



MCoT News

Welcome to the July 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.

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MCOT NEWS AND UPDATES

From the Chair

We have come to the end of another financial year and preparations have begun for MCoT's 2009 AGM, scheduled for the 16th September 09. Nomination forms will soon be sent out to all delegates. MCoT, a volunteer organisation, values the input and contribution of volunteers, however, I suggest that thought be given, before accepting nomination, to the commitment required. Positions on the Management Committee bring responsibility and of course extra work. The level of commitment and work required to keep MCoT vibrant, viable and relevant is ever-increasing and will continue to increase. Specific skills are also a requirement, particularly for the positions of Treasurer and Secretary. As per MCoT's constitution elected members of the Management Committee are expected to attend the monthly meetings along with the monthly council meeting. Any member who does not attend three consecutive Management Committee meetings without forwarding an apology will be asked to stand down from their position.

Next Council Meeting & Guest Speaker

The next council meeting will be held on Wednesday 17th July at 7.00pm in the Acacia Room, downstairs at the Migrant Resource Centre 49 Molle St.

July Days

- 1 National Day (*Burundi*)
Canada Day
Republic Day (*Somalia*)
Independence Day (*Rwanda*)
- 3 National Day (*Belarus*)
- 4 Independence Day (*United States of America*)
- 5 National Day (*Venezuela*)
National Day (*Cape Verde*)
Tynwald Day (*Isle of Man*)
NAIDOC Week (5-12 July)
- 6 Independence Day (*Malawi*)
- 7 National Day (*Nepal*)
National Day (*Solomon Islands*)
Constitution Day (*Cayman Islands*)
- 9 Independence Day (*Argentina*)
Constitution Day (*Palau*)
- 10 Independence Day (*Bahamas*)
- 11 National Day (*Mongolia*)
- 12 National Day (*Kiribati*)
Independence Day (*São Tomé*)
- 14 Bastille Day (*France*)
- 13 Independence Day (*Montenegro*)
- 17 National Day (*Iraq*)
- 20 National Day (*Colombia*)
- 21 National Day (*Belgium*)
- 23 National Day (*Egypt*)
- 26 National Day (*Liberia*)
National Day (*Maldives*)
- 28 Independence Day (*Peru*)
- 30 Independence Day (*Vanuatu*)

Membership Renewal

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

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NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

Philippines-Australia Community of Tasmania

The Philippines-Australia Community of Tas are holding a Karaoke Competition and lunch on the 11th July 09. The competition begins at 1.00pm at the RSL Club, Claremont. Tickets cost: Adults - \$15.00 and Children - \$10.00. This is a fund raising event for the PACT's building fund. For catering purposes rsvp is essential. Contacts are:

Emilie Schneider - 6273 9752 Ludivinia Cooley - 6231 0627 Cecile Standen - 6263 3536

GENERAL NOTICES

Hobart Community Radio

MCoT member, Danijela Hlis, hosts *World Music Hour* the first Saturday of every month between 2.00 – 3.00pm. A variety of enjoyable music is played.

Letters of a Nation

Australia Post is celebrating its Bicentenary by launching Letters of a Nation, a collection of letters written in the last two hundred years. Multiculturalism and migration has played a major part in Australia's history and Australia Post invites you to submit letters to their collection. Submissions are open until September 25, 2009. Entries may be obtained from Australia Post or on-line. N.B. Photocopies of letters are to be submitted, not the originals.

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UNHCR Figures highlight need to support refugee host countries

While Australia's contribution to protecting refugees is significant, the largest numbers of the world's refugees are being hosted by countries much poorer than our own, the Refugee Council of Australia says.

Speaking on the eve of World Refugee Day (Saturday, June 20), Refugee Council CEO Paul Power said new statistics released by UNHCR highlighted that the great majority of the world's refugees seek protection in countries immediately next to their own.

UNHCR's "2008 Global Trends" shows that the countries hosting the largest numbers of refugees include Pakistan (1.78 million), Syria (1.1 million), Iran (980,000), Jordan (500,000), Chad (330,000) and Tanzania (322,000), with Germany (583,000) and the UK (292,000) the only OECD countries in the top ten. Australia is ranked 51st, with 20,919 refugees (0.2% of the global total). In per capita terms for hosting refugees, UNHCR ranks Australia 69th.

The UNHCR figures also reveal that, at the end of 2008, Australia had just 0.3% of the world's asylum seekers, 2,159 out of a global total of 827,323. Of the 535,950 asylum seekers recognised as refugees around the world during 2008, just 1,845 (0.3%) were in Australia.

However, Australia's involvement in refugee resettlement is much more significant. Australia welcomed 11,006 (12.4%) of the 88,800 refugees resettled during 2008, second to the United States which alone conducted 68% of the world's refugee resettlement (60,192 people).

In per capita terms, Australia was first for refugee resettlement and 39th for recognition of asylum seekers as refugees. When refugee recognition and resettlement figures for 2008 are combined, Australia was 12th numerically (12,851 out of 624,750 worldwide) and 17th in per capita terms.

"Australia's geography and its restrictive visa policies mean that the numbers of asylum seekers reaching this country are small in global terms," Mr Power said.

"Given that the great majority of the world's refugees seek asylum in countries within their immediate neighbourhood, a strong commitment by Australia to refugee resettlement is highly appropriate.

"There is a strong need for Australia to continue to advocate for other nations to increase their commitment to refugee resettlement. In 2008, just 0.8% of the world's refugees were resettled.

"These figures put recent debates about asylum seekers arriving by boat in perspective, showing that people movements to Australia are tiny in global terms. They also draw attention to the need for Australia to do everything possible to support humanitarian programs and refugee protection in the nations under greatest pressure from refugee movements."

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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.

Work Placement Program

To obtain some experience of working in a State Government or Local Council office.

If you are:

- a recently arrived humanitarian entrant
- or an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- and are available during business hours, 8.45am to 5.00pm.
- and are available from November 30 to December 11 2009
- you could apply for this experience

Applications close on August 3, 2009. The program runs from November 30 to December 11.

You will not receive payment or any guarantee of employment.

Application forms may be obtained from

www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/cdd/multitas/workplacementprogram

or Multicultural Tasmania ,Level 2,144 Macquarie St (03) 6232 7060

or Adult Migrant English Program offices at Tasmanian Polytechnic, Hobart (75 Campbell St.)

or Launceston (cnr. Wellington and Paterson Sts.)

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Calcium and Osteoporosis

COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION

- Osteoporosis & what are the treatments?
- Should I take a Calcium supplement?
- How can I increase calcium in my diet?
- What non dairy options are there for calcium?
- What exercise should I do for my bones?

LOCATION:	<i>Glenorchy</i>
VENUE:	<i>Meeting Room Glenorchy Library Terry Street, Glenorchy</i>
DATE:	<i>4 August 2009</i>
TIME:	<i>1.00pm</i>
COST:	<i>Gold coin donation</i>

Join an informal discussion on Osteoporosis treatment and prevention & learn how to increase calcium in your diet. All participants receive a free copy of the booklet. Stop the Next Fracture or Calcium, Vitamin D and Osteoporosis

RSVP to the session is ESSENTIAL

Call Osteoporosis Tasmania

On freecall 1800 242 141

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Service provision to African men in Australia

This flyer is to inform you about an important research project for Service Providers in Australia being carried out by Juma Abuyi as part of the requirements for the Doctor of Human Service Research program. It is being undertaken from the School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy, University of South Australia. The research aim to investigate: 'best practice' in service delivery to African men migrating to Australia to prevent family violence and the breakdown of family relationships. The online TellUs2 survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes of your time. Ctrl, Click on the link below in order to access the online survey <http://www.unisanet.unisa.edu.au/TellUS2/SurveyForm.asp?ID=6492>

Research benefits:

The research will identify and critically analyse the current approaches service providers use to resolve acculturation problems, family relationship issues and gender role conflicts experienced by Acholi men in Australia. It will inform policy development and service provision.

Provide valuable information for professionals working with African communities.

The findings may also be of assistance to other African communities in Australia.

Confidentiality: Participation in this research is voluntary and the names and contact details of respondent are not required.

The online TellUS2 electronic survey is design for service providers, government and non-government organisations dealing with African refugees/migrants including humanitarian entrants in Australia.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact:

Mr. Juma Abuyi.

School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy, University of South Australia

St. Bernard's Road

Magill - South Australia 5072

Telephone: (08) 83024346

Mobile: 0421440242

Email: abujy002@unisa.edu.au

Website: www.unisa.edu.au

This research project is approved by the University of South Australia's Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have any ethical concerns about the project or questions about your rights as a participant please contact the Executive Officer of the Committee, Tel: 08 83023118; Email: Vicki.allen@unisa.edu.au or for any other concerns about this study, contact my supervisor, Associate Professor Dale Bagshaw on Tel: 08 3024375, Fax: 08 83024344 or Email: Dale.Bagshaw@unisa.edu.au or co-supervisor, Dr. Alan Campbell on 08 83024345 or Fax: 08 830 24377 or E-mail: Alan.Campbell@unisa.edu.au

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Eurobeat- Almost Eurovision

The craziest and funniest show of the year!

Hobart will be going Eurovision crazy this July with the performance of Eurobeat - Almost Eurovision, the hilarious homage to the much loved annual song contest. The riotously show is to be staged at the Playhouse Theatre from July 10 – 25.

Set in beautiful Bosnia Herzegovina and hosted by popular children's morning television presenter Sergei and Olympic pole vaulter/lifestyle program hostess/cabaret performer Boyka, Eurobeat not only captures all the glamour, excitement and bewilderment that is the Eurovision Song Contest, but it also gives the audience the chance to vote for their favourite acts deciding the eventual champion of each night.

The sugar-sweet quartet from Sweden, the icy boy-band from Russia and the disturbingly out-of-tune duet from the United Kingdom are all part of an international musical cocktail served up with all the colour, tackiness and political agendas of the real Eurovision.

Cheer, scream, wave your flag and go wild as France, Iceland, Poland, Ireland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the United Kingdom, Russia, Greece, Liechtenstein and Sweden fight it out to win

your vote. It's even more fun with friends - get a group together and be part of a great night out! And don't forget to bring your mobile phone to vote for your favourite act! Tickets: \$35.00 or \$20.00 concession.

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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.

TASCOSS 7th Annual Dorothy Pearce Address

‘Rediscovering the value of equity for economic prosperity’ ... Dr. Marilyn Waring

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@tascoss.org.au

General MCoT Information

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