



World Music Concert Program 2011 Victorian Seniors Festival

Kutcha Edwards

Kutcha is a Mutti Mutti man, born in Balranald, New South Wales. He was 'stolen' at 18 months and denied his birthrite to grow with his family, to experience his culture and to live his identity. As a teenager he was reunited with his family and so his journey began to retrieve his identity and reclaim what was denied him, his family and his community. Music became his voice to express community stories and his own song line. For many years he was the lead singer in Blackfire and has since formed Kutcha Edwards and Band. His motivation is simple...to heal the spirit, strengthen community and family. It is his gift that in his own journey of healing he is able to help heal others.



Afro Habesha Band

Perform Ethiopian traditional and contemporary music and dance. It is soulful, vibrant, visually and aurally beautiful. Vocalist Seble Girma fronts a combination of some of Melbourne's finest instrumentalists, including the cream of Ethiopian-Australian artists, combining traditional instruments, horn section and a modern rhythm section that 'rocks'. The band is accompanied by energetic and colourful dancers whose costume changes reflect the rich diversity of Ethiopian traditional culture.



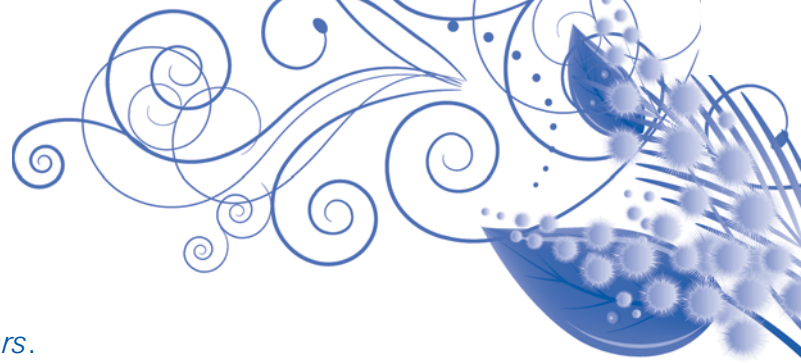
Ruth Roshan and Tango Noir

Bringing you the atmosphere of a 1930's French salon, laden with flair, elegance and sauciness, Ruth Roshan and Tango Noir take you on a musical journey into the thrilling world of tango from Italy, France and Argentina. Ruth began learning the mandolin at the age of five, and has played professionally since she was a teenager. She is also an accomplished singer with a gentle and beautiful voice.

Performing with an exceptionally talented group of musicians as 'Tango Noir' the result is fresh arrangements of classic pieces as well as original compositions.



Editor's Note



I am excited about this issue of *Our Golden Years*.

We are very pleased to once again co-present the World Music Concert which has had a lot of success in past years. It is a great free activity for seniors of all communities. With music from different cultures, it is a fantastic way to appreciate each other's differences.

Kind wishes this Spring, and I hope you enjoy this issue of *Our Golden Years*.

Dr Irene Bouzo

Editor

Refugee Recognition Award



On behalf of the Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria, I congratulate Mr Nallaratnam Sivarasa JP who was added to the Victorian Refugee Recognition Record (VRRR) for 2011.

The VRRR is an awards program which recognises individuals of a refugee background for their outstanding community work.

Organised by the Victorian Multicultural Commission, the VRRR celebrates the positive contributions made by people of refugee background to our Australian society. Mr Sivarasa became a recipient during Refugee Week in June 2011 at the Immigration Museum, Melbourne for his dedicated work in the Tamil Senior Citizens Fellowship (Victoria). He has played a leadership role as an office bearer, secretary and editor of its bilingual newsletter for many years. The needs of seniors from refugee backgrounds are many and varied. Mr Sivarasa has worked extensively to improve their health literacy, access to services and to overcome social isolation. He has worked closely with ECCV and is valued for his outstanding role in fostering community harmony and improving the quality of life for the frail, older members of the Tamil community. This is a well-deserved award and we wish him all the best for his future community work.

Photo above: Mr Nick Wakeling MP presents Mr Sivarasa with his certificate



*Mr Sivarasa at the VRRR Ceremony
Photographer: Vicki Jones*