

### **30 years of Friendship Force**

As many of you may know the Friendship Force organisation celebrates its 30 th birthday in 2007. Since its establishment with the support & endorsement of President Jimmy Carter, FFI has continued to foster positive relations between diverse people & cultures in more than 60 countries. In 1992 it was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. The organisation is expanding into many new countries & here in the UK we now have 20 clubs since the creation of a club in Oxfordshire earlier this year.

Your committee is planning activities to celebrate this special event in early March 2007. More details will follow shortly so watch out for them but if you have any ideas of how you wish to celebrate please contact any committee member as soon as possible.

### **Outgoing Exchange to Vogtland, Germany**

Our 2007 visit to Zwickau, the home of the beloved Trabant motor vehicle(!), has been confirmed. The East German club are looking forward to seeing us between 13th & 20th June. It is likely that we will fly with Easy Jet from Bristol to either Berlin or Prague & then onward for 2½ to 3 hrs by road. Depending on what people prefer, this could permit an extension, for those who are interested, of a few days in one of these capitals. As with all Easy Jet bookings, the return flight costs can vary enormously (maybe from £50 to as much as £380 return depending on the day of the week and how full the flight is when booked) Flight booking and thus the exact definition of dates, is unlikely to be possible before the beginning of 2007 but all those with an interest are asked to contact Gavin before the AGM. The present scheduled flight times to and from Bristol are good and, if they do not change, it should not be necessary to overnight en route. It is too early to be definite but it is hoped that the complete exchange, without the extension and providing that we can book early enough, may be possible for as little as £250 to £300 per person.

### **Incoming Exchange from Manawatu, New Zealand**

Firm dates are still awaited but it is likely that our antipodean friends will be with us in the 3rd week of May. We will need lots of support from hosts, day hosts & helpers for the many events planned so if you can help in any way, please keep this time free! More details of this & the trip to Vogtland will be presented at the AGM.

### **Annual General Meeting**

Notice is given that this year's AGM will be held on Sunday 19 th November at 13:30 at Jo Pollock`s house (20 Epworth Close, Truro). As happened last year, food and drink will be available from 12 noon on but, this year, it will all be provided so bring nothing but yourselves.

This is your club and your chance to say what you want regarding changes, social activities or whatever. Don't feel that you have to wait until the AGM however, as any committee member will be pleased to know your thoughts at any time.

The AGM will deal with the accounts, auditors, the election of officers, constitutional matters and consider agenda items for next year's UK conference. Immediately following the AGM we will have an informal discussion about the club, its activities and exchanges. Any proposals for amendments to our constitution must be sent to the Secretary and President by 29 th October.

If you are unable to attend the AGM in person but would like to make comments or send apologies for absence, please let me know by Sunday 12 th November. Under

the constitution, all committee members will resign at the AGM and all may stand for re-election. Positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and up to eight committee members. We hope that members not currently involved will agree to stand for election.

***John Baughan - Secretary***

## **Social Events**

### ***Christmas Dinner - Friday 8 th December***

As last year, Margie has booked the Carlton Hotel. The menu is on the enclosed sheet (back of the AGM agenda) so please decide on your choices and return the tear off part to her with your payment.

### ***Bowling at Porth – Sunday, 28 th January.***

Following this year's very successful outing, the same venue has been booked for 12 noon. The cost will be £9.50 with bowling or £6.50 for the lunch only. Please contact Liz

### ***Quiz Night – Friday, 16 th February***

This is provisionally programmed for the evening of Friday 16 th February, probably in Truro but the exact details have yet to be confirmed – partly because it will depend on the numbers who want to come. We will discuss this and decide what to do at Jo's after the AGM.

### ***30 th Anniversary of FFI – March 2007***

Again, exact details have yet to be fixed but likely to be early in the month.