

*A bi-monthly newsletter providing up-to-date news on Darebin City Council's progress in relation to the Memorandum of Understanding with Darebin Ethnic Communities Council*

## Dialogue of Civilisations

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On the 30th of March, 2006, over 120 people attended a Breakfast Seminar on the topic of Dialogue of Civilisations with Guest Speaker, Professor Joe Camilleri.

Professor Camilleri began his speech with an overview of history and world politics and the expectations that were made for achieving world peace and prosperity following the end of the Cold War era. The theory of the Clash of Civilisations was put forward by Samuel Huntington as the new arena for debates and contest which replaced the previous

animosities between the two economic systems of capitalism and communism. The late President of Iran, Khatami was the one who placed the idea of Dialogue of Civilisations on the agenda of the United Nations which declared the year 2001 as the International Year of Dialogue. Dialogue of Civilisation goes deeper and further than the concept of cultural diversity, tolerance and harmony. It is about immersing oneself in the world of "the other". It is about listening more than talking, it is about being humble and willing to admit one's own dark side and failings. It is about accepting that cultures while have commonalities also have differences and that those differences are just as important and valuable as the commonalities. In fact the Dialogue is necessary around understanding and learning from the differences.

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<i>Top: Professor Joe Camilleri, Guest Speaker at the Breakfast Seminar</i>	

It is not enough to say we value cultural diversity and multiculturalism, the challenge is to recognise how to harness, nurture and benefit from this diversity. Australia is uniquely placed in the world. It is a country whose people's history and heritage come from elsewhere and whose geography they all share. Professor Camilleri concluded his speech with a huge round of applause from an audience that left inspired and encouraged by the endless possibilities Dialogue has to offer us at the local, regional, national and international levels.

This event was a joint initiative with Darebin Ethnic Communities Council and featured the launch of Darebin eForum; an online discussion group. The first topic for discussion is on Community Harmony. The discussion will be on line till end of May and participants can win prizes. For further information on the Darebin eForum and to register and join the discussion, you can visit the eForum site at: <http://eforum.darebin.vic.gov.au> and join the Community Harmony discussion group.



*The Signoras, performed at the Seminar*



*Suriyan asking a question on the clash of civilisations.*

## COUNCIL STAFF LEARN HOW TO IMPROVE THEIR COMMUNICATION WITH NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING CITIZENS



The Multicultural Affairs Unit has completed its annual training sessions on how to work with interpreters and how to prepare a document for translation on the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 29<sup>th</sup> of March respectively. These sessions prepared 24 staff to communicate through the use of interpreters and printed material in other languages. They acquired information and skills in general communication and cross-cultural issues in relation to both working effectively with interpreters and techniques to prepare a document for translation. The sessions were based on experiential learning with theoretical as well as practical content of discussions, role plays and other exercises as appropriate.

## INFORMATION SESSION ON WEST AFRICA

The Darebin City Council hosted an Information Session on the West African Community on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February in the Shire Hall. The session was conducted by the Northern Migrant Resource Centre and presented by Abdinur Weli. This session attracted 80 participants representing service providers in Darebin. Abdinur offered an overview of the culture, population, health, history, religions, languages, customs and settlement and communication issues of migrants from West African background living in this municipality. Participants had the opportunity to ask questions and to enjoy West African food. An



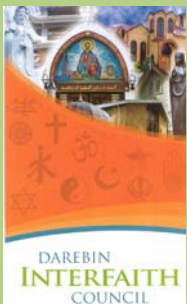
evaluation of the session indicated that 99.68% of participants found the session to be new, helpful, informative and relevant to their work. 100% considered the presenter to be well informed on the material presented, organised, interesting and well related to the audience. The catering rated at 9 out of 10 and 99.6% found the venue comfortable while 99.9% found it appropriate. Some of the comments provided indicated that people are interested in receiving more information on how to assist migrant groups in settling and feeling welcome and they regarded the presentation as an excellent introduction on the West African communities.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS BOOKLET

This booklet is due to be launched on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April, at 12 noon at the Shire Hall, Preston, by the Chairman of the Victorian Multicultural commission, Mr George Lekakis. It is a new Council resource available in English, Italian, Greek, Chinese, Arabic, Macedonian, and Vietnamese. It contains a list of questions residents ask the Darebin Council on a regular basis. It offers residents and in particular those from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities an easy to access reference to information and services provided by the Darebin City Council. It is available to residents as hardcopies from Customer Service Centres, and online at the Darebin City Council's website at [www.darebin.vic.gov.au](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au).



## Fostering Interfaith Dialogue



The Darebin Interfaith Council (DIC) was first launched on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2005 when it held its inaugural meeting. The DIC is a collaborative partnership between faith leaders aimed at providing leadership, information, guidance and inspiration to the local community on matters related to faith and benefits of interfaith collaboration, comprehension and dialogue. The DIC has held so far three Interfaith Summits with another three planned for 2006. At the summits, participants listen to guest speakers and discuss issues of interest and importance to the community and to their interaction and development as an Interfaith Council.

For further information on the Darebin Interfaith Council, you can contact Dalal Smiley, Coordinator, Multicultural Affairs on 8470 8411.

"On the Record" is a newsletter which is a joint initiative of the Darebin City Council and the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council. It is published on the internet and contains news and articles related to multicultural activities, projects and services provided by the Council. If you would like to find out about the content of the newsletter in your language, please call the Council's Multilingual Telephone Line on 8470 8470 and ask to be connected to David Diaz or Dalal Smiley.

### Arabic

"في السجل" (On the record) نشرة أخبارية عبارة عن مبادرة مشتركة بين مجلس مدينة داربين ومجلس داربين للجاليات الإثنية. النشرة تصدر إلكترونياً على الإنترنت وتتناول أخباراً ومقالات عن الأنشطة والمشاريع المتعددة ثقافياً والخدمات التي يقدمها المجلس. إذا أردت معرفة المزيد عن محتويات النشرة بلغتك فالرجاء الإتصال بخط المجلس متعدد اللغات على الرقم 8470 8470 والطلب منهم إيصالك إما بدافيد دياز أو دلال سمايلي.

### Bosnian

"On the record" je naziv biltena koji predstavlja zajedničku inicijativu Gradske općine Darebin i Vijeća etničkih zajednica u Darebinu. Izdaje se na Internetu i sadrži vijesti i članke vezane za multikulturalne aktivnosti, projekte i usluge koje pruža Općina. Ako želite da saznate o sadržaju ovog biltena na vašem jeziku, molimo nazovite općinsku višejezičnu telefonsku službu na telefon 8470 8470 i tražite da vas spoje sa Davidom Diazom ili Dalal Smiley.

### Chinese

"進程記錄" (On the record) 是戴瑞賓市議會與戴瑞賓民族社區委員會聯合創辦的新聞通信。它將在互聯網上發佈，其中將包含與多元文化活動相關的新聞和文章，以及與市議會所提供的項目及服務相關的報導和介紹。如果您希望透過自己的母語瞭解有關新聞通信的內容，請致電市議會多語種專線 8470 8470，與 David Diaz 先生 或 Dalal Smiley 女士聯絡。

### Croatian

"On the record" je novinska brošura pripremljena zajedničkom inicijativnom Općine Darebin i Vijeća etničkih zajednica Darebin. Objavljuje se na internetu i sadrži vijesti i članke vezane za multikulturalne aktivnosti, projekte i usluge koje pruža Općina. Ako želite više saznati o sadržaju ovog novinskog biltena na svom jeziku, molimo nazovite općinsku višejezičnu telefonsku liniju na 8470 8470 i zamolite da vam se javi David Diaz ili Dalal Smiley.

### Greek

"On the record" (Στο αρχείο) είναι ένα ενημερωτικό δελτίο που είναι μια κοινή πρωτοβουλία του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου του Darebin και του Εθνικού Συμβουλίου Κοινοτήτων του Darebin. Δημοσιεύεται στο διαδίκτυο και περιέχει ειδήσεις και άρθρα που σχετίζονται με πολυπολιτισμικές δραστηριότητες, προγράμματα και υπηρεσίες που παρέχονται από το Συμβούλιο. Εάν θέλετε να μάθετε περισσότερα σχετικά με το περιεχόμενο του ενημερωτικού δελτίου στη γλώσσα σας, παρακαλούμε καλέστε την Πολύγλωσση Τηλεφωνική Γραμμή του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου στο 8470 8470 και ζητήστε να συνδεθείτε με το David Diaz ή Dalal Smiley

### **Italian**

“On the record” è un nuovo bollettino nato dalla collaborazione tra il Comune di Darebin ed il Consiglio delle comunità etniche di Darebin (Darebin Ethnic Communities Council). Viene pubblicato su internet e contiene notizie ed articoli relativi alle attività, i progetti ed i servizi multiculturali forniti dal Comune. Chi fosse interessato a conoscere il contenuto del bollettino nella propria lingua può rivolgersi alla Linea telefonica multilingue del Comune al numero 8470 8470 e chiedere di essere messo in comunicazione con David Diaz o Dalai Smiley.

### **Macedonian**

“On the record” е списание издадено од страна на Darebin City Council и Darebin Ethnic Communities Council. Се објавува на интернет и содржи новости и артикли во врска со мултикултурните активности, проекти и услуги кои се обезбедуваат од страна на Општината. Ако сакате да дознаете повеќе за содржината на списанието на ваш јазик, јавете се на повеќејазичната телефонска линија на Општината на 8470 8470 и побарајте да ве поврзат со David Diaz или Dalal Smiley.

### **Portuguese**

“On the record” é um boletim informativo produzido em conjunto pelo Conselho da Cidade de Darebin e pelo Conselho das Comunidades Étnicas de Darebin. Ele é publicado na Internet e contém notícias e artigos relacionados a atividades multiculturais, projetos e serviços fornecidos pelo Conselho. Se você deseja conhecer o conteúdo do informativo em seu idioma, por favor telefone para a Council's Multilingual Telephone Line (Linha de Atendimento Multilíngüe) no número 8470 8470 e peça para entrar em contato com David Diaz ou Dalal Smiley.

### **Serbian**

“On the record” је билтен који је заједничка иницијатива општине Darebin City и Већа етничких заједница у Darebin-у. Објављује се на Интернету и садржи вести и чланке који се тичу мултикултурних активности, пројеката и услуга које пружа општина. Ако желите да сазнате шта садржи билтен на вашем језику, молимо вас назовите општинску вишејезичку телефонску линију на 8470 8470 и замолиите да вас повежу са Давидом Дијазом (David Diaz) или Далалом Смајлијем (Dalal Smiley).

### **Somali**

“On the record” waa warside ay soo wada saaraan Golaha Degmada Darebin iyo Golaha Jaalliyadaha Qawmiyadaha Darebin. Waxaa lagu daabacaa Internet-ka waxaana ku qoran akhbaar iyo maqaallo la xiriira xarakaadyada dadka dhaqamada kala duwan, mashruucyada iyo adeegyada goluhu bixiyo. Haddii aad jeclaan lahayd in afkaaga laguugu sheego waxa warsedaha ku qoran, fadlan wac Khadka Telefoonka Luqadaha Kala-duwan ee Golaha telefoonka: 8470 8470 weydiina in laguugu xiro David Diaz ama Dalal Smiley.

**Spanish**

“On the record” es un boletín que ha sido desarrollado como parte de una iniciativa conjunta entre el Concejo Municipal de Darebin y el Consejo de Comunidades Etnicas de Darebin. El boletín se publica en el Internet y contiene noticias y artículos acerca de actividades multiculturales, proyectos y servicios prestados por el Consejo Municipal. Si usted desea enterarse del contenido del boletín en su idioma sírvase ponerse en contacto con la Línea Telefónica Multilingüe del Consejo Municipal llamando al 8470 8470 y pida que le comuniquen con David Diaz o Dalal Smiley.

**Vietnamese**

“On the record” là bản tin do chương trình cộng tác của Hội đồng Thành phố Darebin và Hội đồng các Cộng đồng Sắc tộc Darebin phát hành và được phổ biến trên internet. Nội dung bản tin gồm có tin tức và các bài viết liên quan đến các hoạt động, đề án và dịch vụ đa văn hóa do Hội đồng Thành phố cung cấp. Nếu muốn biết thêm về nội dung bản tin bằng tiếng Việt, xin điện thoại cho Đường dây Điện thoại Đa ngôn ngữ của Hội đồng Thành phố qua số 8470 8470 và yêu cầu được nói chuyện với ông David Diaz hoặc bà Dalal Smiley.