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Inside this issue:

Letters	1
Communication Products	2
Commendations of TMSG	3
Activities for 2011	4

In recent months, TMSG has received some communications which, to some degree, reflect the ingeniously resourceful criteria from which the organisation endeavours to operate. We want to share these letters with our readers.

Editors

17th March 2011

I very much appreciated having Nazifeh to come and speak with our students and I very much enjoyed meeting her and speaking with her prior to the workshops. It was quite a big day for all 3 guests as they had to speak with 8 groups of students. Nazifeh's story is quite amazing - I helped her to tell what she wanted to say I hope - and I think she probably quite enjoyed speaking with the students about Afghanistan and Iran and her children - all at university now which is largely due to her courage. We didn't dwell on sad issues but touched on the fact that she has a sister still in Afghanistan and another sister in Iran. We also talked about her garden! I had a debrief session with the 3 guests at the end of the day - I think they all enjoyed the experience and the student's interest and questions as well as having a chat amongst themselves. Nazifeh's daughter, Someyah, came into Rehab Sciences after the workshops to pick her mother up so it was nice to meet her after speaking with her over the phone.

Meg - thanks again for assisting with the subject and introducing Nazifeh to me and thereby to the students

Very best wishes

Anne Bent

*Lecturer, Discipline of Physiotherapy
School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Science
James Cook University
Townsville*

19th March 2011

Hii Meg,

Thanks Meg, and staff, for a really great day...Annie and I enjoyed being with you today. It was nice to be a part of your celebrations and so entertaining to see the folk enjoying themselves so much in an environment they obviously feel so comfortable in.

I hope to make the ladies feel as comfortable when they come to my home for some pampering in two weeks time. I have offered them a couple of hours on the Saturday to be pampered with some lovely Nutrimetic products at my home, and I hope they will come. There will be no pressure to buy...just to try. Naturally, if they want to they can have whatever they want at the special's price.

My intention is to get to know them a little better as individuals and to make friends of them. As well as to learn a bit more of their culture for my own sake. I know some from Vincent market days.

Anyway thanks again and pass my thanks to all those involved in running the day.

Cheers,

Anne Brook-Wagner

Communication Products

As you may be aware, there are a number of illegal operations in the migration industry. These operations can have a profound impact on the lives of vulnerable people wishing to migrate to Australia. The department is continuing to educate consumers about the dangers of using these operations and have developed a number of communication products to support this message.

New! "Are you giving migration advice?" video
Our new You Tube video explains what you can and cannot do as an unregistered person giving migration advice and the penalties for operating illegally. Clients are encouraged to report illegal operations via the dob-in line or website.

"Don't get caught Out" video
Our previous You Tube video "Don't get caught Out" has now had over 13,000 hits and is available with subtitles in 4 languages:

- ◆ Traditional Chinese
- ◆ Simplified Chinese
- ◆ Korean
- ◆ Hindi

Opinion piece

This article was published by over 60 ethnic newspapers this year. It is now available online in 12 languages - Arabic, Bengali, Chinese - traditional, Dari, Farsi, Hindi, Indonesian, Korean, Punjabi, Sinhalese, Tamil, and Vietnamese

A4 flyer

Following requests from a number of community organisations, the flyer is now available online in 14 languages - Arabic, Burmese, Chinese - Simplified, Chinese - Traditional, Dari, Dinka, Hindi, Indonesian, Karen, Korean, Somali, Spanish, Thai, and Vietnamese.

New! Migration Fraud Web Pages

Consumers are frequently 'conned' via email and internet migration scams, particularly by overseas operators. The Department recently launched a 'Protect Yourself from Migration Fraud' information kit to educate consumers about the ways in which fraudulent operators may try to take advantage of them. This kit and translated versions are available on-line.

New! Recent court outcomes

The Department has been pleased with the recent successful court outcomes regarding unregistered agents:

- ◆ The first successful proceeds of crime action for migration fraud sends a strong warning that illegal operators in the migration industry will not be tolerated by the Department.
- ◆ The court handed down a two-year custodial sentence to an unregistered migration agent who was paid money to lodge visa applications that were never lodged.

We would be happy for you to include any of this information in your Newsletter, website, bulletin boards or public notices.

It is not easy to reach the vulnerable people in our community who could fall prey to illegal operators. Your assistance in distributing these products to members of your community would be much appreciated.

For further enquiries please contact Julie Streatfield on (02) 6264 4846 or via email at: julie.streatfield@immi.gov.au.

Sean McQueenie
A/g Director
Migration Agents Section
Migration & Visa Policy Division

Dear TMSG,

We enclose membership fee and a donation. What a wonderful Organisation and we love reading your newsletter to hear of the many positive happenings.

Congratulations

Denis & Rita Martin



A few weeks ago I was invited to go to a meeting with Townsville Intercultural Centre to be part of a reference group that oversaw a project working with ESL students at Townsville High School. The aim of the project is to provide refugee youth with skills in effective communication, conflict resolution, team skills, coping skills, appreciation of cultural activities in order to assist them to settle into the school and wider community. So who helps out? Police Liaison Officers, Linda Davis and other staff from Town High, Farvardin Daliri and other TIC staff are regulars and I have attended a few times now. Generally it's a fun time but there is a serious side to all the singing, play acting and group work. Music, and dance and singing are universal languages for young people learning English as a second language: they are able to transcend the barriers in a heartbeat with this sort of approach. And as muddled as the process can be, slowly order is emerging from chaos.

Jenny Stirling

1st April 2011

Dear All,

Thanks so much to all of you for your contribution to refugee health last year! I am sending out the bulk of the feedback that we received in relation to your topic as feedback in a following email. Apologies for the delay (better late than never?!) I have sadly over estimated my skill at multi tasking yet again....

Anyway in general summary the course was extremely positively received last year! The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and stated that they were struggling to make suggestions for where the course could be improved which is fantastic feedback. Every year the students vary a bit so it was nice to have such a positive group last year - thanks to everyone for all of the hard work that went into last year's course.

Obviously we would like to repeat this; as such I would really love to have the same group lecture again this year if possible!

The course this year will run from the 29th August until the 9th September.

We would anticipate keeping the same timetable essentially as last year depending on peoples' availability, of course!

We would also like to keep the case study from last year so if you were involved in it please give some thought to any suggestions/improvements etc we could make to it so as to allow it to run a bit more smoothly each year.

Thanks again for all of the hard work and, hopefully, looking forward to seeing everyone again this year!

Cheers, Tania Marguardt



Achel Aynel was the personal assistant to Ready Steady Cook's Chief Dominique Rezo at the Diversity Care Harmony Day celebration. The day's activities at the Willows Shopping Centre were an opportunity to distribute information on the many services provided for the elderly in Townsville.

Achel acquired her Food Handler's Certificate through the support of TMSG. Achel enjoyed her experience and both her and Dominique said of the other, "She's a lovely lady."

Activities for 2011

Sewing and Craft Classes	10.00 am - 12.00 noon	1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5th Friday
English language Classes	11.00 am - 12.00 noon	1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5th Friday
Multicultural Women's Group	10.00 am - 12.00 noon See insert	4th Friday of every month

Everyone is welcomed to all activities

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TMSG Inc

63 Ross River Road, Mundingburra, Townsville

Or

PO Box 1801, AITKENVALE QLD 4814

TO:

TMSG's Management Committee 2010 - 11

President Sheila Hawthorn
Vice president Elodie Oxenham
Secretary
Treasurer Marivel Dayday
Members: Amanda Smith Dianne Innes
 Linda Davis Mick McCabe

Women's Group Coordinator: Helga Wiederhecker

Newsletter Editor:

Sheila Hawthorn and Meg Davis

Please Note:

TMSG yearly membership fee of \$2.00 is now due!! Please see form enclosed.

SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

The contents, information, advice and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of TMSG and not the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC)

Multicultural Women's Group



Invites you to our 2011 meetings that occur every Fourth Friday of the month from 10:00 am to 12:00 midday.

- ♦ *May 27th: Tour at Tropical Museum of Queensland
at 70 - 102 Flinders Street East, Townsville
From 10:30 to 11:30
Guest Speaker: Vivienne Moran*
- ♦ *Jun 24th: Discover, learn and make a difference Volunteering in
your Community
at TMSG, 63 Ross River Road, Mundingburra
From 10:00 am - 12.00 midday
Guest Speaker: Anita Berry*
- ♦ *July 22nd: Discover Aboriginal Culture at Tropical Museum of
Queensland, 70 - 102 Flinders Street East, Townsville.
From 10:30 to 11:00 am—Management of Aboriginal Culture Heritage
Guest Speaker: Trish Barnard.
From 11:00 to 12:00 midday tour at Cultural Centre,
At 2-68 Flinders Street, Townsville.*

Upcoming topics include recycling, women's health - breast cancer and much more. If you have other ideas please share with us. This is an opportunity to learn more and be able to build better homes, neighbourhoods and a strong community for our families.

*Kids are welcome!
TMSG Tel : (07) 4775 1588
[Email: tmsg@beyond.net.au](mailto:tmsg@beyond.net.au)*

*PLEASE, share this information!
Help us to reach more ears with less paper*



Townsville Multicultural Support Group, Inc.

ABN 47 712 308 058 Telephone: (07) 4775 1588 Fax: (07) 4725 5833 Email: tmsg@beyond.net.au

Welcome! Please complete below:

Name:

Postal Address:

Residential Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

Fax:

Country of Birth:

Language Spoken (other than English):

Interests and hobbies:

Nominated by:

1. Membership fee is AUS\$2.00 a year. Members will receive the TMSG quarterly newsletter.
2. Information provided in this form is confidential, and it will not be released to any third party without the member's authorisation.

Signature:

TMSG Use Only

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

→ Checklist:

- Receipt to member & copy in book
- Fee to Finance Officer
- Details entered in database/label