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| Labor for Refugees New South Wales |

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| **21 June 2023****Dear Friend** **You are invited to attend our next meetingOur next meeting will be held on WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE 2023 AT 6.30PM.****GEORGE ROSIER FROM THE TREEHOUSE THEATRE WILL BE OUR GUEST SPEAKER. George is an award-winning university teacher with over 25 years' teaching experience, on top of 20 years in industry.George is known for his use of proven teaching techniques, including the Harvard case method, simulations, work-based projects and reflective exercises to stimulate critical thinking applied to management situations.** **Some of you may recall that in 2014, we invited the Treehouse Theatre to perform at our L4R Fringe Event at the NSW Labor Conference at the Sydney Town Hall.** **A number of brave young refugees mounted a series of short performances.  They were from Iraq, Syria and Somalia and shared their own stories of fun, terror, loss and resettlement.  it was an unforgettable experience.George believes that the work of Treehouse Theatre and the work of L4R are complementary and we could each benefit from some carefully planned cooperation.Treehouse Theatre has two main objectives:1) To facilitate the recovery of young refugees from trauma suffered during their experiences in a war zone, during their escape and their journey to Australia.2) To educate the public, especially the current generation of school students, about the reality of the refugee experience and hence to contribute to building an inclusive and accepting society.** **Come along and hear how George proposes to meet these objectives and join a discussion about what L4R can do to assist.** **Please join Labor for Refugees for the Zoom link to our meeting.The Minutes of our last meeting**[*MinutesL4RNSW-ACT24May23*](https://mcusercontent.com/09c48b6cba9909c3558998ce0/files/6a2e7f0c-85a6-2dc8-bb6d-a68035c2bc73/24_5_23_L4R_NSW_ACT_MINUTES_OF_AGM_GENERAL_MTG.pdf) **Refugee motion for ALP National Conference 2023****The wording of our refugee motion, which we have been urging you to promote at your branch meeting, can be viewed at**[*L4RNSW-ACTmotionforALPNatCon2023*](https://mcusercontent.com/09c48b6cba9909c3558998ce0/files/675703ba-dfe1-b0fd-5e0c-66e5607f055f/L4R_NSW_ACT_REFUGEE_MOTION_We_can_do_so_much_better_for_National_Conference_2023.01.pdf)**A number of branches and FECs have already endorsed this motion.  Please advise me if your Branch/FEC has also endorsed it.Don't forget to ensure that your Secretary sends this motion to your FEC, the Immigration Minister Andrew Giles and Home Affairs Minister Clare O'Neil.  Their email addresses appear at the bottom of the motion.Most importantly, Branch/FEC Secretaries should ensure that our refugee motion is submitted to the ALP National Conference when the invitation for motions from the ALP is forthcoming.The Conference takes place in Brisbane on the 17th, 18th & 19th August.  Some Delegates from NSW have already been elected unopposed by their FECs.  Others are currently going through a ballot process.****L4R writes to Immigration Minister re the budget and his promised restoration of SRSS payments****After sending a letter to the Immigration Minister Andrew Giles, reminding him of his promise to L4R that he would restore the SRSS payment in the May 2023 Budget, we sent a follow-up letter to him, expressing our****great disappointment that he did not fulfil his promise.** **Our letter to Minister Giles dated 28 May 2023 follows**[*L4RletterSRSStoMinGiles28May23*](https://mcusercontent.com/09c48b6cba9909c3558998ce0/files/76a4b718-40fe-8c0b-26e9-b4ca003bd06c/SRSS_THE_MAY_BUDGET_follow_up_letter_to_Immigration_Minister_Andrew_Giles_28_5_23.pdf)**Nauru and refugees****The Victorian Labor State Conference was held last weekend.  At that Conference, Immigration Minister Andrew Giles indicated that shortly, there will be no refugees left on Nauru. This is good news.  Now all we have to do is convince the government to permanently close all detention centres, particularly those offshore and replace them with a community based processing system with detention being for no longer than 90 days.  The government must also taking responsibility in the same way, for those refugees languishing in Papua New Guinea.****World Refugee Day - announcement****On World Refugee day, which falls on 20 June each year, the government announced it's increasing Australia's humanitarian visa program as part of Labor's election commitment to double the intake over time.****There are currently 17,875 places in the 2022-23 humanitarian program, after the former government slashed the intake to 13,750, despite skyrocketing rates of displacement globally.  Immigration Minister Andrew Giles stated that the government is working on delivering a humanitarian program that takes into account the "entire resettlement journey, ensuring refugees can rebuild their lives with certainty and participate fully in Australian society".**

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| **Submission to the ALP National Policy Forum on Draft 2023 Platform****Labor for Refugees is currently in the process of drafting a submission to the Draft Platform that was sent to members in mid May.** **Members' consultation on the draft National Platform is open until 23 June 2023.Input is invited from all Party members, branches, affiliated unions, as well as Party units and networks.** **The following link provides you with access to the Draft Platform -**[**2023 Draft Platform Page**](http://email.actlabor.org.au/c/eJwszM1qxCAQAOCnGW8bxlEzevCwpeTcV5j40yx1a7AG-vilsOcPvhy1SbUGVaJevbWerWVVfueQLFMi8BsQpUcGIjB347wDfldHDLwbcYV3jVxQsltTrcjkqabd6awekZAMOh0wIJJdcvbVhWCJKzsbVrAoaTbZ-1j6-FzkUi0ec54_YO5AG9Am7XwR0Pbf3fKQOm8fTWbt46lGbEf_Tv0sYLFfs_X-taT-_AsAAP__B74_Ow)**The main section, that deals with refugees, is under "Statements in Detail - A Nation Built on Migration" which appears on page 96 onwards to page 107.** **You can submit your input via link**[https://alp.org.au/2023-draft-Platform](http://email.actlabor.org.au/c/eJwszM1qxCAQAOCnGW8bxlEzevCwpeTcV5j40yx1a7AG-vilsOcPvhy1SbUGVaJevbWerWVVfueQLFMi8BsQpUcGIjB347wDfldHDLwbcYV3jVxQsltTrcjkqabd6awekZAMOh0wIJJdcvbVhWCJKzsbVrAoaTbZ-1j6-FzkUi0ec54_YO5AG9Am7XwR0Pbf3fKQOm8fTWbt46lGbEf_Tv0sYLFfs_X-taT-_AsAAP__B74_Ow)**.You only have until the end of the week, to take this opportunity and submit any issue that you believe should be included in Labor's Platform or to amend/replace an existing clause in the Platform.****The final draft will be debated at the 49th ALP National Conference to be held in Brisbane 17-19 August 2023, before a 2023 National Platform is adopted.** **I look forward to seeing you online at our meeting next Wednesday.** |

**Regards** **Nizza SianoSecretary L4R NSWemail:***contact@labor4refugees.com* |

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