

**MISSION STATEMENT**

**TO CELEBRATE, SUPPORT AND CONNECT MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES OF MANAWATU**

# ETHNIGRAM



## 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

October

The months coming to Christmas seem to be filled with activities, when sunny days lingers, it is a time of many celebrations. For our staff and volunteer teachers and executives we celebrate with the migrants and refugees that participate with activities that promote diversity in our city and volunteer at the Multicultural Centre. This week we are very happy to know that 3 of our new volunteers have found full time employment.

No words can describe how we feel when migrants who comes to our centre to participate or volunteer in English Classes or Art and Craft classes find a job. It is like parents who find joy when their child learns to walk on their own. We are overwhelmed with satisfaction knowing that we have contributed something to their lives Over the years we have seen many migrants and refugees come and go and it is just a joy to know that we have been part of their journey here in New Zealand

Launch of Digital First Voice.

On September 29, parents and students , together with the Principal and some teachers from Palmerston North intermediate School, gathered onthe 1st floor of the Palmerston North Library to launch the digital version of First Voice, The topic that the students wrote about was their favourite hero, It was so interesting to watch children speak so fluently in their own language and translate their story into English.

This initiative was started 18 years ago by three school teachers and partnered with our organisation and the Library to provide mentors and space for this to happen. Year after year , our staff at the Ethnic Centre are delegated to find mentors for the students to write their stories. I had the privilege to be a mentor to the Filipino students, but this year there were no representatives from the Philippines. According to Barbara Drake this initiative has created a bond as well as friendships between the student writers and the mentors and it has earned an award from the Human Rights commission.



## President's Report Continues

Display of our Quilt at Te Manawa, As our city embraces the diversity of cultures of the people living in our city, it is also good to acknowledge the different skills and talents that the migrants and refugees bring into our city. As an organisation we are privileged to have our Quilt being displayed at Te Manawa until November 17, The Quilt was taken to Te Manawa and was formally opened for public viewing on Friday 29th of September. Thank you to Andy Lowe and his team for their continued support of the Multicultural Community here in Palmerston North.



## Potluck Dinner

On the same night of the 29th of September the monthly potluck dinner was on at the Multicultural Centre and I was surprised to see one of my Vietnamese friends who goes to ETC came and joined us. She has been in Palmerston North for a long time but had kept to herself and her community for a long time and it was good to see her making friends from other cultures.

## IPU Spring Festival

On Saturday 30th of September, Christine and I went to the IPU spring Festival.

The drummers were commendable for their job at the opening. Looking very colourful in their costumes playing the NZ Pokari Kari Ana with their bamboo instruments. I met 3 van loads of Filipinos from Wellington that day, which made me realise the economic benefit that these festivals bring to our city, for people to travel distance just to see the Cherry blossoms and to be a part of these festivities.

There were long queues of people in the food area. I am so grateful to live in this city where there is also support from the PNCC and Horizon's to transport people to get to the IPC. Thank you, IPU staff and students for making our city proud.



The Rohingya's Vigil in the Square concerning the conflict in Myanmar, which has displaced so many people was recently held in Palmerston North. As one of the host cities for the displaced refugees and with freedom of speech in this country we also have freedom of expression I admire the NZ Arab community for their support to the Rohingya community in organising a peaceful protest to let the United Nations know that they want justice for the displaced people in Myanmar. By doing it in a peaceful manner they have gained much sympathy from our local communities.

Latino Festival for the Latino Festival at Te Manawa on Saturday 14th of October and to see the Latino Community all united in singing and dancing to their own music., and certainly the food trucks were busy that day!

## Fiji Day

At the same time on the another part of town, there was the Fiji day. Where there were games for children and adults at the Bill Brown park and dinner at the Pacifica centre at night.

## President's Report Continues

The Filipino Community Kundirana  
Taken from two Filipino words kundiman, which means Filipino love song and Harana which means serenade.

This is the first time for the Filipino Community, that they gathered children and youth in our community to listen to Filipino I/English love songs and also Filipino myths and legends. It is one way of imparting the Filipino culture and heritage to our young people, the Kaimanawa Hall was packed with people not only to listen but also to enjoy Filipino delicacies. Well done Lizette, Angel and the team.



### Chinese Festival

The Chinese Community celebrated their Mid Autumn festival and fundraising dinner at Chinatown on Saturday 15th of October, and it was impressive to see 230 people from different races attending this dinner. The Manawatu Chinese Association are raising funds for the upgrade of their hall in Main Street, these facilities are good to have in our city because it is also available for other members of the community. This was the first Hall I went to in Palmerston North, before we shifted here in 1993.



### Diwali

The Central District Indian Association are all very busy preparing for their coming Diwali on October 28 at the Queen Elizabeth College. Please see poster at the back page of this Ethnigram for details so you will not miss out on this event

### Stake Holder Breakfast

On October 19, Red Cross hosted the stake holder meeting, to update us with the number and ethnicities of refugees coming to settle in our city. Palmerston North being the 3rd largest resettlement city in NZ, we are fortunate to have a lot of willing volunteers when it started in 2006, some of the former refugees have found employment in helping other refugees and now become volunteers themselves. We have refugees arriving in December and the Red Cross is inviting everyone who is interested in helping with this new intake. As one of the local volunteers said at the breakfast, she found great pleasure in meeting new people and has now considered them as part of her family.



### Annual Dinner

Our dinner is coming up and this time we decided to change location, although Chinatown has been so good to us for a number of years, this year we decided to try another venue. This time we are going to Distinction Hotel just across the road. We are privileged also to have our Mayor Grant Smith as our speaker, and a young Massey Post Graduate Scholar as our MC, so I suggest you buy your ticket as early as possible. We are grateful to have businesses like Davis Trading and the Pioneer New World who have supported us for a number of years

I look forward to seeing you there.

Meriam Findlay  
MMC President

## MMC Executive Member's Profiles

**Kheng Lim (Committee Member 2017, Past Treasurer 2009 and 2012)**

I arrived in Christchurch in 1988 from Penang, Malaysia as a New Zealand government sponsored International Student. I attended one year of high school in Christchurch (7<sup>th</sup> Form or Year 13) before completing my Chemical Engineering degree at the University of Canterbury.

After graduating I went to Singapore to continue my post-graduate studies and worked for a few years before returning to Malaysia.

In 2002 I decided to return to NZ with my young families under the skilled migrants category. We have lived in Palmerston North since then with only two short periods living in Mount Manganui and New Plymouth due to my job. While I was living in New Plymouth I became the Treasurer of the Taranaki Multi Ethnic Council.

In 2008, I read an article in the Tribune by Axel de Maupeou (ex-employment coordinator of MMC) who talked about migrants living in Palmerston North. I was very interested in the article so made an appointment to see Axel at the Ethnic Centre.

Axel encouraged me to set up a Malaysian Society and I was very excited about the idea. After a few months of informal talks with fellow Malaysians whom I met through my children's school and through various networks, the Manawatu Malaysian Society was finally set up in Oct 2008 and the Society became a member of MMC in Dec 2008.

I have been on the committee of the Manawatu Malaysian Society since then and presently I am the President of the Society. MMC has played a huge role in creating greater cultural awareness in Palmerston North and raising awareness about the value of a multicultural society.

I enjoy participating in multicultural activities in Palmerston North, especially the Festival of Culture, and love meeting people from different cultural backgrounds.

I was elected as the Treasurer of MMC in 2009 and 2012. Presently I am the committee member of the MMC Executive Council.

In my free time I enjoy getting involved in environmental activities, I was the committee members of the Manawatu and North Taranaki Royal Forest and Bird Protection Societies and was a member of the management committee of Environment Network Manawatu.



## MMC Fund Raising Stall

The MMC Arts and Craft Women's Group are having a Fun Raising Stall in the Square" the morning of the Santa Parade Saturday 16th December at 3pm.

**We need your help** to either help on the Stall, or more importantly to give us, or make things, for the stall. We want home made cakes/scones/savouries etc. Also things you have made, or things you want to get rid of, that are more pertaining to our Ethnic Stall.

Any books in different languages, small ornaments, flowers or plants or knitted clothes. Someone has kindly given us some plants and another person has agreed to blow up Animal Balloons for children, these being very popular last year.

Noorangi has made some lovely place mats and Booranee some very elegant hair flower bands and clips. So please if you have anything do let us know. If you are not sure of the type of things we want, please ring us on 358 1572.

Now this is a great opportunity to have an early spring clean ! Look in all those cupboards and put them some where safe so you can,

**GIVE THEM TO US!**

Angela and Noorangi.



## MMC Quilt on display at Te Manawa

The Manawatu Multicultural Quilt project showed some of the countries of origin of some of our lovely people that come to the centre.

Mayette Maling-Cope from the ex council acted as Tutor and Resource person, along with Noorangi Puleosi a member of staff.

The women were asked to select a symbol from their country, specifically non political, that would encourage conversations amongst viewers

of the completed Quilt.

A total of 18 women, from many different countries, were involved in the choice and art work of their designs.

Our Beautiful Quilt has so far graced the office of the Multicultural Centre, the Palmerston North Public Library and at present is on display at Te Manawa.

Our thanks to Robyn Wilson at the Library and Andy Lowe, Janet Ellery and Henare Kani from Te Manawa.

It's next outing will be to the IPC. So please make the effort to see it while it is in the vicinity !

Ange Joblin



## Multicultural Women's Group

The Multicultural Women's Group meets every 3rd Friday of the month at the Multicultural Centre from 1-3pm. It provides an opportunity for ethnic women to interact with other migrants and refugees.

Make new friends, learn and enjoy each others culture and create a better understanding among the different cultural groups that belong to the vastly multi-cultural society of Palmerston North.

This month we are fortunate to have Tania Kopytko a Dance/Art Tutor who will begin a new dance project that will take us to next year.

### **The following are the dates for the 2017–2018 activities.**

1. **Friday October 20<sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2017**—Dance and discussion; exploring our cultures
  2. **Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2017**— Exploring our cultures dance and craft
- Holiday break**
3. **Friday February 16<sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2018**—Exploring our cultures dance and craft/art
  4. **Friday March 16<sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2018**—Exploring our cultures dance and poetry
  5. **Friday April 6<sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2018** - Exploring our cultures dance and poetry
  6. **Friday May 18<sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2018**—Exploring our cultures dance and craft/art
  7. **Friday June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1 to 3pm 2018**—Exploring our cultures dance and craft/art
  8. **Friday July 27<sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2018**—Exploring our cultures dance and craft/art
  9. **Friday August 10<sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2018**—Rehearsal and arts completion
  10. **Friday August 17<sup>th</sup>** - Exhibition and showing

## English Corner Notice

### **English Corner—Want to help others practice their English**

Do you sometimes have a spare hour and a half on a Saturday morning from 11—12.30pm. The English Corner would love to hear from you.

The English Corner is on the **Second floor of the ETC Building, Corner of Rangitikei and Broadway Ave**

It is a place where English second students can meet and talk in English. Practice your English conversation with native English speakers.

Meet people of all ages from all over the world and enjoy yourself!

So why not drop in?

Email: englishcorner.pn@gmail.com

### **Additional Help With Learning English**

**Do you need help to learn English (TESOL) Tutor is available for one on one or small group session**

**Contact Angela on 354 1404**



## Network for Success

First of all Network of Skilled Migrants Manawatu is grateful to the PNCC for funding this event which is one of a series, that aims to link skilled migrants to employers

The September networking event "Network for Success" attracted around 30 participants. The speakers, who were invited, were business owner Arunee Srichantra and Elaine Reilly from Feasible Business.

It was a great pleasure to have them at this event. Arunee, originally from Thailand, has been living in Palmerston North for 17 years and gained her PhD in Food Technology at Massey. She shared her experience of establishing a business. Since 2005 she has been the owner of Chada Thai restaurant and opened her second restaurant in 2011. It was very interesting to find out from her, that when she was a student Palmerston North was a very quiet and small city compared to today.

A strong motivation, being persistent and passionate about her business helped her to go through the difficulties and stay on track. Her degree helped with the legislation around food safety and handling. She then went on to study business management and finance which helped her to handle the financial side of her business.

It was emphasized during this time in business, that good communication and treating her customers like they were your relatives helped to grow her business. Word of mouth is the most common advertisement for a food business and its very clear that she has been very successful in this area.

There were many questions from the floor to Arunee: what made you to start a business, what was the most difficult time, what was the most appropriate marketing for your business etc? It was important for her to have a balanced life where she could look after her family, earn a living and do what she likes to do, cooking for people.

Elaine Reilly is also a skilled migrant and she is from Scotland. She is a business leader of 25 years of experience with a background in Psychology and has a black belt in Karate. Her company helps organisations get the most from their people and chairs two boards, and also is helping NSMM.

The important object for networking is to know what you want from the networking. Start networking with introducing yourself, begin a conversation by making small talk, pay attention when you talk using "tell me more...". Practice networking and building relationships with your contacts and most of all be proactive. Ask questions like "What do you do?", "What is your expertise?", "What are your ambitions?" It was great fun practising networking. We have some photos of that below. Attendees could get answers to their questions. The questions had to be stopped due to time limitations.

It was good to listen to Caius, member of the NSMM who shared his experience of being a member. Through NSMM he has met many local businesses and made connections.

NSMM had two prize draws and Chada Thai donated a prize which was won by Aleksandra. The two other prizes were won by Catherine Robinson and Talman Chhetri.

The evaluation results tells us that most people are interested in starting up their own business, followed by an interest in improving their knowledge in kiwi work culture and networking skills. Also on the list was improving English language and job seeking skills. We will work on those ideas for our future event planning.

Network of Skilled Migrants



Arunee is sharing her journey



Elaine's networking talk



Practising networking



Caius sharing his experience as a NSMM member

Elaine( speaker) and volunteers Ari, Wang, Nikita and Caius in blue jacket helping at the event.



Winner of the Chada Thai Restaurant voucher Alekasandra with Arunee



Prize draw-Cathrine, Palman' son and Elaine




# The Manawatu Multicultural Council

Cordially invites you to our:

## 2017 Annual Dinner

Saturday 4 November, Distinction Hotel, 175 Cuba Street, PN

from 6.30 to 9.30pm



Come , dine and network with others as well as having fun and making new friends. This is also a night to acknowledge MMC's invaluable volunteers.

**Guest Speaker: Mayor Grant Smith**

**Ticket Price: \$30 per person**

**Raffle and Auction Fundraiser**

**Dinner tickets are on sale at the MMC, please contact the Centre for further details**

To book your preferred tables please call the Multicultural Centre on 358 1572 or e-mail [info@mmcnz.org.nz](mailto:info@mmcnz.org.nz) by the 28 October. We are located at the Community House, 77-85 King Street, Palmerston North



**Manawatu**  
Multicultural Council

**Wanted GOODS! for our Raffle and Auction on the 4th of November at our Annual Dinner. If you would like to donate something please contact the Centre asap.**

# 2017 CDIA *Diwali Show*

An evening programme of colourful dances and vibrant performances in both traditional and modern Indian style. The evening will conclude with a full Indian vegetarian meal.

Saturday  
28th October  
7.00pm  
sharp

Queen Elizabeth  
College Hall  
Rangitikei Street  
Palmerston North



Entry is FREE for CDIA members and children under 5, non-CDIA members \$10 per person and \$5.00 for children aged Primary to High School.

For tickets please contact Anita Naran 027 550 3025 or Paul Patel 027 444 6967 or email [cdia.inc@outlook.com](mailto:cdia.inc@outlook.com)



Join us for a **FREE COMMUNITY EVENT!**


# Free Whānau Fun Day

Exploring community - update on Raleigh Street Reserve Development Plans  
Share with how you can contribute & be involved!

Support services for you & your Whānau | Activities & games for kids of all ages  
Enjoy a sausage sizzle while your kids are entertained!

**MUSIC | FOOD | DISPLAYS | ENTERTAINMENT  
COMPETITIONS | & MUCH MORE!**

**Saturday 11 NOVEMBER 2017 | 11am-2pm**  
Raleigh Street Reserve | Awapuni | Palmerston North

For more information  Find us on Facebook "Awesome Awapuni" or email [awesomeawapuni@gmail.com](mailto:awesomeawapuni@gmail.com)



UCOL Multi-Cultural Event Poster



# GET INVOLVED IN OUR EXCITING MULTI-CULTURAL EVENT!

UCOL is proud to be hosting Flavour of Cultures, a celebration of food, art, creativity and culture. We would love for you to be involved!

**THURS 2<sup>ND</sup> NOV 2017  
5:30PM – 8PM**

For more details information email: [c.cacho@ucol.ac.nz](mailto:c.cacho@ucol.ac.nz) before 6th October 2017

Enviro Fest Poster

Palmerston North City Environmental Trust

Palmerston North City Council

TE MĀHIRA

UCOL

MASSEY UNIVERSITY

WWW.PNCET.ORG.NZ

ENVIRO FEST

OCT 2-23

Te Pūngao, Te Kai me Te Wai  
Energy, Food and Water

W10LEGRAIN ORGANICS

Hands-On Food

Tirohia..

## 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

