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Diversicare's January Story

"Hi! My name is Taeko Shimbori. I am of Japanese origin. I started coming to Australia as a tourist around 1990 and finally came to live here in 2000.

"I had previously lived in Bangkok, Thailand, with my family during the 1970s before coming to Australia.

"Some of the positive experiences I have had since coming to Australia are how friendly and helpful my neighbours are, which I appreciate very much.

"I am very happy to have met doctors in Australia as I had two big operations (e.g. bowel cancer) and I have full trust in the doctors here. They were very nice to me. I had never experienced such pleasantness in Japan.

"One of the challenges I have faced is that I cannot speak the Australian language and that has limited my movement in Australia.

But I have managed because everyone is patient and kind and I feel that I have been able to communicate and understand without the use of much language.

"I have a very good neighbour who is a retired soldier and who fought against the Japanese soldiers yet he loves Japanese people. He is 90 years old and he takes me for lunch, and even though he doesn't speak a word of Japanese and I don't speak much English, we still manage to have lunch and have a good time.

"I feel a little sad for the Japanese elderly people because not enough respect is shown to them in Japan. They are the ones who built Japan when they were young; they worked hard after the war and rebuilt the country. The young people don't see and appreciate that, which is sad as the Japanese culture has a strong respect for elders.

"Some of the services I receive here are better than what I had received in Japan.

"I do not have any complaints about the aged care system or how to improve it – I give a score of 10 out of 10 – outstanding!"



January 2014 Celebrations Around the World

- 1st Feast of St Basil, Greece – commemorating one of the greatest leaders and thinkers of the Orthodox Christian Church. In many Greek homes a special cake is baked on St Basil's Day Eve with a gold or silver coin inside.
- 5th Birth of Guru Gobind Singh (the tenth) – on this day people of the Sikh faith honour the birth of the founder of Khalsa (all baptised Sikhs).
- 6th Epiphany Day – celebrates the journey of the three Wise Men to Bethlehem to offer gifts to baby Jesus. The Eastern Church also associates this day with the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist.
- 7th Nativity of Christ – Eastern Orthodox churches that use the Julian calendar celebrate Christmas on this day.
- 13th Maw lid el-Nabi – Islamic commemoration the birthday of Prophet Muhammad. Shia Muslims celebrate five days later.
- 13th Maghi – the occasion when Sikhs commemorate the sacrifice of 40 Sikhs who fought for Guru Gobind Singh.
- 19th Religion Day – observed in over 80 countries. The aim of this day is to foster interfaith understanding and harmony by emphasising the common elements underlying all religion.
- 20th Martin Luther King Jr Day, USA – celebrates the life and achievements of Martin Luther King, Jr, leader of the civil rights movement which successfully protested racial discrimination. He was assassinated in 1968.
- 25th Burns Night, Scotland – commemorates the life of Robert Burns, poet and balladeer, born on 25 January 1759. His best known work is "Auld Lang Syne".
- 26th Australia Day – this day commemorates the first landing in Australia by Captain Arthur Phillip. Celebratory day for all Australians regardless of origin.
- 31st Chinese New Year – begins a fifteen-day Festival for Chinese people of all religions. Family reunions with thanksgiving and remembrance of ancestors take place. Traditionally a religious ceremony honouring heaven and earth.
- 31st Vietnamese New Year – Tet Nguen Dan or Tet for short is the occasion to express respect for ancestors as well as welcoming the New Year with beloved family members.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		DEC 2013 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	NEW MOON New Year's Day public holiday Feast of St Basil – Greece Holy Name of Jesus Gantan-sai (New Year) – Shinto Independence Day – Haiti Independence Day – Sudan	2	3	4 Independence Day – Myanmar/Burma
5 Twelfth Night – Christian Birth of Guru Gobind Singh – Sikh	6 Epiphany Day – Christian Feast of Theophany – Orthodox Christian Nativity of Christ – Armenian Orthodox	7 Nativity of Christ – Orthodox Christian	FIRST QTR 8	9	10	11
12 Baptism of the Lord – Christian	13 Mawlid al-Nabi – Islam Maghi – Sikh St Knut's Day – Finland, Sweden	14 New Year – Eastern Orthodox Christian Tamil New Year – Hindu Makarsankranti/Pongal – Hindu	15	FULL MOON 16 Tu b'Shevat – Jewish 16-19 Mahayana New Year – Buddhist	17	18 Mawlid al-Nabi – (Shia) Islam 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
19 World Religion Day – Baha'i Timkat/Theophany – Eastern Orthodox Christian	20 Martin Luther King Jr Day – USA Martyrs' Memorial Day – Azerbaijan	21 Anniversary Day – Wellington, NZ	22	23	LAST QTR 24	25 Conversion of St Paul – Christian Burns Night – Scotland
26 Australia Day National Day – Maldives Republic Day – India	Australia Day public holiday 27 Anniversary Day – Auckland, NZ International Day of Commemoration in Memory of Victims of the Holocaust	28 Feast of the Holy Family – Christian	29	NEW MOON 30	31 Chinese New Year – Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist Vietnamese New Year Solnal – Korea Guru-Har Rai Birthday – Sikh	FEB 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

January 2014

“When in Rome, do as the Romans do.”
– English Proverb

Diversicare's February Story

"My name is Shemsa and I arrived in Australia alone, without my family, in 2011 when I was 75 years old."

"Before I arrived in this peaceful country, I lived in an Eritrean refugee camp for 5 years. I have not seen my home country of Somalia for 7 years.

"I cannot report too many positive experiences to you. My life here has had many difficulties from the first day. I have had very mixed experiences since my arrival.

"On the day of my arrival I fell from moving escalators in the airport and broke my knee. I was in hospital for one week.

"Then a Somali family visited me. They knew of my family back home and invited me to come home with them. I lived with them for 8 months.

"I visited a shopping centre and fell on another moving escalator. This time I broke my shoulder and lost 50% movement in my right arm. It became very difficult for me to look after daily tasks myself.

"I came to rely more and more on the friends of my family for help. Now I live with another Somali family in the neighbourhood which looks after me at the moment.



"I am really homeless and need a lot of help. It is the moral and emotional support from members of the Somali community which comforts me and helps me to cope.

"In the Somali culture elderly people are highly respected and their wisdom is sought after by the younger generation in order to inherit knowledge and treasured values. In Somalia I would be living, surrounded by three or four generations of family members, seeking my advice and tending to my needs as I get older.

"I am now 78 years old. In the time I have been in Australia I have not had any experiences with the aged care system. I did not know there was assistance. Nobody told me.

"It is all new to me. Just a short while ago some aged care services have made contact with me and I hope I will get help for my needs soon. I am homeless and very isolated. I need personal support and also activities to keep me engaged socially. At the moment I am always alone in my room.

"I cannot give advice to others because everything is still new and strange for me here. I hope my life will be better when I get assistance, and especially from the day my daughter and son-in-law with their children can join me from the refugee camp in Eritrea where I used to live with them. They will look after me. I have been waiting for that day for two long years..."

February 2014 Celebrations Around the World

- 2nd Candlemas – celebration of three Feasts: Feast of the Purification of the Virgin, the Meeting of the Lord, and the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.
- 3rd Setsubun-sai, Japan – a festival held a day before the start of Spring. Japanese rituals are performed to chase away evil.
- 4th Vasant Panchami – also Shri Panchami, Saraswati Panchami, Saraswati Puja, or the Festival of Kites, is a Sikh and Hindu festival. It is a day dedicated to Maa Saraswati, the Goddess of knowledge, music, arts, science and technology.
- 6th Waitangi Day, New Zealand – commemorates the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, New Zealand's founding document, on 6 February 1840. The Treaty made New Zealand a part of the British Empire, guaranteed Maori rights to their land and gave Maori the rights of British citizens.
- 7th Independence Day, Grenada – Grenadians celebrate their independence from the United Kingdom, which took place on February 7, 1974.
- 14th St Valentine's Day – an official feast day in the Anglican Communion, as well as in the Lutheran Church, in honour of early Christian saint Valentinus.
- 15th Nirvana Day or Parinirvana Day – a regional observance of the day when the Buddha is said to have achieved complete Nirvana, upon the death of his physical body at the age of 80.
- 16th Triodion – (movable Feast) the period before the Great Lent.
- 16th Independence Day, Lithuania – commemorates the 1918 declaration of independence from Russia. In 1990, the country again declared independence from the Soviet Union.
- 17th Independence Day, Kosovo – the sixth anniversary of declaration of independence from Serbia.
- 26th Ayyam-I-Ha – four or five days (Intercalary days) inserted into the calendar to adjust the Baha'i year to the solar cycle. Gifts, parties and public meetings are held to share the faith.
- 28th Maha Shivaratri – a Hindu festival celebrated every year in reverence of Lord Shiva. The festival is principally celebrated by offerings of Bael or Bilva/Vilvam leaves to Lord Shiva, all-day fasting and an all-night vigil.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<div>JAN 2014</div> <div> <div>S</div> <div>M</div> <div>T</div> <div>W</div> <div>T</div> <div>F</div> <div>S</div> </div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> <div>13</div> <div>14</div> <div>15</div> <div>16</div> <div>17</div> <div>18</div> <div>19</div> <div>20</div> <div>21</div> <div>22</div> <div>23</div> <div>24</div> <div>25</div> <div>26</div> <div>27</div> <div>28</div> <div>29</div> <div>30</div> <div>31</div> </div>	1
2 Candlemas – Christian	3 Setsubun-Sai – Japan	4 Vasant Panchami – Hindu National Day – Sri Lanka World Cancer Day	5	FIRST QTR 6 Waitangi Day – New Zealand	7 Independence Day – Grenada	8
9 Kindness Awareness Week – International	10	11 National Foundation Day – Japan	12 Lincoln's Birthday – USA	13	FULL MOON 14 St Valentine's Day – Christian Lantern Festival – China/Taiwan	15 Nirvana Day – Buddhist
16 Tridion Begins – Christian Magha Puja Day – Buddhist Independence Day – Lithuania	17 Independence Day – Kosovo	18 Independence Day – Gambia	19	20 World Day of Social Justice	21	LAST QTR 22
23	24 Independence Day – Estonia	25 Independence Day – Kuwait People Power Day – Philippines	26 26-01/3 Intercalary Days – Baha'i	27 Independence Day – Dominican Republic	28 Kalevala Day – Finland Maha Shivaratri – Hindu	<div>MARCH 2014</div> <div> <div>S</div> <div>M</div> <div>T</div> <div>W</div> <div>T</div> <div>F</div> <div>S</div> </div> <div> <div>30</div> <div>31</div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> <div>13</div> <div>14</div> <div>15</div> <div>16</div> <div>17</div> <div>18</div> <div>19</div> <div>20</div> <div>21</div> <div>22</div> <div>23</div> <div>24</div> <div>25</div> <div>26</div> <div>27</div> <div>28</div> <div>29</div> </div>

February 2014

“Two wrongs don’t make a right.”
– English Proverb

Diversicare's March Story

Mrs Evelyn Bansen arrived in Australia from Berlin, Germany, more than 50 years ago with her late husband to have a better life.

They arrived by boat, their trip paid for by the Australian Government. They had to stay for a minimum of two years but Mrs Bansen and her husband decided to stay for good as they liked Australia.

Sadly Mrs Bansen's husband passed away at a young age and she had to raise her only daughter by herself.

Later her late mother from Germany joined her in Australia and lived here until she died.

Lack of finance was one of the issues they had to face. They had to live in a garage.

Evelyn was also very homesick but later adapted to Australia as she found the people to be very friendly.

There were also no varieties of German food available, unlike now.



Mrs Bansen loves the laid back life in Australia and she thinks that it would be hard to go back to Germany now to live.

Although Evelyn is happy with the current care and services she receives from Diversicare, she feels that more needs to be done as the Australian population, especially in Queensland, is ageing.

She thinks that the elderly should be looked after with better pension rates. Also that people with mental illness should have specialised care in aged care homes.

She believes there should be more funding towards aged care services from the Government.

Her advice to newly arrived immigrants is to learn English quickly and understand the Australian system. This will make life less distressing. Personally this helped her to settle easily in Australia.

March 2014 Celebrations Around the World

- 1st Independence Movement Day, Korea (Samiljeol) – commemorates the Declaration of Independence proclaimed on March 1, 1919, while under Japanese colonisation.
- 1st St David's Day, Wales – the day commemorates the patron saint of Wales and is the national day of celebration for Welsh people. Celtic Christian saint known for his wisdom and missionary work.
- 8th International Women's Day – celebrates the contribution and achievements of all women. It is an opportunity to remember the barriers that women have broken through and the accomplishments that have been achieved.
- 16th Purim – commemorates the deliverance of the Jewish people in the ancient Persian Empire from destruction in the wake of a plot by Haman. It is celebrated by giving mutual gifts of food and drink, and giving charity to the poor.
- 16th Magha Puja Day – Buddhist celebration of the presentation of teachings by Lord Buddha to an assembly of holy men.
- 17th Hola Mohalla – a Sikh day when mock battles are fought and martial arts are displayed.
- 17th St Patrick's Day – Christian celebration of St Patrick who brought Christianity to Ireland in the early days of the faith.
- 19th St Joseph's Day – Christian remembrance of Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus.
- 21st Harmony Day, Australia – celebrates Australia's diversity. It's about community participation, inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging for everyone.
- 21st NawRuz – meaning a 'new day' in Persian, is a traditional festival of Spring that has been celebrated for more than 3,000 years by Iranian, Baha'i and Kurdish peoples.
- 25th Independence Day, Greece – War of Independence against the Ottoman Empire lasted for almost 9 years (1821-1830). It ended with the creation of an independent Greek State.
- 29th Earth Hour – the time when people around the globe switch off their lights from 8:30 pm – 9: 30 pm as a symbolic act of global unity to help reduce global warming.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NEW MOON 30	31 Yugadi (New Year) – South India	APRIL 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			FEB 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	NEW MOON 1 Independence Day – Bosnia Herzegovina Independence Day – Korea St David of Wales – Christian
2 Clean Up Australia Day Transfiguration Sunday – Christian Meatfare Sunday – Christian Orthodox 2-20 Nineteen Day Fast – Baha'i	Labour Day (WA) 3 Clean Monday (Lent begins) – Orthodox Christian	4 Shrove Tuesday – Christian	5 Ash Wednesday – Christian	6 Independence Day – Ghana	7 World Day of Prayer – Christian	FIRST QTR 8 International Women's Day – UN
9 Orthodox Sunday – Orthodox Christian	Canberra Day (ACT) Labour Day (VIC) Adelaide Cup (SA) Eight Hours Day (TAS) 10	11	12 Independence Day – Mauritius	13 L. Ron Hubbard's birthday – Scientology	14	15 15-16 Purim – Jewish
FULL MOON 16	17 St Patrick's Day – Christian Holi – Hindu Hola Mohalla – Sikh	18 Flag Day – Aruba	19 St Joseph's Day – Christian	20 Independence Day – Tunisia International Day of Happiness	21 NawRuz – Baha'i Norouz – Persian/Zoroastrian International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Harmony Day – Australia	22 Emancipation Day – Puerto Rico
23 National Day – Pakistan	LAST QTR 24	25 Independence Day – Greece Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Christian	26 Independence Day – Bangladesh Khordad Sal (Birth of Zarathustra) – Zoroastrian	27	28	29 Earth Hour – International

March 2014

**“Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is
about creating yourself.”**

– George Bernard Shaw

Diversicare's April Story

Guess how old Mrs Malie Wynberg is?

Malie was born in Medan, Indonesia. Her father was of Jewish descent born in Holland and her mother was a Swiss Protestant who was born in Chile, South America.

Malie's early life was full of adventure and travel. Her family lived in Holland where she and her sister completed their high school but then had to leave for England because of the war.

When she was 23 years old, Malie and her sister were travelling from South America to England when their ship was torpedoed. Miraculously they survived and were on a life boat for almost 20 hours.

Malie met her husband of Dutch descent in London; although they had lived close by in Holland, they had never met each other.

She believes it was destiny that brought them together as it was love at first sight.

They arrived in Australia in August 1951 with their three children.

One of the first things they had to do was to enrol their two older children in school and Malie praised the Principal from a Sydney primary school as he placed them in the same grade although they were 14 months apart as they could not speak English.

Malie is very happy with the current aged care services she is receiving from Diversicare and is grateful for the introduction of home and community care by the Government.

She feels that learning English to communicate will help newly arrived immigrants to settle into the country.

Malie has such a positive attitude and only has good things to say about people and systems.

She says that she is grateful for her life and enjoys reunions with her family of three children, four grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Malie is almost 95 years old and is still going strong.



April 2014 **Celebrations Around the World**

- 4th** Independence Day, Senegal – Senegal won its independence from France. A national holiday celebrated with particularly grand festivities in the capital city of Dakar.
- 8th** Ramanavami – Hindu celebration of the birth of Lord Rama, hero of the religious epic poem, The Ramayana.
- 14th** Baisakhi – in India, is the beginning of a new solar year and harvest season, also commemorates the baptism of five brave Sikhs who offered to give their lives for their faith.
- 14-22** Pesach (Passover) – an important Jewish festival celebrating the liberation of the Jews from slavery 3,000 years ago by God, under the leadership of Moses.
- 16th** Queen's Birthday, Denmark – celebrates the birthday of Queen Margrethe II. Born in 1940, she was crowned in 1972 and is Denmark's first female monarch in almost 600 years.
- 18th** Good Friday – Christian remembrance of the crucifixion of Jesus and related events.
- 20th** Easter Sunday – the day commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from his death by crucifixion. It is the most significant event of the Christian calendar.
- 21st** First Day of Ridvan – Baha'i commemoration of the 12-day period in 1863 when Ba-ha'u'llah declared that he was God's messenger for this age. Work is suspended on days 1, 9, and 12.
- 23rd** St George Day – commemorates the Patron Saint of England.
- 25th** ANZAC Day – Australians mark the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the first World War (1914-1918), at Gallipoli.
- 25th** Hanuman Jayanthi – Hindus celebrate the birth of Hanuman the Monkey God.
- 26th** Union Day – on this day in 1964, the East African countries of Tanganyika and Zanzibar merged to form the United Republic of Tanzania.
- 27th** Freedom Day – an annual celebration of South Africa's first non-racial democratic elections of 1994.
- 27th** Yom HaShoah – Jewish Holocaust Day. Established to remember the six million Jews killed by the Nazis during 1933-1945. It is observed by many non-Jews as well.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<div>MARCH 2014</div> <div>S M T W T F S</div> <div>30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29</div>	1	2	3	4	5
			World Autism Awareness Day – UN		Independence Day – Senegal	
6	FIRST QTR7	8	9	10	11	12
Chakri Day – Thailand	Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Rwanda Genocide	Ramanavami – Hindu	Independence Day – Georgia			Lazarus Saturday – Orthodox Christian
13	14	FULL MOON15	16	17	Good Friday public holiday18	Easter Saturday public holiday19
Palm Sunday – Christian Mahavir Jayanti – Jain	Baisakhi New Year – Sikh, Hindu 14-22 Pesach (Passover) – Jewish	Hanuman Jayant – Hindu Bengali New Year – Hindu Lord’s Evening Meal – Jehovah’s Witness	Queen’s Birthday – Denmark	Maundy Thursday – Christian Independence Day – Syria	Good Friday – Christian Guru Tegh Bahadur Birthday – Sikh	Easter Saturday – Christian
20	Easter Monday public holiday21	LAST QTR22	23	24	Anzac Day25	26
Easter Sunday – Christian	First Day of Ridvan – Baha’i Easter Monday – Christian Kartini Day – Indonesia	Earth Day – International	St George’s Day – Christian	Martyrs Day – Armenia	Liberation Day – Italy	Union Day – Tanzania
27	28	NEW MOON29	30	<div>MAY 2014</div> <div>S M T W T F S</div> <div>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</div>		
Yom HaShoah – Jewish Freedom Day – South Africa Independence Day – Sierra Leone	World Day for Safety & Health at Work	Ninth Day of Ridvan – Baha’i Showa no hi – Japan	St James the Great Day – Christian			

April 2014

“Where there is love there is life.”

– Mahatma Gandhi

Diversicare's May Story

Mr Leon Samson's original name is Leonidas Gostoglidis and he came from Diavato Imatia Berria, Greece.

He set out on an adventure from Greece to Australia when he was 21 years old as he had always wanted to do something big in his life – which he did!

Although Mr Samson had many jobs in his life – working on a farm, in a café, selling cars and businesses, his main career was being a 'strong man'.

Mr Samson used to bend metals using his mouth and his hands.

He also had a heavy block placed on his chest and had someone hit it with a hammer as one of his many daring acts!

Soon this became a show business and made him famous.

Mr Samson's show travelled to many cities, including Brisbane, Tasmania, and small towns in Australia.

Mr Samson was not only a local celebrity but he also became famous in Greece, New Zealand, Germany and New Caledonia.

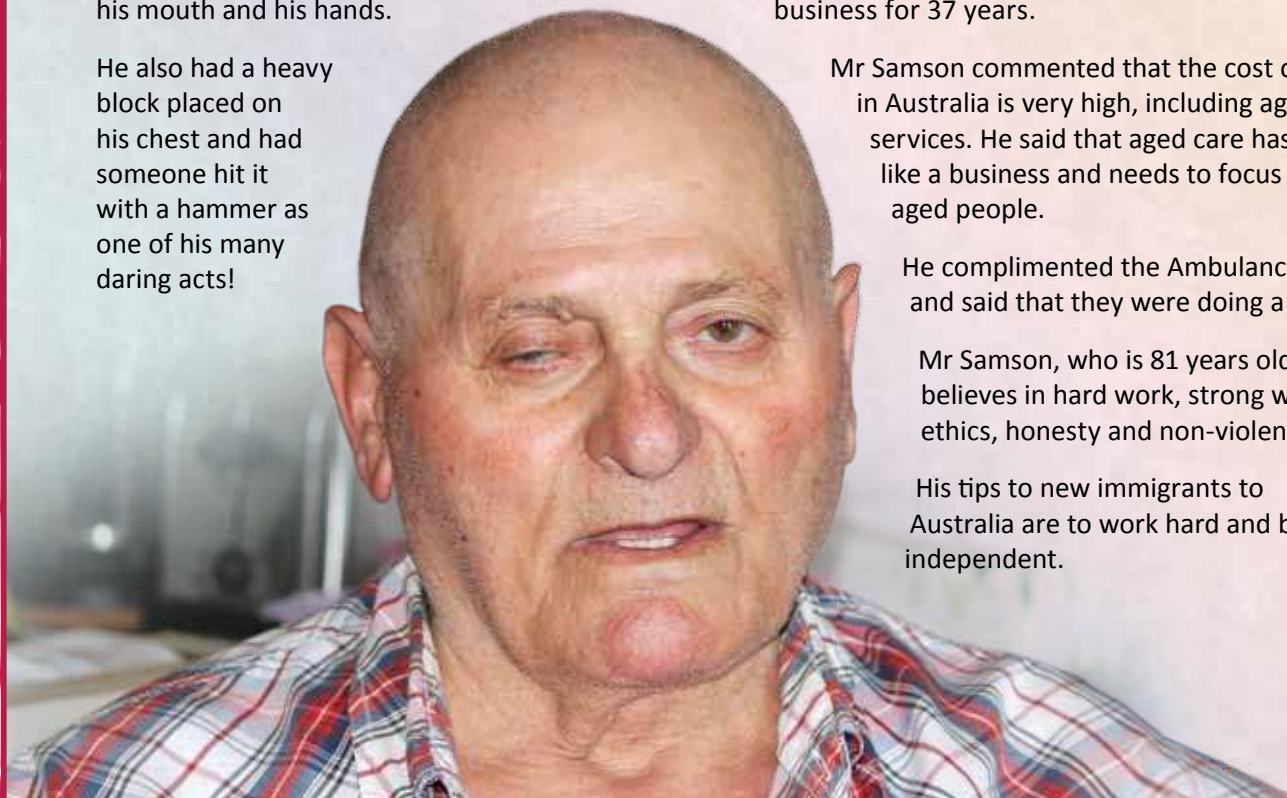
It was not long before the wall in Mr Samson's home was decorated with all the photos and newspaper articles of his shows. He was in show business for 37 years.

Mr Samson commented that the cost of living in Australia is very high, including aged care services. He said that aged care has become like a business and needs to focus on the aged people.

He complimented the Ambulance Service and said that they were doing a great job.

Mr Samson, who is 81 years old now, believes in hard work, strong work ethics, honesty and non-violence.

His tips to new immigrants to Australia are to work hard and become independent.



May 2014 Celebrations Around the World

- 1st Beltane – Wicca celebration of the conjoining of the goddess with the energy of the god in the sacred marriage which is the basis of all creation.
- 2nd Ridvan – completes the Baha'i commemoration of the twelve day period in 1863 when Baha'u'llah declared that he was God's messenger for this age. Work is suspended on this day.
- 3rd Constitution Day – the national day of Poland commemorates the enactment of the Polish Constitution that came into effect on May 3, 1791 (in Polish: Konstytucja Trzeciego Maja).
- 5th Netherlands National Liberation Day – marks the end of the occupation by Nazi Germany during World War II.
- 5th Europe Day – on this day in 1950, Robert Schuman, first President of the European Parliamentary Assembly, presented his proposal on the creation of an organised Europe.
- 5th Yom Ha'atzmaut – the national day of Israel, commemorating the Israeli Declaration of Independence in 1948.
- 14th Visakha Puja – commemorates Gautama Buddha's birthday, his enlightenment and his passing away (attainment of Nirvana).
- 15th Theravada New Year – festival for Theravada Buddhists, celebrated for three days from the first full moon day in April.
- 17th Constitution Day, Norway – commemorates the date when the nation's constitution was signed at Eidsvoll on May 17, 1814.
- 18th Lag B'Omer – Jewish observation of the counting of the day – the link – between Pesach and Shavuot.
- 21st World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development – an opportunity to increase understanding of cultural diversity and the positive impact it can have.
- 27th Lailat al-Miraj – Islamic observance of Mohammed's night journey from Mecca to Jerusalem and his ascension to heaven.
- 29th Ascension of Baha'u'llah – Baha'i recollection of the death of Baha'u'llah, the founder. Observed by prayers and readings.
- 29th Ascension of Jesus – Christian recognition of the departure of Jesus from earth after the resurrection. It is perhaps the earliest observed celebration in Christianity.
- 31st World No-Tobacco Day – aims to increase awareness of the health implications of tobacco usage.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JUNE 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			APRIL 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 National Day of Prayers – USA Beltane – Wicca Vappu Day – Finland International Workers’ Day	2 Akshara Tritiya – Hindu Guru Arjan Dev Birthday – Sikh Twelfth Day of Ridvan – Baha’i Akshara Tritiya – Hindu	3 Constitution Day – Poland World Press Freedom Day – UN
4 Yom Hazikaron – Jewish Memorial Day – Netherlands	May Day (NT) 5 Yom Ha’Atzmaut – Jewish Europe Day Netherlands National Liberation Day	6 Buddha’s Birthday – Hong Kong	FIRST QTR 7	8 World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day	9 Victory Day – Russia	10 Global Fiesta – Ipswich City
11 Mother’s Day – Australia	12	13 Vesak Day – Buddhist	FULL MOON 14 Visakha Puja (Buddha Day) – Buddhist	15 15-18 Theravada New Year – Buddhist Independence Day – Paraguay International Day of Families	16 Revolutionary Day – Republic of South Sudan	17 Constitution Day, Norway
18 Lag B’Omer – Jewish	19 Victoria Day – Canada	20 National Day – Cameroon	LAST QTR 21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development – UN	22 National Day – Yemen	23 Declaration of the Bab – Baha’i Guru Amar Das Birthday – Sikh	24 Greek Festival – Paniyiri Saturday Africa Day Celebration – QACC Independence Day – Eritrea Bermuda Day – Bermuda
25 African Liberation Day Greek festival – Paniyiri Sunday Africa Day Festival – QACC Independence Day – Jordan	26 National Sorry Day – Australia Independence Day – Guyana	27 Lailat al Miraj – Islam	NEW MOON 28 Yom Yerushalayim – Jewish Derg Downfall Day – Ethiopia Republic Day – Azerbaijan Republic Day – Nepal	29 Ascension of Jesus – Christian Ascension of Baha’u’llah – Baha’i	30 Joan of Arc Day – France	31 World No Tobacco Day 31-8/06 Queensland Week

May 2014

**“If you can’t change your fate, change
your attitude.”**

– Amy Tan

Diversicare's June Story

Ines and three of her four children arrived in Cairns from Chile on the 14th December 1989.

Her older daughter came with her husband and child to join the family the following year.

Ines accepted the invitation of her brother already living in Australia to come over.

After losing her husband who was killed in Chile in 1976 under the dictatorship of August Pinochet, Ines wanted a brighter future for her children.

The situation in the 1980s in Chile was chaotic and the economy was very bad.

Unfortunately, the year after her arrival in Australia, Ines had to undergo an operation for cancer of the thyroid. However, she is very grateful for how the Australian health system looked after her.

After recovering she did a 10 months intensive English course at TAFE. The day after Ines graduated from TAFE, she was offered a position at the Hilton Hotel in Cairns where she worked for 14 years.

Ines said that the worse thing about living in paradise is that "you never stop learning English!"

"The Australian aged care system works well but for someone like me it is hard to know about all the government programs. I am grateful that I started joining Diversicare's morning teas where I can meet friends and become informed.

"Regarding the subsidised aged care system in Chile, there is none, unless you do not have family or relatives who can care for you. However, you can pay AU\$500 to \$1,000 a month plus personal expenses for residential care. Some people even employ a full time "carer", not a nurse or a person with any skills or training, just domestic help!

"Where the average salary in Chile is \$200 to \$400 per month, it is not an option for the majority. Generally, elderly people stay in their own homes and are looked after by family or relatives.

"The biggest difference between Australia and Chile regarding the care of the elderly is that we spend lot of time with the family. Every Sunday we go and visit our grandparents and spend the day together. Despite their age or mental or physical condition, our grandparents are still important and respected members of our family!"



June 2014 Celebrations Around the World

- 3-5 Shavuot – Jewish celebration of Moses' descent from Mt Sinai with the Ten Commandments.
- 5th World Environment Day – the world's biggest and most widely celebrated environmental action event.
- 8th Pentecost – Christian observation of the day when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples in the form of fire and wind. It is a day for baptism and confirmation of new Christians.
- 10th Portugal Day – the Portuguese celebrate their national holiday known as Dia de Portugal, which marks the death of Luis de Camoes, a significant figure in the history of Portugal.
- 12th Independence Day, Philippines (Araw ng Kalayaan) – an annual national holiday for the Philippine Declaration of Independence from Spain in 1898.
- 12th World Day Against Child Labour – aims to focus attention on the global extent of child labour and efforts needed to eliminate it.
- 16th Martyrdom of Guru Arjan – Sikhs remember those who suffered for the faith. The day is observed by reading holy books.
- 19th Corpus Christi – Catholic Christian celebration in recognition of the Eucharist, the Blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ.
- 20-25 Refugee Week – since 1945, seven million people have come to Australia as new settlers, including more than 700,000 people under humanitarian programs. Australia's peak annual activity to raise awareness about the issues affecting refugees and celebrate their positive contributions.
- 26th International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking – a day used to raise awareness of the public health and safety that illicit drugs pose.
- 27th Sacred Heart – Catholic Christian occasion to pay homage to Christ's all-encompassing love for humanity.
- 27th National Reconciliation Week – Australia celebrates the rich culture of the first Australians.
- 28th Ramadan begins – one of the most important times in the Islamic calendar. Muslims engage in fasting, prayer and show charity to those in need. Ramadan is observed for one month. There is strict fasting from sunrise to sunset.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Independence Day – Samoa	Foundation Day (WA) 2 Republic of Italy Day	3 3-5 Shavuot – Jewish	4	FIRST QTR 5 World Environment Day – UN Constitution Day – Denmark	6 Independence Day – Finland Flag Day – Sweden	7
8 Pentecost – Christian	Queen's Birthday holiday (except WA) 9 St Columba of Iona – Christian	10 Portugal Day	11	12 Independence Day – Philippines Savitri Pooja – Hindu World Day Against Child Labour	FULL MOON 13	14 Lailat al Bara'ah – Islam
15 Trinity Sunday – Christian St Vladimir Day – Christian World Elder Abuse Awareness Day	16 Guru Arjan Dev Martyrdom – Sikh	17 Independence Day – Iceland	18	LAST QTR 19 Corpus Christi – Christian New Church Day – Swedenborg (Christian)	20 World Refugee Day – UN 20-25 Refugee Week – Australia	21 National Day – Greenland
22	23	24 Dia de San Juan – Puerto Rico/ Philippines	25	26 Independence Day – Madagascar/Somalia International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture	NEW MOON 27 Sacred Heart of Jesus – Catholic Christian 27-03/6 National Reconciliation Week – Australia	28 Ramadan begins – Islam
29 Feast of St Peter & St Paul – Catholic Christian Puri Rath Yatra – Hindu	30 Independence Day – Congo	JULY 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31				MAY 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

June 2014

““Listen to many, speak to a few.”
– William Shakespeare

Diversicare's July Story

Eduardo and Manuela arrived at Sydney airport aboard Qantas Boeing 0702 on Wednesday 11 December 1969.

Eduardo's brother was already living in Australia and had told Eduardo of the great working opportunities. Eduardo discussed the possibility of migrating to Australia with his wife Manuela and their three small children. After nine months when the visas arrived they embarked on the adventure!

Eduardo's brother asked his manager if Eduardo could start working in his factory. Next day, Eduardo had a successful interview and started work on the following Monday. Eduardo did shift work seven days a week. He said that despite the exhaustion he was very happy with his job as he was paid in a week the same amount that he used to get paid in a month in Spain.

After three years in Australia, with effort and sacrifice, the couple bought their own first home in Auburn, Sydney.

Manuela said that as soon as she arrived she wanted to go back to Spain! However, as the children started school, with Eduardo working full time and her finding work, life started looking brighter.

Manuela worked for 15 years in a trouser factory. She sewed 120 pieces a week for \$34.00!

Eduardo and Manuela said that the language has been the biggest barrier. As they spent most of their younger years working, they had little time to learn English. However, they still can live on their own and ask for help if needed.

They said that in Spain there is a similar aged care system; however, the elderly people keep their authority and are respected. In Australia, the way love is demonstrated to the grandparents is very different from in Spain. In Spain, the grandchildren spend more time with their grandparents.

"Diversicare has helped us to become aware of the aged care system and the services that are available for us. Unfortunately, it is hard to understand sometimes so it would be great to be able to go to a specialist and speak in your own language. Improving the interpreter services would help. Once, we got an interpreter who spoke Portuguese and we speak Spanish!"

Manuela said that she does not like to ask her children (all males) to come with her to the doctor. Manuela said, "There are things I do not want to discuss with my children; I would prefer a female friend".

Their advice for new arrivals is to be persistent and see life in a positive way: Australia is a good country to live in.



July 2014 Celebrations Around the World

- 1st Canada Day – commemorates the day when Canada became self-governing although remaining a dominion of Great Britain. The day was originally known as Dominion Day but the name was changed to Canada Day in 1983.
- 4th USA Independence Day – known as "the Fourth of July". It is the anniversary of the publication of the Declaration of Independence from Great Britain in 1776.
- 6-13 NAIDOC Week, Australia – celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- 9th Martyrdom of the Bab – Baha'i solemn holy day marks this event, which took place on July 9, 1850.
- 13th Asalha Puja or Dharma Day – one of Theravada Buddhism's most important festivals, celebrating the Buddha's first sermon.
- 13-15 Obon – a three-day-long Japanese Buddhist observance to honour deceased ancestors. Involves lighting of bonfires, traditional meals, paper lanterns, folk dances.
- 14th Bastille Day – French national holiday commemorates the anniversary of the storming of the Bastille, a fortress prison, which resulted in the beginning of a new form of government.
- 17th World Youth Day – an event for young people organized by the Catholic Church. The most emphasized traditional theme is the unity and presence of numerous different cultures.
- 18th Nelson Mandela International Day – on the birthday of Nelson Mandela, the UN joins a call by the Nelson Mandela Foundation to devote 67 minutes of time to helping others.
- 23rd Laylat al-Qadr – anniversary of the night the first verses of the Quran were revealed to the Islamic prophet Muhammad.
- 24th Pioneer Day, Mormon Christian – commemorates the entry of Brigham Young and the first Mormon pioneers into the Salt Lake Valley on July 24, 1847.
- 29-31 Eid al-Fitr – Islamic event marking the close of Ramadan. It is a festival of thanksgiving; involves wearing finest clothing, saying prayers, and fostering understanding with other religions.
- 30th Martyrs Day – South Sudanese pay tribute to heroes and heroines who lost their lives during the liberation struggle.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	JUNE 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 Canada Day Independence Day – Burundi Independence Day – Somalia Constitution Day – Cayman Islands	2	3	4 Independence Day – USA Liberation Day – Rwanda	FIRST QTR 5 Guru Hargobind Birthday – Sikh Independence Day – Venezuela
6 NAIDOC Week begins – Australia	7 Independence Day – Solomon Islands	8	9 Martyrdom of the Bab – Baha'i Independence Day – Republic of Sth Sudan Independence Day – Bahamas	10	11	FULL MOON 12 Guru Purnima – Hindu
13 Asalha Puja Day – Buddhist 13-15 Obon – Shinto 13-15 Ulambana – Obon – Buddhist	14 Bastille Day – France	15 The 17th of Tammuz – Jewish St Vladimir Day – Christian	16	17 World Youth Day	18 Nelson Mandela International Day	LAST QTR 19
20 Independence Day – Colombia	21 Independence Day – Belgium	22	23 Laylat al-Qadr – Islam Guru Har Krishan Birthday – Sikh July Revolution – Egypt	24 Pioneer Day – Mormon Christian Simon Bolivar Day – Venezuela/Ecuador	25 Emperor Haile Selassie I Birthday – Rastafari	NEW MOON 26 Independence Day – Liberia
27	28 Eid-al-Fitr (End of Ramadan) – Islam Independence Day – Peru	29 29-31 Eid al-Fitr al Mubarak – Islam	30 Martyrs Day – Republic of South Sudan	31 Emancipation Day – Bermuda	AUG 2014 S M T W T F S 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	

July 2014

“A good decision is based on knowledge
and not on numbers.”

– Plato

Diversicare's August Story

Mr Joung Kim arrived in Australia from Korea in 1974. He received his citizenship in 1977 and then his wife came to join him.

Mr Kim had heard from many people that Australia is heaven on earth but he never thought it would be this good. When he arrived here he felt this was the real heaven on earth and he has had a lot of good experiences.

One major positive is that Australian people were very kind to his wife. At first she was surprised by how Australians greeted her, "because in Korea we never greet people; we never smile", and she was very impressed.

On arrival Mrs Kim found work in a factory earning \$95 per week but it was not enough money to survive on. After a while Mr Kim could speak fluent English and he got a good job in one of the gold mining areas around Mackay. The Kims started working together in Mackay, however, they couldn't bring their children to the mining area. They were separated for a while, their kids living in Sydney while they were in Mackay.

Eventually an MP in Mackay saw their difficulties and he organised public housing so that the family could be together.

Mr Kim was accepted into university and was also asked to apply to the Air Force. At that time, only two people were selected by the Air Force and one of them was Mr Kim.

In Korea, older people are looked after by the young people so raising children, especially sons, is like an investment. As the son has to look after the mother, Mr Kim brought his mother to Australia.

Mrs Kim hasn't used Australian aged care services yet. By attending information sessions held at Maria Restaurant, she says, she knows now how to access aged care services at home in future. Mr Kim has a leg problem and it is becoming risky for him to drive. Mrs Kim says that in the future she will need transport services.

Mr and Mrs Kim are the founding organisers of the Korean War Memorial Ceremonies on the Gold Coast. Since 1992 they have organised the annual ceremony, and they are still involved. There are around 200 Korean people attending every year and it's the only place in Queensland which holds this ceremony.

They appreciate everyone who participated in the Korean War (ANZACs) and they are part of the 'thank you' party – this is one of the biggest ceremonies on the Gold Coast.

Mrs Kim recommends that when you see people of other races, to kindly say hello. She used to be lonely in the mining towns, and found that a simple hello helped her to connect with people.

The Kims believe that newly arrived immigrants are smart people so they don't worry about them. She says that when coming to Australia for the first time, it is best to join a group, such as a Church or cultural community, and ask them for advice or assistance because they are the most helpful.



- 1st Lammas – the festival of the first wheat harvest of the year.
- 1st Fast in Honor of Holy Mother of Jesus – Orthodox Christian 14 day fasting period in preparation for the celebration of the Great Feast of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary.
- 4-5 Tish'a B'av – an annual fast day in Judaism which marks the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem and the subsequent exile of the Jews from Israel.
- 6th The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord – celebrates the revelation of Christ's divine glory on Mount Tabor in Galilee.
- 10th Raksha Bandhan – Hindu festival honouring the loving ties between brothers and sisters in a family.
- 15th Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Catholic Christian observance commemorating the death of Mary and her bodily ascension into heaven.
- 15th Dormition (falling asleep) of Theotokos – Orthodox Christian commemoration of the death and burial of the Virgin Mary.
- 16-24 Seniors Week, Queensland – an opportunity for Queenslanders of all ages to join together and celebrate the valuable contributions of older people.
- 17th Krishna Jayanthi (Sri Krishna Janmashtami) – Hindu commemoration of the birth of Krishna, the eighth incarnation of the god Vishnu who took the form of Krishna to destroy the evil king Kansa.
- 29th Beheading of John the Baptist – Christian remembrance of the death of John who is known for preparing the people so they would recognise Jesus as the Messiah.
- 29th Ganesh Chaturthi – in India, clay statues of the Hindu elephant god, Ganesh, are paraded through the streets.
- 30th Queensland Multicultural Week – the inaugural event was held in 2013. The week includes events and activities across the State that celebrate and showcase the benefits of our diversity, including the Multicultural Awards ceremony.
- 30th Paryushana Parva – one of the most important festivals of the Jain calendar, ordains participants to observe the ten universal supreme virtues in daily practical life.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Independence Day – Trinidad & Tobago Merdeka (Freedom) Day – Malaysia	SEPT 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			JULY 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 Lammas – Christian Fast in Honor of Holy Mother of Jesus – Orthodox Christian Nag Panchami – Hindu Confederation Day – Switzerland	2 2-3 Australian Italian Festival, Ingham
3 FULL MOON	FIRST QTR Picnic Day (NT) Bank Holiday (NSW) 4 4-5 Tish'a B'av – Jewish	5 Emancipation Day – Turks & Caicos Islands	6 Transfiguration of the Lord – Orthodox Christian Tisha B'Av – Jewish Independence Day – Bolivia/Jamaica	7	8	9 National Day – Singapore International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples – UN
10 Raksha Bandhan – Hindu Toowoomba Language & Cultures Festival Independence Day – Ecuador	11	12 International Youth Day – UN	Royal Queensland Show (Brisbane) 13 Royal Queensland Show – Brisbane 13-17 Townsville Cultural Fest	14 Independence Day – Pakistan	15 Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Christian Domitian of Theotokos – Orthodox Christian Independence Day – Bahrain/India/Acadia Korean Liberation Day	16 16-24 Seniors Week – Queensland
LAST QTR 17 Krishna Janmashtami – Hindu Independence Day – Indonesia	18	19 Independence Day – Afghanistan	20	21	22 Daffodil Day – Australia	23
24 Birth of Prophet Zarathustra (Shenshai) – Zoroastrian Independence Day – Ukraine	NEW MOON 25 Independence Day – Uruguay	26	27 Independence Day – Moldova	28	29 Ganesh Chaturthi – Hindu Beheading of John the Baptist – Christian	30 Paryushana Parva – Jains Victory Day – Turkey Pacific Unity Festival – Queensland Mareeba Multicultural Festival Rockhampton Cultural Festival 30-07/9 Queensland Multicultural Week

August 2014

“False words are not only evil in themselves,
but they infect the soul with evil.”

– Socrates

Diversicare's September Story

"Hello! I am Srikanthie Mohotti. My friends call me Sri for short. I came to Australia from Sri Lanka on 23rd of January 1988 with my husband and two young sons.

"Australia is the first country I have been to apart from my country of birth. We lived in Collinsville with my family's sponsor for about six months on arrival. We moved to Townsville after that because we thought we had a better chance of finding employment there than in Collinsville.

"I started looking for work in Townsville. However, I did not have any computer skills. I used to work for a bank in Sri Lanka but never used a computer. I have since learned how to use a computer but by then it was already too late.

I have volunteered my services with the Migrants Resource Centre. I have worked in Day Care Centres and have taken care of children. I have also worked in restaurants. I clean houses or iron clothes every now and then.

"I love Australia. My son was cured of asthma in Australia because the air is fresher. Although I had difficulty finding a good job and didn't have a stable job, I am generally happy with my family. I live with my husband and my two adult sons.

"The Sri Lankan community is very supportive of its members.

"I am very active with the Sri Lankan Community. I keep a list of the members of the community and give new arrivals information so they can settle in Townsville comfortably.

"There are a few aged care homes in Sri Lanka. However, Sri Lankans do not like putting their parents in homes. They prefer living with them.

"In Australia, help is available for the elderly living in the communities. However, it can be difficult staying in the community if one is not able to care for oneself.

"Other members of the family might have their own families and their own jobs and cannot stay with the older relations because they have to work to pay bills. There will come a time when one has to live away from one's family and enter a home simply because of circumstances.

"My advice for the new immigrants is to get the skills required to find a job. Get your children a good education so they can prepare for their adult lives."



September 2014 Celebrations Around the World

- 3rd Australian National Flag Day – commemorates the day in 1901 on which the Australian Flag was first flown.
- 6th Independence Day, Brazil – the date celebrates Brazil's Declaration of Independence from the United Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil and the Algarves on September 7, 1822.
- 7th Nativity of Mary, the Mother of God – Christian celebration of the birth of the Virgin Mary.
- 18-19 The Fiestas Patrias, Chile – a two-day festival, with the 18th commemorating the proclamation of the First Governing Body of 1810, and marking the beginning of the Chilean independence process. September 19 is known as the "Day of the Glories of the Army".
- 21st International Day of Peace – dedicated to the absence of war and violence, the day was first celebrated in 1982, and is kept by many nations. The United Nations Peace Bell is rung at UN Headquarters (in New York City). The bell is cast from coins donated by children from all continents except Africa, and was a gift from the United Nations Association of Japan, as "a reminder of the human cost of war"; the inscription on its side reads, "Long live absolute world peace".
- 23rd Al-Yaum Al-Watany – National Day in Saudi Arabia celebrating the unification of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1932.
- 24-26 Rosh Hashanah – the Jewish New Year is one of the most important Jewish festivals. It begins on the first day of Tishrei. The day is believed to be the anniversary of the creation of Adam and Eve. The date of the festival varies, since the Jews follow a lunar solar calendar.
- 25-3/10 Navaratri – Hindu Festival of the divine mother honouring the goddess Durga, and seeking her blessings. Also observed as a celebration recalling the days of Lord Krishna.
- 27th Meskel – in the Ethiopian Orthodox and Eritrean Orthodox Churches, is an annual religious holiday commemorating the discovery of the True Cross by Queen Helena (Saint Helena) in the fourth century.
- 29th The Feast of St Michael and All Angels – also known as Michaelmas, is a day in the Western Christian calendar harking back to medieval times.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AUG 2014 S M T W T F S 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 Ecclesiastical Year begins – Orthodox Christian Labour Day – Canada/USA	2 FIRST QTR Independence Day – Vietnam	3 Australian National Flag Day	4	5 International Day of Charity Taiwan Festival Mount Isa Multicultural Festival	6 Nativity of Mary – Christian Independence Day – Swaziland Defence Day – Pakistan
7 Onam – Hindu Independence Day – Brazil	8 International Literacy Day – UN	9 FULL MOON 09-24 Pitru-Paksha – Hindu Harvest Moon Festival – China/ Hong Kong/ Taiwan/ Vietnam	10	11 Day of Remembrance – USA Meskerem (New Year) – Ethiopia	12 Independence Day – Qatar	13
14 Holy Cross Day – Christian	15 International Day of Democracy Independence Day – Costa Rica/ El Salvador/Guatemala/Honduras / Nicaragua	16 LAST QTR Dia De La Independencia – Mexico	17 Constitution Day – USA	18 Fiestas Patrias Independence Day – Chile	19 Independence Day – Saint Kitts/Nevis	20 Confucius Birthday – China/Hong Kong Oktoberfest – Germany
21 Independence Day – Armenia/Malta International Day of Peace – UN	22 Chichen Itza Festival – Mexico Independence Day – Bulgaria/Mali	23 Al-Youm Al-Watany (Unification Day) – Saudi Arabia	24 NEW MOON 24-26 Rosh Hashanah – Jewish Heritage Day – South Africa	25 25-4/10 Navaratri – Hindu	26	27 Fast of Gedaliah – Jewish Meskel – Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
28 Fiesta San Miguel – Mexico	29 St Michael and all Angels – Christian	30 30-4/10 Durga Puja – Hindu San Geronimo Day – Aboriginal/ Native America	OCT 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			

September 2014

**“Before God we are all equally wise -
and equally foolish.”**

– Albert Einstein

Diversicare's October Story

"Hello! I am Ana Gloria Picci. I came to Sydney, Australia, from El Salvador in 1981 with my husband and my then little girl.

"We stayed in Sydney for a few months and moved to Forbes in New South Wales after buying a farm there. My family sold the farm a few years later and bought a farm in Charters Towers before moving to Blackwater near Townsville to yet another farm. Since arriving in Australia, I have always lived on a farm.

"In 2001, I started attending English courses with the then Migrants Resource Centre and TAFE to improve my English and later found a job at LJ Hooker's Real Estate.

"In 2005, I found out I had cancer. I originally thought it was arthritis in my tendons but it was later diagnosed as cancer. I received treatment until 2012. I was in remission until this year when I was diagnosed again with a different type of cancer and I am currently receiving a series of chemotherapy treatments.

"I am strong-willed and I love life. I am not taking any medication. I try to eat only vegies and fruits. My daughter lives in Melbourne and she has been helping me by giving me vegan recipes.

"My doctors in the hospital respect my wishes not to take any medication. They are giving me all the support I need and I can always give them a call when I need to. I listen to my body. I eat healthy food. I exercise, and I love my garden. I have not accessed any community services yet because I am surrounded by my friends.

"However, the last few treatments have left me really weak and sometimes I am kept in the hospital until I am well enough to go home. I will need help when I receive my last chemotherapy this week. Diversicare has referred me to the right organisation that can help me with my needs.

"My advice for the new immigrants is to stay positive. Leave traumas and problems behind. Keep smiling.

"Volunteer your services. Volunteering opens doors to jobs and friendships, and you meet people from different countries. Lastly, keep on studying or learning."



October 2014 Celebrations Around the World

- 1st China National Day – on this day, Tiananmen Square in Beijing hosts a large celebration that includes the raising of the national flag and a parade of soldiers. In 1999, the Chinese government combined the National Day celebration with two weekends, giving the Chinese people a week long vacation known as National Day Week.
- 3rd German Unity Day – Tag der Deutschen Einheit is a special national day to commemorate the reunification in 1990 of East and West Germany.
- 3rd Waqf al Arafa – Islamic observance day during Hajj when pilgrims pray for forgiveness and mercy.
- 4th Yom Kippur – Jewish Day of Atonement. This holiest day of the Jewish year is observed with strict fasting and ceremonial repentance.
- 9-15 Sukkot – Jewish Feast of Tabernacles which celebrates the harvest and the protection of the people of Israel as they wandered in the wilderness.
- 15-16 Shemini Atzeret – Jewish completion of the annual cycle of reading of the Torah.
- 17th Simchat Torah – Jewish day to celebrate the reading of the Law. Synagogue services involve readings, processions and blessing of the children.
- 23-27 Diwali – also called the 'Festival of Lights', this marks the end of the Hindu year. The first day is observed as a holiday by many Hindu people.
- 25th Hijra New Year – the Islamic year begins on the first day of Muharram, and is counted from the year of the Hijra (anno Hegirae) the year in which Muhammad emigrated from Mecca to Medina (A.D. July 16, 622). The Islamic New Year is celebrated with prayers, readings and reflection upon the Hijra.
- 28th Greek Ochi Day – in remembrance of 1940 when Greeks say 'No' to Hitler invading Greece.
- 31st Halloween, or All Hallows Eve – has its origins in the ancient Celtic festival known as Samhain (Pronounce "sah-win") and end of the harvest festival where people would prepare for winter and honour deceased relatives. Popularly celebrated in the USA by children who dress up and go out 'trick or treating'.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		SEPT 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	FIRST QTR 1 International Day for The Elderly – UN National Day of the People's Republic of China Independence Day – Cyprus/Nigeria	2 Gandhi's Birthday - India International Day of Non-Violence	3 Navaratri Ends – Hindu Waqf al Arafah – Hajj – Islam Day of German Unity – Germany Foundation Day – Korea	4 Dusshera – Hindu Yom Kippur – Jewish St Francis Day – Catholic Christian Dasara – Hindu 4-7 Eid-al-Adha-al-Mubarak – Islam
5 Republic Day – Portugal World Teachers' Day – UN Bodhi Day – Buddhist	Labour Day (QLD, ACT, NSW, SA) 6 Armed Forces Day – Egypt	7 World Habitat Day – UN	FULL MOON 8 Lakshmi Puja – Hindu Fiji Day – Fiji Independence Day – Croatia	9 9-15 Sukkot – Jewish Guru Ram Das Birthday – Sikh Han-Gul Day – Korea Independence Day – Uganda	10 World Mental Health Day – UN Independence Day – Cuba Double Tenth Day – Taiwan Curacao Day – Curacao	11 52 Ugandan Independence Festival Karva Chauth – Hindu Coming Out Day – Gay and Lesbian – LGBT International Day of the Girl Child – UN
12 National Day – Spain Discovery Day – Bahamas Karva Chauth – Hindu	13 Thanksgiving – Canada interfaith Columbus Day (Observed) – USA	14	LAST QTR 15 15-16 Shemini Atzeret – Jewish Hoshanah Rabbah – Jewish National Heroes Day – Jamaica	16 National Boss Day – USA World Food Day – UN	17 Simchat Torah – Jewish International Day for Eradication of Poverty – UN	18 Independence Day – Azerbaijan
19	20 Birth of Bab – Baha'i Installation of Scriptures as Guru Granth – Sikh	21 Dhan Teras – Hindu	22 Abu Simbel Festival – Egypt	NEW MOON 23 23-27 Diwali – Hindu Chulalongkorn Day – Thailand	24 Jain New Year United Nations Day Suez Victory Day – Egypt World Development Information Day – UN	25 Hijra New Year – Islam Republic Day – Kazakhstan
26 Grandparents' Day – Australia Reformation Day – Protestant Christian National Day – Austria	27 Pink Ribbon Day – Australia Labour Day – New Zealand	28 Milvian Bridge Day – Christian Greek Ochi Day National Day – Czech Republic	29 Republic Day – Turkey	30	FIRST QTR 31 All Hallows Eve – Christian Reformation Day – Chile	NOV 2014 S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

October 2014

“The worst form of inequality is to try to
make unequal things equal.”

– Aristotle

Diversicare's November Story

"Hello! I am Mayar Magyak. I came to Australia in 2001 with my wife Shama Etayeb from Jordan.

"We are originally from Sudan but fled to Jordan because of war. We stayed in Jordan for about four years.

"I have three children. One of them now works with the Army.

"When Shama and I arrived in Australia, we did not speak any English. We both went to TAFE and learned English. Then I worked at the meat works and volunteered at the Townsville Intercultural Centre.

"I was a truck driver in Sudan but I could not work as a truck driver in Australia because of language difficulties. Shama was a nurse in Sudan but also could not work as a nurse in Australia without studying again.

"We like Australia because there is no war here, and health and community services are readily available. However we miss our families and friends in Sudan.

"In 2005, I sponsored my cousin's family who also fled Sudan but were living in Egypt. They arrived in Australia in 2007.

"Diversicare invited my cousin's wife, Thybysa Ageng to do a cooking demonstration on African cooking at the Willows Shopping Centre in Townsville during the Multicultural Week. She loves Australia. She takes care of her three children. Life is very good for children in Australia.

"My advice for the new immigrants is to learn the language, find a job, and be thankful that Australia is a peaceful country."



November 2014 Celebrations Around the World

- 1st All Saints' Day – Christian day for honouring saints, known and unknown. A Holy Day of Obligation in the Roman Catholic Church where saints have special formal status.
- 2nd All Souls' Day – Christian day of prayers of remembrance and intercession for the dead. Prayers are seen as helping to cleanse the souls for the beatific vision of God in heaven.
- 5th Ashura – an Islamic optional one day fast.
- 11th Remembrance Day – a memorial day in Commonwealth countries for members of the armed forces who have died in the line of duty. Held on 11 November to recall the end of hostilities of World War I on that date in 1918. Hostilities formally ended "at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month".
- 12th Birth of Baha'u'llah – Baha'i celebration of the birth of their founder and teacher. People refrain from work.
- 15-25 Winter Lent – Orthodox Christian season of preparation for the Nativity of Christ.
- 16th International Day of Tolerance – promotes respect, dialogue, cooperation and tolerance of all cultures.
- 17th Velvet Revolution – a celebration by Slovak and Czech peoples of the peaceful division of Czechoslovakia into the Slovak and Czech Republics.
- 21st Yule – Christian celebration of the light dawning in Jesus. Also a Norse pagan celebration of the winter-born king, symbolized by the rebirth of the sun. A present day Wicca event.
- 23rd Feast of Christ the King – Christian celebration of the pre-eminence of Jesus over all earthly authorities.
- 24th Guru Tegh Bahadur Martyrdom – Sikh time of remembering the execution of Teg Bahadur by the Mogul Emperor in India.
- 26th Day of the Covenant – Baha'i celebration of the covenant given in the last will and testament of Baha'u'llah.
- 30th Advent – Christian time of preparation for observing the birth of Jesus Christ. Observed with the lighting of advent candles, display of wreaths, and special ceremonies. Advent also anticipates the coming again to earth of Jesus Christ. The season continues through to December 24.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 St Andrew's Day – Christian Advent begins – Christian Independence Day – Barbados	DEC 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31				OCT 2014 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 All Saints' Day – Christian Revolution Day – Algeria Independence Day – Antigua & Barbuda
2 All Souls' Day – Christian	Recreation Day (TAS - North) Day of Ashura – Islam Independence Day – Dominica / Panama	Melbourne Cup (VIC) 	5 Guy Fawkes Day – UK	FULL MOON Guru Nanak Birthday – Sikh Kartik Poornima – Hindu Constitution Day – Dominican Republic/Puerto Rico	7 	8 Independence Day – Cambodia
9 	10 World Science Day for Peace and Development	11 Remembrance Day – Australia/ Canada/UK Veterans Day – USA Armistice Day – France Independence Day – Poland	12 Birth of Baha'u'llah – Baha'i	13 International World Kindness Day	LAST QTR 14 G20 – Brisbane area only	15 15-25 Winter Lent – Orthodox Christian National Day – Palestine Republic Day – Brazil
16 International Day of Tolerance – UN	17 Velvet Revolution – Czech & Slovak	18 Independence Day – Latvia/Morocco	19 Discovery Day – Puerto Rico	20 Universal Children's Day – UN Transgender Day of Remembrance – LGBT	21 Yule – Christian Independence Day – Lebanon	NEW MOON 22
23 Feast of Christ the King – Christian	24 Guru Tegh Bahadur martyrdom – Sikh	25 St Catherine's Day – France National Day – Bosnia International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women – UN	26 Day of the Covenant – Baha'i	27 Thanksgiving – Interfaith USA	28 Ascension of Abdu'lBaha – Baha'i Independence Day – Albania Independence Day – Panama	FIRST QTR 29 International Day of Solidarity with Palestinian People – UN

November 2014

وَإِذَا أَتَيْتَ مَذْمَتِي مِنْ نَاقِصٍ فَهِيَ الشَّهَادَةُ لِي بِأَنِّي كَامِلٌ
أَبُو الطَّيِّبِ الْمُتَنَبِّي

Diversicare's December Story

"Hello! I am Henry from the Philippines. I arrived in Townsville in 1989 to join my sister in Australia.

"I worked for Queensland Railways until I retired. A carpenter by trade, I worked in a few African countries for at least 15 years as a construction foreman before coming to Townsville.

"In 1996, my then girlfriend, Lita, arrived on the 30th of November and we got married on the 1st of December at the Sacred Heart Cathedral.

"We thought we would stay single because we were already 50 years old then. However, fate had something else in mind.

"While I continued working with Queensland Railways, Lita was looking for a job.

"She used to work for the Department of Trade Industries in the Philippines as a supervisor.

"However, she found it difficult to find a job in Townsville. She later became a volunteer receptionist for Townsville Multicultural Services Group (TMSG) for about three years. Lita was also once an active officer of the Filipino-Australian Affiliation of Northern Queensland (FAANQ).

"Lita had difficulty understanding the different accents here initially but she got used to it. She stopped work when I underwent triple bypass.

"Diversicare helped me a lot during this period, by linking me with community services that could assist me in my situation. One of the things we love in Australia is the accessibility of medical care.

"We have now retired. I still do some carpentry work around the house. Lita sometimes entertains friends with her cooking. She did a cooking demonstration sponsored by Diversicare at the Willows Shopping Centre during the Multicultural Week.

"My advice to new migrants is to learn English, update or acquire new skills to get a job and learn the Australian way of life without losing your heritage."



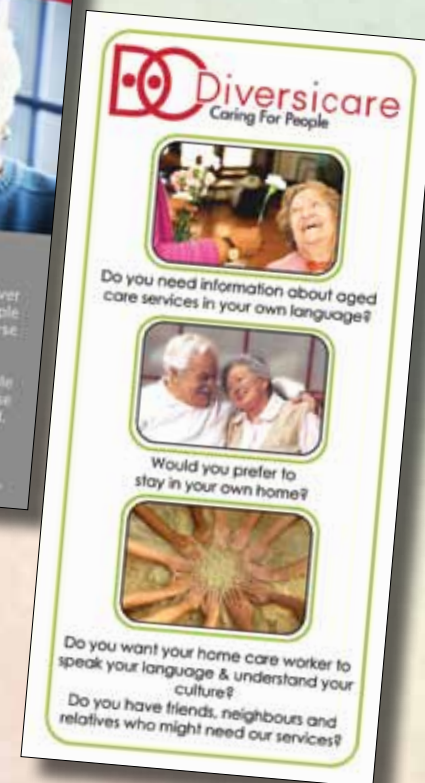
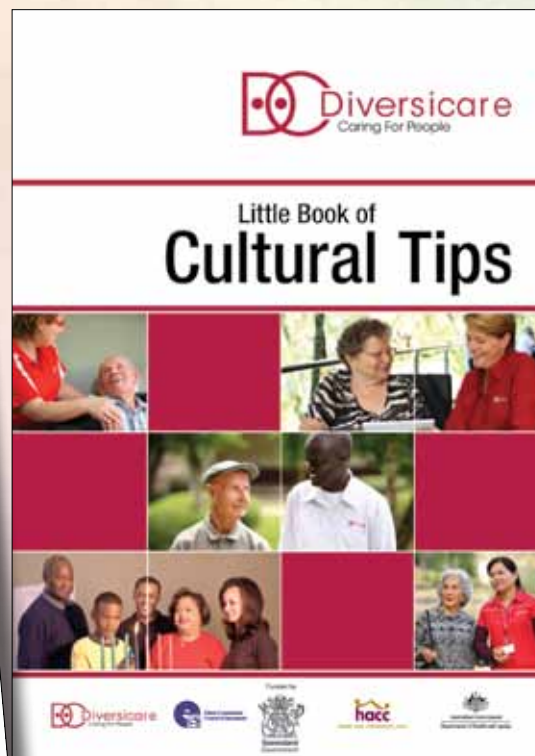
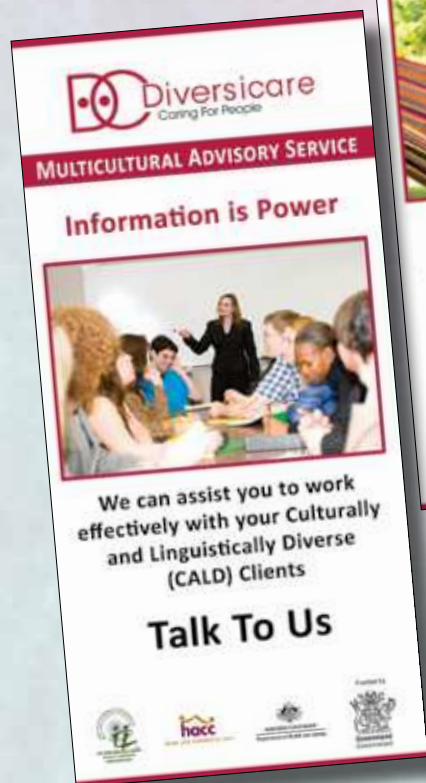
December 2014 Celebrations Around the World

- 6th St Nicholas Day – Christian day of celebrating the life of Saint Nicholas of Myra, a fourth-century bishop best known today as the real-life model for Santa Claus.
- 8th Immaculate Conception – Catholic Christian day of celebrating the belief that Mary, mother of Jesus, was preserved from original sin all of her life. A day of obligation and required church attendance.
- 8th Rohatsu Bodhi Day – Buddhist holiday in celebration of the day when Siddhartha Gautama (Shakyamuni), experienced enlightenment, also known as bodhi in Sanskrit and Pali.
- 12th Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe – Catholic Christian honouring of a legendary appearance of the Virgin Mary near Mexico City in 1531 AD.
- 16th Bahrain National Day (Eid al Wa-tani) – celebrated throughout the country with parades and processions.
- 17-24 Hanukkah – Jewish Festival of Lights. It commemorates the Maccabean recapture and rededication of the Jerusalem Temple in 165-164 B.C. Special readings and praise songs focus on liberty and freedom. The eight-candle Menorah is lit.
- 21st Yalda – Zoroastrians celebrate the winter solstice as a triumph of good over evil as nights begin to shorten and the time of daylight lengthens. Historically also the birth of Mithra, Persian angel of light and truth.
- 25th Christmas Day – celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ and a widely observed public holiday for millions of people around the world. A feast central to the Christian liturgical year, it closes the Advent season and initiates the twelve days of Christmastide, which ends after the twelfth night.
- 26th Zarathust No Diso – commemorates the death of the prophet Zarathustra, marked with prayers and studies.
- 28th Holy Innocents Day – Christian day of solemn memory of male children killed by King Herod in an attempt to destroy Jesus.
- 31st Watch Night – Christian occasion to thank God for bringing people safely through another year. Controversial history. Protestant European Christian history dating from 1733 and in US 1770. Some sources link the observance to Black Christian celebration of the Emancipation in 1862.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOV 2014 S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	1 Independence Day – Portugal National Day – Romania World AIDS Day – UN	2 National Day – Laos, UAE International Day for the Abolition of Slavery – UN	3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities – UN	4 	5 Discovery Day – Haiti International Volunteer Day for Economic & Social Development – UN	FULL MOON 6 St Nicholas Day – Christian Constitution Day – Spain Independence Day – Finland
7 Pearl Harbor Day – USA	8 Rohatsu Bodhi Day – Buddhist Immaculate Conception of Mary – Catholic Christian	9 Independence Day – Tanzania International Anti-corruption Day – UN	10 Constitution Day –Thailand Human Rights Day – UN	11 	12 Feast Day of Our Lady Guadalupe – Catholic Christian Jamhuri (Independence Day) – Kenya	13 Aga Khan's Birthday – Islam
LAST QTR 14 	15 Bill of Rights Day – USA Navidades – Puerto Rico	16 Bahrain National Day 16-25 Posadas Navidenas – Hispanic Christian Bijoy Dibash (Independence) – Bangladesh	17 17-24 Hanukkah – Jewish National Day – Bhutan	18 International Migrants Day – UN	19 	20 International Human Solidarity Day – UN
21 Yalda – Zoroastrian	NEW MOON 22 	23 Joseph Smith's Birthday – Mormon Christian Heisei Emperor's Birthday – Japan	24 Christmas Eve – Christian Independence Day – Libya	Christmas Day 25 public holiday Christmas Day – Christian	26 Boxing Day – Christian Zarathust No Diso – Zoroastrian Junkanoo – Bahamas	27
FIRST QTR 28 Boxing Day holiday Proclamation Day (SA) Holy Innocents – Christian	29 	30 Rizal Day – Philippines	New Year's Eve 31 Watch Night – Christian Omisoka – Japan	JAN 2015 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		

December 2014

περιέργεια είναι η αρχή της σοφίας.



Diversicare offers a number of publications to inform members of the community requiring care of the options available to them, and to assist all staff involved in the provision of Commonwealth HACC funded and Queensland Community Care Services, in providing culturally appropriate care.

Many resources are available on our website:

www.diversicare.com.au

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