



ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

Exchange News

August 2007

Volume 1, Issue 1

Up coming Events

- August 25-26
Inbound Weekend
Halls Gap
- October 19-20
Planning Weekend
Stawell
- November 24-25
Final Outbound
Briefing
Horsham
- January 18-20
07-08 Outbound
Depart Melbourne
Airport

For more information visit:

9780.rotariyyouth.org.au

This Edition - Brazil

06-07 Inbound -
Isadora Haddad

Committee -
Sue Williams

Current Outbound -
Lachlan Preston

Outbound 2008 -
Lachlan Trigg

Next Edition - Japan

Rebound -
Catherine Grawich

Current Outbound -
Ben Gledhill.

Committee -
Max Dalrymple

Outbound 2008 -
Andrei Khaidurov

Hello and Welcome to the first Edition of Exchange News!

As a fun loving and hard working group the Youth Exchange committee would just like to share will fellow members of District 9780 the highs of youth exchange.

This newsletter is designed to keep club members across District 9780 up-to-date on the movements and events of some of our current inbound, outbound and rebound students as well as committee members of the Youth Exchange Committee.

Each edition will feature a different country that we as a district exchange with. The aim



Catherine and Ethel, Halls Gap

of doing it this way is that we can circulate through all 9 countries highlighting each one individually. For this first edition we decided to start with the ever partying country of Brazil!

Before anything more is said though, we, the writers of this newsletter, would like to introduce ourselves. Catherine Grawich and myself, Ethel Oliver, are two recently returned exchange students, who are fortunate enough to have taken up an active role within the Rotary District 9780 Youth Exchange Committee as Student Liaison Officers. Catherine spent her year abroad in District 2610 in Japan during 2006, and I spent my year in District 6290 in Northern America in 2005. We both had the most amazing experiences and feel that helping others to have an amazing and truly unforgettable exchange is an extremely worthy cause!

We look forward to publishing this newsletter and if you have any thoughts or comments about the newsletter, please feel free to contact us at

rotariyyouth9780@hotmail.com

Yours in Rotary—Ethel and Catherine

06-07 Inbound - Isadora Haddad, Brazil

Brazilian Inbound, Isadora Haddad has just recently returned to her homeland after spending a year in her new home of Horsham. Sponsored by the Horsham Rotary club, Isadora—or Izzy as she soon became known, attended Horsham College where she enthusiastically embraced school life, actively taking part in events such as the swimming sports, athletic sports, social, was constantly seen dancing in the canteen

and even getting a gig to sing the Australian National anthem at School Assembly. Speaking with Izzy she says one of the many highlights of her year was simply hanging out with new friends at school and safari. *"I love hanging out with friends, and its going to be so hard leaving them"*. Another huge part of her year was of course her Host Rotary Club; Horsham. Isadora attended the club meetings each week using the

time to get to know the Rotarians. In return for her enthusiasm the Rotarians embraced Izzy's exchange - often taking her to places she had never dreamed of, such as flying over the Grampians, the Great Ocean Road and all over the Wimmera.

Isadora would like to "Thank" everyone who made her exchange year the most amazing ever!

Committee Member – Sue Williams



The Outbound Group for 2008 at the first briefing in Horsham.

Despite being one of the newest members of the Youth Exchange Committee, Sue Williams is no stranger to the Program.

Sue became a member of the Horsham Rotary Club in 2001 and since then has hosted 3 students and counselled

both an inbound and an outbound. Sue has also been youth officer at the Horsham Rotary Club three times and has been actively involved in the Halls Gap Selection Camp even prior to joining the District YE Committee.

It was at this annual Camp that Sue first met the

exchange students and enjoyed seeing how they promoted peace amongst each other and made life-long friends across the globe.

Currently Sue's role on the District committee is to look after students from, or going to, Brazil, Canada and the USA. In working with these students she commented that she considers it a privilege to be part of their exchange experience.

Current Outbound – Lachlan Preston

Earlier in the month we asked current outbound Lachlan Preston to write a little about his experience. Here's what he had to say:

"When I was asked to write a small piece about Rotary Exchange, I thought there could be nothing easier and quickly agreed. After all, this has been the best 6 months of my life so far. Then came the day I actually got around to writing and I found it a lot harder than I had expected.

It was actually quite difficult to describe to someone who hasn't experienced Rotary Youth Exchange for themselves, just how amazing, crazy and incredibly fun things I have done this year are. To explain to people who don't know that exchangers always have the best parties, but, that

sometimes we just need time to be alone. To explain how that even though we come from all the countries of the world, and all have differing opinions we all share the same joys and triumphs, feel the same loneliness and all face similar problems. That even though we love being together, we also have our own friends and all miss our families just a little bit.

Through Rotary Youth Exchange, I was able to come to Brazil, where I have now just had the best 6 months of my life. I have travelled all over the country and met so many different people. And yet, I still have 6 months more, - including the Grande Viagem (Big Trip)! I have made friends I'll never forget, made mistakes, learnt, gained places to stay all over the world, missed my family, cried once, learnt to speak all over again, gained a bit of weight, started using

the gym, taken up new sports and continued with previous pursuits but in totally different ways.

But most of all I have matured, learnt the real importance of family and friends, fallen in love with my second home and had the best time of my entire life."



Thanks to Lachlan for this...

We couldn't have said it any better!

Outbound 2008 – Lachlan Trigg



Isadora Haddad with Host Family Sue and Alan Williams along the Great Ocean Road!

Little did Lachlan Trigg know that when his father, joined Rotary just over 8 months ago would he find himself preparing to jet off to the other side of the world.

Through his father's, Ian Trigg, involvement in Rotary and meeting Isadora at school Lachlan decided to

nominate for an outbound position in 2008. After going through the selection process which includes a weekend in Halls Gap and an interview in Ballarat, Lachlan became a successful candidate and gained an exchange position to Brazil.

Since then Lachlan has been preparing himself to go to

Brazil by brushing up on his Portuguese, researching on the 'net' and regularly attending Horsham Rotary Club meetings.

Despite thinking he will miss his family, friends and dogs, Lachlan is looking forward to embracing a new culture and school life in 2008!