

Minutes of Buddies meeting, Sunday 27 August 2017

Chairperson: Gail Price, note-taker: Scott Grimmett

Apologies: Yokki Rother, Kendall Snowden, Penny Rivlin, Rada Van Der Werff, Patrick and Darcy Buick, Jean Carroll, Dee Williams, Lisa McDonald, Jenny Hughes

Guest speakers

Samer and Jawana and their children George, Steffani and Saeed

Syrian Christians Samer and Jawana told the story of their family's journey of escape from Aleppo to Homs and Beirut and finally to Brisbane.

Reports

Directors group: Lesley Willcoxsen

The meeting agreed to the purchase of volunteer insurance.

Buddies directors have developed a funding proposal form to be completed before money is approved for spending. This is to encourage forward planning and better recording of our intentions and justifications around how we apply our funds. The meeting seemed to think monthly reviewing of proposals would work best. It is hoped that the form will allow groups to explain to the whole organisation what is important about their project.

The meeting gave in-principle support for up to \$2000 to be made available to MDA.

Learn English Holiday: Margaret Norris

Next program runs from 17-22 September during the first week of school holidays ... at Immanuel Lutheran College, Buderim. Acceptances have been slower to come in than usual. People who have never hosted before are invited to email Kayla Szumer.

Noosa welcomes refugees: Gabby Sutherland and Thorsten Kels

Thorsten described book launch of Under the Same Sky at Noosa Heads Junction. About 60 attended.

Gabby described the High court Challenge by Doctors for Refugees ... a bitter-sweet victory because Government has repealed the laws rather than defend them ...no more gag orders on doctors and teachers working on Nauru.

Film Night: Bronwyn Bell

New release film Victoria and Abdul starring Judi Dench ... Friday 29 September ... at Majestic Cinemas, Nambour ... see Bulletin for details. This is primarily a fundraiser for Nazar, whose wife died suddenly in Sudan this year, leaving his two young daughters in a war-torn country without their parents. \$20 tickets include finger food, tea/coffee and movie. Tickets available at the door ... phone to reserve. All Buddies asked to contribute a plate of finger food (savory or sweet) and/or raffle prize donations.

Walk Together: Carmel Dobson

Part of the national Welcome to Australia walk events to be held around the country on Saturday 21 October ... at Tickle Park, Coolumb Beach, 9am-2pm

Finance: Margaret Norman

Presented report for 1-25 August. Financial reports now cover the calendar month rather than the period from meeting to meeting.

The meeting agreed to reimburse Bronwyn \$200 for emergency support to Sudanese asylum seeker facing deportation, Marwan.

Bronwyn proposed that \$50pw be paid to Marwan for two months for living expenses ... no clear consensus ... Bronwyn to present further information at September meeting.

Next meeting

Sunday 24 September at 11am, chairperson: Thorsten, note-taker: Margaret Norris