

Champion of Multiculturalism Once Again

Once again, one of our NEMA members received a Meritorious Service to the Community award from His Excellency Professor David de Kretser AC at Government House last November.

The proud recipient is none other than Maria Bevacqua. Maria received the award for her outstanding voluntary contribution to the Italian community in North East Victoria.

NEMA strongly encourages its members to nominate others who have contributed to the ethnic communities in North East Victoria.

Nominations are normally open from September each year. Please look out for details in the website of the Victorian Multicultural Commission www.multicultural.vic.gov.au



Maria Bevacqua with her husband Frank who received the same award in 2009

NEMA Has Its Own Office!



Have you heard that NEMA has its own office now? It is located on the first level of the building behind the National Australia Bank on Reid Street, Wangaratta.

Our new phone and fax number is (03) 5721 2090. Email address is nema@nema.org.au

Office space is available for hire and rent. Please contact the friendly staff at the office for more details.

New Appointments

Eloise Martin - Multicultural Development Officer

Eloise Martin has been appointed the new part-time Multicultural Development Officer for NEMA commencing on 25 March 2010.

Having worked with the 'Migration and Refugee Review Tribunals', 'The Oaktree Foundation' and on the 'Make Poverty History' campaign, Eloise has experience in planning Community Development projects that support the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community.

"I look forward to working with NEMA's membership and volunteers, as well as our community and governmental stakeholders, to develop events and projects that support the CALD community in North East Victoria and in ensuring NEMA remains the voice of multiculturalism in the region," said Eloise.



Gail Robertson (left) with Eloise Martin

Gail Robertson - Aged Migrants Connections Project Officer

Gail Robertson commenced part-time work with NEMA as the Aged Migrants Connections Project Officer on 9 March 2010.

Gail comes to us having had 7 years of experience working with 'The Australian Red Cross' and 'The Cancer Council Victoria' coordinating volunteers in a fundraising capacity.

"As the Project Officer, I am looking forward to working closely with the Cultural Peer Facilitators in the expansion of this exciting program across the Dutch, German and Italian aged migrant communities in the municipalities of Wangaratta and Alpine," Gail said.

NEMA Multicultural Buffet and Show 28 November 2009



NEMA celebrated another successful year with its Multicultural Buffet and Show at the new Performing Arts Centre in Wangaratta.



Aged Migrants Connections Project



A Pink Ribbon Breakfast was organised by the Cultural Peer Facilitators on 27 October 2009.

Held in Wangaratta, members from Alpine and Mansfield Shires also supported the event.

The guest speaker was Jodie Finlayson who specialised in breast cancer. Jodie spoke of the many cancer treatments available and provided lots of useful information.

The lovely breakfast was followed by a visit to the new Oncology Unit at Northeast Health Wangaratta.

A Diabetes Workshop was held in Myrtleford on 19 November 2009.

A large attendance of 50 people listened to Faisal Sabih from Alpine Health speak of the nature of diabetes and its conditions.

The presentation and slideshow were also translated in Italian to cater to the many aged Italian participants.

The workshop was a huge success and the community has requested for more workshops to be held in the near future.



Calendar of Events

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Event	Date	Day	Time	Venue	Cost	More Info
NEMA General Meeting	10 May 2010	Monday	7.00pm - 9.30pm	Benalla Rural City	Nil	
La Fiera (The Fair)	14 - 23 May 2010	Friday - following Sunday	Refer to website	Myrtleford		www.festival.org.au
Weekend Fit for a King	12 - 14 June 2010	Saturday - Monday	Whole Day	King valley Wineries		
Winery Walkabout	12 - 14 June 2010	Saturday - Monday	Whole Day	Rutherglen and Surrounds		
NEMA General Meeting	14 June 2010	Monday	7.00pm - 9.30pm	NEMA Office, Wangaratta	Nil	
NEMA General Meeting	12 July 2010	Monday	7.00pm - 9.30pm	Alpine Shire	Nil	
NEMA General Meeting	9 August 2010	Monday	7.00pm - 9.30pm	Indigo Shire	Nil	
NEMA General Meeting	13 September 2010	Monday	7.00pm - 9.30pm	NEMA Office, Wangaratta	Nil	
Wangaratta Relay for Life	2 - 3 October 2010	Saturday - Sunday	3.00pm - Noon	W J Findlay Reserve, Wangaratta	\$15	victoria.relayforlife.org.au
NEMA Annual General Meeting	11 October 2010	Monday	7.00pm - 9.30pm	NEMA Office, Wangaratta	Nil	
NEMA General Meeting	8 November 2010	Monday	7.00pm - 9.30pm	Benalla Rural City	Nil	
NEMA Multicultural Buffet & Show	27 November 2010	Saturday	7.00pm - 12 midnight	Benalla Bowls Club	TBA	

Editor's Corner

As always, I am pleased to be sharing with you NEMA's achievements, projects and activities that we have been actively involved in. Have a read of the newsletter and enjoy the beautiful autumn weather.

On a personal note, my good news are that I got married in March this year and that I am expecting a baby due in July. (On the right is a photo of me with my husband, Rob and his beautiful daughter, Isabelle.)

Yen Sanderson





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Stamp