

ECCWA

E-NEWSLETTER

FEB 2021 ISSUE

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Message from the President

As I write this message we, in WA, are moving inexorably closer to caretaker provisions in Government as we count down the days to casting our votes in the State election. It is time for us to review the performance of the parties. However, it would be inappropriate for us to do so here as it does not provide or responses to be lodged by the party strategic consultants. It is the reason why ECCWA has maintained its practice before every election (State or Federal) of bringing together the major parties to address our communities.

This year the Pre-Election Forum (PEF) is being held on February 24th in the evening. Already The WA Greens have given us the privilege of having Alison Xamon as their representative at the event. We have asked the Labor and Liberal parties to allocate someone with similar standing in their party as Alison has. We will let you know as soon as we hear what the response is to our requests. But we do urge you to attend and ask the representatives the appropriate questions on the day. We will be communicating details via our social media channels so stay tuned therein.

Under normal circumstances it would not be difficult for us to come up with a report card of our impressions of the performance of the parties. But as we are constantly reminded, these are “unprecedented times”. Covid19 has impacted on the entire decision making and power balances throughout the economy. So any assessment will be skewed by decisions that have impacted our safety and health. Therefore we will reserve judgement until after the forum and then we can all make our own assessments.

In the space of the Covid19 response, one area that we have had some anecdotal feedback about has been the use of the QR Code system at restaurants and places of gathering. It appears that some, if not most, places that our members have attended have not been enforcing the register (whether automated or manual). This is concerning. In the unfortunate and current scenario of any community breakout, the contact tracing provided by these mechanisms is critical. Can we therefore urge all the readers of this message to contact the places where they gather to ensure that the QR code system is in place or there is a manual register of some kind. In addition, can I please encourage everyone to use their masks as required.

At ECCWA we continue to work with a number of agencies in ensuring the continued provision of services in an appropriate fashion for all our members. We have undertaken a variety of representations on behalf of a number of our constituents and have had some successful outcomes. These have related to Immigration matters, Justice and Education matters as well as a host of others. Please don't hesitate to bring these matters to our attention and we will do all we can to ensure that your human rights are preserved.

Suresh Rajan
President

Disclaimer statement

Dear Members,

ECCWA makes no warranty for the accuracy of any non-ECCWA material distributed via this communication. All questions should be directed to the organisations from which the material originated.

ECCWA News Bulletin Items are drawn from a diverse range of sources, not least of which are materials from our stakeholder organisations, for the interest of all our readers. We publish the content as it is sent. Apart from items that are sourced from ECCWA and FECCA, material included not necessarily reflect the views of the ECCWA, nor should its inclusion be seen necessarily to constitute an endorsement. We welcome your input for our monthly round-up of news and information

Racism Matters workshops

What do you do when you witness a discriminatory or racist incident, or if you are the subject of a racist attack?

How can you protect yourself?

How can you help your members?

How can you explain that you have been offended or hurt by what you have heard?

Our website Racism Matters (<http://www.racismmatters.com.au>) allows you to report the incident (anonymously if you wish) and we can help you to take the matter further.

Basically, there are three avenues for you to follow:

1. You can go to the police because Discrimination is illegal under the WA Criminal Code; or.
2. You can go to the Human Right and Equal Opportunities Commission Discrimination because discrimination is a violation of your human rights; or
3. You can report it to ECCWA and come to one of our workshops, because sometimes people do not know they are being hurtful or discriminatory or racist - they think they are being funny.

So far, we have had reports from people who have been targets of discrimination, and from people who have witnessed racist attacks on their friends. We have also had multiple reports from people in the same workplace, which allows us to negotiate on your behalf with the management.

The workshops and training sessions are designed to empower you. They will provide you with the tools to deal with discrimination, and help manage the situation. We have developed workshops and training sessions for people from CaLD communities and for people who work in programs with people from CaLD communities.

Our workshops are flexible, so we can tailor them to suit your needs. We also offer training sessions for all levels of government and business on multiculturalism and cultural diversity.

Please let us know what you need and how we can help.

EAST Update

2020 was a very challenging year for EAST (Ethnic Advocacy Support Team) to assist and support clients due to COVID-19 which commenced in the beginning of March. Our office was temporarily closed for a period of two months during the lockdown period, but staff continued to work from home and made themselves available five days a week to enable clients to call to discuss their issues.

We assisted over 60 new clients in 2020 and they were from the following 21 countries: Lao, Vietnam, Korea, Indonesia, India, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Japan, Burma, China, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Ghana, Taiwan, Cambodia, Nigeria, New Zealand and Thailand. On top of that, we continued to provide long term assistance and support to our existing clients.

During COVID-19, we saw a significant increase in the number of clients who were experiencing domestic violence because their partner had lost their jobs and also newly arrived migrants who were on spousal visa, student visa and holiday visa. Unemployment, isolation and financial hardship escalated the violence at home and some of them had to face having no income due to the status of their visa. A classic example as follows:

The mother and her two children arrived in Perth in Jan/2020 on a spousal visa. She has two children, 12 years old girl and 14 years old boy from her previous marriage. They speak Vietnamese only and even the children have very limited English skills. Not long after their arrival, the perpetrator verbally abused them daily. He grabbed his wife around the throat and choked her whilst pushing her onto the ground. He also threatened to kill her and the children. The mother and her two children were so frightened that they were reluctant to leave the house due to the language barriers. They did not know about their rights and what services were available to assist and support them in a new country, especially during the pandemic period. One of our staff communicated with the mother in her language and assured her that we would assist her family to get into the women's refuge. A Safety plan, information of FVRO and general information was provided to the client. All of these were done over the phone to ensure client and her children had quick access to secured accommodation as client had no income at all.

Students can work more than 40 hours a fortnight

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020. Source: AP Photo/Mark Baker

Student visa holders can work more than 40 hours a fortnight if they work in the agriculture sector.

Written by Vivek Kumar for SBS Hindi

Department of Home Affairs has relaxed the rules for student visa holders in Australia by allowing them to work more than 40 hours a fortnight.

This relaxation applies only to certain sectors, including agriculture and health.



Highlights:

- Student visa holders can work more than 40 hours a fortnight if they work in the agriculture sector
- Department of Home Affairs has relaxed the rules for student visa holders in Australia .
- Student visa holders do not need to apply for this temporary measure

'I can save some money'

Many students are happy with the announcement. A Sydney-based international student from India Vijay Kumar plans to temporarily move to a regional area to work as an agriculture worker.

Mr Kumar says, "I have some free time and this way I can save some money which will help me during the semesters when I have to concentrate on studies and not able to work for longer hours.

"The federal government says these are temporary measures and will be reviewed regularly and the Department of Home Affairs says employers will be advised when these measures no longer apply.

Student visa holders do not need to apply for this temporary measure.

Source: www.sbs.com.au/language/english/audio/conditional-relaxation-students-can-work-more-than-40-hours-a-forenight

For more information, please visit www.immi.home



How to protect yourself from a scam

About COVID-19 scams

Scamwatch has received over 5170 scam reports mentioning the coronavirus with over \$6 280 000 in reported losses since the outbreak of COVID-19 (coronavirus). Common scams include phishing for personal information, online shopping, and superannuation scams. If you have been scammed or have seen a scam, you can make a report on the Scamwatch website, and find more information about where to get help. Do not provide your personal, banking or superannuation details to strangers who have approached you. Scammers may pretend to have a connection with you. So it's important to stop and check, even when you are approached by what you think is a trusted organisation. Below are some examples of what to look out for.

Phishing – Government impersonation scams

Scammers are pretending to be government agencies providing information on COVID-19 through text messages and emails 'phishing' for your information. These contain malicious links and attachments designed to steal your personal and financial information. In the examples below the text messages appear to come from 'GOV' and 'myGov', with a malicious link to more information on COVID-19.



Text Message
Today 2:52 pm

You've received a new message regarding the COVID-19 safety-line symptoms and when to get tested in your geographical area. Visit <https://covid19-info.online/>



Australian Government
Department of Health

Dear Recipient,

My colleague have contacted you earlier but there was no response from you.

There were three COVID-19 confirmed cases in your area earlier this week and one of the patients has listed you as one of her physical contacts within the last 14 days.

In line with the contact tracing modalities and within the laws on which we operate at the Department of Health, we strongly advice that you submit yourself for COVID-19 testing.

The necessary details of your appointment with the Department of Health are contained in the attached document.

Read through the guidelines properly and ensure that you submit yourself for testing as failure to do so will result in arrest and prosecution.

If you have any questions concerning this email, feel free to contact me anytime.

Regards,

Greg Hunt MP

Department of Health
GPO Box 9848
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia

Tips to protect yourself from these types of scams:

- Don't click on hyperlinks in text/social media messages or emails, even if it appears to come from a trusted source.
- Go directly to the website through your browser. For example, to reach the MyGov website type 'my.gov.au' into your browser yourself.
- Never respond to unsolicited messages and calls that ask for personal or financial details, even if they claim to be from a reputable organisation or government authority — just press delete or hang up.

Superannuation scams

Scammers are taking advantage of people in financial hardship due to COVID-19 by attempting to steal their superannuation or by offering unnecessary services and charging a fee. The majority of these scams start with an unexpected call claiming to be from a superannuation or financial service. The scammers use a variety of excuses to request information about your superannuation accounts, including: offering to help you access the money in your superannuation ensuring you're not locked out of your account under new rules. checking whether your superannuation account is eligible for various benefits or deals.

Example of a superannuation scam

A scammer will call pretending to be from a superannuation or financial service. They may refer to the government's superannuation early release measures, and ask questions such as:
Have you worked full time for the last 5 years? Are you going to apply for the \$10 000 superannuation package?

Online shopping scams

Scammers have created fake online stores claiming to sell products that don't exist — such as cures or vaccinations for COVID-19, and products such as face masks.

Tips to protect yourself from these types of scams:

The best way to detect a fake trader or social media shopping scam is to search for reviews before purchasing.

No vaccine or cure presently exists for the coronavirus.

Be wary of sellers requesting unusual payment methods such as upfront payment via money order, wire transfer, international funds transfer, preloaded card or electronic currency, like Bitcoin.

To learn more about scams, please visit <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/types-of-scams/current-covid-19-coronavirus-scams>

Migrant Blood-borne virus & Sexual disease survey

Curtin University has partnered with us to recruit respondents for the national health survey. The aim of the study is to develop a greater understanding of how migrants living in Australia think and act on the subjects of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and blood-borne viruses (BBVs).

If you are over 18 years of age and were born in a Sub-Saharan (All African countries apart from - Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Western Sahara), East-Asian or South East Asian country, please help us in this research by completing the survey at www.mibss.org.au

Born in Sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast- or Northeast Asia?

Interested in the health of your community?

TAKE OUR ONLINE SURVEY
visit mibss.org
or scan this:

PLUS
Go into the draw
to win a \$200
voucher

Migrant Blood-borne Virus and Sexual Health Survey
MiBSS

Psychology services for CALD



Language: English

Culturally Diverse Psychological Service

For people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

Service Details:

- Available to people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds who are 12+ years old with mild to moderate psychological distress
- Clients can receive short-term (up to 10 sessions) culturally appropriate and evidence based psychological counselling
- Interpreters can be used as needed
- Accessible throughout the Perth metro area
- Free and confidential

Our Locations:

- Leederville
- Mirrabooka (and surrounds)
- Langford
- Please contact us for services closer to home

Accessing the Service:

A GP referral is needed to receive counselling. Please see your doctor to arrange a referral.

Exclusions:

This service is:

- Not a crisis service
- Not for clients who are at high risk
- Not for complex and severe mental health illness, for example: psychotic disorders, personality disorders, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, complex PTSD, learning disorders, autism spectrum disorders, attention related disorders, major drug and alcohol issues.
- Individuals must not currently hold refugee or asylum seeker status

Contact Us:

For more information or to make an enquiry:

Phone: 0418 724 549

Email: CaldPsychService@lwb.org.au

Visit: www.lwb.org.au/CDPS

LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS

The Culturally Diverse Psychological Service is supported by WA Primary Health Alliance under the Australian Government's Primary Health Networks Program.

December 2020



Amritsari-style Lamb chops

Ingredients

12 best-end lamb chops, flattened to 2cm thick
(ask your butcher to do this for you)
green chutney
1 lime, cut into wedges to serve

For the first marinade
2 tsp Kashmiri chilli powder
2 tbsp ginger & garlic paste
50ml vegetable oil

For the second marinade
2 tsp tomato purée
large pinch of crushed black pepper
2 tsp Kashmiri chilli powder
1 tsp garam masala
1 tsp turmeric



STEP 1 Put the lamb and all the first marinade ingredients in a bowl and mix well. Chill for at least 2 hrs, and up to 4 hrs.

STEP 2 Blend all the second marinade ingredients together. Remove the lamb from the first marinade and put it in a clean bowl. Add the second marinade and rub it into the lamb, then chill for a further 4 hrs, or overnight.

STEP 3 Light a barbecue with a lid, then barbecue the chops on a high heat until cooked to medium (around 8 mins), making sure the meat isn't directly on the flame to avoid burning the spices. The key is to keep the lid on so the temperature is consistent. Or cook in the oven on a baking tray for 12 mins, and finish off under the grill for 2 mins to crisp them up. Serve with lime wedges for squeezing over and green chutney on the side (see our recipe).



Source: Indian lamb chops recipe - BBC Good Food

If you have a home recipe you'd like to share, please send it to eliza@eccwa.org.au

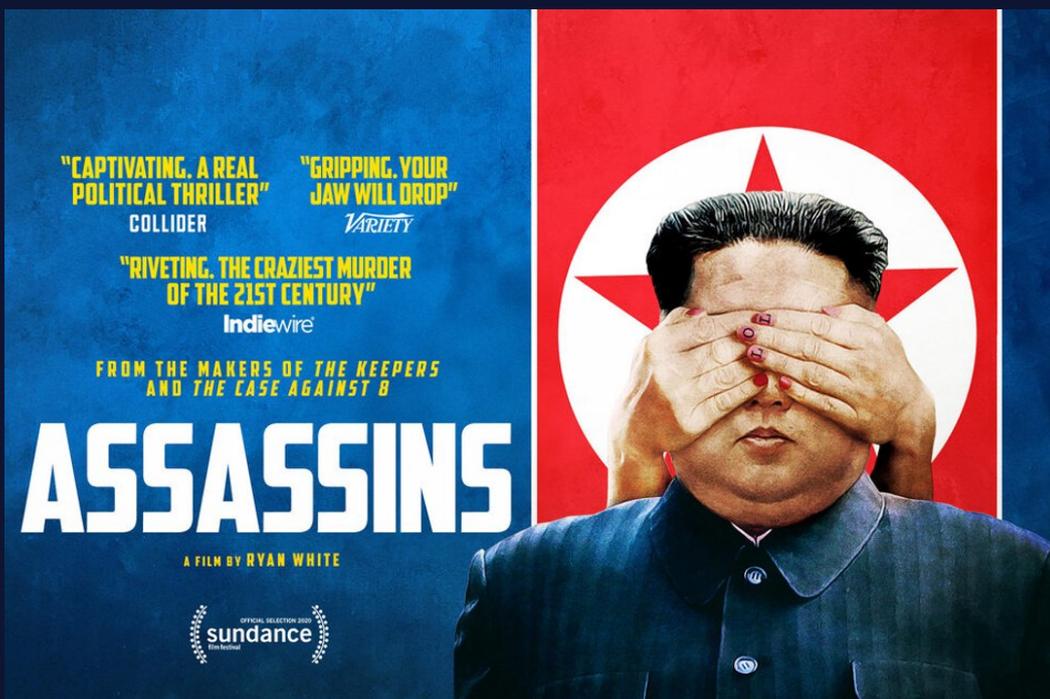
PERTH FESTIVAL 2021

If your family loves watching movies at the cinema, they'll love the international films shown at the picturesque cinema at Somerville auditorium at UWA. Lottery West films is a film festival shown throughout December to March every year. Here are some of this season's featured films:

ASSASINS Mon 15- Fri 19 & Sunday 21 February (English, Mandarin, Indonesian, Vietnamese with English subtitles)

"Your jaw will drop"

IA riveting documentary that looks beyond the headlines and delves deep into one of the most bizarre political crimes. In 2017 Kim Jong-nam – the half-brother of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un – was assassinated in the bustling departures hall of Malaysia's international airport. The spectacularly brazen murder happened in broad daylight, filmed entirely by security cameras. The guilt of the two young women seen rubbing deadly chemicals into their victim's face just before his death seemed obvious. But were they ruthless assassins or pawns in a deadly political plot? Assassins, the latest documentary from director Ryan White, travels from the sanctums of Pyongyang to the rice fields of Indonesia and Vietnam to the courtrooms of Kuala Lumpur to tell an extraordinary tale of manipulation and subterfuge in the age of social media. A masterful investigation that offers an unprecedented look at the real story of Kim Jong-nam's murder, Assassins is the wildly improbable tale of a calculating dictator, a nefarious plot, a very public murder and two women fighting for their lives.



MON 15 - FRI 19 & SUN 21

FEB

Gates open 6pm | Films start
8pm Lotterywest Films,
Somerville Auditorium, UWA,
35 STIRLING HWY, CRAWLEY,
WA, 6009 /

DURATION 104mins

PRICING

Adult: \$19

Concession: \$17

Friend: \$16

Student: \$13

SUN CHILDREN

(Iranian. Farsi with English subtitles)

" It has guts and heart and a grubby, street-smart charisma." - The Guardian

Twelve-year-old Ali and his three friends work hard to survive on the streets of Tehran. When he's not scheming to acquire a few rial, Ali's often running errands for the neighbourhood boss, who convinces him to dig for hidden treasure under the local school. But first Ali and his gang have to enrol at this struggling charitable institution that tries to educate street kids and child labourers.

There are elements of prison-break drama, knock-about school comedy and far-fetched heist in this stereotype-buster of a film that's not afraid to take on social issues amidst the high-jinx. Iranian filmmaker Majid Majidi and his cast of mostly non-actors take you on a thrilling ride in what is ultimately a unique story of courage and survival.

MON 22 - SUN 28 FEB

Gates open 6pm | Films start 8pm
Lotterywest Films, Somerville Auditorium, UWA, 35 STIRLING HWY,
CRAWLEY, WA, 6009 / Godroo

DURATION 99mins

PRICING

Adult: \$19

Concession: \$17

Friend: \$16

Student: \$13



ECCWA MEMBERSHIP

As the state's peak ethnic umbrella organisation, our work is to represent community organisations and CaLD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) individuals' interests and ensure they have access to effective systemic advocacy as well as the necessary resources to serve their respective communities.

Our membership program allows all of our members to exchange and benefit from each other's services such as settlement grant programs, women's services and mental health services. Annual memberships for 2021 are free due to COVID-19. Memberships are open to: key organisations working with multicultural or CaLD persons, community agencies and CaLD persons.

To sign up, please complete the document in this link <https://www.eccwa.org.au/membership> and email it to admin@eccwa.org.au.

If you wish to seek further information, please call us on (08) 9227 5322 to speak to an ECCWA officer and or schedule a meeting with our Policy officers or with Mrs Vivienne Pillay, the ECCWA's Executive Officer .



The Chung Wah
Association Inc