

MISSION STATEMENT

• TO CELEBRATE, TO SUPPORT AND TO CONNECT THE MULTI-CULTURAL COMMUNITIES OF MANAWATU



Manawatu
Multicultural Council



ETHNIGRAM

Acknowledgement

- Ministry of Social Development
- Palmerston North City Council
- PN Community Services Council
- United Way
- Lottery Grant
- COGS
- Eastern & Central Community Trust

The President's Message

Greetings everybody.

We are in the age of Ultra: everything is now Ultra fast, Ultra-modern, and Ultra-sonic. To race this Ultra-ism, time is running fast as well. We are already almost at the end of March, the Festival of Cultures is knocking at our door together with other usual community activities. Accordingly, this is the Ultra-busy month for MMC. All of our authorities, organisations and groups involved in this Festival are very busy with lots of planning and preparation.



The Festival of Culture is the most colourful showcase of Multicultural ethnic communities in New Zealand. This year the Festival of Cultures in Palmerton North is scheduled to be held on 21st March at The Square. MMC is working hard together with the City Council in hosting another successful Festival and the honourable dignitaries on the day.

For the first time this year MMC is going to run a basic Health check-up in the stall on the day of the Festival with the help of Volunteer Nurses from Best Care (Whakapai Hauora). **This is Absolutely Free.** Although there will be a donation box in the stall, it has no strings attached to the health check-up. So please feel free to come in, have a quick check-up and collect information. Most importantly let others know of this service that will be available on the day.

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MMC will also run a competition for the best stall in the Festival of Cultures. The winner will be presented with an MMC Trophy. So I suggest you to try your best and show the judges what you can do. My wish goes to all of you.

In other news, very recently 100 new Citizens took their **Oath** here in Palmerton North. The Citizenship ceremony was held on 11th March at the Convention Centre, where the Mayor and Mayoress congratulated the new members of our society and presented them with their citizenship certificates. MMC joined the ceremony and welcomed the new Citizens with a gift of a native plant. I'd like to again welcome the new citizens to our community, and invite them to the MMC and its services.



So overall we have started the year with a bang. All of our social support projects, such as coffee mornings, potluck dinners and shared lunches, are taking place with lots of enthusiasm and participation. And it's great to see a numbers of newcomers also coming to the multicultural centre every day looking for information and advice.

Please see the back of this newsletter for detailed information on our activities which can also be found by calling the Centre.

Hope to see you all at the Festival of Cultures. Enjoy the day and make memories for the rest of your life.

All the best.

Rukhshana N. Akhter

Happy, Prosperous and Healthy Year of the Sheep!!!



The Manawatu Chinese Association celebrated the Chinese New Year 2015 with a banquet dinner at Chinatown Restaurant on Fri 20 February at 6.30pm with 140 people present.



A 2 man lion dance opened the evening and festivities .

The National Chinese Association President Gerald Wong gave an update of the activities at National level in particular the SS Ventnor and the launch of the book celebrating 80 Years of Chinese Association in NZ

The new Mayor Grant Smith was in attendance and joined in the celebratory festivities of the night

This year is the Year of the Goat. For people born in this year (1919, 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003, 2015) is considered to be an auspicious year.

The Manawatu Chinese Association would like to wish everyone a very happy, prosperous and healthy New Year in 2015!

Thank you,

Ruby Gang

MMC would like to thank Best Care (Whakapai Hauora) who kindly offered to do free health checks at MMC stall at the Festival of Cultures.

Best Care (Whakapai Hauora) is an iwi health, social and disability support service provider. Whakapai Hauora is a non-profit iwi health service provider owned and operated by Tanenuiarangi Manawatu Inc. in Palmerston North. Established in 1995, Whakapai Hauora is committed towards total wellbeing of its community. It provides holistic health and social services along a continuum of care to improve the health and social status of its community. Enabled by the health reforms of the early 1990s, Whakapai Hauora has grown into one of the largest iwi health, social service, educational and disability support service providers in Palmerston North. Although Whakapai Hauora's target population is Māori, we also provide a wide range of services to anyone from any culture.

Meet Alan Park—Intern from Massey University

I am Alan Park, 24 years old, graduated from Northeast Normal University of China. Now I am doing professional practice here as one of my post graduation courses. I want to improve my communicating skills mainly here, by talking to members from different cultural backgrounds, will be an assistant with English Classes, doing daily routine like computer things and reception, answering the phones. I willing to do other things if they are required and willing to help as much as I can and I'll do my best. I also want to support with organising activities.



I hope I can gain working experience here and in the meanwhile, we have a wonderful environment.

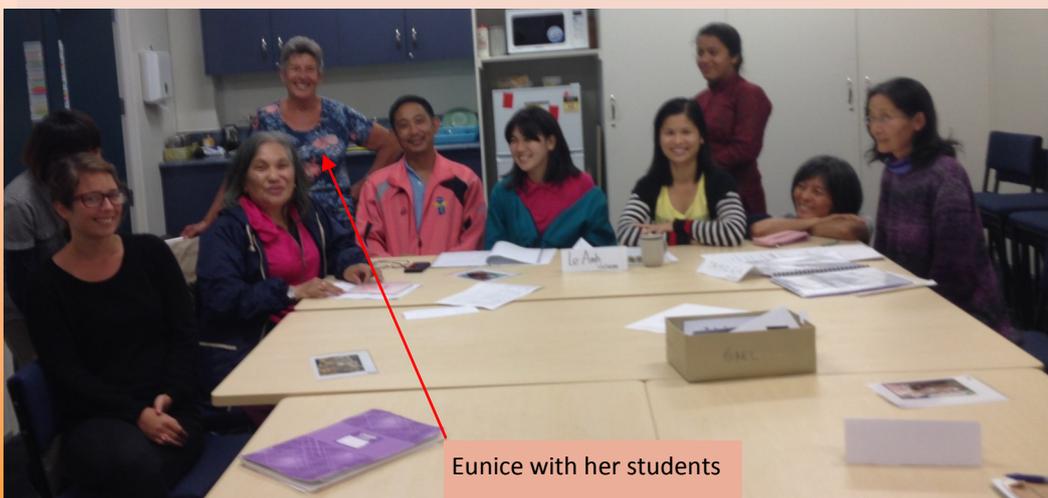
Alan

Meet Eunice Rodsjo, MMC New Volunteer English Tutor

My name is Eunice Rodsjo, and I am a retired primary school teacher, with over thirty years of teaching experience in New Zealand and overseas.

I was born in Scotland, and came to New Zealand as a child migrant after World War 2. My interests include reading, music, overseas travel, walking, and my eight beautiful grandchildren.

I was delighted to be given the opportunity to volunteer as an English language tutor at the Ethnic Centre, and I really enjoy working with the students and watching their interaction with other students from so many different parts of the world.



Eunice with her students

My main aim is to make learning fun, and to give the students the confidence to speak, read and write English in a secure and confident manner.

Eunice

FREE English Language Classes at MMC

The English Language classes are in full swing again at the Multicultural Centre. With the departure of some tutors, Mayette Maling-Cope has now taken over two classes; the Wednesday Advanced class and the Friday Beginners class.



Students continue to come and experience learning from the different teachers. If you are interested, come and spend time discovering the various aspects of the beautiful English language. You will find that a variety of teaching enhances learning a second language.



At the Beginners group, basic English is applied in conversation every Tuesday and Friday mornings from 10 am to 12 noon. At the Advanced group, students

learn about English in depth and are encouraged to apply what they have learned individually and in groups as well. They also get to develop public speaking during presentations in class.

Of course, practice makes perfect so students are encouraged to apply what they have learned inside the class environment to the outside world as well. Come and visit us at the MMC and be a part of these eager and active learners.

Monthly Potluck Dinner

The potluck dinner on Friday the 27th February was our first for this year and it was good to catch up with regular attendees and newcomers. At the potluck we farewelled Doris Chen who moved to Hawera joining her husband who found a job there. Doris has been a very good supporter of Centre activities and events, attending and inviting new arrivals to MMC programmes, in particular to the monthly pot luck dinner. Doris will be sorely missed.

Potluck dinners are one of the best ways to socialise in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

Next potluck dinner is on Friday the 27th March at 6pm here at the Centre. Please join us and invite newcomers in your networks.

Christine.



Doris receiving a Certificate of Appreciation at the Art & Craft activity



Multicultural Women's Group—From Mojgan Sadighi

On Wednesday the 4th March in the afternoon I had the privilege to cook a special Persian dish with a group of lovely ladies (and some gentlemen) at MMC.

Leading up to Persian New Year (21 March) we watched a clip and talked about the history and meaning of Now-rooz and the special items arranged on a table for new year.

After that we made Kookoo Sabzi (Herb Quiche) and served it with Cucumber and yogurt dip. This was followed by a cup of cardamom tea to complete our small feast.

This event was enjoyed by about 24 women & men who shared their love for people, cultures and food on this simple gathering.

I am grateful for the MMC staff 's effort in organising this event.



INGREDIENTS

- ◆ 8 eggs
- ◆ 1 teaspoon white flour
- ◆ 1 tablespoon red currants or Barberries (optional)
- ◆ $\frac{1}{3}$ cup finely chopped walnuts (optional)
- ◆ 1 teaspoon salt
- ◆ $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon black pepper
- ◆ $\frac{1}{4}$ cup cooking oil or $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter
- ◆ $\frac{1}{2}$ cup finely chopped fresh chives or spring onion
- ◆ 2 cups finely chopped fresh parsley
- ◆ $\frac{1}{2}$ cup fresh coriander or 2 tablespoons dried coriander
- ◆ $\frac{1}{4}$ cup fresh dill tips or $\frac{1}{4}$ cup dried dill tips
- ◆ $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoon fresh or dried fenugreek leaves



METHOD

1. Soak the currants in cold water for 15 minutes before cooking, drain before adding them in.
2. In a bowl add the eggs, flour, salt and pepper. Beat it with a fork until the ingredients have been mixed well (you can use a food processor and mix all ingredients at once).
3. Add the herbs and mix gently (soak the dried herbs in warm water for a couple of hours and drain before adding to the mix).
4. Heat frying pan on stove and add the oil.
5. Pour the mixture in the pan and cook on low heat leave cover on till set.
6. Cut in pieces before serving.

ENJOY!

Free Accounting Advice and Support for Your Group.

Being a treasurer isn't always easy, especially if you don't have a background in financial management. Most treasurers do a great job but sometimes need advice and support to make sure they are doing things 'right'. Getting things 'right' can mean more success in funding applications and help your ethnic group reach its' goals.

Palmerston North Community Accounting is a new service that provides this advice and support for free. Massey University accounting students see clients on Monday nights between 5pm and 7pm accounting students under the supervision of Chartered Accountants.

Clients can be treasurers, paid managers or a whole board with an accounting question. All information is kept confidential.

The volunteer accounting students reflect the diversity of the Palmerston North community, with students from Chinese, Indian, South African and Muslim

backgrounds among others. We believe that means they will be able to relate well to the concerns of many ethnic groups in our community.

Book an appointment online at: pnccommunityaccounting@eventbrite.co.nz

Or contact Michelle MacManus, Coordinator at Palmerston North Community Services Council. Phone 06 354 3809. Office at Hancock Community House.

Students will also provide training to assist treasurers

Thank you,
Michelle



LAUNCHING
MONDAY 9 MARCH



Free Accounting Advice and Support

Through clinics and training for treasurers (or budding treasurers) from Massey University accounting students supervised by Chartered Accountants.

Launching Monday 9 March

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michelle MacManus, Coordinator
06 354 3809 | communityaccounting@pncsc.org.nz
www.facebook.com/pnccommunityaccounting

TO BOOK A CLINIC:

www.pnccommunityaccounting.eventbrite.co.nz

A JOINT PROJECT BETWEEN:



PALMERSTON NORTH
COMMUNITY SERVICES COUNCIL
Using strengths - empowering ourselves

Department of
Internal Affairs



INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Te Tari Taiwhenua

Citizenship Case Officers will be in Palmerston North on:

29th - 30th April 2015

29th - 30th July 2015

28th - 29th October 2015

Case Officers will be available to look over your application and assess your eligibility before you apply, answer questions and discuss any problems you may have.

Working with our Case Officers will make the application process easier and faster for you. There is no extra charge for this service.

You don't have to visit a Justice of the Peace or post your valuable documents – they will be returned to you at your appointment.

Payment must be made with your citizenship application. Payment can be made by personal cheque, bank cheque or credit card.

To make your free appointment, or for more information, phone 0800 22 51 51.

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

Multicultural Arts & Crafts Group

Friday 1-3pm

Centre shared lunch:

Friday 12-1pm

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