

**MISSION STATEMENT**

TO CELEBRATE,  
SUPPORT AND  
CONNECT  
Multicultural  
COMMUNITIES  
OF MANAWATU

# ETHNIGRAM



## President's Report

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True that being a volunteer can give us many experience and I have had my share of both joyous and painful ones. It is part of our journey and growing into maturity. This month we had the privilege to host the visit of our Federation President Pancha Narayanan and his wife Poshwan. Being part of the numerous workshops with refugees in collaboration with the Red Cross and the Refugee Services, has been part of our service at the Multicultural Centre, an organisation that we are grateful to be able to help in welcoming and helping to settle refugees in Palmerston North.



### Marae Trip.

Our Marae Trip had a last minute change. We were informed at the last minute that the Marae that we planned to visit had double booked. Thank you to Trieste Te Awe Awe, who quickly made the Rangiotu Marae available for our visit. A group of 70 students and staff enjoyed the short welcome and informative time about the Rangitane History, and enjoyed learning how to make flax flowers from Noorangi.



### 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

Mainland Foundation

Pub Charity

Hancock Community House  
77-85 King Street

Phone #  
(06) 358 1572  
ask@mmcnz.org.nz  
www.mmcnz.org.nz

### Anzac Day

For 3 years in a row, we have had the privilege of laying a wreath and remembering the fallen soldiers of both World War 1 and World War 2. This year Aidan Wong and I represented the MMC at the wreath laying ceremony on ANZAC Day. As migrants this is our way of showing our appreciation to the soldiers who bravely gave themselves to fight in battle so we can enjoy our freedom.

### Newcomers Potluck Dinner

This year we celebrated the 8th year of our potluck dinner and welcomed Anna and George who have just moved to Palmerston North from Auckland. We are fortunate to have had our deputy Mayor Tangi Utikere, Councillor Susan Baty and Lew Findlay present at the Potluck Dinner.



## Presidents Report Continue

Li.Quian, is the fortunate student chosen by Allan Young to be the first recipient of the Scholarship of \$1,500. This award goes towards his studies, which was generously given by Allan Young a past President of the MMC.

### June Potluck Dinner

As you all know that the World on Stage will be on June 30, so we decided to move our potluck dinner earlier, it will be on June 15 instead. To give us time to get ready for the World on Stage, also we will have a storytelling time that night themed on Celebration if you want to be a part of this exciting night please let us know. There is a workshop for those are keen to learn more skills on story telling. As we get busy preparing for the World on Stage. I hope that you are all keeping yourself warm as we prepare for Autumn.

Meriam Findlay



## Canta Conmigo Anniversary

Canta Conmigo is a Latin American Band based in Palmerston North. Their repertoire consists of lively melodies and rhythms that reflect the African, Spanish and Indigenous cultures of Latin America. Traditional instruments such as guitar, accordion, charango, bombo, guiro, maracas, and bongoes are combined to create music which appeals to people from a variety of cultures and ages.

The current members of the group are: Aleyda from Colombia, Cynthia from Peru, Mariani from Puerto Rico, Luis from Honduras and Colin from New Zealand.

On Saturday 14 April the band celebrated their 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and invited friends and members of the community to celebrate with them at Te Manawa Museum.

The Manawatu Multicultural Council has strong ties with the band since their humble beginning until now. Noorangi and I had the privilege to be invited at the band's celebration which was attended by so many people from all corners of the world including many Latin American families and friends.

The evening started with a concert with the band playing its most loved and popular songs. The audience was invited to sing along and dance, so the evening was very entertaining.

The concert was followed by a sumptuous potluck dinner and a huge birthday cake. Thank you to Canta Conmigo for a very enjoyable and lively evening



Christine

## Marae Visit

A group of 70 new migrants visited Rangiotu Marae on Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> of April. The visit was organised by the Manawatu Multicultural Centre in collaboration with English Language Partners (ELP) and the English Teaching College (ETC). The group left Hancock Community House, King Street at around 10.30am and met outside the Whareoa (gate) of Rangiotu Marae at about 11 am. As it is the custom, we were called on to the Marae by Trieste Te Awe Awe on behalf the Te Awe Awe family.

Noorangi Puleosi replied on behalf of the group as we progressed on to the Marae. The women led the way and the men were at the back or the side as is the Maori protocol. When we arrived at the Whare the men sat in front and the women at the back. After a welcoming speech by a representative of the Rangitane Iwi, John Brunsdon, our group's spokesperson thanked the Te Awe Awe family for welcoming our group of migrants from all over the world by placing a Koha on the floor. Waiata were sung to acknowledge the welcoming and an International student from Latin America read a beautifully poem in Spanish. She also translated it into English.

Trieste Te Awe Awe gave a brief overview of her Marae and Iwi as this can differ from tribe to tribe. After a brief history of the Rangitane Iwi, Trieste had to leave for another commitment. I should have mentioned that this visit came as a total surprise to Trieste, as after our planned visit to another Marae was cancelled at the last minute.

For the rest of our visit, the group was looked after by Meriam Findlay, MMC President who took the group to the dining hall (Wharekai). After a Karakia, we had an early lunch. Then Noorangi thought the group how to make flax flowers (harakeke). The group enjoyed the experience and people were proud to take home a flax flower that they had personally made.

We would like to thank Trieste Te Awe Awe and the Rangiotu Marae for the warm welcome she gave us after such short notice. Many thanks to ELP and ETC for their collaboration which made the visit such an enjoyable experience.

Christine.



## Aimee's story

My name is Aimee Domekyas from the Philippines. I first came to New Zealand in September of 2016 through a childhood friend who invited me over to experience and see for myself the beauty of the country. My friend lives in Marton but she works at the English Teaching College in Palmerston North, so in the mornings I had to go with her then roam around the city while she was at work.



On weekends we would visit such places as Whanganui and Bulls and the surrounding areas. New Zealand is really rich in nature and free from pollution, the roads have very little traffic and the environment is the total opposite from my country. I was introduced at that time to my now partner, Richard Holden, also from Marton and I knew from our first meeting that he was the man of my dreams! However I had to return to the Philippines as I only had a limited visa.

After three weeks in the Philippines I returned to New Zealand, Richard sponsored me for a partner based visa, for true love can do anything! Richard works for the New Zealand Transport Agency in Palmerston North so I travel with him in the mornings, just as I did with my friend.

I volunteered at the Red Cross with my friend Jelyn also from the Philippines. One day she told me about the free English classes at the Multicultural Centre. We visited the Centre and there we met Christine and Noorangi, and we were fortunate to meet Meriam the President of MMC who also comes from the Philippines. We joined them for a shared lunch and learned more about the centre programmes and activities.

Since then we have attended the English classes and come to know other migrants from many different countries, and my network has greatly expanded! Both Christine and Noorangi would stop their work if any of the students had a query, and would always be ready to listen. They are both friendly and helpful and willing to share their own lunch with others. They are like our Mothers! They also see that the class room is ready for the afternoon session and sometimes when a Teacher is absent they will take the class.

I learned other craft skills at MMC and I was also pleased to share my knowledge of crocheting to other migrants.

I have also been to a Marae and learned about the Maori Culture as well as eating some food that was cooked in an underground pit called a Hangi. Through the MMC, one of my classmates told me about the English Language Partners which I attended the English lessons class for immigrants. The certificates I received from ELP was very useful for my application for a work visa, as well as for my job as a volunteer at the Volunteer Recourse Centre.

Meriam wrote a letter of support and I know that I could never repay the kindness they showed me. As Meriam is the founder member of the Philippine Central Association, she asked me to join the group. The association is now growing and through activities and parties this has helped me extend my social life. Resultingly my partner Richard has come to know some of my culture too.

I really can't think of words to express my heartfelt thanks for all the great things that the MMC has shown me, and done for me and many other migrants, over the years.

Kind Regards

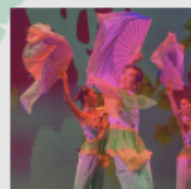
Aimee Domekyas.

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE  
**MANAWATU MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL**



# WORLD ON STAGE

**CELEBRATING OUR CULTURES**



**REGENT THEATRE**

**SATURDAY 30 JUNE - 7 PM**

Tickets available from TicketDirect [www.ticketdirect.co.nz](http://www.ticketdirect.co.nz) | 357 9740 | 0800 224 224  
Booking and service fees may apply Tickets also available at MMC: 06 358 1572, [info@mmcnz.org.nz](mailto:info@mmcnz.org.nz)

**Adult: \$10, Children and Senior Citizens: \$5**

## Arts and Craft Women's Group

The blistery winter is on our door step, bitterly cold, windy and wet. At times like this it is best to stay indoors and keep warm, but don't let the season stop you from having a bit of fun.

The Multicultural Centre would like to bring about some changes to their Arts & Craft activities, so we can have more productive, interesting, and fun activities.

To update this we need your assistance and ideas. Here are some of the activities we had been doing this month. We ran a workshop to make three new wreaths for the 2018 ANZAC Day Ceremony.

We want to thank Booranee for her time and skills in all aspects of arts and crafts.

For those who love butter, this is an opportunity too good to miss and you must come to see for yourself.

On Friday the 11th May here at the centre from 1–3pm Booranee will teach us how to make **'butter' the Thai way!**

Well! I know its easily said than done. In the rush and bustling day to day life, we women needed occasionally to take a 'breather' or 'time out'

So how about we begin with a hot or cold potluck lunch on either the first or second Friday of the month. It is really a good way to chill out and get to know each other and have a conversation over a meal.

**We look forward to your valuable contributions and hearing from you as soon as possible so we can plan the day and time for our shared lunch.**

Noorangi



# Multicultural Women's Group



For more information phone

Centre: 351572, Email: [ask@mmcnz.org.nz](mailto:ask@mmcnz.org.nz)

Come and join us  
Meet Tania Kopytko for an hour of fun.  
To explore dance and our cultures

**Friday 18 May 2018**

For English Language Beginners **10.30–12pm**  
For all Migrant Women. **1– 2pm**



## Newcomers Potluck Poster

# Newcomers Potluck Dinner

Friday 25th May 2018 @ 6pm



Join us for an evening of celebrations

Meet new arrivals to our city

Enjoy a shared meal with other migrants

Bring your family and friends

Bring a plate of food to share



**Manawatu**  
Multicultural Council Inc.

For more information contact 3581572

Email: [ask@mmcnz.org.nz](mailto:ask@mmcnz.org.nz)

**Please note: There will be NO POTLUCK DINNER on Friday 29th June.  
This will be replaced by the Story Telling Event .  
Refer to the information's below**

## Story Telling Event

### **YOU ARE INVITED**

*to the story telling event*

### **TOGETHER**

On Friday June 15<sup>th</sup> at the Manawatu Multicultural Centre, in collaboration with Jenna Kelly, will be holding a celebration of food and stories. You are invited to share your own personal story with your community, or come along and listen to the wonderful experiences others have to share.

The potluck dinner will start at 6pm and after dinner, you could have the opportunity to tell a true story inspired by 'celebration'. This is a chance to connect with others, share in food and truth, and the joy of spoken word.

Stories only need to be 5 minutes, and coaching will be provided to those interested in sharing their story, in order to provide support and confidence in telling their stories.

If you are interested in sharing your story, or you would like more information,

Please email: [jennakelly93@gmail.com](mailto:jennakelly93@gmail.com)

Where: Education room, Te Manawa-

326 Main Street-Palmerston North

When: Monday 14th of May 2018, 12.30 pm

Stay  
**Warm  
and Well**  
this winter



Workshop Sponsored by  
Manawatu Multicultural Council

- ✓ Keep your home warm
- ✓ Keep your home dry
- ✓ Save on heating

Curtains	Moisture
Ventilation	Insulation
Heating	Condensation

### Environmental Health of Homes Workshop by Dr. Nelson Lebo, Eco Design Advisor, Palmerston North City Council

Dr Nelson has been involved in the sustainability and environmental movements for 30 years. As PNCC's Eco Design Advisor, Nelson advises homeowners, renters and landlords on all aspects of comfortable, healthy housing, and energy efficiency. Focus of this workshop will be:

- Solutions on how to lower energy bills, improve indoor air quality during winter
- How to make houses drier, cheaper to run
- Best options for efficient heating systems



Education Room- Te Manawa, 326 Main Street-Palmerston North,  
Monday 14 May 2018 at 12.30pm- 2.30pm

Light snacks, tea and coffee will provided by Manawatu Multicultural Council

RSVP [info@ecmpn.org.nz](mailto:info@ecmpn.org.nz) or txt 0277889994 for catering purposes



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**MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 8.30M - 5.30PM | SATURDAY, 9.30AM - 4PM**

*The best holidays are created together.*

**CNR MAIN ST & THE SQUARE (LIBRARY SIDE), PALMERSTON NORTH  
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**HOUSE OF TRAVEL**

## Currency Exchange



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BAHAMAS DOLLAR	HUNGARY FORINT	POLAND ZLOTY
BAHRAIN DINAR	INDIA RUPEE	QATAR RIYAL
BARBADOS DOLLAR	INDONESIA RUPIAH	RUSSIAN RUBLE
BERMUDA DOLLAR	ISRAEL SHEKEL	SAUDI ARABIA RIYAL
BRAZILIAN REAL	JAPAN YEN	SINGAPORE DOLLAR
BRUNEI DOLLAR	JORDAN DINAR	SOLOMON ISLAND DOLLAR
CAMBODIAN RIEL	KUWAIT DINAR	SOUTH AFRICA RAND
CANADA DOLLAR	MACAO PATACA	SOUTH KOREA WON
CFP FRANC	MALAYSIA RINGGIT	SRI LANKA RUPEE
CHILE PESO	MAURITIUS RUPEE	SWEDEN KRONA
CHINA YUAN	MEXICAN PESO	SWITZERLAND FRANC
COLUMBIA PESO	MOROCCO DIRHAM	THAILAND BAHT
CROATIAN KUNA	NEW TAIWAN DOLLAR	TONGA PA'ANGA
CZECHOS KORUNA	NEW TURKISH LIRA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO DOLLARS
DENMARK KRONE	NEW ZEALAND DOLLAR	UK STERLING POUND
EGYPT POUND	NORWAY KRONE	UNITED STATES DOLLARS
EURO	OMAN RIAL	VANUATU VATU
FIJI DOLLAR	PAKISTAN RUPEE	VIETNAM DONG
		WESTERN SAMOA TALA

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**HOUSE OF TRAVEL**

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**WESTERN UNION**  
**MONEY TRANSFER**

## Multicultural Centre Activities & Events

### Manawatu Multicultural Centre

Opening Hours: Monday—Friday 10am—4pm

- Practice your English
- Make new friends
- Share information
- Interacts with other migrants
- Use your interpersonal skills
- Work together with other community groups and organization
- Learn about New Zealand customs and culture

### Weekly Activities

**Advanced English Conversation Groups:**

Monday morning 10am—11.30am

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 1pm—3pm

**English Beginner's Conversation Groups**

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

10am—11.30am

**Lunchtime Conversation—Shared Lunch**

Every Friday 12—1pm

**Women's Sewing Group**

Wednesday 12—2pm

**Arts & Craft Group**

1st & 2nd of the month Friday 1pm—3pm

### Monthly Activities

**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

