

# EthniGram



**Manawatu**  
Multicultural Council



The President's Seasons' Greetings	1
The Affects of Violence against Women and Children	2
Message from Councillor Tangi Utikere	3
MMC Annual Dinner	4-5
From the MMC Centre Coordinator	6
Multicultural Women's Group	7
Centre Christmas Party	8

## President's Seasonal Greetings

Dear Members, thank you all for your efforts this year supporting our multicultural activities. The year has gone so very quickly and Christmas is only two weeks away! I hope that you enjoy whatever family and cultural traditions you partake in at this time and seek out some well deserved rest and relaxation for yourselves.



Here in the office we also look forward to our Christmas celebrations and a bright and prosperous New Year! I take this opportunity to thank the staff and volunteers at the Centre. We appreciate all your efforts during the year to make MMC successful. I also want to commend our Executive Council for their contributions to the success of MMC this year. A fantastic team effort by all!

It is with regret that I advise that I will be moving away from Palmerston North in the new year, I wanted to pass my thanks to all of you whom I have had the pleasure to meet and work with during 2014. I know that the MMC team will work hard in the New Year to ensure that our full range of services is continued with care, energy and enthusiasm.

I wish you all well for the future.

Kind regards

Priyani De Silva

### Acknowledgement

Ministry of Social Development

Palmerston North City Council

PN Community Services Council

United Way

Lottery Grant

COGS

Eastern & Central Community Trust

## The Affects of Violence on Women and Children

### How violence affect women and children

Domestic violence has many negative effects on women and children, and the impact is never just physical.

Domestic violence can affect parts of a victim's life, the physical and mental health, emotional wellbeing, financial status, relationships and friendships, employment and cultural connections.



#### Invitation to ALL ethnic men

#### **Do you want to be a White Ribbon Ambassador in Manawatu ?**

Do you value women as equal partners?

Do you strongly feel that women should not suffer from violence by men?

Are you passionate about women's safety and security?

Do you strongly believe that violence against women is NOT OK ?

Do you wish to create awareness and educate other men to Stand Up Against Violence towards Women?

Do you want to be a **White Ribbon Ambassador?**

If you answered **Yes** to all of the above, then you are possibly the right one to lead the men of your community in

#### **Standing Up Against Violence towards Women.**

Manawatu Multicultural Council [MMC] is leading the campaign to recruit **White Ribbon Ambassadors.**

For more information please contact Nirmala Nand on 021 626 542.



## Message from Councillor Tangi Utikere

To all,

As the end of the year approaches it is a great opportunity to reflect on the past 12 months, for which the MMC can be very proud of its achievements.

It was a pleasure to join members in a recent session with Auditor General Lyn Provost. This was an amazing feat to have her visit Palmerston North and share her views on the role of Audit New Zealand for ethnic communities. I was very impressed with her openness and her desire for her office to be more accessible for migrant and other communities. It was a pleasure to represent our Acting Mayor at the Annual MMC Dinner, of which a number of city councillors and MPs were also in attendance.



Congratulations to the organisers on another great evening of acknowledgement, celebration and fellowship. Councillors have been busy preparing for the upcoming 10 Year Plan, which I have written about in a previous column. This Plan sets the priorities for the next ten years so it is important that our community has the opportunity to let the council know its thoughts. More information on how you can have your say will be circulated early next year. The other news is the pending by-election for our new Mayor. Make sure that you are enrolled so you are able to cast your vote from 19 Jan-10 Feb.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable and festive Christmas period.

Tangi Utikere.

City Councillor

To all the students of the Manawatu Multicultural Centre that have been bringing tins and can of food over the past month, for the Food Bank. A big Thank You.

We were able to give two large cardboard boxes of food to the Salvation Army/ Methodist Social Services Food Bank Collection.

Many Thanks.

Angela Joblin.



## MMC Annual Dinner

The MMC Annual Dinner held at this time of the year can be deemed as the principal social event of the organization. It gives us the opportunity to say thank you to our volunteers, sponsors, members and associates who contribute on a regular basis to meet our missions and better serve the community.



The Dinner provides an excellent opportunity for members to connect with other members, trade professionals, business entrepreneurs, and those holding political offices in a celebratory setting.

The evening began with the President of MMC, Priyani welcoming the guests at ChinaTown on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November restaurant followed by presentation of awards



to volunteers in appreciation of their unfailing commitment to teaching those who come through the doors of MMC to learn English and also to those who dedicate their time and talent to make many of the MMC's ongoing social programs possible.

Whilst the three course dinner was served, people mingled to make new acquaintances, enjoyed catching up with friends and using the time for networking. Among the guests were also the overseas recruitment agents, invited by our members Ipe and Mary Mathews, representing International Education Manawatu (IEM). Surprise birthday announcements are one of those great little joys in life and Kerstin Winter one of the agents from Germany was the recipient of this sweet surprise when our dinner guests sang Happy Birthday and a birthday cake was brought to her.

Jono Naylor our ex-Mayor and listed member Parliament did the honour of singing 'Happy Birthday' for her.

The evening's main course and the dessert interlude were filled with two games 'Heads and Tails' and a game where guests were to identify names of the ethnic cuisines. Ian Lees Galloway, Member Parliament was kind enough to conduct the Heads & Tails game.

Though it was meant to be a fundraiser, the takings could not be boosted much; perhaps the second round was a bit lukewarm. The diners had to pay \$5 to play the games.

The dinner party was rounded off with the serving of a huge cake donated by Pioneer New World. The 3 members of Parliament Ian Lees Galloway, Jono Naylor, and Darroch Ball present at the gathering were invited to cut the cake while the camera clicked away to capture the sheer size of the cake.



Parties are a great way to gather everyone involved in the community while celebration is an important aspect of any community initiative.

Shantona Poduval

MMC Centre Coordinator

## From the Centre Coordinator

We can now look ahead into the New Year with hope resilience and confidence.

I extend a very warm Christmas and New Year greeting to our clientele, friends, organizations, funders and staff, the governing council and all their families as well as the stakeholders.

Thank you all for your support and hope this association continues and we attain success jointly.

**Shantona Poduval**  
Coordinator MMC



**Please note that the Manawatu Multicultural Centre**

**will close on Friday 19th December 2014 at 4pm**

**and will reopen on Monday the 19th of January 2015 at 9.30am.**



## From the Multicultural Women's Group

### ROSE GARDEN VISIT

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December five of us visited Pushba's home to see her roses and enjoy a Christmas afternoon tea.

It was disappointing that more people didn't come as Pushba has a lovely home which she shares with her family and 120 roses. As I was approaching the house I was wondering how she could have all these roses but they are in pots and Pushba keeps them in perfect condition.



There were roses of all colours and some had the most beautiful scent.

Pushba also has roses for sale if anyone would like to start their own beautiful rose garden. It's very tempting when you see these beautiful roses to think that you would like to grow some.



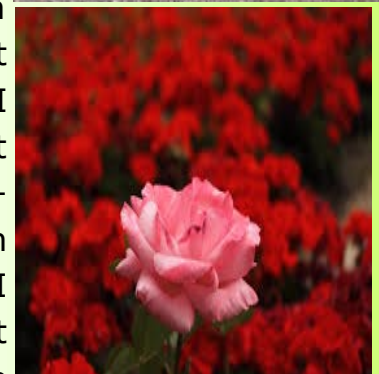
The afternoon tea was very enjoyable with two new items introduced to us — casava chips and chocolate cappuccino sticks. The latter reminded people of candles but they enjoyed them when they tasted them.

The casava chips were very "moreish" meaning that once you started eating them you could hardly stop!!



It was an enjoyable afternoon tea and especially learning about each other and what we do. I was very interested to find out that the Yatai Japanese restaurant on Featherstone Street can actually seat 70-80 people as I had always thought it was about the size of a 3-bedroom house

so not many people would be able to dine there at a time.



A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone from

Anne Odogwu

## Centre Christmas Party

Christmas Party as usual attracts a lot of ethnic migrants/newcomers who are keen to share their Christmas spirit with the Centre guests, staff, volunteers and users of our services.

They bring in with them their own ethnic flavour of festive food and fun to the party.

This year too was no exception. Though we had intended to keep this year's Christmas Party on a rather a low key but we were delightfully surprised to have so many people come along to share their festive spirit with us.



A wonderful spread of ethnic food, of course the highlight of the Christmas lunch was made interesting with the Centre students having a go at singing Christmas songs and accompanied by the violin. Iain Lees Galloway, our local MP who is no stranger to the Centre was also present.

Shantona Poduval  
MMC Centre Coordinator





## **Manawatu Multicultural Centre**

- Practice your English
- Make new friends
- Share information
- Learn about New Zealand and other cultures
- Use your interpersonal skills

### **Opening Hours:**

**Monday-Friday 10am-4pm**

#### **Advanced English Group**

**Monday to Thursday 1- 3pm**

#### **Beginners Group**

**Tuesday & Friday 10am - 12.00pm**

#### **Art & Craft Group**

**Friday 1-3pm**

#### **Centre shared lunch:**

**Friday 12-1pm**

#### **Multicultural Playgroup**

**Every Monday (Restarting soon)**

**Te Manawa Museum—326 Main Street**

#### **Multicultural Women 's Group**

**1st Wednesday of the Month from 1-3pm**

#### **Newcomers Coffee Morning**

**3rd Wednesday of the Month 10-12noon**

#### **Newcomers Potluck Dinner**

**Last Friday of the Month from 6pm**

