



Welcome to the First Issue of FILSPARC Newsletter!

We are excited to launch this newsletter as part of our commitment to **transparency** and **better communication**, ensuring that every member stays informed and connected.

Clear communication is the foundation of sustainable success, and this newsletter will serve as a central hub for sharing updates, celebrating achievements, and reinforcing our shared purpose.

Thank you for your **invaluable support and dedication**. Together, we will continue to grow, thrive, and achieve our goals as one united community.

In the forthcoming issues, you can expect:

- Celebrating Success – Spotlighting the incredible contributions and achievements of our members.
- Key Updates on Events – Stay informed about upcoming activities and important dates.
- Positive Stories & Announcements – Inspiring stories and relevant news to keep our community engaged.
- Opportunities to Get Involved – Learn how you can participate and make an impact.

Enjoy this month's newsletter!

The Executive Team

Message from the President

I am honoured to serve as interim President of FILSPARC until the next AGM in August 2026, responding to the organisation's call for stability and continuity. Having previously served as an adviser, I accepted this role in the spirit of service and commitment to our shared vision.

Our first meeting, following my oath-taking, affirmed the strength of our collective purpose with six key community projects approved and committee chairpersons appointed. These initiatives reflect FILSPARC's dedication and

enriching Australia's diverse society.

My focus moving forward is to strengthen unity, uphold good governance, and develop future leaders through mentorship, and leadership training.

Together, let us continue to serve our community with integrity, compassion, a shared vision for our young generation.

Daisy Ann Gonzalez-Cumming
Interim President

Do you have something to share and celebrate?

Members are encouraged to contribute, share positive stories and highlight projects that exemplifies the club's values.

Send us an email at filsparc@yahoo.com and we are happy to publish!



Need a ride?
You can book and hire our FILSPARC van.



Community News

FILSPARC is more than just a club; we are a Family!

For our inaugural issue, it is befitting to re-introduce FILSPARC and what we stand for.

“A community of like-minded people providing support and service to the community. The organisation aims to motivate, inspire and encourage members of the community to actively participate in sports, arts and various recreational and social activities.”

Our key objectives are:

- To promote the Filipino culture and values through sports, arts and social activities
- To encourage Filipino-Australian communities to enhance and develop their skills and talents.

- To continuously engage in every community program in a culturally diverse society.

All of these objectives support our long-term vision; to have a centre, we can call our own, to play sports, dine and hold events.

FILSPARC is still young and has more to offer. We encourage all members to actively participate and support this vision. And, that we continue to work towards creating a welcoming environment for all members to thrive, connect and enjoy.

Lastly, we give gratitude to all who have supported FILSPARC in its six-year journey!



Charity Spotlight

Arvin Dayao, our member, a 41-year-old student visa holder and father of three, was diagnosed with Stage 2 esophageal cancer in November 2025. While working full-time as a painter, Arvin now faces significant financial hardship due to six months of required treatment and ongoing support for his family in the Philippines.

The Executive Team is hosting a fundraising lunch on **8th Feb, Sunday at Kowboy Grill, Blacktown**. If you are not available and wish to donate, kindly deposit via FILSPARC account: BSB: 082 133 | Account No: 337 254 831 with Description: 'Arvin donation'.

Your support will make a meaningful difference.



Sports Events

Join us for our upcoming **Pickle Ball** Open Play. It's fun, easy and anyone can play. This is open to everyone so bring your family and friends. Chance to learn the sport and keep an active body. Here are the details:

- **Date: 19 Jan 2025**
- Time: 4.30- 6:30pm
- Location: Kevin Betts Stadium, 1 Ralph Place, Mount Druitt
- Cost: \$15 per person to join
- All are welcome to participate and volunteer.
- For more details, contact Reggie 0406 101 025 or any members of the Executive Team.

FILSPARC in 2026: Upcoming Key Events

Save the date & watch out for more details!



22 Feb: Picnic Day

Members, families and friends join us for some sun, fun and some juicy BBQ. **Chance to mingle with our fellow FILSPARC family.** The event to start with guided tour of Camden's newly renovated walkway and water park fun for the kids.

There will be games and a picnic set-up competition. Bring a plate to share.

See you at Curry Reserve,
Elderslie Camden Valley Way



8 Mar: International Women's Day (IWD)

A global moment recognising the achievements, resilience, and contributions of women everywhere. This day also calls on all of us to continue championing equality, inclusion, and meaningful change in our communities.

Let's celebrate, reflect, and inspire—together.

We look forward to seeing you over sumptuous lunch!



17 May: Mother's Day Celebration

Mama, Mom, Nanay.....a day of gratitude, love, and celebration for our mothers who continue to be the light at home and an inspiration to the community.

Who will be the 2026 Inspirational Mother of the Year Awardee?

Email filsparc@yahoo.com for your nominations.

Other Upcoming Fun Events!



28 Mar - This day is the best day to be a Senior - a celebration to recognise the contributions of our Senior Citizens. There will be lots of sharing, learning and fun in store for everyone. Watch out for the next content creator!



7 June - Freedom Day Games, FILSPARC's tradition of celebrating Philippine Independence Day. Gather your troops as we rally for some exercise, friendly competition and bragging rights! See you at 8am @ Kevin Betts, Mt Druitt!



August - Buwan ng Wika, Kapamilya! Para sa ating nag-aalab na pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Wika, sama-sama po tayong ipagpatuloy ang ating tapat na pagtangkilik ng ating Sariling Wika.

Let's continue our Filipino pride and culture for the next generation.

We need YOU

- Our club thrives on the support and participation of our members and families. We encourage volunteers to help run these events and for everyone to be part of the celebration.
- These events are organised to promote not just the club but ensure that our Filipino traditions and values are passed on to generations in our community.
- Sponsors and donors are more than welcome and appreciated to further drive our short and long-term goals.
- **SUCCESS** of these events dwell on the efforts of everyone.

Thank you for reading!

A PERSONAL REQUEST FOR HELP AND HOPE



My fight against stage 2 esophageal cancer....

My name is Arvin Del Rosario Dayao. I am 41 years old, a husband and a father to three kind and loving sons whom I had to leave behind in the Philippines so I could chase a better future here in Australia. I came in 2023 on a student visa, carrying hope, faith, and the dream of giving my family a better life.

I just want to share my story. From the moment I arrived here, I worked tirelessly as painter and cook to support my needs as a student and to continue providing for my family back in the Philippines.

But in November 2025, my life changed when I was diagnosed with stage 2 esophageal cancer. From that moment on, I was no longer able to work because of the series of medical tests and procedures I had to undergo at Westmead Hospital.

This December, I officially began my journey toward healing. My doctor scheduled me for four sessions of chemotherapy, followed by surgery. After the operation, I will need to undergo another four sessions of chemotherapy. My doctors expect that my treatment and recovery will take approximately six to seven months. This journey has been physically, financially, emotionally, and mentally challenging, but I continue to hold on to hope, faith, and the strength I draw from my family.

In the beginning, everything was extremely difficult—facing a chronic illness alone, far away from my family, in a foreign country. But through God's mercy and the overwhelming support of the Filipino community here, who stood by me wholeheartedly, I found the courage and strength to keep fighting.

Your help in covering my medical expenses and temporary loss of income means so much to me. Your support gives me hope, strength, and courage to keep fighting, and I will always be deeply grateful.

I am deeply grateful to the Filipino community for putting in so much effort to make all of this possible. Thank you for the financial and moral support you have given me. Because of you, I no longer feel alone in this fight.

