

## C.A.L.D. TALK

# QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER OF THE ILLAWARRA ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL

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Hello and welcome to the July edition of CALD Talk for 2009.

Liaising, collaborating with, and understanding the needs of CALD communities allows the IECC to advocate on their behalf and ultimately enables the IECC to bring communities together in the true spirit of multiculturalism.

I'm very pleased to inform you all that since my last report, the IECC has received further funding to accommodate the needs of CALD communities in the Illawarra! Recent projects have included additional funding of \$18,000 from the Department Of Ageing, Disability and Home Care for a new **Serbian Day Care in Wollongong in July 2009**. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome each and every one of the Serbian community to the IECC.

I'm delighted to announce to our members that the IECC have successfully relocated to the new IECC Head Office at **117 Corrimal Street, Wollongong** and we are fully operational with all staff, services and programs. On behalf of the IECC management committee I would like to take this opportunity to thank the IECC manager, Terrie Leoleos, the Staff, volunteers and especially management committee members, who worked so hard to make this possible.

At our Special General meeting on the 28/06/09, our members voted in favour of changing the name of Illawarra Communities Council known as Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council to **'Multicultural Communities Council Of Illawarra'**. This name change is in keeping with the trend to move away from 'Ethnic' to using the more inclusive 'multicultural'.

The IECC is working with the Turkish community in Wollongong to establish a Turkish Day Care early August. The IECC has been successful in serving our CALD communities in the Illawarra. We have been listening to and understanding the diversity of the Cultural and Linguistic needs of our clients and working hard towards meeting the objectives to satisfy the needs that are arising in the Illawarra. Through our involvement and work with all communities, we are able to better serve the needs of our Culturally and Linguistically Diverse clients.

Helen Sara, one of our executives, attended the Centrelink National Multicultural Reference Group in Canberra in June this year. This was a forum for NGO's to provide consultation to Centrelink and how they can reach out to CALD communities. Helen lobbied for Interpreter Services and discussed how NGO's like IECC

should have access to interpreters from Centrelink. The National Manager of Multicultural Services will be meeting with IECC in the near future to discuss strategies for better Interpreter Services in the Illawarra.

Our organisation has been involved in some major community events in June including:

- The Illawarra's Multicultural Youth Conference, which was held at Wollongong University on the 3rd June 2009. This conference involved both local and state government departments, and is a prime example of the wonderful achievements that can be made through teamwork and collaboration amongst organisations in the Illawarra.
- I am also pleased to report that on June 20, 2009 the IECC team hosted "Welcome Here 2009" a celebration of Refugee Culture in Wollongong. This was held at the TAFE recreation Centre and was attended by more than 400 people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities in the Illawarra.
- I am delighted to report that on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2009 the IECC held a BBQ on the grounds of our new head office for National Volunteers Week. This was a small gesture at the difficult time of relocating, in recognition of the valuable contribution the volunteers have made to the IECC.

It is that time of year again for IECC membership renewals. As such, I would like to take this opportunity to invite all of you to renew your membership for 2009/2010 before the 31st of August 2009, after which membership will lapse if renewal is not received. This is an exciting year for IECC, especially with the acquisition of a new property and the expansion of our membership and our services.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your continuous support to the IECC.

If you have any questions in relation to the IECC or any of its related projects, please feel free to contact our office. Our friendly staff would be happy to hear from you!

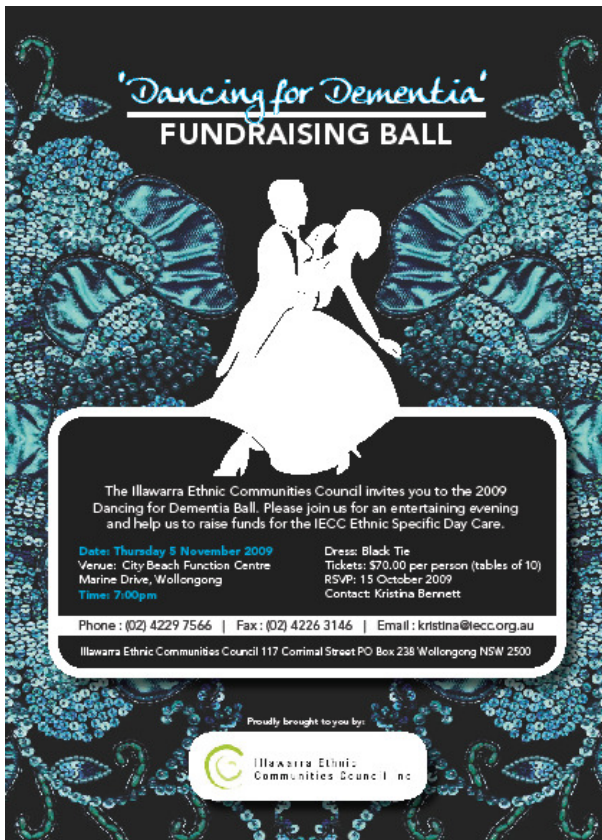
Kind regards



Ken Habak  
Chairperson



## 'Dancing for Dementia' Fundraising Ball 2009



### 'Dancing for Dementia'

#### Sponsorship

The Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council is currently seeking sponsors for the 2009 Dancing for Dementia Ball.

Sponsorship opportunities exist that will provide your organisation exposure to our high profile guests and supporters, plus a range of organisations that has prominent standing in the community.

Sponsoring the Dancing for Dementia Ball will provide your organisation with the following benefits:

- Positioning alongside Australia's Leading Businesses
- Your organisation will be acknowledged as a keen and vital supporter
- An opportunity to display, promote and update current products or launch new ones.

All sponsors will receive a gift of appreciation for their sponsorship contribution. These gifts can be showcased at the office to clients and customers which will inform them of your support to the local community.

To secure your sponsorship in time for the 2009 Dancing for Dementia Ball please contact Kristina Bennett, Corporate Support Officer, for a sponsorship package on (02) 4229 7566 or email kristina@iecc.org.au.

Sponsorship closes 28 August 2009.

### 'Dancing for Dementia'

#### Fundraising Ball

Since 2001 the Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council (IECC) has been providing information on dementia to ethnic communities to raise the awareness of dementia.

The IECC also provides a centre based day respite service for dementia clients who are aged 65 years and over and have mild to moderate dementia.

The IECC is aiming to raise the awareness of dementia in culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities through hosting a multicultural arts and culture evening.

The 'Dancing for Dementia Ball' will not only aim to raise the awareness of dementia amongst CALD communities, but will also be an opportunity to raise much needed funds to build sensory gardens, wandering paths and therapeutic items for clients with dementia accessing IECC programs and activities. These resources will be available and accessible to the community.

This event will include the involvement of CALD youth people in local high schools via a short film competition supporting young people to raise dementia awareness in schools.

The IECC has invited Sue Pieters-Hawke and Len Snowdon as special guest speakers. Nationally recognised bands Azadoota and Ay Karumba will also perform on the night.

The IECC is inviting the local community to attend this unique event.

The event will be held:

**Date:** Thursday 5 November 2009

**Time:** 7:00pm to Midnight

**Venue:** City Beach Function Centre  
1 Marine Drive, Wollongong

**Cost:** \$70.00 per person (tables of 10 available)

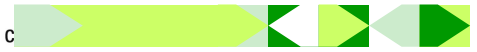
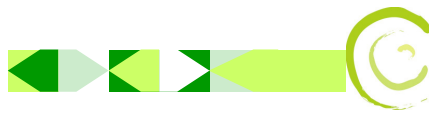
**Dress:** Black Tie

**RSVP:** 15 October 2009

To secure your seat or table, please contact Kristina Bennett, Corporate Support Officer, to purchase your ticket.

Ph: (02) 4229 7566

Email: kristina@iecc.org.au



## IECC Projects

### links to learning

#### Congratulations to a Links to Learning Student

The IECC would like to congratulate a previous Links to Learning student from Figtree High School, Josh, who used his skills from first aid training he completed through the Links to Learning program to save a friend's life after a bike accident at Mount Keira that left him with spinal injuries earlier this month.

This is an incredible accomplishment for Josh, Links to Learning, and Figtree High School.

You're a hero Josh. Congratulations.

#### WELCOME HERE 2009

#### REFUGEE FESTIVAL

20 JUNE 2009

Welcome Here is an annual unique community festival and project celebrating the contributions made by refugees and former refugees in the Wollongong area. The event was held on the 20 June 2009 at the ITSA TAFE Function Centre in Wollongong and was well attended by more than 400 people. The event included activities such as children's theatre, information stalls, youth workshops, art exhibitions, performances and information stalls from various organisations.

### Expressions of Harmony

The implementation of "Clay Play" program is a success, with children engaging and becoming interested in working with clay. In June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> TAFE qualified potter, Iryna Cachia was showing the children hand building techniques.

We continue "pottering around" until September this year. Some tiles that were produced in the program are going to be a part of a mural on Market Street Wollongong. Children are extremely excited to see their work displayed for public.

The project is currently seeking donations of wall tiles and colourful china for the mural on Market Street.

Please contact Irina on 02)4229 7566 for more information.



### ILLAWARRA MULTICULTURAL YOUTH CONFERENCE (IMYC)

3 JUNE 2009

The IMYC is in its fifth year in partnership with the Department of Education and Training, Illawarra Multicultural Services, Wollongong City Council, Warrawong Intensive English Centre, and IECC's Links to Learning program.



The IMYC was held on the 3 June 2009 at the University of Wollongong to provide CALD youth with the opportunity to make informed choices about their future, focusing on career and education pathways; in addition to their lifestyle and personal development.

The IMYC was well attended and workshops were delivered by facilitators in a culturally appropriate way which includes catering to language barriers, and an understanding of the experiences that may have hindered prior learning and the transition into a foreign culture.

#### NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK

The IECC hosted the National Volunteers Week barbecue/dinner for the volunteers on 12 May 2009 at the new IECC Head Office. The dinner was part of the National Volunteers Week event which celebrates volunteering in Australia. IECC again took an opportunity to thank all our volunteers for their valuable contribution to the organisation.

IECC participated in the Volunteering Expo as part of National Volunteers Week. This year the expo was held at the Master Builders Club and it is always a great place for networking and recruiting new volunteers.

IECC staff and representatives from various organisations attended the **Disability Awareness Workshop** by the Multicultural Disability Awareness Association.

It was a great opportunity for IECC staff to network with different community agencies and enhances their knowledge about rights of people with a disability from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

**The Serbian Day Care has started to operate under the auspice of IECC as of the 1 July 2009.**

**The Day Care group meet at the St Jovan Orthodox Church Hall, Kenny Street, Wollongong every Thursday**

**For more information please contact IECC on telephone (02)4229 7566**

The IECC Head Office is open from  
Monday to Friday 9:00am—5:00pm

We are located at : 117 Corrimal Street, Wollongong

For more information or a brochure in various languages, ring, fax or email Liz

Phone: 4229 7566

Fax: 4226 3146

Email: [admin@iecc.org.au](mailto:admin@iecc.org.au)

Or visit us on our website: [www.iecc.org.au](http://www.iecc.org.au)

For More Information On Individual Projects and Activities

## CALD Aged Care and Disability Services

The IECC delivers specialised services and aged care programs for CALD communities across the Illawarra including:

### Middle Eastern Day Care

Croatian Day Care

Serbian Day Care

Greek Day Care

Baltic States Day Care

Ukrainian Day Care

Dutch Day Care

### Ethnic Meals On Wheels

Ukrainian CPP Project

Village Elders & Friends of  
Cringila Social Group

In-Home Respite &

Social Support Services

### Multicultural Dementia

Day Care Services

Dementia Carer Support

HACC Community

Development Respite  
Services

## Find Out More About Our Multicultural Arts & Youth



links to learning

KIDS MAKING CHOICES

MULTICULTURAL YOUTH  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

MULTICULTURAL ARTS

EXPRESSIONS OF HARMONY  
PROGRAM

## IECC Announcements & Upcoming Events

### ***The IECC has moved premises***

The IECC has relocated to  
117 Corrimal Street, Wollongong  
Phone and fax numbers remain the same

***Launch of the new premises of the Illawarra Ethnic  
Communities Council now known as  
Multicultural Communities Council of Illawarra***

*117 Corrimal Street, Wollongong*

*Time: 6:00pm*

*Thursday 17 September 2009*

*Contact 02)4229 7566 for more information*

### ***IECC 'DANCING FOR DEMENTIA' FUNDRAISING BALL***

*Thursday 5 November 2009*

*City Beach Function Centre*

*Tickets \$70.00 each*

*Contact Kristina on 4229 7566 for more information*

### **Memory Walk**

**Saturday 12 September 2009**

**Dementia Community Awareness Event**

**Please contact Liz Arroyo for more information on (02) 4276 4364  
or email [liza@iecc.org.au](mailto:liza@iecc.org.au)**