

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER





Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council

Dear Members,

Welcome back to 2020. The BRMC office re-opens on Monday 3rd February.

In this edition we feature information to assist you with surviving the heat and planning for bushfire and emergency situations.

FASCOBI and BHTCC have both created fundraisers in February and we urge you to support their generous efforts.

Our hearts go out to everyone who has been impacted by the recent bushfires. We would like to offer our sincere thanks to the firefighters, charities, organisations and volunteers who are working tirelessly to assist in our country's recovery.

Warm Regards, Ann Foley Executive Officer

Stay Safe During Hot Weather and Extreme Heat

With heatwaves becoming a regular feature of the Victorian summer, it's important to plan ahead. There are things we can all do to survive the heat - drink plenty of water, keep cool with fans or air-conditioning, draw your blinds to keep the heat out and take cool showers. Check on older family members, neighbours and friends and never leave kids in cars.

Helpful Resources

- Survive the Heat: www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/heat
- How to cope and stay safe in extreme heat: www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/how-to-cope-and-stay-safe-in-extreme-heat
- Bushfire Crisis: What to do and how you can help: www.multiculturalcommission.vic.gov.au/bushfire-crisis-what-do-and-how-you-can-help

Translated Resources

- Heat Health Videos: www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/council-media-kit-survive-the-heat#translations
- VMC Fire Safety: www.multiculturalcommission.vic.gov.au/fire-safety-language-information-preparation-safety-survival-and-recovery
- CFA Fire Safety: www.cfa.vic.gov.au/about/other-languages

Chinese Lunar New Year 2020

We wish everyone happiness and prosperity in the Year of the Rat.

The Rat is the first of all zodiac animals. According to one myth, the Jade Emperor said the order would be decided by the order in which they arrived to his party. The Rat tricked the Ox into giving him a ride. Then, just as they arrived at the finish line, Rat jumped down and landed ahead of Ox, becoming first.

The Rat is also associated with the Earthly Branch (III—dì zhī) Zi (II) and the midnight hours. In the terms of yin and yang (III—yīn yáng), the Rat is yang and represents the beginning of a new day.



In Chinese culture, rats were seen as a sign of wealth and surplus. Because of their reproduction rate, married couples also prayed to them for children.

BRMC February Twilight Market

Friday 21st February, 5pm - 8pm

Venue: Ballarat Welcome Centre, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat

Our Twilight Market is a family friendly event celebrating community and each market is growing with new stalls. Enjoy a diverse range of multicultural market stalls, entertainment, food and much more.

Upcoming Market Dates: 21st February, 20th March and 17th April.



Keep up to date on our markets and stalls by following us on Facebook @brmc.ballarat

Are you interested in booking a stall? If your products are Green, Ethical, Intercultural and locally Handmade, we'd love to welcome you at our markets. Contact Suzanne Ryan-Evers on 0455 667 227 or events@brmc.org.au for an application form.

Forthcoming Events

- BRMC February Twilight Market
- · FASCOBI Fundraising Night
- Lunar New Year at Sovereign Hill
- World Interfaith Harmony Week Celebration
- Bushfire Relief Fundraising Luncheon
- BAA General Meeting
- Carlo Aonzo Trio
- BAA Getting to Work Workshop Series
- February Language Café
- BAA Business Workshop: Starting A Business
- Interfaith Messages for Harmony
- · Intercultural Variety Concert

Quick Program Updates

- Stepping Stones Program
- Good Governance Program
- Migration and Settlement Services
- Migrant English Program
- Senior Services

Opportunities & Items of Interest

- Bushfire crisis: What to do and how you can help
- Translated Fire Safety Information
- Free Legal Advice for Tenants Affected by Bushfires
- Passport to the Workforce
- Lifeline Ballarat

Events in Review

- BAA Novelty Soccer Match
- Minister visits Ballarat Welcome Centre
- BMA Blood Donation Campaign (Part 2)
- BMA X'Mas & New Year Celebration
- BMA Bush Fire Relief Fund for Ballarat CFA
- Ballarat Survival Day Dawn Ceremony

Forthcoming Events

FASCOBI Fundraising Night

Saturday 1st February, 6.30pm

Venue: Victoria Bowling Club, 231 Victoria St, Ballarat East

The Filipino Australian Sports Club of Ballarat Inc. (FASCOBI) are holding a fundraising event to support those impacted by the bushfires across Australia and the Taal Volcano eruption in the Philippines.



Lunar New Year at Sovereign Hill

Sunday 2nd February, 10am - 5pm

Venue: Sovereign Hill, Bradshaw St, Golden Point

Witness the excitement and exhilaration of Lunar New Year as Sovereign Hill welcomes in the Year of the Rat.

The outdoor museum, together with the Chinese Australian Cultural Society Ballarat, will be awash with celebrations as visitors have the opportunity to watch, participate and learn about Chinese culture and the experiences of Chinese miners during Ballarat's goldrush.

Activities include: Traditional Chinese Performances, Lion Dance Workshop, Chinese Dragon and Lion Parade, Hands On Activities and more.

To view the full program visit www.sovereignhillsummergoldrush.com.au/lunar-new-year



World Interfaith Harmony Week Celebration

Tuesday 4th & Saturday 8th February 2020

Ballarat Interfaith Network is running two events to celebrate World Interfaith Harmony Week.

World Interfaith Harmony Week is an annual event observed during the first week of February. This week is an opportunity for dialogue among different faiths and religions to enhance mutual understanding, harmony and cooperation among people.



BALLARAT INTERFAITH NETWORK IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CITY OF BALLARAT AND BRMC



WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK

FEATURING: PETER LOVETT, MAYOR CR BEN TAYLOR, BUDDHIST KEYNOTE SPEAKER, SEBASTOPOL PRIMARY CHOIR

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

CIVIC FLAG-RAISING TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4 | 11AM

MEET AT QUEEN VICTORIA SQUARE OPPOSITE TOWN HALL







BRING A PICNIC AND RUG TO SHARE A MEAL WITH FRIENDS AT THE CONCLUSION OF 'WALK & TALK IN THE WETLANDS'.







MEET AT THE INDIGENOUS SCULPTURE PARK, WENDOUREE PARADE

Enquiries: Margaret mflellis@netconnect.com.au

Bushfire Relief Fundraising Luncheon

Saturday 8th February, 12pm - 5pm

Venue: Ballarat South Community Hub, 11 Tuppen Dr, Sebastopol

This event has been organised by Ballarat Hindu Temple and Cultural Centre Inc. (BHTCC) to support bushfire victims.

Enjoy Indian cuisine and musical performance entertainment.



BUSHFIRE RELIEF FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON Organised by Ballarat Hindu Temple and Cultural Centre Inc

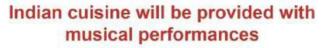
All are cordially invited to support the community appeal for our fire disaster victims

Venue : Ballarat South Community Hub

11 Tuppen Dr, Sebastopol VIC 3356

Date : Saturday 8th February

Time : 12 noon - 5 pm



Dress Code: Smart and Casual

Drinks will be available for purchase

Tickets available on Eventbrite:

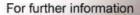
URL: https://bhtcc-bushfire-fundraiser.eventbrite.com.au

This event has received support from various government, community and private organisations

All donations can be sent to the following account:

Account Name: BCEC Fundraising Account

BSB : 063 502 Acc No. : 1100 9734



ADULT

CHILD

AGE 5-14

CHILD

UNDER 5

Gobi 0429 588 446 Hari 0435 532 172 Margaret 0400 650 234 Pradush 0450 001 998 Teresa 0417 109 052





All proceeds go to bushfire relief

FLYER DESIGNED BY NEIL PARA 0452533759

FREE



Venue: Ballarat Welcome Centre, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat

The Ballarat African Association (BAA) will be holding a Community General Meeting.

Carlo Aonzo Trio

Sunday 9th February, 2pm

Venue: Ballaarat Mechanics' Institute, 117 Sturt St, Ballarat

Carlo Aonzo will be appearing with accomplished guitarist Lorenzo Piccone and double bass player Luciano Puppo. This event is promoted by the Ballarat Italian Association (BIA).

Tickets: www.trybooking.com/BHTNW

For further details contact Chez on 0400 990 452 or info@ballaratitalianassociation.org



APPEARING

Ballaarat Mechanics Institute
117 Sturt Street, Ballarat
Sunday 9th February 2020
Concert starts at 2.00pm

Tickets: www.trybooking.com/BHTNW

Promoted by: Ballarat Italian Association



BAA Getting to Work - Workshop Series

14th, 21st and 28th February, 10am - 2pm

A Free Workshop Series created by the Ballarat African Association (BAA) to equip young people from African backgrounds to find work.

Session One: Getting Started

• Session Two: Exploring Employment Pathways

· Session Three: Interview Skills

Lunch is provided.

Please register for each session you plan to attend: ballaratgettowork.eventbrite.com.au

GETTING TO WORK

A Workshop Series to equip young people from African backgrounds to find work.

SESSION ONE

Friday 14 February 2020, 10 - 2pm

Ballarat Work and Learning Centre 11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol

TOPIC: Getting Started

Learn about the nuts and bolts of applying for work that will give YOUR application an edge.

- Identify transferable skills
- Tailor your resume for the job
- Learn cover letter tips

SESSION TWO

Friday 21 February 2020, 10 - 2pm

Sebastopol Library - City of Ballarat 181 Albert Street, Sebastopol

TOPIC: Exploring Employment Pathways

Connect with employers and find out what they are REALLY looking for.

- How to stand out for the RIGHT
 reasons
- How to gain work experience
- Industry panel

SESSION THREE

Friday 28 February 2020, 10 - 2pm

Ballarat Group Training
25 - 39 Barkly Street, Ballarat Fast

TOPIC: Interview Skills

Feeling nervous about interviews? Learn tips to build your confidence for the big day

- Preparing for common interview questions
- Exploring types of interviews: group, panel, and phone
- How what you wear, how you sit and you handshake can get in the way of a good interview.

FREE TICKETS LUNCH PROVIDED

Registration via Eventbrite ballaratgettowork.eventbrite.com.au

Proudly brought you by the following organisations:













February Language Café

Thursday 27th February, 4pm - 5.30pm

Venue: Ballarat Library, 178 Doveton Street North, Ballarat

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.

Register: <u>www.eventbrite.com.au/e/language-cafe-tickets-85911500611</u>



BAA Business Workshop: Starting A Business

Saturday 29th February, 11am - 3pm

Venue: Ballarat Welcome Centre, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat

Packed with tips, tools and expert step-by-step guidance, this workshop held by the Ballarat African Association (BAA) prepares you to give your business the best chance of success.

Register: <u>www.eventbrite.com.au/e/start-a-business-workshop-tickets-89921653085</u>



SMALL BUSINESS VICTORIA WORKSHOP

STARTING A BUSINESS

How to turn an idea into a business

Some of Victoria's biggest business success stories were started by people newly arrived from all over the world. This workshop will ensure you have all the basics covered from the word go.

Saturday 29 February 2020 11:00am – 3:00pm BRMC, 25 Barkly St, Bakery Hill, VIC 3350

LIMITED SPACES BOOK NOW!

Ticket at

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/ballarat-african-association-29209643179

Learn to:

- · Understand Australian business culture and regulations
- Test your idea, product or service
- · Assess your business readiness and next steps to fill gaps
- Analyse your market
- · Decide what business structure is right for you
- · Understand and manage your business risks and opportunities
- Prepare a business plan
- Register and set up your business
- · Access ongoing advice and support to help your business grow
- · Receive free mentoring with an experienced business mentor





Interfaith Messages for Harmony

Sunday 15th March, 5pm

Venue: Rotunda next to Pipers Restaurant, Lake Wendouree





Ballarat Interfaith Network

Interfaith Messages for Harmony

SUNDAY 15TH MARCH 2020, 5PM

ROTUNDA NEXT TO PIPERS RESTAURANT LAKE WENDOUREE

TOGETHER WITH LIVE MUSIC.

CONCLUDING WITH RELEASE OF PIGEONS FREE EVENT

Ph: 0400 650 234 for further details

Ballarat Harmony Fest.
proudly brought to you by the
City of Ballarat

supported by Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council





Save the Date

Venue: Wendouree Centre for the Performing Arts, 1220 Howitt Street, Wendouree

Stay tuned for more information about this amazing fundraising event with a diverse range of performers!



Quick Program Updates

Stepping Stones to Small Business

Stepping Stones is a micro-enterprise program devised to provide small business skills training, mentorship and support for women of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeker backgrounds.

On Tuesday 10th December 2019 the Ballarat Stepping Stones entrepreneurs pitched their business ideas on the last day of the small business program 'Shark Tank' game.





Stepping Stones in Ballarat is run by Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council in partnership with the Brotherhood of St Laurence, funded by the Victorian State Government and supported by Business Victoria and Commerce Ballarat.

For more info contact Deborah Klein: steppingstones@brmc.org.au / 0457 934 728

Good Governance Program

The second phase of the Good Governance Program is set for a brilliant start with mentor training scheduled for the third week of February.

The program, delivered by BRMC in partnership with the Centre for Participation, is aimed towards creating stronger, more cohesive and resilient communities by boosting good governance practices in community organisations.

For more information email $\underline{s.kaur@brmc.org.au}$



Migration and Settlement Services

Diversity Homework Club

Diversity Homework Club is moving to the Ballarat Welcome Centre!



Contact Deruka at d.dekuek@brmc.org.au

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 Welcome Centre, 25-39 Barkly St at 3.30pm - 5.30pm during school terms.

Do you know a young person who could use some help with their school work?

Migrant English Program

The Migrant English Program delivered through trained volunteer tutors provides free and flexible one-onone English learning support. The tutors undertake compulsory orientation, refresher training and peer support sessions. The program also emphasises cultural exchange between community volunteers and their students

For enquiries related to English tutoring or to volunteer with the Migrant English Program email Sarabjit at s.kaur@brmc.org.au



Senior Services

Tai Chi Class

Tuesday afternoons, 1pm - 2pm

Venue: Ballarat Welcome Centre, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat

2020 classes start on Tuesday 4th February.

February: 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th March: 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st

There are many amazing benefits of Tai Chi for Seniors including:

- · Promotes deep breathing
- Helps with arthritis pain
- · Reduces blood pressure
- Enhances mental capacity and concentration
- Improves balance and stability by strengthening ankles and knees

Limited places. To register call Helen on 03 5383 0613.



Multicultural Tucker

Wednesday 12th February, 12pm

Venue: Victoria Bowling Club, 231 Victoria St, Ballarat East



Multicultural Tucker provides an opportunity for people from diverse backgrounds to socialise.

Our February 2020 MCT will feature an English cuisine.

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

Social Hub

Tuesday 18th February, 1pm - 3pm

Venue: Buninyong Botanical Gardens, Scott St, Buninyong

To kick-off Social Hub in 2020 we will be having a picnic at the Buninyong Botanical Gardens.

Cost is \$5. Bookings are essential!

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



Health & Wellbeing Day

Thursday 20th February

Venue: Victoria Bowling Club, 231 Victoria St, Ballarat East

Stay safe this summer with a presentation by the CFA along with an informative presentation by a Dietitian on healthy eating. We will also have a Chair Based Yoga session with Shani.

Cost: \$8 - covers program, morning tea and lunch.

Contact Teresa or Helen on 03 5383 0613 to book.



Seasonal Lunch

Wednesday 26th February, 12pm

Venue: Victoria Bowling Club, 231 Victoria St, Ballarat East



Seasonal Lunch is a wonderful way for our senior clients to get together and enjoy a delicious two-course meal.

Cost: \$8

Don't miss out - limited numbers. Bookings essential!

Call Teresa or Helen on 03 5383 0613.

Want to see BRMC deliver MORE programs for seniors in 2020?

Get in touch and tell us what YOU want.

Opportunities & Items of Interest

Bushfire crisis: What to do and how you can help

As bushfires continue to rage across Victoria and Australia, our hearts and prayers are with everyone affected. This unprecedented tragedy has devastated communities and caused unimaginable destruction to our state. But the crisis is far from over.

To support Victoria's multicultural communities, the Victorian Multicultural Commission have put together some information about how to stay informed and how to help - $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2$

www.multiculturalcommission.vic.gov.au/bushfire-crisis-what-do-and-how-you-can-help





Victorian Multicultural Commission have collated a range of translated and multilingual resources to assist Victorians who speak languages other than English stay safe this fire season. Resources include information on fire danger warnings and health and safety advice.

Help keep your friends, family and neighbours safe by sharing these resources with them. www.multiculturalcommission.vic.gov.au/fire-safety-language-information-preparation-safety-survival-

and-recovery

Free Legal Advice for Tenants Affected by Bushfires

Anika Legal is offering free advice to tenants affected by bushfires.

Anika Legal is a not for profit that provides a free, online legal service to renters in need, specialising in tenancy repair. Anika Legal is offering their free service to tenants, enabling them to get their homes repaired, which may have been damaged in the Victorian bushfires.



To understand your rights as a tenant Anika Legal has prepared some frequently asked questions which summarise key responsibilities and requirements of landlords during this time: www.anikalegal.com/bushfire-faq/bushfire-faq-index

For further information contact Noel Lim, Anika Legal CEO at noel@anikalegal.com or 0401 520 065.

Passport to the Workforce

Are you looking for entry level work, considering returning to study but not sure where to begin, or needing a leg-up on your employment or study goals? Then this course is for YOU!

Starting Wednesday 12th February.

To register contact WNC on 5339 5069 or wncadmin@ncable.net.au.



PASSPORT TO THE WORKFORCE

Are you looking for entry level work, considering returning to study but not sure where to begin, or needing a leg-up on your employment or study goals?

Passport to the Workforce is a hands-on 10 week program covering basic employability skills across a variety of industries. Built into the program is the opportunity to experience real-world work environments with local employers and explore suitable accredited study opportunities as a next step.

Participants will all enrol in a Core Employability Skills component

<u>AND</u> one or both introductory-level industry skills streams:

Cleaning and Landscape Maintenance Skills Customer Service and Food Preparation Skills

Commencing in late February with start date TBC

Expressions of interest now being taken, contact us via phone Weekdays 9:00am-3:30pm or email anytime



Wendouree Neighbourhood Centre

(03) 5339 5069 | wncadmin@ncable.net.au

12-14 Violet Grove Wendouree | www.wnc.org.au

Lifeline Ballarat

Lifeline Information Session

Could you be a volunteer Lifeline Crisis Supporter? This Information Session will provide you with the information you need to know if this is a great volunteer opportunity for you.

When: Tuesday 18th February, 6pm - 7pm Where: Peart Wing, 103 Lydiard St South, Ballarat

Register: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/lifeline-ballarat-volunteer-crisis-supporter-training-information-session-tickets-89706569765

safeTALK Workshop in Ballarat

safeTALK is a half day suicide alert workshop for anyone interested to become suicide alert.

When: Saturday 22nd February, 9am - 1pm

Where: Brown Hill Uniting Church, Cnr Thompson and Humffray St North, Brown Hill

Register: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/a-suicide-alert-workshop-safetalk-saturday-february-22-2020-brown-hill-tickets-80188589229

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

ASIST is a two day training program where participants learn to apply a suicide intervention model.

When: Thursday 26th and Friday 27th March, 9am - 5pm

Where: Robert Clark Centre, Ballarat Botanical Gardens, Gillies St North, Ballarat

Cost: \$400

Register: www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=591785 (Registration and payment due by Tuesday 24th March)

Questions? Contact Lifeline Ballarat: Ballarat@vt.uniting.org or 03 5322 4996.

Events in Review

BAA Novelty Soccer Match

On Sunday 15th December 2019 the Ballarat African Association (BAA) held a Novelty Soccer Match between Elders and Young Generation African-Australian males. BAA are bridging the gap between the older and younger generations for meaningful relationships creating the basis for Respectful Intergenerational and Inter-Gender Communications.

The younger generation won 7-4.





Minister visits Ballarat Welcome Centre

The Hon. Richard Wynne MP, Minister for Multicultural Affairs visited Ballarat and checked out the great things happening at the Ballarat Welcome Centre on Thursday 19th December 2019. The Minister toured the building to observe the repair works funded by the Victorian Government and opened the December Twilight Market.





BMA Blood Donation Campaign (Part 2)

On Saturday 14th December 2019 the Ballarat Malayalee Association Inc. (BMA) conducted their Blood Donation Campaign (part 2) in

collaboration with the Australian Red Cross Blood Service. Congratulations BMA for taking part in this great cause which makes a big difference in other people's lives.







BMA X'Mas & New Year Celebration

On Saturday 28th December 2019 the Ballarat Malayalee Association Inc. (BMA) held their X'Mas and New Year celebrations. Attendees enjoyed stage performances by the children and a delicious dinner prepared by members.





BMA Bush Fire Relief Fund for Ballarat CFA

In January 2020 the Ballarat Malayalee Association Inc. (BMA) helped raise \$2,090 to help bushfire victims in Australia. The amount was handed over to CFA Ballarat.

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{BMA}}$ thanks all their members for supporting this noble cause.



Ballarat Survival Day Dawn Ceremony

More than 1000 people gathered for Ballarat's first Survival Day Ceremony on Sunday 26th January at Lake Wendouree. Hosted by the Ballarat Koorie Engagement Action Group (KEAG), the ceremony was held to commemorate Sovereign First Peoples who fought in the frontier wars and those who died in widespread massacres that occurred across Australia during colonisation which began on January 26th, 1788.

Congratulations to all those involved for this historic event.





Reminder

It is helpful if we receive RSVP for activities and events. This helps us to deliver a quality service for all. RSVP to 03 5383 0613 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.

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



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

We are looking for Volunteer Drivers to transport seniors to and from events in a BRMC vehicle. Volunteers must hold a current Victorian driver's licence.

BRMC Contact Details

Ballarat Welcome Centre, Barkly Square

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



BRMC respectfully acknowledges the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung people, their elders and community leaders, past, present and emerging - traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work.









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