



Ballarat Welcome Centre

BRMC wishes all a safe and happy break over the Christmas and New Year period.

The BRMC Office will close on 14 December and re-open to public on 2 February 2019 at 25-39 Barkly St, Bakery Hill.

Staff are contactable by phone on 03 5383 0613 and email between 18 - 21 December and 5 January - 2 February.

Join us for Morning Tea on 5 February at the new Ballarat Welcome Centre.
Pencil in the Twilight Market on 15 February, which will be our first public event at the new place.

Forthcoming Events

- **3 Dec to 19 Dec** - Art Bikes Ballarat Workshop
- **5 & 12 Dec** - Migrant Swimming Sessions
- **13 Dec** - Convent Farewell Garden Party
- **14 Dec** - BRMC Office closure at 145 Victoria St
- **16 Dec** - The Ballarat & District Irish Association Christmas Party
- **17 & 18 Dec** - BRMC Office and Ballarat Welcome Centre relocation to Barkly Square
- **21 Dec** - BRMC Staff finish for Christmas break



2019

- **2 Feb** - Ballarat Welcome Centre and BRMC Office open
- **5 Feb** - Morning Tea at the Ballarat Welcome Centre
- **9 Feb** - Interkultura
- **15 Feb** - Twilight Market
- **15 Mar** - Twilight Market
- **16 Mar** - Intercultural Variety Concert
- **21 Mar** - Ecumenical Harmony Week Service
- **12 Apr** - Twilight Market

Opportunities & Items of Interest

- Intercultural Advisory Committee
- Good Governance
- Opening Doors Initiative
- Interpreters Training and Scholarships
- Multicultural Community Infrastructure Fund
- Ballarat's Creative City Strategy and Creative Precinct Master Plan
- VCOSS poverty report 'Every Suburb, Every Town'
- Saver Plus
- Gambler's Help
- Financial Literacy

Forthcoming Events

Art Bikes Ballarat Workshop

3 December - 19 December



Do you enjoy painting, making decorations and getting creative?
Get involved and unleash your inner artist!

BRMC will be decorating a bicycle into a beautiful and functional sculpture that will serve as a symbol for Ballarat's celebrated free-wheeling creativity and community spirit.

Art Bikes Ballarat will enliven the Ballarat CBD and surrounds in association with the 2019 FedUni National Road Championships cycling extravaganza hosted by the City of Ballarat from 4 - 8 January 2019.

The bike will also be used for various community events during 2019 including the Begonia Festival.

Venue

Heart Space, Ballarat Welcome Centre
145 Victoria St (enter via King St), Ballarat East

Workshop Dates and Times

Monday 3rd December, 5.30pm to 7pm
Wednesday 5th December, 5pm to 8pm
Monday 10th December, 5.30pm to 8.30pm
Wednesday 12th December, 5pm to 8pm
Wednesday 19th December, 3pm to 6pm

For more information contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613

Migrant Swimming Sessions

5 December & 12 December

Our aim is to teach newly arrived migrants and refugees how to swim and be safe around water. Learning to swim is an important life skill and it is never too late to learn.



Sessions are free and run 10am - 11am

Join us at the Ballarat Aquatic & Lifestyle Centre on the following dates:

5th December

12th December

For more information or to book please contact:

Deruka on 03 5383 0613 or Christine on 0459 812 854

The Ballarat & District Irish Association Christmas Party

Member Event

Sunday 16th December, 2:30pm - 5:30pm

The Ballarat & District Irish Association are pleased to invite you to their 2018 Christmas Party.

They will be gathering upstairs at Irish Murphy's, 36 Sturt Street, Ballarat
Irish Murphy's has a session of Celtic music that afternoon.

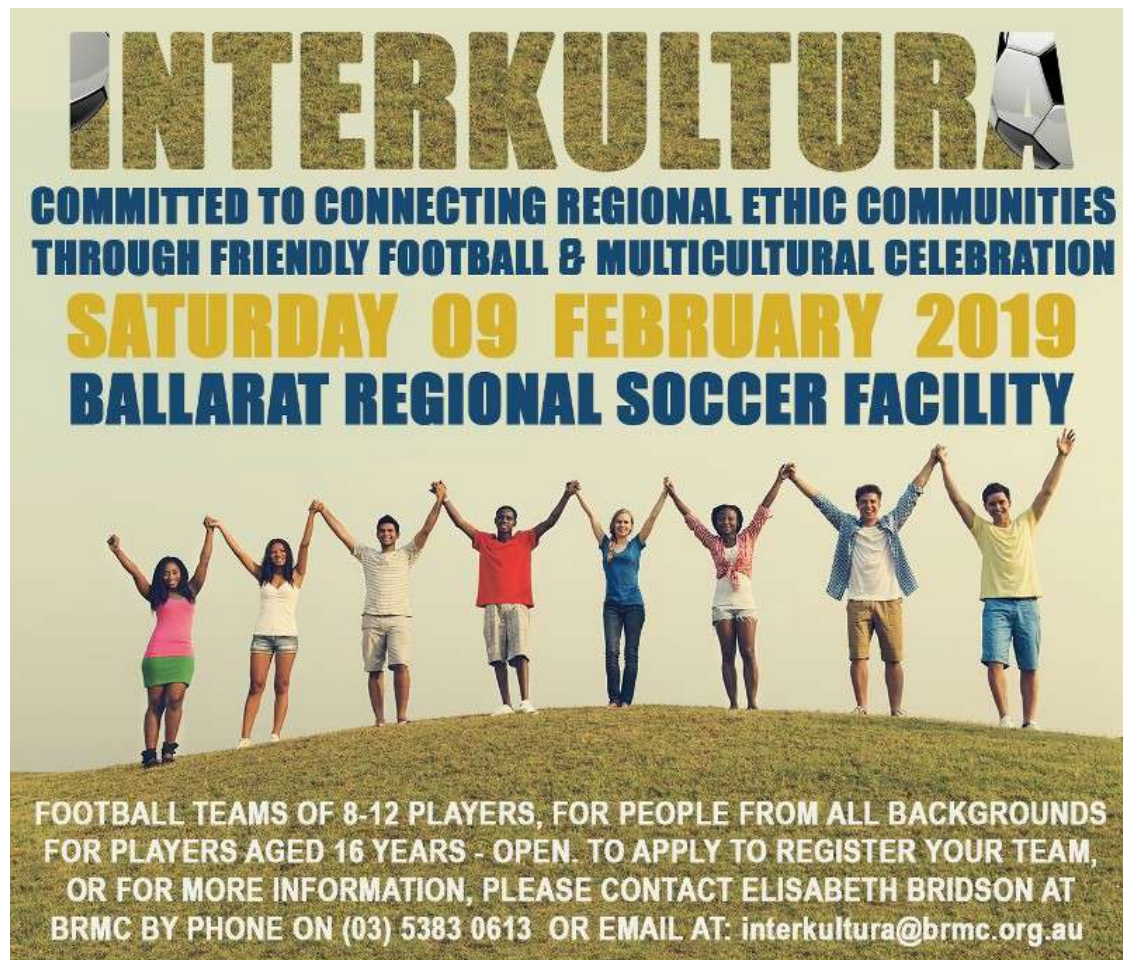


All welcome. Drinks at bar prices.

Please RSVP to assist with light catering to Phillip Moore on 0448 623 142 or phill.moore1@bigpond.com

Interkultura

Saturday 9th February 2019



INTERKULTURA

COMMITTED TO CONNECTING REGIONAL ETHNIC COMMUNITIES THROUGH FRIENDLY FOOTBALL & MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATION

SATURDAY 09 FEBRUARY 2019

BALLARAT REGIONAL SOCCER FACILITY

FOOTBALL TEAMS OF 8-12 PLAYERS, FOR PEOPLE FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS FOR PLAYERS AGED 16 YEARS - OPEN. TO APPLY TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ELISABETH BRIDSON AT BRMC BY PHONE ON (03) 5383 0613 OR EMAIL AT: interkultura@brmc.org.au



Ballarat Regional
Multicultural Council Inc.



BRMC, in partnership with Ballarat City Football Club are planning a free amateur intercultural football (soccer) tournament. Teams will be invited from western and regional Victoria for this inaugural event.

For more information please contact Elisabeth on 03 5383 0613 or interkultura@brmc.org.au

Intercultural Variety Concert

Save the Date

Saturday 16th March, 7.30pm

Fundraiser event with performances including:

Ballarat Chamber Music, Chinese Lions, Filipino dancers, Indian dancers, Highland dancing, Jazz singer, Pipe Band and more!

Ecumenical Harmony Week Service

Save the Date

Thursday 21st March, 5.30pm

Anglican Cathedral Church of Christ the King, Ballarat

Events in Review

BRMC AGM & Executive Committee Members 2018/19

Our AGM was held at the Ballarat Welcome Centre on Tuesday 20th November and the new Executive Committee Members were appointed for 2018/19.

They are;

Chair	Chez Dichiera
Deputy Chair	Isaac Moses
Secretary	Sid Tegally
Assistant Secretary	Bobby Mehta
Treasurer	Andrew Tennant
Assistant Treasurer	Alma Lapina
Public Relations Officer	Tennille McLauchlan
Youth Officer	Lamourette Folly
Interfaith Officer	Margaret Lenan-Ellis
Community Representatives	- Ugo Lo Iacono - Andrew Battistella - Carmel Kavanagh

Thank you to outgoing Executive Committee Members and we wish you well.

BRMC Volunteer 'Thank You' Luncheon

On Wednesday 22nd November we hosted a special luncheon to thank all our wonderful BRMC volunteers at the Ballarat Welcome Centre. It was a great day with delicious food and great music by The Winter Berries! We had over 50 volunteers attend the lunch.

As always, we are grateful to all our volunteers for their kindness, compassion and generosity – we could not do without your invaluable contribution.



Bangladeshi Community in Ballarat

Member Event

The Bangladeshi Community in Ballarat celebrated 2 major community events this year. First, the Bengali New Year in April 2018 and the second was Eid Reunion in August 2018. For more details on these events visit: <https://www.facebook.com/BallaratBangladeshies/>



Quick Program Updates

Settlement Services

Diversity Homework Club

Diversity Homework Club provides homework support for primary and secondary school students in a supervised venue with trained tutors.

Homework Club gets together every Wednesday at the Ballarat Library 4.00pm - 5.30pm during school terms.

If you would like to attend or enquire please contact Deruka Dekuek on 03 5383 0613 or email d.dekuek@brmc.org.au



Volunteer Tutors Needed

We need tutors for Physics, Chemistry and Biology for Homework Club.

If you are interested or know anyone that can help, please contact BRMC on 03 5383 0613.

Senior Services

Multicultural Tucker

We featured a German cuisine at our November MCT, clients enjoyed a delicious three-course German menu. In total we had over 80 Seniors attend.

Our final and very special Multicultural Tucker is only a few days away - **Wednesday 12th December** - one not to be missed!



REMINDER

Multicultural Tucker has moved to a NEW VENUE

Venue is now at the **Victoria Bowling Club** - 231 Victoria Street, Ballarat East



Multicultural Tucker - Xmas Tucker



Wednesday 12th December starting at 11.30am

Venue: Victoria Bowling Club, 123 Victoria Street, Ballarat East
(enter via the parking area at the rear, turn into Stawell Street
North from Victoria Street)

\$10 per person, bookings essential. Call Teresa on 03 5383 0613

Note: Our events in 2019 will commence with Multicultural Tucker on Wednesday 13th February 2019.

To find out more about the Tucker or if you are eligible for Senior Services, contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613.

Social Hub

At our November Social Hub, our Seniors were very busy creating decorative personalised Christmas Cards and a range of lovely little papier mache angels! We look forward to sharing lots more creativity in 2019!



Telelink - various cultural groups

This service provides vital social interaction for isolated Seniors from the comfort of their home, enabling them to connect to others by phone for a friendly conversation. We currently run a Maltese and Filipino Telelink service, and are planning to expand to other cultural groups including Hungarian.

If you know someone who might benefit from this service or you would like more information please contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613.

Intercultural Advisory Committee

Expressions of interest

Expressions of interest are sought for the 2019-2020 membership on the Intercultural Advisory Committee (IAC).

The IAC exists to provide support, and advise on key cultural and interfaith issues. The Advisory Committee in observance of good practice will reflect the following:

- To facilitate support particularly on the basis of equitable access to Council resources.
- To be a broad-based representation of community groups.
- To provide a forum to articulate issues and needs to ensure better understanding across the community and Council.
- To provide a point of contact for Council to consult and be advised by Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities.
- To build community cohesiveness, inclusivity, social inclusion and promote harmony.

Participation on the Advisory Committee is open (but not limited) to the chairperson, president or manager of local CALD Associations, groups, Committees and relevant State Govt authorities.

Members must be familiar with and adhere to the Terms of Reference of the Intercultural Advisory Committee.

Committee membership is limited, therefore in order to ensure the process is equitable, the City of Ballarat requests that you complete a short Expression of Interest which if required, the Council will use to select successful representatives. We are seeking a diverse mix of community minded people from a variety of backgrounds. Applications from members of Ballarat's cultural community are strongly encouraged.

The IAC will meet bi-monthly (6 times per year, starting in January) at the Ballarat Town Hall, and the tenure of committee membership is for the 2019-2020 calendar years.

Applications close 5pm on Friday 11th January 2019.

If you are interested in becoming a member please contact Liz Hardiman for an EOI form lizhardiman@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Good Governance

Helping community organisations be their best.

In 2019 BRMC will be the local host for the Good Governance Program.

The initiative matches trained volunteers skilled in governance with small community organisations. These volunteers act as mentors over 12 months, working with the entire

governing committee to empower the organisation.

Good Governance is hosted by community leaders such as local councils and community development organisations, and it's free for community groups to take part. Mentors work directly with your organisation, making sure you get the individualised support your organisation needs to overcome challenges and reach your goals.

Are you interested in taking part in Good Governance as a participating group or mentor?

For more information contact Hemraz at the BRMC Office on 03 5383 0613 or

GoodGov@brmc.org.au

Opening Doors Initiative

NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES - APPLY NOW!

Jesuit Social Services is pleased to advise that we are collaborating with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) on delivery of their 'Opening Doors' initiative - offering twelve month paid employment experience to people from refugee and humanitarian backgrounds with Australian citizenship.



Australian Government
Australian Taxation Office

Our Corporate Diversity Partnerships team will be accepting applications from 16 November 2018 to 20 December 2018 for roles to commence in March 2019.

Through this initiative, participants will receive:

- preparation training from Jesuit Social Services
- development and support from the Corporate Diversity Partnerships team and ATO employees
- opportunity to build professional networks
- professional experience which can be leveraged to obtain employment post placement

Opportunity details:

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) as part of their 'Opening Doors' initiative is pleased to offer roles across a number of disciplines (finance, commerce, economics, human resources, information technology, administration and customer service) for professionally qualified individuals from refugee and humanitarian entrant backgrounds seeking to establish themselves in Australia. These are paid, full-time roles in both Sydney and Melbourne with a twelve-month period of maximum duration commencing March 2019.

The following criteria need to be met to be considered for a (work experience) paid employment placement:

- Required to have and provide proof of Australian Citizenship
- Refugee and humanitarian entrant background
- Excellent written and verbal proficiency in English

Successful applicants will need to undergo a stringent probity assessment as follows:

- National Police Check
- Proof of identity documentation
- Professional qualifications (either completed or in the process of completion) in the areas of finance, accounting, commerce, economics, business and information technology are desirable, but not mandatory

Application details:

Kindly note that Corporate Diversity Partnerships is responsible for the application process, so please direct all enquiries to our friendly team at info@corporatediversity.org.au (Please refrain from contacting the ATO with any questions you may have.)

Applications will open from 5pm on Friday 16 November 2018 and will close at **5pm on Thursday 20 December 2018**. Applicants can apply for up to two roles in each location (Melbourne and Sydney).

To apply or for more information, please visit the Jesuit Social Services website: jss.org.au/what-we-do/education-training-and-employment/corporate-diversity-partnerships/

Interpreters Training and Scholarships

The Victorian Government supports training opportunities for interpreters and translators to improve the supply, quality and use of language services for Victorians.

2019 Interpreter Scholarship Program

The Victorian Government is offering scholarships to students who are accepted into the 2019 Diploma of Interpreting or Advanced Diploma of Interpreting at RMIT University to study interpreting.

The scholarship guidelines are available online: <https://multicultural.vic.gov.au/projects-and-initiatives/improving-language-services/interpreter-scholarships>

As part of the Victorian Government's Interpreter Scholarship Program, the deadline for applications submitted to RMIT University for the 2019 Diploma or Advanced Diploma of Interpreting has been extended to **Friday 14 December**.

Professional Development Program for Interpreters and Translators

The Victorian Government has engaged Monash University to deliver the 2017-2019

Professional Development Program (PDP) for Interpreters and Translators.

The PDP provides opportunities for practicing interpreters and translators to extend their skills, and meet the professional development requirements to revalidate their accreditation with the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI).

The PDP comprises short courses delivered in specialist areas such as: interpreting for health, mental health, education, family violence, and legal settings, as well as interpreter ethics and stress management.

Find more information about upcoming courses and make an application online:

artsonline.monash.edu.au/translation-interpreting/short-courses/

Multicultural Community Infrastructure Fund

Applications now open

The Victorian Government is inviting applications for its new \$9.5 million Multicultural Community Infrastructure Fund.

Culturally diverse community groups, organisations and regionally based associations are encouraged to apply for projects that build new facilities, improve or restore existing infrastructure, or increase security and improve accessibility for communities.

The new funding stream will offer large and small grants to support projects commencing in the 2018-19 financial year.

This includes an opportunity for community groups to apply for up to \$10,000 towards the purchase or upgrade of depreciating assets such as fridges and microwaves.

Find out more about the program and eligibility, or make an application at

www.multicultural.vic.gov.au/grants/apply-for-a-grant/multicultural-community-infrastructure-fund

Ballarat's Creative City Strategy and Creative Precinct Master Plan

What is Ballarat's Creative City Strategy and Creative Precinct Master Plan?

Throughout 2018, Ballarat's residents and creatives have discussed their aspirations for Ballarat's Creative City Strategy and how it will contribute to a Ballarat that is proud, bold and thriving. The draft strategy brings all this together into a long-term plan to be owned by all.



From 26 November 2018 through to 14 January 2019, the draft strategy and accompanying master plan will be available on the MySay website for review and comment at www.maysay.ballarat.vic.gov.au/creative-city

Have Your Say

All members of the community are invited to a gathering to share their thoughts about Ballarat's draft Creative City Strategy and draft Creative Precinct Master Plan - and to discuss their ideas with a range of creative industry ambassadors and each other.

Register for the public consultation event here: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ballarats-creative-city-strategy-master-plan-consultation-event-tickets-52925346135

VCOSS poverty report 'Every Suburb, Every Town'

Victorian Council of Social Service and economic modelling firm NATSEM have launched a major report and online mapping project on poverty in Victoria.

The analysis estimates there are 774,000 Victorians living in poverty (13.2%), with the poverty rate in regional Victoria (15.1%) higher than in Melbourne (12.6%).

Visit vcoss.org.au/policy/every-suburb-every-town to read the full report and view the interactive map.

Saver Plus

Saver Plus assists individuals and families on lower incomes to build assets and improve financial capability, and has supported thousands of lower income earners to develop a lasting savings habit.



Saver Plus will match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for education costs. To join Save Plus you must meet criteria.

For more information contact Sue Ogilvie on 03 5333 8602 or sue@bgt.org.au
Website: www.saverplus.org.au

Gambler's Help

If you or someone you care about is experiencing problems with gambling, help is available. All Gambler's Help services are free and confidential.

There are many ways to get support including:

- Face to face counselling - Available on a one-off or ongoing basis. Contact CAFS Ballarat on 03 5337 3333
- Financial counselling - Financial counsellors can help you address financial problems related to gambling. Contact CAFS Ballarat on 03 5337 3333
- Phone support - You can call Gambler's Help 24 hours a day, seven days a week for information, advice and counselling. Call 1800 858 858
- Online support - Email or chat live with a counsellor 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Visit gamblinghelponline.org.au
- Peer Support - Support from others who have gone through similar issues. Call 1800 858 858
- Help yourself - Self-help tools can help you build your confidence and work through your concerns in your own time, at your own pace. Visit gamblershelp.com.au

Financial Literacy

CAFS Ballarat financial counselling program offers Financial Literacy for groups. Financial literacy helps develop skills and knowledge to allow an individual to make informed and effective decisions with all of their financial resources.

If you have a group that would be interested in receiving financial literacy, please contact CAFS Financial Counselling team at CAFS on 03 5337 3333. This is a free service.



Heart Space

The Ballarat Welcome Centre drop-in centre (Heart Space) is here for everyone to enjoy.

The drop-in centre is now closed for the Christmas period and will re-open on **5th February 2019** at our new location.

Heart Space is open every Monday and Thursday from 10am to 2pm.

Ballarat Welcome Centre, 25-39 Barkly St, Bakery Hill.

Come and take a look, enjoy a free tea or coffee, internet access or simply relax and enjoy the warm and inviting atmosphere.

For more information contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613

Share Your Events in Ballarat Times News Group

Do you have any events that you would like to share in the Community Corner section of the Ballarat Times News Group paper? Community Corner is for not-for-profit and community groups.

All events must be submitted on a weekly basis for consideration.
Deadline for submissions is 11am Thursday before publication.
Email your submissions to alistair@timesnewsgroup.com.au

Reminder

It is helpful if we receive RSVP for activities and events. This helps us to deliver a quality service for all.

RSVP: 03 5383 0613 or email welcome@brmc.org.au or info@brmc.org.au



Volunteering

We often need a helping hand and every volunteer is valued. We have various positions available and everyone can find the perfect position to suit them.

Currently we are looking for **Home Visiting** volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering at BRMC, or know someone who is, please contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613 or teresa@brmc.org.au

Visit our website for more information: www.brmc.org.au/get-involved

BRMC Contact Details

Ballarat Welcome Centre

145 Victoria St, Ballarat East

Phone: 03 5383 0613

Email: info@brmc.org.au

BRMC Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/brmc.ballarat

Our new website is now live!

Visit www.brmc.org.au





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