

Every now and again the D9500 Youth Exchange Committee receives requests from overseas Rotary districts to host a 14 or 15 year old student for SHORT TERM exchange (STEP).

These are quite different to the normal 12-month exchanges (LTEP) that are a regular part of our International Youth Exchange program.

The Youth Exchange Committee has been approached by German Multi-District clubs who have a couple of students who are applying for such an exchange within Australia.

**STEP students come to Australia for six weeks and go on Safari tour for three of those weeks.** They generally arrive two weeks before and go home one week after the tour ends.

**Dates for 2019 would be:**

Arrive 29 or 30 March 2019

1 April to 12 April: attend school and stay with host family (10-12 days)

14 April to 4 May: Safari tour

6 May to 10 May: attend school and stay with host family (2-8 days)

Fly home to Europe: 11 May 2019

The students are still undertaking the application process at the moment so no names are available as yet.

The student is sponsored by one of our District 9500 clubs during their short stay and may attend their local school as a “guest”. Experience has shown that the best outcome for the student and the program is where the German student can be placed at a school that teaches German.

District 9500 clubs are urged to consider this opportunity and to ask their local school if they are happy to have an international short term student and if anyone in their school community is willing to host the student. Often schools have short term language students and there can be plenty of parents/students who would like to have an international student stay with them for three weeks.

Sponsoring clubs may involve the sponsored student in their programs whilst they are here. Host families do not have to be Rotarians, nor do they need to have younger people in their homes.

It is a good way of promoting Rotary and the Youth Exchange Program and gives people a taste of what longer-term hosting would be like.

If any person, family, Rotary club, or school is interested in taking up this opportunity of hosting a short term exchange student, please contact D9500 Youth Exchange Chair, Ian Howlett, who will be very happy to discuss the finer details.

Ian’s contact details are: email: [ian.howlett1@bigpond.com](mailto:ian.howlett1@bigpond.com) or by mobile on 0448 229 571 or home phone on 08 8842 2173.