

## April 2021 Newsletter



Dear Members and Readers,

Autumn greetings to all as we return to work, and study after the celebrations and holidays of March and early April. Meet one of our new BRMC Board members below and some of our volunteers and new volunteer opportunities in this packed newsletter edition. BRMC looks forward to meeting with all members in the coming month.

Warm Regards,

Ann

BRMC Executive Officer

### Ramadan Mubarak

Ramadan is a time of spiritual reflection, self-improvement, devotion and worship. BRMC wishes a happy and peaceful Ramadan to the Muslim community.

Learn about Ramadan and the rules people follow for fasting during the day:

[www.abc.net.au/news/2021-04-12/when-does-ramadan-2021-start-end-rules/100062826](http://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-04-12/when-does-ramadan-2021-start-end-rules/100062826)



### Meet the Board

BRMC is governed by an elected committee of management elected each year at the Annual General Meeting. A full list of Committee members can be found on the [BRMC website](#).

#### Serena Ogbuokiri

*Women's Officer, BRMC Executive Committee*

Serena is our BRMC Board Women's Officer. She is a Registered Nurse in Victoria, with a law background in Public Health. She is a mother of 3 children, 2 boys and 1 girl (aged 5 to 9).

Serena migrated to Australia from Nigeria in 2010 and moved to Ballarat in 2015. With a deep passion for community development, Serena enjoys helping people and giving back to the community. She is passionate about empowering women.

Her interests are playing tennis and spending time with family and friends.



## Farewell Fr Constantine Osuchukwu

We say farewell to Fr Constantine Osuchukwu, as he and his family make the move to the NSW. Father Constantine has made such a positive impact and contributed greatly to the Ballarat community during his time as Anglican Priest at St. Matthew's, Prison Chaplain at Langi Kal Kal Prison, Vice President of the Ballarat African Association, and BRMC Chairperson during 2014-2016. We wish him all the best in this new chapter.



## COVID-19 Vaccine

**Australia is currently in Phase 1b of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout.**

Use the eligibility checker to find out when you can receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

Visit: <https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility>

## COVID-19 Vaccine Questions Answered

It's normal to have questions or concerns, and possibly feel hesitant about getting the vaccine. That's why the Australian Government is providing accurate, evidence-based answers: [www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/is-it-true](http://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/is-it-true)

Translated vaccine information: [www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-information-in-your-language](http://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-information-in-your-language)

## IN THIS ISSUE

### Updates from BRMC

Latest news on the Ballarat Welcome Centre and BRMC projects, programs and services.

- Volunteer with BRMC
- Digital Mentor Training

### Upcoming Events

- Ballarat Indian Film Festival
- CMY Youth-Led Unit Regional Roadshow
- Libraries After Dark: Sustainability at Home

### Items of Interest

- Victorian Refugee Awards
- Jobs Victoria Fund
- Victoria Police Diversity Recruitment Program
- SARA Financial Wellbeing for Women

### Events in Review

- Wellbeing of International Students
- Harmony Market
- Ubuntu Breakfast

## UPDATES FROM BRMC

### Cultural Competency Training Program

Over the past year, BRMC has developed a Cultural Competency Training Program with the support of the Victorian Government's Strategic Engagement Coordinator program. Designed to be delivered by people from a migrant or refugee background, BRMC has trained 6 facilitators in Ballarat to facilitate training for audiences ranging from local community organisations, to businesses and service providers. Last month, we spent a week in the Wimmera training 3 new co-facilitators and delivering training in Halls Gap, Stawell, Horsham and Nhill.

Thank you to Kate, our project consultant, Sara and the team at the Wimmera Development Association, Mel and Annette from the Nhill Learning Centre and, of course, our new co-facilitators Thablay Mura and Tan! Thanks also to Flavia and Ven who contributed to our sessions.

Contact Annie Dunn on [a.dunn@brmc.org.au](mailto:a.dunn@brmc.org.au) for more information about the program.



### Thrive Garden Project

Recently Thrive distributed the first batch of Polybox Mini Gardens to households through the 'Living Together Box' program. When filled with compost, manure, potting mix and mulch, the polyboxes retain moisture and warmth, creating an ideal environment for growing shallow rooted vegetables like leafy greens. Our boxes were planted with coriander, spinach and silverbeet. As the plants mature, they can be harvested leaf by leaf, regrowing and replenishing the kitchen over a long period of time.

The Thrive Fundraiser Plant Stall at the Harmony Market last month was a great success. Thank you to our generous supporters who donated pots, potting mix, labels prior to the stall, and all those who propagated, raised seeds and potted up plants for sale. We raised \$630 for the Ballarat Refugee and Asylum Seeker Support Network (BRASSN).

Thrive is a pilot fresh food growing program at BRMC supported by The Ballarat





(Left) Thrive Fundraiser Plant Stall at the Harmony Market. (Right) Polybox Mini Gardens.

## Community Engagement Team

### 'Developing Our Children Together' program

To date, four workshops have been held in collaboration with the City of Ballarat, Ballarat Community Health and Centrelink, on the following topics:

- Parent Place, Supported Playgroup, Storytelling class, Best Start program
- Maternal & Child Health, Immunisation
- Healthy Living, Head to Help (mental health program)
- Centrelink (Children and Family services)

Three workshops are being prepared for the parents and children of Group A - 22 April: Baby Massage, 29 April: Playgroup, 6 May: Food is Free (community gardening session).



**Currently we are recruiting participants for Group B, which will begin on 28 May.**

Group B, 7 sessions: May 28 | June 4, 11, 18, 25 | July 16, 23

Time: 10am - 12pm

If you need further information or want to join, please leave your name and phone number to Community Engagement Team Leader, Heeyoung: 0410 760 618 or [hy.lim@brmc.org.au](mailto:hy.lim@brmc.org.au).

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE

# Developing Our Children Together Program

(Group B)

*Join our Community Engagement Program 'Developing Our Children Together', which provides parenting support through collaborative partnerships with Government and community service providers of early childhood services. You will be supported in accessing a range of appropriate services based on your needs.*

**Who:** Multicultural parents with children under the age of 5

**When:** Fridays, 10am - 12pm (midday)  
May: 28 | June: 4, 11, 18, 25 | July: 16, 23

**Where:** Ballarat Welcome Centre, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat

**Session Length:** 2 hours / session  
(1 hour: information workshop, 1 hour: socialisation time with parents and children)

**Planned Workshop Topics:** Parent Place, Supported Playgroup, Maternal and Child Health, Immunisation, Healthy Living, Head to Help (mental wellbeing program), NDIS, Speech Development, Baby Massage, Playgroup Victoria, Community Garden etc.

**Fee:** Free of charge

*Childminding and refreshments will be provided.*

If you would like to join this program or need further information, please contact Community Engagement Team Leader, Heeyoung: [hy.lim@brmc.org.au](mailto:hy.lim@brmc.org.au) or 0410 760 618.



This program is supported by the Victorian Government.



## 'Living Together Box' program

Over three days on 23 February, 9 March, and 30 March, the BRMC Community Engagement Team provided the Living Together Box service to 15 families in need. Currently, a survey of the program's satisfaction has been conducted with beneficiaries, whose feedback shows that the Living Together Box project, jointly developed by the Victorian Government, Ballarat Italian Association (BIA) and BRMC, gives hope during economic difficulties.

We hope the Living Together Box will be a small but influential starting move in this society to help families, who are desperate due to economic difficulties caused by COVID-19, overcome despair and rekindle hope.



## **Miniroos Soccer Program**

This program, in partnership with Football Victoria, is for young people aged 6-13 (all genders). It's a great chance to be active, learn new skills and meet other kids.

**Dates:** 16 April, 2 July, 9 July, 24 September, 1 October & 17 December

**Time:** 11am - 12.30pm

**Venue:** Ballarat Regional Soccer Facility (Morshead Park), 900 Pleasant St South, Redan

For more information contact Community Engagement Worker, Lunorphare:

[lk.folly@brmc.org.au](mailto:lk.folly@brmc.org.au) / 0413 572 541.



# 2021 MINIROOS SOCCER PROGRAM

Be active,  
learn new skills and  
make life-long friends

For young people  
aged 6-13  
(all genders)



11am - 12.30pm

16 April  
2 July  
9 July  
24 September  
1 October  
17 December

**BALLARAT REGIONAL SOCCER  
FACILITY (MORSHEAD PARK)**

900 Pleasant St South, Redan

Contact:  
[lk.folly@brmc.org.au](mailto:lk.folly@brmc.org.au)  
0413 572 541

## Good Governance Program

The Good Governance program offers free mentoring support to community organisations, cultural groups and associations looking for governance and compliance advice.



Meet Malcolm Sanders, Good Governance Mentor for South Sudanese Women and Children's group Māl Kēl loc Kēl. His experience and knowledge, coupled with skilled mentoring of the group has helped the group organise their direction and purpose. This is what Malcolm has to say about his Good Governance mentoring experience:

"Since just before Christmas, I have been working as a mentor to the South Sudanese Women and Children's Group, as well as their

dance group Māl Kēl loc Kēl. It has been exciting watching this group begin their journey of forming and deciding how they will operate. The Good Governance program is working in partnership with BRMC to help develop the governance skills of some of the member groups here in Ballarat. Some people from the community (including me), have undergone training to help us learn to be good mentors for our organisations. Under the watchful eye of Sarabjit, the mentors were matched with a group to begin work at the end of 2020. We faced the challenge at first of only being able to meet on Zoom, but now we can finally meet face to face and work to develop and grow this new community group. Can't wait to see what happens!"



### Zoom Workshops - All are welcome to join!

These free workshops act as team building and realignment exercises for mentors and community organisations:

**Topic:** Conducting effective board meetings

**Date & Time:** Tuesday 28 April, 7pm - 8.30pm

**RSVP:** [sally@centreforparticipation.org.au](mailto:sally@centreforparticipation.org.au)

**Zoom Meeting ID:** 420 751 2341

**Passcode:** C4P

**Questions?** Contact Sarabjit at

[s.kaur@brmc.org.au](mailto:s.kaur@brmc.org.au)

**2021 Governance Workshops.**  
Join us to build your governance knowledge.

**2021 Zoom Workshop Schedule:**  
 1. Building your Committee Manual - 28th January  
 2. Setting your purpose - 22nd Feb  
 3. Managing the culture and values - 23rd March  
 4. Conducting effective board meetings - 28th April  
 5. Managing risk - 27th May  
 6. Developing a strategy - 21st June  
 Workshop time: 7pm-8:30pm

For more information contact your Host Coordinator

**Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council**  
Sarabjit Kaur, Migrant English Program Coordinator  
03 5345 8813 [s.kaur@brmc.org.au](mailto:s.kaur@brmc.org.au)

**Albury Wodonga Volunteer Resource Centre**  
Wendy Osborne, Project & Outreach Manager  
02 6023 5099 [mc@wvc.org.au](mailto:mc@wvc.org.au)

**Mildura Rural City Council**  
David Hall, Community Development Officer  
0478 326 444 [graff.hammond@rcc.vic.gov.au](mailto:graff.hammond@rcc.vic.gov.au)

RSVP: [sally@centreforparticipation.org.au](mailto:sally@centreforparticipation.org.au)  
Zoom: Meeting ID 420 751 2341 Passcode C4P

**Helping community organisations be their best.**

## Community Volunteers: Migrant English Program

The skilled MEP tutors provide free online English learning support to clients in Ballarat, Beaufort, Ararat and Horsham. Kudos to our volunteer tutors who work tirelessly to empower individuals find better employment and social opportunities.

### Meet Jan Angus, one of our fabulous MEP tutors:

"There is a rather ordinary word that I sometimes use. I have never thought too much about it... Lately, though, this solitary word has become of major significance both locally and globally. The word? ZOOM! As a volunteer English Tutor, and during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Sarabjit Kaur approached me with a very strange request indeed - would I be willing to tutor online on this "thing" called ZOOM? I had no idea at all what she meant, but being passionately wedded to tutoring, and without too much hesitation I said I would give it a go. Well here I am, months later, still Zooming along after a rather shaky start!"

- Jan Angus, Volunteer Tutor



To learn more about this learning community, contact Sarabjit at [s.kaur@brmc.org.au](mailto:s.kaur@brmc.org.au).





## Diversity Homework Club

We've had a successful Term 1. The students engaged in literacy, numeracy and science activities as the tutors organised fun-learning challenges for the group that kept everyone on their toes. As excitement builds to see how many students will win Reading Awards, our Reading Room tutors Vanessa and Anne dexterously tabulate the reading logs of participating students.



Meet Liseni Warnakulasuriya, our incredibly talented Diversity Homework Club tutor who joined the team as a Peer Tutor in 2020. Her 'Word Play' challenges had the students learning 21 new words in Term 1.

### Let's hear it from Liseni:

Just as COVID-19 brought our world to a halt, I joined the Diversity Homework Club. I was entering the biggest year of my life - year 12. Nonetheless, I wanted to give my time and join the wider community while I had the chance to volunteer as a Peer Tutor through Ballarat Clarendon College's Community Service program.

The moment I joined that Zoom call, I was greeted with the most welcoming and supportive tutors. The first few sessions were filled with observation opportunities, where I learnt how to structure my lessons based on the students' individual needs. I can't express the joy I receive knowing that the DHC students have a safe and supportive atmosphere for finding their strengths. Whether it's writing poems, creating lyrics, singing till their heart's content, or just helping with schoolwork, DHC is always ready to take on a new adventure!

Participating in the DHC as a Peer Tutor and now, since I am a Uni student, as part of the

team of tutors, is like a pocket of happiness I enter every Wednesday. Sometimes it's challenging too, but we start and leave each session with a little game to brighten the day. Every week I make a little spelling game where I base 3 words with a specific theme, such as 'dinosaurs' or 'space'. The DHC students love a good challenge! I've had the privilege to witness the resilience and strength that my DHC students bring to every session. As a first year Uni student of Medicine, I hope I can do the same. I hope to continue teaching and growing with the Diversity Homework Club.

### **DHC's virtual choir 'A Better Place' premiered online on 28 March.**

The choir, collaboratively produced under the able tutelage of George and Geoffrey Williams of Virtual Soul Choir, celebrates the joy of togetherness and collaborative learning. Enjoy the heart-warming video here:

<https://youtu.be/4olxo93knX0>



## **Social Support**

BRMC Social Support celebrated the Maltese culture at March Multicultural Tucker. Our seniors feasted on a delicious three-course Maltese cuisine of pastizzi, stuffed zucchini and yummy cannoli for dessert. We had a full house with 93 clients attending the event!

For our first Bus Trip for 2021, we visited the beautiful Buda Historic Home & Garden in Castlemaine before enjoying a two-course lunch at the Cumberland Hotel and then a shopping spree at the Mill Market.

Seniors enjoyed a lovely afternoon at our March Seasonal Lunch. With a nutritious two-course meal and informative presentations on Tai Chi and a COVID Vaccine information session. *Program Update: We are merging Health & Wellbeing Day with Seasonal Lunch.*



## **April Programs**

**Tai Chi:** April 20 & 27, 1pm - 2pm (reduced to \$5)

**Multicultural Tucker (Polish):** Wednesday 14 April, 12pm - 3pm (\$10)

**Bus Trip (Mount Macedon):** Monday 19 April, 9am - 5pm (\$40)

**Seasonal Lunch:** Wednesday 28 April, 12pm - 2pm (\$10)

All programs are held at Victoria Bowling Club, 231 Victoria St, Ballarat East.  
Bookings are essential.

If you know someone who would benefit from BRMC Social Support Services, contact Teresa on 0417 109 052 or [t.azzopardi@brmc.org.au](mailto:t.azzopardi@brmc.org.au).

## **New Social Support Program: Carer Support Hub**

**Thursday 27th May, 10am - 3pm**

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



## **NEW PROGRAM!**

# **CARER SUPPORT HUB**

**Do you provide help to a loved one, neighbour or friend?**

This program is designed to help you by providing an opportunity for Social Interaction, Meals and Excursions. Carers and family members can take part in the activities or you can leave the person in need of care at our program.

For more information call Teresa on

**0417 109 052**



**MINI BUS TRIPS - EXERCISE - ART & CRAFT  
GAMES - FRIENDSHIPS - FOOD - LAUGHTER**

**THURSDAY  
27TH MAY  
\$10**

**10am to 3pm**

**Morning Tea & Lunch  
will be provided**

**VICTORIA BOWLING CLUB  
231 Victoria Street, Ballarat East**

### **Volunteer with BRMC**

Volunteering with BRMC is a great way to learn new skills, gain confidence, be part of a community, meet new people and make a difference!

### **Digital Mentor**

BRMC is teaming up with Ballarat North Neighbourhood Centre to recruit and train Digital Mentors to support members of our community with limited digital literacy skills.

Digital Mentors will: work one-on-one in small groups with people from migrant or refugee



backgrounds, participate in Digital Mentor training and commit to a minimum of 1 hour a week for six months.

Contact Heeyoung on 03 5383 0613 or [hy.lim@brmc.org.au](mailto:hy.lim@brmc.org.au).



**BRMC IS RECRUITING VOLUNTEER**  
**DIGITAL MENTORS**

BRMC is looking for people with technical and people skills to become digital mentors.

**Interested?**  
Contact Heeyoung Lim on 5383 0613 or [hy.lim@brmc.org.au](mailto:hy.lim@brmc.org.au)

**DIGITAL MENTORS WILL**

- Work 1:1 or in small groups with people from migrant or refugee backgrounds
- Participate in Digital Mentor training
- Commit to a minimum of 1 hour / week for six months

Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council

## Administration / Reception Volunteer

Do you have one or two half days per week to be our receptionist? We have morning and afternoon shifts available, Monday to Friday. You decide which days and hours suit you.

Tasks include: greeting visitors, answering the phone, responding to emails, keeping records, filing documents and assisting with office tasks.

Contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613 or [teresa@brmc.org.au](mailto:teresa@brmc.org.au).



**BRMC IS RECRUITING**  
**RECEPTION VOLUNTEERS**

BRMC is looking for volunteers to assist at office reception in the Ballarat Welcome Centre.

**Interested?**  
Contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613 or [teresa@brmc.org.au](mailto:teresa@brmc.org.au)

**TASKS INCLUDE**

- Greeting visitors
- Answering the phone
- Responding to emails
- Keeping records
- Filing documents
- Assisting with office tasks

Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council

## Social Support Volunteer

Becoming a BRMC Social Support Volunteer is a way for you to give back to our local culturally and linguistically diverse community.

We have a variety of opportunities: Hospitality Assistant, Program Assistant, Driver, Home Visiting, and Administration / General Assistant.

Contact Teresa on 0417 109 052 or [teresa@brmc.org.au](mailto:teresa@brmc.org.au).



**BRMC IS LOOKING FOR**  
**SOCIAL SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS**

Help provide social support to clients from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds through much needed programs.

**Become a Volunteer!**  
Contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613 / 0417 109 052 or [teresa@brmc.org.au](mailto:teresa@brmc.org.au)

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

- Hospitality Assistant
- Program Assistant
- Driver
- Home Visiting
- Administration / General Assistant

As a Volunteer you will be an essential and valued member of the BRMC Social Support team.

Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council

## Digital Mentor Training

**Wednesday 28th April, 9am - 3pm**

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

This training session will include an induction to volunteering with BRMC as well as Digital Mentorship Training. Register your interest by contacting Heeyoung Lim on 03 5383 0613 or [hy.lim@brmc.org.au](mailto:hy.lim@brmc.org.au).



# DIGITAL MENTOR TRAINING

For Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council

free!

## THE DIGITAL MENTORING PROGRAM

The Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council (BRMC) is teaming up with the Ballarat North Neighbourhood Centre to recruit and train Digital Mentors to support members of our community with limited digital literacy skills. The training is supported by the Australian Government's Be Connected Program.

## WHAT IS A DIGITAL MENTOR?

Digital Mentors work with people who wish to increase their confidence to use technology. You are not expected to be an IT expert to become a mentor - if you currently use a computer, smart device and the internet on a regular basis, the Be Connected Digital Mentor program is for you!

## DIGITAL MENTOR TRAINING

The training will include an induction to volunteering with BRMC as well as Digital Mentorship Training

**Wednesday 28 April 2021**  
**9.00am – 3:00 pm**  
**Ballarat Welcome Centre**  
**25-39 Barkly Street**

The session will be presented by **Ballarat North Neighbourhood House**. The training will show you how to use the lessons and resources on the Be Connected Website, and the best ways you can use them to help other people get online to do simple things like pay bills, access Centrelink or contact family members.

Once you have been trained you can go on to work with people from migrant and refugee backgrounds through volunteering as a Digital Mentor with BRMC.

## INTERESTED?

Register your interest by contacting Heeyoung Lim on 5383 0613 or [hy.lim@brmc.org.au](mailto:hy.lim@brmc.org.au).

**'2.5 million  
Australians  
don't have the basic  
digital skills to thrive  
in today's world'**



## WHAT IS BE CONNECTED?

Be Connected is an Australia wide government initiative to enable all Australians to flourish in a digital world. We want to make sure that everyone can use the internet safely so that they can grow and stay connected with each other.



**Be Connected**  
Every Australian online.

**Network  
Partner**



**Ballarat Regional  
Multicultural Council Inc.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Ballarat Indian Film Festival

The Ballarat Indian Film Festival is showcasing a wealth of Indian Cinema right here in regional Victoria at Regent Cinemas Ballarat.

**Tuck Jagadish - Saturday 24th April**

Keep an eye on the Ballarat Indian Film Festival Facebook page for more information and booking links: [www.facebook.com/BallaratIndianFilmFestival](https://www.facebook.com/BallaratIndianFilmFestival)



## CMY Youth-Led Unit Regional Roadshow

**Wednesday 28th April 2021**

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

CMY is hosting an important session to capture the voices of young people (aged 14-30). The purpose of the proposed unit will be to facilitate the voices and actions of multicultural young people in Victoria, to lead, create and deliver projects to drive social change.

- **Ballarat Organisations and Stakeholder session**  
Wednesday 28th April, 1.30pm - 2.30pm
- **Ballarat Students and Young People session (14 years - 30 years)**  
Wednesday 28th April, 3pm - 4pm
- **Ballarat Young People session (19 years - 30 years)**  
Wednesday 28th April, 5pm - 7pm

Register your interest: [www.cmy.net.au/youth-led-unit](http://www.cmy.net.au/youth-led-unit)

For more information, contact Boudene Hauraki on 0475 400 078 or [bhauraki@cmy.net.au](mailto:bhauraki@cmy.net.au).



## Libraries After Dark: Sustainability at Home

**Thursday 29th April, 7pm - 8.30pm**

Venue: Sebastopol Library, 181 Albert St, Sebastopol

Want to reduce your heating bills, find wind draughts or just make your home more sustainable? Join Dale Boucher for this informative session on how to make your home more sustainable and energy efficient.



Register: [www.eventbrite.com.au/e/libraries-after-dark-sustainability-at-home-tickets-142453443083](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/libraries-after-dark-sustainability-at-home-tickets-142453443083)



## **'June Again' Movie Fundraiser**

**Thursday 6th May, 6pm**

Venue: Regent Cinemas, 49 Lydiard St N, Ballarat Central

Ballarat Friends of Ainaro are hosting a movie fundraiser to assist people in Ainaro, Timor-Leste, to help them recover from recent devastating flooding and mudslides.

Cost: \$20 per ticket

To purchase tickets, visit the Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre (11 Tuppen Dr, Sebastopol) or call 03 5329 3273.

**BALLARAT FRIENDS OF AINARO**

# **'JUNE AGAIN' MOVIE FUND-RAISER**

**Helping our friends in Ainaro, Timor-Leste recover  
from recent devastating flooding and mudslides.**



**WHEN: 6:00 PM ON THURSDAY 6 MAY  
WHERE: REGENT CINEMA, LYDIARD ST**

**COST: \$20 PER TICKET**

**'June Again' is a heartfelt comedy about June (Noni Hazlehurst) who, after  
a medical miracle, has just a few days to bring together her estranged  
children (Claudia Karvan and Stephen Curry), save the family business,  
and rekindle an old flame.**

## **ITEMS OF INTEREST**

### **Victorian Refugee Awards**

The Victorian Refugee Awards recognise and promote the achievements and contributions of Victorians from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds who have excelled through study, work, entrepreneurial or volunteer efforts.

Victorian Multicultural Commission is seeking nominations in four categories: Young Leader Award, Achievement Award, Leadership Award and Business Award.

**Nominations close Sunday 2 May 2021.**

Visit: [www.multiculturalcommission.vic.gov.au/victorian-refugee-awards](http://www.multiculturalcommission.vic.gov.au/victorian-refugee-awards)



## Jobs Victoria Fund

The Jobs Victoria Fund is providing \$250 million in wage subsidies to assist Victorian businesses to employ at least 10,000 people who are looking for work. If you are a Victorian employer ready to take on new staff, the Jobs Victoria Fund can financially support you to employ people who have been most affected by the economic impacts of the pandemic.

More information: <https://jobs.vic.gov.au/about-jobs-victoria/our-programs/jobs-victoria-fund>

## Victoria Police Diversity Recruitment Program

Victoria Police is encouraging applicants who identify as African-Australian to apply for the Victoria Police Diversity Recruitment Program.

The program seeks to increase the representation of African-Australians from refugee and other backgrounds in Victoria Police. This new program focuses on the challenges encountered by African-Australians who apply to Victoria Police and is designed to assist and provide support to applicants.



**Applications close Friday 28 May 2021.**

Apply now: [www.victoriapolicediversity.org.au](http://www.victoriapolicediversity.org.au)

## SARA Financial Wellbeing for Women

SARA is a specialist program offering financial literacy training for women affected by family violence. The course aims to support women to build confidence, knowledge and skill around managing their money to achieve financial wellbeing and financial dignity and is funded by the Victorian government.

The program will suit those who:

- Are low in confidence when it comes to money and finances
- Would like to improve their money skills
- Want to learn about where to get more help around money and their finances

**When:** Fridays 9.30am - 12.30pm

**Dates:** 30 April - 2 July 2021

**Length:** 30 hours - 10 sessions

**Cost:** Free

**Register your interest:** [www.socialplanet.com.au/activity/view?id=1726](http://www.socialplanet.com.au/activity/view?id=1726)



This class will take place at Ballarat North Neighbourhood House, 6 Crompton Street, Soldiers Hill.

## EVENTS IN REVIEW

### Wellbeing of International Students

BRMC representatives recently met with officials of Federation University and the Ballarat Keralites Foundation of Australia, for a discussion on community support mechanisms for the wellbeing of International Students.



### Harmony Market

The Harmony Market was held on Friday 26 March to celebrate Harmony Fest and Cultural Diversity Week. It was a beautiful sunny day and the Ballarat Welcome Centre forecourt at Barkly Square was buzzing with activity. Thank you to everyone who attended and all our lovely stallholders.

If you missed the Harmony Market, visit Twilight Market Online for quality hand-made, locally-sourced and ethically-produced goods: <https://twilightmarket.brmc.org.au>



### Ubuntu Breakfast

On Wednesday 17 March, BRMC, Ballarat African Association and A Pot of Courage co-hosted an Ubuntu Breakfast during Harmony Fest. It was a beautiful way to start the day. Thank you to Fr Constantine Osuchukwu, Dr Michael Akindeju and Erica Echstein for providing thought provoking Ubuntu narratives. We share the [Ubuntu pledge](#) with you.



## Cafs 'Living with Harmony'

Cafs' Gambler's Help team collaborated with The Big Issue Community Street Soccer and [SHARC](#) to promote 'Living with Harmony' on March 16 and 23. Coaches from The Big Issue and Western United ran attendees through their paces with drills and a game. Guest speaker, Ian, spoke candidly about his lived experience of gambling harm and his road to recovery. A fantastic lunch was provided by the Black Sheep Café, and Rebel Sport vouchers were handed out at the second session for players demonstrating good teamwork, resilience and top skills (kindly donated by SHARC). Lachie (pictured) won the inaugural 'Cafs Kindness Award' for his on-field sportsmanship and encouragement.



Left photo (left to right): Lachie (Cafs Kindness Award recipient), Jen Pollard (Cafs board member), John Bradshaw (Cafs Gambler's Help Community Engagement Officer).

[The Big Issue Community Street Soccer](#) program runs every Tuesday between 1pm - 3pm at the Eastern Oval netball courts (Scott Parade, Ballarat Central). Suitable for anyone over the age of 16.

For more information on The Big Issue Community Street Soccer initiative, call/text Ross: 0406 660 111 or email [rmorley@bigissue.org.au](mailto:rmorley@bigissue.org.au).

## Share Your News

Have something you would like us to share on social media or in the BRMC monthly newsletter?

Tag us on Facebook [@brmc.ballarat](https://www.facebook.com/brmc.ballarat) or submit items to [media@brmc.org.au](mailto:media@brmc.org.au).

### BRMC Contact Details

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## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

For updates, advice and **translated resources** visit  
**[www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)**



If you have a coronavirus question and need a translator:

- Call 131 450 (TIS National)
- Then request the Coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398

Keep Triple Zero (000) for emergencies only

BRMC connects and supports diverse communities to be safe and informed and to minimise the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19).

*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.*  

