

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Organisation

Entry ID: AWE6254

Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR)

(2001 -)

Born 1 January, 2001, New South Wales Australia

Occupation Advocate

Summary

Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR) was established in numerous New South Wales towns in 2001, with public meetings in Bowral and Armidale. Further public meetings were held in Cootamundra and Lismore and groups were launched in Orange and Goulburn. RAR then spread to Victoria, followed by other Australian states.

The group was originally founded by Anne Coombs, Susan Varga and Helen McCue.

RAR consists of Australian citizens living in rural and regional areas who aim to change Australia's policy on refugees and asylum seekers towards a more humane approach.

Today RAR:

- Aims to raise public awareness of the issues involving asylum seekers and refugees
- Writes letters to newspapers and politicians
- Meets members of parliament to challenge inhumane policies
- Provides practical help to local refugees
- Fundraises for asylum seekers and refugees
- Attends rallies and vigils

Archival resources

National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection

[Records of Rural Australians for Refugees, 2000-2008 \[manuscript\]](#)

National Library of Australia, Oral History and Folklore Collection

[Helen McCue interviewed by Ann-Mari Jordens \[sound recording\]](#)

Author Details

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