



Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8



FeNaCING Festival Indonesian Dancers



Premier's Visit



**Japanese Cooking Class
Chef Naomi**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to provide an update on the recent events and activities organised and facilitated by our amazing team. Over the past two months, we have successfully hosted a series of engaging and culturally enriching programs that have resonated with our diverse community.

The Indian Kollywood Dance Workshop, Japanese Cooking Class, Money Smart Workshop for kids, FeNaCING stall, and Indonesian dancers' performance at the FeNaCING festival were met with great enthusiasm and appreciation from participants. These events not only celebrated the unique cultural traditions of various communities but also fostered a sense of belonging and understanding among our members.

Furthermore, we were honoured to facilitate a direct dialogue between the Premier Community Cabinet, including the Premier and Ministers, and other community leaders. This event provided a valuable platform for discussing pertinent community issues and advocating for the needs of our multicultural population.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce the forthcoming Northwest Multicultural Forum and Festival scheduled in October. This event promises to be a celebration of our community's cultural diversity and promises to be a unifying and enriching experience for all attendees.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors, members and volunteers for your ongoing support and commitment to the mission of the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. Together, we will continue to make the region more inclusive and liveable!

Warm regards,

Karen Huang

President
Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc



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)





CaLD Professional Network

Money Smart Childrens Workshop



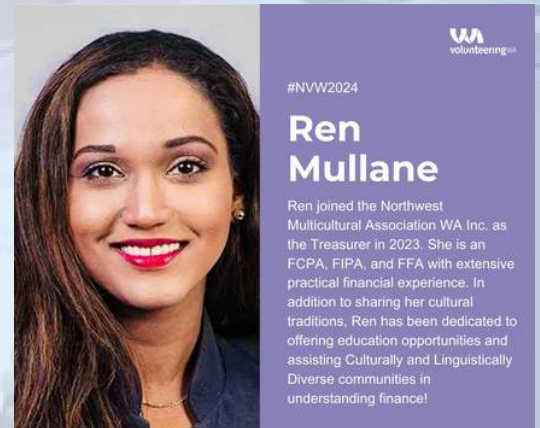
Saturday 27th July, we had an amazing 'Money Smart' workshop for kids with our incredible instructor Ren!

We had 30 enthusiastic children join us for a fun-filled afternoon of learning about the importance of money management and financial literacy.

Ren did a fantastic job teaching the kids about saving, budgeting, and making smart financial decisions especially when doing family grocery shopping!

It was so inspiring to see the kids engage with the material and ask thoughtful questions. We are so proud of all the children who participated and took the first step towards becoming money smart individuals.

Thank you to Ren and all the kids who made the workshop a huge success!



Another session coming soon

CaLD Professional Network program creates a platform for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse community to learn and upskill in the Pilbara.

Living in the regional area, quality education and learning opportunities are precious. We are fortunate to have experts and professionals from different fields to share their knowledge and skills with the learners, help bridge the gap and make the community thrive.

The CaLD Professional Network was initially established with the support of Office of Multicultural Interests City of Karratha, Pilbara Ports & Fortescue. This year we are privileged to have Rio Tinto and Chevron to help us continue the program!

Community Story

Abby Cebeda



Mabuhay! I'm Louise Abigail Cebeda, and I am pleased to serve our community as a General physiotherapist under Karratha Central Healthcare. Along with my awesome colleagues, we're doing the Strengthening Aboriginal Health Program (this caters Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders for their allied health services mainly), however we're all about helping people from all walks of life, no matter their age or stage.

As a physiotherapist, I'm all about learning and growing so I can help you bounce back to your best self. After six years in the game, I've met a ton of amazing people, and it's such a privilege to be part of their journey to independence and strength. It's a two-way street though—I'm on a journey too, evolving alongside my clients and embracing change.

A little background about me: I was born and raised in Manila, Philippines, the eldest of two in a lively family of four. Life in Manila was a whirlwind of fun and chaos—dodging flying clothes hangers from my parents and getting yelled at by my auntie or mom while goofing off with my cousins in our four-story house. From primary school through college, it was a mix of home, school, and hanging out with friends. Those memories are close to my heart. After college, I dreamed of moving to the U.S. but ended up making a huge detour to Australia. Funny story—after three jobs and a lot of prayers, I found myself packing up and heading to Australia last November 9, 2022. Turns out, God had a good laugh about it and knew I'd end up in a country starting with "A" after all.



The move to Australia was a whirlwind itself: One, I had to do it alone and two, I am moving to another unfamiliar place I haven't been before. I packed up 40kg of luggage, 7kg of hand carry, and my trusty Uniqlo backpack, and jumped on a plane with only a handful of acquaintances and a lot of courage. Let's just say everything happened for a specific reason. Little did I know I would meet the best people that helped me achieve where I am now. And appreciate how God planned everything from the smallest details to the grandest achievements I have reached over a course of a year and a half. The sense of belongingness, family and the value of community made it easier to establish deep relationships and friendships along the way. One thing is sure, I DID meet the most beautiful families and my golden friends who are very dear to my heart. You know who you are, guys!



With its vast possibilities and chill vibes, Karratha has become more than I could have ever imagined. It's given me a new life, a fresh perspective, and everything I had been praying for. This is home, away from home.

I guess Wilbur from Meet the Robinson is right about, *"Around here, however, we don't look backward for very long. We keep moving forward, opening up new doors and doing new things ... and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."*



Japanese Cooking Adventure

with Chef Naomi Wangemann



“Hosting a Japanese cooking class with the Northwest Multicultural Association has been such a rewarding experience for me.

I truly enjoy sharing my love for cooking and bringing a piece of Japanese culture and tradition to our local community. It's my pleasure to commit to this association, especially when I see how much the attendees are enjoying themselves in the kitchen.

Japanese food is such an integral part of our culture, and with Japan being a popular destination for Australians, I believe this class offers a wonderful opportunity to explore the rich traditions behind the cuisine. Seeing people learn, cook, and appreciate the food is always the highlight of my day.”

Naomi Wangemann



Japanese Cooking Class

Fried Chicken with Vinegar and Tartar Sauce
Chinese Cabbage with Fried Tofu

Book your spots now!
\$40 member
\$50 non-member

**30/11 Saturday
10 am-12 pm**

(Bring your own takeaway container for your cooking)

Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn some new cooking skills and enjoy a tasty meal! Limited spots are available, so be sure to sign up soon. Remember to bring your own takeaway containers and personal cutlery if needed. **Ticket sales via our Facebook webpage or email admin@nmawa.org.au**





Community Story



Elainne Swanepoel

My Journey from South Africa to Karratha

My name is Elainne Swanepoel, and I hail from a small country town in South Africa called Ermelo.

In 2013, my husband, our three-year-old son, and I embarked on a life-changing journey to Perth, Australia. We settled in Mandurah, where we lived for eight years, before moving to Karratha two years ago.

Karratha has been a wonderful place for us to call home. The move was driven by my husband’s career—after working fly-in fly-out for 15 years, including in South Africa, we were thrilled when he had the chance to work locally and be home every night. Karratha has exceeded our expectations, offering a peaceful, country-like atmosphere where our kids can grow up in a safe and supportive environment. The sense of community here is strong, and we’ve found everything we need, from a cinema to a library, right at our fingertips.

In my role as a Community Migrant Advocate at Pilbara Community Legal Services (PCLS) Incorporated, I draw on my own experiences of relocating to help other migrants settle into the community. I understand the challenges that come with moving to a new country—everything feels different, from the food to the way of life. That’s why I’m dedicated to making this transition as smooth as possible for others, offering support with things like driver’s license classes, Medicare applications, and resume writing. As part of my role, I also run a monthly craft workshop for multicultural women, which combines my love for crafting with creating a space for connection and cultural exchange.



In addition to crafting, I’m passionate about reading, which has always been a source of inspiration and relaxation for me. Although I miss certain aspects of my hometown, like the local cuisine, I’ve found that living in Karratha has enriched my life in countless ways. For anyone coming from a different cultural background, it’s important to remember that you’re not alone—Australia offers many opportunities for growth and connection.

Moving to Karratha has been one of the best decisions we’ve made, and I’m grateful to be part of a community that feels like home. Through my work at PCLS Incorporated, I’m proud to help others find their place here too.



Developing Northern Australia Conference 2024

I was privileged to represent the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. at the recent Developing Northern Australia Conference on 26-28 August 2024, talking on the topic of Cultural Tourism. The conference brought together stakeholders from across Australia to discuss strategies for promoting economic development and growth in Northern Australia.

The Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. is a non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting cultural diversity and understanding in the Northwest region of Western Australia. With a focus on celebrating the rich cultural heritage of the area, the association works to foster connections between different communities and promote cross-cultural exchange.

At the conference, I shared the insights on the importance of cultural tourism in driving economic development in the region, and highlighted the unique cultural attractions and experiences that the Northwest has to offer, from traditional Indigenous history and heritage to vibrant multicultural festivals and events.

Cultural tourism has the potential to not only attract visitors to the region but also to create opportunities for local businesses and communities. By showcasing the diverse cultural heritage of the Northwest region, we believe that our organisation can help to boost tourism and create a more inclusive and welcoming environment for visitors.

We hope to continue to work with stakeholders and partners to promote cultural tourism and support economic development in the Northwest.

Karen Huang

President
Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.



MASLOW'S HIERARCHY OF NEEDS

Which level does Arts and Culture fulfill?

Unearthing Taiwan's Mining Industry:

Past, Present, and Future *Photography Exhibition*

Karen Huang



Pictured above: last generation coal miner
Mr Chao-Nan CHOU

As the curator of the 'Unearthing Taiwan's Mining Industry: Past, Present and Future' photography exhibition, I am thrilled to have had the opportunity to showcase the fascinating history and evolution of Taiwan's mining industry. Through this exhibition, we aimed to not only educate and inform visitors about the industry but also to spark conversations about the importance of community development in mining towns.

One of the key themes that emerged from the exhibition was the emphasis on sustainability in the mining sector. It was important for us to highlight the need for responsible practices that prioritise sustainable development strategies and the well-being of local communities. By showcasing the impact of sustainable practices, we hope to inspire others in the industry to adopt similar approaches.

Additionally, the exhibition provided a platform for cultural exchange between the Pilbara region and international communities. Through the sharing of stories and experiences, we were able to foster a greater understanding of different mining practices and traditions. This cultural exchange not only enriches our knowledge but also strengthens the bonds between mining regions around the world.

Looking ahead, there are exciting opportunities for collaboration and growth in the mining sector. By recognising the similarities in challenges and opportunities between Northern Taiwan and the Pilbara regions, we can work together to drive innovation and progress. By leveraging our collective knowledge and expertise, we create a more sustainable and prosperous future for all involved in the mining industry.

In conclusion, the 'Unearthing Taiwan's Mining Industry' exhibition has been a labour of love, and I am proud of the conversations and connections it has sparked. As we continue to explore the past, present, and future of the mining industry, I am confident that by embracing sustainability, fostering cultural exchange, and seizing future opportunities, we can pave the way for a brighter and more sustainable future for mining communities worldwide.'

About The Exhibitors



Karen HUANG

President of the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. She spent the last few years visiting various mining towns in Taiwan and curated this exhibition from the perspective of economic and community development, providing the Pilbara and Australia with a comparison of international case studies of industry transformation.



Chao-Nan CHOU

Director of the Houtong Miner's Culture and History Museum. Mr. Chou is the third generation of his family to mine coal and the last generation of coal miners in Taiwan. He started his mining career at 14 and is now 81. Mr. Chou has been dedicated to preserving the miners' history, documents, and relics of the era.



Yi-Wen CHENG

Associate Professor at the Center for General Education, National Taipei University of Technology, specializing in labor sociology and visual sociology. Since 2020, she has been involved in the Houtong Mining Labor Visual Project and served as the curator of the 'The Last Generation of Coal Miners in Taiwan' photography exhibition in 2023-2024.



Frank HUANG

Mr. Huang, majored in history, possesses a profound interest in the cultures, events, and people of the past. Following an interview with the Director of Houtong Miner's Culture and History Museum, he presented a distinctive and insightful visual experience by integrating history with contemporary elements. Through his photography, he aims to transcend linguistic and cultural barriers, resonating with the audience and prompting reflection.



Yi-Ting CHEN

She is the granddaughter of a former coal miner. By researching the history of mining in Taiwan, Ms. Chen learned her family history in depth. Her grandfather was in charge of binding the trunks of Acacia trees to reinforce the mine's tunnel. As a resident of the mining town, her family had minimal career options. Mining not only meant hard work but also sacrificed one's health.



Po-Wei CHEN

As the descendant of a former miner, Mr. Chen understood the mining life from his grandfather. In addition to historical events, Mr. Chen leverages his background in international business and trade knowledge to interpret the development of the mining industry from both a community and economic perspective, and further discuss sustainability.



Pictured above: Curator Karen Huang



FeNaCING Fun!



We did it! Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. successfully completed the trial run at the FeNaCING Festival, (and the most wettest and muddiest one ever)!

It was so great to make connections with the visitors and other service providers. We look forward to meeting you again in the Northwest Multicultural Forum and Festival this October!



A huge thank you to the volunteer committee members Karen, Joseph, Julie and William for the efforts to put up the stall, promote Cultural diversity and engage the community!

And biggest thank you to Nick and entire organiser team for your amazing hard work and make the FeNaCING fantastic!





KOLLYWOOD/BOLLYWOOD MOVES



On the 19th July we had a great time at the Kollywood/Bollywood dance workshop!

It was so much fun learning new dance moves and getting to immerse ourselves in the vibrant and energetic world of Indian cinema.

Big shout out to the talented choreographer **Baalu** who made the experience so enjoyable!

We are looking for more dancers who would like to join the Kollywood/Bollywood dance with Baalu and perform at the Northwest Multicultural Festival on 19 October 2024, please contact us if you are a dance lover!!



NORTHWEST MULTICULTURAL FORUM & FESTIVAL 2024



**MULTICULTURAL FORUM
MULTICULTURAL PERFORMANCES
MARKET STALLS | FOOD VANS
MULTICULTURAL COSTUME COMPETITION
BANDS | KIDS ACTIVITIES | ETC.**

19 OCTOBER 2024

RED EARTH ARTS PRECINCT

THANK YOU!

Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. has been able to make a significant impact in our community.

Through a variety of events and programs, we have been able to promote diversity, inclusion, and cultural understanding. From cultural festivals and workshops to educational seminars and community outreach initiatives, our sponsors have played a crucial role in bringing people together and fostering unity.

We are grateful for their belief in our organisation and the work that we do, and we look forward to continuing to make a positive difference in the lives of many individuals in our region.

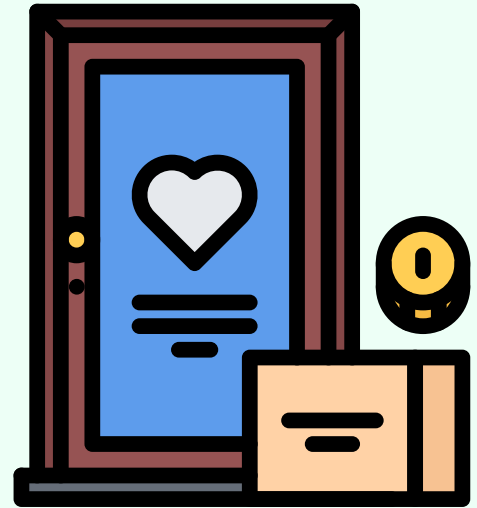




Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

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*As we are a volunteer based organisation
please contact us by email for appointments.*

Support NMAWA

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MEMBER NUMBER
Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

C11255965

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