

February Report

Name: Brittany Bickford

Sponsor club: West Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook

Host club: Hellerup, Denmark

Current Host Family: The Rønborg's

Email: kir@ronborg.dk

Host Club Counsellor's name: Christen Rindorf

Email: cr22@rindorf.dk

Activities:

22nd January: Arrived nice and safe and was taken to my first host families place straight away. I went shopping at the local shops with my host mum, Kirsten, and my host brother, Søren, so that I could get some winter clothing so I didn't freeze. Later in the afternoon, Søren and I went into Copenhagen so that he could show me around a little. I saw their Opera House and the main port. In the evening, we went to a dinner with their family friends and I managed to stay up until about 9pm.



Bagsværd Lake and my house

The Opera House



A hotel in Copenhagen

24th January: Went to the Rundetaarn (the Round Tower), with Christen. It is one of the best-known and most popular structures in Denmark and has been a distinctive feature in the Copenhagen skyline since 1642. There is an observatory at the top. The Round Tower was built by Christian IV between 1637 and 1642.



Panorama of the top of the Rundetaarn

25th January: Went to Arken to the Museum of Modern Kunst (Art). Arken opened in 1996 and lies like a ship just steps from the sea. The museum's architecture challenges the visitor. Sharp contrasts between conventional galleries and acute angles, between light and dark, wood and concrete, stimulate the sense and heightens perception. Also went down to the beach just behind the museum, which was very odd as there were no waves at all and the sand had snow on it.



Beach behind the museum

26th January: Australia Day! Today it snowed! Only a little bit but it still snowed, which was nice until I was out all day in it and my feet were very cold. Today Christen picked me up and we went into Copenhagen with his daughter and two of his grandchildren. We climbed up a church steeple which was very slanted and icy, which meant it was slippery, which wasn't so much fun but it did have a wonderful view of Copenhagen. That evening I had my first Rotary meeting where I presented them with the flag from the club. For my Aussie spirit on Australia Day, I wrapped myself up in my Australian flag when I arrived home from the Rotary Meeting.

The kings square



View from the top of the church steeple

30th January – 6th February: Left for Bjerringbro on Jutland for the Intro Camp for all the new exchange students in Denmark from Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Argentina and South Africa. On the 2nd we went into Viborg to see the Cathedral there and then we did a little shopping. On the 4th we went to Århus to the Aros museum and also to do some shopping. While in the Arus museum, I saw Boy, the sculpture but Ron Mueck. That night, as an evening activity, we watched a Danish movie which translates into Flickering Lights. On the 5th we had a party in the evening, which was a lot of fun. We had all sorts of music playing, as well as a few performances from the students. I even performed, even though I was really nervous. I sang Misery Business by Paramore and sang along with the music as it played.



Cathedral in Viborg

Boy by Ron Mueck



My class on Intro Camp and our teacher

7th February: I had my first day of school today which was rather boring as I arrived late so I missed the first lesson and went to the second lesson which was Physics, where they had a test and then after that I came home because school had finished for the day for my class. So I was only at school for an hour and a half.

8th February: Today was a better day at school as I had a full day from 8:10 till 3:30. The classes I had were Religion, English, French, and Danish. I met the people in my class and made friends with a bunch of them, whom I sat with at lunch and during classes.

10th February: Cooked dinner for my host family today. In the afternoon I made some ANZAC cookies for my family and, when we ate some of them, I told them about when and why they were made,

and why they were called ANZAC cookies. For dinner I made them Honey Chicken Drumsticks, using a recipe from home and using a soup mix that Dad sent over for me along with my Vegemite, Tim Tams, Minties and Jaffas. The dinner went down well and they enjoyed it quite a lot, which was good.

11th February: School today and then off to Sweden with my host family. There was a storm the other night and part of the roof on their house in Sweden came off, so we have to go fix it up again. I'm writing this before I have left as I am sending the report before I go as I don't know if there will be an internet connection.

Rotary Meetings attended:

26th of January, first meeting

2nd of February, did not attend as I was on Intro Camp

9th of February, attended but did not speak

Public Speaking:

Spoke at my first meeting on the 26th and performed a song on Intro Camp on the 5th of February.

Language proficiency:

Slowly improving. Able to pick up some of the words when being spoken to in Danish, but can't reply yet except for saying Ja and Nej.

Can understand when my host brother asks if I would like more milk or water.

Social and Sporting activities:

Went to a party with my host brother on the 29th of January.