



# Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

**NEWSLETTER**

**VOLUME 6**

## Chinese Banquet Night



## Harmony Week Storytime



## Millers Well Primary School



**NMAWA Award winner**

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Dear Readers,

This year, we were honoured to be one of the winners of the 2024 WA Multicultural Community Service Awards. Congratulate our team and supporters and thank them for their dedication and commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion in our society.

As we celebrated Harmony Week in March, I was excited to see various activities and the multicultural exhibition that took place in both Karratha Library and Karratha City Shopping Centre. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to come together and celebrate our differences while also recognising the things that unite us as a community.

Looking ahead, we have a jam-packed calendar of events planned for the rest of 2024. From multicultural festivals to educational workshops, there will be plenty of opportunities for us to come together and learn from one another. I encourage all of you to get involved and make the most of these opportunities to connect with others in our community.

In this volume, I also wanted to take a moment to reflect on my personal journey since first arriving in Australia. I have been fortunate to meet so many incredible people and experience the rich tapestry of cultures that make up our community. I am grateful for the warm welcome I have received and look forward to continuing to work alongside all of you to promote diversity and inclusion in our society.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. Together, we can create a more inclusive and harmonious community for all.

Warm regards,

*Karen Huang*



## NMAWA Committee for 2024

**Karen Huang - President**  
**Joseph Almonte - Vice President**  
**Ren Mullane - Treasurer**  
**Julie Davies - Secretary**  
**William Lee - Committee**  
**Shan Su - Committee**  
**Eva Liew - Committee**  
**Wiwik Mears - Committee**  
**Momette Gunda - Committee**  
**Vicki Long (not pictured)**



# Lunar Banquet



新年快乐



CHINESE BANQUET AT REAP PREPARED BY CHEF WILLIAM LEE AND TEAM OF AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

## MULTICULTURAL STORY TIME AT KARRATHA LIBRARY



Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.



# HARMONY WEEK EVENTS



Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

# Committee Story

**Karen Huang | NMAWA President**

One of the significant turning points in my life was the establishment of the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. Even though the journey was challenging, I have never regretted the decision.

I first came to Australia in late 2011 as a backpacker, working and travelling around Australia except for the North West. When my working holiday visa expired in late 2013, I returned to Taiwan and worked for an international trading company. I came back to Australia in 2015 to study for my master's degree in International Relations at the University of Melbourne and then continued working in Melbourne till October 2018.

After relocating to Karratha, my life experienced a massive change. I couldn't find anything I was passionate about and enjoyed outside of my work. I missed the cultural events and various festivals in the big cities! By then, my thoughts of 'a multicultural organisation' started growing.

I have always believed that everyone has a responsibility to do something for society reciprocally because we all enjoy what the world gives us. As non-native English speakers, we may not speak English without making mistakes, but we speak another language perfectly; we may not integrate into the community entirely, but we contribute to the Australian economy equally. I see the strengths of the migrants, and we should utilise these advantages to make our community better.

Most people in the Pilbara wear many different hats, and I am not exceptional. In addition to working full-time and chairing the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc., I am interested in learning history and exploring the connections between Taiwan and the world. This year, I will curate a photography exhibition titled 'Unearthing Taiwan's Mining Industry: Past, Present and Future.' This new challenge excites me!!

Life is full of surprises and excitement, and I would love to seize the opportunities to experience different things. I usually tell my mentee students, 'If you have some great ideas in mind, take action and find out what will happen!'

I am not a big fan of the extreme heat and scorching sunlight of the Pilbara, but I love the opportunities for everything here, such as community services, businesses, arts and culture, and renewable energy. I learned so much while living in Karratha and would love to continue exploring more!

***You must be the change you wish to see in the world.***



Firstly arrived in Karratha in October 2018



Guest speaking for the universities in Taiwan



I love road trip!  
Photo was taken at the Tropic of Capricorn

# Member Story

## Ayumi Mimi Townsend

**Konnichiwa all, I am a Japanese visual artist and moved to Karratha from Perth in 2010. I happily live with my lovely Australian husband and two active children.**

The first thing that surprised me when I arrived in Karratha was the airport, which is like a field with no buildings around, the hot wind even at the end of July, and waking up in the morning to the loud whistling of "someone in the neighborhood (my husband told me that the culprit was a magpie)". Karratha has almost the same population as my small hometown in Tokyo, and everything I need is available, so it's simple and peaceful, and I'm so happy to live here.

The last time I went back to Japan was in December 2019. Unfortunately, it was just when COVID was spreading, and I hurried back home, so I haven't been able to go back to my parents' house since then. I'm worried about my aging mothers and really hope to see them this year and gain weight from my mother's home cooking and return to Karratha.

Karate is my biggest hobby, which I started at the age of 49, and I am proud of my brown belt currently. In the karate club, I sweat a lot, and the members respect each other as individuals, regardless of nationality or language barriers, so it's a very welcoming community.

Recently, I launched my own micro art class business, Mimi Artoon Drawing. I started drawing as long as I could remember, and I'm grateful to be able to use my knowledge from a design art college and my 20+ years of desktop design experiences in this job.

My goal in life is to be healthy, both physically and mentally, and to equip my art class students with the skills to express their own imagination with their creativity. I want to nurture local talent and encourage them to enjoy life, whether it's in my art classes or karate.

**I believe that there are many talents and ideas for our future hidden in the multiculturalism of Karratha.**

There are many opportunities in Karratha!! I hope that women who have finished raising their children, like me, can use their talents to support this community.

**Arigatou**  
**Ayumi Mimi Townsend**  
27th April, 2024



# Committee Member Story



## Wiwik Mears

### Why did you move to Karratha?

I started my journey moving to Australia as a solo backpacker in 2017. I am from Sorowako, a small mining town in the northeast of South Sulawesi province, Indonesia. My hometown is very similar to Karratha except the housing area here is nicer and cleaner.

I was a single mum in 2015 and struggled financially. My friend introduced me to the opportunity of a holiday while working to fund myself while living in Australia. What an interesting way to travel I thought to myself!

With a heavy heart I must leave my daughter under my mum's care to move to Broome- Western Australia where my first workplace in Australia. I used to work in a pearling company called Autore. This job requires physical activities 10 long hours a day, on top of that the weather working offshore is very unpredictable. Lucky enough to have a phone reception. I enjoyed working there where I learned so many cultures and met another traveller from all over the world. Then I relocated to a remote place in Northern Territory called Nhulunbuy for a few months.

Having a long-distance relationship won't work for our family. Our work roster is never matched to have a holiday together especially when I am working offshore this can be challenging with the weather changing all the time. In 2019 I decided to move to Karratha and work with my fortune. This started with experience in customer services and logistics. I then got accepted to work in the Hospitality Industry for about 2 years.

In 2020 I went back to Indonesia to bring my daughter to Australia. Our family is complete when we have both our girls under one roof. I always love the fact I have my own career and keep growing. I also teach my kids that we can be anything we want if we work towards our dream. Our actions must align with our dreams.

I am now working as an officer in our local council City of Karratha. Coming far overseas as Immigrants and to stand where I am today makes me proud of what an achievement I can be. I am proud of who I am and every day I want to learn to be better than yesterday.

### What do you like most about living here?

**Karratha is a wonderful place to live. This town and the community here make you feel a house change into a home. A place you wanted to be with the sense of belonging.**

In the winter weather there are so many outdoor activities you can do. Explore Karajini with some offroad north of outback adventures, paddle board at the Hearson Cove Beach, Camping at Karajini, or nearby station stay. Karratha is truly a gateway to enjoy incredible natural landscape, national parks and iconic sights.

Benefit of living in a small town is having a community who is very open minded. A lot of people travel and move to Karratha without a family. I find that our community is there and trying to share information whenever is needed. What I like the most is that everywhere you go is like 5 to 10 minutes. It is a win that we do not rush in our everyday routine.

tables. Everything comes from Perth.



Pictured : Wiwik and family enjoying the Pilbara lifestyle

### What surprised you about Karratha?

Something that surprised me a lot in Karratha is people's lifestyle. Even though most families are so busy with the routine of work and school, the sports community here are incredibly busy. Nearly every family is so busy after school and on weekends to do some sports and afterschool activities. It is like a habit that is spread in our community to keep their kids involved in some sports and arts activities.

### What food do you miss from your home town?

Moving to Australia with the most multicultural society in the world gives me the opportunity to try so many cuisines. I have tried so many foods and some of them have become my favourites. Growing in an Asian family where most of our food is spicy and contains so many herbs. I have noticed that seafood can be very expensive in Australia, where this is so different back home. We eat seafood especially fish on a daily basis and meat or chicken will be served on a special occasion. Buying red meat or chicken is very expensive and not everyone can afford this. Also living in a remote town it is hard to get fresh vege



Wiwik Mears

29/04/2024

# FREE MEMBERSHIP

## FOR NEW MIGRANTS IN THE PILBARA



[Regional Development Australia \(RDA\) Pilbara and the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. support new migrants to start life in the Pilbara!!](#)

### GET YOUR FREE NMA MEMBERSHIP:

- You are a **Visa Holder** (Working Holiday visa is not considered)
- You have a **right to work in Australia** (or at least one member of the relocating family has a right to work in Australia)
  - Arrived in the Pilbara **after 01/01/2023**

### BENEFITS:

- Networking opportunities
- Migrants support in life and workplace
- Workshops and events to help you navigate life in Australia
- Opportunities to connect with local businesses and organisations
- Volunteer opportunities to give back to the community

### CONTACT US NOW

**ADMIN@NMAWA.ORG.AU**

[nmawa.org.au](http://nmawa.org.au)



An Australian Government Initiative



Northwest Multicultural  
Association WA Inc.



# Meeting our Federal member for Durack



drop us a line at [admin@nmawa.org.au](mailto:admin@nmawa.org.au) and let us know what multicultural matters you care about to help us stay informed and work to support the CaLD community in Karratha and beyond.

Ms.Melissa Price, Federal Member for Durack (pictured right together with ) NMAWA President Karen Huang

NMAWA President Karen Huang had a great catch up with the **Federal Member for Durack Ms Melissa Price MP** to discuss the issues faced by Culturally and Linguistically Diverse community in the region and our upcoming programs.

It was a productive and in-depth meeting, and we look forward to continuing our support to the local community in various aspects. The Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. team will be working together with all levels of Government to make a positive impact and create a more inclusive and diverse society.



**Northwest Multicultural  
Association WA Inc.**

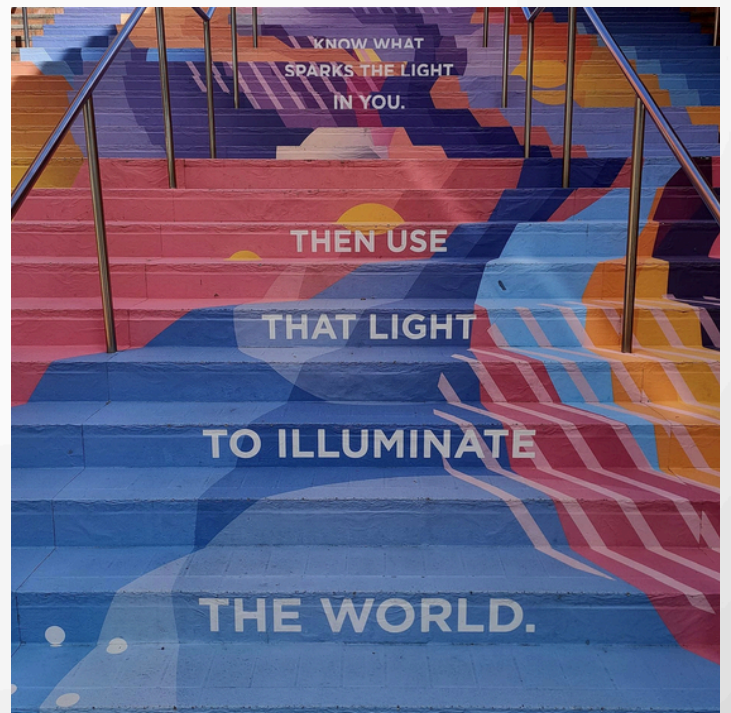
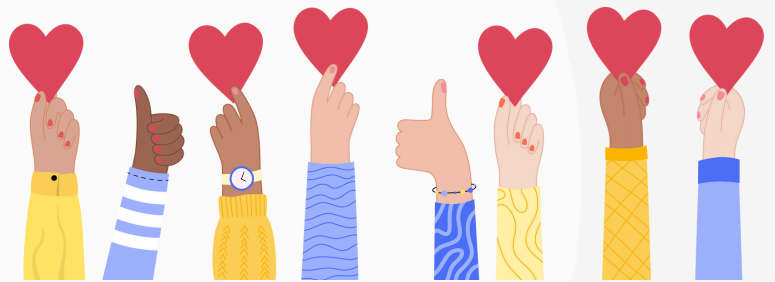


# Volunteering recognition for NMAWA

We are thrilled to announce that the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. has been selected as one of the finalists for the WA Inclusive Volunteering Award!

This recognition from Volunteering WA is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our volunteers who work tirelessly to promote diversity and inclusion in our community.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered and supported our community along the way.



# JAPANESE COOKING CLASS IS BACK!

**SAVE THE DATE FOR  
2024 JAPANESE COOKING CLASSES:**

24/02/2024

23/03/2024

25/05/2024

22/06/2024

27/07/2024

31/08/2024

30/11/2024

BY CHEF NAOMI



Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

## Japanese Cooking Class

Gyudon (Beef Bowl)  
Spinach Salad dressed with Tofu



**Book your spots now!**

\$40 member  
\$50 non-member

25/05 Saturday  
10 am-12 pm

(Bring your own takeaway container for your cooking)



Japanese  
Cooking Class  
(May)



All welcome to join Chef Naomi to learn some new cooking skills in the state of the art REAP Kitchen.  
**Places are limited so book early.**



# Multicultural Matters

**We are delighted to share that we have been honored with the 2024 WA Multicultural Community Service Award!**

This achievement highlights the dedication and hard work of our team and volunteers in advocating for diversity, inclusion, and cultural awareness in our community. Congratulations to all the recipients and nominees!

Since our establishment, we have been dedicated to fostering an inclusive environment for individuals from diverse backgrounds. Through our range of programs and initiatives, we have actively celebrated the rich cultures and traditions of our community members.

Receiving this award is a significant accolade and a recognition of our commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of those we support. We extend our gratitude to **the Minister, Kevin Michel MLA**, our sponsors, volunteers, partners, and community members for their unwavering support in reaching this milestone.

As we continue our journey to champion multiculturalism and unity, we are more inspired than ever to build a society that embraces inclusivity and mutual respect. We thank the Office of Multicultural Interests and the judging panel for acknowledging our work and for empowering us to create positive change in the region.



Pictured:  
Mr Carl ONG representing NMAWA together with Mr Kevin Michel MLA



Pictured:  
Mr Carl ONG representing NMAWA together with Dr Tony Buti MLA

**NEW**

# Community Events



**HALINA AT MAKI Festa**

126TH INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

**JUNE 22, 2024**

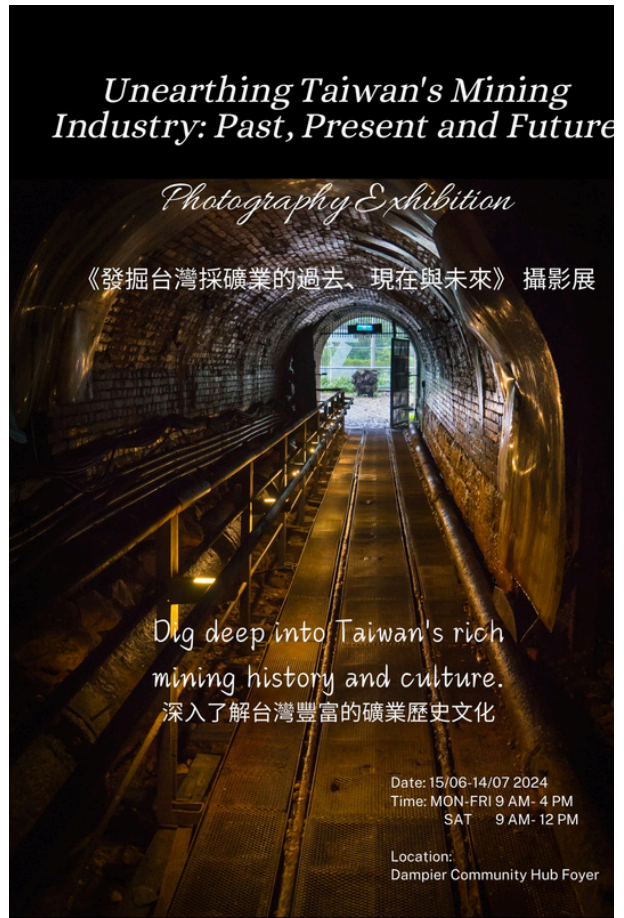
**MUSIC | FOOD | DRINKS**

Outdoor Court 1 & 2 Karratha Leisureplex  
**\$30 PER HEAD 11 y.o and below are free**

Registration starts at 4:30 PM, and program at 5:00 PM

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!  
 Contact: Raul Bato 0417949712

**NO TICKET NO ENTRY.**  
 No selling of tickets at the front gate.



*Unearthing Taiwan's Mining Industry: Past, Present and Future*

*Photography Exhibition*

《發掘台灣採礦業的過去、現在與未來》攝影展

Dig deep into Taiwan's rich mining history and culture.  
 深入了解台灣豐富的礦業歷史文化

Date: 15/06-14/07 2024  
 Time: MON-FRI 9 AM- 4 PM  
 SAT 9 AM- 12 PM

Location:  
 Dampier Community Hub Foyer



CaLD Professional Network

**WORKSHOP # 2**

**HOW TO WRITE A BUSINESS PLAN**

Renuga Mullane FCPA FIPA FFA

DATE: THURSDAY 16 /05/2024  
 TIME: 6 PM - 8 PM  
 LOCATION: WELCOME LOTTERIES HOUSE KARRATHA  
 (7 Morse Court, Karratha WA 6714)  
 FREE WORKSHOP: OPEN TO ALL COMMUNITY  
 30 ATTENDEES MAX



Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

**Dragon Boat Festival**



CaLD Professional Network

**WORKSHOP # 3**

**PREPARE A GRANT APPLICATION**

Karen Huang  
 President | Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

DATE: THURSDAY 30 /05/2024  
 TIME: 6 PM - 7 PM  
 LOCATION: WELCOME LOTTERIES HOUSE KARRATHA  
 (7 Morse Court, Karratha WA 6714)

NMA MEMBERS: \$FREE | GENERAL PUBLIC \$20  
 RSVP is essential



Paint A Dragon Boat

Make A Sticky Rice Dumpling

Standing eggs competition & other activities

Date: Sunday 09 June 2024  
 Time: 10 AM - 12 PM  
 Location: TBA  
 NMA Members: FREE entry  
 Non-members: \$10 individual; \$20 family

**Join us for various fun activities to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival!**

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



Scan QR Code to Register



# COMMUNITY ENGLISH

For community members wanting to improve their English proficiency including listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Wednesday from

1 May- 29 May  
6pm -7.30pm

Registration fee  
**\$30**  
(one-off)

## Focusing on

- Active listening
- Seeking information
- Confident conversations
- Making connections with community
- Reading and writing



### CONTACT DETAILS

- 0428 320 877
- info@puc.edu.au
- www.puc.edu.au

MAKE STUDY YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE!

### KARRATHA

The Quarter, Level 1  
20 Sharpe Avenue  
Karratha WA 6714

# Support NMAWA

Collect your recyclable items and support your Association



# NORTH WEST RECYCLING

Let's all make change

### MEMBER NUMBER

Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

C11255965



Keep your member number handy - share it with your supporters to raise funds and to track your fundraising efforts.