

The National Journey of Welcome Scroll

Report for National RAR AGM, 27 July 2019

The **Welcome Scroll Project** is a joint initiative of:

- Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR)
- Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA)
- Refugee Welcome Zone Councils (RWZs)



The Welcome Scroll project was launched in Bendigo at the 2016 National RAR Conference by RCOA and RAR as a way of showcasing the work of Local Government Authorities as they help people from refugee backgrounds settling in towns and cities - rural, regional, and metropolitan – throughout Australia.

In September 2016 the Scroll was half a metre long and bore the Logos and Mayoral Signatures of only two RWZ councils, the City of Greater Bendigo and Mount Alexander Shire.

Since then the Scroll has travelled through 6 Australian States and Territories, visiting 36 RWZ Councils in Queensland, NSW, ACT, Victoria and SA. It has been displayed at a number of Conferences and exhibited in Melbourne’s Immigration Museum.

In November this year the Scroll will travel to Western Australia, visiting 8 RWZ Councils there, and calling in on our most westerly RAR group at Denmark, near Albany. A tour of Tasmania is planned for 2020, with a number of Victorian and NSW RWZ Councils also requesting further visits.

The Scroll is now over 6 metres in length, and has been endorsed by 113 Mayors and RWZ Councils. Stage 2 of the Project will see a number of new RWZ signatures and logos added.

The Welcome Scroll is featured on the Refugee Council’s website:

<https://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/how-to-become-refugee-welcome-zone/>



From Mt Gambier to Toowoomba, From Swan Hill to Ryde

For Further Information:

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