

**MISSION STATEMENT**

TO CELEBRATE,  
SUPPORT AND  
CONNECT  
MULTICULTURAL  
COMMUNITIES OF  
MANAWATU



**Manawatu**  
Multicultural Council

**Multicultural  
Centre**



**Manawatu  
Newcomers Network**  
Connecting People

# ETHNIGRAM NEWSLETTER

## President's Report

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**Acknowledgement**

**Palmerston North City Council**

**PN. Community Service Council Small Grant**

**Lion Foundation**

**United Way**

**Lottery Grant**

**COGS**

**Eastern & Central Community Trust**

**DIA- Settling In**

**Pub Charity**

**Hancock Community House**  
77-85 King Street  
Phone #  
**(06) 358 1572**  
ask@mmcnz.org.nz  
www.mmcnz.org.nz

The month of April is very relevant to our organization and to all Christians around the world and all New Zealanders.

First of all I would like to express my sincere thanks to friends who made our last month's event such a success.

The Multiclothes for Multi People Fashion show was a team effort of all the volunteers and staff. We had so many volunteers who worked silently in the background. A few I would like

to mention were our photographers who willingly gave their time taking photos of the models, such as Udo, Vincent, Lina & Vicky Gaither. Vicky even helped promote our show through the International Radio Connection which brought more people to our show.

As an organization, we are celebrating the 7th year of the Monthly Potluck dinner as part of the Newcomers Network activities. Our funding from the Newcomers Network was stopped 3 years ago, but as an organization, we have decided to continue it, due to the impact it was making on our visitors, migrants and refugees in the city.

We have seen the support to partners of Massey post graduate students, PACE and IPU students that the Network brings to overcome their isolation and help develop their English Language speaking skills. Our monthly dinner has become a social connector among families that regularly come here and meet new contacts, who may later become friends. It has created a sense of belonging and community among migrants.

At our last month's potluck dinner we said our goodbyes to a Brazilian family who expressed their sadness at leaving, their sons said they would like to come back one day to New Zealand to study or work.

Also this month our staff and one of the committee members received a letter from a lady in Spain who used to regularly come to our English classes and to our potluck dinners. She expressed her gratitude to our staff. She also wishes one day to return to New Zealand.



The Almeida family from Brazil

## President Report continues

In our Language Classes we celebrated with our two former volunteers who now have full time jobs. We valued their time with us and the time they spent with other migrants sharing their English knowledge. Truly, volunteering is a good stepping stone in getting a job here in New Zealand.

To all Christians, it is an important date as it is the celebration of Easter, a time of reflection that Good things can happen out of bad things. Jesus Christ's resurrection was a good illustration of that, it became a reality for me, last Easter Monday.

I was asked to work in one of the respite homes and to my surprise the lady working there as a Team Leader, was a former Congolese refugee that I had welcomed through our settlement support project in 2006. We had a good catch up on how her life turned out after she arrived Palmerston North. From being a solo mum and losing her husband through conflicts in the Congo, she is now remarried and has 2 children. Through her current job, she was able to sponsor her two remaining adult children in the Congo to come here.

I returned home very happy after listening to her story of hope. As a country, we celebrate Anzac Day, to remember the fallen soldiers, servicemen and survivors who served during the two World Wars. To me and my family it is a very important day as some of my husband's uncles served and were killed during the wars. His mom also served as a surgical nurse in Egypt.

At the Multicultural Manawatu we were able to show our gratitude by laying a wreath for the 2nd year in a row. I am very thankful that there are talented people in our team who are keen to crochet poppies. Thank you Booranee.

We also had a meeting with Peter and Pascal from the City Council, who updated us with our contract.

This week, as well as our regular Potluck Dinner on Friday night, the Bhutanese Community had their Cultural Show on Saturday 29th at the Rangiora Hall.

Sunday was the opening of the Chinese Gazebo at the Kelvin Grove Cemetery followed by a Potluck lunch at the Chinese hall.

On 5th of May at 7 pm, The Chinese Community are showing The Quintessence of Chinese Culture at the Spiers Centre, Palmerston North Boys High School 263 Featherston Street.

We hope to have a good attendance at our executive and council meeting on May 11th.

On May 19th at 6:30 pm the Egyptian community will be running a cultural show at the Library and on May 16, we will be working collaboratively with Just Zilch and Palmerston North Environmental Trust, showing a documentary film, The Theatre of Life .

Truly life is busy but rewarding when you know it is helping to make this city a better place to live.

Meriam Findlay  
President



*MMC Executive Member's Profile*

Hi my name is Aidan Wong

I am currently the treasurer of the Manawatu Multicultural Council.  
I am a Chartered accountant living here in Palmerston North.

I am a member of the New Zealand Chinese Association Manawatu Branch and the current English language secretary for the organisation.

I am married to Rebecca and we have a young son Caleb who likes to keep us on our toes and we are expecting our second child in September 2017, which we are very excited about.

I have been part of the Manawatu Multicultural Council executive committee for almost a year now and have enjoyed being part of it. I have always been involved although not directly through my father Gerald Wong who was a past president of the Manawatu Multicultural Council.

I am always amazed at the number of activities and projects that we are able to run and the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes by our volunteers. Without the help of volunteers, we would struggle to do as well as we do.

Outside of work, you can find me with a paint brush in hand as we are renovating our house which is a challenge, especially with a young child. I also like spending time catching up with family & friends.

*Hello from Brazil*

Hello to all my friends at MMC, how are you all?

I am sending this email to share with you my joy.

Thank God I was able to defend my PhD thesis successfully.

I want to thank you for all the English classes I had at Manawatu Multicultural Centre while I lived for 1 year at NZ.

Big hugs to all of you.

Cheers,

**Marcos Schleiden Sousa Carvalho**  
**Engenheiro Agrônomo**  
**Mestre em Ciências - ESALQ/USP**  
**Doutor em Agronomia - UFLA**

**Congratulations Marcus from all your friends**

**We all miss you!**



**Marcus Carvalho completed his Ph.D studies in Brazil in April 2017**

## *Newcomers Coffee Morning*

If you are new to Palmerston North from overseas or just from other parts of New Zealand, the Newcomers Network at the Manawatu Multicultural Centre would like to extend a warm welcome by inviting you to join us for a coffee and information morning every third Wednesday of the month from 10am at the Multicultural Centre.

It's a fun morning and a great way to meet other newcomers and locals. It's a wonderful opportunity to find out a little more about life in Palmerston North and get to know more about the range of free events and activities offered by the Multicultural Centre and the wider Community

Come along, and invite the newcomers from your networks.



## *Multicultural Women's Group*

The Multicultural Women's Group meets on the third Friday of the month, first and simply to interact with other women and to meet new arrivals to our city.

We offer a wide range of activities such as sewing, embroidery, basic cooking etc. The cooking is the most popular on our monthly agenda, unfortunately we can only do a presentation and hand out recipes.

But, that did not stop Booranne Roskruge to come up with an excellent idea making salad wraps, and last month 17 March we started with a "Pork Salad Wrap" its was yummy delicious quick and easy to make.

Well! That wasn't hard to plan this months activity and on Friday 21st April the menu was "Tuna Salad Wrap".

This time Booranne encourage the women to participate in making their own wrap.

It was fun and an enjoyable afternoon learning and of course the best part was tasting and eating.

*Noorangi*



## *Farewell John Quintanilla*

"The first time I came to the MMC, I met some amazing people. They helped me settle in Palmerston North and were always there for me. I felt they were like a second family.

I came to New Zealand chasing my nursing career. I studied for three years at UCOL Palmerston North. I enjoyed being at the MMC, every time during my break I would go and visit them. I always had a good time.

They helped me improve my English pronunciation and supported me in everything. I thank you all. I will be always grateful for what you guys did for me. A big thank you."



**Congratulations John! ( front row) Your hard work paid off; we are very proud and very happy for you. It has been a real pleasure to meet and spend time with you here at the Multicultural Centre. Best wishes for a fun and exciting life in Cromwell.**

## *Celebration of Songs & Praises*

The Manawatu Multicultural Council (MMC) invites you to join us for this event on  
**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at 2pm at St Mary's Church, Ruahine Street  
 (opposite the main entrance to the Hospital).**

We would like a firm commitment and ask that a leader of your group or an appointed representative attend a meeting at the Multicultural Centre with the Organising Committee on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 5pm.**

**On Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> August there will be a rehearsal at  
 St. Mary's Church at 2 – 4pm**

**The Celebration of Songs and Praises will start at 2pm  
 Sunday 20th August at St. Mary's Church**

Afternoon tea will be served giving everyone an opportunity to mingle and talk to one another.

If you wish to participate, can your group's contact person/leader please contact the centre on (06) 358 1572 for a registration form.

We are looking forward to hearing from you,  
 Meriam Findlay  
 President

## MMC Fashion Show 2017

The Festival of Cultures had been going in Palmerston North for over twenty years, and our city is known for its cultural diversity celebrating ethnic cultures food and music.

The MMC continued the celebration with it's Multi-clothes for Multi-people Fashion Parade held on Sunday 5th March at the Globe Theatre.

It's an opportunity for all migrants men, women and children, young and old, to show case their national costumes and clothes they made. Well! What a fantastic celebration of vibrant colours and many different fashions.

To all the models from around the world who made the effort to participate and wear their Ethnic National Costumes, you all looked fabulous and you should be very proud of your selves.

Many thanks to Shane and Lauren Ruwhiu for your support for the opening Mihi and Karakia led by Shane.

Our Arts and Craft Women's Group at MMC is extremely lucky to have such a group of talented enthusiastic women.

*Noorangi*



Nirmala Nand and Anne Odogwu



Shane & Lauren  
Ruwhiu

## Colourful Moment

The MMC Fashion Show was celebrated at the Globe Theater by different models representing their countries wearing their National Costumes.

It was not only a Fashion Show but it was an Ethnic identity of a cultural diversity.

Some students, teachers and centre staff worked hard over the past few months to make the programme more effective and to be successful, as a result this was organized so we would all enjoy the moment together.

The models were very skill full and experienced so it could meet the standard of the show. Not only the adult but the children models were also amazing and their performance was remarkable.

Every one was excited and the audience were cheering with joy of happiness and enjoying the show.

The best about the show was the photos taken and the memories when we look back and remember this colourful moment.

*Sushila*



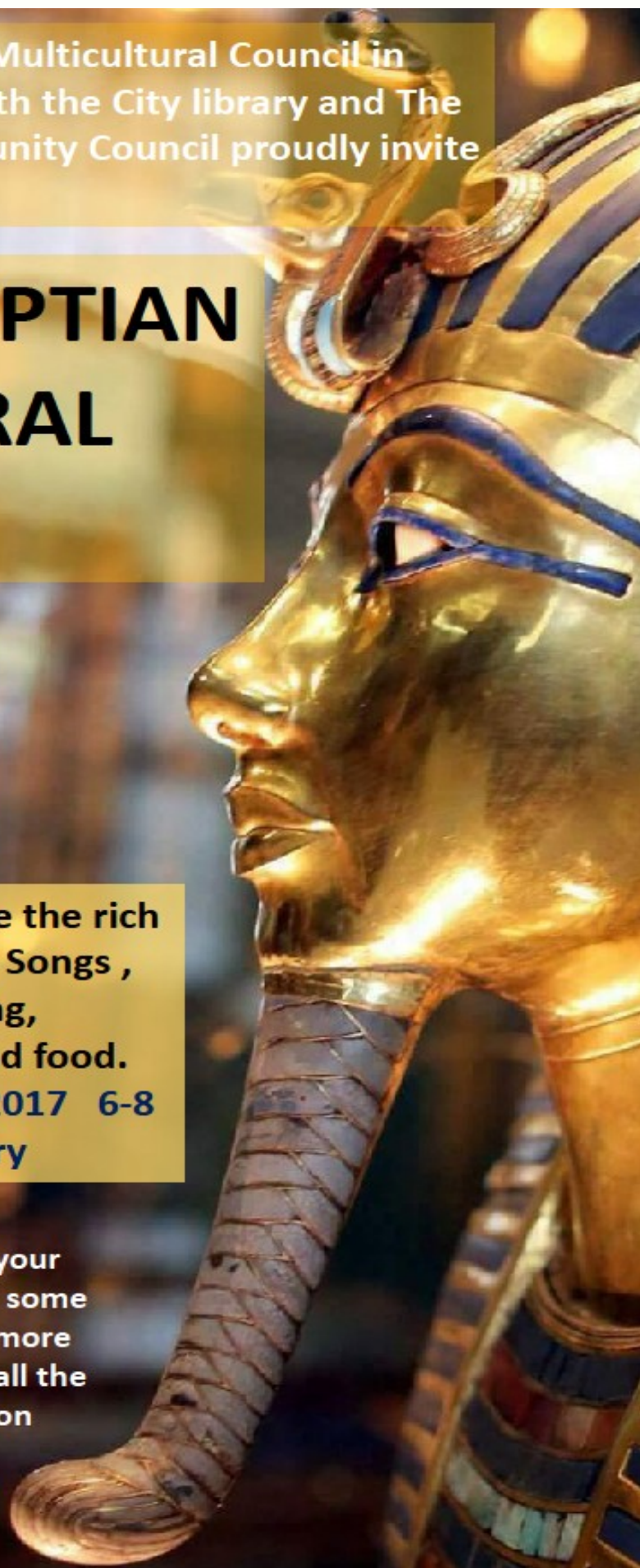
The Manawatu Multicultural Council in collaboration with the City library and The Egyptian Community Council proudly invite you to the :

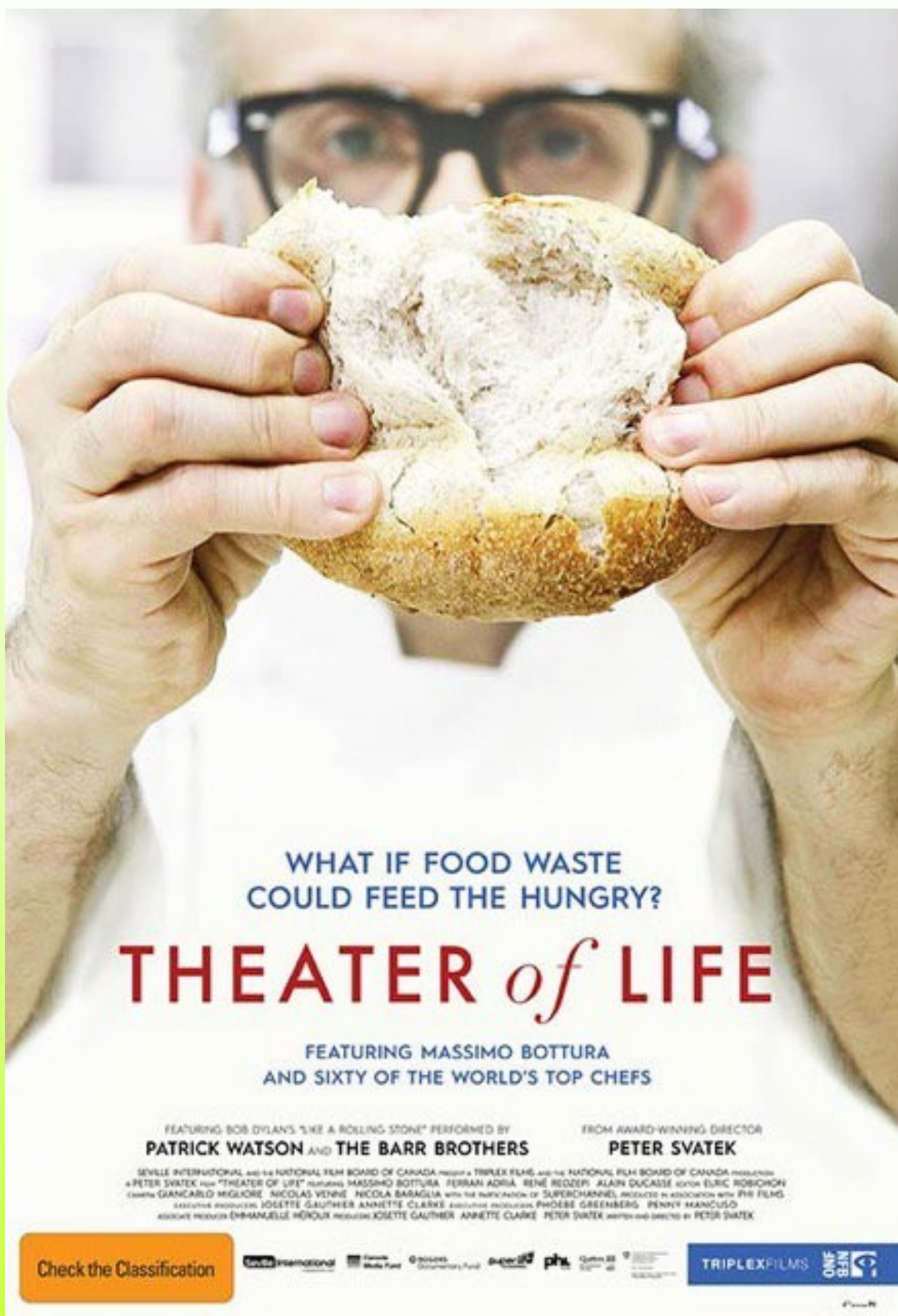
## 2<sup>nd</sup> EGYPTIAN CULTURAL NIGHT



A night to explore the rich Egyptian culture, Songs , Dance , Drumming, Documentary and food.  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017 6-8 pm PN City library

Please join us , bring your family and friend and some dessert to share. For more information, please call the City Library or MMC on 3581572 or e mail [Info@MMCNZ.org.nz](mailto:Info@MMCNZ.org.nz)





WHAT IF FOOD WASTE  
COULD FEED THE HUNGRY?

# THEATER *of* LIFE

FEATURING MASSIMO BOTTURA  
AND SIXTY OF THE WORLD'S TOP CHEFS

FEATURING BOB DYLAN'S "LIKE A ROLLING STONE" PERFORMED BY  
**PATRICK WATSON AND THE BARR BROTHERS**

FROM AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR  
**PETER SVATEK**

SEVILLE INTERNATIONAL and the NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA present a TRIPLEX FILMS and the NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA production  
a PETER SVATEK film "THEATER OF LIFE" featuring MASSIMO BOTTURA, FERRAN ADRIÀ, RENÉ REDZEPI, ALAIN DUCASSE, GUYTON ELRIC, ROBERTO  
COSTA, GIANCARLO MIGLIORE, NICOLAS VENNE, NICOLA BARAGLIA with the participation of SUPERCHANNEL, produced in association with PHILIP FILMS  
executive producers JOSETTE GAUTHIER, ANNETTE CLARKE associated producers PHOEBE GREENBERG, PENNY MANCUSO  
associate producer EMMANUELLE HÉROUX producer JOSETTE GAUTHIER, ANNETTE CLARKE, PETER SVATEK written and directed by PETER SVATEK

Check the Classification








TRIPLEX FILMS 



*Red-Cross Book Sale***RedCross Book Sale**

Palmerston North's annual fundraiser and book sale is coming up soon , up to 60,000 books are sometimes on sale.

Don't miss out come and get a real bargain!

What ever type of book you want from text books to novels, from language books even sheet music you will find them.

If you have any spare time over the week end of Friday 2nd to Monday 5th June 2017 the Redcross would love your help even for a couple of hours. It's great fun to meet other overseas students and know you are helping the Redcross in their work.

If you are able to help ,send by email your name and telephone number and include the days and hours you are available to help

**email : [pnredcrossbooksale@gmail.com](mailto:pnredcrossbooksale@gmail.com)**

**STAMPS**

Unfortunately nowadays postage stamps are sometimes a thing of the past.

However some charities are still collecting them for specific projects.

The LEPROSY MISSION is one of these charities that is collecting for two projects in Bangladesh. One to reduce the prevalence of Leprosy and one to establish 86 self help groups to provide help to approximately 3,375 people affected by this disease and the resulting disabilities. So if you get any stamps with your mail please can you save them for the Multicultural Centre.

If you work with other people please mention this to them .

Maybe even put an envelope in a prominent place, for people to put any stamps into.

Many thanks

Angela Joblin

# English Corner



**Practise your English conversation  
with native English speakers.**

Free entry.  
Relaxed and informal.  
Small groups.  
Everyone welcome.

**11:00am to 12:30pm  
every Saturday  
(except public holidays)  
from March to November**



**Where: 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of ETC (English Teaching College)  
Corner of Rangitikei Street and The Square (above Inspire Me)**

If you have any questions, please email us at [englishcorner.pn@gmail.com](mailto:englishcorner.pn@gmail.com).

## **Want to help others practise their English?**

If you're a native English speaker and would like to be a volunteer for English Corner, please email [englishcorner.pn@gmail.com](mailto:englishcorner.pn@gmail.com) or come and see us on a Saturday to find out more. No previous experience required. This is a great way to meet people from other countries and help them adapt to life in our community.

**Manawatu Multicultural Centre**

**Opening Hours: Monday—Friday 9.30am—4.pm**

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

**Advanced English Conversation Groups:**

**Monday morning 10am—11.30am**

**Monday—Thursday afternoon 1pm—3pm**

**English Beginner's Conversation Groups**

**Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am—11.30am**

**Lunchtime Conversation—Shared Lunch**

**Every Friday 12—1pm**

**Multicultural Arts & Craft Group**

**Friday 1pm—3pm**

**Newcomers Morning Tea**

**3rd Wednesday of the month 10am—12noon**

**Multicultural Women's Group**

**3rd Friday of the month 1-3pm**

**Newcomers Potluck Dinner**

**Last Friday of the month 6pm— 8.30pm**

