



Hello from BRMC

AT THE BALLARAT WELCOME CENTRE

Welcome Centre update

A big thank you to all who assisted at our previous working bees in March and April. Its exciting to see what we've accomplished as we work towards our vision for the Ballarat Welcome Centre.



Ballarat Welcome Centre Working Bees

We are not holding a working bee in May but contact us if you would like to help with gardening or cleaning tasks. The next working community working bees will be held on Saturday 6th June 10am-2pm and Wednesday 26 July 10am - 2pm

Contacting BRMC

BRMC Phone (03) 5383 0613. Feel free to contact us for inquiries. We are no longer contactable on our old number

Website

Our website is up but we are in the process of updating it. You can visit our website by following this link:

[BRMC's website](#)

Alternatively, we are contactable by **email** on info@brmc.org.au or through our **Facebook page**: [BRMC's Facebook](#)



The Calendar for 2017 May and June

Here are key BRMC dates for May and June for your diary. Full year City of Ballarat Multicultural Calendar is also available from the MIP Desk at the Ballarat Library and From our BRMC office

May

- **Social Hub:** Thank to all who came and enjoyed May Multicultural Tucker and Social Hub

->For the remainder of 2017 Multicultural Tucker will be held at the Mount Xavier Golf & Bowls Club, 118 Fortune Street, Ballarat East. We can only cater for the number of people who book. Please ring 5383 0613 to ensure your place.

Seniors Social Hub will be held at the Ballarat Welcome Centre, 145 Victoria Street, Ballarat East<-

- **Walk On Country:** Ballarat Interfaith Network and Wadawurrung was held on Saturday 6th May - Lal Lal Falls.
- **Mosque Open Day:** Sunday 7th May - 116 Elsworth Street attracted many Ballarat community members.
- **Mental Health First Aid Training for Migrants:** Friday 12th/Saturday 13th May, 9 am - 4.30 pm at Ballarat Community Health, 260 Vickers Street Sebastopol. Contact Nihar Bhosale 0405 264 846
- **Social Hub:** Tuesday 16th May - 145 Victoria Stret - BRMC
- **Ballarat Interfaith Network Movie Screening:** -(Of Gods and Men)- Saturday 20th, May 1.30pm. Venue: St Paul's Anglican Church, Humffray Street South. Contact Constantine: 0455 371 379
- **Social Hub:** Tuesday 30 May - 145 Victoria Street - BRMC
- **Bus Trip to Mount Macedon:** Wednesday 31st May *This bus trip is fully*

booked

- **Africana at Ballarat City Football Club:** 28 May

June

- * *Working Bee Saturday 6th June 10am -230pm at 145 Victoria Street*
- **Social Hub:** Tuesday 6th June
- **BRMC General Meeting 6pm and Member President's Dinner 730pm**
Tuesday 6th June - 145 Victoria Street - BRMC
- **Multicultural Tucker:** Wednesday 14th June
Mt Xaver Golf and Bowls Club
- **Migrant Morning Tea:** Saturday 17th June
Ballarat Library 10am - 12
- **Social Hub:** Tuesday 20th June
- **SHARE Forum Networking and Professional Development:** Thursday 22nd June
- **National Refugee Week:** 18th - 24th June
- **House of Welcome Asylum Seeker Fundraiser:** Keep this date free on your calendar: Wed June 21st 12:30 pm. Soup and Sandwich Luncheon @ Nazareth House Hall. Entry \$20.00 For Inquiries contact Carmel 0401175045
annekav123@yahoo.co.uk



It's Volunteers Week. Our Volunteers are an important part of BRMC & play a vital role as they assist across a wide range of areas. From admin to special events to home visiting, Executive Committee & much else, you'll find a BRMC Volunteer giving their time to our community. We've put some thought into how we can show our appreciation as well as raise awareness of their role in our organisation.

Starting in the next Newsletter, we will have a Feature Volunteer of the Month.

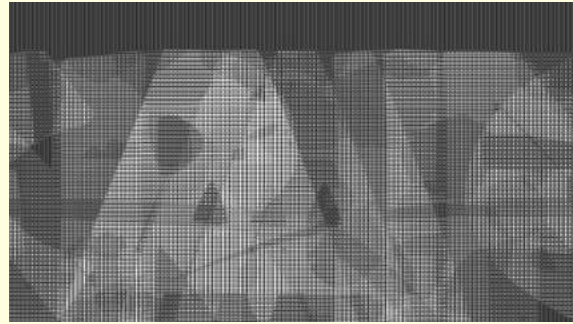
You'll get an insight into who volunteers are, why they decided to donate their time and just what they do to contribute to BRMC's objectives.

SAVE THE DATE!

Date: 28 May 17

Around 10% of Ballarat City Football Club's players are of diverse cultural heritage from Benin, Burundi, Ghana, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania &

Togo. Join us to celebrate around United Nations Africa Day with Pan African Cuisine, West African Music & 'come & try' the WORLD game, FOOTBALL. Final Program to be confirmed!





National Refugee Week:

National Refugee Week is taking place over Sunday June 18 to Saturday June 24 with plenty of activities and celebrations set for Ballarat.

To help get the celebrations started a free Migrant Morning Tea will take place on Saturday June 17 from 10 am to 12

noon at the Ballarat Library. All are welcome.

On Monday June 19 it's time to pull on your walking shoes, wear the colour purple, and join the Grandmothers Against Detention of Refugee Children for A Winter's Walk.

The walk will start at 10am at McDonalds in the Mall and will finish at the Flag Raising Ceremony at Ballarat Town Hall at 11am in Queen Victoria Square.

Both the Winter's Walk and the Flag Raising Ceremony are free to attend and all are welcome.

A luncheon, the Ubuntu breakfast, a Q&A with Ballarat Rural Australians for Refugees, films at MADE Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka and an Ecumenical service with interfaith prayers at the Cathedral Church of Christ the King are among the planned events. More information will be available via the BRMC website.

What's happening in Ballarat is just part of the celebrations taking place right across the country. National Refugee Week is an annual week-long celebration of the positive contributions of refugees to Australian society.

The Refugee Council of Australia has selected "With courage let us all combine" as the theme for Refugee Week in Australia for 2015 to 2017.

Taken from the second verse of the national anthem, the theme celebrates the courage of refugees and of people who speak out against persecution and injustice.

It serves as a call for unity and for positive action, encouraging Australians to improve our nation's welcome for refugees and to acknowledge the skills and energy refugees bring to their new home.



Senior Services - TELELINK

Telelink is a great way for seniors to receive social interaction from the comfort of their own home.

Groups are formed depending on the clients' interests or cultural background.

Telelink is a free service for socially or geographically isolated senior citizens.

If you would like more information or know someone who might benefit from this program, please contact:

Teresa Azzopardi

Senior Support Services

0417 109 052/03 5383 0613

teresa@brmc.org.au

Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri: 9am to 5pm



Victorian Multicultural Commission

Expressions of interest now open - Regional Advisory Councils

The Victorian Multicultural Commission seeks new voices representative of multicultural communities across the state. The Commission is seeking a balance of representatives from communities, service providers, business and local governments to become members of the Regional Advisory Councils in each of the following eight regions in Victoria:

Metropolitan regions

North and West Metropolitan, Eastern Metropolitan and Southern Metropolitan

Rural regions

Barwon South West, Grampians, Loddon Mallee, Hume and Gippsland

Regional Advisory Councils are integral to how we, as an independent Commission, continue to act as a primary conduit to government with, for, and on behalf of our multicultural communities across Victoria. Members are not only strong advocates for their communities, but can directly inform the Commission on matters of multicultural affairs, settlement, service delivery and citizenship issues, and assist in promoting the benefits of diversity in their local areas.

The Victorian Multicultural Commission strongly encourages people from culturally, linguistically and religiously diverse backgrounds including refugees and asylum seekers, and people over the age of 16 to apply.

The term of appointment is for a period of two years, 1 July 2017 – 30 June 2019.

Interested applicants can find more information and application details at:

www.multicultural.vic.gov.au/regional-advisory-councils/about-rac. For assistance please call (03) 7017 8147 or email rac@vmc.vic.gov.au.

Expressions of Interest close Friday 19 May 2017.

**Kind regards,
from BRMC at the Ballarat Welcome Centre**

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