



Manawatu
Multicultural Council

**Multicultural
Centre**



*Manawatu
Newcomers Network*
Connecting People

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The President's Message

Ethnic Greetings Everyone !



Apart for Rugby World Cup, Rainbow Praise was the highlight of this month for MMC in Palmerston North. Thanks and congratulations to each and every member of the organizing committee for their wonderful work.

I am very pleased to say that MMC has made its mark in bringing different ethnic groups with diverse cultures and faiths together through this superb event for the second time. My sincere thanks to all the participating groups, the sponsors, Rotary Club, Ernest Adams, Access Manawatu and Bishop Owen Dolan, for their assistance and contributions in making this such a great success. Thanks to Ramon Herrera for organizing the production of the DVD and donating the costs to MMC. Gold coin donations collected (\$166.00) were donated to St. Vincent de Paul and canned food donated was given away to the Salvation Army

The newly elected executive team has quickly got to business on hand. The Annual Strategic Plan for 2011-2012 has been revised and is in place as our operational document. The leaders of appointed subcommittees will soon be calling for meetings to progress their specific tasks.

The annual cultural dinner/social will be held at China Town restaurant. More details soon. We anticipate active participation and support by council members in selling tickets and attending the function.

We will need a few entertainment items, so do start thinking about that.

Acknowledgment

- * Palmerston North City Council (PNCC)
- * Palmerston North Community Services Council (PNSCS)
- * Lotteries Grant
- * Community Organization Grant Scheme (COGS)
- * MSD, Community Response
- * MSD, Family and Community Services
- * United Way
- * Central Energy Trust

MMC is at the Community House

77- 85 King Street (1st Floor)

Phone/Fax : 06 358 1572

Website: www.mmcnz.org.nz

E-mail: info@mmcnz.org.nz



Youth group is a special initiative that we are wanting to establish this year. I ask that all council members urgently nominate a youth delegate to the Council. This youth group will then affiliate with the national youth council of the New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils which will enable them to participate in national youth forums and programmes. The experience and confidence our youths will gain from this will be immense and I strongly urge all the council members to send in their nominations to the secretary as soon as possible.

The newcomer's network will be led by Meriam Findlay and there are some exciting projects in the pipeline for next year. Everyone looks forward to the potluck dinners with great anticipation as a means of socialization, meeting new people and building relationships.

Council members if you have any community events going on and you wish to inform others, you can send the details to Christine (3581572) for inclusion in our EthniGram.

I'd like more members contributing articles to the EthniGram and we would appreciate your comments and feedbacks as we constantly strive to make it better.

MMC Facebook page is up and running. Please log on and see what's happening there! Also visit our website: www.mmcnz.org.nz and www.newcomers.co.nz to read more about what we do.

In the meantime enjoy the World Cup and have fun!

Nirmala Nand

From the Ex-President

It has been very rewarding and satisfying to see the rejuvenation and revitalisation of MMC over the last three years. MMC is now very strong in its financial position, its membership, and its infrastructure, and in the Multicultural Centre and its profile in Palmerston North.

In the beginning I used to spend up to 20 hours per week on MMC matters. MMC has been like a baby to me and now that baby has grown up and matured now and like any good parent I have to let that baby go.

It is time to give the opportunity for a new parent and executive to tend to MMC and carry on the momentum and growth of the last three years.

I'd like to thank and acknowledge the help, co-operation and friendships I've had over my period as President. It has been through wonderful team work and support that has got us all to where we are today. In particular;

◇ The funders:

FACS, Lotteries, COGS, Eastern and Central, Central Energy, Community Services, United Way and especially PNCC.

◇ The executives:

Nirmala – our efficient secretary and NN co-ordinator.

Anne – our very able Vice President.

Lin Mei and Kheng – who have helped with finances as treasurers.

Ali, Miriam and Saju for their continual support as executive committee members.

◇ The Multicultural Centre Staff:

Christine, Noorangi & Vicki - who have helped build bridges between the ethnic community and wider community.

◇ The volunteers who help and give so freely of their time – MMC could not exist without you.

I would like to acknowledge the support and help of a few key individuals:

- Laurence Chok – who helped in the initial restructuring and strategic planning.
- Adrian Turner – who was our community intern and helped develop policies and procedures and initial fund application.
- Tony Thackery – our MMC lawyer who helped with our constitution and name change. These people were key in providing a stable foundation, framework and infrastructure from which MMC has grown.
- Cathy McCartney, Peter Grey and PNCC councillors Annette Nixon and Lew Findlay have been supportive and sympathetic to our cause.
- As to have Heather Tanguay and Helen Whitten, our long time friends.

I have to acknowledge the support of two other key people, firstly:

- Paul Patel – whose wise counsel and expertise has helped with the development of our constitution, our relocation, and fitout of our new premises here at CH and with Festival of Cultures. He has given freely of his time and always available when you need him.
- And secondly: Our Co-ordinator Vicki Jarvie. Her energy, enthusiasm and initiatives over the last 18 months has really transformed and raised the profile of the Multicultural Centre.

So thank you all once again for your help, co-operation and friendship. MMC has given me so much over the last few years and I have really grown personally and meet so many people. I will still be there to help out the new executive when required. I would like to wish Nirmala and the executives all the best for the coming year.

Allan Young

Thank You from MMC Vice President



Thank you to all those who have participated in Rainbow Praise. The vitality of our city is shown by these varied performances.

In fact the five continents were represented by those taking part. The singing and music was beautiful. We trust you all enjoyed Rainbow Praise.

Don't forget you can purchase a DVD of the afternoon's singing and music for \$10.00.

Anne Odogwu,

A Multi Cultural, Multi Faith Event – Everyone is invited

The New Zealand Catholic Bishops Committee for Interfaith Relations invites people of all faiths to join in celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Assisi Day of Prayer for World Peace. The 2011 theme is "Pilgrims of Truth, Pilgrims of Peace".

Date: Thursday 27 October **Time:** 7pm
Place: The Cathedral of the Holy Spirit
197 Broadway Ave, Palmerston North

For more information contact:
Mary Eastham, m.eastham@xtra.co.nz, 3238684

What I learnt at the Ethnic Women's Forum on August 20th.

More than 80 women from different nationalities gathered at St Albans Auditorium to attend a forum. There were 2 guest speakers and three workshops which were designed to empower and inspire women.

Our guest speaker Ruth de Souza from Auckland University of Technology clearly illustrated the different changes in us as we migrate to a different country. These changes are: ourselves, family, friends, routines, support, self worth, status, identity. Ruth also included the 5 stages of cultural shocks which are honeymoon period, disintegration, integration, autonomy and interdependence.

The honeymoon period speaks about our excitement as we arrive, the adventure of being in a new place but as time goes on we realise we are no longer in the same compact and familiar environment where we came from. This often leads to feelings of loneliness, isolation and missing home (this is the disintegration period). As we get involved with the community this empowers us and helps us with our reintegration. Understanding who we are helps us become autonomous members of our community and valuing our interdependence with each other helps us overcome the cultural shocks that we face.

Ruth's analogy of making a village was very good. She compared our feelings of loneliness to a teaspoon of salt. The feeling of loneliness is badly felt like the unpleasant taste of a teaspoon of salt in a glass of water if we keep it to ourselves, but if we go out, network and meet with others, we form a new village just like a teaspoon of salt thrown into a river, the more we associate with each other, the less pain we feel.

The second speaker was Matilde Tayawa. Matilde shared her own personal experience of settling here in NZ. She agreed to what had been shared by the Ruth De Souza and she shared her determination to succeed to settling here in NZ. Her involvement with different community activities coupled with her past experience gave her an anchor to land a good position of employment. She shared to us the poem entitled "DON'T QUIT"



Meriam Findlay

Visit from Massey University English Language Students

Lower Intermediate English language students from Hern Teo-Sherrell's class at PaCE, Massey University, Hokowhitu, visited the Manawatu Multicultural Centre on Thursday afternoon, the 25th August.

After being warmly welcomed to the Centre by an enthusiastic Noorangi and then a round of introductions by Angela (teacher) and her students, everyone including Angela paired themselves off and engaged in conversation on topics ranging from their worst mistake to the most enjoyable holiday they had ever had.

Students from Hern's class comprised mostly of international students aiming to further their studies at the university. Others were either on a short English course, or were spouses of students already pursuing academic study.

Everybody was so engrossed in talking and sharing their stories that it was difficult to end the session.

Hern and her students would like to thank the Manawatu Multicultural Centre for the opportunity to visit the centre, and to extend their invitation to Angela and her students to join them again in conversation at PaCE.



Written by Hern Teo-Sherrell

THE INNER CIRCLE

Palmerston North City Library – 25th of November 2011 at 6pm – Sound & Vision



The Inner Circle is a 1991 drama film by Russian director Andrei Konchalovsky, telling the story of Joseph Stalin's private projectionist and KGB officer Ivan Sanchin. Sanchin is played by **Tom Hulce**, and the film co-stars **Lolita Davidovitch** (his wife Anastasia) and **Bob Hoskins** (Lavrentiy Beria). The film is based on a true story and is an American, Italian and Russian production.

It is in English and has a running time of 137 minutes.

Not recommended for children



proudly presented by the
Central Districts Indian Association Inc.

DIVALI 2011

festival of lights

*Great
Indian
song &
dance*

*Authentic
Indian
meal
included*

*One
great
night
out!*



Queen Elizabeth College Hall
Rangitikei Street
Palmerston North

SATURDAY
22nd OCTOBER 2011
7.00PM

Admission by ticket only

TICKETS

\$10.00 per Adult

\$5.00 per Child
(Primary to Secondary School)

FREE

for Children Under 5,
CDIA Members
& Event Performers

FOR TICKETS & ENQUIRIES CONTACT
PAUL PATEL - 356 4478 / 027 444 6967
ANITA NARAN - 359 2560 / 027 550 3025

Manawatu Multicultural Centre

- Practice your English
- Make new friends
- Share information
- Learn about New Zealand and other cultures
- Use your interpersonal skills
-

Opening Hours:

Monday-Friday 10am-4pm

Advanced English Group

Monday to Thursday 1- 3pm

Beginners Group

Tuesday & Friday 10.00am - 12.00pm

Former Refugees Literacy Class

Monday ,Wednesday and Thursday 10.00am –12pm

Art & Craft Group

Friday 1-3pm

Centre shared lunch:

Friday 12-1pm

Ethnic Women 's Group

1st Wednesday of the Month from 1-3pm

Newcomers Coffee Morning

3rd Wednesday of the Month 10-12noon

Newcomers Potluck Dinner

Last Friday of the Month from 6pm