



# AFS North Shore Newsletter

November 2012

PO BOX  
331686  
TAKAPUNA  
Auckland City

*From Wellsford to the Bridge*

## Inside this issue:

President's Report	2
Dates for your Diary	2
Life in NZ	3
Meetings	4
New Selected Students	4
Hosting	6
Raffle	6
Team North Shore	7

## 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

## December 2012 AFS MEETING

Selected, hosted, returnees & families

Sunday 2 December, 7pm

Selected students leaving early 2013: parent orientation from 6.30pm



At North Shore

Rowing Club

Northcote Rd Extension (off Taharoto Rd), Lake Pupuke

End of year family picnic—bring your own picnic

⇒ Farewell speeches from Valentin, Momoko, Tommy, Robinson, Rocio, Florencia, Ale, Veronica & Christian.

⇒ Presentations to host families

⇒ Farewell selected students leaving in January 2013

## President's Report

Hi,

This is the last newsletter for 2012 and we farewell the students who have spent a year with us in New Zealand. We hope you have enjoyed your year in NZ and will come back and visit us in the future. Last month we had some of our farewell speeches from 4 of these students and as **one student put it so aptly: "AFS exchange is not just a year in her life, but a life in a year."**

We also say farewell to the 6 selected students who will be leaving in January/February 2013. Use the next couple of months learning the language of the country you will be going to—it really makes a difference.

This year has been a year of change for AFS, particularly in the North Shore, where we saw so many volunteers leaving after having completed many years of service for AFS. I personally want to thank you for the time and effort you have contributed to AFS and I know you all have been enriched by your volunteer experience.

So to the parents new to AFS and the returnees, we are looking for new volunteers. AFS as an organisation is changing and next year will see new processes for selection, orientation, and parent support for students away. These are areas that have been identified as needing to change to meet market expectations. We still will need volunteers to host students coming into NZ, and for various tasks related to the running of our part of the AFS organisation. Please consider whether you can spare a couple of hours a month to assist us or 11 months/5 months to host a student.

Robyn



Robyn and Daniela at ARA Botanical Gardens

## Dates for Your Diary

Event	November	December
Chapter Meeting		2nd North Shore Rowing Club
Other	16-18th End of Stay Camp—Compulsory for Hosted students!	8th Christmas in the Park 7.30pm Auckland Domain

### What's On

NCEA exams start 9 November

Santa Parade Sunday 25 November at 2pm—Queen Street

7-9th December Selected Students for Jan/Feb 2013 departure and Returnees Orientation Camp

8th December Christmas in the Park 7.30pm

## Inbox — Life in NZ

Veronica received at Albany Senior High School Prize-giving: Excellence for Level 3 Outdoor Education, a Honorary ASHS student cert for completing 1 year of study as an AFS Scholar in NZ and Most valuable player for Girls Tennis certificate .



Veronica with her host parents, Belinda and John Kitchen at Albany Senior High School Prize-giving



Next year

*17thFeb 2013 -AGM at 7pm.*

*Sunnynook Community Centre*

*We need people's help in 2013.*

*Following an Auckland Scavenger hunt –  
details to come*

*Meeting dates for 2013*

17 Feb, 14 Apr, 23 June, 13 Oct at Sunnynook Community Centre. Other activities will be scheduled in the months where there is no Sunnynook meeting.

---



Happy Birthday to Momoko on 26 November, Lara, on 2 December, Veronica on 18 December and Florencia on 28 December. We hope you all have an awesome New Zealand birthday!

## I am an Exchange student

*I am an EXCHANGE STUDENT. How do you know what is a DREAM if you never accomplished one. How do you know what is an ADVENTURE if you never took part in one. How do you know what is ANGUISH if you never said goodbye to your family and friends with your eyes full of tears. How do you know what is BEING DESPERATE, if you never arrived in a place alone and could not understand a word of what everyone... .. else was saying. How do you know what is DIVERSITY if you never lived under the same roof with people from all over the world? How do you know what is TOLERANCE, if you never had to get used to something different even if you didn't like it. How do you know what is AUTONOMY, if you never had the chance to decide something by yourself? How do you know what it means to GROW UP, if you never stopped being a child to start a new course? How do you know what is to BE HELPLESS, if you never wanted to hug someone and had a computer screen to prevent you from doing it. How do you know what is DISTANCE, if you never, looking at a map, said "I am so far away". How do you know what is a LANGUAGE, if you never had to learn one to make friends. How do you know what is PATRIOTISM, if you never shouted "I love my country" holding a flag in your hands. How do you know what is the TRUE REALITY, if you never had the chance to see a lot of them to make one. How do you know what is an OPPORTUNITY, if you never caught one. How do you know what is PRIDE, if you never experienced it for yourself at realizing how much you have accomplished. How do you know what is to SEIZE THE DAY, if you never saw the time running so fast. How do you know what is a FRIEND, if the circumstances never showed you the true ones. How do you know what is a FAMILY, if you never had one that supported you unconditionally. How do you know what are BORDERS, if you never crossed yours, to see what there was on the other side. How do you know what is IMMAGINATION, if you never thought about the moment when you would go back home. How do you KNOW THE WORLD, if you have never been an exchange student?*

## Hosting

### HOSTING

We are urgently looking for host families for next year. We are sending a large number of students overseas on exchange within the next 12 months but have had no offers to host. Unfortunately the system does rather fall over when this happens. Can you help out? Hosting a student is a wonderful experience for the entire family. Our chapter has been asked to find homes for 6 year long students (arriving approx 25 Jan until 10 Dec) and 3 semester students (arriving approx 25 Jan until 16 July). We need to enrol students at their high schools before the schools close in the next three weeks or so, and if this doesn't happen then students will have their arrival dates delayed, which will be hugely disappointing for them.

If you think you might be able to host a student for any length of time, even if as a welcome family for the first six weeks or so, I would love to hear from you.

Many thanks,

Su Vincent ph: 0942 65030 or email me at [hosting@afsns.org.nz](mailto:hosting@afsns.org.nz)

To see the profiles of the students ,go to [http://www.afs.org.nz/Host/Hosting\\_a\\_student/](http://www.afs.org.nz/Host/Hosting_a_student/)

## Raffle tickets final days—please return

Please return all ticket butts and money or pay electronically to Westpac 03 0275 0103471 00 with your surname as a reference.

**AFS**  
Intercultural Programmes  
New Zealand  
Ara hōwhiriā Tatai o AFS

Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures

**\$2** TICKETS

Raffle closes: 19th November 2012  
Raffle draw: 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](http://www.afs.org.nz). In the event of cancellation, this will be published in the Sunday Star Times on 9th 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**

**Orbit**  
Corporate Travel  
2012 Off-peak Member of Travelodge

**QANTAS**

Licence No: LT2060997  
Department of Internal Affairs  
PO Box 100095, Wellington, Ph: 0800 257 887

## TEAM NORTH SHORE

President	Robyn Wickenden	473 4449	<a href="mailto:president@afsns.org.nz">president@afsns.org.nz</a>
Vice President	Ray Hu	021 02344195	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@afsns.org.nz">vicepresident@afsns.org.nz</a>
Secretary	Belinda Kitchen	415 4440	<a href="mailto:secretary@afsns.org.nz">secretary@afsns.org.nz</a>
Treasurer	Margaret Rolls	478 9488	<a href="mailto:treasurer@afsns.org.nz">treasurer@afsns.org.nz</a>
Selection	Chelsea Bridgman	021 862923	<a href="mailto:selection@afsns.org.nz">selection@afsns.org.nz</a>
Orientation	Robyn/Heather		<a href="mailto:orientation@afsns.org.nz">orientation@afsns.org.nz</a>
Support	Ian Russell	444 1241	<a href="mailto:support@afsns.org.nz">support@afsns.org.nz</a>
Hosting	Su Vincent	09 426 5030	<a href="mailto:hosting@afsns.org.nz">hosting@afsns.org.nz</a>
Newsletter editor	Robyn Wickenden	473 4449	<a href="mailto:newsletter@afsns.org.nz">newsletter@afsns.org.nz</a>
Fundraising			<a href="mailto:fundraising@afsns.org.nz">fundraising@afsns.org.nz</a>
Intensive Programme	Su Vincent	09 426 5030	<a href="mailto:intensive@afsns.org.nz">intensive@afsns.org.nz</a>
<b>NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>	<b>YOU.....?</b>	All members and helpers welcome! Next meeting: 27th February 2013 7.30pm Africa Bar, William Pickering Avenue, Albany	

**Sender:** AFS North Shore Chapter, P.O. Box 331686, Takapuna,  
Auckland 0740.

Find us on the web at [www.afsns.org.nz](http://www.afsns.org.nz)