



FISHING WORKSHOP

Knots, bag limits and safety were the order of the day when SCARF, in partnership with NSW Fisheries, recently held a fishing workshop with newly arrived Burmese refugees. They enjoyed the session, hearing about NSW rules and regulations, and gaining some valuable local fishing tips.

L2P We are currently seeking funding for our newest programme, L2P, which aims to provide the opportunity for adult members of the Illawarra refugee community with a learner permit to fulfil the 120 hours of supervised driving requirement to obtain a provisional licence.

The programme aims to recruit and train a cohort of mentor drivers, and we are developing, with the generous assistance of Evans Corp, a registration and on-line booking system to be used by mentors and community learner drivers. More info can be found on our website, follow the links to the L2P page. SCARF is in the process of purchasing a car.



TIGS PARTNERSHIP WITH SCARF

As part of the TIGS community service/SCARF partnership this year, various programs have been run to provide opportunities for TIGS students to engage with young members of the refugee community. One of the most successful has been the weekly "computer learning sessions held in the TIGS library." This is proving a fun way to improve maths and language skills. TIGS students are enjoying building friendships with their young "buddies". Members of the SCARF sewing circle will have a stall at the TIGS fete on 23 May. FUSION, the annual TIGS musical event will be held 29 May. SCARF will share the door takings from this event. We thank TIGS for their support.

WELCOME TO COMMUNITY REPS

We are delighted to announce that Elizabeth Lual and Lal Ram Sanga have joined us as community representatives at General meetings. Many of you will know Elizabeth, who is Sudanese, from her involvement in many community initiatives. Sanga is a more recent arrival from Burma, via India and is currently working as an interpreter for Centrelink & WCC while studying. We really welcome Elizabeth and Sanga's input and community members can send through any ideas or concerns to the Executive via their community representatives.

ART4REFUGEES

Calling all artists and creative people, we are holding a major fundraiser in the Great Hall at TIGS school on October 9th-11th. We would love you to donate artworks, painting, sculpture, photography, textiles, jewellery for us to sell over the weekend exhibition. The event is still in the early planning stages, but if you know any creative people who would be interested in supporting SCARF's work, please let them know. They can make contact by emailing art@scarf1.org.au. Keep an eye on the web site where we will be updating news of this wonderful event. The champagne opening on Friday 9th October is always a sell out so mark the date in your diaries.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION DAY

Over 100 people attended our 3rd Community Consultation Day to discuss issues of immediate importance to refugees early in their settlement into the Wollongong community.

The day was an outstanding success with feedback indicating all four sessions were very helpful and

informative. Thanks to TIGS and UOW students who helped with childcare.

Angela Ljubic, Multicultural Co-ordinator W'gong TAFE explained some of the courses available and offered the community individual advice relating to TAFE.

Alexandra Simoes, Multicultural Case Worker, Department of Community Services (DOCS) explained the broad based community assistance (including the Brighter Futures Program) available to families. Rima Elharge, Police Liaison Officer, (ph 4226 7864) explained her role in liaising with the local refugee community and stressed the importance of arranging interpretive services when dealing with police situations.

Ted Booth, Co-ordinator for our L2P Scheme, outlined the program being arranged whereby SCARF mentors will assist adult refugees with driving experience to enable them to complete their mandatory RTA 120 hours driving requirement. The program was met with great enthusiasm by the community. The day was concluded with a wonderful community lunch.

VOLUNTEERS WE NEED YOU

SCARF always needs more volunteers...mentors and home tutors for primary and adults. Do you know anyone who would 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 in 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.

Have you checked the web site lately for upcoming events? It's a great place to find info about SCARF's work, as well as links to related sites and resources for tutors and mentors.

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The next SCARF General Meeting will be held on Saturday 13 June from 11am – 1pm at the Lily Pily Room, Corrimal Community Centre Short St, Corrimal (Library Building)

Our vision To see refugee entrants happily settled participating fully in the life of the wider community

SCARF
strategic community assistance
to refugee families

