



BRMC Newsletter - April 2019

Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council

Ballarat celebrated Cultural Diversity Week 2019 with the ninth year of Ballarat Harmony Fest and the theme, **Proud to Belong, Your Generation Your Stories**.

Twilight Markets, Intercultural Variety Concert, Anti-racism sessions at schools and workplaces were delivered by BRMC Thanks also to Harmony Fest working group led by City of Ballarat and Partners, publicising a wide variety of events including the Gala Ball and culminating in the final Sunday with the CMY youth-led Rock the Block.

Many Ballarat community members also demonstrated empathy, respect and support to our Muslim community members and rejection of hatred and violence by participating in the Ballarat Mosque open day. BRMC Executive Officer and Chair were also pleased to accept an invitation from our neighbouring town Ararat who came together and celebrated with a multicultural dinner organised by the Ararat Islamic Welfare Association.

As April and autumn are now upon us why not drop into our last Twilight Market on Friday, 12th April at Barkly Square to enjoy a relaxing vibe and some colourful wares and music. Sample Chinese dumplings from A Pot of Courage, a tea and cake from BRASSN or a henna tattoo from Tasnim. African and other multicultural wares will be on sale and a display of the old East Ballarat Town Hall will intrigue and entice you to provide your ideas for redevelopment of that space as the future Ballarat Welcome Centre.

Anti-Racism Action Project

Community consultations recommended that we prioritise a dialogue in schools and workplaces and BRMC has been invited by 10 schools to work with students and teachers. Our team led by Deruka Dekuek has been welcomed so far by Phoenix P-12 Community College, St Augustine's Parish Primary School, St Alipius Parish School, Ballarat High

School, Canadian Lead Primary School, Pleasant Street Primary School and Mount Clear College.

Ballarat based film maker and Director of Wingman films has generously provided his film "I'll Stand With You" to inspire and support the discussion. The film features local young sports people of diverse cultural backgrounds and conveys the powerful anti-racist bystander support provided by Matt's Uncle Peter to fellow Olympic champions.

Any enquiries on the project should be directed to d.dekuek@brmc.org.au

Ballarat Welcome Centre Fundraising Campaign

BRMC's fundraising campaign for purchase of a grand piano for the Ballarat Welcome Centre is steadily accumulating funds. You can be part of this campaign by purchasing a piano key for \$250 or team up with a family or group of people to purchase a piano key. A piano meter is measuring donations made and donors will be acknowledged publicly at the 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:

Ann Foley and David Eldridge	Matt Lee (B Flat above Middle C)
Andrew Tennant	Nash Family (Middle E)
Bernie Capicchiano (Top Note)	Peter (C1)
Sozanski Family (A above Middle C)	Morrison Family (C6)
Lorriane Forbes (G)	Roberts Family (C2)
Jean Goh	Peppa & Russell
Dichiera Family (A1)	

Forthcoming Events

- **12 Apr** - Twilight Market at Ballarat Welcome Centre
- **14 Apr** - Bengali New Year (Pôhela Boishakh)
- **14 Apr** - Palm Sunday Walk for Justice for Refugees in Melbourne
- **25 Apr** - Language Cafe - April 2019
- **27 Apr** - BIA Bus Trip to Casa D'Abruzzo Club in Epping
- **6 May** - Interkultura Trophy Presentation in Melbourne
- **8 May** - Book Launch - Behrouz Boochani
- **27 Jun** - David Nyuol Vincent Tells His Story - **EOI needed by 12th April**

Events in Review

- Sri Lankan New Year Celebration
- Ararat Islamic Welfare Association Dinner
- Intercultural Variety Concert
- March Twilight Market
- Rural and Regional Migration Forum
- Ballarat Begonia Parade

Quick Program Updates

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

Opportunities & Items of Interest

- Good Governance Program
- Want to write a winning grant application?
- Introduction to Computer Skills Course
- English Classes
- Victorian Community Care Education and Training Service Webinars
- AFL Community Ambassador Program
- The Big Issue Community Street Soccer Program
- Sons of the West - Men's health and wellbeing program

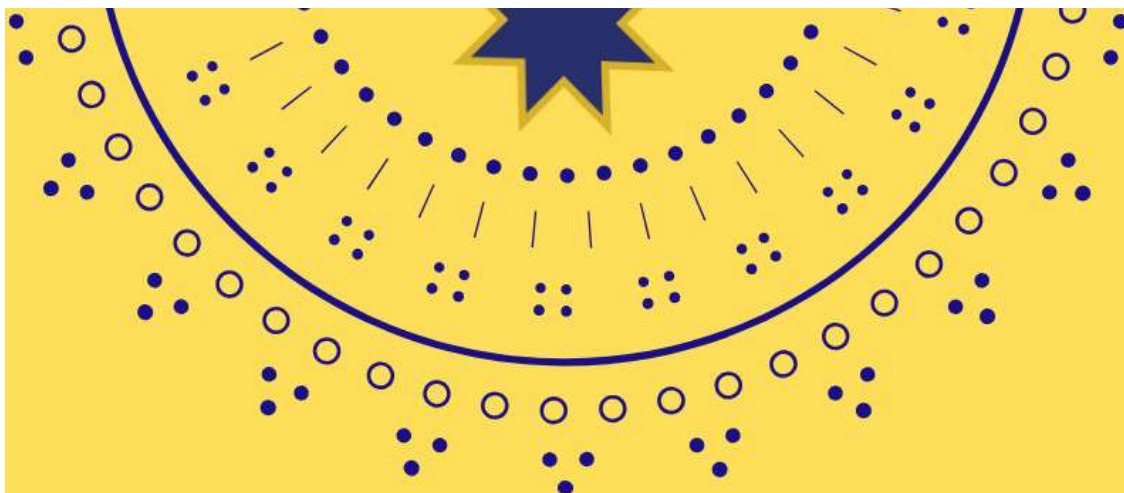
Forthcoming Events

Twilight Market

Friday 12th April, 5pm - 8pm

The Twilight Market is a family friendly event celebrating community. There will be multicultural market stalls, entertainment and food. A community event not to be missed!

For more information contact: 0459 253 060 / 03 5383 0613 / events@brmc.org.au



BALLARAT WELCOME CENTRE

TWILIGHT MARKET

5PM- 8PM | 12 APRIL

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

Bengali New Year (Pôhela Boishakh)

Member Event

Sunday 14th April, 12.30pm - 6pm



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Bengali
New Year
2019

Bangladeshi Community in Ballarat

Invites you and your family to attend a family get together, followed by the Lunch and Cultural Program. Where you can find all the traditional foods and fun.

Join us and find a day full of colour, fun and entertainments for all ages.

Please bring your favourite traditional dishes to share with us, in the first day of Bengali Year.

Adults: \$20.00 (per person)

Children's (over 3 years): \$10.00 (per person)

Children's (under 3 years): Free

Date: Sunday 14th April 2019

Venue: Cooina Centre
10 Learmonth Road
Wendouree, Vic 3355

Time: 12:30pm—6:00pm

RSVP by 3rd April 2019

Tanzima: 0431132872 / Yeasmin 0430446258

Farhan: 0432693234 / Shuvo: 0450450299 /

Naved: 0424292681

OR

Email- navedhaque@gmail.com

/ farhan717@yahoo.com



Palm Sunday Walk for Justice for Refugees

Sunday 14th April, 2pm



Join the Palm Sunday Walk for Justice for Refugees at the State Library in Melbourne, 328 Swanston St.

- For a Fair and Welcoming Society
- Close Manus & Nauru, Bring Them Here

Join with people from community groups, faith groups, unions, and political organisations on Palm Sunday to stand up for refugees.

For more information visit <http://refugeeadvocacynetwork.org>

Language Cafe - April 2019

Thursday 25th April 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: <https://bit.ly/2T4nzMB>

Bus Trip to Casa D'Abruzzo Club in Epping

Member Event

Saturday 27th April

The Ballarat Italian Association invites you to attend a Dinner Dance in Epping. 3-Course Meal with drinks included.
Cost is \$53/person.

The bus will depart from the 'old' Masters car park in Wendouree at 4.30pm.

To secure your booking payment must be received by **12th April**.
Please contact Evie 0438 290 751 or Dolly 0431 039 923 to book.



Interkultura Trophy Presentation

Save the Date

Monday 6th May

The Interkultura Trophy presentation will be held at the office of Football Victoria, St Kilda Road, Melbourne.

Book Launch - Behrouz Boochani

Save the Date

Wednesday 8th May

Time and venue details to come.

David Nyuol Vincent Tells His Story

Thursday 27th June, 6.30pm

****Request for Expressions of Interest****

Mercy Connect Ballarat invites you to listen to David Nyuol Vincent tell his story.

David Nyuol Vincent is one of the Lost Boys of Sudan. He was trained as a child soldier in Ethiopia and lived as a refugee in Kenya until he was 26. Since rebuilding his life in Australia, David has become an advocate for refugees and the Sudanese community, and he is a Victorian Human Rights Youth Ambassador and a People of Australia Ambassador.



Cost: Gold coin donation

Venue: Expressions of interest are urgently needed to decide on a venue.

Please email mercyconnectb@gmail.com by **12th April** if you would like to attend.

Events in Review

Sri Lankan New Year Celebration

The Sri Lankan Australian Association of Ballarat (SLAAB) held its annual Sri Lankan New Year Celebrations for the third consecutive year on Saturday 30th March.

The event was attended by BRMC EO Ann Foley, BRMC Chair Chez Dichiera, Cr Amy Johnson, Michaela Settle, Intercultural Ambassador Sarabjit Kaur, Sundram and Subatra Sivamalai, Khushi Maharaj and many community members.



Ararat Islamic Welfare Association Dinner

The Ararat Islamic Welfare Association held a dinner for the community on Saturday 23rd March for Multicultural Day.

The Association holds the dinner annually, but in the wake of the Christchurch attack the act of the community coming together over a shared meal held even more significance.

Intercultural Variety Concert

The Intercultural Variety Concert was held on Saturday, 16th March at the Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts as a highlight of Ballarat's Harmony Fest during Cultural Diversity Week.

A huge thank you to all who were involved in making this event a wonderful night of music and cultural celebration. The concert ended in harmony with everyone joining together to sing "I Am Australian".



March Twilight Market

We held our first full Twilight Market of the year on Friday, 15th March. This was the community launch event of Harmony Fest 2019 with a Welcome and Smoking Ceremony by Traditional Owners.

Rural and Regional Migration Forum

Over one hundred people from business, government and community participated in the Rural and Regional Migration Forum in Horsham on Wednesday, 13th March. The themes of meeting labour shortages and strengthening communities through migration were addressed by local and visiting speakers and participants explored strategies for successful rural settlement through other critical infrastructure and social support responses.

BRMC sponsored the event through the strategic engagement program funded by the Victorian Government and our partner Wimmera Development Association hosted the event. Further work will follow in Horsham and across the region to collate the presentations and workshop contributions of participants and report on recommendations of the forum.

Any enquiries on the forum should be directed to Annie Dunn, Strategic Engagement Coordinator at BRMC on sec@brmc.org.au.



Ballarat Begonia Parade

Ballarat Regional Multicultural Group

Many thanks to volunteers and members. It was wonderful to see so many communities dancing, walking, wheeling and singing together and also to see lots of communities parading under their own banners too.



Bangladeshi Community in Ballarat

Bangladeshi Community in Ballarat participated in the Begonia Parade for the first time on 11th March 2019. They had a number of community members participate in the event with success and displayed the national icons of Bangladesh.



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**?
Register for the BRMC Migrant English Program!

Want to give back to the community?
Become a community volunteer tutor! Register and receive FREE training.

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

Senior Services

Multicultural Tucker

Our senior clients enjoyed a three-course Greek menu at the March MCT and had a lovely afternoon catching up with friends.

April MCT is coming up soon and will feature an Australian theme.

Friday 12th April 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 will be held on a **Friday** during the months of April to August at the Victoria Bowling Club, 231 Victoria Street, Ballarat East

Social Hub

March Social Hub was filled with laughs as we explored the craft of making masquerade masks!



Our next Social Hub is on **Tuesday 16th April, 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.

Bus Trip

On Wednesday 27th March our Seniors enjoyed a Bus Trip to the Daylesford Cider Company and St Erth Nursery and Gardens.

What a fantastic day with the sun shining on us all day long! Thank you to all who attended!



Opportunities & Items of Interest

Good Governance Program



The Good Governance Program aims to support emerging community associations with the challenges of good governance through a structured program with a mentor covering a range of topics that can be challenging for community groups.

By sharing your expertise and becoming a mentor, you have an opportunity to help contribute to local organisations, shape your community, and enhance your own professional skills. Full training and support is provided for all mentors, and there is also a Community of Practice available for mentors to further develop their networks and professional learning.

Anyone interested in mentoring community associations can contact Hemraz on goodgov@brmc.org.au

Want to write a winning grant application?

The City of Ballarat is holding two grant writing training sessions for Ballarat-based community groups.

Learn how to get a handle on grant programs, guidelines and funding agreements, learn about working up a project plan and developing a budget, and understand how criteria works.

Two sessions are available on **Thursday 11th April** at the Lucas Community Hub, Coltman Plaza, Lucas.

Session 1: 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Session 2: 5.30pm - 8.30pm

Numbers are strictly limited to 25 participants per session and will be capped at two representatives per community group.



To reserve your place, please RSVP to City of Ballarat Engaged Communities Support Officer Sandra Kennedy via sandrakennedy@ballarat.vic.gov.au by **Monday 8th April**.

Introduction to Computer Skills Course

BGT Jobs + Training are running an Introduction to Computer Skills course in April.

The course runs over four days on the following dates:

Monday 8th April

Tuesday 9th April

Monday 15th April

Tuesday 16th April



The course uses a practical and step-by-step approach to develop everyday computer skills in the following areas:

- Using the basic functions of a computer
- Searching the internet
- Applying for jobs online
- Writing and sending emails
- Understanding and using Social media
- Use Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint

The course is suitable for beginners and there is no charge for BGT students and Jobseekers.

There are limited positions available and bookings are essential. To book please call 03 5333 8600 or email nathan@bgt.org.au

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.

Term 2: 1st May - 19th June 2019

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 2019

16 weeks (40 hrs)

Fee: Free

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



Victorian Community Care Education and Training Service Webinars

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

Autism Spectrum Disorder

1pm, Wednesday 10 April

Register online: <https://bit.ly/2U2Rvt0>

Palliative Care

2pm, Wednesday 15 May

Register online: <https://bit.ly/2UgP8lB>

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

AFL Community Ambassador Program

May 2019 mid-year intake

The AFL Community Ambassador Program is aimed at engaging multicultural and Indigenous communities through a network of dedicated volunteers.



This year the AFL Community Ambassador program is all about: ENJOYMENT -
ENGAGEMENT - CELEBRATING THE WINS

Aligned with Victorian AFL clubs, Ambassadors help connect the AFL with their communities and promote Australian Football activities as a vehicle for engagement and inclusion.

For more information visit <http://community.afl/programs/community-ambassador-program>

The Big Issue Community Street Soccer Program

KICKING A BALL HELPS PEOPLE FEEL GOOD

THE BIG ISSUE **STREET SOCCER**



The Big Issue's Community Street Soccer Program uses the power of sport to promote social inclusion and personal change for homeless, marginalised and disadvantaged people.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- It's FREE
- Males & females 16 years +
- Once a week
- Opportunities for players to link to services that address their individual needs
- Soccer activities & matches, special events & initiatives

BENEFITS FOR STREET SOCCER

PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:

- Social inclusion and improved links with the community
- Re-connection with family
- Improved confidence and self-esteem
- Improved mental health
- Improved health & fitness
- A sense of belonging

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Refer clients to Street Soccer & incorporate the program into support structure
- Bring participants to Street Soccer for them to see how it is run
- Coordinate transport for participants to attend Street Soccer or tell them how to get there



"YOU MEET PEOPLE, HANG OUT WITH MATES, AND YOU'RE NOT SMOKING, YOU'RE NOT DRINKING, YOU'RE NOT POPPING PILLS. IT'S LIKE HANGING OUT WITH A REALLY GOOD BUNCH OF PEOPLE AND THEY'RE ALL GETTING THEIR LIFE BACK TOGETHER"

COMMUNITY STREET SOCCER PARTICIPANT

YOUR NEAREST COMMUNITY STREET SOCCER PROGRAM IS:

Ballarat Street Soccer

Tuesday 1pm – 3pm

Morshead Park

Pleasant Street South, Redan.

To get involved, contact the Coordinator at ballaratcoordinator@bigissue.org.au.

WWW.THEBIGISSUE.ORG.AU

Sons of the West

The Western Bulldogs Community Foundation is currently recruiting for the free men's health and wellbeing program 'Sons of the West'. The



program will run for 10 weeks and consists of 1 hour health education and 1 hour physical activity.



Wendouree

Monday evenings, 7pm to 9pm

Commencing April 29th 2019

Webbcona Bowls Club, 996 Grevillea Road, Wendouree

Sebastopol

Wednesday evenings, 7pm to 9pm

Commencing May 1st 2019

Phoenix P-12 Community College, Hertford Street, Sebastopol

To register for Sons of the West visit sonsofthewest.org.au

For more information email info@sonsofthewest.com.au or call 03 9680 6355

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 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

