

NEMA NEWS

No. 4 - 2026

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

At its most recent citizenship ceremony, held in March, Wangaratta Council proudly welcomed our newest Australian citizens into the community. Various hailing from New Zealand, Britain, the United Kingdom, Nepal, the Philippines, India and Indonesia, eleven adults and 6 children pledged their allegiance to Australia.

To mark the occasion, adults were presented with a native plant to signify their settling into the community and the promise of future growth, while each child received a colourful picture book reflecting traditional storytelling about Country and creation.

At right: Wangaratta Mayor —Irene Grant (2nd from right) shares in the joy of our youngest newest Australian Citizens proudly displaying their gifts commemorating their new status.



2026 CULTURAL DINNERS

Pangerang Community House - 38 Ovens St. Wangaratta 3677 Ph. 0357 21 3813

6.00 pm—8.00 pm

20th May / 15th July / 16th September / 18th November

(The 3rd Wednesday of the month)

NB: Details of the specific cultural food to be prepared on the night will be provided ahead of each month.

Have you downloaded the Emergency Plus App?

from our volunteer Benalla English tutor - Penny

In a recent English Conversation class held at Waminda Community House we discussed how we give directions when we are either new to an area or do not have access to a map. It was funny, frustrating, difficult and confusing but it also proved an invaluable exercise. We practised descriptions 'turn left after you see the school', and learnt new phrases such as 'round about'. And during the process one student was able to assist another student in a faster way to reach their house.

We also discussed the importance of being specific with directions in the instance of an emergency - using a hypothetical example of a snake bite that one might experience if they encountered a snake whilst walking through the grass by a river. Following this discussion we learnt about and downloaded the Emergency Plus App <<https://www.emergencyplus.com.au/>> This app allows you to communicate exactly where you are using the location of your phone. This is important whether English is your second language or not because in an emergency if we are scared, hurt or confused, we may struggle to communicate vital details. The app's precision both relieves us of such worry and minimizes the loss of time in accessing critical services. The app is supported by the Australian Government and emergency services.

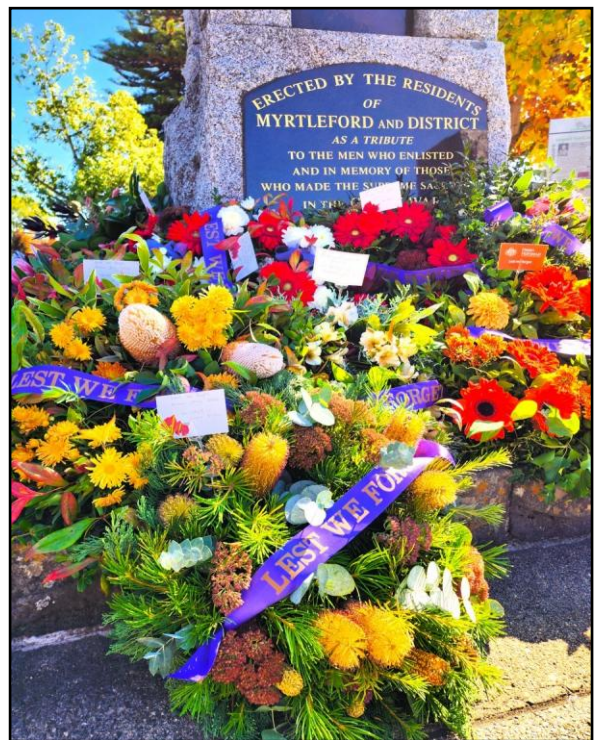
Below: Benalla English class students enjoying a break with Waminda Community House Manager — Leeane. From left: Youssef, Lis, Leeane, Chandra and Tob.



ANZAC DAY

Lest we forget. To honour those who lost their lives in service to their country, several of our members kindly laid floral tributes at the memorials on NEMA's behalf.

Our sincere thanks to Kathryn Chivers —Beechworth War Memorial (pictured below); Hanny Bongers —Wangaratta Cenotaph; Jenenne Stiles —Myrtleford Cenotaph; Eni May —Benalla Cenotaph and Karina Rajbhandary —Australian War Memorial, Mansfield.



Multicultural Food & Art Festival

Saturday 2nd May 2026

10:30am to 1:30pm

**Batchelors Green Park, Wangaratta
(Important Notes below)**



- Chinese Dragon Show
- 360 Video Booth
- Lucky Draw Raffle
- Live Performances
- Henna Art
- Write your name in Korean
- In the Groove - Drumming

- Jumping castle
- Face Painting
- Local Mini Market
- Kids Fashion Show
- Stalls
- Food Trucks



CELEBRATING DIVERSE CULTURES THROUGH FOOD, ART & COMMUNITY

Experience vibrant cultural flavours from our food trucks and stalls.



CLOTHING

Showcase your country by wearing your traditional dress



IMPORTANT NOTES:

♥ In case of rain, the event will be held at the Victory Community Hall, Ryan Ave, Wangaratta! Updates will be posted on NEMA Facebook page

♥ For Further info: Contact us at nema@nema.org.au or 0477 995 306



Rural City of
Wangaratta



Attention: Young models required!

NEMA is looking for young girls and boys (under 15 years of age) to participate in the **Cultural Fashion Show at the Multicultural Food and Art Festival**. You will be required to wear your own traditional cultural dress. For further information please contact Faryal on 0477 995 306.

MULTICULTURAL *Morning Tea & Cooking*

EVERY WEDNESDAY

9:30AM - 10:30AM

Please bring a dish to share



AT WAMINDA COMMUNITY HOUSE
19 BALLINTINE STREET BENALLA

NEMA: faryal@nema.org.au - 0477 995 306

or contact WAMINDA 0491 630 213



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 Birthday to: Gayle, Ian, Kavyamol,
Ramandeep, Shantosh, Yamonphon, Irene, Sophie,
Umang, Jill, Peter, Thanusha, Jaye, Aakash, Jill,
Prue, Yudi, Constanza, Feiyun, Chamodya, Loretta,
Kavithamol, Nimesh, Jisha, Saasha, Anu, Molina,
Jody, Jaswinder, Jackie, Geraldine, Prisca, Monica,
Kayla, Lynette, Dipa, Julie, Toy, Tam, Anto



**Happy National/Constitution Day to our friends and members from
Nepal, Norway and Poland**



Welcome to our new members: Lucia, Kopila and Samikshya

MAY EVENTS

Saturday 2nd May: Multicultural Food and Arts Festival: 10.30am - 1.30 pm. Bachelors Green, Wangaratta.

Thursday 7th May: Savoy Ladies Social Group: 12.00 Noon. Mothers' Day Lunch at Club Savoy, Myrtleford.

Wednesday 20th May: Midweek Break: 10.30am to 12.00pm. 90 -100 Ovens St, Wangaratta. Everyone welcome. *Please bring a plate of food to share.*

Wednesday 20th May: Cultural Dinner: 6.00pm—8.00pm Pangerang Community House, 38 Ovens Street, Wangaratta.

Wednesday 27th May: Bright Social Group: 12.30pm. Lunch at Wangaratta RSL. Please contact Rita 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)*

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.

