

## Maribyrnong Detention Centre

The original Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Centre opened in 1966, however the current Maribyrnong Detention Centre was opened in 1983. Its purpose is to cater for those who have over-stayed their visa, or whose visa has been cancelled due to a failure to comply with visa conditions. In addition, people who are refused entry to Australia at international airports are also detained at this Centre. The building is divided into various areas including: a separate male and female resident's area, a visitor's reception area in order to improve security, administration area, services provider offices, a visits area, a kitchen and dining area as well as a health services room, in order to cater for health needs. The residents' areas are comprised of bedrooms, recreational and educational facilities, washing and laundry areas, along with limited self-catering facilities and an outdoor exercise area. The administration wing provides accommodation for detention services staff as well as departmental figures. The Maribyrnong facility is able to hold up to 85 people.

This is relevant to Encountering Conflict as it is easy to imagine the conflict associated with a situation in which someone is being detained due to breaching conduct of their visa; either by over-staying, or inability to comply with visa conditions. There may have been direct conflict, such as violence, which has led them to be in this position. Also there could be conflict within the Detention Centre; fights between different nationalities, as well as fights between guards/officials and detainees.

In the Rugmaker of Mazar e Sharif, Najaf is detained in Woomera. We learn a lot about what it's like to be in a detention centre. With this knowledge, it's easy to imagine what it would be like to be detained in the Maribyrnong Detention Centre. As readers were made privy to the very raw and real emotions of Najaf, therefore making the information regarding the Maribyrnong Detention Centre relevant to our text.

