



‘Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi. Engari, he toa takitini’ -
Success is not the work of one, but the work of many.

This powerful whakataukī perfectly captures the spirit of our summer festival season. The success of these vibrant, inclusive events is not ours alone—it’s the result of many hearts and hands working together.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our diverse communities, dedicated volunteers, committed Board, hardworking staff, supportive stakeholders, and generous funders.

These annual celebrations of culture and connection simply wouldn’t be possible without you. We’ve seen a noticeable rise in attendance this season at both the Tasman Asian Night Food Fair and the Multicultural Festival - whether that’s because our festivals have become beloved fixtures on the region’s calendar, or because, in uncertain times globally, people are more eager than

ever to come together in joy and unity. Whatever the reason, one thing is clear: these gatherings matter, and their impact is lasting



A big “Thank you” to our 2025 event sponsors



Overcoming Water Fears with Canoe Journeys

Our Motueka branch partnered with Canoe Journeys, a local charity offering safe, fun canoe trips in the Nelson Tasman region. With their support, newcomers from the Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, Russia, the Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Germany, and Sri Lanka paddled across Stephens Bay—many for the first time.

Some were scared of water and couldn’t swim, but with teamwork and encouragement, they faced their fears and had a “wonderful adventure.”

A big thank you to Canoe Journeys and the Ethnic Communities Development Fund for helping build confidence and connection in our community!



Tasman Asian Night Food Fair - February 2025



Faces from the Festival - March 2025



MULTICULTURAL YOUTH NELSON TASMAN

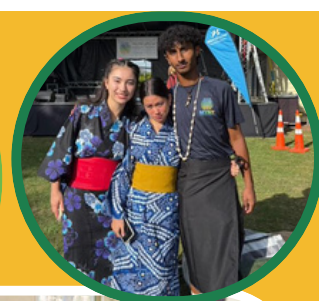
Summer was a busy season for Multicultural Youth Nelson Tasman (MYNT), packed with festivals and events. Alongside our regular fortnightly meetings and radio shows on Fresh FM, our youth were actively involved – volunteering at the Multicultural Festival and Tasman Asian Night Food Fair, and showcasing their cultures through traditional dance and music performances. They also ran the sausage sizzle and helped out at the successful Multicultural Football Tournament.

Next up: we're planning a Youth Movie Night for Youth Week in May – follow us for updates!

Facebook: Multicultural Youth Nelson

Instagram: @multiculturalitynelson

A big thanks to Nelson City Council for their continued support and funding of youth projects!



Multicultural Football Tournament Kicks Goals for Inclusion

The 3rd annual Multicultural Football Tournament was held on 22 March at Neale Park, with 16 teams taking part in a vibrant day of football and cultural connection.

Both competitive and social six-a-side matches were played, creating space for players of all abilities. FC Nelson came out on top in the competitive final after a strong challenge from the Bhutanese team, while tournament newcomers, the Vietnamese team, took first place in the social grade with impressive teamwork and energy.

The Spirit of Football Award went to the Zomi community, whose passion, sportsmanship, and community pride stood out throughout the day – a remarkable effort from one of our smallest former refugee communities in Whakatū Nelson. The winner of the Pelé MVP Award was Bu Reh from the Karenni community, pictured (right) with Welcoming Communities Coordinator

(and tournament organiser) Bill Huppler from Nelson City Council, and Nelson Mayor Nick Smith.



SHARED COMMUNITIES UPDATES

Mural Project

Unveiled in January on Nile Street, this vibrant mural was created through the Shared Communities Initiative—a collaboration between Multicultural Nelson Tasman, Arts Council Nelson, Make/Shift Spaces, and Nelson City Council.

Featuring the words “Thank You” in over 50 languages, the mural celebrates the many cultures that enrich Nelson, including communities from Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Europe, and the Middle East. It’s a tribute to the migrants and former refugees who bring life, colour, and connection to our city.

In March, a Tuku25 event was held to share its story and celebrate the spirit of collaboration and belonging that shaped it.

A heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers, artists, and supporters who made this project possible. More than just a beautiful piece of art, this mural symbolises inclusion, connection, and shared gratitude. It has provided space for emerging artists, fostered friendships, and strengthened community ties.



Multicultural Pop-Up Market Returns!

Due to popular demand, we’re thrilled to host a second *Multicultural Pop-Up Market* on 17 May, from 4.30–7.30pm at the top of Trafalgar Street. This event is ideal for those from migrant and former refugee communities who are not yet regularly involved in markets or commercial selling. It’s a low-pressure, supportive space to trial a product, share a homemade item, or showcase a cultural craft or talent—no business experience needed.

Whether it’s food, art, music, or handmade goods, this market is all about connection, creativity, and celebrating our diverse community. Email Karolina for more information on:

culturalnavigator@sharedcommunities.org.nz

Celebrating Culture Through Kai in Motueka

Multicultural Nelson Tasman’s Kai and Kōrero series in Motueka has brought people together to celebrate culture, community, and delicious food.



Our first event was a sold-out Cambodian cooking class led by local chef Sopha Hang, alongside her husband Sombo Chebuen and neighbour Say Yeang. Participants learned to make red curry, pork belly with egg, and fresh spring rolls, while connecting over shared information about Cambodian culture.

In March, we hosted a vibrant Pasifika-themed Kai and Kōrero, featuring a beautiful three-course meal lovingly prepared by Renee Pāhulu Serah Tong and Sandra Richards. With tapa cloth, island leaves, songs and storytelling woven throughout the session, this event was a true celebration of Pacific heritage.



As our coordinator Sez Fyfe shared, “These events show that sharing food is a universal language of love – and the Motueka community is both respectful and curious about other cultures.”

A big thanks to all who attended and contributed! More Kai and Kōrero events are planned, so keep an eye out – we’d love to see you there.



UPCOMING EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

Traditional Clothing Workshop - Motueka

Come along to this fun and interactive workshop and learn about traditional clothing from both India and Japan! Learn to drape a saree, find out about kimono – perhaps get a chance to try some different attire.

When: Sunday 4th May – from 10am – 12 noon

Where: Te Noninga Kumu – Motueka Public Library



Cross-Cultural Awareness and Communication Workshop (Nelson)

This free one-day workshop by Multicultural Nelson Tasman offers a chance to boost your Cultural Intelligence by exploring your own cultural identity, understanding diverse behaviours, and learning practical tools for better cross-cultural communication—essential skills for life in our diverse Nelson-Tasman community.

When: Wednesday 7th May – 9.15–4.30pm

Where: Multicultural Centre, 544 Waimea Road



Cross-Cultural Parenting Workshop with Shama Ethnic Women's Trust

Join to gain confidence and knowledge for successful parenting in New Zealand.

Childminding, transport and interpreting support available.

Thursday 8th May 9.30–2.30 at Victory Community Centre

To register – call or text Suu Lam on 022 684 7284 or email: projects@shama.org.nz



“Let's Talk, Kids” - Workshop - with Shama Ethnic Women's Trust

This workshop helps you to keep your children safe and to build trust and support for your children's wellbeing.

Childminding, transport and interpreting support available.

Friday 9th May 9.30–11.30 at Victory Community Centre

To register – call or text Suu Lam on 022 684 7284 or email: projects@shama.org.nz



Mother's Day Around the World - Afternoon Tea (Motueka)

Enjoy some delicious French patisserie treats for afternoon tea, whilst hearing from newcomers about how they celebrate Mothers in their country of origin.

When: Sunday 11th May – 1–3pm. Cost: \$10 (includes a beautiful afternoon tea)

Where: Te Noninga Kumu – Motueka Public Library



Tāngata Tiriti - Treaty People Workshop (Nelson)

This free workshop aims to provide clear, accessible information on the Treaty of Waitangi and help both new and long-term settlers understand its significance and engage with current Treaty and constitutional discussions in Aotearoa New Zealand.

When: Saturday 7th June, 9.30am – 1.30 pm.

Where: Multicultural Centre, 544 Waimea Road.

To register – email: admin@multiculturalnt.co.nz



Police Recruitment Information Evening (Nelson)

This recruitment information evening is open to all, but particularly aimed at those from migrant and former refugee communities who might be interested in joining the New Zealand Police, or Fire and Emergency (FENZ) will also be present.

Speak to Police about their roles, try out some of the recruitment tests.

When: Thursday 12th June, from 4.30pm – 6.30pm.

Where: Multicultural Centre, 544 Waimea Road.



UPCOMING EVENTS FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

CELEBRATE. CONNECT. ENJOY.

NELSON MALAYALEE ASSOCIATION INC PRESENTS

FOOD Carnival & TUG OF WAR COMPETITION

ALL OCEANIA

APRIL 26 SATURDAY
10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

SAXTON NETBALL PAVILION, STOKES, NELSON

Food
Music
Family Fun
Arts & Crafts
FREE ENTRY

Myanmar Earthquake Fundraiser

A Sweet Treats sale to help those affected by the Earthquake in Myanmar



Sat 26th April 8am - 1pm at the Nelson Saturday Market, Montgomery Square

OPEN TO ALL!
PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

HAPPY NEPALI NEW YEAR 2082

SATURDAY
26 APRIL, 2025
2PM - 5PM

VICTORY COMMUNITY CENTRE
2 TOTARA STREET, NELSON SOUTH

DANCES, MUSIC,
FOOD, GAMES

YOUTH GROUP
BHUTANESE SOCIETY OF NELSON

Logos: TUKUI25 WHAKATU, Nelson City Council, Nelson Tasman Multicultural Centre, Nelson Tasman Ethnic Communities, Nelson Tasman Creative Communities

TUKUI25 WHAKATU PRESENTS..

AFRO-COLOMBIAN EXPERIENCE (PACIFIC REGION)

VICTORY COMMUNITY CENTRE, 2 TOTARA STREET, NELSON SOUTH, NELSON 7010

DIVE INTO THE RICH CULTURAL TRADITIONS. LEARN THE SECRETS OF OUR ANCESTRAL DIALECT, BELIEFS, AND MIRACLE BEVERAGES KNOWN FOR THEIR HEALING POWERS. — COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US!

SATURDAY, 3 MAY
2PM TO 4PM!!

FREE ENTRY. BOOKINGS NOT REQUIRED!!

Logos: Shared Communities, Nelson City Council, Nelson Tasman Multicultural Centre

NELSONSON DANCE & ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

STOKE MUSIC DAY-OUT

SUN 11 MAY, 11AM - 2:30PM, WHANAKE YOUTH PARK

* IN CASE OF RAIN INDOOR VENUE TBC. STAY TUNED!

LIVE MUSIC
FAMILY FRIENDLY
FOOD STALLS ~ KOHA ENTRY

MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL!

INDONELSON BAND
SUENA ORO (ALVARO MORENO & GUESTS)
THE IMMIGRANZ COLLECTIVE
+ FEATURING SPECIAL COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE BY
NZ DUO 'ARO'
AND MORE GUESTS

548 MAIN ROAD STOKES, STOKES

Logos: Nelson City Council, Nelson Tasman Multicultural Centre, Nelson Tasman Ethnic Communities, Nelson Tasman Creative Communities

Tautoko Ukraine

McCASHIN'S TAP ROOM

QUIZ NIGHT

- fundraiser edition -

A night where random facts can be used for a good cause!

Wednesday 30 April | 6.30PM

\$10 TICKET ENTRY

600 Main Road Stokes | McCashin's Tap Room in partnership with Tautoko Ukraine

REMINDER - ROOMS FOR HIRE

At our Multicultural Centre at 544 Waimea road, we have an upstairs function/meeting room (capacity 100) with attached kitchen, and a downstairs Board Room available for hire. There is ample parking onsite.

We have a sliding scale of affordable hire rates for voluntary groups, non-profit organisations and commercial/govt organisations.

Please email: admin@multiculturalnt.co.nz for more info or just call in Mon-Thu.

Support Multicultural Nelson Tasman in building a more inclusive community. We help migrants and refugees settle, promote understanding of New Zealand's bi-culturalism, and celebrate diversity. Your support—whether through membership, collaboration, or a donation—helps us continue this important work. Together, we can make a lasting impact!

DONATE

JOIN US

A big thank you to our funders and sponsors...

