



Marlborough Migrant Centre
one community many faces

* Promoting and Facilitating Unity in Diversity *

Volume 1, Issue 2 November 2007

Spring/Summer Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- Launch of 'Useful tips for Migrants' -booklet and Marlborough Newcomers Network
- Join the new Marlborough Newcomers Network!
- Check out the scheduled events and activities!

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Coordinator's Report, *Andreja Phillips*

It is with great pleasure I write to you in our second newsletter. In some ways this is also a 'first', as this issue is dedicated to our newly launched Marlborough Newcomers Network.

This Network will provide opportunities for all newcomers to Marlborough to get together, make friends and share experiences. We hope that this framework will positively contribute to settling in and feeling at home here. Read more about this on page 2 and on page 3 you will find an overview of activities and ideas. We would love to hear from you if you are interested to join the Network and also how you would like to become involved!

We are also very pleased to launch the 'New to Marlborough—Useful tips for migrants' - booklet, with 20 informative pages on how to find your way around Marlborough. It covers many important issues (such as finding work and housing, a tax number, open a bank account, how you can help look after our natural resources, how to access health services, etc.) and has lots of contact details. We hope it will be a useful tool and help people feel more welcome here.

Work at the Migrant Centre is always busy and interesting and in the months since our opening I have had the privilege to help over 200 migrants from more than 30 different countries.



Brigid Ryan, Settling In Project Manager (left) and Andreja Phillips, Migrant Centre Coordinator

With our dedicated committee of volunteers and a supportive community, agencies and community organisations we have moved forward on our quest to promote and facilitate unity and diversity in Marlborough. A lot of work still needs to be done and I look forward to continue working with you and for you!

Your Andreja

Chairperson's Report, *Margaret Western*

Thankyou for taking the time to read this newsletter, the Marlborough Migrant Centre's 2nd edition. The first since our general meeting held in July and I take this opportunity to thank you for showing the confidence in me by electing and giving me the opportunity to continue to serve as your Chair.

The phrase a 'year of change' has cer-

tainly been a reality regarding the migrant population in Marlborough. The desire for a better lifestyle combined with a demand for labour has brought us a new community made up of a whole new range of ethnicities.

It is exciting and challenging times for many Marlburians. Particularly so for those involved with the Marlborough Migrant Centre.



**Margaret Western,
Chairperson of the
Marlborough Migrant
Centre**

"I believe the Marlborough community is enriched by the contributions and cultures of new arrivals. I hope that your lives are equally enriched by what you learn as you become part of our community"

Chairperson's Report, *Continued*

Exciting - as we obtain a formal legal entity status and develop a structure best suited to the Centre's activities and role in the community; and

Challenging - as we strive to meet the ever increasing requests for our services and opportunities available for continued growth. Marlborough is clearly a changing community and as an organisation serving that community we also need to be able to change and respond.

The governing committee has worked hard to accomplish the goals and objectives achieved in the ten months the Centre has been operative. The launch of the Marlborough Newcomers' Network and "Marlborough Useful Tips for Migrants" being two significant achievements to date.

We cannot do it without assistance and I acknowledge the support from our funding sources and member Societies for their co-operation, and help in making the Centre a strong and reputable organisation in Blenheim. The achievements, recognition and results to date are a clear indication of the need for a service such as ours.

Christmas is fast approaching. For

most 'kiwis' family is precious. For me and my family along with many other kiwi families Christmas is a happy time for special get-togethers with family and friends, and I extend best wishes to everyone.

To our new migrants thank you for being part of my extended family. I believe the Marlborough community is enriched by the contributions and cultures of new arrivals. I hope that your lives are equally enriched by what you learn as you become part of our community.

I look forward to facing the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for our Centre and to tell you we have some exciting initiatives planned for 2008.

To achieve these we need support and I encourage you to become involved with the Centre. To be effective in assisting the resettlement of our newcomers we need a mix of new migrants and long-time Marlburians working together.

I encourage you to join our team and build collective strengths.

Margaret Western
Chairperson

Marlborough Newcomers Network, *Brigid Ryan/Settling In Project Manager*

Congratulations to Marlborough Migrant Centre! On Saturday, 10 November, they are launching Marlborough Newcomers Network, a tried and true way to meet people with similar interests who are also new to Marlborough. A similar project in Nelson now has 200 families as members and activities ranging from coffee morning, playgroups, wine trails, movie nights, walking groups and more....

Statistics show that 85% of population growth in Marlborough from 2001 - 2006 was from migration and 50% of the population growth was from people not born in New Zealand. Talking to many newcomers to Marlborough from overseas and other parts of New Zealand, one of the biggest challenges they have found is meeting people and getting to feel they are part of their new community.

Meeting new people is not the only challenge for newcomers, especially those coming from other

countries. As well as the challenges of a new culture and different language there are lots of little things like being unable to identify any of the products on the supermarket shelf. Having all these interesting people come to Marlborough provides a great opportunity for locals to find out more about other cultures and to share what they know.

Look on the website: www.marlboroughnewcomers.co.nz to find out how you can be part of this or contact Andreja Phillips, Coordinator at Marlborough Migrant Centre, email: Marlborough@newcomers.co.nz.

Settling In, a project of Family and Community Services (MSD) and Canterbury Community Trust are proud to support this new initiative.

Brigid Ryan
Settling In Project Manager

Marlborough Newcomers Network – Activities

- **1 December, Saturday, 1.30pm—3pm:** Inaugural picnic at Onamalutu Reserve, Onamalutu Rd., off Northbank Rd. (turn left off SHWY 6 after Wairau River bridge) — bring your lunch and enjoy some company and the opportunity for a short walk in this beautiful old native forest.
- **Womens and/or Young parents group** (incl. toddlers and children): This group would meet once a month (date, time & venue to be advised—start in 2008)
- **Monthly Potluck Dinners** (date, time & venue to be advised—start in 2008)
- **Nutrition Group** (date, time & venue to be advised—start in 2008)



Please let us know if you would like to join any of these— see our contact details.

If you have any other ideas for activities and get-togethers please let us know—we can put together as many regular activity groups as you would like! (Such as a craft group, book or movie group, coffee mornings, etc.)

Other Activities in and around Marlborough:

You may want to check out the **Marlborough4Fun Event Guide** — for general regular activities and events in Marlborough: www.marlborough4fun.co.nz.

The **Marlborough Multicultural Group** has 105 member from many different countries and meets for functions (dinner or potluck lunch) every 2-3 months. Please contact: marlboroughmulticultural@yahoo.com for more information.

REAP Marlborough offers many different courses (e.g. food preparation, learning foreign languages, crafts& arts, etc.) for a small charge. Contact REAP House, 19 George St., Ph: 578 7848, Email: reap1@xtra.co.nz

The **Mountain Safety Marlborough** and Marlborough Forest and Bird Society have a great programme of activities for youth aged 12-19 years. Go to: www.mountainsafety.org.nz to find out more about this and their other activities.

Join the
Marlborough
Newcomers
Network! Meet
people, share
your interests
and have fun!
And its free
to join!

Call us on Ph:
(03) 579 2460

Aargau Carrot Cake — *Recipe from Canton Aargau/Switzerland*

3 large eggs
3/4 cup sugar
Juice & zest of 1 lemon
1 cup grated carrots
1 cup grated almonds
1/4 cup flour
1 tsp baking powder
Pinch of salt
Pinch of ground cloves
(optional)

Prepare the cake tin—rub with a few drops of sunflower oil and dust with a little flour.

Separate eggs, beat egg yolks into sugar, then add lemon juice & zest, grated carrots, almonds, flour, baking powder, salt and ground cloves. Stir well. Then beat the egg whites stiff, add and gently stir. Fill into cake tin and bake for approx. 45 min. on 180C

For the icing:

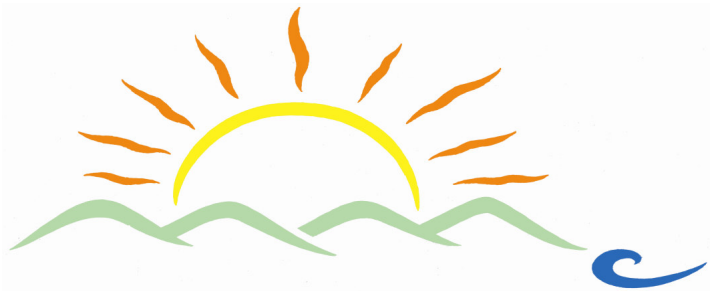
3/4 cup icing sugar mixed with 1Tbsp of lemon juice

Once the cake is baked and cooling prepare the icing and spread evenly on the cake.

The Swiss traditionally decorate it with some marzipan carrots too. The main thing is that you enjoy eating this butter-free delight!

En Guete!

Spring/Summer Newsletter



* One Community - Many Faces *

Our Contact Details:

Shop 12, 7 Market Street North
Blenheim 7201

Phone: (03) 579 2460

E-mail: mmc@marlboroughonline.co.nz

We're on the web:
www.marlboroughonline.co.nz/mmc

Our mission is to promote and facilitate unity in diversity.

Our key services are:

- * Supporting newcomers to Marlborough
- * Helping with migrant matters
- * Education/awareness raising
- * Social functions and events
- * Promoting Marlborough as a multicultural province
- * Celebrating cultural diversity and promoting positive race relations

We are always looking for people who would like to become members of our committee. We also would like to hear from people who are interested in becoming 'Friends of the Migrant Centre' and who would like to be translators. And we would also like to hear from businesses and organizations that would like to support us financially in our work.

Please let us know if you do!!! Thank you very much!!!

Upcoming Events

1 December 2007, 1.3pm: Inaugural Newcomers Network picnic at Onamalutu Reserve

20 December 2007—21 January 2008: Closed for summer holiday

We wish everyone a happy holiday, a merry Christmas and a very good start to the New Year 2008!!!

29 March 2008, Saturday, 11am-4pm at Pollard Park: Multicultural Festival

Please come along to celebrate the cultural diversity of Marlborough and Race Unity Day!

A fun filled day with celebration of song, dance and food delights. We are looking for groups/people who would like to perform and who would like to have food stalls at this festival.

Please call Andreja on Ph: (03) 579 2460. I look forward to hearing from you!!!

A great big thank you to everyone who supports our work:

