

Dear Future Host Family,

My name is Julianne, but some of my friends call me Juli. I live with my family; my parents and my two siblings, Emily (19) and William (12), in a small rural suburb called Ballyrogan. On my dad's side I have a grandma, aunt, uncle and two older cousins, as well as 8 second cousins. My mum's side are based in Jakarta, Indonesia and have a grandma and grandpa, two aunts, an uncle and their two children who are a year older than me and a year younger than my brother and an aunt and uncle who live in Toronto with their three daughter who I have only ever met one of. Sadly, I don't get to see them often because they all live so far away. I have a cat and a Great Pyrenees/Maremma called Judy, who is 2 and a half years old.

Growing up I went to Maroona Primary School, a school of 35 student aged 6-12, where everyone knew everyone and all of the parents were friends. The school community was very close and in primary school I made many friends who I still am very close with to this day. All the kids at Maroona grew up on farms and knew almost everything there was to know about cropping and sheep, and one of the main things we learnt there was sports; competing against other schools in athletics was always very competitive and fun, because if Maroona won overall the parents would go out to the Maroona Pub and celebrate while the kids got to have fun together. Going to Maroona made me very engaged in sports and helped me stay fit and our school cricket, football and swimming teams usually played at Regional Championships. Almost all of my friends from primary school also played for the same Football and Netball club as me; Tatyoon Hawks. I played for Tatyoon up until the end of last season because I wouldn't be able to drive to netball trainings since boarding school is so far away. In 2024 my 15&Under netball team made it to the grand final and won by a few goals and it was by far one of the best sporting experiences I have ever had, not just because we won but because our team had never previously made it into finals before and we were the unexpected finalists of the league and the team we were playing in the grand final had been undefeated all season; so our win was tough and surprisingly unexpected.

Some of my favourite things to do with my siblings are fishing and swimming in our dams, in the summertime when we aren't helping our parents harvesting, we walk down to the dam and swim and canoe and the water is so refreshing because of the heatwaves, or sometimes we stay out for hours while my brother fishes, I tan and my sister reads. We love having yabby races and seeing who can catch the most fish and yabbies and find the most freshwater mussels. If my mum isn't too busy sometimes, she cooks the fish and yabbies we catch, as the only other close way to get seafood is a 30-minute drive into town to order fish and chips, as well as a 30-minute drive back. I'm not sure if you have yabbies in Denmark but in case you don't, yabbies are basically freshwater crayfish, but they are smaller and they kind of taste like prawns but a bit less salty.

Another one of my favourite things to do with my friends or siblings is going to the footy. By footy I mean Aussie Rules Football which is only played in Australia, mainly Victoria, and I go for Geelong Cats. Going to the footy is so fun, even if your team isn't playing. This year I've been to three rounds: the ANZAC Day Round game against two rival Melbourne teams: Collingwood Magpies and Essendon Bombers, Richmond Tigers Vs North Melbourne Kangaroos as a boarding outing, and the Geelong Retro Round match between Geelong Cats and Essendon Bombers. This year I also got to go with the boarding house to watch a boarders State Netball Championship and it was such an amazing experience because I had never seen a state championship before and I love netball, also because it was so inspiring to see a 17-year-old fellow student playing in the Under 23s state team.

My goals in life are to travel the world and learn as much as I can from a lot of different people, I suppose I want to travel abroad because I've only been overseas about three times, all of those to the same country to visit family and I've heard so many wonderful and interesting things about other places and I would love to make new memories and meet new people. I've always wanted to go to Europe and learn about life and the different cultures there, I think European countries have such a rich and detailed history that is so interesting to learn about.

Some of my hobbies include swimming, netball, painting and outdoor activities like canoeing, yabbing and sometimes fishing, and going for runs with my friends. I enjoy cooking and I love listening to music and I used to play piano for 6 years. I like staying active and spending time with my friends, especially catching a train to the city and going shopping with them.

I would love to go to Denmark and learn the language and experience new things, I chose Denmark because I wanted to go somewhere I have heard of but not somewhere that everyone goes for exchange and from what I've heard Denmark is like a hidden gem. I have always been interested in Denmark because it seems like such a beautiful, educated country that has so much to offer. I also must admit that one of the major reasons Denmark was high on my list of places to go was that the weather is significantly different to the weather here in Australia; it snows in Denmark. I've been to the snow three times (four if you count the random day in the winter of 2020, where it snowed at my house), all at Mount Buller, which is about 5.5-6 hours away from my place. At Mount Buller I learned the basics to skiing, although I sadly haven't been to Mount Buller in a few years. I read that it does snow a bit in Denmark around December and February and am so excited because usually at that time in Australia it's the middle of summertime, the weather is sweltering and everyone in rural Victoria is harvesting their crops. I've also always wanted to experience a white Christmas too, because it seems so magical and exotic. Earlier this year I was lucky enough to go on holidays with my family to Magnetic Island, a small tropical island located off the coast of Townsville,

Queensland, near the Great Barrier Reef. My family and I stayed there in a friend's holiday house for a week, and the weather was so different to the weather in Victoria: it was a lot warmer and more humid. On Magnetic Island I went snorkelling on the Great Barrier Reef, jet skiing around the whole island and (my dad's favourite) watching the toad races.

Before I went away to boarding school I was planning to stay in school and accelerate Legal Studies and was about to get a casual job at the hairdressers (because I love styling hair, especially my friends) and a chocolate shop with some of my friends, but I didn't end up working because I moved. I do have experience working as a waitress; a few years ago, I worked with my sister and a catering business at a wedding where I served wedding guests for the night. I feel that it was a good experience, and I learnt things that I still find helpful to this day. Since I'm 16 am I on my Learners, but because I live at boarding its pretty hard to drive as there aren't any car to use so I don't have many hours, but my dad taught me how to drive a manual and an auto a few months before I turned came to boarding at the start of the year, and I really enjoy driving and I find it really fun.

I plan to finish high school at The Geelong College and go to university and study something business/economics/law related. In school I would say I do best in Humanities/English related subjects, and my worst subject would probably be Science because I just find it hard to understand and it isn't the sort of thing that interests me. I would probably describe myself as initially shy, but I feel that as I get to know people more, I become a lot more social and more outgoing, after being at boarding I feel that I have become more independent.

I feel that I would be good to host because I am polite and respectful and am happy to help do chores and learn new things and I am pretty easy to get along with.

Mange tak, fordi du overvejer at være vært for mig; jeg ved, at det er en stor beslutning, som ikke skal tages let på. Jeg glæder mig meget til at møde nye mennesker og er virkelig taknemmelig for muligheden for at besøge Danmark og lære kulturen at kende.

Sincerely, Juli