

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

What an amazing month we have had, our Square was buzzing with activities almost every weekend which makes us feel proud to be living in Palmerston North.

This year we have had a week long celebration of the Festival of Cultures, preparation took months but we are so happy with the result knowing that we are all accepted in this new city where we now live.

**The Lantern Parade** In preparation for the parade the Lantern making workshops were well attended. On the actual night of the parade there were thousands of people who enjoyed watching the performances and joining in the parade. The fabulous displays of the different shapes of the lanterns made the night more spectacular. The program was well supported by the Chinese Community and other members of the community.

**Fashion Show** 60 ladies and gentlemen represented 24 Countries, with entertainment by Mariepaz and her Kultura group, The Global Children, The Karen young people and lastly the Bhutanese group were all very professional. This was the first time that we have had our show in the Square, the participants really enjoyed showing off their national costumes, my friend from Masterton participated in the show and was very proud to show the exquisite workmanship of the gown that she was wearing.

**Race Relation's Potluck lunch**  
 The aim of this lunch is to help our former refugees integrate and blend well into our community by introducing them to local people. Touching stories were told by women who finally gained the privilege of learning at schools upon arriving in our country. This is a collaboration between the Multicultural Council and the English Language Partner with the help of Palmerston North City Council and Te Manawa. There was also a lot of activities in the Library for everyone to enjoy and participate in. On Friday 16th of March, there was a big turnout from the Chinese Community at the launching of the book "The fruits of our Labour," a book that collectively tells us about the lives of early Chinese fruit sellers. On the 22nd was a talk about Japanese culture and on the 21st a Rangoli workshop and people could learn Bollywood dancing at the Globe theatre. I greatly enjoyed the Bollywood dancing as it is another form of exercise for me.



## Presidents Report Continue

Last Saturday 24th, the finale was the highlight of the week and the manifestation on what unity in diversity can contribute to our city. Over 10,000 people came to the celebrations as well as 24 ambassadors and diplomats who visited our city as well as 84 ethnic stall holders. As I walked around I met visitors from Wanganui, Dannevirke, Woodville, Levin and a couple from Switzerland who deliberately came to Palmerston North to witness this event, while they were touring New Zealand. We are truly grateful to everyone involved in making this event a success.



Thanks to our staff, volunteers, performers, stall holders, especially to Bronwyn and her team and also to the City Council for their continuous support in making this City so ethnically diverse.

There are a lot more activities coming up in our calendar, the Marae trip on April 19 and our Bi-annual event, the World on Stage on the 30th June. Story Slam is on the 15th of June. We will need your support to make these events a success.

On a personal note, I would like to express my gratitude to Sina Lome for helping me process an online application for my mother's visa. Truly migrant helping fellow migrant is one way of settling well in New Zealand.

Meriam Findlay  
MMC President

## MMC Fashion Parade

We have all heard of WOW and after the 24th of March maybe everyone will have heard of the FOC- Festival of Cultures! From the 17th of March to the 24th of March Palmerston North was the place to be.

Unless one is involved in the Steering Group as the MMC was, along with the City Library and the Palmerston North City Council one would never realise how much work goes into making this a really exciting week.

The Lantern Parade on the Friday set things in motion, being preceded by numerous workshops for enthusiastic lantern makers of all ages.

Trailing its way round the Square many people marvelled at this magical procession an apt beginning to the Festival.

It never ceases to amaze me that countries that geographically border each other can have such diverse languages, customs, cuisine and also wear such different fashions.

The Fashion Parade was a good example of this. There were models from such countries as Afghanistan, Egypt, Nepal, Germany and Nigeria and all those in-between, wearing an amazing array of beautiful clothes and jewellery in the most beautiful colours and styles.

In fact 24 countries were represented with 49 models including some children.

The Parade was in two parts with entertainment supplied by The Global Children, a group of primary school children of many nationalities and the Bhutanese Bollywood Group, not to be confused with the Indian Bollywood Groups.



## MMC Fashion Parade

The Mariapaz and Kultura Group and the Karen Community young children and their youth group also entertained the audience.

Doug Wilson was our Sound Man from Ashhurst with his very efficient team.

As you can appreciate with so many models the sound system had to accommodate everyone and be somewhat generic, except for the entertainers who supplied their own tapes to Doug.

Again the weather was good to us !

Angela Joblin

## Race Relation Potluck Lunch

More than 150 people attended the Pot Luck Lunch celebrating the Race Relations Day on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> March, a day New Zealand celebrates its cultural diversity and acknowledges both the richness and challenges it brings. This was a first potluck lunch in Palmerston North, thanks to Meriam Findlay, MMC President who brought the idea to Festival of Cultures organising committee. The event was organised in conjunction with English Language Partners and was hosted by Te Manawa Museum.



After a welcome speech by Meriam Findlay, the event was opened by Tangi Utikere, PN Deputy Mayor who stepped in for Dame Susan Devoy who couldn't come because of flight delay. In his opening speech Tangi mentioned that Palmerston North is one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the country. Race Relations Day reminds us all of the crucial role positive race relations and human rights play in our communities and lives.



Jessica Yap, Manager - English Language Partners PN spoke about the rich diversity the former refugees bring to our city including food, costumes and invited representatives of the different refugee's communities to introduce their communities and briefly explain their dress and culinary culture as well as their belief and traditions.



It was really good to hear the testimonies from former refugees. Some of them, especially women were illiterate before coming to NZ because the role of women in their country of origin was primarily to raise children and do the housework. They are very grateful to be here, they feel safe, valued and supported by the local community.

Andy Lowe, Chief Executive, Te Manawa Museum welcomed everyone, and reiterated that the potluck lunch event is a good opportunity to get to know our community and share our rich cultures.

After a Karakia by Meriam Findlay, we all enjoyed the truly multicultural food brought in. Every dietary requirement was catered for, from halal to vegetarian and vegans...

A big thank you to the City Council and the Festival of Cultures organising committee for their support organising the event and to all the people who shared the delicious food.

Christine.

## Farewell Caius

To bid farewell to one of our students from the Manawatu Multicultural English classes is always tinged with sadness.

On Friday the 23rd of March we said "au revoir" to Caius Dat Pham his Vietnamese name, or Caius the English name he is also known by.

We have known Caius for 3 years-since he first came to New Zealand to study at the IPU. Now 3 years older and with a degree, he is off on the next part of his life's journey, this time to the Blue Mountains, out of Sydney.

Caius has been offered a job in a very prestigious hotel chain.

Whatever was happening in Palmerston North there would be Caius!

From attending the English Corner on a Saturday morning, coming to the MMC for the monthly Pot Luck Supper, listening to the various talks and book launches at the Public Library and attending the Conversation English Sessions at the MMC, he also somehow managed to get very high marks at the IPU.

As well as all of the above he was a volunteer at a telephone counselling organisation, worked on the land and managed to get job experience in a local Accountants.

Caius is also an enthusiastic traveller- can speak several languages -and is said to be a good cook! He is a thoroughly likeable young man, with a ready smile for everyone.

As we said at the Pot Luck Supper ' Caius is the type of young man that any mother would like to have as a son ! '

We all wish him every happiness for the future.

Angela Joblin



Caius is on the back row second from the right

## Newcomers Potluck Dinner

The month of March was a month of celebrations, and MMC was involved in most of the activities held in the community, such as the Multicultural Fashion Parade, the Race Relation Potluck Lunch and finally the Festival of Cultures on Saturday 24th March 2018.

In spite of all the above the MMC Potluck dinner must go on. One Friday 23rd March was MMCs first potluck dinner for the year 2018. Most of our regular attendees sent their apologies. The people that came enjoyed meeting with each other and making new friends.

We welcomed The (Thay) from Vietnam and Shulamite and her daughter Talita from India, and Talita's two friends from Longburn Adventist College.

The same night we said farewell to Caius Dat Pham from Vietnam. He is one of our loyal students and friend who attended most of our centre's activities. Caius has been offered a job at a hotel near Sydney Australia. "Congratulation" and best wishes for your future in your new job and country.

You will be missed but not forgotten for your pleasant manner and especially your friendly smile.

Noorangi

**Kauwhata Marae Visit**

# Kauwhata Marae Visit



**Manawatu**  
Multicultural Council Inc.



**ENGLISH**  
LANGUAGE PARTNERS  
NEW ZEALAND  
*Working with Schools and Māori*



It is a unique opportunity for newcomers to experience Maori culture and protocol. We will travel together on a bus to Kauwhata Marae (near Feilding). The cost of the trip is \$15/person (including koha and transport). Please book your seat on time by e-mailing the Centre on [info@mmcnz.org.nz](mailto:info@mmcnz.org.nz) or call the Centre on 3581572.

**Dress code: Semi-formal**

**Thursday 19 April**  
**From 10.30am to 2pm**

*The bus will leave the Centre at 10.30am,  
Please be at the Centre by 10.15am*

**Newcomers Potluck Poster**

# Newcomers Potluck Dinner

**You are ALL invited to join us  
at the Multicultural Centre**

**Friday 27th April 2018 @ 6pm**

- Meet new arrival to our City.**
- Interact with other Migrants**
- Enjoy Shared Meal**
- Great Company and Lots of Fun**
- 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)**

# Multicultural Women's Group



Dance and have fun with the Multicultural Women's Group

We meet once a month at the  
Multicultural Centre.  
To explore dance and our  
cultures

**Friday 6 April 2018**

First session: For English Language  
Beginners **10.30–12noon**

Second session: For all Multicultural  
Women. **1– 2pm**



For more information phone

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

## Our Place - Dance and arts project Timetable 2018 updated

Exploring our cultures through dance

Tutor/arts/dance coordinator Tania Kopytko

For the Manawatu Multicultural Centre Women's group

We may also need to meet on Friday August 3<sup>rd</sup> to prepare for the exhibition and showing

Friday October 20 <sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2017	Dance and discussion; exploring our cultures
Friday November 17 <sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2017	Exploring our cultures dance
Holiday break	Holiday break
Friday February 16 <sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2018	Exploring our cultures through dance
Friday March 16 <sup>th</sup> 1 to 3pm 2018	Exploring our cultures through dance and language
Friday April 6 <sup>th</sup> (20 <sup>th</sup> is holidays) 10.30am to 12 and 1 to 2.30pm 2018	Exploring our cultures through dance and language
Friday May 18 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am to 12 and 1 to 2.30pm 2018	Exploring our cultures through dance and language
Friday June 8 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am to 12 and 1 to 2.30pm 2018	Exploring our cultures though dance and language
Friday June 22 <sup>nd</sup> 10.30am to 12 and 1 to 2.30pm 2018	Exploring our cultures through dance and language
Friday July 27 <sup>th</sup> (20 <sup>th</sup> is the holidays) 10.30am to 12 and 1 to 2.30pm 2018	Exploring our cultures through dance and language
Friday August 10 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am to 12 and 1 to 2.30pm 2018	Rehearsal
Friday August 17 <sup>th</sup> 11am to 12noon	Exhibition and showing

# Invitation



NETWORK OF  
SKILLED MIGRANTS

## Effects of Recent Immigration Policy Changes

On Thursday, 5 April 2018 at 6.30-7.30 pm

in the City Library Sound & Vision Area, Palmerston North

Speaker

**SINA LOME**

Good Life Immigration Advice Ltd

Sina is an immigration specialist who worked for Immigration New Zealand for several years and is now a licensed immigration adviser. She is passionate about helping migrants better understand immigration policies and how to deal with their own immigration matters. She will be talking about the effects of recent immigration policy changes and providing information and tips on how to successfully plan your future in NZ.

Vietnamese food is provided by Pho Nem Café  
There will be different prize draws and other fun activities!

Please **RSVP** for catering purpose and for more information contact:  
**info@skilledmigrants.org | 028 401 4605**

Funded by Palmerston North City Council



Manawatu  
Multicultural Council



## Multi-Faith Gathering

### A Notice from Multi-Faith Gathering Organisers

Dear representatives within our community,  
You are invited to attend a meeting at Hancock House on 30 April at 7PM to 9 PM to talk about a Multi-Faith gathering in Palmerston North. Our aim is to promote peace and harmony through a Multi-Faith *Concert*. To achieve this, we are proposing an initial meeting with members of our community.

If you feel that you are not the person who is able to represent your community on this matter, please could we ask that you pass this on to the person who is able to represent your faith at our proposed meeting time?

The purpose of our Multi-faith gathering is to celebrate the diversity of faiths in our community by featuring performances which are expressed and inspired by faith.

For more details, please contact Harminder Gill: [gill\\_consultancy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gill_consultancy@xtra.co.nz), Mobile: 027 2766775

Ngā mihi

Harminder Gill and Mary Eastham

## Skilled Migrants Manawatu Continues

# 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.



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**HOUSE OF TRAVEL**

## Currency Exchange



ARGENTINE PESO	HONG KONG DOLLAR	PAPUA NEW GUINEA KINA
AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	NEPALESE RUPEE	PHILIPPINE PESO
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:**

**Morning Group**

**Monday 10am–11.30am**

**Afternoon Group–1-3pm**

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday**

**English Beginner’s Conversation Groups**

**Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**

**10am–11.30am**

**Lunchtime Conversation–Shared Lunch**

**Every Friday 12–1pm**

**Women’s Arts & Craft Sewing Group**

**1st & 2nd Friday 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**

