

New Bridges – Hamilton SSNZ



SETTLEMENT SUPPORT
NEW ZEALAND

- *Artistic Talents and Achievements*
- *Kiwi Life and cultural connections*
- *New research and newcomer resources*
- *Families moving to NZ: School Education and settlement*



August, 2009, Vol 6

Settlement Support Welcome

Over the last months settlement and immigration have been influenced by local and overseas factors. There has been an increase in requests for support surrounding employment and financial hardship.

Newcomers to New Zealand are settling not just in Hamilton city, but also in the outer areas of the Waikato. Settlement Support NZ (SSNZ) Information services can be reached from anywhere in New Zealand to the closest point of contact through 0800 SSNZ 4 U (0800 776 948). **Newcomers, Expatriates, International Students, Service providers and Employers** can access the FREE service at the Waikato Migrant Resource Centre for any enquiry related to settlement. We connect newcomers locally, also to their ethnic community, and offer access to multi lingual services.

Welcome packs with targeted information can be available on request for newcomers moving to the area. Families may require specific information in relation to education, health and local amenities. Knowing more about the daily things can make life in New Zealand so much easier. Seminars and regular settlement clinics are also available.

e.mer.gent

e.mer.gent – An exhibition of emerging young artists - 50 strings of fairy lights, 100 wine glasses, hundreds of metres of white and gold curtains, red carpet walkways and more than 40 talented artists from 25 different ethnicities!

Hamilton's inaugural art exhibition was a success – exhibiting work from children aged 5 to 20 years from migrant and refugee backgrounds. One particular picture was bought by the Waikato Refugee Forum and gifted to Mayor Bob Simcock during the council held reception to acknowledge World Refugee Week.

Celebrating Refugee Week



Admiring and sharing art across cultures: e.mer.gent

Two hundred people including the artists and their families attended the event with more than \$1200 worth of art being sold. Thanks to the generosity of local and national funding 100% of the door sales were able to go directly to the artists in the form of art vouchers. More than 20 ethnicities were represented in the artwork from migrant and refugee backgrounds.



Event organizers: Patricia Novoa and Rachel O'Connor (with a team of volunteers) celebrating at e.mer.gent

Emergent was run in collaboration between Refugee Services and the Waikato Migrant Resource Centre. The event was funded by Department of Labour and Trust Waikato. Support was also provided from Artmakers Community Artists Trust, Hamilton Community Art Council and the Waikato Refugee Forum.

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What's On

- **Communication, culture and Settlement**

Seminars held in Morrinsville 21 Aug; and in Tokoroa on 25 Aug. Learn about ways to meet communication challenges and supporting newcomers in the region.

More info: ssnz.hmst@xtra.co.nz

- **New Settlers Focus Group Meeting & Provider Networking Expo**

(Mental Health & Wellbeing for Migrants and Refugees)

19 August, 2009

Local providers network for those working with newcomer communities. For more information Contact: Settlement Support New Zealand at 07 853 71 42.

- **Migrant Expo, 17 Oct, 2009**

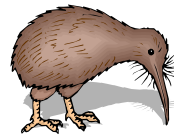
4th Waikato Migrant Expo. More info and registration for exhibitors:

<http://www.migrantexpo.co.nz/hamilton/>

KIWI LIFE

New to New Zealand?

Wanting to learn more about NZ culture?



Come along to meet people in the same situation. Learn more about accessing services, Kiwi slang, places of interest, and practical life skills. Sessions allow for practical discussion on preferred areas.

Where: Waikato Migrant Resource Centre

When: Fridays, 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Participants are encouraged to bring along their lunch.

Facilitators from Rosetown Counselling are present at the sessions to support newcomers. This project has been developed by the Hamilton Multicultural Services Trust in collaboration with Rosetown Counselling Centre. For more information please phone 07 853 2192.

NZ Korean Friendships:

“Making New Zealand ‘Home’”



Laughter and fun playing games at the NZ Korean Friendship Meeting

On 9 July, 2009 the New Zealand Republic of Korea Friendship Society (NZROK) held its second meeting of the year. This time the programme included presentations from a new local Korean NZ Police officer, Settlement Support and community updates. Games were also shared among a group of Koreans and New Zealanders; language and cultural knowledge are regular themes used at meetings.

Friendship, mutual understanding among cultures is a key objective of the NZ Republic of Korea Friendship Society. The programme consists of presentations in English and Korean. The presentation by Settlement Support NZ shared information on settlement stages and challenges people can face when moving to a new place. A Korean interpreter supported most sessions. Meetings are open to everyone and the next gathering will be held in October 2009. For more information please contact Richard Lawrence at: rich001@xtra.co.nz.

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Settlement Support NZ: Settling the family in a new country

Newcomers to New Zealand come with their families to build a new life. Hillcrest Normal School (Hamilton) has a high number of school children from overseas in their classrooms.

The class teacher Mrs Williams arranged for the local settlement support co-ordinator to speak to the students. This provided an opportunity to create awareness of what it means to migrate, the services available to migrants and what students could do to assist other children in settling.



A thank you poster to Settlement Support New Zealand from Hillcrest Normal School (Hamilton)

*“A big thank you from Room 8 for coming to speak to us about your work at the Migrant centre. We loved seeing the children on your powerpoint and all the activities they were doing. Your stories about immigrating to New Zealand made us think about how we can help new people to our country. Thanks once again for coming to Hillcrest Normal School.
From Mrs Williams and Room 8. “*

Written comments from the children included: “It was interesting how you helped people in the world settle in Hamilton (Shania)”; “I liked your job and I think it does a lot of good things (From Simon)”; “I would like to help you make people settle in NZ (Xavier) ”.

General Updates

Do you have a need for information, statistics on settlement and recent trends? A number of updates, studies and reports are available for you:

Immigration to New Zealand

For any news in relation on immigration, skills shortage lists and more check out the **Immigration New Zealand** Web site:

<http://www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/general/generalinformation/news/>

In New Zealand, Immigration Advisers must now be licensed, unless they are included in the category ‘exempt’. For more information on the law and the **Immigration Licensing Authority**:

www.iaa.govt.nz

Research Updates

Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking

Department of Labour

July 2009

This plan outlines the whole-of-government response to people trafficking. The development of the Plan of action represents a combined effort of government agencies and the advocacy of non-government organisations.

<http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/people-trafficking/people-trafficking.pdf>

Settling In: Evaluation Report 2009

Settling in- Family and Community Services, Ministry of Social Development- Centre of Social Research and Evaluation
May 2009

Describes the Settling In initiative: Purpose, Approach, value derived towards the capacity and capability of refugee and migrant communities.

<http://www.familyservices.govt.nz/documents/our-work/community-development/setting-in/settling-in-evaluation-report.pdf>

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Resources for Newcomers

Translated information:

Early childhood, Primary and Secondary School

Downloadable booklets about education in New Zealand by the Ministry of Education are now available in more languages. Helping children learn at home and at school – the Team-Up booklet for parents of children from migrant or refugee backgrounds. The booklet is now available in new languages : **Afrikaans, Cook Island Māori, French, Niuean, Samoan, Tagalog, Thai, Tongan** as well as **Arabic, Chinese, Dari/Farsi, Hindi, Korean and Somali**.

An English version is also available for schools, to assist educators.

<http://www.teamup.co.nz/Migrants.aspx>

Early childhood education (ECE) 20 Hours FREE

The ECE info booklet is available in Chinese, Cook Island Māori, English, Fijian, Māori, Niuean, Samoan, Somalian, Tokelauan, and Tongan languages. You can order a copy by calling 0800 TeamUp (0800 832 687).

<http://www.teamup.co.nz/Migrants.aspx>

Web Resources

ASIA : NZ online

The focus of this website is: Building New Zealanders' knowledge and understanding of Asia.

<http://www.asianz.org.nz/>

Henna Patterns



Experiencing cultural and community differences: Henna design on NZ map.

Painting by: Gagandeep Kaur (18 Yrs, India)
(e.mer.gent expo display, June 2009)

Diwali

Diwali, also known as Deepavali (literally “a row of lamps”), is perhaps the most important and ancient of the Indian festivals. It is celebrated throughout India as well as in Indian communities around the world.

It is colloquially known as “The Festival of Lights” - the time when families light small oil lamps (known as diyas) and candles around the home and set off firecrackers and fireworks. Traditionally Diwali is celebrated for five days, each day having its own significance, rituals and myths. Diwali takes place at the new moon, on the 15th day of the Hindu month of Kartik or Karthika (October/November).

This is at the beginning of the winter season and is called the “darkest night of the year”, so lamps are lit to brighten this moonless night. Generally speaking, however, Diwali signifies the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and renewal of life.

(Source: <http://www.asianz.org.nz>)

SETTLEMENT SUPPORT NEW ZEALAND

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Claudelands Park
HAMILTON

Phone: **07 853 2192**
Email: **ssnzham@wmrc.org.nz**
Visit: **www.wmrc.org.nz**



For settlement information, visit: www.immigration.govt.nz/settlement