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settlingin

NEWS

## Welcome to the fourth issue of *Settling In News*.

Since 2004 the Settling In team has been working directly with refugee and migrant communities throughout New Zealand to help them connect with the people who live and work in their communities, identify their social issues and come up with their own solutions to address these.

This newsletter celebrates the work happening in these communities.

### In this issue

- *Kicking up their heels – community connections through dance*
- *Volunteering – a stepping stone towards settling in*
- *Collaboration and Change Seminar – Moving forward together*
- *Rising to the Challenge – young women leaders from refugee backgrounds get a taste of the great outdoors*
- *Learning English in the Temple*
- *Showcasing the stories and skills of Nelson’s migrant women*
- *Newcomers Network national hui – sharing ideas and success*
- *‘New Coasters’ enjoy a tasty West Coast Māori welcome*

## A message from Ann Dysart, Settling In



“I am constantly amazed at how much is happening out there in our communities and I feel really privileged that through my job I get to hear about some of the excellent work and the inspiring stories that keep these communities dynamic and strong. So much of this goes untold and unsung – which is why we want to share and celebrate a selection of these successes and stories through this newsletter.

When I reflect back to the beginnings of Settling In, in 2003/2004, it is quite incredible to think of what has happened since then. For me, the greatest success has been the coming together of communities to take on the challenge of identifying and addressing settlement issues for refugees and migrants – in their area and for our country. Settling In operates

in 14 locations now and it still amazes me what can be achieved when people work together, pool their ideas and resources, take ownership of the issues and solutions, and focus on making a difference. Of course there is still a lot more that needs to happen and a lot more work for us to do. But for now I would like to focus on the successes – those that are featured in this newsletter and all of the others that I know are happening out there. And I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to these.”

**Ann Dysart,**  
Service Development Manager,  
Community Relations,  
Family and Community Services



family & community services  
ratonga ā-whānau, ā-hapori  
A service of the Ministry of Social Development

## *Kicking up their heels – community connections through dance*



Every Friday evening Amelia Tan-Makhmalchi gets in her car and drives from her home on the North Shore of Auckland to a community hall in New Lynn, West Auckland. Here she is greeted by an enthusiastic group of women, ready and waiting in their comfy clothes to dance the night away.

Amelia teaches an international folk dancing class to local migrant women for two to three hours every Friday night as part of the 'Avondale Women's Social Group'. This group was established by Settling In Relationship Manager, Susan Zhu, earlier this year to encourage local migrant women to get out of their houses, meet people and have some fun. Susan says that she had some concerns that there were many lonely and isolated migrant women living in this area without the confidence or opportunities to change their situation.

At this stage all of the women involved in the social group are Chinese. Some are single mothers and many feel that their limited English is preventing them from accessing important information and connecting with their community. A number of them just feel too shy to join in with local activities.

The Friday night dancing has changed that for many of these women. Amelia says that when she started the class she didn't realise how significant the benefits would be. "The class size is growing and so is the confidence, happiness and fitness of the women," says Amelia with pride.

One member has said that the women are making friends with one another and it is a highlight of their week. "We all look forward to Fridays now – the dancing and laughing and the chance to have some fun." Anyone can join at any time says Amelia and she will make the time to help new members catch up with the dance routines.

This role fits in nicely with Amelia's day time job as a migrant work broker for Work and Income. Recently Amelia has helped a member of the women's group, who is also a keen cook, to get work experience at a bakery - so for some women the dance class is also a stepping stone to further opportunities in the community. She is now trying to encourage the women to use more English in the class to improve their skills and confidence. Amelia said that to start with it wasn't all plain sailing. "Some of the women were so shy and when they found out I worked for government they were too scared to talk to me – now that has all changed - we all chat and laugh and have a good time together."

“  
...we all chat and laugh  
and have a good time  
together”



*Avondale women share the joy of dancing!*

Amelia is proud of her class and their progress, “they are all keen and quick learners and now we have 27 dances under our belts,” she says.

Amazingly Amelia has not stopped with the Avondale group – she has recently started a similar group on the North Shore and is in the process of setting up another dance class in Panmure. The North Shore group is mainly Korean women, from the Korean Women’s Association of NZ, but the aim is to get members along from other communities in the area to help establish wider social connections for these women.

Amelia says that she would love to find someone else keen to learn the dances and help her out with the tutoring so that she can get more communities up and dancing.

**For more information please contact Amelia Tan-Makhmalchi on 021 110 1127 / [amelia18@ihug.co.nz](mailto:amelia18@ihug.co.nz) or Susan Zhu on 029 650 0335 [susanzhu003@msd.govt.nz](mailto:susanzhu003@msd.govt.nz)**

“*The class size is growing and so is the confidence, happiness and fitness of the women.*”



# Volunteering – a stepping stone towards settling in.

**Marlin from Iraq, Violetta from Poland, Fong Fong Ma from China and Shaimaa from Egypt come from very different backgrounds but they have something important in common – they have all been volunteers in their new home – Wellington.**

It is not hard to imagine how difficult it is to shift countries as an adult, to learn a new language and different ways of doing things, and to have no social support or business connections to help with this. For many migrants, volunteering provides a fantastic opportunity to meet 'kiwis', practice English, and get some much needed New Zealand work experience. Even very highly skilled migrants strike a number of barriers and can struggle to get that all important 'foot in the door' that might lead to paid employment. For most volunteers, though, it is about so much more than this – the chance they get to be a part of their new community, to practice English and chat with locals and to make a valued contribution. These are the things that really make them feel good.

Pauline Harper, co-manager of Volunteer Wellington, is passionate about her work

and the huge impact that it can have on so many lives. She is a champion of the personal stories that emerge from her workplace and loves to share these. Marlin, Violetta, Fong Fong Ma and Shaimaa all feature in "Once Upon A Time.. Stories About Volunteers And Volunteering" a two-volume publication put out by Volunteer Wellington. Pauline notes that a high proportion of the volunteers they have on their books are migrants and that this is a great asset for the organisation and for Wellington. "They bring so much more than their skills – they bring different ideas, new ways of seeing the world and we get the opportunity to share a taste of their culture," she says.

Pauline comes across many non-working partners of migrants, (usually women but sometimes men) who have shifted here to take up job opportunities. She says that these individuals are often highly skilled themselves, with loads of energy and passion and nowhere to channel this. Volunteer Wellington aims to harness this enthusiasm and skill, and match it with community need. Pauline notes that this is extremely important and about a lot more than just the personal happiness

of these individuals. "If these partners are not settled or fulfilled this can have an impact on the whole family – sometimes we lose much needed skilled migrants from New Zealand because the families are unhappy here."

A recent focus for Volunteer Wellington is to provide stronger support for the managers of volunteers within an organisation or workplace. Arranging a placement is one thing, but ensuring that those responsible for the volunteer are supported in their role and get recognition and status for this contribution is equally important. Some of the strategies they are developing include encouraging more mentoring opportunities for managers, profiling the successful placements and managers (as well as the volunteers) and awarding those who achieve particular success with their volunteers. A recent example profiled by Volunteer Wellington involved Craig, manager of the Kilbirnie Salvation Army Shop, and Hasena, one of his volunteers originally from Iraq. Craig says in the story that he sees his role as "a more interesting – even challenging – career than if everyone were paid. With volunteers we have a responsibility



to our local community, to ensure we understand why they are here and make sure we respond to these motives." He goes on to say, "You can't be rigid with this sort of management – or you don't grow yourself. We miss out if we don't talk more to each other and find out about several different views."

In the same story Hasena says that before this placement she was very unhappy as a result of her traumatic background and experiences. This was compounded by the limited English she spoke. "When I first came here I was crying all the time," she said through an interpreter. "But since I've been at the Salvation Army Shop, I am happy again – smiling and laughing"

Hasena looks forward to arriving each day and the other staff all help her with her English. She says she learns as much at the store as she does in her English class.

Volunteer Wellington tags itself as a catalyst for community development and Pauline likes to think that the process of volunteering encourages "an integrated way of looking at life". Volunteer Wellington works closely with a range of migrant support services and community groups to share ideas and ensure that the work they do is effective and harmonious. The Settling In team is really happy to be able to be a part of this approach and to support some of the great things that transpire as a result.



Pauline notes that, of course, eventually many volunteers move on – they might find paid work or something different to do, but she notes that this is usually an occasion to celebrate. She also adds that the whole experience of volunteering is often incredibly meaningful and important for those involved – "they may move on but they don't forget"

**For more information contact Pauline Harper at 04 499 4572 [vw@volunteerwellington.org.nz](mailto:vw@volunteerwellington.org.nz) or visit the website at [www.volunteerwellington.org.nz](http://www.volunteerwellington.org.nz) or blog [www.volunteerwellington.wordpress.com](http://www.volunteerwellington.wordpress.com)**

## Another successful year for the Diversity Forum

The Human Rights Commission hosted yet another successful Diversity Forum this year. The Forum was held in Christchurch on 22-23 July and attracted a large number of participants and contributors from around the country and from overseas. This annual event provides a chance for experts, educators and communities to enjoy stories and performance, to discuss the hot topics of the day, to participate in hands-on workshops and to share best practice. Most importantly it is an opportunity to celebrate the growing diversity within New Zealand. One of the highlights of the forum is the annual diversity awards ceremony. This year, thirteen organisations received awards from the Commission in recognition of their outstanding contribution to cultural diversity and race relations in New Zealand.

Settling In was very pleased to support the 2010 Diversity Forum.

**For more information go to the HRC website: [www.hrc.co.nz](http://www.hrc.co.nz)**



# Collaboration and change seminar – moving forward together

In June this year, those working with refugees and migrant communities in the wider Auckland area came together to share their expertise and ideas. A contingent from Hamilton also drove up to take part in the event. The 'Collaboration and Change' seminar, organised by Settling In, involved a series of presentations around particular topics such as health, safety, older people, issues for men and issues for women. This was followed by discussion and an identification of priorities for next year.

The seminar provided a great opportunity for Settling In and others working with refugees and migrants to hear first-hand some discussion about real issues for these communities that can help us to shape priorities as we move forward. It also brought together community people so they could share ideas and experiences and make connections.

A highlight of the day was the arrival of Minister Tariana Turia and her participation in the seminar programme. She spoke to the group and publicly announced additional funding for Settling In of \$1,000,000 per annum for the next three years.

Throughout the afternoon participants were presented with wisdom, stories, and facts and figures from a diverse range of communities and organisations.

We heard from Indu Bajaj from Shanti Niwas Charitable Trust about issues for ageing migrants, especially those in Indian communities, and her concerns about the sustainability of services into the future. This theme was also picked up by Jenny Wang from Chinese New Settlers Services Trust (CNSST). Jenny presented the group with a lot of detail about the growing number and range of services provided by the Trust over the years since its inception in 1998. However, she was keen to emphasise that there



*Minister Turia with Fardowsa Abi from the Umma Trust at the Collaboration and Change Seminar*

remain many issues for senior members of the Chinese and Korean communities that need further attention, particularly around rest home care, mental health services, language barriers and social isolation.

Hassan Hussaini from the New Zealand Ethnic Social Services spoke a great deal about youth within migrant communities and the vital importance of ensuring that these young people are happy in New Zealand, proud and comfortable with their culture and heritage, and able to make a positive contribution here. He pointed out the likely negative consequences if migrant youth are not supported in this way. Fardowsa Abi and Amaran Kalif from Umma Trust (supporting Arabic speaking people living in Auckland) echoed these thoughts and described how the support role of the Trust has changed over time – from an initial focus on addressing culture shock and meeting the immediate needs of recent arrivals (often from war zones) to a broader social services support role focused on family wellbeing and flourishing within the New Zealand context.

Key themes emerging from the day include the enormous strides made by refugee and migrant groups over the last five years, and the urgent need to focus on positive opportunities and development for youth to keep this momentum going into the future. There is some concern that older migrants came here, worked hard and made sacrifices for their children who are now facing their own struggles as

second or third generation migrants. There is also a desire to ensure that senior migrants are able to grow old in New Zealand with respect and dignity, and equitable access to services and support. The desire for greater collaboration across the sector was also a focus of the discussions.

The success of the day was summed up by Sam Sefuiva from the Human Rights Commission. Sam congratulated the presenters and those working in this sector and noted that although a great deal has been achieved over the last five years, with sufficient support, collaboration, and energy a great deal more can be accomplished. He also pressed home the fact that as a nation we need to "do the maths" to ensure that we take heed of the growing numbers of migrants and diversity, our increasing reliance on the skills that they bring, and the vital importance of successful settlement experiences.

**For more information contact Settling In National Manager, Ann Dysart, on 04 916 3767 [ann.dysart001@msd.govt.nz](mailto:ann.dysart001@msd.govt.nz)**



# Rising to the challenge – young women leaders from refugee backgrounds get a taste of the great outdoors

Moving to a new country presents many challenges and new experiences. For 25 girl leaders from Auckland one such challenge was swimming in the sea, something some of them had never experienced before.

These girls from Afghan, Burmese, Eritrean, Somali, Sudanese and Iraqi communities tried out a range of water based activities – kayaking, kayak surfing and Waka Ama – as part of a youth leadership camp organised by Refugees as Survivors (RASNZ) in collaboration with Ara Moana Adventures of Ngati Wai. For some of these girls it was also their first trip out of Auckland.

The girls' camp was held over the last weekend in May at Pataua in Tai Tokerau. It is one of a series of leadership development initiatives designed to engage and inspire young people from refugee backgrounds to realise their personal strengths and potential. Separate camps have been run for young men. The leadership camps include a range of challenging physical experiences such as abseiling, rock climbing and orienteering.

The idea grew following concern that some young people from former refugee communities were struggling to make a positive transition into New Zealand life. Ara Moana Adventures has many years experience working with Māori youth and they believe that there are some parallels between the experiences of young Māori and those of the refugee youth. As well as the physical challenges, the project provides opportunities for these young people to share their own very different cultures and heritage, and also to gain

some understanding of tikanga and the culture of Mana Whenua. The overall aim is identify and foster the leaders of tomorrow with the hope that these young people will become role models within their own communities, providing a positive influence on their peers.

Mebrehit Reda, originally from Eritrea, was one of the young women on the camp. She says that it was an amazing experience for her and her first time out of Auckland. "I have been in New Zealand for a while but I have never had an experience like this before. It was so exciting and also very interesting. I loved the kayaking and going out in the boat to see the beautiful islands," she said. "Mostly, I really enjoyed making new friends with other girls who have different backgrounds but who share similar stories and experiences to me", said Mebrehit.

Fardowso Abi accompanied the girls on the camp as a volunteer and says that

this experience was really successful on a number of levels.

"Many of the girls had never been on a kayak before and some of the girls had a fear of the water. By the end of the weekend it was hard to get them out of the water and their level of confidence in water had increased so much," says Fardowso.

This camp was run in collaboration with Umma Trust and the NZ Ethnic Employment Education Youth Trust, which Settling In is really pleased to support. The Ministry of Youth Development has also given financial support.

**For more information please contact Jenny Janif**  
**([Jenny.Janif001@msd.govt.nz](mailto:Jenny.Janif001@msd.govt.nz) / 09 916 1836 or 029 200 3785)**



*Young migrant leaders who attended the leadership camp.*

# Learning english in the temple

**When Settling In starts working in a location one of the first things it does is bring together local groups of local refugee and migrant communities to get first hand “intel” on what the main issues are for them.**

In the Western Bay of Plenty it became clear that a number of the older women from the local Sikh community in Te Puke would love to increase their level of English so that they could participate more fully in their new community.

There are growing numbers of migrants living in this part of the region providing much needed labour for the significant horticultural industry here. Many of the older Sikh women in the focus groups were grandmothers, helping out their families by looking after children while the parents are at work.

The limited opportunities for them to get out and about and learn English meant that some were feeling lonely

and isolated. Very quickly the local Tauranga Regional Multicultural Council responded to these concerns and approached English Language Partners about setting up a class for the women.

The initial difficulty was finding a time to get everyone together. With some lateral thinking however, it was decided to run the classes on Saturday mornings at the local temple when all of the Sikh community were there to worship and prepare food. This has been a great success – responding to the specific need of this group in a way that is flexible, safe and accommodates the wider community. The four volunteer language tutors have also been very grateful for this opportunity to experience the vibrancy of another culture at such close hand.

Philippa Cairns from English Language Partners says she is surprised at the level of success. “From what seemed like such small beginnings, a whole host of positive things have blossomed. The

confidence of these women is growing, alongside their English skills, and in addition some really fruitful community connections are developing,” says Philippa.

This initial work has led to a strengthening relationship between the Sikh community and local services, and a range of developments are now underway. The Tauranga Regional Multicultural Council (TRMC) has recently organised for a Plunket nurse to go out to the Sikh temple in Te Puke to talk to the community about car seat safety and immunisation. The Council and Settlement Support are also working with the local AA to help this community with driving license preparation.

**For more information contact Philippa Cairns at English Language Partners on ph 07 577 6734, [philippa.cairns@englishlanguage.org.nz](mailto:philippa.cairns@englishlanguage.org.nz), or Janet Smith, co-ordinator for the TRMC on ph 07 571 6419 [enquiries@ethnictauranga.org](mailto:enquiries@ethnictauranga.org)**



*Women from the Sikh Community, Tauranga, attend an English lesson at their local temple.*



# Showcasing the stories and skills of Nelson's migrant women

**Nelson Multicultural Women's group has been together four years and this seemed like a perfect reason to celebrate.**

This milestone also provided a great opportunity to show the wider community how skilled and remarkable these women are.

The Women's Group, facilitated by Nelson Multicultural Council's Field Worker Cristy Aydon, has grown in size and spirit since its inception in 2006. It has also become more diverse as greater numbers of newcomers choose to settle in and around Nelson.

On 30 September Nelson city was treated to an art exhibition and forum to mark this fourth anniversary. The highlight of the day was a series of multimedia presentations from nine local women – all from different homelands – who each gave a personal and candid account of their migration experiences. Their stories ranged widely from those who had met 'kiwi' men and followed them here out of love, to those who were forced to flee as refugees from their own countries.

Despite many differences in backgrounds, it was quite surprising to hear the common threads that wove through the women's stories. These women are all talented and highly skilled – the group of nine included several teachers, a nurse, an environmental scientist, an advertising executive, a highly successful broadcaster, a graphic designer and a construction engineer. However, what was most startling to hear was that regardless of these attributes they had all struggled to find work and to use their skills for the benefit of New Zealand. They found this situation frustrating, extremely wasteful and quite demoralising. Some spoke of losing their confidence while others took it on the chin and were able to channel



*Masami and Jyoti from the Nelson Multicultural Women's Group*

their expertise into other areas.

We heard from Sui Ting, a member of the Chin community (from Burma) who was separated from her husband for nine years before the family was finally reunited in Malaysia (and eventually offered resettlement in New Zealand); from Beda, a Bhutanese national who spent 18 years in a refugee camp in Nepal before coming to New Zealand; and from Amy who left a high powered broadcasting job in Manila to be with her new 'kiwi' husband. Masami moved here from Japan to support her husband's work aspirations and then found herself having to cope as a single mother of two small girls following the breakdown of her marriage – without any English or family support. Cath, an advertising executive from Australia, wanted to be near her daughter who had settled in Nelson, and to watch her new grandchildren grow. This is just a sample of the incredibly varied stories we were privileged to hear.

The women had varying levels of English when they arrived in New Zealand – some spoke no English at all while it was the first language of Cath from Australia and

a second language for several women. Incredibly, though, they all had the courage and skill to deliver a speech in English for this celebration and to respond thoughtfully to the questions they were asked. A number mentioned how thankful they were for the English language support they received and how essential this was to their settlement here.

They all want to contribute to their new home and they all have a great deal to offer.

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**For more information contact Evey McAuliffe, Co-ordinator for the Nelson Multicultural Council ([info@nelsonmulticultural.co.nz](mailto:info@nelsonmulticultural.co.nz) / 03 539 0030) or go to the Nelson Multicultural Council website ([www.nelsonmulticultural.co.nz](http://www.nelsonmulticultural.co.nz))**

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# Newcomers Network national hui – sharing ideas and success

**Newcomers Networks are springing up around the country to support those who are new to a community to link into local activities and make friends.**

Because the Newcomers Networks are supported nationally by Settling In, there are a number of things that the different networks will have in common. This includes the national website, some resources and the support and guidance provided by the national co-ordinator, Claire Nichols. Claire emphasises, however, that each network will develop its own character depending on the mix of newcomers in an area, the geographic location of the network (ie rural or urban) and the interests of those joining.

“Different groups will use different strategies to fundraise and attract volunteers and new members in their area and they will run particular events and activities in response to the interests and needs of the newcomers that are joining their group. There is no prescribed formula for success,” says Claire.

The national hui was recently held in Wellington on 1–2 September 2010 and

it brought together all of the Newcomers Network co-ordinators along with Network volunteers from around the country – with people coming from as far north as Whangarei and as far south as Gore.

The national hui was an opportunity for the co-ordinators and volunteers to share their ideas and showcase resources and success stories. There was also plenty of time to discuss some of the challenges they face such as attracting and maintaining volunteers, and catering to the varying needs of different newcomer groups.

Lisa Grace, Co-ordinator for the fledgling Albany Newcomers Network, said she found the two days really inspiring. I picked up many great new ideas and can't wait to get back home and try them out with my newcomers,” she says. “It is also reassuring to know that I can contact Claire or any of the others, even when



*Newcomers Network co-ordinators and volunteers in Wellington for the national hui*

things aren't going so well, and get the support and encouragement to carry on,” she says.

Many of the co-ordinators have been newcomers themselves so know first hand what it is like to experience the challenges of settling into a new home community. They also know what might have helped them to settle more easily so can channel this knowledge into their Network.

**For more information about Newcomers Network contact the National Co-ordinator, Claire Nichols**  
**info@newcomers.co.nz**  
**ph: 03 539 0565) or visit their website**  
**www.newcomersnetwork.co.nz**

## NOTICE-BOARD

If you want more information on:

### **Parenting in the New Zealand context**

– please contact: Jenny Janif on 09 916 1836 / 029 200 3785 or Jenny.Janif001@msd.govt.nz

### **Support for Korean women and families in New Zealand**

– please contact: Soo Young Lee, Co-ordinator for the Korean Women's Network NZ, on 021 110 4771, florasoo@hotmail.com, or Susan Zhu on 09 917 6781 or 029 650 0335 susan.zhu003@msd.govt.nz

*If you want to add something to this notice-board for the next issue please contact Settling In News at: anne.m@paradise.net.nz*

### **Newcomers Network**

– please contact: Claire Nichols on 03 539 0565 / 029 200 8513 or info@newcomers.co.nz

### **New Settling In projects in Dunedin, Oamaru and Gore**

– please contact: Brigid Ryan on 029 650 2044 or ryan.will@xtra.co.nz

### **New Settling In project on international students in**

**Auckland** – please contact: Jessica Phuang Ph 027 478 2155 or Sally Clarkson on 09 917 7740 or 029 650 0182 sally.clarkson028@msd.govt.nz



## ‘New Coasters’ enjoy a tasty West Coast Māori welcome

**In recent years, the West Coast has become home to growing numbers of migrant workers and their families. The geography of the Coast compounds issues experienced by all newcomers in relation to isolation and loneliness.**

The focus of Settling In work has been on helping to connect people and foster opportunities for ‘new coasters’ to feel welcome and become part of the fabric of the wider West Coast community. To this end, Settling In has supported the establishment of three Newcomers Networks on the Coast, under the umbrella of an overarching migrant support body called ‘New Coasters’.

In June of this year, the Westport Newcomers group were treated to a fantastic day of local Māori culture and food hosted by the Kawatiri Māori Women’s Welfare League. This came about as a result of a social English class set up by ‘New Coasters’ where newcomers were introduced to different members of the local community, including the Māori Women’s Welfare League. Through this connection it was recognised that there were many new people in town who had not had the opportunity to experience Māori culture and hospitality and to understand the significance of tikanga Māori in New Zealand. The Kawatiri League was keen to extend a hand of friendship and welcome and to introduce the newcomers to the richness of local Māori culture and heritage. This event was

a tremendous success with a turn-out of around 150 people.

The day was filled with the sharing of music and food – a great way to break down the cultural and language barriers between different people. The newcomers were treated to a powerful performance from the local Kapa Haka group, along with some waiata (from the Kawatiri wahine) and in return a group of newcomers picked up their guitars and responded with some stirring Spanish music.

Westport Newcomers co-ordinator Cate Barry said that the event was a huge success and really helped bring people together. “By the end of the event we had both groups joining in with songs – singing and guitar playing – with lots of support and clapping from the audience. It was great fun!”

Cate also noted that the hosting group was extremely culturally sensitive to the newcomers and their different dietary requirements. “The food was split to ensure everyone could eat – with the meat put in separate baskets from the vegetables, and pork omitted from the hangi” she said. The newcomers were very grateful and touched that they had been shown this respect.

Cate says that the success of the event has achieved a lot more than just the sharing of culture and music. “It has helped to connect people, to build bridges in the community and to celebrate that our differences are as important as what we have in common,” she said.



**New Zealand  
Newcomers Network**

*Connecting People*

**For more information about this story or the Westport Newcomers Network contact Cate Barry ([westport@newcomers.co.nz](mailto:westport@newcomers.co.nz) ph 03 789 7659) or the National Newcomers Network Co-ordinator, Claire Nichols ([info@newcomers.co.nz](mailto:info@newcomers.co.nz) ph: 03 539 0565), or visit the website [www.newcomersnetwork.co.nz](http://www.newcomersnetwork.co.nz)**

### Some recent Newcomers Network Ideas

- Māori welcome and hangi for newcomers in Westport
- A visit to the Beehive for Manawatu newcomers
- ‘Kiwiana’ evenings in several locations – a fun introduction to kiwi culture and idiosyncrasies
- Film nights – showing NZ movies and fundraising at the same time
- A number of ‘Walking and Talking’ groups
- A holiday party for children
- A barn dance in Rolleston
- UFO evenings in Hokitika (Unfinished Objects craft group)
- Mums and Toddlers group in Ashburton
- Many coffee groups and pot luck dinners.

## Meet the Settling In team

The Settling In Team is currently working in 14 locations around New Zealand:

Auckland/Northland	Palmerston North/Feilding	West Coast
Hamilton/Waikato	Hawkes Bay	Wellington
Canterbury	Eastern Southland	Marlborough
Nelson/Tasman	Dunedin	Waitaki

## Contacting the Settling In team

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<b>George Clark</b> Canterbury	027 248 8611 george@devplus.co.nz
<b>Brigid Ryan</b> Dunedin/Eastern Southland Waitaki, Tauranga - WBOP	029 650 2044 ryan.will@extra.co.nz
<b>Claire Nichols</b> Newcomers Network (National Co-ordinator) Nelson/Tasman, Marlborough/West Coast	03 539 0565 or 029 200 8513 info@newcomers.co.nz Claire.Nichols012@msd.govt.nz
<b>Heni Turner</b> National Administrator	04 918 9558 heni.turner003@msd.govt.nz

## Our vision

A New Zealand that welcomes and celebrates diversity, where refugees and migrants settle well and are able to contribute to our nation in all aspects of life – social, economic, civic and cultural.

Settling In is a community development programme that works directly with refugee and migrant communities to help them find solutions to meet their own needs.

The Settling In initiative was established in 2004 to build relationships between refugee, migrant and host communities, and ensure government policy affecting them is developed in a collaborative way. Settling in is administered by Family and Community Services (part of the Ministry of Social Development).

