

NEMA NEWS

No. 5 2026

WOMEN DELIVER 2026 CONFERENCE—GLOBAL VOICES, LOCAL IMPACT

NEMA was proud to be represented at the Women Deliver 2026 Conference, one of the world's leading global gatherings focused on gender equality, women's leadership, health, safety, and human rights. The conference brought together more than 6000 delegates from over 189 countries, including government leaders, community organisations, advocates, researchers, and changemakers working collectively toward a more inclusive and equitable future.



Attendees heard from influential global leaders including Julia Gillard, Justin Trudeau, Jacinda Ardern, and many other respected voices championing gender equality, women's empowerment, and social justice. Discussions focused on addressing barriers faced by women and migrant communities, improving safety and inclusion, strengthening leadership opportunities, and creating policies that support long-term social change.

A key outcome of the conference was the importance of a collaboration between 777 cultures, communities, and sectors to build stronger and safer societies.



Attending the conference provided NEMA's Faryal Khan with valuable opportunities to build international and national connections, exchange ideas, and bring back knowledge that can be used to positively support local communities in Wangaratta and surrounding regions. The conference also strengthened conversations around social cohesion, belonging and the importance of creating spaces where people from all backgrounds can inspire and motivating, the experience also reaffirmed the

value of community- future generations. erships in creating meaningful change for both current and

National Volunteer Week

18-24 MAY 2026

YOUR YEAR TO VOLUNTEER

Happy National Volunteer Week to all the amazing volunteers across our community!

At NEMA, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our 20 active volunteers who generously give their time, skills, energy, and kindness to support our programs, events, and community activities throughout the year.

From helping at multicultural events, English conversation classes, community outreach, driving support, office assistance, cultural programs, and so much more, your contribution makes a real difference in the lives of many people in our region.

Thank you for your passion, dedication, and commitment to building a stronger, more inclusive, and connected community. We truly value every one of you.



MULTICULTURAL FOOD AND ARTS FESTIVAL

What an incredible day at our Multicultural Food and Arts Festival! The sense of community, connection, and celebration was truly heartwarming. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all our amazing stallholders, talented performers, and wonderful community members who made this event so vibrant and meaningful. It was also an honour to have the Mayor and Councillors from the Rural City of Wangaratta join us and show their support. At NEMA, we strongly believe in the power of social connection and building social cohesion, and this festival was a beautiful reflection of that vision in action. From the colourful Dragon show to the fun 360 video booth, face painting, jumping castle, and unique experiences like “write your name in Korean” and Henna art, there was something for everyone to enjoy. The live performances brought energy and culture to the stage, while the kids’ fashion show and pony rides added extra joy for families. Congratulations to all our raffle prize winners, we hope you enjoy your prizes! A heartfelt thank you to the Rural City of Wangaratta for funding and supporting this wonderful event, and special appreciation for the Grit and Resilience Safe Space Marquee, which provided a welcoming and supportive environment for all. Events like this remind us of the strength, diversity, and unity within our community. We look forward to many more opportunities to come together, celebrate, and grow stronger - together.



WoMAN—Women & Money in Australia

NEMA is pleased to invite women from multicultural communities to attend our upcoming Women and Money Workshops in Wangaratta and Benalla. The workshops will provide practical information and support around budgeting, saving money, and financial wellbeing in a safe and welcoming environment.

Wangaratta workshop: Wednesday 24 June. 10:30am to 1:30pm at the NEMA Office.

Benalla workshop: Wednesday 29 July. 10:30am to 1:30pm at the Waminda Community House.

Phone: 057 213813 or Mob. 0477 995 306

Bookings are now open. Limited seats are available and booking is essential. Light refreshments will be provided.

A poster for the 'WoMAN - Women & Money in Australia' workshop. It features an illustration of three women of different ethnicities hugging. The text on the poster includes the title, a subtitle 'Supporting multicultural & multifait women to grow financial confidence, independence & safety', a list of topics covered, the date and time of the workshop, the location, cost, and target audience. It also includes a motivational quote at the bottom.

WoMAN - Women & Money in Australia
Supporting multicultural & multifait women to grow financial confidence, independence & safety

Topics covered:

- 'Who Does the Dishes?'
- Making healthy money decisions in families & relationships
- Protecting Yourself from Scams
- Learn tools to build financial confidence & wellbeing

When: 24th June, 10:30am - 1:30pm
Where: Suite 4, 90-100 Ovens Street, Wangaratta
Cost: FREE
Who: Women from multicultural, multifait communities

Come along, build your financial confidence, and take the next step in your financial wellbeing journey.



Brotherhood of St Laurence
Working for an Australia free of poverty



Let's make
change
that lasts

2026 CULTURAL DINNERS

6.00pm—8.00pm (The 3rd Wednesday of the month) VENUE YET TO BE DETERMINED

Please Contact: Pangerang Community House on 0357 213813 or NEMA on 0477 995 306

COST: \$15 PER PERSON BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL AS PLACES ARE LIMITED

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CULTURE</u>
17th June	(To be confirmed)
15th July	Peru
19th August	Germany
16th September	Philippines
21st October	Japanese (To be confirmed)
18th November	Aussie BBQ

Wangaratta Citizenship Ceremony

Tonight, Wangaratta proudly welcomed 12 new Australian citizens from Belgium, Colombia, Nepal, New Zealand, Peru, the Philippines, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and Zimbabwe.

Representing NEMA, Faryal Khan attended the citizenship ceremony as this year's Australia Day Ambassador. Helen Haines and Tim McCurdy also joined the occasion, and a heartfelt welcome to our newest citizens, we are so pleased you have chosen Wangaratta as your home.

Celebrations like these highlight the strength of our multicultural community and remind us of the value of inclusion, diversity, and belonging.



Cathedral College Wangaratta Student's visit to NEMA



It was a pleasure welcoming VCE Vocational Major students from Cathedral College Wangaratta to the NEMA office today.

A heartfelt thank you to the students and staff for visiting and engaging in meaningful discussions around multiculturalism, diversity, and inclusion.

Special thanks to our guest speakers, Antoinette and Chi Chi Wang, for sharing their inspiring and insightful presentations and personal experiences with our students.

We truly enjoyed hosting you all and look forward to future connections!



NOTICE

Mid-Week Break has been cancelled for the month of June

The last day our Benalla Office will be open is Wednesday, 17th June.

As the “Connecting Cultures” project comes to an end, we are proud to reflect on the many meaningful connections, friendships and opportunities created throughout the journey. One of the highlights of the project was successfully resuming the free English Conversation Classes in collaboration with Waminda Community House, supporting CALD community members to improve their language skills, confidence and social connections.

The project also brought people together through multicultural morning teas, community gatherings, and opportunities to cook and share a plate from different cultures, celebrating the diversity that makes our community stronger.

NEMA would like to sincerely thank Waminda Community House for their ongoing support, collaboration, and partnership throughout the project. We also extend our gratitude to the local community, volunteers, service providers, and partner organisations who contributed along the way.



Happy Birthday to:

Wanida, Jo, Erin, Bibi, Sunny, Antoinette, Antonietta, Su, Geoff, Martin, Kimhy, Phatcharn, Graeme, Pariwat, Rija, Sebastiano, Linda, Yinghua, Jean, Yu Chen, Elise, Krishnaraj, Preeti, Michael, Mani, Ann, Kristina, Heidi, Anusha, Karina, Asmita, Francisco, Cecilia, Ricky, Prakash, Polly, Silverio, Maryrose, Keshari, Carlo, Joel, Winnie, Mark, Rizwan, Kathryn, Manjinder, Li, Alec, Rosario and Lizbeth.

Welcome to our new member: Rija

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS USEFUL RESOURCES



SCAN QR CODE TO ACCESS NEMA
WEBSITE FOR USEFUL LINKS AND
RESOURCES



NEMA'S WEBSITE

SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT NEMA'S
YOUTUBE CHANNEL AND WATCH OUR
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS VIDEOS,
AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH, DARI,
PUNJABI, AND BURMESE.



NEMA'S YOUTUBE
CHANNEL

SCAN THE QR CODE TO FOLLOW
NEMA'S FACEBOOK PAGE AND STAY
UPDATED AND CONNECTED WITH OUR
COMMUNITY.



PLEASE NOTE THAT WE OFFER TRANSLATED RESOURCES
FROM VARIOUS SERVICES AND DEPARTMENTS IN
MULTIPLE LANGUAGES.

NEMA'S FACEBOOK

ANY QUESTIONS: CONTACT US ON
NEMA@NEMA.ORG.AU OR 0477 995 306

Happy National Day/ Independence Day/ Republic Day to our friends and members from Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Italy, Philippines, Portugal, Russia and Sicily

JUNE EVENTS

Midweek Break has been cancelled for this month

Thursday 4th June : Savoy Ladies Social Group: 12.00 Noon. Mothers' Day Lunch at Club Savoy, Myrtleford. For further details contact Gabriella on 5752 2181

Wednesday 17th June: this is the last day our **Benalla Office** will be open.

Wednesday 17th June: Bright Social Group: Travelling to Beechworth . Further details TBA

Wednesday 17th June: Cultural Dinner 6:00pm. Venue and dinner TBA. Check with Pangerang.

Wednesday 24th June: Women and Money Workshops 10:30am - 1:30pm at our office. See page 3 for further details.

WEEKLY EVENTS

All weekly events for NEMA are free unless stated otherwise.

Tuesday: 5.30pm—7.00pm Benalla English Lessons Waminda Community House, 19 Ballantine Street, Benalla.

Wednesday: 9.30am—10.30am Multicultural Morning Tea and Cooking.
Waminda Community House, 19 Ballantine Street, Benalla. *Please bring a dish to share.*

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL : Contact Faryal on 0477 995 306

Wednesday: 6.00pm —7.00pm Wangaratta English Lessons at our offices.

Alpine Shire Region: If anyone is interested in English lessons please contact the Office.
Contact details below. *(Future lessons would be held in Bright)*

I.T. Lessons by appointment only.

North East Multicultural Association
Suite 3, 90-100 Ovens St, Wangaratta 3677
Ph: 03 5721 5490 Mob: 0477 995 306

Office open Monday - Wednesday from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Availability outside these hours by appointment only.

Calls to 0477 995 306 will be answered Mon - Thu 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Any messages outside these hours will be returned next business day.

If you need help with education, advocacy or just feel like a 'cuppa' and a chat, call in and see one of our friendly volunteers.

