

## **Transcript: Happy Australian Citizenship Day**

Staff member:

We had this kangaroo in our high school sitting on the window  
Puppet. Toy. Stuffed toy.  
And people used to say, 'Ah that's the animal from Australia'.

Staff member:

I arrived when I was, just two weeks after my eighteenth birthday.

Staff member:

The only thing that I brought with me was my mother's earrings.  
My ring, wedding ring.  
Then a couple of photos, negative film.  
And I thought because if I die at least  
that's something with me that's forever.

Staff member:

And the Immigration Officer said to me, looked at my passport  
and said 'Is it your first entry?'.  
And I went 'Yes'.  
And he went 'You're arriving as a Permanent Resident'  
And I said 'Yes'  
He said 'Welcome to Australia, I hope you make it'.  
And I went 'Yes I will'.

Staff member:

In Australia I say 'Good morning, good afternoon, good evening'.  
People always say 'G'day mate'.  
It's really...really...  
In a way, it's really confusing, but it looks simple.

Staff member:

I was able to learn English very very quickly  
and was able to help Mum and Dad.

Staff member:

Even until now I think Australia is a lucky country,  
still a lucky country, but you have to be prepared to work hard for it.

Staff member:

I would like to give back to Australia and the  
Australian people who opened their arms to support me  
and accept me and my family as a refugee settled in Australia  
and I'm very proud to be an Australian, background Vietnamese.

Text

Happy Citizenship Day from our Multicultural Service Officers.