



AFS NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

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TAKAPUNA

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Inside this Issue:

President's Report	Page 2
Inbox	Page 3
AFS Photos	Page 4
Hosting	Page 5
Dates for your Diary	Page 6
What's On	Page 6
Team North Shore	Page 7

Only 4 months till
2014.....



Make the
most
of your
Kiwi
Experience!

President's Report

Now we have to say good-bye to our 2 Intensive Programme students from Spain; Marc & Belen. You were here for such a short-time (only 8 weeks) and I hope you enjoyed your brief taste of NZ life in your summer break from home.

For 3 weeks in October, I will be hosting 2 teachers from Thailand, who will be spending some time in the local schools and observing how we teach our students in NZ. They should be here in time to attend our next Chapter meeting in October, so please make them feel welcome. They are both actively involved with AFS in Thailand.

We are now looking forward to 2014. So far we have not had many students from the North Shore apply to go away next year. If you know of anyone who wants to do a student exchange encourage them to apply on-line.

The profiles for the hosted students (both the 10 month and the 5 month programmes) are going up on the AFS website:

www.afs.org.nz If you are interested in hosting next year please contact Andrea Coleman as we have to have the paper work done by mid-December.

Those students who are currently hosted in NZ, you need to do some ambassador work with the friends you have made in NZ, encouraging them to host an AFS student next year. You are our best marketing tools!!!

For those of you who are participating in the NZET South Island trip these coming holidays – have a great time – I know it is always a highlight for the year.

Robyn

Inbox

MY EXPERIENCE IN NEW ZEALAND

I'm Belén, I am a 17 year old student from Spain, I've been in this country for 7 weeks already and I'm leaving it in a week and I'm going to tell you a little bit about my experience in this country with AFS.

I always wanted to come to New Zealand, so when I found the intensive AFS program I couldn't believe it, it was like a dream come true!

The first days were a little bit confusing, because of the jet lag, because everything was totally new, etc. so it was kind of an adaptation time. But after the first week I began to get closer with my host family and to get into the culture. I have to say that I never expected to be that lucky with my host family, of course I heard in the orientation about other people experiences with their host family, how amazing it was, but you never realize how great it is until you experience. I feel really comfortable with my host family even though I haven't been living with them that long, but I love them all so much and I feel like in home.

I started school in the middle of the last term, so it was a bit hard to make friends in the first place, also because I'm going to a school with so many international students, so the kiwi students are really used to them, so they are not really interested on foreign students, so you are the one that has to give the first step. I found that quite hard, but once I started it become much easier.

I didn't have a culture shock, it's much more differences in small details than a big difference between my culture and the kiwi culture that I've been living with.

Most of the weekends my host family has taken me to places near Auckland, so I've been able to know the area.

I've really enjoyed this experience, I'm leaving New Zealand in a week and I wish I could stay longer. It's been an unique experience.



Photos of AFS North Shore



A big welcome to our returnee Lauren who recently came back home to New Zealand from an exchange in Serbia!



Belen and Kaitlin doing an online quiz together



AFS North Shore Midwinter Group Photo 2013

Hosting

If you are interested in hosting a student, new profiles are going up on the AFS New Zealand website on a daily basis so please have a look at

[Http://www.afs.org.nz/Host/Student_profiles/](http://www.afs.org.nz/Host/Student_profiles/)

And please contact: hosting@afsnz.org.nz for more information.

Host a student



Welcome the world to your place

Hosting an AFS international student gives you the chance to experience a new culture in your own home. It's a fantastic opportunity.

You'll be introducing someone to Kiwi life. And you'll expand your own horizons too.

If your kids are planning an AFS exchange, this will give them a taste of what they are in for. If they have already been on an exchange, this is your chance to repay the favour.

AFS offers the support you need. All you have to do is carry on as usual and treat your international guest like any other family member. That's why they have come to New Zealand.

AFS friendships last a lifetime. By welcoming an AFS student, you are making the world a friendlier place and giving your family an unforgettable experience.

Dates for your Diary

Event	Date	Venue
Public Information Night	September 3	Epsom Girls Grammar
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	September 28—October	
North Shore Chapter	October 13	Sunnynook Hall

What's On

TOI AOTEAROA

Explore the Gallery's permanent collection in one of the largest and most absorbing presentations of New Zealand art. Travel from the present day back to the 1600s, uncovering the creativity and cultural diversity of New Zealanders. Discover their preoccupations with identity, migration and the land.

Venue: Auckland Art Gallery

Date: Till 31/12/2014

Ticket: Free



TALL SHIPS FESTIVAL 2013

Labour Weekend will see a floatilla sail into Auckland Harbour. The ten ships will be visible from Waitemata Harbour and led by the much-loved Spirit of New Zealand best known for youth voyages. The fun four days will start with the ships' arrival on Friday. Guided by Maori waka; the Harbour will become a vantage point for those wanting to view the historical boats. On Saturday The powhiri welcoming the crew will take place at the Cloud kick-starting a festival-like atmosphere. The public will be free to hop on board and see the ships up close on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 10am-4pm.

Venue: Voyager Maritime Museum

Date: 25/10/13– 1pm to 28/10/13 2pm

Ticket: Free



TEAM NORTH SHORE

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NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS	YOU.....?		All members and helpers welcome! Next meeting: 25 Sept 2013 7.30pm Africa Bar, William Pickering Avenue, Albany