



CONTENTS

Vol 4 : October 2011
Quarterly Newsletter

Welcome

- Elections are Just Around the Corner
- New Settlement Website for Auckland's Newcomers

Community Connections

- Socialising: An Integral Part of Successful Settlement
- www.kiwilatino.co.nz
- Alerts! Visa Sale Targeting Tongan Community
- Chinese script in Online catalogue

New To Auckland?

- Free Treaty Facilitator Training for Community Groups
- Immediate Skills in Demand

Community Notice Board

- Thumbs Up! Responding to Auckland's Diversity
- National Days in October
- Build Challenge 2011

Three Kings Resource Centre

532 Mt Albert Rd, Three Kings Plaza,
Three Kings, Auckland
PO Box 27 367, Mt Roskill
Auckland
Phone: 09-625 2440
Fax: 09-625 2445
Email: info@arms-mrc.org.nz

Manukau Resource Centre

2 Osterley Way, Manukau City
P.O. Box 276 035 Manukau City
Phone: 09-263 5490
Fax: 09-263 5491
Email: manukau@arms-mrc.org.nz

Auckland Regional Migrant Services is now on Facebook. Become a fan of the page and stay up to date with our workshops, events and migrant related news.



Welcome to the Fourth Edition of ARMS Reach for 2011.

Thank you for the positive feedback on the three Special Editions earlier this year which focused on providing information updates for Auckland's migrant community organisations involved in supporting the Christchurch evacuees.

ARMS, as Auckland's key settlement support organisation, is committed to empowering migrants and their communities, through information provision and promotion of programmes and services for their well being.

ARMS Reach will continue to be published quarterly. Its focus will continue to be on supporting community organisations by:

- Profiling their services and activities that can be useful for newcomers
- Providing useful information for community groups to share widely with their members

If you are a community group or organisation and have updates, events, or new initiatives to share with newcomers and other community groups, please email shomap@arms-mrc.org.nz.

Elections are Just Around the Corner

New Zealand's General Elections will be held on the 26th of November, just two months from now.

The Electoral Commission has produced a step-by-step guide on voting in 19 languages, including Chinese, Arabic, Hindi and Korean. The guide can be downloaded from www.elections.org.nz

If you haven't enrolled yet, it's easy to enrol. Get an enrolment form from:

- Any PostShop or
- By Free texting your name and address to 3676 or Freephone 0800 36 76 56

You can also update your enrolment details online by visiting www.elections.org.nz.

This year, at election time, you will also have the opportunity to vote in a referendum. This gives you the chance to have your say on the voting system you'd like to use to elect our Parliaments in the future. You can find out more about the referendum, the questions and the options from www.referendum.org.nz.

The Auckland Regional Ethnic Council (Inc) is holding a Pre-General Election Educational & Political Forum so that the Parties which are contesting the Elections may present their policies as they relate to the concerns, needs and aspirations of minority ethnic populations.

When: 29th October, 2011. **Time:** 12.00 noon to 5.30 pm.

Where: Dominion Road School Hall. Quest Terrace, Mt. Roskill, Auckland.



The Elections Website has Voting information in 20 Languages.

New Settlement Website for Auckland's Newcomers



Auckland's newcomers now have their own settlement information website, developed by the Auckland Regional Migrant Services Trust (ARMS) - www.settlement.org.nz.

By clicking onto www.settlement.org.nz, newcomers will be able to access information

on a wide range of relevant topics, via this 'one-stop-shop' information portal. The website provides immediate online access to relevant practical advice for newcomers, such as how to catch a bus, renting a house, and schooling for children. The website also will host discussion forums and online guides for newcomers, as well as forums for service providers to share best practice, events and workshops.

This website offers plenty of places for community organisations and groups to profile their services and activities. If your community group or organisation would like to be listed please apply online by visiting www.settlement.org.nz

Community Connections

In this section, we will bring you news and updates from various community groups and networks about the services they offer to newcomer communities. In this edition, we are looking at the **Auckland Latin American Community Inc.**

Socialising: An Integral Part of Successful Settlement



According to the 2006 Census, there are 1857 people from Spanish ethnic background. The Auckland Latin American Community Inc. (ALAC) has been helping Spanish speaking new settlers since 1994 and their services are not limited to newcomers only. According to Association member Mariela Ehijo, it takes around six months for a newcomer to gather settlement related information.

"We often meet newcomers who have been here more than a year and are still looking for information, which will enable them to settle better," she adds.

ALAC provides general information about local organizations and agencies, immigration, as well as information on renting or buying a property, health system in New Zealand.

In addition ALAC also provides social support through Spanish-speaking doctors, psychologists and social workers to help them to cope with the stress and isolation of being a newcomer.

"As a newcomer, many people look for activities and events which celebrate their culture. Socialising helps people integrate with others," says Mariela.

Some of the events and activities hosted by ALAC are:

- Cinema Club: Films in English/Spanish with Spanish/English subtitles: Once per month.
- Health talks: Information about health system in New Zealand, local diseases, birth-control: Six times per year.
- On Site Library: More than 5,000 books in Spanish and Portuguese.
- Play Group: Teacher and Psychologist in charge of games and activities to help kids up to 6 years old to not forget the Spanish language (newborns or babies up to 2 years need to be accompanied by an adult).
- Latin Folk Group "MAKEHUE": Latin music and dance. Every Tuesday

Contact Details: Mariela Ehijo on
Phone: (09) 636 5313
Email: socialservices@alacinc.org.nz
Website: www.alacinc.org.nz



Member of the Latin American Community Inc



www.kiwilatino.co.nz

Spanish speakers in New Zealand can now look for business information and professional contacts on a new website www.kiwilatino.co.nz. The site contains information about products and services in Spanish and provides links to information related to Spanish/Latino culture. The website has been set up by the Asociación de Empresarios y Profesionales Hispanohablantes de Nueva Zelanda and has the support of the embassies of Spain and Argentina. For enquiries, email sonia@soniavazquez.co.nz

Alerts! Visa Sale Targeting Tongan Community

Immigration New Zealand (INZ) is urging Tongan nationals to be wary of a scam involving the selling of visas. INZ general manager Steve Stuart says the Service has been alerted to visas being sold to Tongan nationals at a cost of \$290 each.

"This is a complete fraud and I can't emphasise strongly enough that Immigration New Zealand is the only agency that can issue a visa to remain lawfully in New Zealand," Mr Stuart says.

"I appeal in the strongest possible terms for people concerned about their immigration status to talk to us and not be taken in by such scams. We encourage people to report to the Police anyone involved in such a scam or if they think they may be a victim of such a scam."

This latest scam comes just three weeks after the sentencing of Aucklander Gerard Otimi who was paid \$500 by overstayers for a stamp and a certificate that he said allowed them to be part of his hapu and to stay in New Zealand.

Otimi was sentenced to 18 months in jail and ordered to pay \$12,500 in reparation to his victims. Mr Stuart says the sentence should act as an eye opener for many migrants and sends a clear message that there is zero-tolerance for immigration fraud.

Chinese script in Online catalogue

Auckland Libraries has begun to add Chinese characters to its book records, and this has led to a significant improvement for its Chinese customers who access the online catalogue.

Assistant librarian, Yan Wang, says the addition of Chinese script to the catalogue is wonderful, and makes book browsing a much more enjoyable experience for our Chinese customers.

Example of a Chinese title record:

Jian yi jia chang cai = Everyday dishes/
简易家常菜 = Everyday dishes / 林淑莲著.
Shulian Lin 林淑莲, 1951-
Publish info: Beijing : Wai wen chu ban she, 2002.
北京 : 外文出版社, 2002.
Subject: Cooking, Chinese Series: Zhonghua mei shi xi lie ;
1. Found: dishes (3) Beijing (1)



For more information visit www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz

Editor's Note: We welcome your comments and feedback on this issue. Please contact Shoma Prasad, Communications and Public Relations Officer on 625 3095 or email her on shomap@arms-mrc.org.nz

New To Auckland? Looking For Work?

In this section of the newsletter, we will be bringing to you news, updates, how-to's, and practical information on settlement related issues. Looking for employment is the top priority for newcomers. ***Here are some tips and useful advice from our Employment Coordinator, Lulette Carnie, on Job Search.***



Lulette Carnie,
Employment Coordinator.

The greatest challenge for newcomers is looking for work in a new country. From our client feedback, most skilled newcomers migrate to NZ after they receive a job offer. However, it is often their family members who find it challenging to find suitable job after they have arrived in Auckland. Through this article, I will assist you with some practical tips and advice on our job search journey.

First steps

- Think carefully about your NZ career goals. What is it that you really want to do here?
- Do some background research on the career that you have chosen. What steps are involved? You might have to do some additional training or course. For example if you are a teacher from overseas, you have to obtain NZ equivalency and teacher registration.
- Utilize free services that provide career counselling and job search assistance. As well as the Job Search Workshops that ARMS offers at our two centres, there are other organisations in Auckland providing career advice and job search assistance such as Careers New Zealand, Auckland

Chamber of Commerce and recruitment agencies.

- Always have an up-to-date resume (CV) ready to send – but always send this with a cover letter written for the particular job that you are applying for.
- Use a Professional Email for job applications - don't use your "party email". Get an email address that is simple and professional.
- English skills, both written and verbal, are really important for most skilled positions. Don't be shy about getting advice or assistance with your English to really advance your options for finding the job that you want.
- ARMS offers an English Pronunciation Course that can assist you with your spoken English. We are also offering free ESOL clinics and paid assessment services. Get in touch with our Team on 09 625 2440 or email on reception@arms-mrc.org.nz



In our next edition, I will offer some advice and strategies on getting ready for an interview, highlighting the 'dos and don'ts'.

Free Treaty Facilitator Training for Community Groups

The Treaty Education For Migrants Group is a partner in the NZ Diversity Action Programme (NZDAP) www.hrc.co.nz/nzdiversity and supports the programme's vision of a diverse, equal harmonious and Treaty-based Aotearoa New Zealand.



Jeffery Lim, graduated as a facilitator in June of this year

The Treaty Education for Migrants Group has conducted over 30 Treaty workshops in association with the Auckland Regional Migrant Service over the last few years.

The Treaty Education for Migrants Group is offering a course for community facilitators and workers who want to help their communities understand the relevance of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Participants will be trained as Treaty Education facilitators, able to run group activities based on the popular resource *Tangata Tiriti-Treaty People: An interactive workbook on the Treaty of Waitangi*. This is the first time that we are offering Treaty

facilitator training to community organisations and service providers among the established migrant communities.

The course is specifically for members of community organisations and service providers who:

- are actively engaged with ethnic, migrant and refugee communities in Auckland
- want to take practical steps in their own organisation and in their own community to ensure that the Treaty of Waitangi is reflected in its policy and practice
- are interested in building positive relationships with Maori
- want to implement NZDAP goals in relation to the Treaty

To apply please contact Sally on sallyc@arms-mrc.org.nz to obtain a nomination form. There are only **14 places available**.

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 5 NOVEMBER 2011

Immediate Skills in Demand

The latest review of the Essential Skills in Demand Lists was released on 11 July by the Department of Labour to ensure they are responsive to the needs and requirements of the New Zealand workforce and economy.

The current Immediate Skills shortage list has the following occupation areas: Agriculture and Forestry, Construction,

Education, Engineering, Health and Social Services, Recreation, Hospitality and Tourism, Trades and Transport.

The detailed list is available on the immigration New Zealand website: www.immigration.govt.nz/essentialskills

Community Notice Board

Thumbs Up! Responding to Auckland's Diversity



'111 – Ambulance please' in 42 languages

The Ambulance service - a critical life-line utility is now able to offer a more targeted and efficient service to people who don't speak English.

Staff based in the three ambulance call centres around the country now has access to the telephone interpretation service, Language Line, run by the Office of Ethnic Affairs. It means they can now ensure, more accurately, the details of the help that's required by the person who has made the emergency phone call.

People who speak little or no English and who wish to get an ambulance should call 111 and when the operator answers request the ambulance service. When they get through to the ambulance they should say 'Language Line' followed by the name of the language they want for example 'Language Line Mandarin' or 'Language Line Samoan'.

Farmers Market (Free Events)

The Sandringham Community Centre will be hosting Farmers Market Days during the Rugby World Cup festival on the same days as games are played at Eden Park and they are inviting local community groups to take up stall spaces from 8.00am - 2.00pm. For more information call on 09 8466649 or email at info@sandringhamcc.org.nz

Job Search Workshops (Free)

Three Kings: 11th, 25th October; 8th, 22nd November; 6th, 20th December 2011,

Manukau: 12th, 26th October; 9th, 23rd November; 7th December 2011

Waitakere: 7th October; 11th November; 15th December 2011

Northshore: 12th October; 10th November; 8th December 2011

To register please email on reception@arms-mrc.org.nz or phone 09 625 2440

Cultural Events

What: Auckland International Carnival

When: Saturday, 15th of October

Where: Glen Innes Village



What: The premiere season of A Thousand Hills - An African Story from New Zealand, an exploration of the beauty and terror of a life lived in exile. A Thousand Hills is a deeply moving story based on the true life experiences of Francois Byamana, and his gripping account of survival during and after the Rwandan genocide in 1994. It is a story straight from the heart of Africa that has a New Zealand connection; it's a story of love, identity, survival, hope, dignity and humanity.

When: 20th – 30th October 2011

Where: Herald Theatre, Aotea Centre, THE EDGE

Tickets: \$28 - \$35 (plus service fee).

Bookings at The Edge - 0800 BUY TICKETS or www.buytickets.co.nz

National Days in October

1 October	China Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China
1 October	Cyprus Independence Day
1 October	Nigeria Independence Day
1 October	Tuvalu Independence Day
3 October	Germany Unification Day
3 October	Korea National Foundation Day
4 October	Lesotho National Day
10 October	Fiji Independence Day
12 October	Spain National Day
19 October	Niue Constitution Day
24 October	Zambia Independence Day
26 October	Austria National Day
28 October	Czech Republic National Day
29 October	Turkey Republic Day

■ Date ■ Country Public Day

Build Challenge 2011

Habitat for Humanity is challenging New Zealanders to build or make something for a local cause or person in need. You could make a toy for nearby children's home, build a bench for your local school, or even craft a quilt for a community hospice. It's totally up to you!

By asking family and friends to sponsor your build, you will also be supporting Habitat for Humanity's vital home building programme for families in New Zealand currently living in poverty housing.

You can build as a team or as an individual and even if you've never built. Simply register your build on <http://www.buildchallenge.org/> and receive a \$50 voucher from Mitre10 Mega to get you going and start building.

For more information, Phone: (09) 579 4111 or

Email: information@habitat.org.nz

