



NEWS OUT WEST

October 2009 **The Settlement Support Waitakere Newsletter**



Burundian National Day - 18th October

The Burundian Community in New Zealand is celebrating its National Day.

The Burundian Community in New Zealand Inc was formed in 2002 and aims to overcome all barriers against a full integration of Burundian people, to stand for their interests and to promote Burundian culture in New Zealand. There are about 200 Burundians living in NZ and this will be a good opportunity for them to remember their country of origin and to celebrate Burundian Independence Day.

Burundi occupies less than 28,000 km² with an estimated population of 8.7 million. It is wedged between Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda in East-Central Africa. It was known as Ruanda-Urundi, a part of the Belgian colonial empire. On the 1st July 1962 country gained independence and legally changed its name to Burundi.



Burundi National Day on 18 October will feature Burundian Drummers, traditional dances and a variety of other African folklore.

The event starts at 7.00 pm and will be held at the *Mt Albert War Memorial Hall* (751 New North Road, Mt Albert).

This is a FREE event but a gold coin donation for a 'Traditional Burundian Supper' would be highly appreciated.

RSVP to Burundian Community burundiancommunity@gmail.com or by post to: 20 Cartmel Ave, Massey 0614, Waitakere.



Free interpreting services to all GPs

WATIS – Waitemata Auckland Translation & Interpreting Services, managed by WDHB Asian Health Support Services, provides free interpreters to the General Practices in the Auckland Region.

Their call centre is open 24/7 and has access to over 90 dialects and languages. Their registered interpreters are professionally trained and experienced in serving large health organisations.

Patients need to state if they require an interpreter when making an appointment with their GP or clinic. The GP or clinic will book an interpreter to be available on the time of patient appointment. For general GP visits (15 minutes), telephone interpreting service will be provided. For longer sessions, face-to-face interpreting services are available.

For more information, <http://www.watis.org.nz>

Contact the WDHB call centre on 442 3211 or email: watis@waitematadhb.govt.nz

Waitakere Diwali Festival of Lights **4th October, 2009**

Diwali, commonly known throughout the world as the Festival of Lights, is a celebration in a cordial atmosphere embracing Indian culture and heritage. It is a time for happiness, renewing friendships and work towards collective unity.



Diwali has great cultural, moral and religious significance to Hindus all over the world. Festivals in previous years have been hugely successful, with thousands of people enjoying the festivities, performances and food on the day. Diwali is on 4th October at the Waitakere Trusts Stadium. More information can be found at <http://www.wia.net.nz>

Kiwi Asian Journalism Scholarship

The Asia New Zealand Foundation is launching an inaugural scholarship as a way of attracting more Asian New Zealanders into journalism.



The scholarship is designed to encourage greater representation of Asian communities in mainstream New Zealand journalism and \$5000 to be paid on completion of the successful candidate's course of journalism study.

A 2007 survey undertaken by the New Zealand Journalism Training Organisation (NZJTO) showed that only two percent of all journalists working in the mainstream English language news media were Asian. This is despite Asian Kiwis making up about ten percent of the population. Candidates will need to be:

- New Zealand Passport or Permanent Residence Permit holders
- Asian or part Asian in ethnicity
- Considering a career in news journalism
- Under the age of 25 years
- Be accepted into a course of journalism study at an NZJTO affiliated journalism school
- Ability to speak an Asian language is an advantage

Applications close on November 30, 2009

For more information, contact Asia New Zealand Foundation media adviser *Charles Mabbett* on cmabbett@asianz.org.nz or call (04) 470 8701

Walking Waitakere Wednesday Walks

- 28th October

Lower Nihotupu Pipeline: Grade - Medium
Walk around the Lower Nihotupu Reservoir and learn about this earth dam.

Meet Lower Nihotupu Dam car park, Huia Road at 9:50am

To register, contact *Kay Lindley* 837 8829 or 027 274 2280 or email kay@healthwest.co.nz



Settlement Support update

New Settlement Support posters are now available. If you would like to promote this free, essential service at your workplace, business, community organisation or sports or social club, email ssnzwaitakere@waitakere.govt.nz for your supply.



Career Services Waitakere Office

Career Services provide independent career information and advice at any age or stage of your life. We'll help you make career decisions that suit the life you want to live. Information about CV's, covering letters, job search and interview skills is available and you can also find out about education, study and training opportunities. Services are free to citizens of New Zealand and Permanent Residents. The Waitakere Office is located within the Unitec campus on Level 5 in Building 500 at 7 Ratanui Street, Henderson. Phone 0800 222 733 for an appointment or free text CAREER to 434 for a Career information Pack.

For more information visit the website at www.careers.govt.nz

Free courses at Open Polytechnic

Open Polytechnic has free Foundation Courses for people who are citizens of New Zealand or Permanent Residents.

Step 1 – "Get Ahead Start" will help you if you want improve your reading skills, need to increase your basic maths skills for work or a hobby and gain communication skills for study, work or home.

Step 2 – "Get Ahead Skills" is beneficial if you haven't studied beyond high school, want to improve your job prospects, want to ease yourself back into study or are looking for a different job or a change of direction.

Both courses are home-based and you can study in your own time or with friends as a group. You will have a coach who will keep in regular contact and meet with you during the programme.

Shortly after enrolling, you receive a package of learning materials. Each kit is full of resources such as workbooks, DVDs, books and journals.

To take these courses, you should be able to read and write in English.

If you are interested, contact *Colleen Phelps* – Educational Coach at 833 8171 or email colleenwandering@hotmail.com

School Holiday Story Times at the library



Enjoy interactive stories, games and songs about loot, landlubbers and pirate adventures! Come dressed up as pirates if you dare. It

all starts on the 27 September. For details about what's on at your local library during School Holiday Story Time, phone 839 2260.

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