



September 2014

Dear Counsellor,

The District Youth Exchange Committee has decided to replace the annual Regional Tour for Inbound students with a 10 day / 9 night stay at the Mittagundi Camp. The District Committee expects ALL Inbound students to attend.

Why?

There are several reasons which include:

- The Regional Tour was becoming quite expensive for the students 5-7 days (\$750)
- Many of our Inbounds had already visited some of the places that the Regional Tour visited with their Host families
- The Regional Tour was a huge task and commitment for several of the Committee members who had to drive the bus, supervise and care for the students and purchase all food and then cook!
- Last year only seven students were interested in attending the Regional Tour and this required 3 Committee members to be present (a bus driver, supervisor and a female leader)
- The Regional Tour involved long days of bus travel (up to 7 hours at a time)

After much discussion and research the Committee decided to provide a uniquely Australia bush experience utilising the Mittagundi camps program. Modelled on the famous Timber Top experience Mittagundi has been running since 1978. The camp site is 40kms east of Falls Creek and houses a 1900's pioneer style farm. The young folk are challenged to experience life without modern gadgets, make-up, time, electricity and yes, mobile phones! Activities include: milking the cows, chopping wood, cooking, harvesting vegetables, blacksmithing, hiking in the high plains, overnight camping in tents and abseiling.

It is expected that all Inbound students will attend this camp and we are asking Clubs to support this initiative by your District committee and the students. There are a few vacancies for outbound students to join the camp also. District Coordinators will contact the inbound student's parents advising them of this camp and its cost, it would be appreciated if your club could make payment on behalf of the student and recoup the cost from the student's family. Please contact us should any problems regarding payment occurs.

Dates:

Depart from Albury Railway Station at 12.00pm of **Friday 14th November 2014**

Return to Albury Railway station at 12.00pm of **Sunday 23rd November 2014**

Cost - \$425 for 10 days / 9 nights

Next Step

Students must complete the attached forms and email signed copies by **Friday 19th September** to ianandsaldavies@bigpond.com It is expected that each student's counsellor will assist in this process. The original hard copy, along with a cheque for \$425 must be posted to the Treasurer Colin Foster, P.O. Box 135, Rutherglen, 3685 by Monday 13th October 2014.

Alternatively there is the ability for Direct Credit, please mark this with the Name of the Inbound Student.

Rotary District 9790 Youth Exchange

BSB 012590

Account 280593647

Each student was provided with information about Mittagundi at the orientation program at Dookie and were also addressed by a staff member from Mittagundi. There is also an excellent website which provides further detailed information for Clubs www.mittagundi.org.au
Our District 9790 should be justly proud of our Inbound and Outbound students and we all look forward to seeing them develop as a result of their extensive exchange program.

Ian Davies - Secretary, District 9790 Youth Exchange.

(M) 0409 948 285

Email: youthexchange@rotary9790.org.au