



NEWS OUT WEST

March 2009 The New Out West Migrant & Refugee Newsletter

Proud to be a Migrant Interpreter - Henry's Story



Henry Koo with Programme Director, Anna Guo at the Unitec Liaison Interpreters graduation party.

New Zealand is a multicultural country where thousands of immigrants arrived in this land trying to establish their new life. As an interpreter working in the public communication field, it is important for us to support those migrants and refugees with limited English literacy within our communities. Interpreters are a unique niche connecting people who don't share languages and cultures in public services.

Although I just started my new career in interpreting, it has brought me so much satisfaction. When I work with Kiwi professionals and fellows from my home country, Korea, I feel it's very rewarding as it gives me a great sense of settlement in New Zealand. I'm always keen to support communication and my bridging role that uses my language skills helps a lot in this area.

I'm very grateful to the Liaison Interpreting Programme at Unitec. My learning experience from last year is incredibly useful and was really enjoyable. Now I'm fully embracing my new job and I take pride at being a migrant interpreter working across the community in New Zealand.

Henry Koo

For more on the Liaison Interpreting Programme go to:
<http://www.unitec.ac.nz/?06F4ACAB-145E-6A3C-6E1A-6BA79EDD44A8>

Are you new to Waitakere?

Settlement Support Waitakere is here to help.

If you are struggling with finding information about employment, education, health services and many other aspects of living in NZ, make an appointment to see Tao by calling your local CAB on 0800 367222 or call 0800 776 948.

www.waitakere.govt.nz/OurPar/settlementsupport.asp

Coming Event



Love trying different food, listening to ethnic music and meeting people from other cultures? Then don't miss the **Auckland International Cultural Festival**. This free festival is a great opportunity for new refugees and migrants to have a sense of place and feel more connected. It's a feast for the senses and you can walk the world in a day, taking in the tastes, sounds and sights and making new friends. An added attraction of the Festival will be the Ethnic Soccer Championship being played over the two days with a grand final on Sunday.

Saturday, 28 March and Sunday, 29 March
10.00 am to 5.00 pm

War Memorial Park, 13 May Road, Mt Roskill

It's all happening at your local Learning Centre



Local residents making the most of **Life Long Learning** opportunities at the New Lynn Library Learning Centre.

In February the West Auckland Chinese Association organised special group training sessions for their members to learn basic computer skills at New Lynn Library's Learning Centre. The Association hired their own tutor who could teach these skills in Chinese.

"The Learning Centre provides an ideal setting to learn and practice these skills and we now have a long list of people waiting to get trained," says Nick Sun who is the organiser. "We are also using translated training resources provided by the Learning Centre."

Waitakere Libraries provide training resources for learning basic computer skills and also run these courses that start at the beginning of every month. The training resources are also available on the Waitakere Libraries website.

Not for profit groups can book the Learning Centre facility for training their members. For more information you can contact **Daena Walker, Team Leader of Learning Centre Programmes** on 8368000 Ext 7825.

Renting and You brochure available in eight languages

When you arrive in New Zealand it is a good idea to rent a home while you decide where you wish to live. You may also find that renting is a suitable longer-term option for you and your family. It is important to find out about all your legal rights and responsibilities well before signing a tenancy agreement. The Department of Building and Housing has published a booklet called ***Renting and you - a guide to the law about renting*** and it is available in eight languages: English, Maori, Samoan, Tongan, Cook Island Maori, Korean, Arabic, Simplified Chinese and Traditional Chinese. You can find the booklets on the Department's website at www.dbh.govt.nz or by calling **0800 83 6262 (0800 TENANCY)** for printed copies.

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email:
ssnzwaitakere@waitakere.govt.nz

Free Job Search Workshops

Auckland Regional Migrant Services invite you to participate in this informative and interactive workshop. The next course starts on **Thursday 30th April**, 9:30am to 2:30pm at Ace Space (12 Railside Ave, Henderson).

Presenters include:

- Migrant Action Trust
- Work and Income, Work Broker
- Omega-Mentoring programmes
- Career Services
- Auckland Chamber of Commerce
- Waitakere Migrant Information Services

For more information or to register phone **09 6252440** or email reception@arms-mrc.org.nz

Free IRD Workshops

Want to know more about rebates, income tax, Working for Families, or the new "Independent Tax Credit"? Free TAX workshops presented by an IRD officer cover everything you need to know for better handling of your money and managing your business. To register your interest please email ssnzwaitakere@waitakere.govt.nz or nzess@xtra.co.nz

What's Hot

People in Your Neighbourhood Album:

People In Your Neighbourhood is a flagship event of the British Council New Zealand's Inclusive Cities programme. The project involves aspiring artists and performers from Auckland's ethnic communities, working with the best of contemporary UK talent, to create an album, and perform a live street-style urban show. Working with some of the emerging artists amongst Auckland's Asian, Polynesian, Hispanic and European communities, this album has been created and you can **download the full album for free at:** <http://cn.last.fm/music/Various%20Artists/People%20In%20Your%20Neighbourhood>

Pre-employment Guide:

This informative resource for employees and employers helps overcome potential problems in pre-employment situations. Produced by the Human Rights Commission, the Guide can provide answers to many questions about discrimination and what is appropriate when applying for a job or interviewing candidates. The complete Guide is at: http://www.hrc.co.nz/hrc_new/hrc/cms/files/documents/31-Jul-2008_21-34-42_A-Z_Pre-employment_Guide.pdf

The NZ Chinese Journals Database:

Recently launched by Auckland City Library, the NZ Chinese Journals Database aims to provide greater access to important historical material and make the history of NZ Chinese more visible. The database has been specifically indexed by name to identify Chinese New Zealanders in both Chinese and English forms. <http://www.nzchinesejournals.org.nz/>

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