

Wellington – Houston Texas Exchange

3 April – 10 April 2014

Wellington Friendship Force hosted 13 ambassadors from 6 different states of America from 3 – 10 April 2014.



The week was highlighted by a NZ powhiri and welcome from pupils at Titahi Bay Intermediate School and Porirua City Mayor, Nick Leggett.



It was clear from the wonderful performance a lot of hard work had gone into making this a memorable occasion for our visitors and all who attended. We really appreciated the energy and vitality the staff and students had put into this ceremony.

During the exchange week, we visited Battle Hill farm (with eels to feed), USA Memorial at Paekakariki, Te Papa National Museum, Parliament, had a ride on a tram and also the Wellington Cable Car, and tried our hand at flax weaving.



The weather went against us in the last few days, but we ventured on with our City Walk and also our Bus Tour, despite the rain. We had some shelter at lunchtime at a beachfront restaurant.



The farewell dinner at Avalon Park Pavilion ended our busy week. We were entertained by our 3 lively guitarists. They provided music and song sheets for a sing-along. Our club's talented poet/lyricist wrote a special song for the occasion: "Deep in the Heart of Wellington" which was well received by our visitors from Texas.

The club hosts did a great job looking after and entertaining their American guests, and we especially thank all our wonderful ambassadors for helping make this such a successful exchange.

We sadly said good bye on Thursday 10 April and wished them well for their onward travels. But we know we have made some lifelong friends.



Ngaire & John Durnford
Joint ED's
April 2014

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