

# A BRIGHTER FUTURE



The Tauranga/Western Bay of Plenty Newsletter connecting Newcomers and their families to local Information and Service Providers for Settlement needs

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 "Connecting Newcomers Locally"

## Tena koutou katoa - (Greetings to everyone)

As winter cold snaps in after a very warm autumn and early June we hope you are not suffering with colds or flu's in your workplaces or homes.

On Thursday 30 June we held our Local Stakeholders Network (LSN) meeting. This is a feedback and update meeting held twice per year for employers and service providers to express their own concerns encountered throughout the year. LSN members of our community can also highlight what is offered to newcomers around our region. It's also a time when we can look at new or revised services which have surfaced since last we met.



This occasion marked the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the establishment of the Settlement Support (SSNZ) initiative in the Tauranga/Western Bay of Plenty region. In September 2006 when our first LSN meeting was held, our client enquiries numbered up to 12 per month. Five years on our average client enquiries are around 60 per month.

## SSNZ Co-ordinator's Update

- Between 37 and 75 client enquiries each month are currently received. It is often a variable figure for skilled newcomers arriving for our summer months.

## Newsletter June 2011 Volume 5, Issue 11

- From 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2011 – a total of 55 workshop/seminar/forums have been arranged by SSNZ locally – some of these have been a collaborative effort with other services
- Relationships established with Tangata Whenua during the past 2 ½ years & two Tangata Tiriti workshops and one marae visit have been enjoyed in the past 15 months
- Data base exceeds 1548 including newcomers, service providers and employers

### Focus Areas for the current climate & group discussions:

- Retention is an important focus for our country's economy
- Is it possible for any of our services to assist employers to give ...
- A welcome that works for newcomer employees and their families**
- Welcoming and orientation activities for employee's family as one spouse goes to work**
- Do our skilled migrants remain in NZ?**



Group discussions took place which will require a further meeting to prioritise some items to focus upon positive conclusions within the next quarter. As some attendees stated, it was a small gathering, but well worthwhile for moving forward toward improved service of settlement in the region.

We look forward to seeing an increased input at the next Local Stakeholder Network meeting around the end of September. Thanks to those of you who could be there this time and for your combined contributions. Keep cosy for the winter ...

*Carol Andersen*

Settlement Support Co-ordinator



# What's On...



<http://www.migrantsupport.org.nz/news.html>

**Of interest to New Settlers/Migrants to our region and the Local Settlement Network (LSN) (Stakeholders) which includes Employers of migrants –**

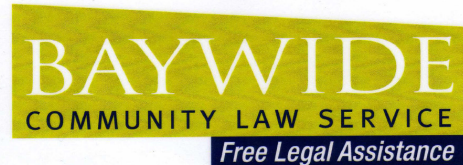
**Wednesday August 3 – 5.15pm – 7pm Business After Five function.** *A brief presentation to employers. How can SSNZ & partners offer assistance for families of migrant employees, followed by a mix 'n mingle - Arranged by the Tauranga Chamber of Commerce & hosted by Settlement Support NZ Tauranga/Western Bay of Plenty at the Tauranga Club Inc 72 Devonport Rd, Tauranga CBD - Register with Julianne Ph:07 577 6141 or Email: [julianne@tauranga.org.nz](mailto:julianne@tauranga.org.nz)*

**Thursday September 1 – 1pm – 5pm Understanding The NZ Workplace Culture –** to be held at Daniel's in the Park, 11<sup>th</sup> Ave, Tauranga & facilitated by Career Services...Rapuara. *A presentation and discussion for newcomers to learn about the Kiwi workplace culture. What is different about the workplace culture? How do newcomers fit in?*

**Thursday September 22 – 3.30pm – 6pm LSN [Local Stakeholder Network] Meeting –** at the Tauranga Club, Level 5, 72 Devonport Rd, Tauranga *A follow-up meeting to the June LSN meeting discussions for all stakeholders.*

For further information about any of the activities listed here or for registrations, please contact...

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## EVENING DROP IN CLINIC

**Wednesday evenings**

■ between 5 - 6.30pm ■

*No appointment necessary*

Baywide Community Law Service  
63 Willow Street | Tauranga | Tel. 07 571 6812  
[www.baywidecls.org.nz](http://www.baywidecls.org.nz)

**FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

### Formalising a Tauranga Interpreting Service...

The Tauranga Regional Multicultural Council [TRMC] is currently sponsoring the formation of a local language interpreting service for Tauranga. Such a service would provide for a central point of contact for those needing access to an interpreter and to co-ordinate the training for interpreters. The service is aimed at helping the community, in particular hospitals, police, court, etc. but can also be used by commercial operators or the general public.

**There is a particular demand** for Portuguese as well as for the various languages from the Indian subcontinent, China, and the Pacific Islands. TRMC would like to hear from **competent bilingual people** who would like to consider participating in future training for this service.

#### To Register your interest...

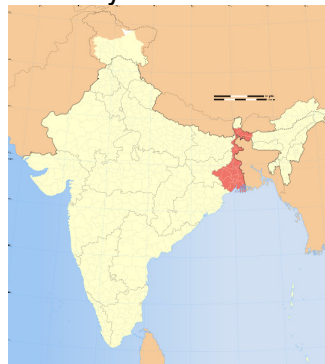
Please contact the office [enquiries@ethnictauranga.org](mailto:enquiries@ethnictauranga.org)  
Ph:07 571 6419 or contact the training coordinator Iryna Stewart [iryna@clear.net.nz](mailto:iryna@clear.net.nz)  
Ph:07 543 9125



# CULTURAL CLIPBOARD



The third “Neighbours in Our Community” lunchtime interlude focused on **West Bengal, India** in July 2011.



<b>Land area:</b> 88,752 Km <sup>2</sup>
<b>NZ Land area:</b> 268,021 Km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Currency:</b> ₹ Indian Rupee
<b>Religions:</b> Hindi 72.5%; Islam [Urdu] 25.2%; Others 2.3%
<b>Official Language[s]:</b> Bengali, English



**Kutu [Pradipta] Mukherjee** (our Neighbour in Our Community for this day) and her husband Kajal, and 3 yr old son arrived in NZ 16 years ago and their daughter was born two years later. Kutu was brought up and educated in Calcutta [Kolkata] which was the main city of West Bengal during the earlier British colonisation period. Hence English becoming one of their official languages. Kutu is a professional Indian Classic singer as well as playing several musical instruments. She gave these up when her children were small and took up her professional training again 5 years ago and travels to India annually to cut her CDs. Take a look at Kutu’s website here <http://www.pradiptamukherjee.co.nz/> Kutu is also accomplished in music playing 3 different Indian instruments. When the family first arrived in New Zealand due to Kutu’s husband Kajal’s work commitments and purchased their home in Tauranga, they lived next to a large rural paddock which was almost empty. They found it so quiet and were amazed that they never saw anyone walking over the paddock. In West Bengal, Kutu said that paddock would have been covered in people running and picnicking so much, that there probably would not be any grass on it. Kutu felt quite lonely for a while away from the crowded cities she had known. There was no Settlement Support services back then. But Kutu joined with other groups including the training as a bi-lingual English as a second language Home Tutor. She was then able to assist others to settle here with her knowledge of several languages helping those from Middle Eastern cultures and other Indian cultures. Kutu sees a big difference in services for more recent newcomers to our region.

## RANDOM FACTS ABOUT WEST BENGAL, INDIA

### The Role Of The Family

People typically define themselves by the groups to which they belong rather than by their status as individuals. Someone is deemed to be affiliated to a specific state, region, city, family career path, religion etc.

This group orientation stems from the close personal ties Indians maintain with their family, including the extended family.

### Just can’t say no.

Indians do not like to express ‘no’, be it verbally or non-verbally. Rather than disappoint you, for example, by saying something is unavailable, an Indian will offer you the response that they think you want to hear. This behaviour should not be considered dishonest. An Indian would be considered terribly rude if he did not attempt to give a person what had been asked.

### Meeting Etiquette

Religion, education and social class all influence greetings in India. This is a hierarchical culture, so greet the eldest or most senior person first. When leaving a group, each person must be bid farewell individually.

Shaking hands is common, especially in the large cities among the more educated who are accustomed to dealing with Westerners.

### Food

Rice and fish are traditional favourite foods, leading to a saying in Bengali, machhe bhate bangali, that translates as “fish and rice make a Bengali”. Sweets occupy an important place in the diet of Bengalis and at their social ceremonies. It is an ancient custom among both Hindu and Muslim Bengalis to distribute sweets during festivities. The variety of fruits and vegetables that Bengal has to offer is incredible. A host of gourds, roots and tubers, leafy greens, succulent stalks, lemons and limes, green and purple eggplants, red onions, plantain, broad beans, okra, banana tree stems and flowers, green jackfruit and red pumpkins are to be found in the markets or anaj bazaar as popularly called. Common spices found in a Bengali kitchen are cumin, ajmoda (radhuni), bay leaf, mustard. Ginger, green chillies, tumeric, and red chilli powder. .

### Communication, Gestures, And Body Language

Beckoning is done with the whole hand and the palm down.

Pointing is often done with the chin.

Overt displays of affection are inappropriate in public.

One should not pat youngsters on the head or touch an older persons head.

The feet or shoes should not touch another person or be used for pointing.

When entering a temple, everyone removes his or her shoes and women may cover their heads.

# Helpful Services for Newcomers to NZ and Western Bay of Plenty



For other “What’s On” events in the region, please visit the websites below... for lots of activities for all the family...

Tourism BOP Events –  
Visit their website at:  
<http://www.bayofplentynz.com>

For Arts and Culture events – visit  
[www.creativetauranga.org.nz](http://www.creativetauranga.org.nz)

For other things to do, places to go,  
places to shop and eat, try this website  
[www.bestoftauranga.com](http://www.bestoftauranga.com)

For information about Te Puke and  
what’s on, visit ...  
<http://www.tepuke.co.nz/>  
\*\* [www.katikati.org.nz/](http://www.katikati.org.nz/)

Look at the Community newspapers  
each week. They’re really  
comprehensive and contain sections  
about “What’s On” in the region

A great way to meet others –  
“City On It’s Feet” is co-ordinated by  
Nicki Miller. There is a group to suit  
you – daytime, after work and even for  
pram walkers!

Visit their website for lots more  
information [www.cityonitsfeet.org.nz](http://www.cityonitsfeet.org.nz)

Or call them on 07 578 9610

## ATTENTION INTERNATIONAL WOMEN [July 2011]

**IWG – International Women’s Group** meets each month in Katikati – normally on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. If you live in or near Katikati and would like to join this group, contact Sylvia at 07 549 3432 or email: [sylvia.s@xtra.co.nz](mailto:sylvia.s@xtra.co.nz)



**WING – Women’s International Network Group** meets each month, normally on the last Friday. Venues alter between Tauranga and Papamoa. Contact Ingrid Quartel via email [niekus99@clear.net.nz](mailto:niekus99@clear.net.nz) or Ph: **Settlement Support NZ: 07 579 6532**



**Elections this Year in November – Have your registered? N Z’s system of government - an overview...** [www.elections.org.nz/](http://www.elections.org.nz/)

New Zealand is a democratic country in which the members of parliament (MPs) are chosen in free and fair elections. It has a single chamber of parliament known as the House of Representatives which generally has 120 MPs. The government is accountable to parliament for its actions and policies. New Zealand has an unwritten constitution and is a constitutional monarchy.

SSNZ Contact Centre  
YMCA Tauranga Phone: **07 579 6532**  
428 Devonport Road Mobile: **027 578 9272**  
TAURANGA Fax: 07 577 6475  
Email: [ssnz@ymcatauranga.org.nz](mailto:ssnz@ymcatauranga.org.nz)



For local settlement information, Visit:

[www.migrantsupport.org.nz](http://www.migrantsupport.org.nz)



**SETTLEMENT SUPPORT**  
NEW ZEALAND