

February 2022 Newsletter



Dear Readers,

Welcome Back. We have opened our doors again in February 2022. February has already seen the delivery of a pop-up vaccination hub at the Welcome Centre and commencement of our Anti-Racism program in schools. We commend many member initiatives and look forward to featuring them on [BRMC Facebook](#) and our 2022 monthly newsletters. Keep your eye out for the Ballarat Harmony Fest program for 17-23 March 2022. We will feature the program in our next monthly newsletter.

We continue to work with Grampians Health and City of Ballarat to promote everybody's health. Please contact our team if you need support or information on vaccines, testing or support while isolating.

Warm Regards,

Ann

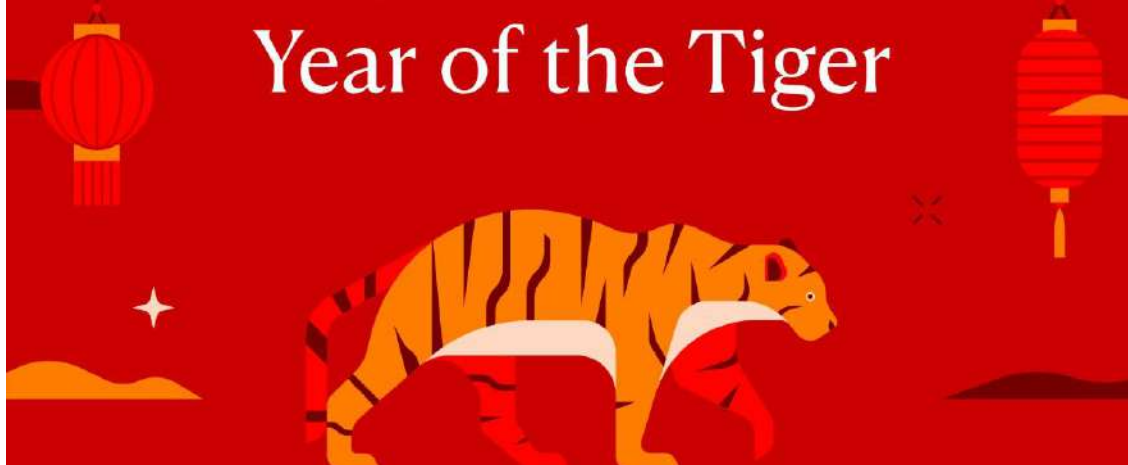
BRMC Executive Officer

Chinese Lunar New Year

BRMC wishes everyone happiness and prosperity in the Year of the Tiger.

Tigers are the third of the Chinese zodiacs. According to legend, Tiger was confident that no one could compete with its speed and vigour for the celestial race that would decide the order of the zodiacs. However, when Tiger climbed out of the river, thinking it was first, it was informed that Rat placed first for its cunning and Ox placed second for its diligence. This left the king of the jungle having to settle for third place.

In Chinese culture, the tiger is the symbol of bravery, wisdom and strength.



COVID-19 Information

It is recommended that people aged 16 years and over should receive three doses of the COVID-19 vaccine in order to stay up to date. Three doses will provide you with the strongest protection against serious illness from COVID-19 and helps reduce spread within the community.

Children and adolescents aged 5-15 years are considered up to date after two doses, and a third dose is not currently recommended for this age group.

Book online at covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/booking or call 1800 675 398.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccines, speak to your doctor or visit:

www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/about-covid-19-vaccines

Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT)

Advice on when and how to use rapid antigen tests: www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/rapid-antigen-tests

COVID-19 BRMC Help: 0491 066 247 and help@brmc.org.au

IN THIS ISSUE

Updates from BRMC

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

Upcoming Events

- BRMC Hands-On Creative Workshops
- Getting Schooled: Empowering multicultural youth post-secondary transitions
- Be Creative - Monthly Crafting Sessions
- Maha Shivratri 2022
- Ballarat Begonia Festival Parade
- FECCA 2022 - New Dates

Items of Interest

- 2022 Victorian Refugee Award Nominations
- 2022 Diversity Webinar Series
- 2022 WNC Program Guide (Term 1)
- Power Saving Bonus
- Document Signing Station at Barkly Square
- BCH Mental Health Groups
- BHS Consumer Partnership Program (CPP)
- A Pot of Courage - Casual Positions

Events in Review

- World Interfaith Harmony Week Flag Raising
- BKFA Awards

BRMC Vaccination Hub

On Saturday 12 February, BRMC in partnership with Ballarat Health Services and Women's Health Grampians held their ninth Pop-Up Vaccination Hub at the Ballarat Welcome Centre. 93 members of our multicultural communities, including 26 young children came along for their 1st, 2nd or booster shots. If you missed our clinic, check our [website](#) on where you can go to get yours.

Thank you to all the children and parents that have helped protect themselves, their families and the community.



Stepping Stones to Small Business Program

Stepping Stones Registration

Do you or someone you know have a dream of starting your own enterprise and being your own boss? Then the Stepping Stones Program is what you are looking for!

Registrations are open for the Stepping Stones to Small Business training program, starting Wednesday, 30 March 10am - 2pm, and run each Wednesday to 22 June (with a break for Term 1 School Holidays). FREE and online, Stepping Stones is open to all women of migrant and humanitarian backgrounds, and to women 50+ of any background.

Contact Deborah at d.klein@brmc.org.au or 0457 934 728 for further information.

Register



Interested In Starting Your Own Small Business?

The 2022 Stepping Stones To Small Business Program Is Now Taking Applications!

For women of migrant and humanitarian backgrounds, and women 50+ of any background

- FREE 11-Week Course Online via ZOOM
- Build Confidence + Develop Business Skills + Grow Networks
- Research + Planning + Marketing + Finance + Management
- Training + Connecting + Tutoring + Mentoring For Graduates
- Wednesdays, 30 March - 22 June 2022 10am - 2pm

Interested? Questions? Want to register?
Contact Deborah Klein 0457 934 728 d.klein@brmc.org.au




Stepping Stones To Small Business

FREE - Online via ZOOM
Wednesday, 30 March - Wednesday, 22 June

Date	Topics Covered
Wednesday, 30 March 10am - 2pm	DAY 1 Introduction to Stepping Stones Training Structure Starting a Small Business in Victoria Introduction to Developing Your Own Business Plan
Friday, 1 April 9am - 12pm	Optional tutorial reviewing DAY 1 topics & supporting students working on their own Business Plan
Wednesday, 6 April 10am - 2pm	DAY 2 It's All About My Customers Crafting My Business Plan
Friday, 8 April 10am - 12pm	Optional tutorial reviewing DAY 2 topics & supporting students working on their own Business Plan
TERM BREAK 9 - 20 April	
Wednesday, 27 April 10am - 2pm	DAY 3 Who Are My Competitors? Basic Business Marketing
Friday, 29 April 10am - 12pm	Optional tutorial reviewing DAY 3 topics & supporting students working on their own Business Plan
Wednesday, 4 May 10am - 2pm	DAY 4 Communicating With My Customers Building Business Relationships Through Networking Digital Marketing
Friday, 6 May 10am - 12pm	Optional tutorial reviewing DAY 4 topics & supporting students working on their own Business Plan
Wednesday, 10 May 10am - 2pm	DAY 5 Setting Achievable Business Goals Time Management
Friday, 12 May 9am - 12pm	Optional tutorial reviewing DAY 5 topics & supporting students working on their own Business Plan
Wednesday, 18 May 10am - 2pm	DAY 6 My Key Suppliers, Partners, Resources How To Plan For Risk Communication in Business
Friday, 20 May 9am - 12pm	Optional tutorial reviewing DAY 6 topics & supporting students working on their own Business Plan
Wednesday, 23 May 10am - 2pm	DAY 7 Financial Literacy For Small Business
Friday, 27 May 9am - 12pm	Optional tutorial reviewing DAY 7 topics & supporting students working on their own Business Plan
Wednesday, 1 June 10am - 2pm	DAY 8 Superintendence and Tax Banking For Business Photographs For Business
Friday, 3 June 9am - 12pm	Optional tutorial reviewing DAY 8 topics & supporting students working on their own Business Plan
Wednesday, 8 June 10am - 2pm	DAY 9 Pricing For Profit Leasing Business Registration and ABN
Friday, 10 June 9am - 12pm	Optional tutorial reviewing DAY 9 topics & supporting students working on their own Business Plan
Wednesday, 15 June 10am - 2pm	DAY 10 Business Insurance Business Record-Keeping Stepping Stones Mentoring Program
Friday, 17 June 9am - 12pm	Optional tutorial reviewing DAY 10 topics & supporting students working on their own Business Plan
Wednesday, 22 June 10am - 2pm	DAY 11 Break Take! Business Progress and Graduation Certificate Presentation What's Coming Up - Stepping Stones Thrive and Community Programs

Registration now open:
www.bsl.org.au/services/consulting-and-training/stepping-stones
Questions? Need Help?
Contact Deborah Klein d.klein@brmc.org.au 0457 934 728




Stepping Stones Volunteers

Can you help support a woman who dreams of being her own boss and running her own small business?

The Stepping Stones to Small Business program is seeking volunteer Mentors to support our graduates as they launch themselves into the world of small business, and volunteer tutors who can help support their learning to get there.

Have you got a couple of hours a week - or just a couple of hours? You could be the key to a woman realising her dream to better support herself and her family!

Full training and orientation provided.

Contact Deborah at d.klein@brmc.org.au or 0457 934 728 for further information.

Social Support

Thank you for your patience and ongoing understanding to changes with our programs. It is our priority to ensure we deliver programs as safely as possible during this ever changing and challenging time.

The Social Support Team are planning to re-introduce face-to-face programs in March. We will hope to offer weekly Tai Chi sessions and small group lunches.

If you have any questions, need further assistance, or would just like a chat you can call the Social Support office on 03 5331 1123.



Hazara Social Support Program

Tuesday 1st March, 5pm - 9pm

Barkly Square Courtyard, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat

The BRMC Social Support Team welcome the Hazara community to come along and share a meal and meet friends. This program will be delivered on the first Tuesday of each month. To register call 03 5331 1123.



Multicultural Job Club

Mondays, 6pm - 7pm or Thursdays, 1pm - 2pm

Via Zoom during Term 1

The Multicultural Job Club is back on Monday 28 February and will be running twice a week! Topics will be repeated on Mondays and Thursdays - so you can choose which day suits best. Everyone welcome to attend.

Register



Multicultural Job Club

Offering connection and support to people on their employment journey

Mondays 6-7pm
OR
Thursdays 1-2pm

Join us on ZOOM

Register Online: bit.ly/3CJ5m9A

**LOOKING FOR A JOB?
YOU'RE NOT ALONE!**

The Multicultural Job Club is a weekly session where you will:

- Connect and support each other
- Set achievable goals
- Meet new people
- Connect with services
- Learn something new
- Build confidence

Interested?

Contact Bek on r.robertson@brmc.org.au or 0491 066 248

or join our Facebook Group [BRMC Multicultural Job Club](https://www.facebook.com/groups/multiculturaljobclub)



Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council



Volunteer with BRMC

Volunteers make BRMC a real community and a thriving hub for community connection and services. BRMC is always in need of people who are willing to help and share their time, talents and skills. www.brmc.org.au/get-involved

Contact Teresa on 03 5383 0613 / 0417 109 052 / teresa@brmc.org.au

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**BRMC IS LOOKING FOR
VOLUNTEERS!**

**Find out more about
how YOU can help**

Contact Teresa on
03 5383 0613 / 0417 109 052
or teresa@brmc.org.au



Ballarat Regional
Multicultural Council Inc.

We have a broad range of
volunteer opportunities.

Get involved in one of our
services to help improve the
quality of life for culturally and
linguistically diverse members
of our community.

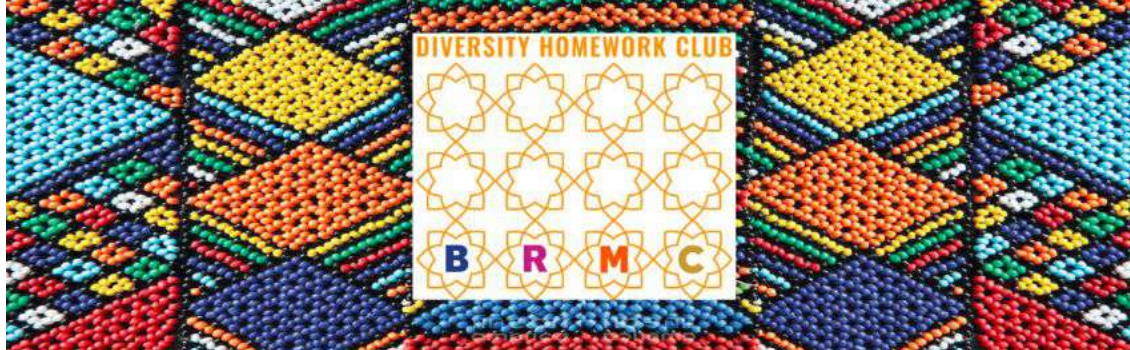
www.brmc.org.au/get-involved

UPCOMING EVENTS

BRMC Hands-On Creative Workshops

Saturday 26th February & Sunday 6th March, 11am - 2pm
Ballarat Welcome Centre, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat

Join us for some creativity and fun as we create cultural decorations for the BRMC Begonia Festival Parade entry. Please let us know if you would like to come along:
d.klein@brmc.org.au or 0457 934 728.



Hands-On Creative WORKSHOPS

**Come Create Cultural Decorations
For The Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council
Ballarat Begonia Festival Parade Entry**

**Saturday, 26 February & Sunday, 6 March
11am - 2pm**

FREE Family Fun For All Ages



Ballarat Welcome Centre 25 - 39 Barkly Street
Please let us know you are coming:
d.klein@brmc.org.au 0457 934 728



Getting Schooled: Empowering multicultural youth post-secondary transitions

Tuesday 22nd February, 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Online via Zoom

Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) presents a youth-informed state-wide forum, which will explore how educators and service providers can better support multicultural young people to make informed decisions about career pathways after high school.

Register



Centre for
Multicultural Youth
cmj

Getting schooled: Empowering multicultural youth in post-secondary transitions

Centre for Multicultural Youth presents a youth-informed, state-wide forum.

Centre for Multicultural Youth presents a youth-informed, state-wide forum, which will explore how educators and service providers can better support multicultural young people to make informed decisions about career pathways after high school.

The forum will provide participants with the opportunity to better understand the experiences of multicultural young people as they transition from

high school to higher education and/or employment. It will bring together educational staff, career advisors, youth workers and other relevant stakeholders to network, discuss solutions and hear stories and advice from multicultural young people.

This event has been developed in collaboration with the CMY Metro Youth Advisory Group (YAG).



DATE Tuesday, 22nd February 2022
TIME 3:30pm - 5:30pm
VENUE Zoom

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Zoom link and password will be emailed to registered participants before the event.

Be Creative - Monthly Crafting Sessions

Thursday 24th February, 6pm

Sebastopol Library, 181 Albert St, Sebastopol

Ballarat Libraries introduces Be Creative, a new recurring program held on the last Thursday of each month. Be Creative with other crafters from the community with this monthly session at Libraries After Dark. Bring along something you're working on and meet new people at this casual catch up. No bookings required - BYO craft.

Be Creative is subject to COVID-19 restrictions and may be cancelled last minute. For updates please phone Sebastopol Library on 03 5335 7985.



Maha Shivratri 2022

Tuesday 1st March, 6pm - 9pm

St James Parish School Hall, 260 Albert St, Sebastopol

Ballarat Hindu Temple & Cultural Centre invite everyone to come and celebrate Maha Shivratri 2022 in Ballarat. This auspicious day is believed to be the day of convergence of divine powers of Lord Shiva and Goddess Shakti. The event will be conducted with Bhajans, Archana and Pooja, and cultural programs followed by dinner.

[Book now](#)

BALLARAT HINDU TEMPLE & CULTURAL CENTER
Invites you all for
Maha Shivratri Celebrations

SAVE THE DATE
01 03 22
DAY MONTH YEAR

VENUE
ST JAMES' PARISH SCHOOL SEBASTOPOL
6PM TO 9PM

Come and Enjoy the grand event of Lord Shiva

If any queries, Contact: +61435-532-172

Ballarat Begonia Festival Parade

Monday 14th March, 9am

Lake Wendouree, Ballarat

BRMC is inviting all associations and members to join us for the 2022 Begonia Parade. Cultural dress is encouraged. If you would like to be involved please contact teresa@brmc.org.au or 0417 109 052.



JOIN BRMC IN THE BEGONIA PARADE 2022

Monday 14th March from 9am

ALL WELCOME!



Registrations or for
more info contact
teresa@brmc.org.au
0417 109 052



FECCA 2022 - New Dates

In the interests of public health and safety, the FECCA 2022 national conference has been postponed until **16-17 June 2022**.

Early bird registrations and scholarship applications will now close on 31 March 2022.

[Find out more](#)



ITEMS OF INTEREST

2022 Victorian Refugee Award Nominations

Nominations for the 2022 Victorian Refugee Awards are opening soon.

The awards recognise and promote the achievements and contributions of Victorians who arrived as refugees and asylum seekers.

If you know a person, business or organisation that deserves recognition, please nominate them for a Refugee Award.

[More info](#)



2022 Diversity Webinar Series

The online Diversity Webinar series aims to engage staff working within the aged care sector in Australia with skills and knowledge to work effectively with diverse older people, their families, carers and advocates. It involves a range of topics relevant to culturally safe and inclusive practice, and is designed in response to topics requested from staff working in the aged care sector in Australia.

[Learn more](#)



2022 WNC Program Guide (Term 1)

Do you want to learn something new in a welcoming environment?

No matter what level of education or training you have had in the past, Wendouree Neighbourhood Centre can help. New skills can be life changing offering job choices, education and the chance to interact with others in the community.

For course descriptions, printable flyers and to 'Register Interest', visit

www.wnc.org.au/programmes

Connect, Participate, Learn

COURSE	START DATE	TIME	M	T	W	T	F	COST
TERM 1								
Word	8 Feb 8 Sessions	12:30pm - 3:00pm		✓				\$30 (Conc. \$20)
Office Skills	10 Feb 10 Sessions	9:30am - 12:00pm				✓		\$40 (Conc. \$25)
Beginners Computers	1 Mar 16 Sessions	9:30am - 12:00pm		✓				\$65 (Conc. \$40)
Beyond the Basics	3 Mar 16 Sessions	12:30pm - 3:00pm				✓		\$65 (Conc. \$40)
Reading & Writing	1 Mar 20 Sessions	12:30pm - 3:00pm		✓				FREE
Reading & Writing – Literacy for Getting Your L's	2 Mar 20 Sessions	9:30am - 12:00pm			✓			FREE
Getting Your L's	2 Mar 10 Sessions	12:30pm - 3:00pm			✓			FREE
Improve Your Maths	1 Mar 10 Sessions	9:30am - 12:00pm		✓				FREE
Cooking for Community	4 Mar 15 Sessions	9:30am - 2:30pm					✓	FREE
Cooking Basics	28 Feb 20 Sessions	9:30am - 12:00pm	✓					\$65 (Conc. \$55)
Café Skills	2 Mar 12 Sessions	12:30pm - 3:00pm			✓			FREE
Unlock Your Creative Skills - Sewing	28 Feb 10 Sessions	12:30pm - 3:00pm	✓					\$50
Live, Learn, Connect	TBC 10 Sessions							FREE

For Course descriptions, printable Flyers and to 'Register Interest' please visit:

[Wendouree Neighbourhood Centre \(wnc.org.au\)](http://Wendouree Neighbourhood Centre (wnc.org.au))

CONTACT US

12-14 Violet Grove, Wendouree 3355

Ph: 53030507 Email: reception@wnc.org.au www.wnc.org.au
www.facebook.com/wendoureenighbourhoodcentre

Power Saving Bonus

The Victorian Government's Power Saving Bonus program has been extended to 30 June. The Power Saving Bonus is a \$250 payment to help support vulnerable households doing it tough with energy bills.

The Bonus is available to households with residents who receive payment through the Pensioner Concession, JobSeeker, Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance programs, or who hold a Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold Card.

[Find out more](#)



Document Signing Station at Barkly Square

The Ballarat branch of the Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices have established a Document Signing Station at Barkly Square near A Pot of Courage Café, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat.

A Justice of the Peace (JP) will be in attendance every Thursday from 12pm - 1.30pm. People can have documents certified as true copies, declare statutory declarations and affidavits.

BCH Mental Health Groups

Has your mental health been impacted by COVID-19? Would you like to develop some skills to help your mental health and connect with like-minded people? Join group sessions run by experienced clinicians and peer workers from Ballarat Community Health. Sessions are free and held on weekdays throughout February.

[More info](#)



BHS Consumer Partnership Program (CPP)

The CPP provide opportunities across the service by creating a platform where consumers can participate and be involved in the development, delivery, planning and evaluation of the health service. BHS believes everyone deserves a voice and want to help consumers

achieve this. If you would like more information about joining, please contact 03 5320 8571 or safety&innovation@bhs.org.au.



Would you like to help us improve our services?

Would you like to
tell your story to
inspire change at
BHS?

We value your
views and would
like to hear them

If you would like more information about joining
please contact the team on
5320 8571 or safety&innovation@bhs.org.au
Use the QR code to learn more



SCAN ME

A Pot of Courage - Casual Positions

Would you love to be part of a team that celebrates ALL cultural backgrounds through our cafe, catering and events?

Casual positions are available with A Pot of Courage - chef, cooks, kitchenhands, baristas, event staff (eg RSA trained). If you know anyone who might be keen to join, please ask them to contact Shiree on 0438 871 503 or email CVs to apotofcourage@gmail.com.



EVENTS IN REVIEW

World Interfaith Harmony Week Flag Raising

Ballarat Interfaith Network's annual flag raising ceremony was held on Tuesday 1 February at St Peter's Anglican Church to celebrate the beginning of World Interfaith Harmony Week. The distinctive design of the Ballarat flag represents the people of Ballarat, spirituality around the world, and the aspiration towards harmony.



BKFA Awards

Ballarat Keralites' Foundation of Australia (BKFA) was honoured to receive 'Community Event of the Year 2022' awarded by the City of Ballarat. For feeding Ballarat's vulnerable during COVID through their community project 'Freshly Cooked Free Food in Lock Down'.

BKFA Youth Ambassador and BRMC Youth Advisor, Jerrica Elsa John also won the Youth Volunteer Award and Major Award (12-17 years) during the 2021 Ballarat Youth Awards.



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

Tag us on Facebook [@brmc.ballarat](#) or submit items to media@brmc.org.au.

BRMC Contact Details

Ballarat Welcome Centre

25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat VIC 3350

Phone: 03 5383 0613

Email: info@brmc.org.au

Website: www.brmc.org.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/brmc.ballarat



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. 🇦🇺 🇮🇸



Copyright © 2022 Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council Inc., All rights reserved.