

## Waitakere News

February 23rd, 2014

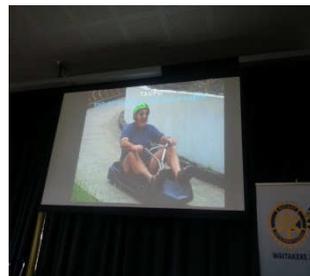
Vincent our IYE Student

Vincent our IYE student gave us an update on what he has been up to over the past few months.

Every year students from around the world travel to other countries for a year through the Rotary International Youth Exchange program. During their year the students stay with four Rotary families, three months with each family, attend the local school and Rotary Club meetings - and get to do some fairly amazing activities.

Those students hosted in our District have various weekend camps, a three week South Island tour and attend our Rotary District [Challenge Camp](#) - amongst other things.

Waitakere Rotary have both hosted students and sponsored local students to other parts of the world for many years.



NB – one of these photos is not of Vincent but his host Dad Graham on the Luge in Rotorua, showing how he drives Ritchie buses!

It was nice to have Vivienne, Vincent's current Host Mother with us to hear his presentation.

One of the recent events Vincent attended was arranged by Linda – an 'audience' with the Swiss Ambassador – Vincent wrote:

*I went with Linda to a Swiss meeting for the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Switzerland and New Zealand. They made a Swiss video with some famous Swiss-Kiwi that live in New Zealand. I was able to meet the Swiss Ambassador, Valerie Adams and Len Brown. I talked to the Swiss Ambassador who said I could email her and then I could come down to Wellington at the next occasion to be able to see what the work of a diplomat is. 'Diplomat' is one the jobs I am looking at studying later on.*



Update on Jack – he's now at home, and would appreciate visitors, so those of you who can, please call in and see him.

Bob introduced another visitor, Olly, who is an ex Rotoracter and RYLA student and has just completed the “Coast To Coast’ 243km race. He is keen to come along and talk to us at a future date about a charity he supports which helps families in the Ukraine (where he come from)



We also had the pleasure of welcoming Warren (President of Kumeu Rotary) and their IYE student Katrine, who we’ll hopefully see at our meeting next week as it’s a joint meeting with Kumeu Rotary.

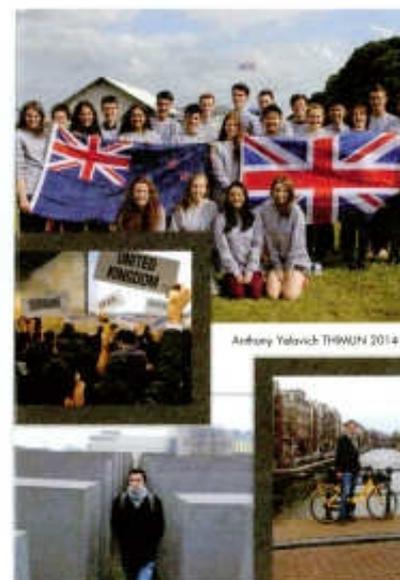


Another visitor (albeit a very quiet one, who came and went almost unnoticed) was Joanne, Craiger’s wife, who deposited hundreds of beautiful red roses for us to take home .... there should have been some very surprised wives that evening ... a little late for Valentine Day, but everyone knows how much ladies like flowers! Thanks Joanne, for thinking of us. (See roses in the photo above)

Earlier this year we sponsored a student, Anthony Yelavich, from Liston, to attend the Model United Nations Assembly in The Hague. Anthony has sent us this message:

*Dear Members of the Waitakere Rotary Club*

*I cannot say how much it means to me that you were able to help me go on this trip. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity I’ll certainly never forget so I’d like to say a big “Thank You” to the Board and all your members. I would be more than happy to meet you and share some of my experiences, please email me so I can arrange a time.*



Please advise Alan if you will not be attending on Wednesday (or if you’re bringing a guest) [apology@details.co.nz](mailto:apology@details.co.nz) ... **and remember to contact Terry or Derek if you’re attending the picnic at Coopers Creek on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1-4 pm**

Date: <b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Graham Aylett: Private Investigator Joint Club Meeting (Kumeu to join us)</b>	
Meeting Manager	Derek
Sergeant	Mike
Speakers	<b>Graham Atlett</b>
Greeter	Jim
Grace	Peter
<b>Squire 1</b>	Graham
<b>Squire 2</b>	Craiger
<b>Thanker</b>	Luke
<b>Parting Thought</b>	Alan

**Cont ....**

## Dates to remember

**There should be something here for everyone .....**

2<sup>nd</sup> March – Fellowship Picnic, Coopers Creek, 1 to 4pm.

Please can you indicate your attendance to either Terry by e-mail ([tmhodes@vodafone.nz](mailto:tmhodes@vodafone.nz)) or to Derek by telephone (09) 4127904. We will maintain contact with the confirmed attendees on the day for weather cancellations.

9<sup>th</sup> March - Rotoract "Pancake Breakfast" – People power required to support them.

13<sup>th</sup> March - Henderson Rotary's Golf Tournament at Huapai – Teams of four golfers.

15<sup>th</sup> March – "Relay for Life" at the Trust Stadium.

( Sponsors wanted: Go to <https://aucklandwest2014.everydayhero.com/nz/john-2>)

March 16<sup>th</sup>: - Waitakere Rotary's "Soap Box Derby" at Westgate.

21<sup>st</sup> March: - - Child Cancer Foundation "Beads of Courage" Collection Day – Volunteers needed

March 22<sup>nd</sup>: - New Lynn Rotary's "International Walk For Water Day" at Unitech. (Help needed)

And at the risk of being accused of "having our own agenda and not being interested in other people's ideas" ... we have some space and yes, this one is mine ....

My Godson's daughter, Bella – diagnosed with cancer at 13 months, with her 1047 'beads of courage' – one for every medical procedure she underwent. Thankfully now at almost three, she's in remission, and 'eating healthy'!!

Anyone who can help for an hour or so on the "Beads of Courage" collection day would be most welcome .... Sheena

