



## **2015- NZCA – National Trip to the Far North**

**Join in with a group of Chinese from all over New Zealand for this historic event – Poon Fah are unveiling their granite plaque.**

Leaving Auckland Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 7.00am

Countdown car park, cnr Greenlane Road and Great South Rd.

Travel to Dargaville, short break, last supplies

Te Roroa Headquarters – Walk through the Ventnor Grove, and give thanks to the ancestors in front of the plaque we offered to Te Roroa. Bring joss sticks.

Meal at Te Roroa café.

Visit Tane Mahuta – oldest largest and majestic tree. If you feel old, stand beside this fella and you will come away feeling youthful.

Travel to Signal Station Road – where the *SS Ventnor* was last sighted. Stand looking out to sea. At 10 o'clock 10 miles out to sea is where the wreck site lies. To the right you see the harbour where the life boats landed.

Travel to Old Wharf Road, where the scene in front of you will bring that very well known photograph alive. Its where the survivors beached their life boats.



Travel to your accommodation..... Self cater for evening meal

Travel to Rawene Cemetery. We know that there are bones buried there. Wander around and tell us where you think they might be. Chinese Historic Group are planning to have the area surveyed later this year.

6.30pm No 1 Parnell Gallery, Rawene.

An evening presentation with Wong Liu Shueng, Project leader for the Chinese Historic Ventnor Group (now under NZCA – National.) Plenty of time to ask questions, the more the better.

7.30pm wander around the gallery and look at the exquisite photographs taken by Dr King Tong Ho- the story of what happened when we fed the 'hungry ghosts' the first time after 110 years.

Fund raiser – Ralph Hotere books (through the kind generosity of Ron Sang) will be on sale \$65.00

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

8.30am For the early birds – go to the Hokianga Museum, run by a group of volunteers. They are making a huge effort to get on loan some Chinese artefacts for this occasion. They also hold a record of the research on the project to date.

9.30am Leave for Mitimiti, via ferry. Meet up with the Kaumatua, Peter Martin (Uncle Mingo) who will lead us up into the urupa (cemetery) to the red gateway. Two years ago we placed a brass plaque on the gateway, but it has corroded badly, and now unreadable. This plaque is being replaced by a granite one. The Poon Fah will lead the unveiling. Nearby is the grave of artist Ralph Hotere.

Bring your own cut lunch and picnic on the beach where the ancestors bones were washed ashore.

Then travel back to Auckland. I would suggest a stop in Kerikeri before you leave the Far North.

Cost \$195 per person – travel to and from Auckland, ferry, accommodation, meal at Te Roroa on Saturday. Payment can be direct credited to:  
NZCA Auckland - ANZ 060287 0016463 00, giving name and Branch.

**Get a group together from your branch and come.**

**Book your seat now – email [Connie Kum cojay@xtra.co.nz](mailto:connie.kum@xtra.co.nz)  
or [Virginia vchong@ihug.co.nz](mailto:virginia.vchong@ihug.co.nz)**

Bring food, shops sell only basics. Bring clothing for four seasons. Cell phone cover intermittent.

For people travelling to Auckland. Please arrive on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015. Please arrange your own accommodation and transport to the Countdown Greenlane on Saturday morning. Please do NOT book an airfare back to your home until Monday 4th May. There are a dozen reasons why there might be a delay getting into Auckland. The usual one is traffic.