

**MISSION STATEMENT**

TO CELEBRATE,  
SUPPORT AND  
CONNECT  
Multicultural  
COMMUNITIES  
OF MANAWATU

# ETHNIGRAM



## President's Report

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

President's Report	1/2
Many People	2/3
Many Countries	
Migrant & Refugee Women's Dance Group	4
Hari Raya Celebrations	5
Sports Manawatu and Steven Adams B/ball workshop	6
Celebrating Suffrage 125 & Only Women's Zumba	7
Potluck & Arts/ Craft Poster	8
Refugee Talent Poster	10/11
Centre activities and events	12

**Acknowledgement**

- Palmerston North City Council
- PN. Community Service Council
- COGS
- Lion Foundation
- United Way
- Lottery Grant
- Thomas McCarthy
- Eastern & Central Community Trust
- DIA- Settling In
- Mainland Foundation
- Pub Charity
- Community House  
77-85 King Street  
Phone #  
(06) 358 1572  
ask@mmcnz.org.nz  
www.mmcnz.org.nz

Designer/Editor  
Noorangi Puleosi  
Angela Joblin

For our organisation to move forward, everyone must do their part in contributing in every way they can. Early this month our organisation was asked to make a presentation to a U3A group, which was well received and created more awareness of what our organisation does. Thank you to Christine, who made an excellent Power Point presentation to back up my talk.



Rana was invited to speak at the Sport Development Workshop at the Coachman Hotel, sharing with the sporting community the diversity of sport in New Zealand, as it becomes a very multicultural Community. This provided the opportunity for 2 of our young people to attend a workshop with Steve Adams, on Sunday August 19th organised by Sports Manawatu.

Mayette has finished her Hello it's me Project at IPU. It provided opportunities for young new students in our city to express who they are. This is a medium of expression for our young people, and their aspirations, and to provide a sense of acceptance in their new community. Mayette is still waiting for some of the Secondary Schools that have shown interest to come on board with the project.



On Friday 17th, Tania, and the women who participated in the Sense of Place project, presented their dance show. Tania explained how her group were now able to learn more English words and to express themselves through their dancing.



Our annual dinner ran smoothly last Saturday. Our guests were very happy with the entertainment, atmosphere and prizes that many of our supporters had provided for us. Thank you to Priyani for her witty way of keeping our guests entertained and able to network with each other. Also thanks for the superb entertainment provided by Maria and Roger.

Organising events like these take time. I am really grateful to our sponsors who generously supported this event. To our Mayor Grant Smith for his welcoming community presentation, which made us feel valued as one of the organisations that help in the settlement of migrants and refugees here in Palmerston North.

## President's Report

To Aidan, our treasurer who included everyone in his thank you speech and to Angela Joblin for her sincerity in promoting our events.

A special thank you to Wiremu and Trieste Te Awe Awe for showing their support as our honorary kaumatua in our community, and sharing their aroha with our multicultural people. Also to our staff Noorangi and Christine who have shown their loyalty and hard work in keeping this organisation running smoothly. Some of our students in our conversation classes, have now moved on to get a formal certificate in learning English as required by many employers.

We are grateful that there are organisations like ETC, that give them this opportunity.

Our organisation helps celebrate the diversity of new peoples cultures' in our community by helping them connect to different agencies. Hopefully they will stay in our city, if we do our part. To our volunteer teachers who give their time in helping new migrants learn and help to integrate them in our community, A big thank you.



This will be my last Report as I step down from being President, but I will still be around to carry on some initiatives that I have started and are dear to my heart. We all have a part to play in making our city a welcoming place for new migrants and refugees. So let's do it with the aim off making it a better place for everyone. I would like to give my acknowledgement to individuals and businesses who supported us in our dinner raffle and spot prizes.

To Priyani de Silva Currie, Adrienne Pierce, Anne Odogwu and Booranee Kasemjit. I would to make special mention to businesses who had been supporting us for many years such as Pioneer New World and Davis Trading. For our new supporters Steve Parson House of Travel, Phonem Hanoi Home Cooking, Caltex Tremaine, Kadence Sport Fitness and Brew Union.

Please support them as they support us.

Thank you  
Meriam Findlay

## Many People Many Countries

At the Multicultural Centre, as the name implies, we have many people from many cultures.

**In fact over the last seven months we have had 24 different ethnicities come to the centre.**

Some are staying in Palmerston North for a short time and some many months and some come initially to attend our free English Beginners or Conversational classes then realise that there is so much more to the Centre!

Not only do they make new friends with people from different countries, that they may have had limited knowledge of, they may now find that they enjoy the same things, talk about the same things and even laugh at the same jokes!



## Many People Many Countries

As well as English Classes taught by professional tutors – we aim to teach the students something about the New Zealand culture, with the addition of trips to Parliament and a local Marae and the use of resources about New Zealand.

Regular morning teas, shared lunches and a Pot Luck Dinner are also offered, as well as participation in Palmerston North's Festival of Cultures and an Ethnic Fashion show and our two yearly World on Stage Show at the iconic Regent Theatre.

The Multicultural Centre, being situated in the Hancock Community House, has access to 15 other NGOs, of which Christine and Noorangi, the two staff members, make use of. So it doesn't matter what kind of concerns the students may have, there are staff and agencies where they may go for help. So who are the people that come to the Centre?

Some are the spouses, both male and female from the Educational Institutions such as Massey University and UCOL. Some are on Scholarships, or are finishing their Master's or Ph.D degrees. Some are recent migrants married to New Zealanders, some Refugees, some parents of Primary and High School Students, and we even had have people that are on holiday in New Zealand and have some time to spare, and wanted to meet others at Christine's Coffee Morning!

Apart from the above we have some amazing people like Booranee, a very multi talented lady from Thailand, that demonstrates weaving and crochet as well as Thai Cooking, for complete beginners, without even an oven! and many other handicrafts.

There is also Tanya Kopytko who directed the hugely successful Multicultural Council's show 'World On Stage'. Tania runs a monthly Multicultural Women's Group teaching the women the art of dancing having fun creating and exploring their beautiful cultures. This had been running for the past ten months and on Friday the 17th of August it will be presented at the dance studio on King Street.

The performers were students from ELP and the MMC.

The range of countries that our presents students for the last seven months is truly amazing, and I'm sure you would like to know!

So in alphabetical order here they are.

ARGENTINA, AFGHANISTAN, BHUTAN, BRAZIL, CHINA, CONGO, EAST TIMOR, GERMANY, HONG KONG, INDIA, IRAN, IRAQ, JAPAN, MYANMAR, NEPAL, PHILIPPINES, SOUTH KOREA, SAMOA, SRI LANKA, SYRIA, THAILAND, TONGA, VIETNAM and the UKRAINE

Some countries are represented by many students and some by only one or two.

Angela Joblin



## Migrant and Refugee Women's Dance Group

A Sense of Place - community dance and development project for Migrant and Refugee Women

The project ran monthly from October 2017 to August 2018 with two workshops running on the Friday. The morning workshop focused on refugee women and the afternoon workshop on migrant women.

The project was facilitated/tutored by Community dance specialist Dr Tania Kopytko. The project was kindly funded by Palmerston North City Council Creative Communities grant. It was also supported by ELP English Language partners, whose students attended the morning workshops.

The dance and movement workshops focused on who we were, where we come from and what we do. We compared our cultures and ideas through dance movement, language and visual art. The purpose of the project was the creative, learning and sharing process.

This is a different approach to many arts projects which usually focus on a "product" such as a performance. The creative approach allowed us to explore, create, share and develop, rather than simply learn, repeat and perform" which is the traditional approach.

In total 36 women took part in the project from countries such as Myanmar, Bhutan, Nepal, Syria, India, Sri Lanka, South Korea, China, Japan, Vietnam and Russia.

The project finished on August 17th with a celebratory event at the Danceworks studio attended by 32 people.

There were two dance performances that showed some of the creative work from the project and the project facilitator/tutor Tania Kopytko explained the process of the project. We broke the ice by everyone having a go at a simple dance.

Tania Kopytko



### JUST A REMINDER!

**You are all invited to our Potluck Dinner this Friday 31st August 2018.**

**To be held here at the Centre from 6—8pm**

**Bring your friends and family and bring a plate of food to share with others.**

## Hari Raya Aidilfitri Celebration

On 21 July 2018, the Manawatu Malaysian Society (MMS) and Massey University Malaysian Students Association (MUMSA) celebrated a major Malaysian festival, Eid Ul-Fitr or Hari Raya Aidilfitri as known by Muslims in Malaysia to mark the end of the fasting month. Eid is considered the festival of gratitude to God and an occasion celebrated with families and loved ones. It is also the time of feasts, homecoming, contemplation, forgiveness and reconciliation. About 80 people were present at the event at Hancock Community House.



The High Commissioner of Malaysia, Ms Nur Izzah Wong Mee Choo, was also present at this event with her staff members. In her address, Ms Nur Izzah encouraged everyone to extend their love and compassion beyond their groups to the wider community. She also encouraged MMS and MUMSA to organise more combined events in the future, as this would make it more joyous and enriching.



Any celebrations and gatherings would not be completed without a widespread of traditional foods and cakes such as turmeric rice, chicken murtabak, sambal eggplant, mee goreng, chicken curry, chicken rendang, etc.

These widespread dishes were comfort food to many of us, reminding us of Malaysia. Our cuisines reflect the mixture of ethnic groups in the country. The three most prominent cuisines are Malay, Chinese and Indian.

In the midst of enjoying the delicious spread of food, many of us made new friends. Both the young and the seniors had a wonderful time 'chit-chatting' and sharing their life experiences. We are looking forward to having more events like this to keep the Malaysian value and culture alive among members who are away from Malaysia especially for the new young generation.

Marianne Simon



## Sport Manawatu Conference

I was invited by Sport Manawatu to attend the Regional Sport Conference in Palmerston North that was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of August at the Coachman's Hotel.

I participated in a panel discussion around Diversity and Sports and Barriers of Participation for the communities. I spoke about ethnic communities specially women and youth, that were represented, and some solutions were suggested.

I explain the programme that we are running (women's fitness and dancing classes) which supports the diverse landscape of this region, and how the council has supported the needs of the ethnic communities and how this can be improved.

Also I put in my recommendations that there is a need to understand the wishes of the communities first. After listening, actions should be put in place according to what the communities want.

We asked for more involvement in those early stages to consider these needs as the MMC is the organisation that represents the city's diversity and voices the needs of the various ethnic communities.

Rana Naser



## Steven Adams' Basketball Workshop

The Steven Adams Basketball Camp was definitely a day worth remembering. The competitive atmosphere, the sound of relentless basketballs bouncing, and the hard work everyone put into it was all there.

I am very grateful for having this amazing opportunity to be able to participate in an event such as this, because not only did it teach me many tips and tricks on how to become a better basketball player

### But I got to meet Steven Adams!

An NBA player! I thought I knew what BIG was until I met him. I'm still very much sore from that day until now, but I never regretted coming to this event.

There aren't many basketball camps in New Zealand which caters for a wide variety of skill groups, and I am incredibly lucky to be able to be a part of this camp.

Thank you MMC and Sport Manawatu for the opportunity! God bless!

Kian Laylo

Year 12 St Peter's College



## Celebrating Suffrage 125!

A Women's Suffrage Dance Theatre project

### Celebrating Suffrage 125! with PN Crows Feet Dance Collective and friends

In 1893 NZ became the first country where all women gained the right to vote in general elections! Palmerston North Crows Feet Dance Collective and friends present a 15 minute dance theatre work.

Celebrating this achievement and the wonderful determined women who created, organised and signed the suffrage petition.

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

**1pm— Square Edge Gallery**

**2pm— Te Manawa foyer**

**3pm— Palmerston North Library, 2nd floor, heritage space**

Join women from PN Crows Feet Dance Collective and DanceXercise to celebrate this occasion!

Tania Kopytko

0276310105



## Only Women's Zumba

**To all migrant and refugee women**

You are all invited to join these free and healthy dance classes.

It's an opportunity to meet other women have fun, and with out knowing it!

**It is fun! It's fitness! It's Zumba!**

These classes run every

Thursday 5.30—6.30pm

Saturday 4—5pm.

At St Peters Church Hall located at 229 Ruhahine Street,

Contact or Email:

Rana.Naser@fonterra.com

or text 027 405 2230



## Refugee Support Volunteers

**NZ Red Cross Palmerston North**

**September Training Starts:**

**Thursday 13th September 6.30pm**

**Contact us for more information—0800 Red Cross**

# Newcomers Potluck Dinner



Join us for an evening of fun and celebrations

**Friday 28th September 2018 @ 6pm**

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

For more information contact 3581572

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



**Manawatu**  
Multicultural Council Inc.

# Multicultural Arts/Craft Group



Thai Som Tam Salad

Invites you to join us at the  
Multicultural Centre

**Friday 7th September 2018 12.30—3pm**

Booranee Roskrug has offered to show us  
some basic Thai Cooking.

Its quick and easy and ideal for  
Lunches & Dinner!

You are invited to participate in making your  
own som tam salads

**A gold coin donation would be  
appreciated**

For more information contact the Centre 358 1572

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



**Manawatu**  
Multicultural Council Inc.

ARE YOU FROM A REFUGEE BACKGROUND?  
LOOKING FOR A JOB THAT MATCHES YOUR  
PROFESSIONAL SKILLS & EXPERIENCE?

# LEARN ABOUT THE REFUGEE TALENT JOB PLATFORM

**SUNDAY 2 SEPTEMBER, 10AM – 12 PM**  
**COMPUTER ROOM, PALMERSTON NORTH CITY LIBRARY**  
**4 THE SQUARE, PALMERSTON NORTH**

**BRING YOUR CV OR INFORMATION  
ABOUT YOUR WORK EXPERIENCE  
TO ENROL ONLINE**



**refugeetalent**  
KEY PEOPLE



**HOST**  
INTERNATIONAL



**Manawatu**  
Multicultural Council Inc.



## 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 Friday of the month 1pm–3pm

##### **Only Women's Zumba Classes**

Thursday 5.30–6.30pm & Saturday 4–5pm

St. Peters Church Hall 229 Ruahine Street



#### 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

