

## Harmony's Placement with YaFT in Australia!

In January 2013, Harmony Ziegler travelled from her home on the idyllic Canadian island of Vancouver. Harmony was in the last stage of completing her Bachelor of Child and Youth Welfare with Victoria University and required a long-term placement in which to gain experience. What better place than Melbourne and its surrounding bay, bush and lakes further into Gippsland.

"I can ride my bike to the surf beaches on the coast!" - a keen surfer, the dynamic and dauntless Harmony thought confidently, looking at a map of Melbourne and the surf coast of Victoria. Where Harmony then lived, was within metres of the surf ... this was going to be good!

Harmony arrived in Melbourne in January and was welcomed by the open hearted Pat and



Irene Bates and son Corey, who took her into their home for 3 months. Harmony volunteered her time and energy completely. She was dedicated, interested in all around her and above all, committed to the young people in her care via the No Limits and Sailing On program running in Keysborough Secondary College and South Oakleigh Secondary College in Southern Melbourne.

Harmony arranged the use of an old and huge, Bedford van that she named 'Lady Bump' and took to the Melbourne traffic with sheer determination. If you saw a camouflage green van careering the roads of Melbourne and the Great Ocean Road in search of surf between January and April you were in the presence of an intrepid and undeterred woman!

'Lady Bump' and Harmony soon became fond of each other, as did the Bates family, Robert and his family of Harmony. Robert will always be grateful to Harmony that she found the fledgling YaFT website and made that call to him back in 2012. YaFT was only just in its beginning stages and how wonderful to share this exciting time with Harmony.

Thanks Harmony, for your enthusiasm and professionalism and for traveling all the way to Melbourne to see how we do youth work and bush adventure therapy down here! You are a star and we wish you well.

Karen Coller

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