



Manawatu
Multicultural Council

**Multicultural
Centre**



**Manawatu
Newcomers Network**
Connecting People

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- * Palmerston North City Council (PNCC)
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- * Lotteries Grant
- * Community Organization Grant Scheme (COGS)
- * MSD, Community Response
- * MSD, Family and Community Services
- * United Way
- * Central Energy Trust

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The President's Message

Service is the rent we pay to be living. It is the very purpose of life and not something we do in our spare time"

(Marian Wright Edelman)



Namaste & Ethnic Greetings Everyone!

Good to note that we are now going downhill - meaning into the second half of the year! As we look at our strategic plan set last year I can confirm that we are well on our way to achieving our targets, which is great!

The ***World on Stage*** is shaping up nicely with about nineteen community groups preparing to showcase their performance. The planning committee is rapidly finalizing the details and will soon start advertising the ***Show***. Thanks to the hard working and committed committee for taking on this challenging job.

I would like to urge the MMC members, friends and supporters to step forward and help generously in promoting this event. Thank you to the PNNCC Creative Communities New Zealand for the funding support. Many thanks to the restaurants surrounding the Regent on Broadway for supporting the event by offering discounted meals on the evening to ticket holders of the Show!

The Newcomer's Network programme is planning a ***Marae*** visit for our newcomers to help them understand and appreciate Maori culture and what a ***Marae*** means to the ***Tangata Whenua***.

The visit is planned to take place on 8 August to the Rangiotu Te Rangimarie Marae

The MMC in association with **Breastscreen Coast to Coast** and the **MidCentral Sexual Health Team** helped organize a health information evening for Bhutanese women. The aim of this project was to help prevent cancer in women. There is an urgent need to educate our ethnic women to come forward and get themselves checked on time.

Women's group, mother's playgroup, literacy classes, employment project and the newcomer's projects including potluck dinner, shared lunches and coffee mornings are all as popular as ever. The Centre is busy as usual with regular newsletters being posted on the web each month with interesting articles.

To find these newsletters and more information please visit www.mmcnz.co.nz or visit the Centre, collect information that you require, talk to the staff and hook up with friends.

I do express my gratitude to all the funders, for without them our projects will suffer a great setback. To all the hardworking members of our Council, my special thanks to you and best wishes.

Nirmala Nand QSM, JP.

President.

WORLD ON STAGE SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

The World on Stage will take place at the Regent on Broadway at 7pm on Saturday 8th September. Brought to you by the Manawatu Multicultural Council and Directed by Dean McKerras and seventeen Groups will be taking part. There are Indian, Chinese, Irish, Polish, Latin American, Congolese (African) and other groups. It should be a great evening so now is the time to think about going.

A fun way to start the evening is to dine at an ethnic restaurant and we will keep you posted if more restaurants come into this arrangement. World on Stage may be preceded by dining at: Roma or The Grand Beer and Wine Cafe or Bethanys or The Gallery Restaurant or Angkor or Monsoon Asia or Halikarnas or Hana Mizu Ki or Flavour Bistro or Chinatown. These restaurants are sponsoring our show and if you have tickets for the show you will get a 10% discount on meals only. Bookings must be made by Friday 7th September. Lone Star Restaurant will provide a free wine, beer or soft drink with a full price meal.

Tickets for the Show are: Adult \$18 / Student (with ID) + Senior \$15 / Children (U 12) \$10 / Family pass (2 adults + 2 children) \$45 / Family pass (2 adults + 3 children) \$50. Booking + service fees may apply. Tickets can be bought at: Event Ticketing Centre at the Regent on Broadway, or Arena Manawatu (Main Office) on Pascal Street, or from the Convention Centre, 354 Main Street, Palmerston North.

Proceeds are for the Multicultural Centre so encourage your friends to come to this great entertainment.

Anne Odogwu, MMC Vice-President.

World on Stage

dance + song

Sat 8 Sept 2012 7 PM | Regent Theatre

Brought to you by the Manawatu Multicultural Council and Directed by Dean McKerras

Adult_ \$18 | Student (with ID) + Senior_ \$15 | Children_(U12) \$10
Family pass_(2 adults + 2 children) \$45 | Family pass_(2 adults + 3 children) \$50
Proceeds to Multicultural Centre. Booking + service fees may apply

Tickets available from TicketDirect outlets



Preshow Dinner Special 5 -6.30pm Sat 8 Sept

The following Restaurants are offering a 10% discount on meals only. Bookings must be made by Fri 7 Sept. You must present World on Stage ticket to get a discount.

Roma | The Grand Beer and Wine Cafe | Bethanys | The Gallery Restaurant

Angkor | Monsoon Asia | Halikaruaa | Hana Mozu Ki | Flavours Bistros | Chinatown

Lonestar Restaurant will provide a free wine, beer or soft drink with a full price meal.

BOOK YOUR FAVORITE RESTAURANT EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

Remember you must have a purchased World on Stage Ticket first.

Women's Group Update

The women's Group met on Wednesday the 4th July to make winter soup. On the programme was pumpkin and curried kumara soup.

Since the Multicultural Centre doesn't have cooking facilities, Gretha made the pumpkin soup and I made the kumara soup from home and we brought the ingredients to demonstrate the recipes. For many of the women who came it was a first time experience for making a good Kiwi soup and they enjoyed tasting them. Some don't grow kumara or pumpkins at all in their home countries and they were happy to learn new recipes.

For me, although we grow kumara in my country of origin, we never made kumara soup and this was my first time. I have to say I really liked it and would recommend it to anyone who wants to try.

We also had Rosanna with us who was celebrating her 84th birthday. Rosanna is from Columbia and she often volunteers to teach women some of her skills like Cheese Making. It was nice to be part of her special day and everyone sang her" *Cumpleaños feliz, te deseamos a ti, cumpleaños Rosanna, cumpleaños feliz*"



Christine



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Marae Visit

An opportunity to learn about Marae Protocol, Culture, Customs and Traditions



When : Wednesday 8 August 2012

Time: : 10am-12.30pm

Lunch at the Marae

Catering: Bring your own lunch

Tea/coffee provided

The bus will leave MMC at 9.30am and will return to the Centre by 1pm.

Space is limited. Please book your place on time by calling MMC on 358 1572 or e-mailing info@mmcnz.org.nz

The Newcomers Network programme is a MMC programme to assist new migrants and new arrivals from other parts of New Zealand settle into our city, through social events and programmes.



Amongst our social events we have the monthly potluck dinner which is our most popular event. The potluck dinner is a good way to mix and mingle with locals and other

migrants, try new dishes and exchange recipes. If you are a new migrant, an international student or a visitor from overseas, please feel free to join us.

If you are a Kiwi and would like to meet people from other parts of the world and share some Kiwi culture, please join our monthly potluck dinner last Friday of the month. Also we would love you to call in to our Centre for a chat, or e-mail Christine on manawatu@newcomers.co.nz or visit the Newcomers Network website: www.newcomers.co.nz to check out our calendar of social events and read our monthly newsletter. Next potluck dinner is on Friday the 27th July at 6pm

One of the goals of the Multicultural Centre is to promote cohesion and integration of migrants into the local community. Contact with settled migrants and locals as well as migrants' involvement in organizations like MMC, are two important ways to achieve that goal. The English language however is one of the biggest barriers to integration.

The Manawatu Multicultural Centre offers informal English conversation classes to help new arrivals speak with confidence. The English Conversation Group offers small group conversation classes. Volunteers provide help with pronunciation and practising of English sounds and learning of new vocabulary.

English learners have the opportunity to converse in small groups where making friends and learning about different cultures are equally as important as the specific lessons.

English Conversation Classes are held at the Manawatu Multicultural Centre at Community House 77-85 King Street Monday to Thursday from 1-3pm. Our dedicated volunteers can also help you with other settling in questions you might have, or refer you to the appropriate service providers.

At the Multicultural Centre English Conversation Classes are FREE, feel free to join !!!

"One Refugee without Hope is too many!!!"

On the 16th June, Manawatu Refugee Voice commemorated the World Refugee Day by planting a tree. The event was attended by Iain Lees-Galloway, MP Palmerston North, Former Refugees, Volunteers, Friends and Supporters.

On behalf the former refugees, Jean-Christophe Massimba Chairperson of the Manawatu Refugee Voice took the opportunity to welcome and thank everyone for their ongoing support. He also brought awareness of refugee problems from around the world: *"Thank you all for your kind words and for your support to Manawatu Refugee Communities. On the occasion of the commemoration of World Refugee Day, on behalf of all former and new refugees in Manawatu and on behalf of Former Refugee Community Combined Voice Incorporated, I want to thank you very much for your presence here."*

Each year, World Refugee Day is celebrated and we cannot be indifferent to this event. It's in this context that we thought to plant a tree symbolizing this day. Indeed, a tree represents life and hope. This tree in Rangiora Park will remind present and future generations who we are and where we come from. In fact, no one has ever chosen to be a refugee. But it is an accomplished fact and a humiliating situation that unfortunately millions of women, children and men through the world live in this situation. In fact, there are more than 50 million refugees who are registered throughout the world.



The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) defines a refugee as someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war, or violence. A refugee has a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group. Most likely, they cannot return home or are afraid to do so. War and ethnic, tribal and religious violence are leading causes of refugees fleeing their countries.

*The theme of celebration for this year is known: **"One refugee without hope is too many!....."**New Zealand has always impressed several countries by the vitality and diversity of its multi-culture, as well as NZ's continued involvement in the field of refugee protection. Its quota of resettlement is a fine example of load distribution on a global scale to ensure the protection of refugees. We are very proud and grateful to the people and authorities who have offered and continue to offer new life and hope for so many years to hundreds of thousands of refugees.*

God bless New Zealand and may peace and prosperity reign forever in this country.

Thank you very much for your attention.



Jean-Christophe Massimba

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, Wednesday and Thursday 1– 3pm

Beginners Group

Tuesday & Friday 10.00am - 12.00pm

Former Refugees Literacy Class

Monday ,Wednesday and Thursday 9.00am –12pm

Art & Craft Group

Friday 1-3pm

Centre shared lunch:

Friday 12-1pm

Ethnic 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