

Karva Chauth Celebration on 29th October 2004

The Quakers Hill community celebrated Karva-Chauth organised by Wesley Mission, Quakers Hill Family Centre in partnership with Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan Australia. The ladies from various communities dressed in modern Indian outfit's suits and sarees, beautiful red or pink clothes and traditional jewellery. The day long activities include traditional henna and nail painting arts free for the community. Raj Gujral a famous singer who sang with the community and entertained the community by playing Dholak (drum beating). Free finger foods were supplied to the visitors (those not fasting).



There were more than 40 women participated and enjoyed the festival. Sangeeta Jain, Multicultural Councillor at the Wesley Mission, was the organiser and more than 4 volunteers were there to do henna art and Acrylic nails. Here are some of the comments of the participants :

- It's a great platform for them to have free henna tattoos and free acrylic nails and enjoys the festival and was pleasantly surprised that they can still celebrate their festival in this country.
- One of the women was really happy and anxious to know about the other services as she came the very first time.
- One lady really liked the songs and the henna and said that she had a constant worry for her daughters aged 10 and 6. She does not want her daughters to forget their culture or the festivals. She said that she never experienced that enjoyment before. She was interested to come next year as well with her daughters.
- One woman said that it is a great link to connect with each other and share the experiences and explore the things which they are unable to say anyhow

Ramadan Celebration on 11th November 2004 at Quakers Hill family Centre (12-4pm)

An afternoon in celebration of Ramadan, including henna tattoos painted on hands and music.

On Friday November 11, Wesley Mission, Quakers Hill Family Centre and Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan Australia celebrated Pre Ramadan women Children gathering at 12pm. It gave non-Muslims too the ability to enjoy something of the experience of this special month.

The Quakers Hill Hall quickly filled with women and girls, who all enjoyed the Henna painting on their hands. The afternoon, was celebrating through music, gossiping cultural stories of Ramadan .Everyone joined in the singing of songs from Muslim folklore. The program was put together by Sangeeta Jain Multicultural counsellor at Quakers Hill Family centre



The entire afternoon was a success, in fact. It was enjoyable; it strengthened community and was useful for reinforcing culture. The community was getting information about other service providers through displayed flyers.