

## **MINUTES OF BUDDIES MONTHLY MEETING – 25 NOVEMBER 2018**

Apologies: Angela Mercuri, Lynda Utting, Shaye Yuill, Diana Woolley, Mitra Khakbaz, Lesley Willcoxson.

### **Reports**

#### ***Kids Off Nauru***

Angela Mercuri's report was read to the meeting. On August 20 when this campaign began there were 119 children detained on Nauru. 168 thousand Australian asked the Government to bring these children to safety. The campaign was largely successful: as of 24 November only 17 children remained on Nauru. Our work is not yet finished. The Government has said it will bring all the remaining children out of Nauru by Christmas and must be held to that commitment. Please continue your advocacy with your networks and beyond. Share [www.kidsoffnauru.com](http://www.kidsoffnauru.com)

#### ***Romero Grocery Drive***

Margaret Norman informed the meeting she is stepping down from her leadership of the Romero Grocery Drive. Margaret Norris, Len Mangan and Scott Grimmett indicated their ability to transfer grocery donations to Romero in Dutton Park so the Grocery Drive will continue in 2019.

#### ***Finance Committee***

Margaret Norman presented the Finance report.

Margaret Norman and Gillian Duffy advised the meeting they are standing down from the Finance Committee. The Company is very grateful for their service in this vital role over many years. Penny Rivlin and Dee Williams advised they were both willing to continue on the Finance Committee. The Company's account requires two signatories to operate and the meeting agreed the Company should maintain four authorised operators so that bills can be paid promptly even if one or two members of the Committee are unavailable.

The Directors committed to recruit two members for the Finance Committee.

#### ***MDA***

The meeting noted letter from Tim Draper at Multicultural Development Australia (MDA) thanking us for our continuing support (\$1,500 over last 6 months). This has enabled MDA to prevent homelessness for two sole-female-parent refugee families.

### **Next Meeting**

There is no Monthly Meeting in December. The January Monthly Meeting would ordinarily fall on Sunday, 27 January. Given that this will be the Australia Day long weekend, the meeting asked that the January Monthly Meeting be moved forward to Sunday, 20 January.

### **Guest Speaker**

Brian Rogers is a local photographer who has photographed the Syrian refugee camps in Lebanon. Brian's work and the stories that go with these photos can be read at <http://brp.net.au/lebanon/>