



March 2019 Newsletter

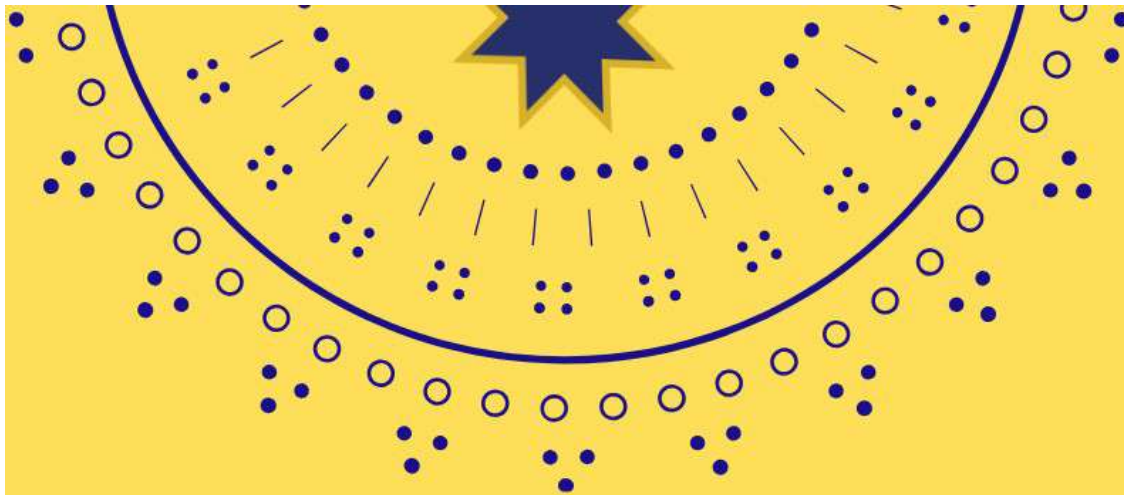
Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council

BRMC members and volunteers are preparing for an active month in March.

We are delighted to offer two cultural events in Harmony Fest courtesy of the Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts and Ballarat Welcome Centre – Intercultural Variety Concert and Twilight Market. BRMC will also be conducting a series of Anti-Racism workshops in Ballarat Schools and co-hosting the Rural and Regional Migration Forum in Horsham.

Twilight Market

Our Twilight Market on Friday 15th March is the community launch event of Harmony Fest 2019, with a Smoking Ceremony and Traditional Welcome to Country at 5pm. The market will feature multicultural stalls, entertainment, food and much more!



BALLARAT WELCOME CENTRE

TWILIGHT MARKET

5PM- 8PM | 15 MARCH

25-39 BARKLY STREET BAKERY HILL, VIC 3354

PARKING VIA 17 PRINCES STREET SOUTH BAKERY HILL, VIC 3354



Ballarat Regional
Multicultural Council Inc.



MORE INFO

(04) 59253060

03 53830613

events@brmc.org.au

Intercultural Variety Concert

Don't miss the Intercultural Variety Concert on Saturday 16th March at the Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts. Many of Ballarat's finest performers have donated their time for this worthy cause. Join this wonderful celebration of Ballarat's cultural diversity and intercultural harmony through music. The Hon Catherine King MP, Federal Member for Ballarat, will open the concert.

Buy Tickets

A limited number of complimentary tickets are available to the concert for members on low incomes. Contact our office on 03 5383 0613 if you are interested in a complimentary ticket.

This event is a Community Fundraiser for the Ballarat Welcome Centre. Any proceeds from the concert will contribute to raising funds for a grand piano for the Centre. This will enable a much needed small venue for intercultural and chamber music events in the future.

You can be part of this effort by purchasing a piano key for \$250 or team up with a group of people to purchase a piano key. A pianometer will measure donations made.

Ballarat Welcome Centre Fundraising Pledges

The Ballarat Italian Association has strongly supported this fundraising initiative by purchasing Middle C at the value of \$1,000.

Keys have also been purchased by:

Bernie Capicchiano

Ann Foley and David Eldridge

Forthcoming Events

- **8 Mar** - Dark Side of the Rainbow Workshop
- **9 to 11 Mar** - Ballarat Begonia Festival
- **12 & 13 Mar** - Rural and Regional Migration Forum in Horsham
- **15 to 24 Mar** - Ballarat Harmony Fest
- **15 Mar** - Twilight Market at Ballarat Welcome Centre
- **15 Mar** - La Nostra Storia Melbourne Launch
- **15 Mar** - St Patrick's Celebratory Dinner
- **16 to 24 Mar** - Cultural Diversity Week
- **16 Mar** - BRMC Intercultural Variety Concert
- **17 Mar** - Indonesia, Thailand and Philippines Cultural Day
- **21 Mar** - Harmony Day Celebration in Horsham
- **21 Mar** - Ecumenical Harmony Week Service
- **22 Mar** - Interfaith Meet and Greet
- **22 Mar** - Intercultural City Gala Dinner
- **24 Mar** - ROCK the BLOCK 2019
- **28 Mar** - Language Cafe - March 2019
- **12 Apr** - Twilight Market at Ballarat Welcome Centre

Quick Program Updates

- Migration and Settlement Services
- Migrant English Program
- Senior Services

Opportunities & Items of Interest

- English Classes
 - Victorian Community Care Education and Training Service Webinar
 - Multicultural Community Infrastructure Fund
 - The Big Issue Community Street Soccer Program
 - Saver Plus
 - Financial Literacy
-

Forthcoming Events

Dark Side of the Rainbow

Friday 8th March 2019, 9am - 4pm

Professional Development Day hosted by Ballarat & Grampians Community Legal Service.

For more information and to buy tickets visit myothercloset2019.weebly.com

DARK SIDE OF THE RAINBOW

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Understanding the LGBTI+ Community and Family Violence

Friday March 8, 2019

9am - 4pm

The training incorporates a performance of the emotional and acclaimed show
My Other Closet, The Cabaret

Event information can be found at:

<https://myothercloset2019.weebly.com/>

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



Ballarat Begonia Festival

9th - 11th March 2019

Join BRMC in the 2019 Begonia Festival Parade

Date: Monday 11th March 2019

Assemble: 9am for rehearsal and judging

Parade Time: 11am – 12pm

Location: Lake Wendouree (South Gardens to North Gardens)



FASCOBI will be joining BRMC again this year and are inviting participants from BRMC to join their choreography. They are holding their final dance practice on Friday 8th March, 6.30pm at The Salvation Army, 104 Greenhalghs Rd, Delacombe

If joining the FASCOBI team you are required to attend their dance practice and wear black clothing (top and pants or jumpsuit) for the parade. Otherwise, follow your cultural dress code if you are in your own association group or wear bright clothing. Flags are welcomed.

If you are part of a community group that is interesting in joining BRMC in the parade please contact Deruka Dekuek on [03 5383 0613](tel:0353830613) or d.dekuek@brmc.org.au

Ballarat Region Indonesian Community

The Ballarat Region Indonesian Community is participating in the Begonia Parade. They will be wearing their traditional Indonesian costumes and are involving students from Damascus College. They will also have Gamelan music from Melbourne.



Rural and Regional Migration Forum

12th & 13th March 2019

The Rural and Regional Migration Forum will explore how migration can support local employers to fill labour gaps and grow their businesses whilst contributing to the long-term sustainability of rural and regional communities.



RURAL AND REGIONAL MIGRATION FORUM

Helping fill labour gaps across the Wimmera

HORSHAM TOWN HALL
71 PYNSENT STREET

RECEPTION
12 March 2019
5:30 - 7:00 pm

FORUM
13 March 2019
9:00 - 3:30 pm

Doors open at 8:30 on 13/3 for 9:00 start

Registration essential by 6 March at <https://bit.ly/2MRYjTh>



Ballarat Regional
Multicultural Council Inc.



Settlement
Services



Cultural Diversity Week

16 - 24 March 2019



This year's theme: Proud to belong - Your Generation Your Stories

Cultural Diversity Week is Victoria's largest multicultural celebration, featuring an exciting program of festivals and events across metropolitan and regional areas.

It is a fantastic way to celebrate the everyday diversity of Victorians and reflect on what gives us all a sense of belonging in our multicultural community.

To find out more visit culturaldiversityweek.vic.gov.au

Ballarat Harmony Fest

15 to 24 March 2019



10 Days of fun, flavour, music and special events.

Harmony Fest includes a number of wonderful, colourful, cultural community events that are happening in and around Ballarat during Cultural Diversity Week.

View and download the program: www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/lae/events/harmonyfest

La Nostra Storia Melbourne Launch

Member Event

Friday 15th March 2019, 6.30pm

The Ballarat Italian Association is partnering with CO.AS.IT to host a second book launch for 'La Nostra Storia' at the Museo Italiano, 189 Faraday Street in Carlton.

A BIA bus will leave the Masters Car Park on Learmonth Rd, Wendouree at 2.00pm and return around 10.00pm after the launch. To book a seat on the bus please contact Evie on 0438 290 751 or email cedichiera@bigpond.com. Bookings by 12th March.



St Patrick's Celebratory Dinner

Member Event

Friday 15th March 2019, 6.30pm for 7pm Start

The Ballarat & District Irish Association are pleased to invite you to their St Patrick's Celebratory Dinner.

Guest Speakers:

- Dr. Peter Casey, Past Headmaster St Patrick's College, Ballarat
- Dr. Michael Taffe, Ballarat Catholic Diocesan Archivist

Venue: Golden City Hotel, 427 Sturt Street, Ballarat
Costs: Food and drinks ordered individually at your discretion from Golden City's extensive food menu and drinks list.

Please RSVP to assist in quoting approximate booking numbers. Contact Phillip Moore on 0448 623 142 or phill.moore1@bigpond.com



Indonesia, Thailand and Philippines Cultural Day

Member Event

Sunday 17th March 2019, 10am - 2pm

The Ballarat Region Indonesian Community will be working together with the Filipino and Thai community for this event during Harmony Fest. Enjoy music, dance, drums, food and stalls from these three nations. Highlights will include international fashion parade and martial arts demonstrations.

Location: Civic Hall, Doveton Street North

Harmony Day

Thursday 21st March 2019, 4pm - 6pm

You are invited to join the Centre for Participation for Harmony Day celebrations and for the launch of something exciting!

Location: Centre for Participation, 39 Urquhart St, Horsham

RSVP by March 14 to info@centreforparticipation.org.au



Ecumenical Harmony Week Service

Thursday 21st March 2019, 5.30pm

Anglican Cathedral Church of Christ the King, Ballarat

Interfaith Meet and Greet

Friday 22nd March 2019, 10am - 12pm

The Ballarat Interfaith Network is hosting this event as part of Harmony Fest.

Bookings essential: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/harmony-fest-2019-interfaith-morning-tea

INTERFAITH MEET & GREET

Sebastopol Library, Friday 22nd March, 10-12pm



*Ballarat Interfaith
Network*

*Invitation to a
Meet and Greet
Friday 22nd March
@*

**Sebastopol Library, 181 Albert St
10am-12pm**

- Meet members of the Ballarat Interfaith Network
- Hear about their purpose to build bridges of understanding between people of different faiths and spiritual beliefs in the community
- View a display of some of the beliefs of various faiths in Ballarat: Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian, Eckankar, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Rosicrucian, Sikh

➤ *Share conversation and refreshments*



SEBASTOPOL LIBRARY

Meet & Greet

Ballarat Interfaith Network

Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian,
Eckankar, Hindu, Jewish,
Muslim, Rosicrucian, Sikh

Conversation & Coffee



Intercultural City Gala Dinner

Friday 22nd March 2019, 6.30pm for 7pm start

The Gala Dinner celebrates our membership to the Council of Europe's Intercultural City Network. Ballarat was the first in Australia to join the network in 2017, and to be named an Intercultural City.

The evening includes a three-course dinner and live entertainment featuring an exciting mix of multicultural



performances and local dance band, Ballarat Ska Union.

Location: Mercure Ballarat, 613 Main Road

Dress code: Traditional or Formal Dress



Tickets are limited and bookings will close on Monday 11 March.

Book now: hermaj.com/events/intercultural-city-gala-dinner/

ROCK the BLOCK 2019

Sunday 24th March 2019, 3pm - 7pm



Rock the Block Culture Fest 2019 is a youth-led culture event and will feature four hours of continuous stage performances. It is going to be bigger and better than ever with killer live music provided by a melting pot of local legends and Melbourne royalty.

Headline acts include Imbi the Girl, Krown, Alice Skye, Stella Savy, Avek Frer and Inka Teman.

The event is open and FREE to everyone of ALL AGES, backgrounds and cultures!

Also featuring a range of activities, creative workshops and delicious food.

Location: Federation University, Lydiard Street Campus

For more information visit www.facebook.com/events/394203181353023/

Language Cafe - March 2019

Thursday 28th March 2019, 4pm - 5.30pm



The Language Cafe aims to regularly bring people from all walks of life together to chat in different languages, improve English conversation skills, make new connections and share culture, food and interests in an informal and inclusive environment.

Location: Ballarat Library, 178 Doveton Street North

Register online: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/language-cafe-march-2019

Events in Review

Members' Twilight Market

BRMC members and friends enjoyed the February 2019 Members' Twilight Market at Barkly Square.

Special Thanks to Gilbert from Zaborn for coordination, Ammon and Soledad from here studio for Ballarat Welcome Centre community conversation, CocoSounds' Thursday Night Choir for music, Ibra and Hazara team for kebabs and BRASSN for the sweet touch!

Welcome Morning Tea at Barkly Square

On 5th February we held a Welcome Morning Tea at BRMC's new location - Barkly Square! Thank you to everyone who attended, we shared a lovely morning together.



Quick Program Updates

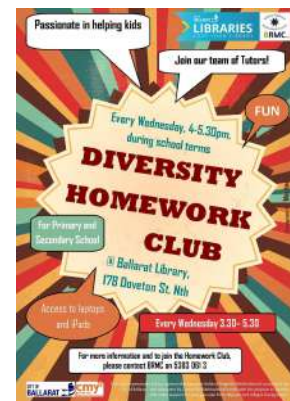
Migration and Settlement Services

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 3.30pm - 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 are looking for tutors in all subjects for Homework Club.
If you are interested or know anyone that can help, please contact BRMC on 03 5383 0613.

Migrant English Program

Community Volunteer Tutoring

Trained volunteer tutors assist BRMC in providing help with the English Language for people who have migrated to Australia. The program provides Individual Tuition for Eligible Clients.

Want to get **FREE English tutoring?**

For more information please contact Sara on 03 5383 0613 or email mep@brmc.org.au

Senior Services

Multicultural Tucker

At our February MCT clients enjoyed a delicious three-course Valentine's theme menu.

The March Multicultural Tucker is only a few days away and will feature Greek cuisine!

Wednesday 13th March at 12pm

Victoria Bowling Club, 231 Victoria St, Ballarat East



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

REMINDER

Multicultural Tucker is now at the **Victoria Bowling Club**
231 Victoria Street, Ballarat East

Social Hub Picnic

What a fun day our seniors had at the Buninyong Botanical Gardens for our February Social Hub.



Our next Social Hub is on **Tuesday 19th March, 1.30pm to 3.30pm** at the Victoria Bowling Club.

Cost is \$2. Bookings are essential!

To book please call Teresa or Natalie on 03 5383 0613.

Health & Wellbeing Day

We had our first Health and Wellbeing Day for 2019 with informative presentations from the CFA and the Ballarat Library. Our Seniors enjoyed some games and fun in the sun!



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.

English Classes

Classes held at Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council, 25-39 Barkly St, Bakery Hill.

English As A Second Language for Beginners

Wednesdays, 12.30pm - 3pm

Designed for learners with low English language skills. This class is a beginner class covering the fundamentals of the English language. Course runs every term.

Starting February 6th Wednesday 12.30pm - 3pm

8 weeks (20 hrs)

Fee: Free

English As A Second Language

Fridays, 9.30am - 12pm

The lack of conversational English skills is the number one cause that gets in the way of getting work. Practice your skills with us to prepare you for work and connect better with your community every day.

Course runs every term.

Starting February 8th Friday 9.30am - 12pm

16 weeks (40 hrs)

Fee: Free

Contact Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre for more information on 03 5329 3273.



Victorian Community Care Education and

Training Service Webinar

Swinburne University of Technology are offering a free Education and Training Service Webinar.

Diabetes

2pm, Tuesday 26 March - presented by Diabetes Victoria

[Click here for more information and to register for the Diabetes Webinar](#)

The webinar will run for one hour. Allow 90 minutes in your calendar for any questions.

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

The Big Issue Community Street Soccer Program

The Community Street Soccer Program, known as Street Soccer, is a fun and exciting initiative of The Big Issue that uses the power of sport to change lives.

The heart of Street Soccer is weekly training sessions held across Australia. Participants get together in a safe and non-threatening environment, allowing them to get fit, make new friends and seek support and advice.

We encourage people of all backgrounds and cultures to come down and get involved, meet some new people and improve their health and wellness. You don't need



any experience or equipment to get involved so come down and give it a try on a Tuesday or contact Emilie for more information.



Morshead Park, Pleasant St South, Redan

Tuesday 1pm - 3pm

Contact: Emilie Carey - ballaratcoordinator@bigissue.org.au

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 Saver 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

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.

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



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 need **Home Visiting** volunteers and **Tutors**.

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

25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat VIC 3350

Phone: 03 5383 0613

Email: info@brmc.org.au

Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/brmc.ballarat

Website

Visit www.brmc.org.au



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