

This past year has been an exciting one for Multicultural Nelson Tasman, with the highlight undoubtedly being our move into 544 Waimea Road to establish a dedicated *Multicultural Centre* for all our communities.

Even though we've only been in the space for about 12 weeks, it already feels like home. It's been a joy to see it come alive with activities such as children's Hindi language classes, community meetings, dance practices, stakeholder workshops, and cultural and faith celebrations.

A special shoutout goes to the team from *Shri Durga Vedic Sanatan Ramayan Bhagwat Mandal* for their stunning transformation of our hall for their 'Durga Chowki' celebration—the garlands, fairy lights and decorations were simply spectacular, and we wish we could keep them up all year!



As we prepare to take a short break over Christmas before diving into the summer festivals and multicultural sports events, we want to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supports Multicultural Nelson Tasman. To our Board, volunteers, funders, donors, stakeholder partners, friends, and the multicultural communities who trust us to represent, advocate for, build capacity of, and create space for - a big ngā mihi nui - Thank You. We couldn't do it without you!

## STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS WORKSHOP

Our first Introduction to Starting Your Own Business workshop in November was a huge success, with a fantastic turnout! This topic had been highly requested by newcomers eager to learn the essentials—where to begin, choosing the right business structure, managing bookkeeping and IRD requirements, understanding food safety regulations for food businesses, and more.

We were fortunate to have insights from experts, including a panel of migrant business owners who shared their journeys into entrepreneurship, offering a candid look at both the highs and lows of business ownership. Their experiences made the session informative and inspiring.



## 51 THREADS AT MOTUEKA

We are honoured to co-host a special talk at Motueka Library on December 14.

51 Threads commemorates the events of 15 March through calligraphy and embroidery, a project initiated by Noraini Milne, a survivor of the 2019 mosque attacks who tragically lost her 14-year-old son, Sayyad. Through her "Sow A Lyttel Seed" foundation, Noraini continues to create opportunities for well-being in Lyttelton, including outdoor and sports programmes for ethnic women.

*The 51 Threads talk will run from 10.30am on 14 Dec, we hope the exhibition itself will come to Nelson in 2025.*



## SHARED COMMUNITIES UPDATE



The first stage of the Shared Communities Initiative concluded with a celebratory event at the Refinery, showcasing key achievements and insights.

Highlights included 64 community-led projects involving 309 practitioners and 13,382 attendees, workshops on cross-cultural awareness and event

planning, and a Pop-Up Multicultural Market with 70 participants and 1,500 attendees. Additionally, \$75,534 in external funding was secured for 18 projects.



Project leaders from the Samoan, Zomi, and Karenni communities spoke about the impact of the Shared Communities Initiative,

sharing their experiences and highlighting how it has strengthened their communities and their cultural identity.



They acknowledged the support of Cultural Navigator, Karolina Serrano, who was able to be employed under the first stage of the project and who will continue in the role thanks to funding from Rātā Foundation and NZ Lotteries.

An independent review into the first stage of the project (which was funded by Manutū Taonga - Ministry of Culture and Heritage) was recently completed by Padma Naidu and can be downloaded [here](#).



Hard copies of the report can be obtained from the Multicultural Nelson Tasman office.



Join our **multicultural shared (potluck) lunch** on Saturday 30th November - from 12.30-2.30pm. Bring something to share (if you are able to), meet new people, try some different foods!



The **4th Annual Multicultural Football Tournament** is taking place on Saturday March 22nd 2025 at Neale Park in Nelson.

The Multicultural Football Tournament is open to **EVERYONE** regardless of age, gender, religion, ethnicity or ability.

The tournament will be 6-a-side with both competitive and social level competitions.

Please complete the form [here](#) or contact Bill on [bill.huppler@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:bill.huppler@ncc.govt.nz)

Nelson Cricket would like to invite everyone to the **NCA Multicultural Cricket Festival**, January 1st, Wednesday, 12pm - 5pm, Greenmeadows, Stoke.

Bring the whole family down to meet with some Blackcaps & Sri Lankan players, for an autograph and photo opportunity.

Make a day of it and bring a tent or gazebo, spot prizes for best setup as well as best supporters.



Register a side [here](#).





# FESTIVAL REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN FOR 2025

Registrations for both the Tasman Asian Night

Food Fair (TANFF) and the Multicultural Festival 2025

are now open. The Tasman Asian Night Food Fair will take place on **Saturday February 22 from 4-9pm** and the

Multicultural Festival is on **Sunday March 23 from 11am - 4pm.**



Vendors and / or Performers for TANFF

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Vendors (stallholders) for Multicultural Festival

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Performers for Multicultural Festival

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## MULTICULTURAL MOTUEKA

The spirit and light of **Diwali** came to Motueka this year as MNT partnered with Motueka Library and Anjali Puri of NAATA Trust to host an insightful talk on this special Hindu celebration.

Looking ahead, a small community event could be on the horizon for Diwali 2025—stay tuned!

Our Saturday morning conversational **English classes** continue to thrive, fostering a sense of community with friendships and connections growing each week. A heartfelt thank you to our incredible volunteers who generously share their time, language skills, and so much more.



December is shaping up to be a busy end to the year for Multicultural Motueka:

- **Migration Stories** wraps up for the year on Friday, 8 December, at 1:30pm at the Library.
- Our **Potluck Dinner** will take place on Friday 13 December, at Memorial Hall from 6pm.
- On Saturday 14 December, don't miss the talk about **51 Threads** at Motueka Library. This inspiring project, led by Noraini Milne—a survivor of the 2019 mosque attacks who tragically lost her 14-year-old son, Sayyad—remembers the events of 15 March through calligraphy and embroidery. Meet Noraini and learn more about the project from 10:30 am at the Library.

A big thank you to Janine Gillions at Te Noninga Kumu – Motueka Library for a wonderful partnership throughout the year.



# MULTICULTURAL YOUTH NELSON TASMAN

MYNTies joined the Masked Parade 2024 organised by Nelson Arts Festival earlier this month. They showcased 30 different cultures in Nelson through their masks and costumes. Special thanks to Community Art Works Nelson for their amazing collaboration.



MYNTies are now working on their amazing project for the “Festival of Christmas Trees” at Nelson Cathedral. You can find the MYNT tree themed “Christmas from around the world” on display from 28 November.



**Bhutanese Community Dashain**



## RECENT EVENTS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES



**Nelson Nepalese Community Dashain**



**Khuado Pawi - Zomi Community**



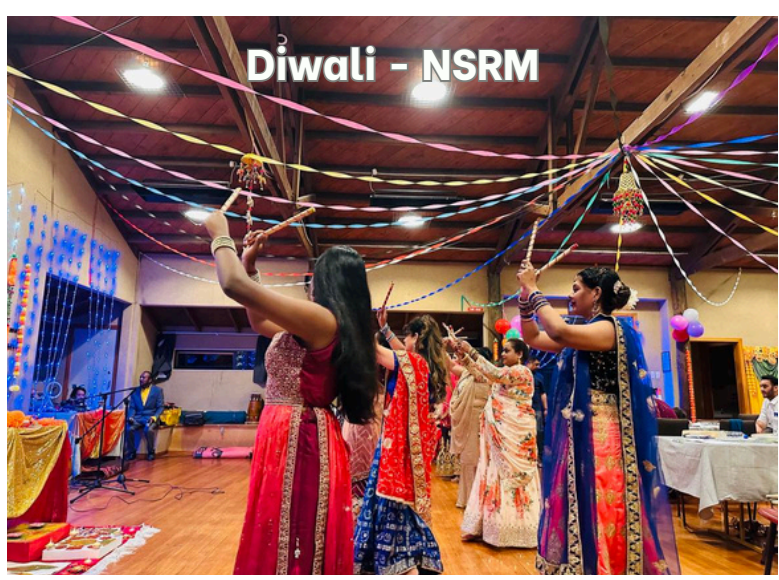
**Navratri - Gujarati Community**



## Fiji Day celebration



## Diwali - NSRM



## Christmas Closedown

Please note that the Multicultural Centre will be closed from Mon 23 Dec to Monday 13 Jan 2025.

## CROSS CULTURAL AWARENESS WORKSHOP - LAST ONE FOR 2024!

Our last cross cultural awareness workshop will now take place on Monday December 2nd (after being rescheduled from Tues 26th due to staff illness).

This is a free and fully-funded workshop and places are still available.

To register please email: [admin@multiculturalnt.co.nz](mailto:admin@multiculturalnt.co.nz) or call (03) 539 0030

## ROOMS FOR HIRE

At our new Multicultural Centre at 544 Waimea road, we have an upstairs function/meeting room (capacity 100) with attached kitchen, and a downstairs Board Room available for hire. We have a sliding scale of hire rates for voluntary groups, non-profit organisations and commercial/govt organisations. Currently we do not do private party/social hires.

Please email: [admin@multiculturalnt.co.nz](mailto:admin@multiculturalnt.co.nz) for more info or just call in Mon-Thu.

Support Multicultural Nelson Tasman in building a more inclusive community. We help migrants and refugees settle, promote understanding of New Zealand's bi-culturalism, and celebrate diversity. Your support—whether through membership, collaboration, or a donation—helps us continue this important work. Together, we can make a lasting impact!

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A big thank you to our funders and sponsors...

