



BRMC Inc.

Your Newsletter

**Vol. 3
15th June 2010**

*W*elcome to your community notice board!

This BRMC newsletter provides a forum for you to access information, to share ideas and to add to your enjoyment of life in Ballarat. All BRMC members are welcome to participate by sharing thoughts, feelings, inspiration, motivation and enthusiasm.



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Chair's Report-Talia Barrett

Community Consultations

The months of April and May have been busy setting up meeting times with various cultural groups. The purpose of the meetings is to discuss how members see the future of BRMC and its continuing role for cultural groups and the wider community. Some discussion has also been had on how the General Meetings should be conducted and I am happy to say that we will change the meetings to become less formal and allow for more socialising! Also, we'll be asking cultural group members to give reports on their activities at each meeting. I will give a full report on the Community Consultations at the August General Meeting, and in this newsletter, once they are complete.

Changes to Settlement Delivery in Ballarat

Many of you will have heard that BRMC is no longer delivering settlement services in Ballarat. This is because, for the first time, in 2009, Ballarat Community Health Centre (BCHC) and Child & Family Services (CAFS) put in a joint submission to the government to run settlement. Our own submission was also submitted in August last year and we were competing against these much larger service providers. However, I think this is a wonderful outcome for our migrant communities as they now have direct access to support from well resourced service providers, who have large networks and a range of professional staff. It is essential that we work in partnership with BCHC and CAFS to make sure BRMC refers clients to them and they refer to clients to our services. We look forward to a productive relationship!

BRMC Constitution Review

BRMC's Constitution is due for its 2 year review. Already, we have sought advice from Heinz & Partners, a local legal firm, on what our constitution should legally contain. We now need to form a subcommittee to discuss what changes could be made to update our constitution and make sure it reflects where BRMC is now.

We would like to welcome **three** (3) BRMC members to join our subcommittee. If you are interested in having input into this constitution review, please contact me on: 5327 9868, or email: chair@brmc.org.au by 5pm on Friday July 2nd.

2010 General Meeting Dates

All general meetings are on the **fourth Tuesday** of every **second month** and begin at **7:30pm**.

The next meeting is on the **22nd June**,

Then **31st August**

Then BRMC AGM in October, date to be announced...

Updating Members' Details

Are your contact details up to date at BRMC? Are you receiving all information from BRMC?

If not, please either email reception@brmc.org.au or call 5332 5941 to update your contact details.

Reports on Recent Events

Schools Community Awareness Program

By Aileen Alder , BRMC Administration

Aim: To provide multicultural information to Primary school aged Children.

On Thursday 3rd June 2010, BRMC was represented at Emmaus Catholic Primary School by four very worthy ambassadors. They were Ugo Lolacono from Italy, Zivayi (Mr Zii) from Africa, Pooja Shah from India and Yen the Chinese teacher through Mt Clear.

All four participants did a presentation to 4 groups of eight children in the Grade 2/3 area. The presentations ranged from Chinese crafts, to a power point presentation on the great buildings of India, an oral presentation about Italy and an oral/and dance session from Africa.

The children were extremely excited to travel to all these different countries, and the presenters did not disappoint. It was wonderful to hear the laughter of the children enjoying the young and the 'not so young' participants talk about their cultures and

how they have adjusted to life in Australia. At the end of the program, the children all came together for a dance with Zii singing hip hop.

We forget how important it is to introduce our younger children to cultural differences within their community. With the use of dance, music, food and stories we can break through any barriers before they have been erected in their young minds. It was pretty amazing to see how well the children interacted and asked questions of the BRMC participants.

BRMC is in the position to pioneer this type of program for the wider school community. I hope in the future that this idea will become a permanent program through BRMC.



**Mr Zii showing where his home country is on the map
to Emmaus Primary School students**

Multicultural win for *Australia's Got Talent*

If you had been watching the series, *Australia's Got Talent*, you would have seen a wonderful coup for cultural diversity and harmony at work on Tuesday June 15th in the form of the outstanding winner for 2010, 'Justice Crew'. It was amazing to see this large group of young guys, originating from Sydney, but clearly from diverse cultural backgrounds, performing as a team with such synchronicity and with incredible abilities and with obvious support for each other. When they are not performing as a group, they are running free dance classes for young people, who cannot not afford classes and to help young people fulfil their dreams.

Keep an eye out for these talented youth, who embody different cultures working together with a common passion: dance!



The Geography of Thought

By Masako Kennedy, Publicity Officer

Late autumn, is one of the great times of the year when one really appreciates living in this city, Ballarat. Vividly coloured leaves, some still clinging to their branches, others fluttering in the wind, to then fall to the ground, laying a brilliant carpet on which to walk, as one breathes in the crisp air of early winter... how I enjoy this! There is a recommended walking path along Russell Street, on the edge of Victoria Park in Newington (on the way to the Arch of Victory, if you are coming from the city-centre of Ballarat / opposite Loreto College on Sturt Street).

Today I would like to share my 'autumn- reading' with you: *The Geography of Thought – How Asians and Westerners Think Differently and Why*, by Richard E. Nisbett. This book provided me with a new term for my collection of English vocabulary: *cultural psychology*.

The book starts with these sentences: "A few years back, a brilliant student from China began to work with me on questions of social psychology and reasoning. One day, early in our acquaintance, he said, '*You know, the difference between you and me is that I think the world is a circle, and you think it's a line*'".

Does cultural background influence one's thinking? Australia is a multicultural country, so how does the average Australian think? I am very curious.

I hope that members of BRMC will like this quote from the same book:

"A good cook blends the flavours and creates something harmonious and delicious. No flavour is completely submerged, and the savoury taste is due to the blended but distinctive contributions of each flavour" (p.7).

Reference:

Nisbett, R. E. *The Geography of Thought: Why We Think the Way We Do*. (in press). New York: The Free Press.

Coming Events

Arts

University of Ballarat Arts Academy presents: The Bacchae

The University of Ballarat Arts Academy graduating actors present The Bacchae, a story of violence and ecstasy in which an angry young god returns to Greece to seek vengeance for his mortal family's vilification of his mother. In wreaking vengeance the new god enamours his followers with a life of luxury while dispatching a terrible vengeance on those who refuse to recognise his status or follow his ways. Students deliver this ageless classic Greek tragedy with great passion and commitment. The production features violence and rock and roll and will keep you on the edge of your seat from start to finish.

Thursday 10 June 2010 - Sunday 20 June 2010

Dan Kelly: The one man group show @Space 22

Dan Kelly completed a Bachelor of Visual Art with Honours. Although primarily a painter, he also incorporates found objects, collage and other non- traditional materials, drawing them together with paint. The materials used during the act of making inform the direction of the work. For Dan it is a case of '...just working on it, embracing chance accidents.'. His pieces are often humourous and bold, with references to nonsense and comic art.

Thursday 10 June 2010 - Sunday 27 June 2010

Ballarat Chinese Community Association

BUS TRIP

巴士旅行

Our bus trip to Warrnambool to see the WHALES will be on August 29th. Cost per person will be \$25 and this includes a 3 course meal and must be paid on booking. As we expect many to come, NO PAYMENT means there will no seat booked, and do not expect to just come along and to be able to get a seat.

我们定于 8 月 29 日去 Warrnambool 看鲸鱼。费用是每人\$25，这包括三道菜的午饭。费用必须在预定座位的时候交纳。因为我们预计会有很多人参加，不交费就不能预定座位。请不要寄希望于在出发当日加入旅行就肯定能有座位。

BOOKINGS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN. Contact any Committee person

The departure time will 8am and will return at 4pm

预定现在就已经开始了。可以与任何一位理事会成员联系预定。我们将于早上 8 点出发，晚上 4 点回来。

STICKY RICE DINNER

端午节晚宴

This year we will be going to TOKYO GRILL HOUSE RESTAURANT in STURT STREET next door to the Golden City Hotel. To be a little different from other years we will hold this night as a Smorgasbord dinner with a variety of JAPANESE and CHINESE. The cost will be \$30 per person and will be held on JUNE 21st at 6.30pm.

今年我们要在 Sturt Streets 上位于 Golden City Hotel 旁边的 Tokyo Grill House Restaurant 举行端午节晚宴。与往年不同的是今年的晚宴将会以自助餐的形式举行。饭店将会提供各种美味的日本餐和中餐。费用是每人\$30。时间是 6 月 21 日晚上 6 点 30 分。

BOOKINGS CAN BE MADE WITH ANY COMMITTEE PERSON

请与任何一位理事会成员联系预定。

Notice Board

Ballarat African Association “Hakuna Matata” (No worries!) Project

This year the Ballarat African Association, which consists of members from several African countries, including Zimbabwe, Togo, Sudan, Sierra Leone and Ghana, were successful in obtaining an Australia Council grant to further the cultural understanding and skills of the young people of the community.



Youth Officer Dollard Akpabli from Togo (black T-shirt on left) and other BAA members go through their moves. Photo: Anne Harkin

So far they have been working on traditional African dance with Congolese artist Passi Jo and Senegalese artist Seydou Sow. They have two more workshops with Seydou lined up before moving on to drumming workshops with King Marong. The third component will be contemporary dance.



Like Chinese Lion Dance? Want to learn?

The Chinese Australian Cultural Society Ballarat are looking for people to join their lion dancing team. If you are interested in learning about Chinese culture and tradition whilst taking part in a fun activity based on ancient Kung Fu skills then come along to training on Saturday afternoons. Training is provided free of charge. 每周六下午 2 点到 4 点我们在位于 English Street 的多元文化中心进行训练。培训是免费的，但是学员需要代表社团参加表演。我们仍然在招募对锣鼓和舞狮感兴趣的新人。

Michelle Philips: 0421 608 783 winridge@activ8.net.au or Charles Zhang: 0422 343 357

CHINESE Language Class

中文课

The time dates and fees listed below for term SATURDAY JULY 17TH TO SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH

以下是从 7 月 17 日星期六到 9 月 18 日星期六的课程时间表和费用

- Kids Chinese class (11-12 week term) \$70 per term

孩子的中文课（11—12 周/学期）每学期\$70

- LEVEL ONE 2pm to 4pm

一级下午 2 点到 4 点

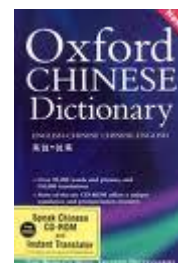
- LEVEL FIVE 4pm to 6pm

五级下午 4 点到 6 点

- BEGINNERS CLASS (aged 4 to 8)

初学者课堂（4 到 8 岁）

Class will start 4pm finish 5pm (approx)



课程在下午 4 点开始，大概在 5 点结束

COST \$50 per term or \$5 per class

每学期\$50 或者每次课\$5.

CHINESE CULTURAL CLASS

中国文化课

This class will include Paper Cutting, Calligraphy etc. Time to be announced

课程包括剪纸，书法等。时间待定。

COST \$10 per 2 hour class

每次课 2 小时，费用是\$10.

Useful Information

International Student Care Service

The International Student Care Service (ISCS) provides friendly and professional advice, information, support and referral to local services and community resources:

- Crisis intervention and support in emergency situations
- Information about accommodation and housing providers
- Legal issues
- Health issues
- Social isolation
- Advocacy to colleges and training providers

Contact details

Free call 1800 056 449. Interpreters are available on request. **email** info@iscs.vic.gov.au

19-21 Argyle Place South Carlton, Victoria 3053 **Online:** multicultural.vic.gov.au/iscs



Calendar of Cultural and Religious Dates (June and July)

<http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/a-diverse-australia/calendar-australia/>

June

June	1 Tue	Independence Day	Samoa
June	2 Wed	Foundation of the Republic	Italy
June	6 Sun	National Day	Sweden
June	10 Thu	Portugal Day, Camões Day and Day of Portuguese Communities	Portugal
June	11 Fri	National Celtic Festival, Portarlinton, Vic. (to 14 June) ± This festival celebrates Celtic music and culture with national and international acts. Each of the Celtic lands is represented – Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Brittany, Cornwall and the Isle of Man.	Festival
June	12 Sat	Independence Day	Philippines
June	12 Sat	National Day Queen's Birthday (except WA) ±	Russian Federation
June	14 Mon	Celebrating the King or Queen of Australia's birthday with a public holiday in Australia dates back to 1788, when Governor Phillip declared a public holiday. Order of Australia award recipients are announced on Australia Day and the Queen's Birthday.	Australia
June	16 Wed	Martyrdom (Shahidi) of Guru Arjan Sahib ± On this day Sikhs remember the martyrdom of Guru Arjan Sahib, 5th Guru, and all those who have suffered for the faith. The day is observed by reading the holy books, Guru Granth Sahib.	Sikh
June	17 Thu	National Day	Iceland

June	18 Fri	National Day	Seychelles
June	19 Sat	Winter Magic Festival, Katoomba NSW ± Musicians and magicians, jugglers and gymnasts, choirs, clowns and community take over the main street of Katoomba in the Blue Mountains.	Festival
June	20 Sun	Refugee Week (to 26 June) ± Refugee Week encourages understanding and acceptance between communities, enabling refugees to live in safety and to continue making a valuable contribution to Australia.	Australia
June	20 Sun	World Refugee Day ± Since early 1945, seven million people have come to Australia as new settlers, including more than 700 000 people under humanitarian programs, initially as displaced persons and more recently as refugees.	United Nations
June	23 Wed	National Day and Official Birthday of HRH the Grand Duke	Luxembourg
June	25 Fri	National Day	Croatia
June	25 Fri	Independence Day	Mozambique
June	25 Fri	National Day	Slovenia
June	26 Sat	National Day	Madagascar
June	27 Sun	Independence Day	Djibouti
June	30 Wed	Independence Day	Congo, Democratic Republic of

July

July	1 Thu	National Day	Burundi
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July	1 Thu	Canada Day	Canada
July	3 Sat	National Day	Belarus
		Paniyiri Greek Festival ±	
July	4 Sun	Paniyiri is Brisbane's well known celebration of Greek culture and Festival heritage, held annually at Musgrave Park. Visitors enjoy delicacies from the different islands and regions of Greece, together with music and dance.	
July	4 Sun	Tartan Day ± Tartan Day is a celebration of Scottish heritage that commemorates the 1782 repeal of an English law that had banned the wearing of tartan.	Festival
July	4 Sun	Independence Day	United States of America
July	4 Sun	NAIDOC Week (to 11 July) ± NAIDOC is a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the contributions of Indigenous Australians in various fields.	Australia
July	5 Mon	National Day	Cape Verde
July	5 Mon	Liberation Day	Rwanda
July	5 Mon	National Day	Venezuela
July	6 Tue	National Day	Comoros
July	6 Tue	National Day	Malawi
July	7 Wed	National Day	Solomon Islands
		Martyrdom of the Báb ±	
July	9 Fri	The Báb was executed in 1850. He was a prophet and forerunner of the Baha'i faith. Work is suspended on this day.	Baha'i

July	10 Sat	Independence Day	Bahamas
July	11 Sun	Anniversary of Mongolian People's Revolution	Mongolia
July	12 Mon	National Day	Kiribati
July	12 Mon	National Day	São Tomé and Príncipe
July	13 Tue	National Day	Montenegro
July	13 Tue	Ulambana (Obon) ± Festival of the Hungry Ghosts (Mahayana tradition). On this day Buddhists visit cemeteries to make offerings to departed ancestors. Obon celebrates the reunion of family ancestors with the living.	Buddhist
July	14 Wed	Bastille Day	France
July	19 Mon	New Year's Eve ± The Mandaean are an ancient religious community from southern Iraq and Iran.	Mandaeen
July	19 Mon	Tisha B'Av ± On this day Jewish people commemorate a list of catastrophes which have befallen the Jewish people since ancient times. It is a day of fasting.	Jewish
July	20 Tue	New Year's Day ± The Mandaean are an ancient religious community from southern Iraq and Iran.	Mandaeen
July	20 Tue	National Day	Colombia
July	21 Wed	Accession of King Leopold I (1831)	Belgium
July	23 Fri	Anniversary of Revolution of 23 July	Egypt

July	26 Mon	National Day	Liberia
July	26 Mon	National Day	Maldives
July	26 Mon	Asalha Puja (Dhamma) Day ± This Theravadin Buddhist date commemorates the first sermon delivered by the Buddha after his enlightenment.	Buddhist
July	28 Wed	Independence Day	Peru
July	30 Fri	Throne Day	Morocco
July	30 Fri	Independence Day	Vanuatu
July	31 Sat	Brisbane Valley Multicultural Festival, Esk ± This festival features arts, crafts, food and a variety of events including medieval re-enactments, concerts and dancing.	Festival



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Please note that the BRMC does not endorse any goods or service in this newsletter. Details are correct on date of publication. The newsletter is intended for members of BRMC and is purely acting to disseminate information for the use of these members. Articles posted in this newsletter do not reflect the beliefs of the BRMC or staff.

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