



# Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

**NEWSLETTER**

**VOLUME 5**

Good day members and friends,

We are once again off to an exciting start to the year with a lot of interesting events happening in the first quarter of the year.

In this edition, we share with you what we have planned so you can pencil in some amazing opportunities to participate in your community.



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Dear members and friends,

As we welcome the splendid year of 2024, I would like to extend my warmest greetings and best wishes to each and every one of you.

Firstly, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all our members for their tireless support and dedication to promoting multiculturalism in our community. Your commitment to fostering understanding, appreciation, and celebration of diverse cultures is truly commendable.

I am thrilled to share with you our annual program for 2024, which promises an exciting lineup of events and activities to showcase the rich tapestry of cultures that make up our vibrant community.

I am delighted to announce that our organisation has been awarded the Highly Commended Active Citizenship of the Year at the City of Karratha 2024 Community Awards. This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our members, volunteers, and staff in promoting multiculturalism and fostering community cohesion.

As we celebrate this achievement, we look forward to continuing our mission of promoting cultural diversity and inclusivity in our community. Our calendar for 2024 includes a series of cultural events, including Lunar New Year celebrations, Harmony Week exhibition, Thai Songkran Festival and various cultural activities that will provide opportunities for learning, sharing, and appreciating the rich traditions of different cultures.

I encourage all our members to actively participate in these events and take advantage of the unique learning experiences they offer. Let us come together as a community to celebrate our differences and embrace the beauty of multiculturalism.

I would like to express my gratitude to our dedicated team of volunteers and staff for their hard work and commitment in making these events possible. Your contributions are invaluable, and we would not be able to achieve our goals without your support.

To all our members, thank you for your continued support and involvement. Your participation is essential in ensuring the success of our organization and the promotion of multiculturalism in our community.

Wishing you all a prosperous and joyous year ahead. May 2024 be filled with happiness, good health, and success for all.

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)**





# Happy Year of the Dragon



We celebrated the Lunar New Year with an interactive family friendly stall at Karratha Shopping Centre.



Mr Kevin Michel MLA met Cai Shen with the community



Local community enjoyed the events



Lovely volunteers posing with Cai Shen



Committee members Eva and Shan sharing a smile



恭喜发财!



Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.



# Committee Story

**Momette Gunda**

**EMBRACING THE UNKNOWN:  
THE TRIP THAT CHANGED THE COURSE OF MY LIFE...**

It was in October 2011 that I decided to accept a job offer on a five-year contract to continue my career in a different country for a better future for my family. It was daunting, challenging, and with a leap of faith, I embraced it. I arrived in Perth, Australia, in January 2012 on my own. Like a child, I was filled with excitement and amazement but also nervous. With my passport and my skilled working visa in hand, I dove into work for the first three months in Perth for training and immersion. Eventually, I was assigned to work in Dampier as a Site Manager at Coles Express. I was one of the pioneers who had the opportunity to participate in the international recruitment programme—an alliance between Coles Express (Australia) and Shell Petroleum (Philippines), where I worked back then.

Since 2012, up to this writing, where I took the challenge to change for two more different jobs, I am still here in Dampier and the surrounding Karratha area.

My youngest son joined me in 2014, and he is still here in Karratha. We both took our oath here in Karratha as Australian Citizens.

Life here is soul-calming, peaceful, and laid-back. It encompasses different cultures and is constantly growing, improving, and progressing. The people are amazing! I feel safe and secure here, always!



It captures your being. The love you feel and share with the city, with the townspeople, is reciprocated in many good ways. On the other hand, I still miss the Philippine foods I grew up with. Every time I go back to visit my family, I make sure to eat, dine, drink, or splurge on our native foods.

Living here is a blessing, and I am so grateful that my journey to a different country started here and continues.

By doing some volunteering work, being active in the community, and supporting local organisation's, especially the Multicultural Association I find it a magnificent way to promote diversity.

Diversity is about celebrating differences, but, crucially, it's also about finding better ways, better intelligence, better empathy, and ultimately, a healthier country.

I am wholeheartedly grateful to be here, and I am paying forward my blessings.

**Momette Gunda NMA - Cultural, Diversity and Advocacy Policy Committee**



# 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.

Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

# Lunar New Year Banquet



Join us to experience the Lunar New Year Feast and appreciate the cultural items display!

DATE: SATURDAY 09 MARCH 2024  
TIME: 6 PM - 8 PM  
VENUE: RED EARTH ARTS PRECINCT  
STUDIO ROOMS & FOYER



ADULT \$60  
CHILD \$40  
(NMA MEMBER 10% DISCOUNT)  
CASH BAR AVAILABLE AT REAP

# 2024

## Lunar New Year Banquet Menu

YEE SANG  
DRUNKEN CHICKEN  
DEEP-FRIED SPRING ROLLS  
RADISH CAKE  
SAN CHOY BOW (PRAWN)  
BRAISED PORK BELLY  
SIGNATURE FRIED RICE

FRUIT PLATTER  
SWEET STICKY RICE CAKE  
FORTUNE COOKIES  
CHINESE TEA SELECTION

**ADULT \$60/ CHILD \$40  
(MEMBER 10% DISCOUNT)  
CASH BAR AVAILABLE AT REAP**

## Lunar New Year Banquet Vegetarian Menu

VEGAN YEE SANG  
BEANCURD STARTER  
DEEP-FRIED SPRING ROLLS  
RADISH CAKE  
SAN CHOY BOW (MUSHROOM)  
SMOKED VEGAN DUCK  
VEGETARIAN FRIED RICE

FRUIT PLATTER  
SWEET STICKY RICE CAKE  
FORTUNE COOKIES  
CHINESE TEA SELECTION

**ADULT \$60/ CHILD \$40  
(MEMBER 10% DISCOUNT)  
CASH BAR AVAILABLE AT REAP**





Northwest Multicultural  
Association WA Inc.

# 2024 HARMONY WEEK PROGRAM

16-24 MARCH 2024



## MULTICULTURAL EXHIBITION:

16/03/2024~24/03/2024

KARRATHA CITY SHOPPING CENTRE

### EVENT PROGRAM

**SATURDAY 16/03  
RED EARTH ARTS PRECINCT**

10:00-11:00 AM  
MULTICULTURAL STORY TIME  
(LIBRARY)



11:30AM-12:30 PM  
MULTICULTURAL EXHIBITION  
OPENING



1:00-2:00 PM  
MIMI ARTOON ORIGAMI ART  
WORKSHOP



1:00-2:00 PM  
BALINESE COSTUME & DANCE  
WORKSHOP



**SUNDAY 17/03  
KARRATHA SHOPPING CENTRE**

10:00AM-11:00 AM  
GREETINGS FROM KARRATHA  
(WRITE A POSTCARD TO YOUR  
LOVED ONES)



11:00 AM-12:00 PM  
MAKE A CHINESE LUCKY POUCH



## MULTICULTURAL EXHIBITION:

16/03/2024~24/03/2024

KARRATHA CITY SHOPPING CENTRE

### EVENT PROGRAM

**SATURDAY 23/03  
RED EARTH ARTS PRECINCT**

09:10 AM -10:00 AM  
EMBRACE THE PULSE: A  
COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE  
WORKSHOP



10:00 AM -12:00 PM  
JAPANESE COOKING CLASS



12:30 PM -2:00 PM  
A TASTE OF HARMONY  
(BRING A DISH TO SHARE)



**SUNDAY 24/03  
KARRATHA SHOPPING CENTRE**

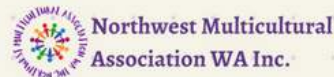
10:00 AM -12:00 PM  
MULTICULTURAL COLLECTIONS  
DISPLAY & INTRODUCTION



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Australian Government  
Department of Home Affairs



# HARMONY DAY

## ABOUT HARMONY DAY

In 2000, the Federal Government declared 21 March, National Harmony Day. This is the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

## THE BENEFITS OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Harmony Week is an opportunity to consider the many benefits Australia gains from its culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) communities.

Benefits include job creation, improved skill levels, the introduction of new skills and networks, and improved economies of scale.

The economic advantages are also many. Our diverse communities link us strongly with the rest of the world and increase our competitiveness in this global market.

Harmony Week is an opportunity for all Australians to celebrate our diversity while working to remove barriers that still exist in the community.

Join us to uncover your career and business potential!



### TOP 10 birthplaces where were we born?

WA is home to people from 221 birthplaces. The top 10 birthplaces are the same as in 2016 but the proportion of each has changed. The overseas born birthplaces with highest growth in number of people are India, the Philippines, China, South Africa, Malaysia and Bhutan.





# 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

Japanese Croquette  
Class Noodle Salad



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

**23/03 Saturday**  
10 am-12 pm

(Bring your own takeaway container for your cooking)

*This year classes are at the REAP kitchen. Places are limited so please get in early.*



Japanese  
Cooking Class  
(March)



Japanese  
Cooking Class  
(May)



**CHEF NAOMI AND JAPANESE COOKING ATTENDEES**

# "Kent Corner" Indonesian Taste



**Karratha Basketball Association** recently invited us to prepare and sell food for patrons attending the Harmony Round at Karratha Leisureplex. The talented Elshi Panjaitan (pictured right) brought delicious Indonesian flavours to the community.

Thanks to Elshi, Wiwik, Rara, and the Indonesian Community for supporting the basketball event.





# NORTHWEST MULTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION WA INC.

## CASE STUDY

REGION LOCATION: PILBARA

### INITIATIVE OVERVIEW

The organisation, founded in 2021, is driven by a culturally diverse committee and is focused on promoting equal educational opportunities for all community members, regardless of residency status. While education is the central goal, they've identified a pressing need for culinary diversity within the community, given the limited dining options in the region. Their unique approach involves harnessing the expertise within the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) community to lead cooking programs. Rather than simply showcasing different cuisines, the organisation's main objective is to empower facilitators to share their professional skills and make meaningful contributions to the community. They place a significant emphasis on supporting these facilitators, considering their impact more important than program attendance numbers. Looking ahead, they are exploring the possibility of satisfying the grocery needs through a new channel, to further meet the unique food preferences within the community.



*This will be an ongoing program for sure because cooking food always brings people together.*



### REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY CONTRIBUTIONS

This initiative addresses the food utilisation aspect of food security empowering individuals to share their culinary expertise and unique skills. Through programs like "Baking Around The World," they provide a platform for facilitators, such as a qualified pâtissier, to design and deliver dessert menus inspired by various countries' culinary traditions. The initiative also works to overcome food access challenges, but organising bulk orders of specific cultural ingredients through a Perth Asian supermarket, to meet the communities food preferences.

### PARTNERING ORGANISATIONS

The organisation has strategically partnered with notable organisations such as Woodside to support their initiatives. Woodside's funding played a pivotal role in establishing the baking program by providing essential equipment and cooking materials. This partnership highlights the organisation's commitment to collaborating with key stakeholders to achieve their goals and expand their community-oriented programs.



Scan QR Code to Register

<https://form.jotform.com/240238650155048>



# COMMUNITY ENGLISH

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

## Focusing on

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

Wednesday from

14 Feb- 12 Mar  
6pm - 7.30pm

Registration fee  
\$30



CONTACT DETAILS

MAKE STUDY YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE!

- ☎ 0428 320 877
- ✉ [info@puc.edu.au](mailto:info@puc.edu.au)
- 🌐 [www.puc.edu.au](http://www.puc.edu.au)

## 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.