



1 December 2011

## Greetings – Kia ora koutou

Welcome to the Settlement Network. Settlement Support is an information service offered to new migrants funded by Immigration New Zealand and supported by Whangarei District Council. This newsletter is how we stay in touch with migrants, service providers, employers, schools, and others who are interested to help newcomers feel welcome.

This is our last newsletter of 2011. And it feels as though summer is here. The streets are busy and Christmas parties are being organised. It can be a busy fun time, and stressful too. Wise families will lighten up on the gifts and just enjoy being together.

You'll see below that the Migrant Centre is holding its annual Christmas children's party – this is a popular and fun event for kids. And please join us for a pot luck end of year dinner at the Centre to see the year out. This is a time to meet new people and catch up with old friends. See you there.

Best wishes for the New Year,

**Ellen Altshuler**, Coordinator and  
**Gwen Ras**, Information Officer

## Meet Santa

### Christmas Party for (migrant) children



**Monday 19th December, 1 – 2.30pm**

Whangarei Migrant Centre is holding its annual children's Christmas party with entertainment and a visit from Santa. Please contact the Centre to register your child for the party. You will need to bring a \$5 gift, wrapped (labeled for 'boy' or 'girl', with no name label) to be given by Santa. All children are welcome to attend.

## Pot Luck Dinner @ Migrant Centre

**Tuesday 20th December, 6 – 8pm**

Whangarei Migrant Centre invites all to a Pot Luck dinner at the Centre to share the highlights of the year and to say goodbye to 2011. Please bring a plate of your favorite dish to share and catch-up with the workers, volunteers and friends of the Migrant Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**More info:** Whangarei Migrant Centre, Municipal Building (first floor), 71 Bank Street. Please RSVP to: Sabrina ph. 430 0571 or email whangareimc@gmail.com.



## Poem for migrants

Anita Kumar, a migrant herself, has written a poem that might be helpful for some. It is about newcomers in their settlement process:

**How**

**How are we to guess?**

**How are we to know?**

**How loving are they?**

**The hearts of the minions...**

**How loving are they?**

**The hearts of...**

**Loving**

**People's**

**Hearts**

**Are turned**

**Towards**

**People**

**In**

**Many facets of complicated**

**architectures of mental**

**Frameworks**

**Of mind works**

**Of men**

*Principle:*

*"No matter how hard you try, you never get into someone's mind. This is important to remember as well as to practice. It's important to realize that people's hearts are turned towards you. This is what love is for you, it offers information and help in time of need".*

# What's on?



## Celebrations & Events:

### Northland Filipino Community Cabaret and Show

**Saturday 3 December**

Forum North, Dinner 6pm and Show 7pm. Price: adults \$15, children 5 to 12 years \$5 and family \$35. Price: door sales.

### Samoan Dance Workshop

**Saturday 3 December 2pm to 4pm**

The Samoan Northland Community Inc. is organising a traditional Dance Workshop with Vision Cultural Movement. Their goals are to maintain the Samoan culture and language and to give Samoan families pride and strength in their identity and heritage.

Bring along lava lava, drink bottle and \$2 entry. Venue: 152 Lower Cameron Street in the Northland Pacific Island Trust building. For more information, call Robert ph. 438 8948 or 021 965 336 or Venee 435 4344 or 021 150 8565.

### Carols in Afrikaans and English

#### Afrikaans Christmas Fair

**Sunday 4 December**

Afrikaans Christian Church is holding a Christmas Fair with food stalls on Sunday 4 December, starting 3pm (singing at 5.30pm) at the Kamo War Memorial hall (corner of Grant and Boswell Street). Everyone is welcome to attend. Entrance free.

### Filipino Christmas Celebration

**Saturday 10 December**

Join the Whangarei Filipino Society Inc. for their annual community Christmas celebration and variety show. Dinner at 7pm, Forum North. Plenty of entertainment! Including baby photo contest. All welcome.

Bookings essential. Cost: \$20 Adults, Kids over 7 \$15, under 7 are free. Tickets for sale at the Migrant Centre, 71 Bank Street. More info contact: Neven Osmena, phone 021 0591620.

## At the Migrant Centre:

**71 Bank Street, ph 470 0571**



### Career Services Employment Clinic

**Friday 9 December 11am to 1pm**

The last employment advice clinic of the year! Careers NZ can help you write your CV, identify job options, prepare for job interviews & understand the culture of workplaces in NZ. Drop in or contact Sabrina on 430 0571 or whangareimc@gmail.com

### Support Group for MIGRANT MUMS

The Mums Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at the Migrant Centre. Next meeting: **6 December at 10.30am** at the Migrant Centre. Children welcome. For more info contact Jessica 438 7856 or Maria on 436 5334 Email: [mums.group@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:mums.group@yahoo.co.nz)

## Have a creative summer

### 'Summer Do' Quarry Art School

**7-14 January 2012**

Every year the Quarry Arts Centre has a week of summer intensive art workshops. It is the perfect place to immerse oneself into an intensive art course designed to be stimulating, inclusive, intensive and fun. For details on all the workshops see: [www.quarryarts.org](http://www.quarryarts.org). Or phone: 438 1215

## International students

### World Class hospitality at RWC 2011

During the Rugby World Cup 2011 190 of the NorthTec's Hospitality



students, many of them international students, worked hard at the pool games providing a high quality service for fans, supporters and the volunteer workers. The trainees worked in the kitchens, in the Corporate VIP areas as well as in the retail areas. This opportunity has given the students a real insight into catering for a world-class event as well as a truly unique work experience in NZ.

# Haere Mai

Settlement Support – Whangarei  
December 2011



## Immigration NZ changes to health requirements



INZ recently announced changes to the health requirements for a range of temporary visas, including student visas. Full information on these changes is available on the INZ website: <http://www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/general/generalinformation/news/healthrequirementschanges.htm>

One change of note is that students who become pregnant, will no longer be denied automatic renewal of their visas. However, the student will have to prove she has the financial capacity to pay for maternity medical expenses (NZ\$9,000).

**Check it out: [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz)**

**WINGS is an International Social Group for Women. The following activities are open to all women wanting to make friends and new networks.**



**Monthly Social Meeting:** Wednesday 7th December 7pm, theme: Birthday Bash.

**Tramping Group:** every Thursday for a mid morning walk.

**Craft Group:** Every Tuesday, 1-3pm @ the Migrant Centre

**Coffee Morning:** Every Friday, 10am – 12pm @ Café Mokaba, Town Basin.

**More info:** Phone 430 3221 or check the website [www.wingsnz.org.nz](http://www.wingsnz.org.nz)

## Workshop

### Migrants at Water Safety Talk

Last month Settlement Support, WINGS and the Whangarei Migrant Centre organised a water safety talk for new migrants.

More than 25 people, mostly families of various different nationalities, met at the Ruakaka Life Saving Club for the free information session. Now they are prepared to safely enjoy all the beautiful Northland beaches this summer.



*Photo: a demonstration of safety signage and tools.*

## Performers/groups wanted

### Cultural Shows - Town Basin

Last week a Korean drum performance and a Cook Islands dance group kicked off a series of informal cultural shows at the Town Basin at midday on Saturdays, organised by the Whangarei District Council, to celebrate Whangarei's cultural diversity.

Council is arranging more cultural shows to highlight the developing art and culture precinct at the Town Basin with the opening of the canopy bridge, Art Walk and Heritage Trail.

Any groups/performers wishing to support this initiative please contact: Ford Watson, WDC, ph. 430 4230 #8601, email: [fordw@wdc.govt.nz](mailto:fordw@wdc.govt.nz)



## SETTLEMENT SUPPORT NEW ZEALAND

### WHANGAREI

Whangarei Migrant Centre, 71 Bank Street

Phone: **09 470 3056**

Email: [ssnzwhangarei@wdc.govt.nz](mailto:ssnzwhangarei@wdc.govt.nz)

Web: [www.wdc.govt.nz](http://www.wdc.govt.nz)

(search: Settlement Support)

