

Welcome to the MHP's new look newsletter. As we move to an enhanced digital presence, we hope to provide you with more regular, brief, up-dates on our work throughout the year. We promise not to send you too many emails!

The last twelve months was a big year for the MHP with two exhibitions held; *Migration to the Illawarra* and *The Illawarra Food Business*.

The *Migration to the Illawarra* exhibition, a collaborative exhibition with the University of Wollongong, ran from 12 October 2016 to 22 January 2017. Eva Castle from the MHP was a joint curator for the exhibition and Gregor Cullen provided the artwork and design for the MHP panels. The exhibition was launched by Hakan Harman, CEO of Multicultural NSW. As part of the exhibition a presentation and panel discussion was held on 'Illawarra Migration Heritage, How Wollongong Changed the Nation'. Following a presentation by Professor Andrew Jakubowicz (University of Technology Sydney) Dr Glenn Mitchell and Professor Stephen Castles joined in a panel discussion chaired by Franca Facci. 'Telling your Migration Story' workshop was held on 21 January 2017 as part of the exhibition. Lucia Parrella from [Art Incontro](#) was engaged by MHP to facilitate this workshop and the MHP book ['Every Story Counts'](#) was utilised for this workshop.



Franca Facci, Chairperson of the Migration Heritage Project, at the launch of The Illawarra Food Business Exhibition

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The Illawarra Food Business Exhibition was launched by the Lord Mayor, Cr Gordon Bradbery, on 24 June 2017. This exhibition was curated by the MHP Committee. The research and stories for this exhibition was provided by Zofia Laba with Gregor Cullen providing the artwork and design for the exhibition panels. Following the launch, the exhibition was displayed in the Wollongong Local Studies Library then was moved to the Crown Central Shopping Centre. Other venues to house this exhibition continue to be sourced, including the Burelli Street Civic Plaza Art Container in January 2018 so if you are down that way and haven't seen the exhibition yet (or even if you want to see it again in a fit for purpose exhibition space) it will be installed 11 or 12 December and will remain there for about 2 or 3 weeks. Negotiations are currently underway to exhibit the panels in shop fronts along Globe Lane. As a result of the launch a number of opportunities were

identified as potential collaborative exhibitions or workshops into the new year.

The MHP Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 7 December 2017 and the following office bearers were elected: Franca Facci (Chair), Fidelia Pontarolo (Secretary), Zofia Laba, Darinka Radinovic, Marzia Bonacina Zochil, Loan Nittel (Committee). Gregor Cullen will also continue his association with MHP as a project partner in the role of Creative Director. If anyone else is willing to fulfill any project partner roles as they arise please contact Franca Facci at mhp@1earth.net or if you would like to form part of the committee, even if you cannot make every meeting, you are more than welcome, just let Franca know.

The MHP was nominated for the 2017 Multicultural Communities Council of Illawarra (MCCI) Award in the Excellence in Cultural and Community Events Category. We are happy to advise that the MHP was awarded a Highly Commended and a number of the MHP committee were on hand at the MCCI Gala dinner to receive this award as well as congratulate all the winners. The MCCI have posted a link to the album of photos from the evening on the [MCCI Facebook](#) site.

The MHP has made a strategic decision to develop a new and more dynamic website. Initial preparations have commenced this month with the bulk of the work to start in January 2018 with a potential launch date in March 2018. MHP have engaged [CleverLINK](#) to develop the new website. CleverLINK has had a long association with the MHP and is not only a local company but Camtu Pham, the Director of CleverLINK, is a migrant herself and supports the importance of migrant heritage in the Illawarra.

The MHP committee will be taking a Christmas break and won't meet again until 1 February 2017.

We thank you for your support over the year and would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families all the very best for the festive season.

This email has been sent to you because you have expressed interest in the MHP in the past. If you no longer wish to receive emails from the MHP please reply asking to be removed from our mailing list. Your details will not be shared with any other organisation or person.

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