



MCoT News

Welcome to the January 2009 edition of The Multicultural Council of Tasmania e-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.

IN THIS ISSUE:

MCOT NEWS AND UPDATES

- [From the Chair](#)
- [January Days](#)
- [Next Council Meeting & Guest Speaker](#)
- [Australia's Humanitarian Program 2009/10](#)

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

- [Philippines – Australia Community of Tasmania Fundraiser](#)
- [Estonian Association – A play “Soldier”](#)

GENERAL NOTICES

- [Call for expressions of interest for membership of TACMA](#)
- [Tasmanians Talking: Fostering social health through dialogue](#)
- [Community Consultation – Social Inclusion Unit](#)
- [Multicultural Mental Health Australia – Events Calendar 2009](#)
- [Harmony Day](#)
- [National Archives – ‘Shake Your Family Tree’](#)
- [Commemorative \\$1 Coin – 60 Years of Citizenship](#)

From the Chair

Welcome to MCoT's first e-newsletter of 2009 and I hope you all had a wonderful New Year and holiday season. 2009 is shaping up to be a busy and eventful year. The community consultation between the Department of Premier and Cabinet Social Inclusion Unit and members of the older and the new CALD communities will be held on 4th February (further details under *General Notices*). Information regarding this consultation was mailed out via email and post to MCoT members as soon as it was received into the office. I strongly urge as many community delegates and representatives as possible to attend.

Monday the 26 January 09 is, of course, Australia Day and there are Citizenship ceremonies being held in different locations around the country and the state. I will be attending the ceremony and festivities at the Sandy Bay Regatta grounds commencing at 11.00am. Everyone is welcome and there will be much to see, eat and enjoy.

I can announce that the funding has been received from the government for the 2008-2009 period. On behalf of the Management Committee and members of MCoT I would like to thank the Department of Premier and Cabinet and Multicultural Tasmania.

[Top](#)

January Days

- 1 New Years Day
- National Day (*Sudan*)
- Independence Day (*Haiti*)
- Republic Day (*Slovak*)
- Liberation Day (*Cuba*)
- Independence Day (*Brunei*)
- 4 Independence Day (*Myanmar*)
- 19 Martin Luther King Day
- 26 **Australia Day**
- 26 India Republic Day
- 31 Nauru National Day

[Top](#)

Next council meeting

To be held in the Acacia Room at the Migrant Resource Centre, 49 Molle Street at 7.00 pm on the 18th February 2009.

Up-coming events for 2009 will be discussed and planning will commence. Please attend and bring a guest or two. All are welcome.

[Top](#)

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

Philipines-Australia Community of Tasmania

The Philipines-Australia Community of Tasmania is holding a fundraiser at 12.00pm on Saturday 21st February 09 at the Moonah Community Hall, Gormanston Road, Moonah. Come along and enjoy a Filipino lunch featuring Filipino cuisine with cultural presentation.

Entry fee: **\$10.00** Adults **\$5.00** Children.

For more information contact:

Emilie Schneider	62739752
Ludvinia Cooley	62310627
Cecile Standen	62623536

Estonian Association of Tasmania

The Estonian Association of Tasmania is proud to announce that a troupe from Estonia, including actors and the playwright will be bringing the production of "Soldier", a play of WWII by Mart Kivastik to Hobart. A play described both in Estonia and New York as "the most distinguished performance of 2007".

The performance is scheduled for 19th February 09, further details regarding the time and venue will be published in MCoT's next e-newsletter or contact Tiiu Rääbus on 62783574.

[Top](#)

GENERAL NOTICES

Call for expressions of interest for membership of TACMA

Applications are now invited for membership of the Tasmanian Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs.

Membership of the Council is an opportunity for Tasmanians committed to serving the culturally and linguistically diverse community to be actively involved in advising the Tasmanian Government on the development or implementation of policies and strategies that impact upon the State's culturally diverse community.

Expressions of interest close 9 February 2009.

Please access the [application documents](#) below and forward your application to:

The Manager
Multicultural Tasmania
Community Development Division
Department of Premier and Cabinet
GPO Box 123
HOBART TAS 7001
or email multitas@dpac.tas.gov.au.

[Top](#)

Tasmanians Talking: Fostering social health through dialogue

Tasmanians Talking aims to promote community relations and break down barriers to inclusion.

Participate in the project:

- as an individual participant in a community dialogue group;
- as part of an organisational dialogue process;
- in an agency-based cross cultural workshop; and/or
- as a migrant mentor to newly arrived migrants.

Support the Project:

- by telling friends and colleagues about it
- by offering comments and ideas about it
- becoming a trained dialogue facilitator

Contact us:

Email: tasmanians.talking@utas.edu.au

Tasmanians Talking

C/- University of Tasmania

Locked Bag 1335

Launceston TAS 7250

Phone: (03) 6324-3784

Fax: (03) 6324 3788

This project is supported by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship through its community relations program

[Top](#)

Tasmanian Government Seeking Input for a State Social Inclusion Strategy

On the 30 October 2008 the Premier David Bartlett MP launched "A Social Inclusion Strategy for Tasmania: A consultation paper". The Social Inclusion Unit of the Tasmanian Government is still seeking comments on the consultation paper, and welcomes your input. Public comments are invited until 30 January 2009. To read or download a copy of the consultation paper, learn more and make a submission, go to: <http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/siu> or contact the MCoT office. Information (including the consultation paper) has already been emailed to MCoT members and posted to those members without internet. The consultation session specifically targeted to CALD communities is scheduled for Wednesday 4 February 2009 between 4.00pm -6.00pm in the

Acacia Room at the Migrant Resource Centre, 49 Molle Street, Hobart. All community members/delegates are strongly urged to attend.

[Top](#)

Submission on Australia's Humanitarian Program for 2009-10 and Beyond

Each year, the Government seeks the views of the Australian public on the Humanitarian program so that these can be taken into consideration in planning for and building future years' programs.

The Government has developed a discussion paper, which outlines how the Humanitarian Program currently operates and provides information on its size and composition over previous years. The discussion paper also outlines possible options that are designed to improve the responsiveness and delivery of the Humanitarian Program. These include the introduction of a multi-year planning framework for the Humanitarian Program and associated with this, Australia making a longer-term commitment internationally to particular protracted refugee caseloads.

The discussion paper is available on the Department's website. See:

<http://www.immi.gov.au/about/contracts-tenders-submissions/discussion-paper.pdf>

Submissions on the Humanitarian Program and the discussion paper may be made up until Friday 23 January 2009. Submissions should be sent by email or post.

Email: humanitarian.submission@immi.gov.au

Post: Humanitarian Program submission
Assistant Secretary
Humanitarian Branch
Department of Immigration and Citizenship
PO Box 25
BELCONNEN ACT 2616

Further information about this process is available on the Department's website. See:

<http://www.immi.gov.au/about/contracts-tenders-submissions/humanitarian-0910.htm>

[Top](#)

Multicultural Mental Health Australia – Events Calendar 2009

To mark the new year, Multicultural Mental Health Australia is encouraging you to visit the online events calendar for 2009.

The calendar features information on upcoming conferences, seminars, presentations, events and workshops on transcultural mental health, multiculturalism and general mental health and healthcare matters.

Please feel free to add your event to the calendar by visiting:

<http://www.mmha.org.au/find/training-and-events/submit-event>

Or visit the calendar:

<http://www.mmha.org.au/find/training-and-events>

Multicultural Mental Health Australia

Locked Bag 7118

Parramatta BC 2150

Ph: 02 9840 3333

Fax: 02 9840 3388

Email: admin@mmha.org.au

Web: www.mmha.org.au

[Top](#)

Harmony Day

MCoT is pleased to have confirmation from DIAC that Harmony Day is on again on 21 March 2009 following a review of the program last year.

Harmony Day, now in its 10th year, is the national day when people celebrate our shared identity and the benefits of cultural diversity in Australia.

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship administers Harmony Day and community organisations can visit www.harmony.gov.au or call 1800 33 11 00 for more information.

[Top](#)

National Archives – ‘Shake Your Family Tree’ (free event)

To encourage more Australians to unearth personal treasures, the National Archives of Australia is hosting a ‘Shake Your Family’ day in each of its capital city offices. The Archives have information on many Australian families. If your family migrated to Australia in the 20th century, served in the Defence Forces or had dealings with the Commonwealth Government, the Archives are likely to have something of interest to you.

The ‘Shake Your Family Tree Day’ in Tasmania will be held on Wednesday, 25 February from 10am-4p, at the Hobart office – 85 Macquarie Street, Hobart (telephone 03 6230 6111).

On the day there will be experts available to show you how to research your family.

For more information go to: www.naa.gov.au

[Top](#)

New \$1 Australian Coin to commemorate 60 Years of Citizenship

This year, the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) and Royal Australian Mint have joined forces to create a coin which celebrates an important anniversary in Australia’s history. It is 60 years since a handful of Australian settlers became the nation’s first citizens, at a small ceremony staged in Albert Hall in early 1949.

In recognition of this important anniversary, the 2009 one-dollar coin features the smiling faces of the very first Australian citizens, each as individual as the country from which they originate. The raised hands symbolise their pride in becoming Australian, now linked symbolically to create the star of federation.

Since the first citizenship ceremony 60 years ago, four million people have become Australian citizens, including some 120 000 from 200 countries in the 2007-08 program year.

You can purchase one of the special coins for \$3 from the Royal Australian Mint – go to:

<http://www.ramint.gov.au/>

[Top](#)

General MCoT Information

Postal address: PO Box 1126 Hobart 7001
Street Address: 49 Mollie Street Hobart
Phone: 03 6231 5067
Fax: 03 6231 5069
Email: mcot@tassie.net.au
Web: www.mcot.org.au