

AFS North Shore Newsletter

July, 2010

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TAKAPUNA
NORTH SHORE 0740



**Intercultural
Programmes**
New Zealand
Ngā Herenga Tātai o AFS

"From Wellsford to the Bridge"
<http://www.afsns.org.nz>

NEXT MEETING –

Sunday 25 July 2010 7.00 pm

MEGAZONE

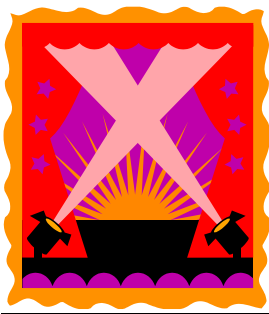
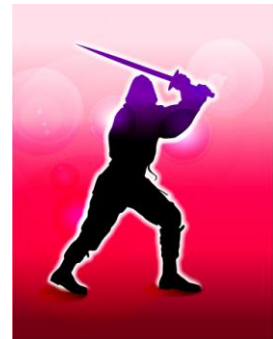
3 GOLDFIELD PLACE, GLENFIELD

Exciting Chapter Meeting – open to Returnees, Selected
and Hosted Students!!! Register your interest NOW!!!!!!!

For a game of ***LASERTAG!***

Cost: \$12 for half hour game or \$24 for 1 hour.

Bring: IMPORTANT: Closed-In Shoes (not jandals or sandals), snacks, drinks



There is a room available for parents or non-participants to meet in. As this is a "chapter meeting", we expect that you will attend. If for any reason you are unable (or find it difficult) to attend, please contact Pamela Cullen, r.cullen@xtra.co.nz or phone her on (09)4880509 to discuss this. Please also confirm your attendance with Pamela immediately with your preferred length of game.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well it is that time of year when the wheel turns again

We say goodbye to those leaving us to return to the other side of the world and we welcome home those that are returning from having had the "experience of a life time".

I had the pleasure of speaking to a local school this week, and was again informed that "we love having AFS students, they are the cream of the crop and such great ambassadors for your exchange programme".

Congratulations to the newly selected students, a big "Welcome to the AFS family", and may your journey that you are about to embark on live up to the expectation that you imagine. I am sure that it will.

Come join us at the Lasertag, book in with me please, and keep the next meeting free for the winter feast that we have planned.

Cheers

Winston

RAFFLE REMINDER!!

1st Prize
2010 Suzuki Swift 1.5 XE
Value: \$18,500
Supplied by Winger Suzuki, Hamilton
Registration & GST included. Price car has manual transmission and may attract. Winner may elect to pay \$1400 additional for an automatic model.

2nd Prize
Toshiba Satellite Pro L500 Laptop
Value: \$840^{incl GST}

3rd Prize
Travel Voucher
Supplied by Orbit Travel
Value: \$500

4th-10th Prizes
\$100 Whitcoulls gift vouchers

AFS
Intercultural Programmes
New Zealand
New Zealand's Top 100

\$2
TICKETS

Raffle closes: 4th September 2010
Raffle drawn: Sat, 20th September, 2010, at Hamilton Police Station.
Prize winners determined by random number generation.
Results published in Sunday Star Times, 26th September, 2010,
and on www.afs.org.nz
In the event of cancellation, this will be published in the Sunday Star Times on 26th September, 2010, and all money will be refunded.
Organiser: CDP Bay, 211 Gibson Rd, Hamilton

Net proceeds will be used for AFS Education Trust work and will be divided among the chapters and for the AFS Trust as the Trust determines.
Limited to 25,000 tickets, in books of five tickets, numbered from 10,001 to 45,000.
All prize winners will be contacted by phone where possible. Prizes must be claimed from the organiser by 20th December, 2010. Prizes cannot be converted to cash.
By Statute issued under Section 17 of the Gambling Act 2003
Licence No: 072048202
Department of Internal Affairs
P.O. Box 10000, Wellington, P.O. 0000 011 001

We still have plenty of raffle books to distribute and sell. Please help if you can – if you can't help with buying/selling but you're happy to phone people then your help would be appreciated.

Please contact David Williams (North Shore Coordinator) on 441-4296, or dcpes@xnet.co.nz

(PS. For anyone overseas who wishes to buy a book, you're welcome to pay by internet banking, and I will fill the stub in on your behalf & scan the raffle ticket info back to you – a car to come home to would be cool ☺)

- For internet banking, our account is
Account AFS Intercultural Programmes North Shore Chapter
Bank Westpac: 03-0275-0103471-00

Please include book numbers so David can reconcile!

HELP!!! URGENT!!!

Thibault, from France, is arriving at the end of July for a year and we DESPERATELY need to find a first family (if not a permanent one!) who is based on the North Shore. Thibault's profile is absolutely lovely and if you know of ANYONE at all who would like to view his full profile we would love to email it to you. If you think you can help IN ANY WAY, please contact Heather (09)4268128 or Su (09)4265030. We hope you will consider this! Thank you.

AFS Intercultural Programmes

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Thibault – France

Age: 16

Home: Issoire,
France

**Native
language:**
French

English level:
Good

Interests: piano,
guitar, handball

Programme: 1
year, July 2010–
July 2011

AFS Intercultural
Programmes

0800 600 300
www.afs.org.nz

Thibault is a sporty and musical person who describes himself as being; social, easy-going and adaptable. He plays the piano and guitar and really hopes to be able to continue playing the piano in New Zealand. His other passion is handball, which he has been playing for nine years. Thibault comes from a large family and is very excited to have the opportunity to experience a kiwi family and lifestyle. He plans to be an engineer like his dad.



HOSTING

We welcome and sincerely thank all our new host families. If you missed out this time round, we will have more students arriving in January and July next year, so you will still have plenty of opportunities to host.

If any of you are still “thinking about it”, you may like to read about the experiences of Lauren Smith below. Remember, our students would not be able to go away without families to host them – and remember (or look forward to!) the excitement when your son or daughter learnt they had a host family.....

I went on an AFS exchange to Germany in Feb. 2007 – Jan 2008. It has now been nearly two and a half years since I returned back to NZ from Germany, and I am on my next overseas adventure. I have just read the latest AFS newsletter which I still enjoy reading, and thought that people might be interested in hearing about my experiences since going on an exchange. I am currently doing a university exchange in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Living overseas again has made me think a lot about my AFS year and it has put it into perspective for me. AFS is really challenging. Even though my exchange was filled with awesome experiences, it was also full of a lot of hard times. AFS is so challenging because you have to fit into another family, you have to learn another language and at times you just feel completely different and wonder what the people around you are up to. I have found my exchange in Brazil nowhere near as challenging as living in [Germany](#), as I don't live with a family that have rules and I have friends that speak English the whole time. I have a lot of exchange student friends to discuss and experience everything here with. My exchange in Brazil has also been easier because of the skills that I developed while on an exchange.

When I was in Germany, I had three host sisters, one was 5, 3 and one was born while I was there. Since I arrived back in NZ, my host family has always asked me when I am going to come back in Germany. In three months I will be arriving back in Germany, to my host family picking me up at the airport! I am going to be able to meet my host sisters all grown up, and meet the youngest which is apparently a little monster. The two oldest girls have been telling everyone that their sister from New Zealand is going to come visit them again. They also keep asking their mum and dad when I will be coming back (since the beginning of the year). When I talk to them on the phone, the oldest still knows which country the best kiwifruit come from, and hopefully still remembers where NZ is on the map!

I am so grateful for my host family, and really value the relationship that I have with them. So reading the AFS newsletter and seeing that students still need host families motivated me to write something, that might influence people to decide to host. Reading through all the letters from exchange students, they all talk about the amazing things they've seen, but the common thing and the most important part of their exchanges, is it's not about where you go, but about the people you meet. The highlights of my exchange included seeing new things, and experiencing a new culture and learning a new language, but the most important thing was the people I met and the relationships I developed.

So I hope that you will all consider hosting a student, and open up to the opportunity to develop a special relationship with someone from another country.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HOSTED STUDENTS

Welcome to the following hosted students who are due on July 30. We are so glad you chose to come to New Zealand, and we hope you have the most amazing year here. Haere mai.

| Student | From | Host family | College |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Thibault Grange | France | Catterall | Whangaparaoa |
| Can Sefkatli | Turkey | Ashby | Westlake Boys |
| Linda Tallroth | Sweden | Forlong | Orewa |
| Josefine Larsen | Denmark | Forlong | Orewa |
| Luigi Pagani * | Italy | Forlong | Orewa |
| Jacopo Pradel * | Italy | Farrimond-Kelly | Northcote |
| Sophie Bernard | Canada | Rolls | Rangitoto |
| Manon Fleurus | Belgium | Simmons | Northcote |
| Gylfi Andresson | Iceland | Parris | Whangaparaoa |
| Christophe Philippot | Spain | Rump | Northcote |
| Melanie Schroeter | Switzerland | Kruger | Rangitoto |

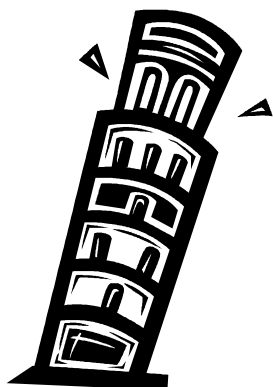
*These students are due on 2 September

FAREWELL TO OUR OLD HOSTED STUDENTS



A group of our hosted students at Auckland Airport, some leaving, some staying – saying goodbye.

INTENSIVE PROGRAMME (IP) HOSTED STUDENTS FOR 2010



AFS North Shore extends a very warm welcome to the following students and we hope that your stay in New Zealand is fun and memorable and not too wet! These students arrived on July 10 and 11 and are here until September 5.

Elena Martellotta of Italy will be living with the Taylor family of Torbay and attending Long Bay College.

Pierre Georges of France will be living with the Harris family of Orewa and attending Orewa College.

Miriam Embarek Hernandez of Spain will be living with the Wickenden/Davies/McKenzie family and attending Long Bay College.

WHAT'S ON

July 25 AFS meeting (Lasertag)

Aug 22 AFS meeting (winter feast!)

Sept 19 AFS meeting

Oct 17 AFS meeting

Dec 8 Tiri Tiri Matangi Island:
AFS Overnight

Aug 1 Harbour v Auckland, North Harbour Stadium, 2.35pm

Aug 5 – 22 *GREASE!* The No. 1 Party Musical,
Civic Theatre

Sept 4 Harbour v Waikato, North harbor Stadium, 7.35pm

HOSTED STUDENT'S NEWS

Dominic from Switzerland

Talking about my life here in NZ makes me everytime a bit sad, because I must realize that I'm already half through my stay and in 6 months I have to leave here everybody and everything! I actually can't find the right words to tell you from my experience here.

As I arrived on the 29 of January in Auckland, first time looking on the sea, I couldn't really realize that this is actually happening. My feelings were so mixed, I was nervous, excited, happy...all at the same time. It's really difficult to describe such an experience! On the 23 of December 2009 I got the information to my family. Now I can say that was the best Christmas present ever, because my host family is absolutely great. Being part of the Cullen family is indescribable and I don't wanna leave them!! I also found friends for my life, not just from AFS, I have also lots of kiwi friends, which make my exchange even better! All in all I can say: THIS IS MY YEAR, THE YEAR OF MY LIFE, A ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE! And because I'm running out of time I don't wanna spent my time writing a report and so I finish here now! Thanks for being part of my year!

Dominic Juon

VISITING STUDENT'S NEWS

Hi I'm **Vale from Costa Rica**. I have been in New Zealand for almost 5 months and I'm living in Greytown, Wairarapa so I'm finding Auckland quite big even comparing it with Wellington. I'm staying with the Unwin family and Amanda, we were really close friends in Costa Rica even before the exchange so it's really exciting to see her and spend time with her in a different country. It's awesome too see how big is the AFS family and I appreciate that they can find us families all around the country and give us the opportunity to explore New Zealand without paying lots of money for the accommodation. Ok in my time here we went to the All Blacks vs South Africa game on Saturday night at Eden Park and that was really cool coz I'm learning to love rugby. Also I loved just the fact of being walking around the city, Queen St and shopping with some other friends! Even though it took me 12 hours to come here by bus I'm so happy because I can say now that I already visit Auckland, and to be honest I loved the landscape from my window in the bus it was really pretty! We are also planning to go to the zoo and some other places in the rest of my time here! Thanks AFS for giving this opportunity to all the students in NZ! ☺

TEAM NORTH SHORE

| | | | |
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