

Report on Visit of Anna Grothe as SISEP visit

Anna arrived in Brisbane on Saturday 30 June 2012.

After being picked up in Brisbane by Julie and Michael she travelled back to Warwick and then immediately went to the Glennie Heights Scout Group's annual Camp Frostbite at Wirraglen near Toowoomba. Anna spent three nights camping with scouts and venturers from Glennie Heights as well as two venturers from Kingaroy who were guests of the Group.

After four days at camp Anna finally got to sleep in her "own" bed in Warwick. On the following weekend she attended a Den camp with the Venturers and Rovers. We also looked around the town whenever possible to give Anna the full tourist experience. This included going up the Condamine River Gorge and to Queen Mary Falls near Killarney.

On another day she went kayaking with the Rovers at the source of the Clarence River in New South Wales where she was lucky enough to see Platypus in the wild.

On the 9th of July we attended an enrolment appointment at the Warwick State high school. All went well until we received a phone call late in the day to say that due to Anna's Visa type that she would need to pay to attend the school. The bureaucratic process was an embarrassment to our State and Country as no one seemed to understand that Anna was here to experience school only; not to work towards her OP score! The staff locally did all they could but ultimately the process stopped the enrolment. Anna's parents and us could not afford the fees of \$335.00 per week.

Through good fortune Anna and our family had dinner with the Principal of Scots PGC School who subsequently arranged for Anna to attend this prestigious boarding school at only the cost of lunches which are provided.

Michael Harding and his staff deserve rich praise for fixing this poor outcome of the State school system.

Anna subsequently attended Scots PGC for three weeks of her stay and very much enjoyed it. Anna even did her homework!

Anna attended many things and events with us as a full or part family. These included a further scout camp in Brisbane for one night, travel by Train in Brisbane, the Science centre and Queensland Museum, and the Brisbane Planetarium. Anna also attended junior hockey and Australian Rules Football with our family members.

Anna attended all Venturer section meetings and one Joey/Cub scout meeting at Glennie Heights and overall camped for 5 nights as a scout. Anna was invested as an Australian Scout by the campfire at Camp Frostbite and was given the nickname of "LUCKY". Anna hopes to change her scouting name in Denmark to Lucky so we provided her with an official Scouts Australia name badge.

We as a family hiked at Bald Rock National Park. Anna also spoke to our daughter Jennifer's primary school grade six class.

We finished Anna's visit with a visit to Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary and Brisbane.

Anna was a wonderful visitor for our family. She is very sociable, respectful and intelligent. She became an integral part of our family unit having many long good natured arguments with our son Scott. Anna constantly helped out and was always pleasant to everyone. She will be a wonderful woman and has endless possibilities available to her.

Anna was our family's third SISEP exchange from Denmark having hosted Tejs and Thomas previously. There are many good things that happen to you in scouting and hosting a SISEP student is certainly one of the really great experiences. We would recommend the experience to anyone. You learn so much about other cultures and people as well as about our country and our selves.

We hope to host again in the future. We would also welcome back any of our exchanges. We will miss Anna greatly.

Yours in Scouting

Peter, Julie, Michael, Scott and Jennifer See.



Cutting Anna's birthday cake at the Museum



Scout and Joey Camp at Mt. Coot-tha (Anna far left)



Feeding the Kangaroos at Lone Pine



Anna and Katrine also from Denmark on Parade.



Anna using her strapping skills on Scott's ankle



Anna, Jennifer and Scott at the airport saying goodbye.