



# Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

## NEWSLETTER

## VOLUME 2

Greetings Members and Friends!

Since our previous newsletter we have had many exciting events which have had a wonderful attendance and attracted many additional people through our Facebook live streams. We have more interesting and informative events in the pipeline for the later part of this year as well as family friendly cultural food events to enjoy.

All are welcome to attend these events but there are discounted rates for NMAWA members.

The preparations are underway for our annual Multicultural Show. If you are interested in being a sponsor or cultural stall holder there are still some opportunities available.

For more information, please contact us at [admin@nmawa.org.au](mailto:admin@nmawa.org.au).



CULTURAL REPRESENTATIVES PLANNING MEETING FOR MULTICULTURAL SHOW 2023



CHEF NAOMI PROFILE P5



SKY RESTAURANT NEPALESE NIGHT

**14.10.2023**  
**Northwest Multicultural Show 2023**  
TICKETS ON SALE SOON

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Dear Members and Friends,

I am thrilled to share some exciting news regarding the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

In this edition of our newsletter, I would like to introduce our new premises, the services we will offer at the Karratha Village Business Centre, and the highly anticipated Multicultural Show in October.

Firstly, I would like to welcome Ren Mullane to join the committee and we look forward to the association growing under her guidance in finance. Secondly, I am pleased to announce that we have secured a new hot desk facility for our association.

Our new premises will provide a physical space where clients and visitors can make appointments and meet us. With our new premises, we are thrilled to expand our range of services to serve our members and the wider community better. Our dedicated team has been working tirelessly to develop various programs and initiatives that cater to the unique needs and interests of our multicultural society. From language classes and cultural workshops to career development programs and networking events, we are determined to provide a platform for personal growth and cultural exchange.

I'd also like to introduce you to the upcoming Northwest Multicultural Show in October in this newsletter. This much-anticipated event will showcase the rich diversity of our community through captivating performances, vibrant displays, and mouth-watering food. It will be a celebration of our shared heritage and an opportunity to promote understanding and appreciation of different cultures. The Northwest Multicultural Show is not only a chance for us to come together and revel in the beauty of diversity but also an occasion to raise awareness about the challenges faced by multicultural communities. By fostering a greater understanding and respect for each other's cultures, we can build a stronger, more harmonious society. I encourage each and every one of you to mark your calendars and spread the word about this incredible event. Together, let us celebrate our differences, embrace our similarities, and create a future where multiculturalism flourishes.

In closing, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all our members, volunteers, and supporters who have been instrumental in making our association what it is today. Your unwavering commitment and passion for multiculturalism continue to inspire us all. I am incredibly grateful to our Secretary, Julie Davies, for her tireless contributions to the newsletters, meetings, public relations, and communications!

I wish you all a wonderful and enriching experience at our new premises and look forward to seeing you at the Northwest Multicultural Show in October.

Sincerely,

*Karen Huang*

President  
Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.



## NMAWA Committee for 2023

Karen Huang - President  
William Lee - Vice President  
Ren Mullane - Treasurer  
Julie Davies - Secretary  
Neia Young - Asst Secretary  
Shan Su - Committee  
Claire Lin - Committee  
Eva Liew - Committee  
Katherine Hsu - Committee  
Shane Young - Committee

# COMMITTEE MEMBER Q & A

## SHAN SU



Pictured:

NMAWA founding member Shan Su with her children

**Why and when did you move to Karratha?**  
2013

**What do you like most about living here?**  
The community is what I love the most here.  
The friendship that we formed here is just beautiful and lasts forever.

**What surprised you about Karratha?**  
The continue grow of the community and all the new facilities and free or heavily discounted events that City is able to provide for the community, make it a great city to live in.

**What food do you miss from your hometown?**  
The question should be anything I don't miss from my hometown! Haha. Sometimes it's just the taste of the memory that we chase, to satisfy the homesick.

**Anything extra you want to say about living here and coming from a CaLD background?**  
Definitely encourage any new CaLD communities to come out and socialise more, and get to know the city that you live in and the people too. You will love it! And we have so many exciting events lined up, organised by NMAWA. I am sure everyone can benefit from one or more events.  
Join us! And be part of a greater community!

## Recent CaLD Member events



**IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH TIPS WITH MR TIMOTHY OKONKWO**



**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES WITH NADINE KRONK RSM AUSTRALIA & MARY MANOV PDC**

**OUR SPONSORS WHO GENEROUSLY SUPPORT THE CALD PROGRAMME**

- CITY OF KARRATHA
- OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS
- PILBARA PORTS AUTHORITY
- FORTESCUE METALS GROUP
- PILBARA UNIVERSITIES CENTRE

[Visit our Facebook page for all the details](#)

# COMMITTEE MEMBER'S STORY

## NEIA PIRES DA SILVA YOUNG



Pictured:  
Founding committee member Neia Pires Da Silva Young with her Family

**My name is Neia.**

**I am originally from Timor-Leste, the second youngest nation in the world.**

Growing up in (also) one of the poorest countries in the world was not easy to say the least. Timor-Leste was under the colonisation of the Portuguese for more than 500 years. And between 1975-1999, the Timorese were under the illegal occupation of Indonesia for 24 years. As many other Timorenses, I was there during the 1999 crisis, witnessing a war like conflict erupted before my eyes, moving from one refugee camp to another, sleeping on hallways or in the rooms of abandoned houses and listening to gunshots every single day and night. My family made a few attempts to leave the place on a bus shared with some other 10 relatives but every time, we were stopped by the militias armed with guns and machetes, threatening to kill us as they could "smell" the "Independence blood" on our skin. They kept telling us that we did not have the clearance or the right paperwork to leave. We made it through the border eventually and for a few weeks, we were living as refugees in West Timor, Indonesia at one of the residential houses my late uncle rented for all of us to stay.

Peace was finally restored in mid-October when the Interfet (International Force East Timor) organised and led by Australia, arrived on our tiny island. And by 2002, the Timorese finally gained its Independence. Some 1 Million lives changed forever that night, for the better.

In January, 2004 I was awarded a New Zealand Development Scholarship (NZDS) after competing against some 3,000 students. A few months later I flew to NZ to pursue a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) in Auckland, NZ. That was where it all began! I completed my studies, gained the degree and found a relationship with a boy I now call husband :)

As a Civil Engineer, my career started in New Zealand at one of the biggest civil contractors in Auckland. I then spent a few years back home working for the Government and later at a business operated by Australians which allowed me to work directly with the ADF (Australian Defence Force). I moved to Australia about 11 years ago. I continued my career in the Down Under at various Consulting Engineering firms and Civil Contractors, in Queensland and the Northern Territory.

My family and I moved to Karratha in 2018. After living in Sydney for a year, we decided that the big city life was not for us. The lifestyle, the traffic, and the seas of people that you see wherever you go were somehow too overwhelming for us. We knew we had to move out of the City, but the question was to where?

Hubby decided to go on Seek one day and a few minutes of searching on the website, took him to numerous job opportunities in the Pilbara region. Pilbara? Where the h\*ll is that? I asked. A few weeks later, with an offer he couldn't resist, we found ourselves once again packing our life away to move to Karratha. They wanted him to start ASAP but I was not ready, especially after Google failed to persuade me to "like" the region with a plethora of posts and articles about iron ore, mining and businesses, the boom time and its subsequent aftermath...with little information about the community, facilities, lifestyle, etc. Google Maps also didn't help much either with their outdated aerial images.

So we decided to settle in Perth instead with hubby doing FIFO. I received a job offer from a reputable consulting firm a month before our big move and was very looking forward to returning to the workforce after taking some time off. The position was based in Perth and for a brief moment it felt like everything was falling into place. Except fate had a different plan for us. I did end up accepting the offer from the same firm, not in their Perth office but in their Karratha office as per my request. Three weeks later, with an Allied Pickford container full of stuff that we "hoarded" for years + 6 suitcases, a 20-month-old and an 11-month-old, we were finally on our way to WA's Northwest.

14 July 2018, finally we arrived in Karratha! We landed on a Friday and two days later, I started my new job. Within the first month and unexpectedly, I kept asking myself about the Hows, Whys etc. How did I fall in love with the place so quickly? Why...?? There's no IKEA or Bunnings or Nando's...?? As it turned out, it was just what we needed! Things that I quickly fell in love within the first few months of our arrival were: the traffic...!! It was basically NIL, the community, the parks, Leisureplex, FeNaCING, food vans at Dreamer's Hill, having the famous "chicken waffle" at Lo's and watching the kids running around in the massive landscape or playing around the little pond, beach time with the kids at Hearson Cove, seeing the kids' eyes light up watching the iron ore trains passing by, watching the sunset at Dampier Foreshore etc. OR was it because we arrived in July...?! Of course it was and I am thankful for that. Arriving in the City during the hot season wouldn't have had the same impact I reckon ;)

We have been living in this beautiful place for a little over 5 years now. Two years ago I started a new job that enables me to contribute directly to our wonderful community through building and maintenance of the infrastructure including roads. It is such a rewarding and fulfilling job. One that I will continue to take pride in for years to come.

This is the place where our children reached their significant milestones; where my youngest took his first steps, where they said their first words, where the kids started their school years, where they first made friends, where they first learned to swim, had their first playdates and attended their first of many birthday parties...This is the place where long-lasting friendships are made. This is the place we call home and we don't plan on leaving soon.

# Round up of Member events July-August



Group photo of Attendees at the Sky Restaurant Nepalese Night which was hosted by Owners Raj and Sita.



Attendees learning new Japanese Cooking skills with Chef Naomi



[Visit our Facebook page for all the details](#)

# Round up of Member events July-August



Attendees learning new Japanese Cooking skills with Chef Naomi



KOREAN KPOP DANCE AND MUSIC EXPERIENCE - FLOWER by JISOO



[Visit our Facebook page for all the details](#)

# COMMUNITY STORY

## NAOMI WANGEMANN



**My name is Naomi Wangemann, from Hiroshima City Japan.**

I met my husband Carl in Hiroshima in 2010. We were married in 2012 and we lived in Queanbeyan NSW. During that time I worked for a restaurant inside the Diplomat Hotel in Canberra as a waitress, then started my own business 'Katakura' as a food stall holder, advertising and creating traditional Japanese food. I sold Sushi, Ramen noodles, Japanese curry, Okonomiyaki and Pork Buns ('Nikuman' with my personal recipe), I participated in many festivals in NSW and ACT.

In 2017, we decided to move to WA looking for a Change. Carl got a job in Port Hedland so we moved North. I started working for a hotel as a housekeeper. I still wanted to keep my food business; however, I couldn't have the opportunity.

We owned a house in Port Hedland, Our house was in the zone marked for the buyback scheme by the government and BHP. An offer was made, and we accepted then moved to Karratha in 2019.

Now I work for the City of Karratha as a casual cleaner plus hold Japanese cooking classes in conjunction with the Northwest Multicultural Association.

I was pleasantly surprised to find a relatively small Japanese community in Karratha. When living in Queanbeyan I had many Japanese friends and was involved socially within the Japanese community, I was missing them so much. I now have a bunch of Japanese friends here in Karratha. Japanese friends are like breathing oxygen, meaning I don't feel stressed to talk and think to translate. I appreciate and enjoy talking with them in my own language.

I think Karratha is a unique city. Most of the people who live here are from other places/countries. Some people enjoy their work, new friends and new life here, but some people get isolated and lonely. Some people just can't get a good balance between their work and life. Having a Japanese community in my life in Australia is a pleasure and more importantly my balance.

Northwest Multicultural Association has much to contribute to Karratha city. They make many events to encourage people to go out to do some interesting things or make new friends. I am so grateful that I have an opportunity to tell people what Japanese culture is and offer them to taste Japanese food with NMAWA.

# Round up of Member events July-August



Competition was fierce for the Dragonboat races and there were prizes for the winners.



Dampier Beachside Markets fun for Dragonboat Day with our volunteers Ann and Eddie



Chinese cooking class fun with Wuxi Cook Grace

[Visit our Facebook page for all the details](#)



# OTHER EVENTS



OUR TEAM HAD A WONDERFUL TIME AT THE 125TH PHILIPPINES INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS WHICH SHOWCASED SOME OF THE VALUABLE CULTURE AND TALENT THAT OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY HAD TO SHARE. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE ALL THE HOSPITALITY.

125th Philippines Independence Day celebrations held at Karratha Leisureplex.

Pictured (left to right): Aileen Nicolas and Joseph Almonte (Coordinator and President of Samahang Pilipino Karratha), Mr Kevin Michel MLA, Karen Huang and Julie Davies (President and Secretary of Northwest Multicultural Association), and Antonio Briones.

## Fourth OECD Meeting of Mining Regions and Cities in Karratha



The Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. recently attended the OECD Conference of Mining Regions & Cities, where we had the opportunity to engage in discussions about the future of mining regions in the context of the diverse economy. As a multicultural community, we recognise the importance of diversification, inclusion, and liveability in mining regions. Diversification not only helps create more sustainable and resilient economies, but it also provides opportunities for local communities to participate in and benefit from economic growth.



# UPCOMING EVENTS



Northwest Multicultural  
Association WA Inc.



## CHINESE COOKING CLASS

*Menu:*

*Chinese style egg & ham fried rice  
Mapo Tofu*

**NMA Member \$35**

**Non Member \$45**

Date: Saturday, 19 August 2023

Time: 10:00 am- 12:00 pm

Venue: Pam Buchanan Kitchen



CHINESE COOKING WITH GRACE

## Japanese Cuisine

Gyoza dumplings  
Snow peas with eggs



**Book your spots now!**

**\$35 member**

**\$45 non-member**

**02/09 Saturday  
10 am-12 pm**

JAPANESE COOKING CLASS  
WITH CHEF NAOMI WANGEMANN



## Mont Blanc Chestnut Dessert

Fee: Member \$35/Non-member \$45

Date: 27/08/2023

Time: 1:30 pm- 3:30 pm

Location: Pam Buchanan Kitchen  
(51 Gardugarli Dr, Baynton WA 6714)

All equipment and ingredients are included.



Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

BAKING CLASS WITH CHEF WILLIAM LEE



## Mid Autumn Festival

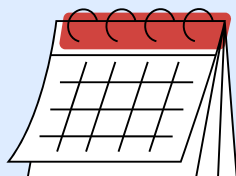
Event: Mid-Autumn Festival Lunch

Date: Saturday 30/09/2023

Time: 10:00 AM- 1:00 PM

Activities: lunch, lantern painting & riddle competition

MORE INFO TO COME



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Visit our Facebook Page for the latest  
events for members and friends.

**CALL ALL SPONSORS:  
FINANCIAL/IN-KIND**

2023  
*Northwest Multicultural  
Show*

| COSTUME PARADE |

| MULTICULTURAL PERFORMANCES |

| CULTURE EXPERIENCE STALLS |

SATURDAY  
14 OCTOBER

1:30PM-5:00PM

[admin@nmawa.org.au](mailto:admin@nmawa.org.au)



Northwest Multicultural  
Association WA Inc.

# 2023 MEMBERSHIP

**\$20 INDIVIDUAL**

**\$50 FAMILY**



## ADVERTISE WITH US



WE INVITE YOU TO ADVERTISE WITH US AND SPREAD YOUR  
INFORMATION TO A BROADER COMMUNITY.

CONTACT US TO FIND OUT MORE ADVERTISEMENT PACKAGE.

[admin@nmawa.org.au](mailto:admin@nmawa.org.au)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THIS COUNTRY,  
AND PAY OUR RESPECTS TO ELDERS PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING

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