



# March 2006 Newsletter

## SOUTHLAND MULTI-NATIONS COUNCIL INC

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## From the President

Kia ora te whanau, Greetings to the Multi-Nations family.

As I write, the weather is very stormy, and may be a sign of winter to come, sooner than we hoped. Let us all be positive about Southland's climate, and remember there are more important things in life than weather, such as friendship, neighbourliness and a cheerful spirit.

These last three were certainly well in evidence at our February gathering, where amongst other impromptu items, we enjoyed a rousing chorus of 'Waltzing Matilda', and a promise of more to come later, from our Australian friend who had actually come along to talk to us about the Census. Statistics New Zealand's meeting drew a crowd of about 25 – thank you to those who came along – and I hope was useful on the night of 7 March, when we all filled out our forms. At our pot-luck meeting, we were also honoured with the presence of no less than three visiting mothers from abroad. Edmond's and Michele's mothers both visited from South Africa, and Shelley's mother was here from the Philippines. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to meet them all, I hope they will come again. Please let us know whenever you have family or friends visiting, so we can acknowledge them and help to make them welcome.

International Women's Day was celebrated (by some of us) on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March. We would like to promote this more next year.

Thank you to the Fire Service, which has donated a number of videos on fire safety. These are in the office and available to you to take home, watch and pass on to friends. As winter approaches and we begin to think about the various methods of heating our homes, the importance of fire safety cannot be over-emphasized.

In the meantime, we are looking forward to Race Relations Day, which we will celebrate on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March. Please note that this

will be a day-time function, and will replace our usual evening pot-luck-meal for the month of March. We hope that those who are not able to come in the evenings, will be able to come along and enjoy a time of meeting friends and experiencing the cultures of other countries. Please make an effort to wear traditional costume if you can. Details of this function are notified elsewhere in this newsletter.

I hope to see you all there!

*Brian*

## Coming events

**15 March** – Communication Class, our office, 46 Kelvin Street, 5.15pm (please note change of time and date)

**18 March** – Race Relations Day, Hansen Hall, SIT complex at 11.00am. Pot-luck lunch followed by cultural concert. Gold coin donation entry for non-members.

**20 March** – Invercargill Film Society, 2046 (Chinese film), Movieland 5, Dee Street at 8.15pm (see notice elsewhere in this newsletter)

**31 March** – Immigration Service Clinic, Venture Southland Office, 143 Spey Street (all day).

**3 April** – Invercargill Film Society, Shadows of time (Bengali film), Movieland 5 at 8.15pm

**10 April** – Invercargill Film Society, The edukators (German film), Movieland 5 at 8.15pm

**22 April** – Pot luck meal, Holy Trinity Church Hall, King Street at 6.30pm

**26 April** – AGM – details to be advised

### Immigration Clinic

Venture Southland have notified us that the Immigration Service based in Dunedin have confirmed their intention to open a regular clinic in Invercargill. This is the culmination of a long campaign and we are delighted with the outcome, which will be of huge benefit to our members, who have previously had to travel to Dunedin to enquire about immigration matters. Many thanks to Bala for personally facilitating this outcome. The clinic will be held at the Venture Southland office, 143 Spey Street, Invercargill, beginning on Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> March. Three Immigration Service staff will be present for the whole day to assist Southlanders with their immigration matters. **Venture Southland welcomes bookings for appointments starting at 10am by calling Alistair Adam at 211 1416.** It is suggested you call early to ensure an appointment, as a high response is expected. Please support this venture, as it is a vital service for so many of us.

### Free!!!

Available to a good home, electric oil-based heater, 11 fin. Contact the office on 032149296.

### The Dutch Connection

Birgitta's radio show runs on Radio Southland every Thursday at 5.10pm and is repeated on Sundays at 6.00pm. Tune in to Radio Southland 96.4FM to hear the latest in Dutch music, up-to-date news from Holland, and interviews with Dutch locals.

### Invercargill Film Society

On Monday evenings during term times, the Invercargill Film Society invites casual viewers. Tickets are available to non-members from 8.10pm., \$10.00 each, no children. Movieland 5, Dee Street, Invercargill.

### Saying

It is when we forget ourselves that we do things that are most likely to be remembered.

### Communication Class

This is for those who are having some difficulties with their oral English. It is a low-key session, un-tutored, with no homework, tests or expectations, just conversation and information, and it is free! All ages are welcome. We are trialling a new time and day (used to be Sunday afternoons). Come along on Wednesdays at 5.15pm, starting on 15<sup>th</sup> March. It will finish about 6.30pm. The venue is our office, 46 Kelvin Street, Invercargill (above the ANZ Bank).

### Southern Institute of Technology Te Whare Wananga o Murihiku

**Need to improve your  
ENGLISH?**

**Busy during the day?**

**SIT is looking to offer a part-time  
Academic English Language  
Programme  
Run by a professionally-trained ESOL  
teacher**

**Tuesday & Thursday 5.30-7.30pm  
Main SIT Campus**

**Zero fees available to New Zealanders  
and  
Permanent Residents**

**Please register your interest with  
Tania on 2182599 extn 826**

### MY HOME TOWN

**I wish to introduce you to my home town of ORANGE, New South Wales Australia. Orange was named in 1846,**

after the prince of Orange who later became King of Holland. ORANGE is situated 257 km west of Sydney, and is just 14 km north east of Mount Canoblas – an extinct volcano – and the highest peak, 1,395 m, between the Blue Mountains and the Indian Ocean. ORANGE has a population of about 42,000.

Known as Australia's Colour City, Orange has always been known for its beauty. Orange presents the splendour of the four seasons. Beauty is held within the gentle colours of the flower's petals. As colour holds a central place in the city of Orange, so do its parks and gardens. Public places for leisure now show the beauty of special parks like Robinson Park, and Cook Park which is the most acclaimed. It has a Begonia house, a sunken rose garden, and huge ancient trees. The Orange Botanic gardens feature a historic church, a Billabong and Native Trees. Orange City Council provides approximately 30 playgrounds for children's active play.

Being 900 metres above sea level, the City experiences distinct seasonal changes. A walk or drive around the city reveals a kaleidoscope of colours. Orange is very famous for growing cherries. In summer all the cherry trees throughout the city are abundant with their blossoms of pink and white. These set the backdrop for the Annual Cherry Blossom Festival.

The beauty of each season has its special quality. The brilliant whiteness of the snow or frost, the magnificent colours of the spring blossoms, the warmth and golden heaviness of a summer's day, and finally the radiance of the leaf colour change that heralds autumn. Autumn is when Orange really comes alive as amber hues and yellows dominate the undulating countryside.

Climate in Orange is considered mild; while it will get cold in winter (say 7°), in summer the temperature is generally a pleasant 30°, usually cooling down overnight. The district is a diverse one where the four seasons combine with a healthy local economy featuring agricultural production,

industry, manufacturing, recreation, education and all ranges of services.

For a town that grows no oranges, Orange grows just about everything else. Orange is now the centre for a fertile, productive district that raises sheep, cattle and pigs, and grows wheat, potatoes and peas plus other crops. Apple and cherry growing, forestry and dairying also play a part in the region's economy.

Orange has a growing cottage industry in unusual culinary produce, such as venison and pickled walnuts. Orange has grown into a food and wine centre, while a great range of excellent restaurants provide Japanese, Italian and modern Australian food with a focus on locally produced food and wine.

The Civic Theatre is a premier venue which offers exciting productions at the premier performing arts venue for local and touring performing arts. The Regional Gallery and Regional Music Centre provide educational and quality exhibitions and recitals. Orange Regional Library is a magnificent modern building offering a myriad of books, talking books, videos, CDs, DVDs, photographs, magazines, video games and numerous computers offering Internet facilities and Research Your Family History.

The main shopping area is in Summer Street, Orange. With a district shopping population of about 100,000, Orange's central business district combines the history of earlier shopping areas with the modern architecture of provincial office blocks and shopping centres, malls and plazas. Shops generously accommodate the most discerning shopper! Something for everyone!

Duntryleague Guest house, is a magnificent three storey 19<sup>th</sup> Century Heritage Mansion that is set in the grounds of an 18 hole championship Golf Course. Duntryleague was the former home of one of the founding fathers, James Dalton.

**Golf players are frequently amazed at the quality of the three 18 hole courses and the ease of getting to play. For the adventurous, ballooning in nearby Canowindra is a very pleasurable pastime. The community also provides grounds for football (all types), baseball, basketball, bowls, cricket, hockey, horse racing, karting, motor cross, netball, softball, swimming, tennis, tenpin bowling, volleyball and so on.**

**Mount Canoblas is an absolute must when visiting Orange. Often snowcapped in winter, it has bush walking trails, lookouts and picnic spots. Visitors can glimpse blacktail wallabies, wombats and many varieties of birds. At the base of the mountain is Lake Canoblas, with a picnic spot and swimming hole. Water sports, including canoeing, fishing, kayaking, sailing, and triathlons are very popular at this enjoyable spot.**

**These are just a few reasons that I ask you, if you ever get the opportunity to visit Australia, that you must make Orange the highlight of your visit. This City is a "must see" on anybody's itinerary! You certainly won't be disappointed, and you will come away with fond memories of a beautiful, warm colourful Country town. Then you will be able to understand why "ORANGE WILL ALWAYS BE HOME TO ME!"**

**(Contributed by SANDRA FITZPATRICK)**

#### Trick questions

First Question: You are participating in a race. You overtake the second person. What position are you in?

Answer:

If you answered that you are first, then you are absolutely wrong! If you overtake the second person and you take their place, then you are second!

Second Question: If you overtake the last person, then what position are you in?

Answer:

If you answered that you are second to last, then you are wrong again. How can you overtake the LAST Person?

Third Question: Very tricky arithmetic! Note: This must be done in your head only. Do NOT use paper and pencil or a calculator.

Take 1000 and add 40 to it. Now add another 1000. Now add 30. Add another 1000. Now add 20. Now add another 1000. Now add 10. What is the total?

Answer:

Did you get 5000? The correct answer is actually 4100. Check it with a calculator!

Fourth Question: Mary's father has five daughters: 1. Nana, 2. Nene, 3. Nini, 4. Nono. What is the name of the fifth daughter?

Answer:

Did you answer Nunu? NO! Of course it isn't. Her name is Mary. Read it again!

Bonus question:

A mute person goes into a shop and wants to buy a toothbrush. By imitating the action of brushing his teeth, he successfully expresses himself to the shopkeeper and the purchase is made. Next, a blind man comes into the shop who wants to buy a pair of sunglasses; how does HE indicate what he wants?

Answer:

He just has to open his mouth and ask.

#### ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

SMNC Ethnic Programme on Radio Southland 96.4 FM

Every Tuesday, 6.00 – 7.00pm and Saturday 5.30 – 6.00pm

The aim of the programme is to:

Spread information about SMNC to the wider public.

Promote the diversity and richness of the different ethnic groups in Southland, through music, commentary, interviews, recipes and information.

Tips for adjusting to the life here and news of what's happening in our community.

Examine issues relating to immigration, alienation, understanding of various cultures.

Provide enjoyment and connection with your heritage.

The programme content offers a varied range available for the listening pleasure of men, women, youth, children and ethnic minorities in the community.

Any queries, questions, or if you have something to say or maybe some good news or recipe you want to share, please call Jasmine, 2157827.

Please listen and support this programme by giving some feedback.

Radio Southland 96.4FM Every Tuesday 6.00-7.00pm, Saturday 5.30-6.00pm.



## ESOL Home Tutor Service Southland (Inc.)

The Courtyard Learning Centre,  
22 d Kelvin Street, Invercargill.

**Do you want help in learning  
English?**

**Do you want to improve your  
reading, writing and  
conversational skills in English?  
Free home tuitions and  
conversation classes for non-  
English speakers. Conditions  
apply.**

**Call Nalini on 214 5224 or e-  
mail [southland@esolht.org.nz](mailto:southland@esolht.org.nz)**

Subject: The English Language

If you ever feel stupid, then just read on. If you've learned to speak fluent English, you must be a genius! This little treatise on the lovely language we share is only for the brave. Peruse at your leisure, English lovers.

Reasons why the English language is so hard to learn:

1) The bandage was wound around the wound.

2) The farm was used to produce produce.

3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.

4) We must polish the Polish furniture.

5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.

6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.

7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.

8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum

9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.

10) I did not object to the object.

11) The insurance was invalid for the invalid.

12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.

13) They were too close to the door to close it.

14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.

15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.

16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.

17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail

18) After a number of injections my jaw got number.

19) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.

20) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests

### Recipe – Lebanese Hummus (Chick pea dip)

#### *Ingredients:*

1 can chickpeas (semi-drained)

juice of 1 small lemon

2 cloves crushed garlic

1 tbsp tahini (sesame seed paste)

A little olive oil (optional)

Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

#### *Method:*

Blend together and serve in a bowl. Pita breads may be cut into small pieces for dipping.

### Children's article

Knock, knock. Who's there? Alec. Alec who? Electricity.

Knock, knock. Who's there? Lena. Lena who? Lean upon a bench.

Puzzle: You have nine cakes and four large paper bags. How can you put an odd number of cakes into each bag without cutting the cakes? (Answer next newsletter.)

Q. How do you spell boring with three letters?

A. TDS (tedious).

Answer to last month's puzzle: Heroine.

### Office volunteers

We are looking for someone to help fill our roster. Can you give us a half-day of your time, or perhaps a couple of hours? To be eligible, you must be a financial member of our group, and be able to supply us with two referees. Please contact Brian on 032167728 or the office, 032149296 if you are able to help. The job is not onerous, all you have to do is answer the phone, take messages, and collect the mail.

### Situations vacant

Knight of New Zealand Ltd. has full and part-time positions available for sewing machinists. Experience preferred, but training will be given to those who have an interest in sewing and/or handcraft. For more information, contact Marguerite, phone 032187277.

If you are looking for work, you could also try Pak'n'Save, which has signs up announcing vacancies at the moment.

### Nga kupu Maori – Some Maori words

Koutou – all of you

Manaakitanga – hospitality

Powhiri – welcome ceremony

### Joke

During a county-wide drive to round up all unlicensed dogs, a patrolman signaled a car to pull over to the curb. When the driver asked why he had been stopped, the officer pointed to the large dog sitting on the passenger seat and asked, "Does your dog have a licence?" "No," said the man, "He doesn't need one. I do all the driving."

### ASSE Student Exchange

Can you host a student, arriving June 2006? Mexican, Thai, Danish and French students are looking for good homes.

Please contact local ASSE co-ordinator

Ellen Witt 027 4444686

for further information.

### Thursday lunch

Yes, this is up and running again this year. Apologies to those who have come along and found no-one there before 1.00pm. We are doing our best to see this does not happen again! Bring your lunch along and enjoy the company of others. We will supply hot and cold drinks.

### Kiwiana

Died in the wool – set in your ways, inflexible  
Underground mutton - rabbit

A bit of a dag – amusing

Cow cocky – dairy farmer

### March birthdays

Alex Mihalca

Risshans MacPherson

### Wanted

Kitchen/dining table and chairs. Contact the office, 032149296