator</b>	<b>Heather Francis</b>
<b>Welfare/Assist Exchange Coordinator</b>	<b>Elly Jongejan</b>
<b>Conference Coordinator</b>	<b>Pat Mills</b>
<b>Auditor</b>	<b>Les Mann</b>

### BOARD MEETING DATES

The board will be meeting this year on the following dates: 29/2, 9/5, 11/7, 12/9 and 7/11.

All members are welcome to attend these meetings as observers. As numbers are limited, please contact Nina or Alan at least a week before the meeting if you would like to attend as a courtesy to the Cawseys who host these meetings.

### SUBSCRIPTION FEES FOR 2012

**Membership fees for 2012 are now due.**

**Single:     \$35.00**  
**Couples:   \$55.00**  
**Associate:  \$20.00**

**The cost of badges for new members is \$20.00 and an extra cost of \$10 applies to new members who are not on line and require hard copies of correspondence and newsletters.**

**A cheque made payable to "The Friendship Force of Melbourne Inc" can be sent to the Treasurer, Bob Lambert, 15 Berrima Road, Rosanna 3084 or given to Bob in a sealed and named envelope at the Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January. Alternatively if you wish to pay by Direct Credit please contact Bob at [blambert@iprimus.com.au](mailto:blambert@iprimus.com.au) for account details.**

## WELFARE

Those recovering from hospital admissions are Barbara D, Val B and Philip P.  
We wish them better health for the rest of 2012.



For anyone else who has been unwell we do hope you are feeling much better now.

### CLUB MERCHANDISE

#### On sale at the Meeting

1. **Melbourne Friendship Force Thank You & Thinking of You Cards** – ideal for writing a note to hosts or ambassadors – 50c each.
2. **Melbourne Friendship Force Ball Point Pens** – a great gift for hosts or ambassadors or for your own use – \$1.50 each.
3. **Melbourne Tram Badge** - \$2.50 each

Please contact Jan Felstead for your purchases.

### MELBOURNE CLUB WEBSITE

As you know our own web site is  
[www.melbournefriendshipforce.org.au](http://www.melbournefriendshipforce.org.au).

All members are requested to feed back comments or suggestions to Alan Cawsey on [info@melbournefriendshipforce.org.au](mailto:info@melbournefriendshipforce.org.au) or at the next meeting.

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

The new redesigned Australian Website is now on line at [www.friendshipforce-aussie.org](http://www.friendshipforce-aussie.org).



## AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE



### 2012 Australian Conference to be held in Melbourne, on 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> February Conference Convenor: Pat Mills

We are now in the final stage of preparation for the 2012 Conference. The Committee is continuing to meet regularly to ensure (hopefully) no stone has been left unturned.

There are 254 registered attendees, which is a wonderful response.

A very well attended workshop was held last weekend. The enthusiasm from everyone augers well for a successful weekend “Meeting in Multi Cultural Melbourne”

To all those who were given tasks on the weekend, thank you for volunteering, please remember the committee is here to assist you with any queries you may have at any time

Alan, Liz, Jan S, Heather and I make up the steering committee with the assistance of Bob, John F and the ever present guardian of the finances, Les Mann.

## SOUTHERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

This conference will be held in Hobart, Tasmania on the 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> October. Please put this date in your diary. More details as they come to hand. Please let Alan Cawsey know if you intend going to this conference.

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

For all members wishing to further their travels with Friendship Force worldwide do not forget to access the internet and various FF web sites to join many planned exchanges during the coming year. There are plenty of opportunities to meet and make new friends all over the world.



## EXCHANGES FOR 2012



### INBOUND EXCHANGE FROM BLUMENAU, BRAZIL

17<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2012

Exchange Director: Jan Felstead



The names of the 13 Ambassadors coming from Blumenau were sent just before Christmas and they have been matched with those who volunteered to be hosts. I hope everyone has now made contact with their respective Ambassadors.

My committee is still working on fine tuning the program. When complete I will email it to all members. I hope that as many as possible can join in the appropriate activities, especially the Welcome and the Farewell. I will have more details at our next General Meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> January.



### INBOUND EXCHANGE FROM NICOSIA, CYPRUS

21<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2012



Early in December FFI offered us an additional incoming exchange this year from Nicosia, Cyprus. Following an email poll of members we have accepted this offer for an exchange in July. Confirmation has been received from Nicosia this week and they anticipate around 20 ambassadors will be coming.

We will be seeking an ED for this exchange at our meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January.



### OUTBOUND EXCHANGE TO LIMBURG, BELGIUM

#### AND NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, UK

21<sup>st</sup> August – 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2012

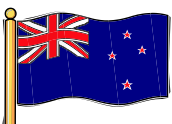
Exchange Director: Mary Wallace-Smith



Sixteen Melbourne members will meet in Brussels on the 19<sup>th</sup> and/or 20<sup>th</sup> of August and on the 21<sup>st</sup> will be picked up by bus and after a trip around Brussels will proceed to Limburg to meet our hosts.

We leave Limburg on the 28<sup>th</sup> August for 4 free nights, for most a trip to Amsterdam. Fifteen of us will then take a trip on a ferry from near Amsterdam to Newcastle-upon-Tyne on the 1<sup>st</sup> September and arrive on the 2<sup>nd</sup> for our second exchange. This ends on the 9<sup>th</sup> and all are free to go their own way to further explore Europe or come home.

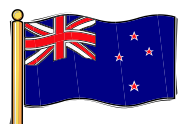
**A short meeting following the General Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January will be held for those members participating in this exchange.**



### INBOUND EXCHANGE FROM CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND

22<sup>nd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2012

Exchange Director: Nola Fletcher



No further details have been arranged for this exchange at this stage. Thank you to all those who offered to host. At this stage approximately 20 ambassadors will be coming. Contact will be made soon with the ED from Christchurch and after the Conference we will begin to plan a program for the visitors. Let us all get behind this exchange as the Christchurch club tries to recover from the catastrophic earthquakes that continue to shake their area.

**Please put all of these dates in your diary now for the above exchanges.**



## SOCIAL REPORT

Jan Felstead



The Social Committee will be meeting after the Melbourne Conference in February to finalise details of the social calendar below.

We are expecting 40 people at our Australia Day Lunch this year. Obviously this remains a popular social event. See you all at Jo and Anita's. Details below.

Details of our Friendship Force Day celebrations will be announced at the Australia Day Lunch.



## AUSTRALIA DAY 2012



Barbara Doggett will be organizing this function which will once again be held at Jo and Anita's, home.

**DATE:** Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2012

**TIME:** 12 Noon

**COST:** \$10.00

Pies, salads, lamingtons, platters of fruit along with some wine and soft drink will be supplied. You may also wish to BYO drinks of your own choice.

Jan Felstead will run the usual Australia Day quiz and Nola will be running a raffle.

## SOCIAL DIARY FOR 2012

MONTH	FUNCTION
January	Australia Day celebration at Jo & Anita's on 26 <sup>th</sup>
February	Melbourne Conference 10 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup>
March	Friendship Force Day 1 <sup>st</sup> . Blumenau Incoming Exchange 17 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>
April	Outing to be arranged. Dine out on Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>
May	Soup and sandwich function. Possible 3-day getaway
June	Murder Mystery evening. Dine out on Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>
July	Cyprus Incoming Exchange 21 <sup>st</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>
August	Soup & sandwich function. Dine out on Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>
September	Cheap & Cheery Sunday
October	Christchurch Incoming Exchange 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup>
November	Cup Day/Oaks Day function. Dine out Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>
December	Christmas Function

## DIARY FOR 2012

### MEETINGS/EXCHANGES/CONFERENCES

#### January, 2012

20<sup>th</sup> General Meeting

#### February, 2012

10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Australian FF Conference, Melbourne

#### March, 2012

9<sup>th</sup> General Meeting

17<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Inbound Exchange, Blumenau, Brazil

#### May, 2012

18<sup>th</sup> General Meeting

#### July, 2012

20<sup>th</sup> General Meeting

21<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> Inbound Exchange, Nicosia, Cyprus

#### August, 2012

21<sup>st</sup> Aug – 9<sup>th</sup> Sept Outbound Exchange to Limburg, Belgium and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK

#### September, 2012

21<sup>st</sup> General Meeting

#### October, 2012

Southern District Conference in Hobart 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>

22<sup>nd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Inbound Exchange, Christchurch, NZ

#### November, 2012

16<sup>th</sup> AGM and General Meeting

## 2012 SUPPER ROSTER



### 2012

20 <sup>th</sup> January	Frank and Val Boyd
9 <sup>th</sup> March	Margaret Fleming and Alison Hocking
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Enzo and Bernadette Floreani
20 <sup>th</sup> July	Jo and Anita Infanti
21 <sup>st</sup> September	Elly Jongejan and Peter Verhoef
16 <sup>th</sup> November	Marie Keith and Yvonne Larkin

**If unable to attend on your allocated date  
please arrange a substitute.**

### NEXT MEETING

The next General Meeting will be held at the Phyllis Hore Room at the Kew Library (Melway 45D6) on **Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2012 at 7.30 pm.** Look forward to seeing you there.

**Please bring a plate of supper.**



### 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 upon 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 nations,  
the cause of friendship, love and peace  
will be furthered.  
I can make a difference.



friendship force  
INTERNATIONAL