

## Profile: Nithi Kanakarathinam

Nithi Kanakarathinam and his friend Kumar are Tamil refugees. Nithi has lived in Point Lonsdale for over five years. Our chefs are naturals when it comes to cooking – they do it the Tamil way – adding a little of this and a little of that, cooking by instinct and seasoning to taste. In Australia, they have gained the appropriate food handling certificates for their hospitality work.

Tamil Welcome Feasts is a social food project aimed at celebrating the joy and diversity that refugees and people seeking asylum bring to our country, while also fostering community awareness, understanding, welcome and connection - all in a supportive environment.

We honour the traditional foods of Sri Lankan Tamils – and recognise

the heritage and culture that our Feast friends have lost through having to flee for their lives. Last year we celebrated with them upon their receipt of permanent residency status. Sharing food and stories is a powerful way of bringing people together and creating change – we are all here equally – chefs, volunteers and diners -learning from each other.



Nithi Kanakarathinam Tamil Feast