



Manawatu
Multicultural Council Inc.

"We celebrate, support & connect multicultural communities in the Manawatu"

ETHNIGRAM

Newsletter

Te Kaunihera Ahumahi Manawatu

February 2020



Award-winning 'Spring in Liyuan' Dance performed by Chongqing Liangjiang Art Troupe during the January 29 Happy Chinese New Year Show at the Regent Theatre

Chinese New Year in Palmerston North

As millions of people around the world ushered in the Chinese New Year of the Rat on Saturday January 25th, Palmerston North was not left out. Celebrations began at The Square on the 24th with dance and other entertainments. This was followed by a large-scale dinner at China Town Restaurant on the 25th. Spectators were thrilled with performances at the Regent Theatre on Wednesday the 29th. The warm evening saw a line-up of dignitaries from the City Council and Chinese government.

Upcoming Events

Counting Down to Festival of Cultures

The week-long annual festival will kick off on Saturday, February 29th. The event begins in the morning at the Arena with multicultural six-a-side football tournament tagged, "Ethkick" and "Ethsport" for women and kids.

In the evening, the festival begins with Lantern Parade, live music, and Zumba flash mob led by Jo, our Zumba instructor.

The week of exciting fun will culminate with the popular World Fair at The Square on Saturday 7th March. There will be showcase of teas around the world, costume parade, cultural arts and crafts, performances and delicious cultural cuisines of the world. Do not miss any of the actions!



Festival of Cultures

29 FEBRUARY - 7 MARCH 2020
PALMERSTON NORTH CITY

festivalofcultures.co.nz



Festival of Cultures

LANTERN PARADE
29 FEBRUARY 2020



Rana Naser

President's Message

My Holiday Highlights

As many of us enjoyed the company of family and friends during the last holidays, it is a reminder that we are not meant to go through life alone. I was fortunate to have spent some time with my family back in Jordan and attended my sister's wedding. Despite the freezing weather conditions, the chaotic traffic, and the busy wedding ceremony, I had an absolute fabulous time. It was a special occasion for me because I was the first to get married in my family and lived far away from home. So, I haven't been able to attend any of my siblings' weddings or special family occasions.

Being with family this time after a long while felt like old times when we were growing up with parents, surrounded by siblings and cousins.

Upcoming Programmes for 2020

We are delighted to welcome the new year 2020. The year is already looking up with greater opportunities for working together with our communities and to continue to make Palmerston North a welcoming, cohesive and inclusive City.

Manawatu Multicultural Council would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the exciting events coming up in the first half of the year. It's just 3 weeks until one of the City's biggest events - Festival of Cultures. This year, the Festival will be held from 29 February to 7 March. The Festival's team is currently working hard to add finishing touches on the City's largest celebration of cultural diversity and social inclusion. The team is delighted to be working alongside our community partners to bring the 2020 Festival to life.

The festival week will kick-off with 'Ethkick,' our biggest multicultural sport event that has been going on for more than a decade. At the same time, 'Ethsport' will be running side by side for women and children to "give it a go" and try new sports. We are also delighted to share that this year, our centre will host "Teas of the World" during which, we will get to know more about common tea rituals around the World.

There is a saying that "a cup of tea isn't merely a drink: it's the history of the world itself," so don't miss out on this unique session. The World Fair day, food, art and languages on 7 March will open officially with our cultural Costumes Parade. Our people will have a chance to march around the square dressed in their traditional costumes to open the festive day. If you would like to participate in the parade, get in touch with us immediately to book your spot. There are many more events and activities coming that we will be announcing through our Facebook page, newsletters and electronic communication. So, keep an eye out for more to come. We would also like to encourage you to share and promote your own events and activities with us too. Happy reading and best wishes for 2020.



A cross section of Sri Lankan Community in Palmerston North during the celebration of their nation's 72nd Independence Day Anniversary on 1st February, 2020 at the City Library

Sri Lankans Celebrate National Day

It was a family fun day at the Library as the City joined Sri Lankan Community to celebrate their 72nd Independence Day Anniversary. There were displays of photo galleries, arts and crafts as well as historical presentations about Sri Lanka, the "Pearl of the Indian Ocean." Guests were also treated with luscious Sri Lankan food.

Cr Lorna Johnson and MMC's Secretary, Ebele Ezepeue congratulated the community and encouraged them to sustain their efforts by involving the youths more in their activities.



To help celebrate the Festival of Cultures month and partnering with Ethkick 2020, we invite women and children to this community activity organised by the Manawatu Multicultural Council. Come down and give Netball, Table Tennis, Volleyball, Badminton, Futsal and Skate Boarding a go in a safe, friendly and fun environment! All activities will be staged indoors with facilities available for children under 5 years so you can watch them while you participate!

Where: B&M Centre – Central Energy Trust Arena. **When:** Saturday, 29 February from 9am - 3pm. Bring sport shoes, drinking bottles and positive attitude. Cost, Free!

Ethsport 'Give it a Go' 2020

TEAS OF THE WORLD cultures and costumes

A look at how tea is prepared and enjoyed in different countries around the world



We will put the spotlight round up of some delicious teas recipes from around the world

Come and join us to explore a few of the most iconic tea traditions



When and where...

Monday 2 March 2020
6pm-8pm, Manawatu
Multicultural Centre,
Hancock Community House
77-85 King Street.



Ethkick 2020 is a FREE 6-side football tournament that celebrates cultural diversity and community involvement. The event will be held at Central Energy Trust Arena, Saturday 29th February 2020.



COSTUMES PARADE 2020

Come and join our big ,colourful fun national costume parade for festival of cultures on Saturday 7 March 2020

Everyone is welcome to join in! All age groups of children, women, and men are all welcome.

We will all walk around the square and this will be the official opening of festival of cultures.

To book your spot so you can participate ,contact the Manawatu Multicultural Council 06 3581572

or email info@mmcnz.org.nz

Let us make it the biggest ,brightest ,most beautiful Parade Palmy has ever seen



Bhutanese 4th Grand International Creative Cultural Ceremony



Amazing performance by Shree Dance Academy, Palmerston North during the event

Allan Young Scholarship 2020

The Manawatu Multicultural Council is pleased to announce that the Allan Young Scholarship 2020 is still open and applications will close on 20th February 2020. This tertiary education Scholarship of \$1500 each year is for a lucky MMC financial member. If you are eligible please send your application to Allan Young at allanyoung8@gmail.com

On Saturday, December 21st 2019, MMC attended a wonderful international cultural event organised by the Bhutanese Community with the help of the City Council and other international agencies. The event was held at the Regent Theatre with a showcase of various dance and cultural performances including the welcoming powhiri.

Regular Events

SESSIONS & CLASSES

English conversation classes

Beginners: Tues, Thursday and Friday 10am-12noon
Advanced: Monday to Thursday from 1pm-3pm

Women's only Zumba class

Thursdays from 6pm-7pm at Carncot School, 263 Broadway Ave, Palmerston North.

Basic cooking classes

Every second Friday of the month, from 12-1pm at the Centre.

Potluck dinner

Last Friday of the month, 6pm-8pm at the Centre

To get updates on our activities, visit and like our Facebook page or email us on info@mmcnz.org.nz to receive notifications

Thanks to our Supporters

Palmerston North City Council

Palmerston North Community Services Council

Ministry of Social Development

Lottery Grants

Ethnic Community Development Fund

COGS

The Lion Foundation

Thomas MacArthy Trust

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Olive Tree Trust

East & Central Community Trust


NZ Federation of Multicultural Council

United Way & Pub Charity

Sushi MaMa Palmerston North

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