



Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3

Good day members and friends,

Inside this edition we share photos from the recent Multicultural Show held at REAP that showcased the talents of our amazing multicultural community.

We also share with you interesting member stories, as well as keep you in the loop with member events as we head toward the end of the year.

We hope you will all attend our AGM and 2nd Birthday on 26th November.

Please mark your calendars and come along to be a part of this special event. Details inside.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is with great pleasure and immense pride that I write to you today, to share the remarkable achievements and accomplishments of the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of the Northwest Multicultural Show 2023. The show was an incredible display of diversity, culture, and unity, showcasing the rich tapestry of our community. The hard work, dedication, and passion of our sponsors, members and volunteers truly shone through, making it an unforgettable event.

I am thrilled to announce that our efforts have been recognised on a wider scale. The Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. has been selected as finalists for both the KDCCI 2023 Business Excellence Awards and the 2023 Western Australian Community Achievement Awards. This recognition is a testament to our collective efforts in promoting multiculturalism, fostering inclusivity, and making a positive impact in our community. Let us celebrate this achievement together and continue to strive for excellence.

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the celebration of our association's second birthday are just around the corner. Mark your calendars for the 26th of November, as we come together to reflect on our accomplishments, discuss future plans, and elect our new committee members. It is crucial that we have a strong attendance at this event, as your presence and input are invaluable to the growth and success of our association. Let us unite once again and make our voices heard.

As we look ahead to the future, I encourage each and every one of you to continue supporting the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc. Together, we can create an even more inclusive and harmonious community. Whether it be through volunteering, attending events, or spreading the word about our association, your contribution matters.

Lastly, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our members, volunteers, sponsors, and partners for your support. It is your dedication, enthusiasm, and belief in our mission that drives us forward. Let us continue to work hand in hand, embracing diversity and fostering a sense of belonging for all.

Warm regards,

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
Dina Grainger - Committee
Shan Su - Committee
Eva Liew - Committee
Katherine Hsu - Committee
Shane Young - Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBER'S STORY

REN MULLANE

NMAWA - Treasurer

It all started 30 years ago on a winters morning when I first arrived in Perth, Western Australia at 2.30am. Surprisingly, the day seems imprinted on my memory like it was only yesterday. We were a group of Malaysian students travelling from Kuala Lumpur to Perth with our student counsellors to join our new family being “Edith Cowan University”.

We were driven to the Mount Lawley campus to check into the dormitory at 2.30am. As we came out of Perth airport, I felt the sudden coldness that stunned me for a while before I began to relax and enjoy my new surroundings. If I was to say; it was everything I expected that certainly would not be the case. It was even more magical and surreal. As we drove into the campus; one of the first few things that took me by surprise was to see the old Gumnut trees and how white their barks were in comparison with the rain forest trees that I grew up with. The mystery didn't just stop there; as I reached my dormitory room, I found a particular small machine and for a while just stared at it. To say I was naïve was an understatement. I picked up the gadget and turned it on. The loud noise surprised me and then I felt the heat come out of it. I laughed and thought to myself, well I am finally in another land with so many unknowns surrounding me. What do I do now? So started my journey in beautiful Australia.

Within a week, Edith Cowan University arranged for us to visit a wildlife park. Yes, another pivotal moment when I finally had my dreams come true; funny enough, it was always and will always be the simple things in life that we remember the most. I got to meet handsome Kangaroos, adorable wombats, amazing echidnas, curious emus and jaw dropping cuddly Koala Bears. I found out a lot about myself that day; in that I enjoyed exploring the unknown and in experiencing new adventures which made me more alive than ever. My fear had simply vanished.

Within a month in Perth, I had secured an apartment outside the university campus, part time work as a volunteer for various non for profit organisations, heading to the gym twice a day, enjoying my new life and newly found friendships at the various ECU campuses of Churchlands, Mount Lawley and Joondalup.

After 3 years of exciting challenges, I was proud to become an ECU graduate with a Bachelor of Business majoring in Finance, Economics and Accounting. It was just the beginning and had no idea what the future held. In years to come, I completed a postgraduate in Professional Accounting as well as a Graduate Certificate in Tertiary Teaching and ventured into the world of research with a Masters by Research in Professional Business in conjunction with a Doctorate studies with of course my beloved ECU. Needless to say, I enjoyed the academic scene.

In 2008, I qualified as a Lecturer and Tutor for ECU and Murdoch University. This was another benchmark for me in my academic career which had come full circle.



Committee Member Ren Mullane with her family

CPA Australia has and always will be a second family to me as education from both the university and professional body has truly taught me the value of education. I first got involved with the Australian Society of CPA almost 27 years ago as an Associate member and have held positions in the CPA Select Committee and CPA Public Practice Committee WA Divisions. In 2010; to my delight I was elected as an Accounting and Tax Seminar presenter for the CPA Congress and Institute of Public Accountants Tax seminars. Yet again, I found myself part of another family group which made me feel at home. This year, I was honoured to receive my fellowship as part of CPA Australia. As well as being a Fellow member of the Institute of Public Accountants Australia, Fellow member of Financial Accountants UK and a Chartered Accountant (MIA) member. The relationships I have with the accounting bodies is a rewarding and lasting one

Equally enjoyable has been my 30-year career in Australia as a Chartered Accountant, Financial Accountant, Managerial Accountant, Cost Accountant, Tax Accountant, Tax Advisor, and Auditor in both public and private sectors as well as having the privilege of working as a

Chief Financial Officer, Company Secretary, Contracts Administrator, Local Pilbara Business advisor, Tender writer, University Lecturer and forever a student of the industry.

The opportunity of running my own tax business and non for profit organisations in Perth before moving up to the Pilbara allowed me to understand the facets of running businesses. My career was further enhanced by joining the ASIC Liaison Committee WA Association, International Business Volunteer Organisations of CARE Australia and ABV as well as getting involved in the Women's Committee and State Divisional Council of the WA Party which I thoroughly enjoyed. My Pilbara adventures so far have seen me join as a board member with the Point Samson Community Association, Wickham Primary School P & C Association, Pilbara Community Legal services, Karratha Swimming Club and of course the Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.

It has certainly been an exciting journey so far. I currently live with my husband and two kids in the beautiful Pilbara for almost 8 years now and loving every minute of it.

The next adventure is just around the corner and still awaits us all.

I grew up with my mother in Pannawonica who was always doing uniform and ballgown alterations in our house for other people. She had taught seamstressing in the Philippines before moving to Australia, and had started teaching me from the age of about 5 how a sewing machine worked.

More recently, with my mum living with me in Karratha for about half of the year in 2022 I saw her doing alterations for people in town and it sparked my interest in making dresses again.

I went to the local craft shop and discovered the range of Indigenous fabrics which inspired me to make beautiful outfits for the local races which I started attending in 2021 after I lost 50kg with gastric surgery I had more confidence to get up and show my own style off, my first time was Ladies Day at the Roebourne Races. My style has evolved from using others designs at first, as I now feel more confident in my own unique design and also can go confidently in the knowledge that no one will ever have the same outfit.

The stories behind the prints are very interesting, I love to incorporate them into my designs and tell people the stories behind them, so I like to call my style Outback Fusion - my nine year old daughter helped me to pick out my Instagram name outback_fashionista as I was required to set up an account as I was selected to attend the WA State Final and flown down to Perth in November 2022 to compete against 11 other winners in the last ever State FOTF (Fashion on the Field) final at Ascot as it has now been cancelled. I design millinery (headwear to match each outfit).

I was then selected in March 2023 as the only competitor not from the East Coast to compete in the Top 11 at Mrs Australia International in Sydney. For the final we had several costume changes, so I decided to design an evening gown to incorporate my love of indigenous art and my platform - which is that all adults, children especially those from migrant backgrounds need to have swimming lessons, and this needs to be more accessible as I nearly myself drowned in a rip at the age of 16. I was a strong swimmer but had only learnt how to compete and attended swimming club in a pool and had no knowledge of the ocean dangers when we moved from Pannawonica to the coast when my father retired. I became a swimming teacher when my daughter reached school age due to the lack of teachers. My friend Sammy Wyborn from Perth (originally from Broome where I attended university) was the amazing artist who collaborated with me on the project, the result was amazing and reflected the colours of the ocean of the pilbara and the red dirt that surround us. The symbol on the dress is representative of community - and the many colours I believe represent all cultures coming together to support one another as a community, the blue across the chest is the water connecting communities, one on my back and another on the front of the gown.



I was awarded the Mrs Social Media award for 2023 for gaining the Mrs Australia Beauty and Brains pageant exposure on WA Television (Channel 7 Regional News) and several local radio stations, and came 2nd Runner Up in a Sponsor Actively award for being consistently physically active through the leadup to the pageant where they allowed us to use the app.

All contestants were empowered by attending many courses, and teambuilding sessions, so I believe this has assisted me in my daily life going forward to be more confident of my own inner strength and to encourage other women in remote communities and to promote the causes I believe in.

I am an Accountant and love to play my guitar and sing at local restaurants, it is another outlet of my creativity, and I enjoy horseriding with my children as I own two horses at the moment, however the fashion has taken over with my collection of hats and dresses outnumbering my guitar collection.

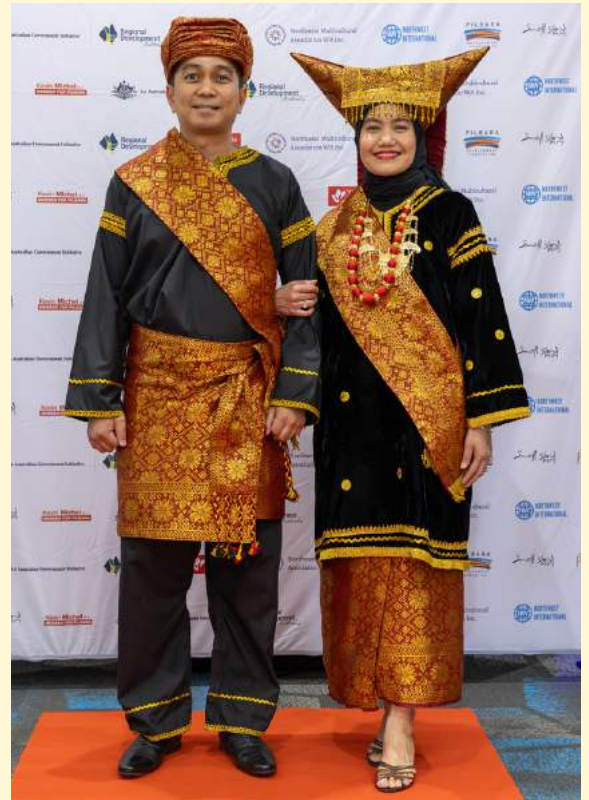


Multicultural Show Magic

Red Carpet



'Performance Troupe' from Baynton West Primary School sang 'I Am Australian' as the closing show.



West Sumatra
Muhammad and Dorina



Indonesian and East Timor ladies looking lovely



Jacqueline from PNG Group waving the flag

Multicultural Show Magic

Red Carpet



Sponsors City of Karratha Mayor Peter Long with Mr Kevin Michel MLA and the Philippines Community



Chinese Dancers and beautiful daughters



Pablo Miller (also Triple M) CEO Virginia Miltrup from City of Karratha



Sponsors :

Regional Development Australia's CEO Tony Simpson together with the graceful Bali performers and Mr Kevin Michel, MLA.

Sponsors: Vicinity Centres Melanie Garvin (centre right) together with PDC's Louise Moore, M.C Bridget McDowell & NMAWA Secretary Julie Davies

Multicultural Show Magic

Red Carpet



Sponsor: Danielle East from Woodside with the talented Indonesian group



MC Brigette McDowell
(CEO & Founder of Powerhouse)



Producers of Small Island Big Songs,
Baobao Chen and Tim Cole

Small Island Big Song explores the cultural connections of the vast ocean through the Austronesian migration. Working with artists who have made a choice to maintain the cultural voice of their people, to sing in the language, and to play the instruments of their land.



Show Stallholders



Meet team at Mimi Artoon Drawing



Meet team at PNG cultural stall



Meet team at Chinese and Taiwan cultural stall



Meet team at Cora-Larni Enterprise



Karratha Shotokan Karate stall



Melanie from Cora-Larni Enterprise and CEO of City of Karratha Virginia Miltrup



Meet team at Grateful Remnants



Meet team at The Junction Co.

Multicultural Show Magic

Performers



West Sumatra costume Dorina and Muhammad



Joseph Almonte flying the Philippines flag



Beautiful Bali dancers



Joyful Philippines dancers lit up the stage



Karratha Shotokan Karate team display was dynamic



Tia Prasad took to the stage in her Indian costume.

Multicultural Show Magic

Performers and costume parade

Best Child
Costume:

Awarded to
Aalya by Mr
Kevin Michel
MLA



Visit our Facebook page
for all the photos.
Thank you to our
Photographer Robert Hegan



Peoples Choice Costume:
Awarded to Dorina by NMAWA Ren Mullane



Best Adult Costume:
Awarded to Dorina by Mayor Mr Peter Long



End of show group photo : thanks to all performers and sponsors

COMMUNITY STORY

SUSAN GRYLLES

How I came to the Pilbara

In January 2014 my family, which consisted of my husband, 3 boys (6,4 and 1) and a dog, moved to the Pilbara for my husband's work. We had been spending quite a bit of time in the northwest over the past years and finally, over a 3 day travel period (which included several 45 - 50 degree days in rented trucks where the air-conditioning failed once it turned 40 degrees) moved all our family belongings to establish a new home in Karratha.

To be honest I was nervous and unsure about the move. At the time I was working fulltime as a corporate lawyer and with three young boys this was only possible through the help of family, babysitters, au pairs and a nanny. My husband spent a considerable amount of time travelling for work and whilst I knew many people in Karratha I did not have any family or strong friends. To make matters harder my mother was deeply unhappy about us moving so far away as she would no longer be able to see her grandchildren on an almost daily basis.

Fast forward nearly 10 years and I thank God every day for the decision we made to move to the Pilbara. There is no better place I believe in Australia to raise young children, especially three incredibly active, inquisitive boys. The community of Karratha is unique. Unlike many small country towns and cities, it is relatively easy to meet new people and more importantly, to meet and befriend people that become like family.

I no longer work as a corporate lawyer but instead swapped the relentless travel away from family to become the CEO of the Pilbara Kimberley University Centres. What an unbelievable opportunity to build an incredible institution that support higher education in remote WA. It is an absolute privilege to be a part of the wonderful PKUC family.

The Pilbara has introduced me to fantastic new interests such as water polo and mountain biking, which but for the move to Karratha I never would have tried and importantly, through these interests I have made some incredibly special friends that have become my ride or die pals. My children have thrived in the wonderful Pilbara environment that brings so many experiences and opportunities that are just not available in a city.

Anything is possible in the Pilbara if you are ready to have a crack. You can learn how to make traditional Japanese and Chinese dumplings from scratch, then head to the Karratha Leisure Plex for a swim and then end the day with a wonderful cold 'drink' down at the stunning Hearson's Cove, perhaps even watching the 'Staircase to the Moon'.

I love the Karratha, the Pilbara and WA's northwest. I do not believe that there is any better community in the world and it is my home. Nothing beats a stunning Pilbara sunset!



Round up of Member events Sept-Oct



INDIAN COOKING WITH CHEF ABBY



MAKING CHINESE WONTONS WITH GRACE



MAKING JAPANESE GYOZA WITH CHEF NAOMI



ZUMBA WITH KAREN BAILEY

Shake off the Stress

Kindly sponsored by

WA Association for Mental Health

Visit our Facebook page for all the details

UPCOMING EVENTS




JAPANESE DINNER & CULTURE
WOULD YOU LIKE TO EXPERIENCE JAPANESE CULTURE AND AUTHENTIC JAPANESE FOOD??

JOIN US FOR A DELIGHTFUL EVENING OF JAPANESE CUISINE AND CULTURAL EXPLOATION AT THE PAM BUCHANAN FAMILY CENTRE!

SET MENU DINNER
1. APPETIZER
2. MAIN COURSE (CHOOSE 1 OF THE 2 OPTIONS)
3. DESSERT
VEGETARIAN MENU AVAILABLE

DATE: 04/11/2023
TIME: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
VENUE: PAM BUCHANAN FAMILY CENTRE
MEMBER: \$40 / NON-MEMBER : \$50

BY NORTHWEST MULTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION WA INC.
admin@nmawa.org.au




CHINESE COOKING CLASS

Menu:
Sweet Sour Chicken with Pineapple

NMA Member \$35
Non Member \$45

Date: Saturday, 11 November 2023
Time: 10:00 am- 12:00 pm
Venue: Pam Buchanan Kitchen
(51 Gardugarli Dr, Baynton WA 6714)



**Please bring your own takeaway containers and cutlery if needed!!



Japanese Cuisine

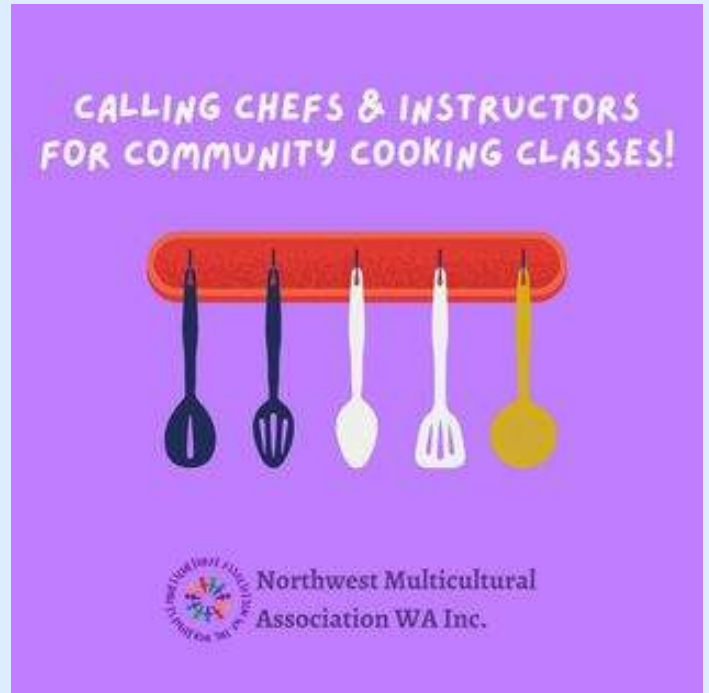
Rice Omelette
Tofu with cooked mushrooms




Book your spots now!
\$35 member
\$45 non-member


25/11 Saturday
10 am-12 pm

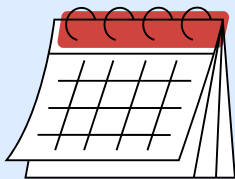
**Bring your own takeaway containers and cutlery if need



CALLING CHEFS & INSTRUCTORS FOR COMMUNITY COOKING CLASSES!



 Northwest Multicultural Association WA Inc.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Awards Nominations

We are excited and honoured to be nominated as finalists this year in the Woolworths Community Achievement Awards and the KDCCI Business Awards 2023.



Shan, Neia and Ren from NMAWA Committee enjoyed the event.



Karratha was well represented at the Community Achievement Awards held on Friday 27th October in Perth at the Hyatt Hotel.

NMAWA together with Pilbara and Kimberley University Centre, Northwest Recycling, Impact Digi and Lo's Cafe and Red Dirt Driving were all finalists.

Congratulations to all finalists, and especially Impact Digi and Red Dirt Driving School, who won their overall categories.



Julie from NMAWA Committee together with Sponsor Anthea Halliday from Woolworths

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

Support Local Business



PILBARA
TRANSLATION
SERVICES

Our service

- Fast Translation/ Proofreading
- Website Translation
- Brochure Translation
- Business/ Law/ Medical Document Translation
- Legal Document Translation: Driver's License, Birth Certificate, Relationship Certificate, Employment Contract, etc.
- NAATI Certified Translation



Contact us for further information:
office@pilbaratranslation.com.au
OR visit :
http://pilbaratranslation.com.au to receive a quote.

● Step-by-Step art Lesson in: Painting, Sketching, Portrait, Abstract, Manga style, etc.
 ● Small group with Max 10 pp
 ● In Nickel

ART IS EVERY WHERE!!
LET'S ENJOY CREATIVITY WITH US.
YOUR ART SKILLS ARE IMPROVED
AND YOU CAN BE AN ARTIST!!

Scan QR & Visit facebook

Mimi Arttoon Drawing

f Mimi Arttoon Drawing
 mimiarttoon@yahoo.com
 https://mimiarttoon.wixsite.com/mimiarttoon/art-class
 mimi_arttoon



Your affordable solution for a professional Karratha CBD address.

We have various packages for start-up businesses:

- Low-cost business registration
- Affordable virtual office services
 - Mail handling
- Business/Start-up Consultancy
 - Local Market Research
- Accounting services from partner accountants

Contact us to find out more:
office@northwestinternational.com.au



ADVERTISE WITH US

BI-MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT RATE: ¼ PAGE \$90; ½ PAGE \$160; FULL PAGE \$300
DISCOUNTED RATE FOR TRANSLATED ADVERTISEMENT CONTENT AVAILABLE!

admin@nmawa.org.au

OTHER EVENTS

HINDU ASSOCIATION OF PILBARA 2023 GANESHA CHATHURTHI

Our team were kindly invited by Hindu Association of Pilbara (HAP) to attend their Ganesha Chathurthi event at the Leisureplex on 16th September.

Ganesha, the Lord of Community, is a symbol of knowledge and wisdom. Ganesha festivals are celebrated around the world for the wellbeing of all.

Firstly, was the very popular Ganesha making workshop, which was a sold-out event.

We watched from the sidelines as the talented instructors guided the participants in how to step by step make their own Ganesha to take home. The instructors made it seem very easy, and they were patient and communicated well to all the attendees.

In India, Ganesha statues can be purchased readily, but here in the Pilbara , families make them so that they can be blessed and taken to each child's home to decorate and honour.

Once all the Ganesha statues were completed they were placed on a beautifully decorated altar.

Each statue was a marvel. Even the smallest child produced a fantastic effort.

The HAP leaders then conducted a beautiful service and then served a buffet of delicious food to complete the night.

Our thanks to Mr and Mrs Sudharkaran and all the members of HAP for their wonderful hospitality.



GORGEOUS GANISHA STATUES



Annual General Meeting & NMAWA 2nd Birthday Celebration

NEW COMMITTEE ELECTION/ BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION/
ACKNOWLEDGE OUR VOLUNTEERS



Northwest Multicultural
Association WA Inc.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & ASSOCIATION 2nd BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Join us to elect our new board members and celebrate
our achievements in 2022/2023

Afternoon tea will be served.

Date: 26 NOV 2023
Time: 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Venue: Library Read Room, Red Earth
Arts Precinct

RSVP:
secretary@nmawa.org.au

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

To Unsubscribe, please email: admin@nmawa.org.au