

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Report	1/2
Marae Culture	2
MMC Marae Visit	3
Festival of Culture & MMC Fashion Show	4/5
Revista Mundo Brasileiro Aotearoa	6
Budrus Poster	7
Theatre of Life Poster	8
English Corner Poster	9
Volunteer's Needed	10
Centre activities and events	11

Acknowledgement

- Ministry of Social Development**
- PN City Council**
- PN Community Services Council**
- 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**

This month has truly proven that Palmerston North is not a boring place to live. Every weekend is packed with family focused activities starting with the Festival of Cultures from Friday to Sunday the 3rd to the 5th of March.



The Lantern Festival showcased the talented people and wowed everyone. Many photos flooded on to Facebook. Thank you to the React Team. On Saturday we were privileged to host 18 Ambassadors from different countries. The Cultural Entertainment proved the dedication of each cultural group to keep this event going. Thank you to the Pamanlahi Group for the stunning opening item.

The stall holders showed the uniqueness that each culture brings to our city. The Tongan community won the best stall award with the Ukrainian and Polish communities taking the first and second places. On Sunday there was a smorgasbord of entertainment and workshops for the crowd to choose from. There was a weaving workshop by the Karen group and a musical workshop from the Indonesian group.



The Multi Clothes for Multi People packed the Globe Theatre out and exhibited a new breed of talents among our migrants. Booranee showed her excellent skills in Weaving and Yoon from Korea was able to showcase her fashion designing skills. As a result she received an order to sew a dress from one of the audience at the show.



President's Report Continues

The trip to the Marae on March 10th proved to be popular among our newcomers and I am grateful to the ETC and Massey students and all the staff who went to the Marae. The hosts were very accommodating and generous to us all.

Everyone enjoyed the experience of watching the Hangi being lifted out of the ground and some visitors enjoyed the Hangi meal.

On March 11, the Federation of Multicultural Council, held a workshop at the Copthorne Hotel for young people, on developing an app.

Our council does not have a youth council yet but several young people were able to participate in the workshop. We encourage all young people from different communities to join the Youth Council. March 31st is our potluck dinner. I would like to encourage everyone who has friends that are new to Palmerston North to come and join us.

In the coming months we have many different activities lined up. On May 16th in collaboration with the Palmerston North Environmental Trust I would like to invite all of you to watch the movie entitled **"The Theatre of Life "** which we are hosting on May 16, at Downtown Cinema at 6:00 pm.

This year we have so many activities that need full participation, that I urge each community leader to please forward this newsletter to your members so they can also be informed and be able to participate in different activities that we have here at the Centre. For our members to fully participate they need to be informed.

We need more enthusiastic volunteers on the council to have continuity, so I hope that you do your part as leaders and members of our community.

Meriam Findlay
President

A Brazilian experience about the Marae culture

On March 10th a large group including members of the Manawatu Multicultural Centre visited the Kauwhata Marae.

The location is beautiful and we were warmly welcomed by the local Maori community.

The visit gave us the opportunity to learn about Maori customs and art as well as marae protocol and the importance of the marae in family life.

We also had the chance to taste delicious food cooked in the traditional way.

It was an experience that myself and others from MMC greatly enjoyed.

Cristina Sato Winkworth



Thank you Cristina for writing this article

It was a unique experience for the students and we know that you all enjoyed your visit.

Marae Visit

A group of more than 110 new migrants and visitors, including MMC Centre users, left Hancock Community House, King Street at around 10.30am and congregated outside the Whareoa (gate) of Kauwhata Marae at about 11.30 am for people to mix and mingle and greet each other.



While gathered at the Marae's gate, Meriam Findlay, MMC President briefed the group about basic Marae protocol, and also designated our group speakers. As it is the custom, we were called on to the Marae from the gate by a female elder of the Marae chanting a Karanga. We then crossed the Marae gate, women leading the way. As our group didn't have any female who could accept the Karanga in Maori, the Marae kindly designated a lady to accept the Karanga in Maori on our behalf.



As we progressed towards the Marae, we paused mid-way and stood for few minutes in silence to honour and remember the ancestors who passed away. After a welcoming speech by the Chief, MMC speaker, Raj thanked the Chief for welcoming us and placed a Koha on the floor. A Japanese student spoke on behalf of the Japanese's students visiting Massey University. Waiatas were beautifully sung to acknowledge the welcoming including Te Aroha and Pokarekare Ana, also a song in Japanese and the Afghani language was sung.

We then lined up for a Hongi with the elders of the Marae. After a Karakia (prayer), we were directed to the Wharekai (dining area) and were offered a Hangi a traditional Maori way of cooking in a pit, under the ground. Dessert was delicious summer fruit and ice cream which went down really well as it was a very warm day. For many of us it was our first time to experience a Hangi and it didn't disappoint us. It was impressive to see the lifting of the Hangi from the pit. In line with Maori custom only males were allowed to watch the lifting. After an amazing lunch we were taken into the Marae removing our shoes before entering the Marae as it's the custom, of Maori protocol. The chief made a very emotional speech about their struggle in the early years and showed us the pictures of his ancestors displayed on the wall. Time was short, unfortunately as we had to leave the Marae at 2pm. We would like to thank the Kauwhata Marae Committee for the amazing welcome they gave us. We really enjoyed the visit and learned a lot about the Marae history and background. We look forward for another visit next year. Many thanks also to the ETC and Massey University for their collaboration in making the visit such an enjoyable experience.



Christine

Festival of Culture and MMC Fashion

What a fantastic three days we recently had in Palmerston North, starting with the Lantern Festival on March the 3rd and finishing with our very own 'Multiclothes for Multiple Fashion Parade at The Globe Theatre, on March the 5th.

Some pretty strong gusts of wind did not deter the crowds or the enormous animals, all lit up, and more amazingly held up by their willing helpers and makers!

The opening Ceremony on the Saturday was a good mix of dignitaries, namely the Mayor and Mayoress plus Wiremu Te Awe Awe and Nuwyne Mohi-Te Awe Awe and a group of young Maori primary school students.

Meriam Findlay, our very industrious and hard working President, spoke about the Manawatu Multicultural Council initially known as the Ethnic Council, having been instrumental in setting up the first Festival of Cultures over 20 years ago. Following the opening ceremony the Pamanlahi Dance group set the scene for the Festival to begin.

A variety of performers were on stage throughout the day and added greatly to the general atmosphere. The layout of the different cultural tents selling their countries specialties in food, as well as showing something about their diverse cultures, was a vast improvement from some previous years when commercial vendors and cultural tents were intermingled.

We were very lucky as many of our language students volunteered to look after our tent handing out cups of fruit infused water- in keeping with the healthier teeth recommendations of Public Health. One of our attractions was Margaret who for a small donation made balloon animals, much to the delight of the children.

Our Multiclothes for Multiple Fashion Parade on the Sunday entailed a lot of hard work from the Art and Craft Women's Group at the Centre. We were lucky that so many women and children and a few brave men volunteered to be models. In fact we had 75 different costumes!

Starting with a Mihi from Shane Ruwhiu accompanied by his wife Lauren, the show started with the Children's Choir, 15 young children from many nationalities under the tutorage and conducted by Ange Kwan sang two songs.



Festival of Culture and MMC Fashion continues

Followed by Mayette and Meriam who introduced our two students from Freyberg High School, who had recently completed a course in Sign Language at their school.

Then the show was under way.

At one time The Globe was full, people were literally queuing in the foyer.

After seeing so many beautiful and colourful costumes, it was no surprise!

A very enjoyable afternoon when even the blustery Palmerston North weather abated long enough for people to enjoy themselves over the three days.

We wish to thank also Karen Heaphy from PNCC

Juliet Thomas from Te Manawa

Hamish and Mike from Image Group 6

William from The Globe Theatre

Vincent Woo and Lina our photographer

Winnie, Kylie and Young our back stage volunteers

And of course our models and helpers.

Finally a thank you to the Creative Communities Scheme who saw the potential of the

'Multiclothes for Multi-peoples' project and backed us up by giving us some funding.

Angela Joblin



Photo competition

Earlier this month a free digital magazine dedicated to the Brazilian community living in New Zealand – “Revista Mundo Brasileiro Aotearoa” – held a contest on its Facebook page.

Entries had to be a photo taken in New Zealand that included a symbol of Brazil such as a flag or a shirt. The magazine posted all the photos that it received through its Facebook page with the winner being the one that received the most likes.

The prize was a NZ\$150 voucher to be spent at an online shop that sells Brazilian products. My friend Nana, who is also Brazilian, and I decided to participate. We submitted a photo of the two of us in front of Te Manawa holding our beautiful Brazilian flag while "Samba ao Vento" – a percussion group based in Palmerston North played Brazilian rhythms as part of the Festival of Cultures.



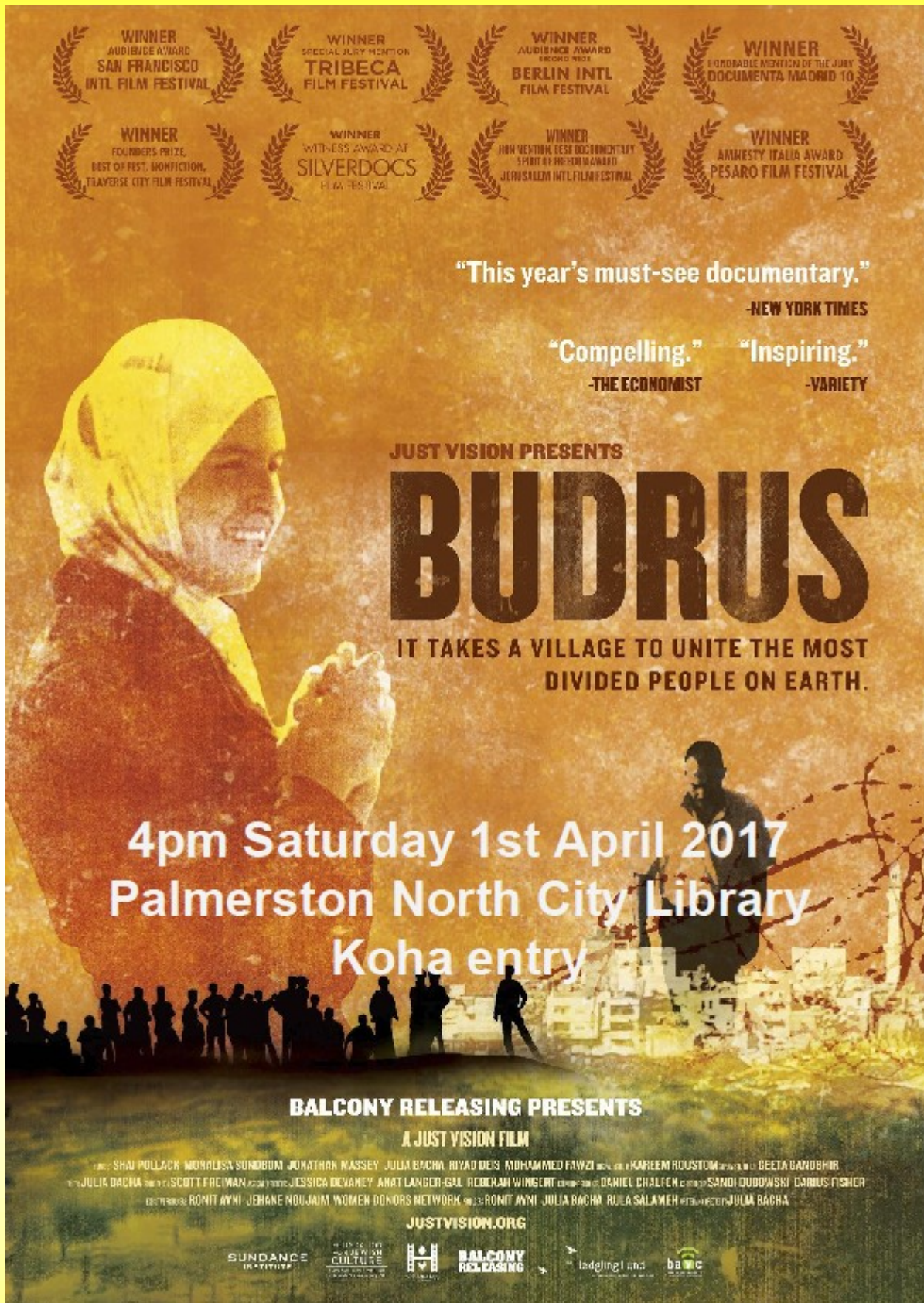
Nana’s husband kindly took the photos for us. Once the photo was posted we rallied family, friends, friends of friends, friends of friends of friends to vote. Nana is one of the most persistent people I have ever met and despite trailing a photo of a baby throughout the competition she never gave up in the campaign.

When the winner was announced a week later we were amazed to find we had won. More than 1200 friends and relatives voted for our photo and in the last hours before the competition closed it had sneaked 16 likes ahead of second place. Thanks to all those who contributed with their likes!



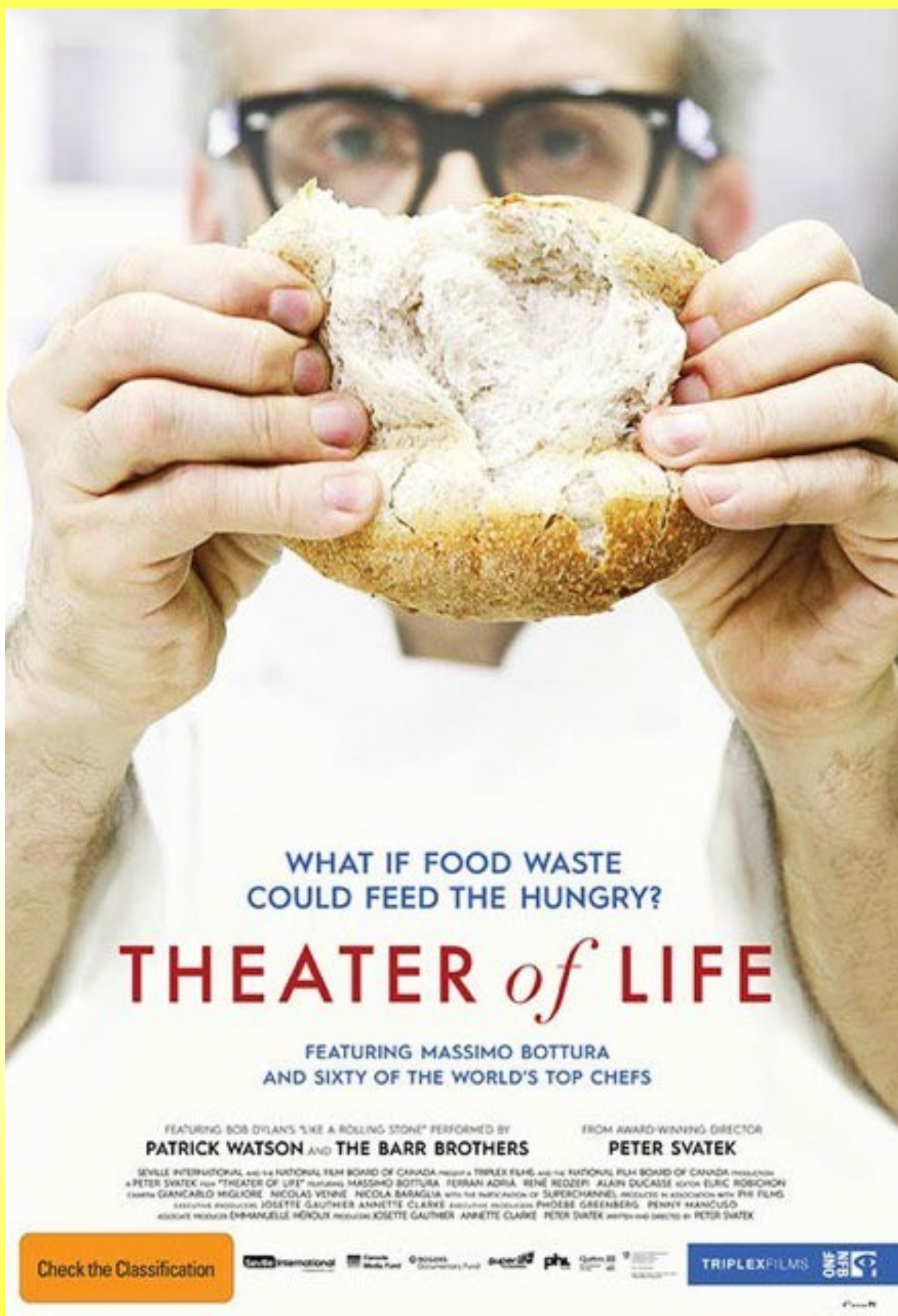
Wow! Look at these beautiful ladies modeling their hand made costumes made at the MMC Art & Craft Women’s Group

Budrus Poster



Budrus is an award-winning feature documentary film about Palestinian Community organizer, Ayed Morrar, who unites Palestinian political factions and invites Israeli supporters to join an unarmed movement to save his village of Budrus from destruction by Israel's Separation Barrier.

Theatre of Life poster



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 ROBOCHON,
GIANNI 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



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: 2nd 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.

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 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.

Volunteers Needed

The Anglican Social Work Trust is looking for Volunteer helpers for our:
English Language Class for Senior Refugees.

No experience is needed, just a willingness to help with these lovely people.

The Class runs every Tuesday (not in school holidays) from 9.30 to 11.30am at All Saints Community Centre (parking available).

If you are available and think this is something you may be interested in helping the migrants and refugees

Please contact :

Theresa on 355-1204

Or email:

aswt@inspire.net.nz



Postage Stamps Needed

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

Multicultural Centre Activities & Events

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