

October 2012

PO BOX
331686
TAKAPUNA
Auckland City

From Wellsford to the Bridge"

October 2012 AFS MEETING

Sunday 28 October, 7pm

At Sunnynook Community
Centre

148 Sycamore Drive,
Sunnynook



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Special Points of Interest:

North Shore is currently hosting 12 students from: Chile, Japan, Canada, France, Finland, Bolivia, & Brazil.

And our 2012 students (14) have gone to:

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Japan, Germany, Netherlands, Panama, Serbia

Come dressed in a Halloween costume.

Boys bring sweet finger food;

Girls bring savoury finger food.

BYO drinks, decorations and a pumpkin with a carving knife (for a competition)

All Hosted and Selected students must attend.

Hosted students: please bring your community service books.

President's Report

Hi,

Another month has gone past quickly and the majority of our hosted students spent the school holidays in the South Island on the NZET trip. It sounds like they had a really enjoyable time trying some of the new experiences NZ has to offer such as kayaking, bungy and staying on a boat in the Milford Sound to name a few.

So now we are in the final term of your school year in NZ. Best wishes for those of you who have taken the challenge of sitting NCEA exams.

We have just been through the third and final selection round for the year and have another 13 selected students departing mainly in 2013, either at the beginning or mid-way. This was great to see so many students applying for an AFS experience.

Just after our selection was finalised, we also received news that EF is closing its student exchange operations in New Zealand and Australia with immediate effect. AFS is stepping into the breach and trying to place some of these EF selected students for 2013 departure.

We have also received the profiles of the students wanting to come to NZ next year, so take a look and see if you would like to have an international student in your family next year as we need to get these students place before school breaks up in December.

We are still looking for people to join our committee for 2013—many hands make light work and I would love for someone to take over the newsletter from me.

Robyn



Robyn and Daniela at ARA Botanical Gardens

Dates for Your Diary

Event	October	November	December
Chapter Meeting	28th Sunnynook —Halloween		2nd Venue to be confirmed
Other		16-18th End of Stay Camp—Compulsory for Hosted students!	8th Christmas in the Park 7.30pm Auckland Domain

What's On

World Triathlon Championships Final 20-21 October Queen Street

NCEA exams start 9 November

Santa Parade Sunday 25 November at 2pm—Queen Street

Inbox — Life in NZ

Only 2 months left in NZ and these 9 last months has been so amazing. I had to change of family in June and I am now really happy with them. I learned how to surf (even if I still have a lot to learn) and I was able to keep riding, like in France. I had a great time with them even if I broke my leg while skiing almost **2 months ago. But I'm still enjoying my time in NZ. I like school here which is so relaxed compared to** back in France; there is a lot of international student so I have now got friends from all over the world. I have seen many places in the north island and NZ is definitely a wonderful country with so many things to do and to see. I am also really impatient to go to the south island trip in December.

Valentin

Hey, my name is Christian, I'm from Brazil and I've been living in NZ for the past 7 months. Everything past so fast that I can't believe I have just more 3 months left.

When I first got in NZ, I was living in Kaukapakapa and attending Orewa College. I lived there for two months and moved, since they were just my welcome family, to West Harbour and start studying in Massey High School.

Even though it was hard to leave Orewa and "start a exchange again", I'm very happy to have changed and I'm very happy in West Harbour. I'm playing basketball for my school in here and we got 2nd place in West Auckland and 4th place in the Auckland tournament. This month, I had the opportunity to attended a South Island tour and it was the most amazing trip I've done in my life, I saw the most amazing views, done a 134 meters bungy and 300 meters swing and I met lots of new people that I'm sure I'll be able to visit during vacations. I also turned 18 during the trip and was a awesome way to celebrate it.

Hope everybody else is enjoying your exchange and have a mean as end of it! Love you folks



NZET South Island Tour October 2012

Hosted Students Community Service

Community Service is part of your AFS exchange in NZ . Here are some more opportunities for community service:

Saturday 27 October is the Dairy Flat school Agricultural Day—in previous years AFS hosted students have run their games - so we would like volunteers to do this please. See the Facebook posting on AFS North Shore page. Please contact Su by emailing mark.vincent@xtra.co.nz or phone 09 426 5030

Sunday 25th November is the Auckland Annual Santa Parade—

The parade consists of many themed floats with the climax being the float with Santa on; children and the "young at heart" line the streets for this celebration, a must event for anyone who believes in Santa! Ask your host parents/siblings about this.

If you missed signing up for participating in a costume, there is still the opportunity to dress up as a clown and collect money from the crowd watching. If you are interested please contact Zoe by emailing info@leukaemia.org.nz or calling 0800 15 10 15.

Newly Selected Students

Please keep Friday 7 December 3pm to Saturday 8 December 3pm free for Orientation Camp in Waiwera YMCA Camp—details will be sent shortly.

Congratulations to:

Aiden Matheson-Dunning—USA 2013

Isabelle Cohen—Japan 2013

Jessica Torkington—Chile 2013

Bryar Renshaw—Japan 2013

Emily Clarke - Italy 2013

Lily Ando—Italy 2013

Graeme Dempster—Sweden 2013

Rebecca Hodder—France 2013

Warrick Morris—Sweden 2013

Charlotte Davis—Norway 2013

Bri Tither—USA 2013

Hannah Cantrell—Germany 2014

Michael Tracey—country to be confirmed

Joining previously selected students for 2013:

Olivia Coleman—Germany 2013

Trenton Doyle—Venezuela 2013

Briana Brockliss-Lodge—Brazil 2013

Rehua Kaio—Brazil 2013



Happy Birthday to Rocio on 27 October. We hope you have an awesome New Zealand birthday!

Inbox

One of our hosted students, Veronica, featured in the North Shore Times:

Chilean students get in touch with NZ

By REYNALD CASTANEDA

After saving for five years, students from Santiago College, Chile, are now in New Zealand to experience Maori culture and Kiwi hospitality.

Seventy-six Chilean high school athletes, along with their five teachers, were hosted by Albany Senior High School for the school's sports exchange programme.

"The idea is for students to go back home and speak of their experience with a different culture," Santiago College head of sport Gimena Navaes says.

"In South America, Maori culture is very special because it's different from us," she says.

In a one-day sporting



Cultural exchange: Seventeen-year-old Veronica Lehtinen, left, from Albany Senior High School, and 15-year-old Andrea Munizaga, from Santiago College in Chile, share a friendly game of volleyball.

event, the students will compete in hockey, volleyball, football, and rugby.

After the competition,

local families are hosting an exchange student to experience Kiwi hospitality.

Joan Gubbins, 16, from

Santiago College, says her family has been saving for a trip like this since she was 6 because volleyball is an expensive sport.

"New Zealand is a beautiful country and the people are charming," she says.

Albany Senior High School deputy principal of sport Alec Solomon says: "It's a fantastic way for students to mix and mingle."

Albany Senior High School sports co-ordinator Katy Hamilton, says it's very likely that the school will do a similar trip.

The Chilean students were in Auckland for three days and will head down the country for the next three weeks to compete with other high schools.

Hi, I am Cindy from New Zealand, currently living in the province Tucuman, located in the NorthEast area, for my 1 year student exchange in Argentina. It has now been more than 7 months since I arrived in Argentina and it surprises me how fast time has gone. Although it took me a couple of weeks to adapt myself to the culture, the language, the people and the general rules of Argentina, the rough days were definitely worth it now that I think about it.

My province is one of the tiniest provinces in Argentina, but the density of population is one of the highest. To add to that, it gets ridiculously hot in summer, max.45 degrees and extremely cold in winter. It is now spring, which I would say is the most ideal climate I have experienced so far in Tucuman. I had to change my host family a month and a **half after arriving, due to the family's economic matters, (my support person mentioned that this kind of situation may be common in certain countries)** and now I live with my classmate who has a twin sister and 2 older sisters, which one of them has a little baby boy, which makes me his aunt :).

School here is amazing, I go to a public, conjoint school called 'Escuela Normal Juan Bautista Alberdi', one of the biggest schools in Tucuman. I got placed in the graduating class, where I got to choose the so-called '**orientation**' (theme) of the class- social sciences. Other than Social Sciences they have Natural Sciences and Visual Arts. I have great relationships with my friends. It surprised me how they came up to me when I first arrived, because due to the lack of cultural diversity here in my province, they approached me with curiosity, rather than judgemental minds etc. **The idea of 'party' is very big in Argentina, thus all my friends and I go to parties regularly, and other than that** we often get together to spend time together, to hang around etc. In early August, we all went down to the south of Argentina, to a city called Bariloche for our graduation trip which consisted of 9 days and 8 nights of winter activities and parties. Other than just my friends, the people of Argentina are very warm-hearted and outgoing. The truth is that I feel stronger connections and feeling for some friends that I have met in Argentina than those in New Zealand that I may have known for years and years.



Apart from my Argentine friends that I have met during my exchange, something I would like to share about is the relationships with other exchange students that I have met during my time in Tucuman. At the end of February, I arrived in my province with a Canadian girl, 2 Thais (boy and girl), 1 Australian boy and 1 American girl. Then we got to meet the other exchange students that had come in August last year, whom were 1 Danish boy, 1 Austrian girl, 1 Norwegian boy and 1 German girl. Perhaps it was because we knew that we were all in the same boat; but we had a very strong bond between all of us, we went out on outing all together, AFS activities, the casual catch-ups etc.. I can say that the privilege of going on a student exchange, other

than learning a new language, growing up internally, having a life time experience is sharing cultures with people from all around the world and building a bond with them through the uneasy times. Not to mention the free accommodation I will have when I travel further around the world.

Today I am happy and I feel that what I living through now is ideal, perfect and rather magical. I am very lucky to have been given this opportunity to live a completely different life, thus my goal now is to make the most of every minute I have left in Argentina till I get on that plane back to New Zealand.



Hallo everyone, I'm Stephanie and I've been on my year exchange in Germany for about 8 Months now. So much had happened since I wrote the last letter, starting with the various holidays and trips that I have been on during the Summer holidays; to Berlin with my school year for a week, sailing in Poland with my host family, a bike tour around Lake Constance and a week in the city of Constance where I had the opportunity to go to Zurich for the day with 24 other AFS students from all around Germany. Then to Vienna, Hamburg and a few other places, including the Flossenburg Concentration Camp with my host family, towards the end of the holidays, I swear I spent less than three days in a row actually in my house.

Since the last letter I've also made closer and more friends in my school, which in the start was quite difficult with all the exams, now we can go to the movies, hang out during lunch. Then there are my friends from my youth group, which meet up to hang out or organise events, such as our up and coming Pyjama Party fundraiser in November. With them last weekend I played "Cranium" in GERMAN. Even though I've been here a while, pantomiming Oktoberfest and such things as "poor, black cat" was very interesting and challenging at times.

One real highlight was meeting my dad in London for a few days of travel. Although it was very strange for me to be driving on the left side of the road and that all the TV shows were in English, to then to be surrounded by German speakers at breakfast. We got to see some really cool things; the art museum in an old power station, the London Bridge and Tower, Buckingham Palace and the Harrods store as well as things we didn't expect to find *cough we got lost cough* such as the Borough Market and the Houses of Parliament.

Going back to school after that was a bit hard; as it felt like the holidays however, because I am now in the last year of school, my class does really cool Motto-days were we all dress up and those that don't have to pay a Euro towards their combined Ball/Graduation. So far we have had a "Think Pink" day, a "Ladies and Gentlemen" day and a "80's Style" day which we really fun. The time has just flown by since then and next week is my areas autumn holidays for two weeks, where I'll be visiting my host sister in the Black Forest with my host mother. I am starting to realise how fast the time is going, it's starting to get cold and people are starting to prepare for Christmas already, soon after which I will be leaving : (I'm trying to get as much done in the amount of time I have left, to experience as much as I can, hopefully including my first White Christmas, fingers crossed.



Myself at Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin



Myself (right), fellow Kiwi Georgia and Aussie Lauren on our bike tour around Lake Constance

Hosting

It would be really great to have someone to work alongside me in the Hosting area. This is a fun, rewarding role **which doesn't take a lot of time**. If you would like more information, please contact Su on 09426 5030 or at hosting@afsns.org.nz Thanks

If you are interested in hosting a student next year, new profiles are going up on the AFS website on a daily basis so have a look at http://www.afs.org.nz/Host/Student_profiles/ and please contact me if you would like further information: hosting@afsns.org.nz

Next year students will be coming for 5 months (Semester Jan - June) or 10 months only (Jan - early Dec).

North Shore have been asked to host 3 semester students and 6 ten month stay students. We need to finalise hosting before schools close in December.

Here are some of the students requiring host families:



Hannah, Greenland, 16, Danish speaking, 10 month exchange

Hannah is a caring, funny and respectful girl who is full of life. She likes meeting new people and visiting new places and as such is very excited to be going on exchange. She loves animals and has a dog, 3 cats, 2 fish and many hamsters. In the future she would like to work with animals. Hannah likes art and in particular drawing and also likes to go swimming and to be in the outdoors.



Jonas, 16, Switzerland, German speaking, 10 month exchange

Jonas is an active teenager who likes to keep busy. He likes being outdoors and started horse riding at the age of 6 and has performed in competitions as well as gone on mountain trails. He enjoys fly fishing which he has been doing for the last 2 years. In the winter he likes to go snowboarding. He also enjoys music and plays the electric guitar in a band and has recently starting learning how to play the flamenco guitar. He has recently taken up Kung Fu and has been playing soccer since he was 10.



Tabea, 17, Germany, 10 month exchange

Tabea is a well-liked and hardworking teenager. She works hard at school to get good grades and is active outside of school with her sports. In particular she loves volleyball and practices most days. Tabea also likes the arts and music and enjoys partaking in both. She also loves being outdoors, spending time with nature and swimming. She hopes to be able to continue with volleyball in the future as she is passionate about this sport.



Cullen, 16, USA, 5 month exchange

Cullen is the younger brother in his family and is described as an easy going and friendly person, yet mature and works hard at school. His passion is soccer which he has been playing since he was 5 years old. To complement his soccer he goes to the gym once a week. **The foreign exchange students at Cullen's school sparked his interest to go on exchange and Cullen is excited to be going on an adventure to another country.**



Caroline, 17, Canada, French speaking, 10 month exchange

Caroline describes herself as outgoing, generous and hardworking. She has many interests including fashion, dance, photography and the outdoors. She is in an intensive dance class at school. She also has a part time job working at a restaurant. Caroline loves travelling and loves discovering new places, cultures and people.



Frida, 17, Sweden, 10 month exchange

Frida is a motivated, generous and friendly girl. She is passionate about football and has played since she was 6 years old. During her summer breaks she likes to hang out with her family at their country house where they go sailing, swimming and water skiing. In the winter she enjoys skiing and ice skating.



Snorre, 17, Norway, 10 month exchange

Snorre is an avid musician who plays the piano and trumpet in his school orchestra and the bass guitar in his band. His other major interest is aeroplanes and in the future he would like to work either as a pilot or an air traffic controller. During the winter he likes to go skiing and enjoys doing slalom. Snorre is described by his friends and family as a happy, patient and relaxed individual. He is social and is looking forward to discovering a new culture with new people.



Nadine, 17, Finland, 10 month exchange

Nadine is a happy, cheerful and kind person who loves to laugh. She is very social and likes meeting new people. She is very fond of sports and enjoys playing tennis and handball in her leisure time. She has been thinking about doing an exchange since her brother returned from an exchange in the USA and explained what a life changing experience it is to live in another country.



Sebastian, 16, Denmark, 10 month exchange

Sebastian is an active individual who is described as open minded and happy. He loves swimming **and has participated in the Danish Championships numerous times. Sebastian's other interests** include cooking, cycling and being outdoors in nature. Sebastian is looking forward to his exchange and is excited to learn about a new culture and to make new friends.



Ana, 17, Argentina, 5 month exchange

Ana comes from deep in the south of Argentina. She describes herself as open minded, living in the moment and always open to trying new things. Ana has a range of different interests from dancing where she studies classical, contemporary and modern dance to skiing in the winter. She loves being in the outdoors and going for mountain walks or camping. In the future she would love to study something in humanities or something to do with the environment.



Bruna, 16, Brazil, Portuguese speaking, 5 month exchange

Bruna loves to go out with friends and family. This is why she has applied to go on exchange, and she specifically chose New Zealand as her cousin came here and had an amazing experience. Bruna likes to keep fit and goes to the gym and for runs on a regular basis. On her exchange she hopes to meet many people, see new places and discover a new whole new culture.



Luis, 16, Uruguay, Spanish speaking, 5 month exchange

Luis applied to go on exchange after hearing so many people exclaiming how much they had enjoyed their exchange year. He is open to any and all new experiences and is excited to learn about a new culture and a new way of life. Luis loves playing rugby and last year was the captain of his team. He also enjoys playing soccer, camping and the outdoors in general. In the future Luis would like to be an engineer.



Tomoko, 16, Japan, 10 month exchange

Tomoko is a hardworking and considerate teenager. She enjoys playing tennis and is vice-captain of her team. Tomoko likes to cook and hopes to be able to share her recipes with her host family as well as learn some new recipes. She has heard about the natural beauty of New Zealand and hopes to be able to do many outdoor activities whilst on her exchange.

Raffle tickets on sale now!!!!!! FIRST PRIZE \$10,000 Travel

If all numbered tickets are sold, you have 1/27,000 chance of winning first prize—that is much better odds than Lotto or Big Wednesday!

Many of our past members who have hosted students would probably like to be able to travel to visit their hosted son or daughter.

Those of you who are returnees—wouldn't you love to be able to go back and visit your host country. If you won the first prize you would be able to head away and make that visit.

The travel has to be booked by the end of March 2013 and has to be taken before the end of 2013.

If this is you, please send me an email or phone and I can post a ticket or book out to you. \$2 a ticket or \$20 for a book. Internet banking makes this so easy to purchase and there is no excuse!
Robyn

AFS
Intercultural Programmes
New Zealand
Ngā Hōwhiriwhiri Tūtahi o AFS

Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures

\$2 TICKETS

Raffle closes: 19th November 2012
Raffle drawn: Sun, 3rd December, 2012, at Hamilton Police Station.
Prize winners determined by random number generation.

Results published: In Sunday Star-Times, 9th December, 2012, and on: www.afs.org.nz. In the event of cancellation, this will be published in the Sunday Star Times on 30th December, 2012, and all money will be refunded.

Organiser: Cliff Boyd, 59 Gibson Rd, Hamilton

Net proceeds will be used for AFS Intercultural Programmes work and will be divided among the chapters and the AFS Trust as AFS determines.

Limited to 27,000 tickets, in books of ten tickets, numbered from 10,001 to 37,000.

All prize winners will be contacted by phone where possible. Prizes must be claimed from the organiser by 3rd March, 2013. Prizes cannot be converted to cash.

By licence issued under Section 37 of the Gambling Act 2003

1st Prize
\$10,000 TRAVEL PACKAGE
Supplied by Orbit Travel

2nd Prize
iPad2 with WiFi/3G
RRP \$779
Supplied by PB Technologies Ltd Auckland

3rd-5th Prizes
\$100Z gift cards

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PO Box 10009, Wellington, Ph: 0800 257 887

Subscription Notice

Subscriptions (for year ending 31/12/12) for the North Shore Chapter is due. \$50/family and \$25 for an Associate Family (after 3 years involvement). No fee for hosting families and committee members. Sending families are expected to join before their student leaves NZ. Part of the subscription is passed on as levies to the National Office and the remainder is used for our own Chapter expenses.

Name:.....

Address:.....

Please fill out this form and post with you cheque to
PO BOX 331686
TAKAPUNA
Auckland City 0740

or pay electronically to Westpac 03 0275 0103471 00 with your surname as a reference.

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NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS	YOU.....?	All members and helpers welcome! Next meeting: 7th November 7.30pm Africa Bar, William Pickering Avenue, Albany	

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Find us on the web at www.afsns.org.nz