

September 2019

2019 Festuri Multicultural Festival. Cotton Tree, Maroochydore



The Festuri Multicultural Festival was once again a lively event with dancers from Brazil to the Cook Islands, stall holders from Sudan and human rights activists from Cameroon to name just a few of the cultures represented. The Sunshine Coast Refugee Action Network had a stall with volunteers from Amnesty and Buddies.

There was an activity for young (and the young at heart) to make posters with messages of support for the Tamil family from Biloela, still in detention on Christmas Island. This gave volunteers time to chat to parents about refugee issues while their children worked on their poster. It is surprising how little awareness of refugee issues there is in the general community and how sympathetic most people are.

There were 25 signatures on the Community Support Program petition, 24 on the "I Choose Humane" petition, 11 on the Refugee Welcome Zone, 2 new Amnesty members and several Bulletin sign ups. In addition, donations were collected to sponsor a young Iranian refugee to Canada and \$100 (\$90 Canadian) has been sent on behalf of SCRAN.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped on the day,

– Gillian Duffy