



MCoT News

Welcome to the August 2009 edition of The Multicultural Council of Tasmania newsletter

Promoting Multiculturalism and Harmony in Tasmania

If you wish to subscribe or unsubscribe please send an email to mcot@tassie.net.au

Please email or phone us on 6231 5067 if you would like to contribute items for the newsletter. The deadline for each month's issue is the first Monday of the relevant month.

MCOT NEWS AND UPDATES

- [From the Chair](#)
- [August Days](#)
- [Next Council Meeting & Guest Speaker](#)
- [Nominations for office bearers](#)
- [Membership Renewal](#)

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

GENERAL NOTICES

- [Antidiscrimination/Violence Survey](#)
- [Myer Christmas Pageant](#)
- [Australian Government Child Support Agency](#)
- [Mountains, Mud and Migrants](#)
- [TASCROSS 7th Annual Dorothy Pearce Address](#)
- [FECCA Conference](#)
- [Over 50's Be Heard](#)
- [Our Island Our Voices](#)
- [Introduction to Volunteering](#)

MCOT NEWS AND UPDATES

From the Chair

As I write this report to you I have received sad news regarding our dear colleague Vikki Mittef who passed away on Sunday the 9th of August 2009. Throughout the years many of you may have come to know her as a community radio broadcaster on Hobart FM 96.1 Mhz, her community access program dealing with a range of issues. As the co-coordinator of the MCoT Knitting Angels and dear colleague, Vikki and her group of dedicated volunteers have knitted warm garments for humanitarian entrants and refugees alike in Southern Tasmania over the past few years, in recognition of which she received numerous community awards for the contributions she made to the community. Our condolences go to her family. You will be always remembered as MCoT's Angel Vikki. Rest in peace.

Once again MCoT has had a busy month; This year MCoT's members have been appointed on to other peak committees resulting in our ability to reach out to the broader community sector. We have made many valuable connections and laid foundations for future directions. Recently our media release created much attention and demand; racial vilification issues are with us and we must lobby the Tasmanian Government to address this issue urgently, particularly since Tasmania is the only State in Australia that

hasn't addressed this issue. Our Vice President himself was recently attacked and had suffered a broken jaw whilst waiting at a bus Stop on Sandy Bay road. Anti-immigration groups are very active on Facebook and other internet sites. Recently it was revealed that Terrie –Anne Verney, a presenter and sales representative for Griffith FM radio station 2MIA, was the administrator of the group "F---- Off, we are FULL" which boasts over 75 000 members. She had also joined several Facebook groups including "Stop the Islamisation of Australia while we still can", "Australian Conservative United Party", the "Australian Protectionist Party" and "Australians against Multiculturalism". In posts on the site she ridiculed foreigners who did not have a good grasp of English, she claimed the Islamic faith was destroying the Australian way of life and said that attacked Indian students should go home to study.

I would like to take this opportunity and remind all members, past and present that now is the time to renew your membership if you have not done so. Please keep in mind our Multicultural evening for this year which is on Sat 10th October 2009..

Finally,our news letter depends on **your** input so please forward your community information early to MCoT's office.

[Top](#)

Next Council Meeting

The next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th August at 7.00 p.m. in the Acacia Room at the Migrant Resource , 49 Molle St. This will be the last meeting before the Annual General Meeting which is scheduled to be held on September 16th.

[Top](#)

Nominations for Office Bearers

At the Annual General Meeting the terms of office of all Office Bearers will conclude and a new Committee will be elected. Nomination forms for Office Bearers are available from the office.All nominations must be received by or be post-marked September 4th 2009.Forms may be posted to GPO Box 798 Hobart 7001 or 49 Molle St Hobart 7000 or hand-delivered to the office at that address.

[Top](#)

August Days

- 1 Foundation of the Swiss Confederation (*Switzerland*)
National day (*Benin*)
- 3 Independence Day (*Macedonia*)
- 4 National Day (*Cook Islands*)
- 6 National Day (*Jamaica*)
Independence Day (*Bolivia*)
- 7 National Day (*Côte d'Ivoire*)
- 9 National Day (*Singapore*)
International Day of the World's Indigenous People
- 10 National Day (*Ecuador*)
- 11 National Day (*Chad*)
- 12 **International Youth Day**
- 14 Independence Day (*Pakistan*)
- 15 National Day (*Liechtenstein*)
National Day (*India*)
National Day (*Korea*)
- 17 Anniversary of the Proclamation of Independence (*Indonesia*)
National Day (*Gabon*)
- 19 Independence Day (*Afghanistan*)

- 24 National Day (*Ukraine*)
- 25 Independence Day (*Uruguay*)
- 27 National Day (*Moldova*)
- 31 National Day (*Trinidad and Tobago*)
National Day (*Kyrgyzstan*)
National Day (*Malaysia*)

[Top](#)

Membership Renewal

Reminder that membership renewals are due and must be paid before a delegate of an organisation can accept nomination for a position on the Management Committee.

[Top](#)

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

The office has received nothing this month. Must be hibernation time .

[Top](#)

GENERAL NOTICES

Anti-Discrimination/Violence Survey

An Anti-Discrimination /Violence Survey is being undertaken by Centacare to try to find out about discrimination and violence in Tasmania – who is affected, where it happens, how it happens and how often it occurs. Anyone who feels that they have experienced discrimination or violence in Tasmania should look at this survey. The survey includes discrimination on the grounds of ethnicity, religion, sexuality, disability and age. Privacy is assured. Forms are available from the MCoT office. Please seriously consider filling them out. Nothing can be done if the authorities are able to say that they don't have the information. Here is a chance to give them some.

[Top](#)

Myer Christmas Pageant

The organiser of this year's Christmas Pageant would like some multicultural choirs or groups to sing along the route of the Pageant. No walking required. The Pageant will be held on November 21st between 9.30 a.m. and 11.30a.m. If you are interested, please contact the Hobart City Council.

[Top](#)



Australian Government

Child Support Agency

The Parents Guide to Child Support now in other languages

The Child Support Agency (CSA) is committed to supporting separated families from all cultural backgrounds.

The Parents Guide to Child Support, the CSA's flagship publication, is now available online in Vietnamese, Arabic, Turkish, Chinese and Spanish. This useful resource assists separated parents to better understand their rights and responsibilities and the services available to them following separation. It includes information on calculating child support payments, support services and much more.

The Child Support Agency offers a range of other support products in languages other than English, such as the popular *Me and my...* booklet series, which covers: parenting from a distance, practical money ideas, forming a workable relationship with your ex, and taking care of yourself after separation. The CSA website can also be translated.

For more information or to download a translated version of *The Parents Guide to Child Support*, or any of our other publications, visit www.csa.gov.au

[Top](#)

Mountains,Mud and Migrants – A History of West Moonah

August 5 – August 19

Join the community of West Moonah as they share the results of an exploration of their suburb, initiated by the West Moonah Precinct Group, involving many community groups and schools. This celebration of place will include an exhibition of photography and artwork, local history, 'then and now' photography and interviews with Moonah's 'living treasures'. It will spin a surprising tale of civil uproar as Springfield residents march on the Glenorchy Council Chambers to demand that their homes be sewered. Placards reading "Flowers in your hair, a peg on your Nose" and "Ban the Can" showed the determination of local families that led to the State Government legislation, the Springfield Improvement Act of 1958. A neighbourhood of many colours with people settling from across the globe to form what is now home to a thriving and dynamic community.

[Top](#)

TASCROSS 7th Annual Dorothy Pearce Address

'Rediscovering the value of equity for economic prosperity' ... Dr. Marilyn Waring .Dr. Waring is a feminist economist with a PhD in Political Economy, a development consultant who has worked in many countries, a goat farmer, an activist for "female human rights", and currently Professor of Public Policy at the Institute of Public Policy at AUT University, Auckland, NZ. 10 September 2009 , 5.00p.m. for 5.30 p.m.Stanley Burbury Theatre , University of Tasmania, Churchill Avenue , Sandy Bay. Tickets Members and Students - \$15, Non-members - \$25 (tickets include finger food and two drinks). RSVP 28 August 6231 0755 or e-mail admin@tascross.org.au

[Top](#)



**FECCA CONFERENCE OCTOBER 29 & 30 2009
SHEPPARTON VICTORIA**

Celebrate diversity and support FECCA at the 2009 FECCA Conference "*Strengthening Multiculturalism and Building Social Inclusion*".

To be held in Shepparton, enjoy the fresh produce as well as the stimulating and informative panel session and plenary topics including: Human Rights for Ethnic and Religious Minorities, Multicultural Youth: Identity and Access, Regional Settlement, Interfaith, Social Inclusion for New and Emerging Communities, and Economic Participation and Skills.

Confirmed speakers include:

- Laurie Ferguson, Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs and Settlement Services

- Sen Ursula Stephens, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector
- Dr Sharman Stone, MP, Shadow Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- Dr Tanveer Ahmed, Psychiatrist and Writer
- Clare Martin, CEO, ACOSS
- Shaun Brown, Managing Director, SBS

Date: October 29-30

Venue: Eastbank Centre, Shepparton, Victoria

Book now to take advantage of early bird rates.

Early bird conference registration costs range from \$200 to \$400 depending on the package.

For further information and to register on line visit www.fecca.org.au or call 02 6282 5755.

[Top](#)

Over 50s, Be Heard!

NSA is holding a community consultation forum to hear what your priorities are for the 2010 Tasmanian State election

Join us and have your say

17 August 09 - 1:45pm (for 2pm) - 4pm

Bellerive Yacht Club

64 Cambridge St, Bellerive

Refreshments provided

RSVP by 13 August 2009 to 02 6230 4588

npo@nationalseniors.com.au

For more information visit

www.nationalseniors.com.au

[Top](#)

Our Island Our Voices

is an opportunity for Tasmanians to raise their voices and ask political parties contesting the March 2010 State election to make commitments that will improve education and training outcomes, build stronger services and communities, support a healthier Tasmania, and inject new funding into community service organisations.

How can you be involved?

Join the campaign: log on to the website, join-up and email the **Our Island Our Voices** platform to Tasmania's candidates for the March 2010 State election. The campaign website will go live on 10 August.

Come along: join us at one of our launch week media events and log on and send the **Our Island Our Voices** platform to Tasmania's candidates for the March 2010 State election. **See below for launch week media events.**

Find out more: contact TasCOSS and find out more about the campaign and the lobbying activities that are planned.

Plan your own events: if you support the **Our Island Our Voices** platform and want to run events in the lead up to the State election contact TasCOSS to ask about campaign ideas and possible assistance.

Promote the campaign: download flyers from the website and include them in your newsletter and email colleagues, friends and family and encourage them to support the campaign.

Media launch week events:

Campaign launch: West Moonah Community House, 130 Springfield Av, West Moonah, Monday 10 August, 11-11.30am. Join TasCOSS and other community organisations as they launch the campaign by releasing the platform.

Launceston launch: Northern Suburbs Neighbourhood Centre, 1 Archer Street, Rocherlea, Wednesday 12 August, 11-11.30am. Join Albert van Zetten (Mayor of Launceston), Alex Huntir (President of TasCOSS), Peter Lyall (President of the St Vincent de Paul), and Denise Delphin (Manager, Northern Suburbs Community Centre) as they sign on and talk about the importance of the campaign.

Burnie launch: Family Based Care – North West, 12A Wilson Street, Burnie, Thursday 13 August, 1-1.30pm. Join Sue Smith MLC and Mike Gaffney MLC in signing on to the campaign and talking about the importance of the campaign priority areas for the north-west.

[Top](#)

Introduction to Volunteering

Not sure where to start ? Want to know more ?

Wednesday September 16th 2009 10 a.m. -11 a.m., Glenorchy Volunteer Centre, 631 Main Rd. Berriedale. Register on 62144571 – please leave a message if the office is unattended.

[Top](#)

General MCoT Information

Postal address: PO Box 798 Hobart 7001

Street Address: 49 Molle Street Hobart

Phone: 03 6231 5067

Fax: 03 6231 5069

Email: mcot@tassie.net.au

Web: www.mcot.org.au