



**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND
STUDENT EXCHANGE SCHEME
District 9650**



P O Box 250
TAREE NSW 2430
March 2008

Telephone 02 6552 4871 (H)
02 6552 4200 (W)
Fax 02 6552 6052
Email banham@tsn.cc

TO: DISTRICT 9650 ROTARIANS AND PARTNERS

Re Australia – New Zealand Student Exchange 2009

DO YOU KNOW OF THIS EXCELLENT PROGRAM ? IF NOT I WOULD ASK YOU TO TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO READ THIS INFORMATION. YOU COULD VERY EASILY CHANGE THE FUTURE OF A STUDENT IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Yes! It is now time to seek applications for the 2009 exchange programme. I would like to introduce the district committee for the New Zealand Exchange for the year 2009 and outline a little of what the Committee does.

The programme has successfully operated in District 9650 for well over twenty-five years and has seen 10 to 15 students from the district each year exchanging with New Zealand. The numbers we exchange depends on how many students are nominated from each side of the Tasman. The Exchange is aimed at young people who are in either years 8, 9 or 10 from across the District.

There are four Australian Rotary Districts in the program and all six New Zealand Districts.

The Australia - New Zealand Exchange Committee (often called the RANZSE Committee) is part of the Youth Exchange activities of Rotary in District 9650.

Each student accepted into the program is paired with a student (and their family) in New Zealand and each matched student then spends one school term in each country. The Australians in 2009 will go to New Zealand at the beginning of term two with the New Zealanders spending term three in Australia. Students take part in all activities that any other student would participate in – they can take work from their school to do while they are away to lessen any disruptions to their education.

The maturity and confidence the students gain through the exchange sets them well to be leaders in their school when they return.

The participating families in the program meet the majority of the costs. The direct costs this year (2008) are approximately \$3,500.00 plus whatever spending money the student spends or extra trips the family does while hosting.

The clubs involvement is to nominate one or more students, meet the cost of a jacket, 'T' shirt and backpack for each student (about \$150.00) and cover the costs of the students attending several club meetings. Students are expected to attend several Rotary meetings as well as to address and share their experiences with their sponsoring and hosting clubs. This not only expands the student's public speaking skills but also furthers Rotary's profile through the accompanying parents.

The Exchange Jacket is presented to the student at the discretion of the club before the student departure for New Zealand.

The nomination process follows three steps, firstly by clubs publicising the program at local high schools and gaining the schools support. Secondly by getting initial application forms completed and returned to the District Committee Chairman. Finally reviewing the completed application kit and recommending nominations to the District Committee.

The completed application kit along with the clubs endorsement must be returned to the chairman by 31st July 2008.

This year all the application forms are available from the District Youth Programme Web Site by going to www.d9650youth.rotarnet.com.au and then to A-NZ_Matched and double clicking. The forms are all in pdf format and can be down loaded.

Should you wish to obtain further information on the programme please feel free to contact myself or any member of the District Committee.

- . Jim (Sue)McKenna – Taree 65523972 (h)
- . Greg (Sue) Moran – Inverell 6722 3269 (h)
- . David (Dianne) Banks – Macksville 6568 4010 (h)
- . James (Diana) Christian – Bellingen 6655 0277 (h)

I commend this program to your club and look forward to your continued support in a program that furthers the goals of Rotary.

Yours in Rotary

Allan Banham

Chairman
RANZSE D9650