

Newsletter No 4 September 2011

Blue Mountains Refugee Support Group <http://bmrsg.org.au>

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A project of The Blue Mountains Family Support Service Inc. ABN 4876520395

High Court Judgement and Off Shore Processing

Urgent - Act Now - Do Not Delay

We welcome the decision of the High Court. Now is the time to act. As a truly bi partisan organisation our concern is for the treatment of asylum seekers who arrive on our shores and seek refuge. We must tell all our politicians, of every persuasion, that any suggestion of returning to the Pacific Solution and the detention of asylum seekers on Nauru is no longer acceptable. Pick up your telephone and call your local [federal member of parliament](#) and politely tell your local member that you can no longer support the off shore processing of asylum seekers. We cannot go back to Nauru and TPVs. The costs, financial, human and societal, are too great.

Compose what you want to say in advance and remain courteous.

Below is the text of a letter you could send to the Minister. Use this one or compose your own - just do it and send it off without delay. There is weight in numbers.

The Honorable Chris Bowen MP
Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Email: chris.bowen.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Minister.

Processing of All Asylum Seekers On Australian Soil

Now that the High Court has spoken I call on you to commence the processing of all asylum seekers and refugees on Australian soil without further delay. This processing should be quick and efficient and take no more than three months. Do not consider returning to the Pacific Solution of the Howard Government.

The prolonged detention of asylum seekers has proved to be the main cause of unrest in the detention centres and the cause of the high incidence of mental illness among the detainees.

Mandatory detention and the off shore processing of asylum seekers has failed to deter asylum seekers from accessing our shores. It has proved to be extremely expensive for the taxpayers, especially at this time of financial uncertainty.

I urge you to address these issues without delay and in accordance with the UN Convention on Refugees signed by Australia in 1954.

Yours sincerely,

Signature

Name

Date

Address

Fundraising Lunch



What a cheerful group of supporters joined together to enjoy Sid Luscious Catering's Indian meal in the cosy Mid Mountains Centre dining room last Saturday! Many thanks to the chef, Sid Slock, and George Winston and his team of hard workers who organised the lunch and of course were left with the washing up. Well done. The lovely snow white linen tablecloths were generously donated by J&D Laundry. What wonderful friends we have!

Members' Get Together Euroka Clearing Glenbrook National Park

12 noon Sunday, 16 October, 2011

Bring a picnic lunch, a rug or chair a sunhat and come and enjoy the company of other members. It is a relaxed way to share ideas and skills and just have fun.

Dates for Your Diary

- 5 November, 2011 Bush Dance
- 12 November Forum - Overcoming Adversity :
The Australian refugee Story
- 16 Oct Members' Picnic
- 3 December Refugee Picnic (to be arranged)

In 2012

- The Tree of Life Theatre
- Expo

**BLUE MOUNTAINS
REFUGEE SUPPORT GROUP**

**OLD-FASHIONED
FAMILY BUSH DANCE**

Saturday, 5 November, 2011, 6pm to 10pm
Wentworth Falls School of Arts, GW Highway

All Dances will be taught - no dancing experience necessary

Bring the kids - children under 5 can come for free!

Refreshments included

Live and Lively Music by the band
'AMBUSHED'

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR,
OR SEND A CHEQUE TO
BMSG, P.O. BOX 197, KATOOMBA 2780

Admission: \$15
Pensioner/student/unemployed: \$12
Family (parents & 2 children U15): \$24

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