

MINUTES OF BUDDIES MONTHLY MEETING – 23 SEPTEMBER 2018

The meeting opened at 11:05AM at 24 King Street, Buderim on Sunday 23 September, 2018.

Apologies were received from Lesley Willcoxson, Denise Williams and the Buicks.

The meeting welcomed newcomers Dave and Val Morris.

- The meeting noted good news from Bronwyn Bell and Dee Williams, that our buddy Chanelle McKenna has been granted permanent residency.
- Scott reported that our letter to the PM regarding children imprisoned on Nauru produced a reply from the Assistant PM that the matter was Dutton's responsibility. There was no reply yet from similar letters to the leader of the Opposition and the leader of the Greens.
- Margaret Norris spoke of the latest Learn English Holiday, due to start tomorrow at Emmanuel College . It runs Monday, Tuesday ,Wednesday and Friday at the College in the mornings, with Thursday morning games and surf safely on the beach at Mooloolaba Spit and the afternoon at the Zoo. Everyone is welcome especially to Wednesday evening Multicultural dinner held at Emmanuel School at 6 pm.
- Gillian Duffy presented the financial report, commenting on the success of the film night at Eumundi.
- Diana Woolley reported on a successful day at Festuri resulting in 4 new members, 12 people signing up for the Bulletin and 32 signatures for the petition.
- Angela Mercuri also spoke of the success of the film "The Staging Post " at Berkelouw's Bookshop in Eumundi, particularly the support and valuable contacts made with people of Eumundi. Donations included the venue fee and the projection fees as well as private donations, free vouchers, and publicity. It is essential that our profile is raised and this seems to be an excellent way of achieving that.
- Angela also spoke of the National Campaign to bring the children here from Nauru. There are up to 100 children still on the island. The website www.kidsoffnauru.com is supported by more than 100 organisations and the petition has been signed by in excess of 100 000 people. All members are urged to sign the petition and recommend it to all our contacts. The campaign ends on November 20.
- Gillian Duffy asked for volunteers to assist at the "Walk Together" on Saturday 27 October, 10am till 1 pm at Cottontree park. Volunteers opportunities include staffing the Buddies information tent and being a marshalls for the walk.
- The film "The Merger" will be shown on Wednesday 24 Oct at 6 pm at the Nambour Majestic. Gillian suggests each member challenge themselves to bring a guest to the film who does not share our convictions!
- Penny noted that there will be a sausage sizzle for Buddies at Bunnings at Kawana October 13 th for 9 till 3.
- Our speaker was Enda Cotter from Anti Discrimination Queensland. Enda spoke about the possibilities for a Human Rights Act in Queensland. He noted the example of the Human Rights Act of Victoria that has now been in force for a few years. Remarkably, the largest single source of complaints under the new Act relate to living conditions in aged-care facilities.
- Scott noted this was not the "politically correct bleeding hearts" that the Murdoch media habitually savages whenever human rights are discussed in Australia.

Next meeting: 27 October