

the Welcome Scroll

News Update 1

National Journey of the Welcome Scroll

June 2017

The Welcome Scroll is a joint initiative of:

- Refugee Council of Australia
- Rural Australians for Refugees
 - Refugee Welcome Zone Councils

What is the Welcome Scroll?

The **Welcome Scroll** is a symbol
and will function as a "**baton**" or "torch".

It will travel around Australia
from

Refugee Welcome Zone to Refugee Welcome Zone

After its initial public appearance
at the Rural Australians for Refugees Conference
in Bendigo in September 2016,
the Welcome Scroll is finally at the Printer !!!



Why a Welcome Scroll?

The **Welcome Scroll** is a reminder of local government and community support for the successful resettlement of refugees and our belief in justice and human rights for all.

The Scroll bears the declaration –
“**We are a Refugee Welcome Zone**”
under the name and logo of each town or city listed

The aim of the Refugee Council’s **Refugee Welcome Zones** is to promote the adoption of flexible, humane and constructive policies toward refugees and people seeking asylum by local governments and their communities.

113 Refugee Welcome Zone Councils *

have endorsed the Welcome Scroll
with their Council Logo and Mayoral Signature
from

Tasmania to the Northern Territory,
from **WA and SA**
to the eastern states of **Queensland, NSW, and Victoria,**
to the political heart of the nation, **ACT.**

* Other RWZ Councils are already asking about joining the project.

What next? – The Journey – Part 1

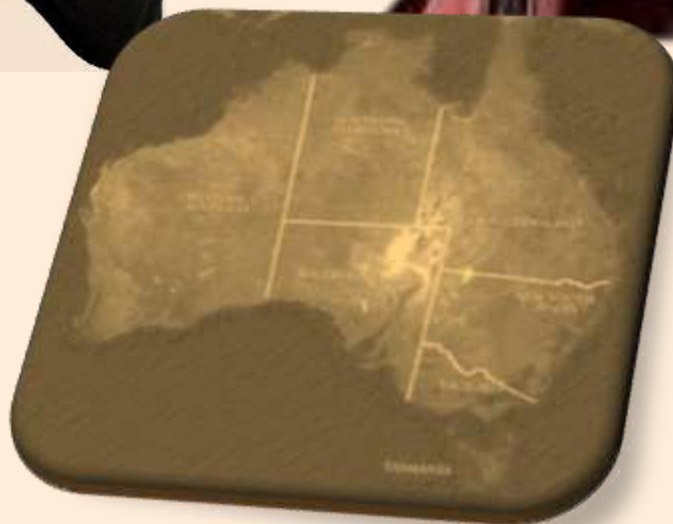
The National Journey of the Welcome Scroll

The **Welcome Scroll** heads off to **Melbourne** for the beginning of **Refugee Week**

- The City of Melbourne, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle, will publicly endorse the **Welcome Scroll** 11am on Saturday, **17 June**, at the Alexandria Gardens
- The **Welcome Scroll** will then be on display at the **Immigration Museum**
- On Wednesday, 21 June, the **Welcome Scroll** will begin the first part of its National Journey, travelling to the ACT and **Canberra** for the first ever **Refugee Welcome Zone National Forum** on Thursday, **22 June 2017**
- The Journey – Part 1. The **Welcome Scroll** travels south-east to NSW and Victoria *through* **Queanbeyan, Cooma, Bega Valley, Eurobodalla, Braidwood, Bowral, Shellharbour, Wollongong, Goulburn, Yass, Wagga Wagga, Euroa, Bendigo**

How to participate in the National Journey of the Welcome Scroll?

1. Keep up-to-date with the National Journey – <https://www.ruralaustraliansforrefugees.org.au/the-welcome-scroll/>
2. Watch for “**The Journey**” – **Part 2** ... Check to see when the Scroll is travelling through your city, town or region
3. Plan how you can best use that visit – event, photo, media, celebration, cavalcade
4. Organise ... your council response
5. Organise ... your local refugee support groups involvement
6. Organise ... Media Coverage
7. For more information: rar.australia@gmail.com.au
8. Share the news



Participating Refugee Welcome Zone Councils

ACT

ACT Government

NSW

Albury City Council
Armidale Regional Council
Ballina Shire Council
Bathurst Regional Council
Bega Valley Shire Council
Blacktown City Council
Blue Mountains City Council
Byron Shire Council
City of Canterbury-Bankstown Council
City of Ryde
City of Sydney
City of Wagga Wagga
Coffs Harbour City Council
Dubbo Regional Council
Eurobodalla Shire Council
Georges River Council
Glen Innes Severn Council
Goulburn Mulwaree Council
Griffith City Council
Gunnedah Shire Council
Hawkesbury City Council
Hornsby Shire Council
Inner West Council
Kiama Municipal Council
Ku-ring-gai Council
Lake Macquarie City Council
Leeton Shire Council
Lismore City Council
Liverpool City Council
Moree Plains Shire Council
Newcastle City Council
North Sydney Council
Penrith City Council
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Shellharbour City Council
Snowy-Monaro Regional Council
Sutherland Shire Council
Tweed Shire Council
Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Willoughby Council

Wollongong City Council
Yass Valley Council

NT

City of Palmerston

Queensland

City of Ipswich
Flinders Shire Council
Toowoomba Regional Council
Townsville City Council

South Australia

Adelaide Hills Council
City of Adelaide
City of Marion
City of Mitcham
City of Mount Gambier
City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters
City of Onkaparinga
City of Port Adelaide Enfield
City of Salisbury
City of Victor Harbor
City of West Torrens
Rural City of Murray Bridge
Town of Gawler

Tasmania

Break O'Day Council
City of Launceston
Clarence City Council
Derwent Valley Council
Hobart City Council
Huon Valley Council
Kingborough Council
Northern Midlands Council
West Tamar Council

Victoria

Ararat Rural City Council
Banyule City Council

Bass Coast Shire Council
Borough of Queenscliffe
Brimbank City Council
Campaspe Shire Council
Cardinia Shire Council
City of Ballarat
City of Darebin
City of Greater Bendigo
City of Greater Dandenong
City of Greater Geelong
City of Melbourne
City of Monash
City of Wodonga
City of Yarra
Colac Otway Shire
Greater Shepparton City Council
Hepburn Shire Council
Hindmarsh Shire Council
Hobsons Bay City Council
Horsham Rural City Council
Hume City Council
Latrobe City Council
Manningham City Council
Maribyrnong City Council
Maroondah City Council
Mildura Rural City Council
Moirā Shire Council
Moonee Valley City Council
Moreland City Council
Mornington Peninsula Shire
Mount Alexander Shire Council
Northern Grampians Shire Council
Swan Hill Rural City Council
Wyndham City Council

Western Australia

City of Fremantle
City of Subiaco
City of Vincent
Shire of Augusta Margaret River
Shire of Katanning
Shire of Manjimup
Town of Victoria Park

The Refugee Welcome Zone Declaration

(Council crest/logo)

The _____ Council,

Declares the Council of _____ a

Refugee Welcome Zone

This Declaration is a Commitment in Spirit to

Welcoming refugees into our community,

Upholding the Human Rights of refugees,

Demonstrating Compassion for refugees and

Enhancing cultural and religious Diversity in our community.

[name and title of signatory]

Date: _____

This Declaration is proudly supported and endorsed by the



The Refugee Council of Australia is a national umbrella organisation representing over 1,000 organisational and individual members. The aim of the Refugee Council is to promote the adoption of flexible, humane and constructive policies toward refugees and asylum seekers by the Australian and other Governments and their communities.