

## CELEBRATING FREEDOM FROM FEAR World Refugee Day 2010

Gateway City Church provided a wonderful venue for this exciting event. We invited our friends in the refugee community to provide educational entertainment for 2 and a half hours and they came forward with a marvelous variety of "acts" which kept the audience enthralled. It is hard to recreate in words the impact of the afternoon... some photos are provided to demonstrate the variety of the performances offered. See more photos on the SCARF website. Penny Hartgerink opened proceedings with her soon to be released, evocative composition, "Welcome Here". She has generously agreed that SCARF can adopt this beautiful tune as our theme song at future SCARF events. Thank you SO much Penny! The afternoon ended with an energetic performance by Damion Stirling and his African Drumming Troupe... it was truly celebratory in every way... concluding with a spontaneous free for all on stage... Burmese, Africans, the drummers, the audience all participating in a beautiful demonstration of a community in harmony. This event was coordinated by Sharyn who expresses heartfelt thanks to everyone who came in support of the event and everyone who participated. It was a great bonus to have Sue Fagan as our PR for this event and she also acted as stage manager on the day. Well done, Sue! Anne & John Devenish did a great job, in difficult circumstances, to capture the essence of the event on video. An edited version, will be available for sale as a 2 disk set. Contact [enquiries@scarf1.org.au](mailto:enquiries@scarf1.org.au)



BURMESE CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY SONG

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

18 SEPTEMBER  
Community Consultation

8-10 OCTOBER  
ART4refugees Art Show

30 OCTOBER  
SCARF 5th Annual  
General Meeting

5 DECEMBER  
International  
Volunteers Day

Full details of these  
events will be available  
on the website  
[www.scarf1.com.au](http://www.scarf1.com.au)



JAY JAY TELLS HIS STORY.



SOME OF THE CROWD ENJOYING THE PERFORMANCE

SCARF Office Shop 39  
Community & Training  
Centre Shop 36  
Piccadilly Centre  
Crown Street, Wollongong

Contact SCARF.  
Sharyn MACKENZIE  
Program Co-ordinator  
Ph 02 4285 2952  
[enquiries@scarf1.org.au](mailto:enquiries@scarf1.org.au)

Jan KENT  
Chair / Newsletter Editor  
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PO Box 312  
Corrimal  
NSW 2518

[www.scarf1.org.au](http://www.scarf1.org.au)

SCARF office hours are variable.  
Please check the website  
for the latest information  
on opening hours.

### KIDS IN SPORT

SCARF has been helping a small number of young people pursue their interest in Little Athletics for a couple of years. Kel Mackenzie is particularly involved in this.

At the most recent Community Consultation the request for some form of assistance to help young people participate in the sport of their choice was noted and we have run a few ad hoc "afternoons" since then: hiring the PCYC Soccer field once a week during January, registering a team for Indoor Volleyball the

past two "seasons", hiring the North Wollongong Indoor Sports Centre for a day in the recent school holidays.

Sharyn submitted an application to NSW Department of Sport and Recreation in December 2009 for funds to support young people wanting to register for a season across a number of sports. In June we learned that the application had been successful and we will be unrolling this program over the next few months. If you have a passion for seeing young people getting

involved in a healthy lifestyle and would like to play an active role in delivering any part of this sports based program, we'd love to hear from you! Contact [enquiries@scarf1.org.au](mailto:enquiries@scarf1.org.au)



YOUNG ANGELS VOLLEY BALL TEAM

**Remember to look up our website for all details of SCARF activities and events, application forms for volunteering and/or membership as well as links to related sites and resources for tutors and mentors. Enquiries welcome!**

**Our vision** is to see refugee entrants happily settled and participating fully in the life of the wider community

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OSCAR, KEVIN, ERNEST, JOHN, MOTHER MARIE PAUL AND YOUNGEST CHRISTIAN ALL SHARE THE COMPUTER PROVIDED BY SCARF.

### COMPUTER FOR THE COMMUNITY MILESTONE

In late May 2010 SCARF reached a milestone with its Computers for the Community program, the 100th client received a computer. For 3 years SCARF have been providing IT support to the refugee community in the Illawarra, in most cases providing, completely free of charge, a computer and associated hardware.

The 100th family are recent arrivals from the Democratic Republic of Congo and live at Berkeley. Mum, Dad and their five sons really appreciated the installation and as soon as the job was finished the Warramong High School students were on the internet researching for their assignments.

IT Program Manager, Chris. Cartledge says this type of volunteer work is extremely rewarding, especially when you have a group of young teenagers waiting at your side as you complete the installation.

For the adults a major advantage of a home computer connected to the internet is access to email. In most cases, email is the only way they are able to communicate with family and friends left behind in the refugee camps. It is also a way of maintaining links with fellow refugees in the Illawarra and the wider Australian community.



JOHN MARK BUKASA HARD AT WORK ON THE FAMILY'S COMPUTER.

All adult refugees attend TAFE and a computer is essential in the advanced classes to complete homework and prepare presentations etc.

SCARF is always ready to accept donations of computers as that is the only way we are able to source the hardware, Chris. concluded.

### WORLD REFUGEE DAY CELEBRATIONS

The African Women's Sewing Circle hit the stage for World Refugee Day in Wollongong on June 20th at the Regent Theatre.

Fabulously designed African and fusion dresses and bags were on display to a very responsive crowd. The parades allow local textile workers in the community to promote work that will be available at upcoming markets and festivals.

Thanks to all those who participated in making the parade such a success: Therese Ngoy, Victoria Kamara, Gracia Ngoy, Lava Jafari, Virginia Settre, Dot Gentle, Sue Fagan, all the models, and Andy Zakeli c/o the Illawarra Mercury for the fantastic images.



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### VOLUNTEERS WE NEED YOU

SCARF always needs more volunteers... mentors and home tutors for primary and adults. Do you know anyone who may be interested in helping transform the life of a newly arrived refugee? Have your own circumstances changed and could you offer more time to our wonderful refugee community? We are in contact with families urgently in need of help adapting to their new lives here in Australia. Please put the word out to your friends and relatives. All prospective volunteers undergo a screening process and Working with Children checks.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### Wedding Congratulations to Te Bu and Na Poe:

Their marriage on 17 April 2010 was the first local wedding to be celebrated by our Burmese community. We wish them every happiness in their life together.



TE BU WEDDING

#### VALE TOM WILSON

It is with great sadness that we record the passing of TOM WILSON who lost his 4 year battle with leukemia on Saturday 5 June, just a few weeks short of his 19th birthday. Tom leaves us many happy memories of a young man well liked by his peers. Tom's life was a beautiful example of quiet courage and dignity in times of pain and disappointment. Our kindest thoughts are extended to his family and friends.

Hi Everyone

Last year's ART4refugees was a huge success, raising over \$15,000 to support the work of SCARF (Strategic Community Assistance to Refugee Families). As Sharyn Mackenzie, SCARF's Program Coordinator said, "The money raised at last year's ART4refugees has enabled us to provide an additional 100 hours of Driving School lessons for our Learner Driver Assistance Program and to upgrade facilities at our Training Centre. Additionally, it has given us the freedom to respond to diverse requests from the community, including increasing adult education classes and providing opportunities for young people in sport, excursions to the ballet and theatre for junior and secondary students, and so much more - all made possible by the success of ART4refugees!"

This year, ART4refugees is being held at The Illawarra

Grammar School (TIGS) on 8th-10th October 2010.

There are many, many ways you can support the work of SCARF and help make ART4refugees a success in 2010:

- Donate an artwork you own or have produced
- Purchase a ticket to the opening night on Friday 8th October 2010
- Visit the show over the weekend of 9th-10th October 2010
- Become a sponsor or make a donation
- Forward this email on to your contacts and encourage artists to donate a piece of work.

For more details, please see [www.art4refugees.org.au](http://www.art4refugees.org.au) or phone 0417 166 011.

Thanks for your help

Benita

### BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

On 16th May SCARF had a turn at running the weekend sausage sizzle at Bunnings Warehouse in Wollongong. Bunnings offers this opportunity to a different community group every Saturday and Sunday.

We are grateful to all the volunteers from our SCARF community who came along to help us raise money for the wonderful programs that SCARF provides. Three generous men from Fairy Meadow Rotary also came and helped, as they have done every year. We thank them for their support, especially Albert Negrine who was the master bar-be-cuer all day long. I really enjoyed the day and met some great SCARF people.

Jayne Hartgerink



WONDERFUL ROTARY MEN WITH POE AND FISTON



JAN AND PAUL

### ILLAWARRA REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

"Sharyn was recently invited to apply for appointment as a member of the Illawarra Regional Advisory Council. This is one of ten councils the Community Relations Commission has established throughout NSW.

The Council advises the Commission on any matter relating to the Commission's functions that the Council considers appropriate or that the Commission refers to it for advice on multicultural matters.

The appointment is for a three year term."

We congratulate Sharyn on her appointment to the Illawarra Regional Advisory Council (RAC). She is happy to receive correspondence on matters to include at Council meetings.



RWBYNICA AND BILL

## COMING EVENTS

### UPCOMING STALLS:

**Spring Into Corrimal:** Sunday 12th September 10am – 4pm

**Coledale:** 4th Sunday of every month – Coledale School, Lawrence Hargrave Drive

**Enquiries or fabric sales/donations:**  
enterprises@scarf1.org.au

### CONGRATULATIONS MICHAEL JAMES

Michael was recently declared Senior Boys Champion at the Central Wollongong Primary Schools Athletics Carnival and will represent the zone at the Regional Championships in Canberra later this year in High Jump, Long Jump and Sprint events. Well done Michael!

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CANBERRA GROUP

### CITIZENSHIP CLASS CANBERRA EXCURSION

Over the last two months a small group have been meeting every Tuesday afternoon preparing to take the citizenship test. We have learnt about Australian flags, the National Anthem and the coat of arms as well as gaining some understanding of how the Australian parliamentary system works. The group and some of their friends visited Canberra to see Parliament for themselves. Leaving Wollongong early we arrived in Canberra about 10.30 and first visited the National Capital Exhibition. This has a great display showing how Canberra was built and also has lots of interesting information about Federation and Australian Prime Ministers... all things we had learnt about in class.

On to Parliament House next for lunch and a guided tour of the building. It was amazing to see the places we had talked about in class and learn all sorts of other information – like how many clocks there are in Parliament House and how they stop the politicians from talking for too long!

We finished off the day with a drive around some of the Foreign embassies in Canberra and a quick drive past the Australian War Memorial. We arrived back in Wollongong safely despite the heavy rain all the way home!

Now all we have to do is pass the citizenship test...

Sharyn writes: Fifteen of our friends, from the Iraqi, Burmese and African communities made the trip to Canberra, supported by some of their SCARF mentors.

Many thanks to Heather Thomas & Jess King who conducted the classes and made the arrangements for the day.

**REMEMBER** to look up our website for all details of SCARF activities and events, application forms for volunteering and/ or membership as well as links to related sites and resources for tutors and mentors. Enquiries welcome!"

### SCARF OFFICE HOURS

**Monday**  
L2P Assistance: 3:00 to 5:00  
**Tuesday** 10:00 to 3:30  
**Wednesday** 10:00 to 5:00  
**Thursday** 10:00 to 3:30  
**Friday** By appointment

Conversation, Numeracy and Literacy Classes are held in the office by arrangement.

### NEED A HELPING HAND with those domestic and gardening chores?

Our Domestic Dream team could be the answer!

We have a small team of willing workers... who are earning themselves a great reputation as being hard working and reliable.

Spring Cleaning? Someone to do the labouring in the garden?

Contact [enquiries@scarf1.org.au](mailto:enquiries@scarf1.org.au)

### NEXT ISSUE

As we go to press we are in last minute preparations for the **UOW Staff Charity Night, 27 August**. SCARF is the nominated charity and we are hoping for a very successful night... both in terms of fun and financial benefit... a full report in next issue.

Also in our next issue read about latest developments in our Social Enterprise Initiatives greenCONNECT program.

The *Scarlet* Design Group

SCARF gratefully acknowledges Newsletter design from the Scarlet team.

SCARF  
strategic community assistance  
to refugee families



Please feel free to pass this Newsletter on!

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