



Sharon Bird MP
Federal Member for Cunningham

Refugee Week: Tribute to SCARF

The Patron of SCARF, Federal Member for Cunningham, Sharon Bird, paid a Parliamentary tribute to the local volunteer organisation dedicated to assisting and supporting the integration of new refugees in Wollongong this afternoon.

SCARF – Strategic Community Assistance for Refugee Families – has over 40 volunteers and provides assistance to 45 families, including nearly 100 children.

This year's Refugee Week theme is – 'The Voice of Young Refugees'.

In a tribute to SCARF in the House of Representatives this afternoon, Ms Bird highlighted the range of assistance provided by SCARF's 40 volunteers to refugee children, teenagers and young adults, which included HomeWork Help, supervised learning to drive, and workplace experience programmes.

"I am constantly amazed at the resilience and optimism of the human spirit when I meet refugee families now settled in Wollongong.

"All of them, particularly the children, have suffered harrowing experiences, which many of us only see on the nightly news.

"SCARF, and many local volunteers, are helping these refugee families become part of Wollongong, and I am honoured to serve as the organisation's patron", Ms Bird said.

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