



SOUTHLAND
MULTICULTURAL
COUNCIL INC
What awbio
Unity in Diversity



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Monthly NEWSLETTER

The monthly newsletter of Southland Multicultural Council

Big thanks To Our Lovely And Amazing Volunteers for helping us make a difference!!!

We are so thrilled and surprised to receive the Trustpower 2017 Regional Winner (Arts and Culture) of the year award last week. What an honour!!! Thank you Trustpower for such a great recognition



Upcoming Events

Women's Group

October 03
7.30 pm
100 Bourke Street

Youth Group

October 10
6.00 pm
Southland Community House
46 Kelvin Street

Men's Group

October 27
6.00 pm
Southland Community House
46 Kelvin Street

THANK YOU
FUNDERS!

ILT FOUNDATION

COGS
Community Organisation
Grants Scheme

Invercargill
CITY COUNCIL

Lottery Grants Board
Te Puni Takahi
LOTTO FUNDS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

Community Trust
of Southland
Te Pūi Ariāriā Pouwhiri o Marikuku

THE OFFICE OF
ethnic communities
Te Tari Matawaka

SOUTHERN
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Te Kōwhiri

DISCLAIMER

The information disclosed in this publication does not necessarily reflect the view of the Southland Multicultural Council Inc.

Southland Multicultural Council Inc does not support any particular political party

President's Message

Meggy Bartlett-McBride



*"I am only one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything, but I
can do something. And I will
not let what I cannot do
interfere with what I can do."*

~EDWARD EVERETT HALE

**"Nobody can do
everything, but everyone
can do something."**

Kia Ora te Whanau

Greetings to the Multicultural Family Spring has truly arrived and the blossom trees are giving us a spectacular display. It is always great to see you all at events or when out and about in this wonderful place - Southland.

This month, I would like to express gratitude to the Lottery Grants Board for continuing to support and enable the SMC to positively contribute towards the Board's vision of New Zealanders building strong sustainable communities together.

Again, it's been a month full of activity for the SMC. It was overwhelming to see our September Malaysian/Thai potluck dinner so well supported. I would sincerely like to thank the Malaysian and Thai communities for collaborating with SMC and ensuring the event was a success.

ABLE Southern Family Support attended the recent Women's Group session. ABLE are here to support families/whānau that care for someone with a mental illness or addiction. Their aim is to give families the strength and skills they need for a better life experience at home, in the community and at work. The group session also included an introduction to Women's Self Defence.

Participants at our monthly Youth

Group session immersed themselves in interactive activities that everyone enjoyed. Thanks to Ashvin for stepping up as the new SMC Youth Leader. SMC recently visited Saint Theresa's School. The students and teachers were very welcoming and they enjoyed an insightful Sri Lankan, Indian and Filipino cultural presentation. I was also privileged to be guest speaker at Invercargill Lions Club where I shared SMC values, our key functions in the community and my own personal journey from migrant to citizenship in New Zealand.

I would like to extend my appreciation to Nayabet, Gonzalo, Pat, Ricardo, David and Felipe for your kind invitation to celebrate Chilean Independence Day. It was a fantastic evening of with lots of fun and laughter. Your unbridled passion when singing, Himno Nacional de Chile, was truly spine-tingling!

As you may already know, SMC was announced winner 'Arts & Culture' at the 2017 Trustpower Invercargill Southland Community Awards. This award is recognition for our volunteer's, who are the backbone of SMC and work so hard to promote and celebrate cultural diversity in the Southland community.



Sajitha Ferry
Coordinator

Hi all,

We are so proud to let you know that all that Southland Multicultural council Inc. received the Trustpower 2017 Regional Winner of the Year award. It is a great honour to be recognised in the prestigious 'Trustpower Award 2017' for the Arts and culture category. I would like to congratulate all the Board Members under the energetic leadership of Meggy and all our amazing volunteers for their selfless efforts, time and commitment that helped us to achieve this award. Thank you again for this recognition and for the acknowledgement of the important work that we do.

My thanks to Trustpower!!!

For those who are celebrating the festival of lights, I wish you a happy Diwali!!!

Join us at the Big Celebration at SIT Hansen Hall on 21st October at 6 pm where we celebrate Diwali, Festival of lights with fun, glamour, food and cultural performances. Let's celebrate this Spring Diwali with lights and flowers.

Tracey O'Neil will be hosting an IELTS - Tips & Technique seminar. This will provide invaluable information for those preparing to sit the IELTS exam.

We always look for volunteers, if you have some time to spare to make a difference, please join us.

Hope to see you all there

Regards



DIWALI

Diwali or Deepavali is the Hindu festival of lights celebrated every year in autumn in the northern hemisphere (spring in southern hemisphere). It is an official holiday in India, Fiji, Guyana, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and recently Sindh Province in Pakistan. One of the most popular festivals of Hinduism, it spiritually signifies the victory of light over darkness, good over evil, knowledge over ignorance, and hope over despair. Its celebration includes millions of lights shining on housetops, outside doors and windows, around temples and other buildings in the communities and countries where it is observed. The festival preparations and rituals typically extend over a five-day period, but the main festival night of Diwali coincides with the darkest, new moon night of the Hindu Lunisolar month Kartika in Bikram Sambat calendar (the month of Aippasi in Tamil Calendar). In the Gregorian calendar, Diwali night falls between mid-October and mid-November.

Before Diwali night, people clean, renovate, and decorate their homes and offices. On Diwali night, people dress up in new clothes or their best outfit, light up diyas (lamps and candles) inside and outside their home, participate in family puja (prayers) typically to Lakshmi – the goddess of fertility and prosperity. After puja, fireworks follow, then a family feast including mithai (sweets), and an exchange of gifts between family members and close friends. Deepavali also marks a major shopping period in nations where it is celebrated.



Nirmal K. Manoharan
Committee Member, SMC

“
Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

”

-Margaret Mead

Assets of Community

Observing the events and the volunteering activities gives the learning of how it's done but identifying the right formula for the event preparation would bring the solution to the communities of both migrant and locals. In search for this, I came through a workshop for the Volunteers that explains how the events are made for the communities.

The session by Megan Courtney of inspiring communities at the “Activating communities – Bottom of South” workshop, gave me an introduction to the community led development frameworks like sharing local visions, using existing strengths and assets, building diverse and collaborative local leadership. It was helping and surprising for me which made me think, how we do create events in the Southland Multicultural Council, most of the was learnings was similar in the way for creating events at SMC because the vision is always focussed on the helping and connecting the people.

Culture and identity is explained as one of the main resources of the assets,

strengths and resources in our community where you can relate this to the assets as the councils, strengths as the unity and resources as the Volunteers.

In this multicultural society, the cultural assets include the creativity, culture, heritage and history. These assets are clearly given an importance for migrants to show their creativity, celebrate their culture and heritage and recognise their history.

Southland Multicultural Council showcases every individual's skills, knowledge and passion through the migrant interviews and the cultural events. All our event has a clear research and development on the migrant requirements and then planning and implementing with a team work and a lot of hard work. Such kind of efforts are behind every event and its successes. I thank you all for the support and the trust that you have given us, Southland Multicultural Council is proud of the migrant support and it invites all the people with love to make it bigger and greater.

God Bless.

Migrant Story (Reporter: Kumaran)

Yenlie Ang, joined the Southland Multicultural Council as volunteer and now she has become the financial member. Yenlie is a person who has the vision to serve people with excitement and energy. She is from Malang, East Java, Indonesia. Yen knows Chinese and has learned basic level of Japanese. Yenlie is an outdoor person who hiking and camping. Yenlie like to enjoy the life in the flow like music as it goes.

Yen is good at playing guitar and has shown her skill in singing in the Multicultural events. She is also good at hairdressing and has brought her own kit from Indonesia and sometimes helps her friends in hairdressing. She added cooking to her skills and try the varieties of food like Indian, Thai, and Chinese. She mentioned that the Southland Multicultural Council benefits the people through learning about the local stuffs.

She said that “I believe in the journey of the life and I believe in all four seasons which means when a season is ending another season is coming. So just enjoy every season for it won't last forever. As part of Southland Multicultural Council, I learned a lot from different cultures and the people that I have met”. The admiration towards the nature and passion for adventure has brought Yen to New Zealand which has amazed her with its natural beauty, along with the fact Invercargill being the most southern city. She feels the value giving back to community through the volunteering activities what she mentions as “doing something alive”

Yen, a person with a lot of enthusiasm believes in reality and enjoys her life in Invercargill sends a message to all the migrants “enjoy your life”.



Yenlie Ang
(Indonesia)



Malaysian & Thai Night

A lot of hard work went into making the Malaysian and Thai Night held on 23rd of October 2017 at Sit Hansen hall go off so smoothly. Thanks to the outstanding team to pull off an amazing event



SDC Citizenship Ceremony

On behalf of Southland Multicultural Council, Meggy and Sajitha attended the citizenship ceremony held by the Southland District Council at Memorial Hall, Winton on 20th of September and presented the new citizens a native plant contributed by the Southland Community Nursery as a symbolic gesture of laying down their roots in Aotearoa. Congratulations to all the new Citizens who have taken the oath of allegiance. It's always a pleasure to witness your journey of what you become, it's another chapter of your journey that you about to embark as a New Zealand citizen.

Thanks to SDC for giving us opportunity to meet the new KIWI's in the region and also a great thanks to Southland Community Nursery for their continued support on providing native trees all the times.

“
Teamwork requires some sacrifice up front; people who work as a team have to put the collective needs of the group ahead of their individual interests.” ~Patrick Lencioni



Promoting Cultures @ St Theresa's School

Southland Multicultural Council Inc. had an interesting session with the St. Theresa's (Middle) School this afternoon. We presented the similarities and differences of Indian, Philippine and Sri Lankan Cultures with New Zealand Culture. As part of learning about their personal culture and other cultures that make up and influence their school culture, we presented Indian, Philippine and Sri Lankan cultures with an idea to celebrate the similarities and differences and contribute to a rich community. Children are effective communicators and I hope that they will pass on what they have learned from the session to their family and friends and help to create a better understanding about these cultures among a wider community.

Past Event

This is monthly event for everyone.

We invite everyone to join our women's, youth and men's group. We have interesting and informative sessions to offer. Join us and register yourself, don't forget to ask your family, friend, neighbour to join us.



SMC Women's group had its September gathering today evening 6 pm at Southland Community House. We had speakers Kaylene, Snadra and Ngaiwa, Family support fieldworkers from ABLE and Bev Thomas, Trustee and Self-defense trainer from Women's Self Defense Network. We hope that you found the session informative and worthwhile. Our primary goal was to introduce you to and increase your understanding about ABLE and Women's Self-Defense Network.

Though small, it was a great group and their enthusiasm and positive spirit helped make our time together both productive and fun.

Women's Group



The Southland Multicultural Council had its September youth group gathering yesterday, 16th September, at Southland Community House with full of fun and team building activities. A Big Thanks to Ashvin, our youth leader who organised the session with fun filled team building exercises with the message 'we can achieve great things if we work together'. The presentation on 'Are you poor' by Ashvin was thought provoking and I am sure that the lesson learned from that exercise 'Even the poorest of the poor have something to give – a smile' will have a long lasting impact on all those who have attended the session. We hope you have had an enjoyable quiz time with Kahoot app.

Youth Group



Southland Multicultural Council Potluck Dinner

Please bring a plate of your favourite dish to share

दीवाली night

Come and enjoy the evening filled with cultural performance, authentic food and enchanting music of India as we celebrate the **Diwali: Festival of Lights**

An opportunity to immerse yourself in Indian Culture and Tradition

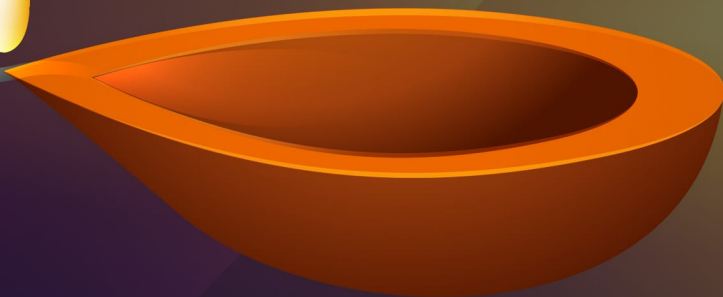
Saturday

21 OCTOBER 2017

6:00 PM

SIT Hansen Hall

133 Tay Street, Invercargill



Entry

Members

: Free

Non Members : Gold Coin



Venue Sponsor



SOUTHERN
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

TE WHARE WANANGA O MURIKU



Shuttle bookings available for non medical appointments

2nd Tuesday and 4th Thursday of each month
Leave from: Resource Centre 11 Hero Street Lumsden
9.30am and return by 4.30pm

- Invercargill
- Gore
- Te Anau

(please note there will be flexibility around time and dates to fit in with a specific occasion e.g. show, concert - non medical appointment)

\$20 donation – Minimum of 3 people

Bookings

Call: Kim or Adele on 2487885

nsccto-ord@xtra.co.nz

Facebook Northern Southland Community Resource Centre Charitable Trust

Please note these trips are not for grocery shopping but an opportunity to plan outings or events.

Tuesday trips – book by Thursday afternoon

Thursday trips – book by Tuesday lunchtime.



This service is offered by NSCRCCT and St JOHN

CALLING ALL MIGRANT ARTISTS

Would you like to be part of an Arts
Exhibition that celebrates
Murihiku/Southland's Migrant
Community?

You Could be a sculptor, painter, potter or crafts
person...

The Southland Multicultural Council in association
with Arts Murihiku and City Gallery are looking at
hosting an exhibition in 2018

We would love to showcase your talents!

For further information please contact

*Lisa at Artsmurihiku@gmail.com or Sajitha at
office@southlandmulticultural.co.nz*

**ARTS MURIHIKU PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE
ARTS IN SOUTHLAND**



IELTS TIPS & TECHNIQUES

WHEN
OCT 12 & 24
NOV 07 & 21
6pm - 8pm

WHERE
Southland Community House
46 Kelvin Street

WWW.SOUTHLANDMULTICULTURAL.CO.NZ

~~PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE INTERESTS OF ETHNIC COMMUNITIES
IN SOUTHLAND~~

SOUTHLAND MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
TUTOR TRACEY
IS HOSTING FOUR
IELTS SESSIONS
(TOPIC BASED)

**FIRST SESSION IS ABOUT
ENVIRONMENT**

Tutor: Tracey O'Neill
Contact Tracey 0275706344

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Free to Public
Light Refreshments Provided

For further information, please contact

Tel: 03 214 9296 Mob: 027 214 9296

office@southlandmulticultural.co.nz

46 Kelvin Street Invercargill New Zealand

Workplace English



Work Talk

Job-seeking skills for the Kiwi workplace
Four-week course (12 hours a week)

English for Employees

Improve your workplace English
For people with NZ residency (2-3 hours a week)



Phone 03 218 2736 / 029 771 0950
Email southland@englishlanguage.org.nz
Web www.englishlanguage.org.nz

ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

Name of the class	Day	Time	Classes	Start date
Reading & Writing (Intermediate and Above) Class Invercargill	Wednesdays	10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	8	26/7/17
Listening & Speaking (Intermediate and Above) Class Invercargill	Thursdays	10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	8	27/7/17
Conversation Class Invercargill (Beginner – Elementary)	Fridays	12.30 to 2.30 p.m.	8	28/7/17
Conversation Class Gore	Wednesdays	6.45 to 8.45 p.m.	8	2/8/17
Pronunciation Class	To be held in September			

WORK BASED PROGRAMMES

English for Employees 45 hours, 2.5 hours per week, small groups of 3-4, flexible timings.
(NZ permanent residents /citizens only)

Work Talk 48 hours, 12 hours per week, flexible timings.
(NZ permanent residents/citizens and work visa holders only)

HOME TUTORING English language lessons delivered by trained volunteer tutors at the learner's home.

For more information, contact: English Language Partners Southland, 184 Esk street Invercargill
Phone 03-216 8765 / 029 771 0950 / email: southland@englishlanguage.org.nz

Courses start mid-July
Get in touch soon



**Eastern Southland
Newcomers Network**

Connecting People

New to Eastern Southland?

Visit <http://www.newcomers.co.nz/>



If you would like to talk to the police about anything you can phone me on 215 0311 or Invercargill Police Station 211 0400.

Remember, if it is **urgent**, dial **111**
Community Constable, Anthony Hogan



**CYCLE
and**

CELEBRATE

Saturday 11th November 2017

15km bike ride from Five Rivers to Lumsden

11am start for ride & market day

Market Day



Face Painting

Cycle Race from Five Rivers

Live music

www.cycleandcelebrate.co.nz

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY GREETING

Grace Fatima Peries	08 Oct
Zilla John Dixon	12 Oct
Susan H. Neil	19 Oct
Vinson Garcia Conti	19 Oct
Buddhika Subasinghe	23 Oct
Maria Vu	29 Oct

If you are not a member of Southland Multicultural Council or your membership is due for renewal, call us **03 214 9296** or **027 214 9296** or post the application form to **46 Kelvin Street, Invercargill**. You can also email us at office@southlandmulticultural.co.nz
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IS \$15 PER FAMILY

Please return to :
Southland Multicultural Council
Southland Community House
46 Kelvin Street
Invercargill 9810

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is a progress; working together is success”

-Henry Ford