

Media Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Filmmakers share migrant stories

Their backgrounds are diverse but they share a common thread: a journey across the world to a new life in Australia.

Six amateur filmmakers will share their migrant stories at a red carpet screening at the Mercury Cinema this month as part of ACH Group's Good Lives on Film #3 project.

An award-winning initiative of member network The Exchange, the project saw filmmakers aged 50+ spend 13 weeks together to produce two films.

They spent six weeks at Adelaide's Media Resource Centre, developing concepts and learning the basics of filming, before heading out on location to film, then returning to the editing suite to guide the final production. Along the way, they learnt to produce, direct, edit and use camera, lighting and sound equipment.

Four other migrants joined in to share their stories during a filming day as part of South Australia's History Festival.

Filmmaker Sahar Amini left Iran 27 years ago with her husband and three children, seeking safety and a better life in Australia under the protection of the UN. Sahar, who works at the Onkaparinga Community Centre, is thrilled to be part of the Good Lives on Film project.

"I've really enjoyed it," she says. "I've made a lot of new friends. Our work may not be perfect, but it's made us feel that as migrants we have value, that we are counted, and that is really important to us."

Project manager Fiona Telford-Sharp is delighted with the result.

"The filmmakers captured a rich tapestry of stories from a range of countries, including Italy, Germany, Bosnia, Iran and Hong Kong," she says. "With so many shared experiences the group quickly formed strong friendships. They have all challenged themselves to learn new skills, and showed great courage in sharing their personal stories with the wider community."

The premiere of the films *A Taste of Harmony* and *Life's Box of Treasures* will feature a guest appearance by WOMADelaide performer and Adelaide singer Akhter Jahan, singing music from Bangladesh and North India.

The free event is a celebration of all cultures and attendees are encouraged to wear their cultural dress.

WHAT: Good Lives on Film #3 Premiere

WHEN: Wednesday 28 June, 6pm

WHERE: Mercury Cinema, 13 Morphett St, Adelaide

Bookings: Contact Fiona on 8159 3425 or www.achgroup.org.au/event/good-lives-film-premiere-screening

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About The Exchange

The Exchange is a free membership network run by ACH Group that offers opportunities for anyone over 50 to reinvent, rediscover and find their voice.

About ACH Group

ACH Group is a not-for-profit aged care organisation that has been offering services to support good lives for older people in South Australia since 1952.

As well as accommodation options across Adelaide, the Fleurieu Peninsula and East Melbourne, the group offers a range of health, wellbeing, respite and support services, help at home and social activities.

Our 1700 specialist staff and hundreds of volunteers share the belief that older people should be valued and respected, connected to their communities and in control of their lives.

For further information or comment, please contact Anna Randell on (08) 8159 3632, 0417 856 361 or ARandell@ach.org.au.