



NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION AUCKLAND INC

紐西蘭屋崙華聯會

sender

P.O.BOX 484

www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz

NEWSLETTER : MARCH 2009

NZCA
Chinese /
School
Concert



Bilingual
Music
Xmas
2008

LDC
CAMP
Willow
Park
FEB
2009



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the new Chinese lunar year, the Year of the Ox, which started on 26 January 2009.

And what a way to start 2009 with very uncertain times caused by the financial meltdown in USA fuelling a worldwide recession, the worst since the Great Depression in the 1930's. There are great challenges ahead for both the new NZ Prime Minister, John Key, and the first black President of USA, Barack Obama.

However, on the local front NZCA Auckland Branch Executive Committee can be very proud of their achievements over the past 12 months in providing interesting activities for its members and the Auckland Chinese Community generally, with the highlights as follows:-

- Hosting the largest Easter Tournament ever held with nearly a 1,000 participants and a like number of supporters with most events held at the large Waitakere Trusts Stadium as a fabulous focal point. Congratulations to Edmond Yee and his team for a tremendous organising effort.
- Arranging the "Dragon" sculpture gift to the NZ Beijing Olympic Team on behalf of the NZ Chinese community. A special thanks to the major donors and the fundraising supporters. The original is now located permanently in the foyer of the Chinese Olympic building in central Beijing and the replica is in the entrance foyer of the Auckland City Library for the next two years.
- Organising two memorable outings to the big Buddha at Warkworth in April 08 and the Waitomo trip in October 08 which were enjoyed immensely by a full busload of NZCA members.
- Hosting the 3rd NZCA Leadership & Development Conference at Willow Park Convention Centre, Eastern Beach on 1 – 6 February 09 with 44 "Future DragonNZ" from throughout NZ. This event showed the benefit to NZCA of this initiative because the Organising Committee was headed by six participants from the previous two events held in 2007 & 2008.

Another activity started in November 2008 was the Seniors' Lifestyle Group with the objective of providing stimulating and active activities for those NZCA members not in full-time employment. We currently have 10 to 20 regular attendees but welcome any new participants.

The Annual General Meeting is being held on 26 April 2009 and we look forward to the injection of new younger Committee members to get the Next Generation activities up and running. Please note that nominations for the Branch Officers & Executive Committee members need to be advised to myself or the Secretary by 19 April 2009 at the latest.

Registrations are now open for the "Rising Dragon, Soaring Bananas" International Conference being held at the University of Auckland Business School on 18 – 19 July 2009 in conjunction with the International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas (ISSCO). Please refer to the website www.goingbananas.org.nz for further details.

Please refer to our website www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz for the latest and constantly updated information on NZCA Auckland activities, and provide your email address(if you have one) to John & Connie, so that they can send you important information as soon as it is received.

Kai Luey : Chairman

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

Good-day all

Since the last newsletter a reminder to members that if you have not renewed your membership the 2009 subscriptions are now overdue ! If you have not paid your subscriptions we would appreciate if you do so now. Thanks!

We welcome all members of the Chinese community ,family and friends to join. If you know of anyone who wishes to join then please download membership form www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz or request from the Secretary or any committee member. Your continued support is important to our organization to fund activities for members and our Newsletters.

Check out NZCA Auckland Inc website www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz regularly for updates on news and events amongst our community!

We are now using email more frequently to inform members of upcoming events, news and important notices. Our Newsletters are now uploaded onto our website www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz for easy reference and reading ! If you know of members who have changed email address or is not receiving the Electronic version of our Newsletter and wish to have it included in your details then let us know.

Contact; Elsie, emwong@slingshot.co.nz or Connie, cojay@xtra.co.nz

Are you retired and looking for activities with people of similar age ?

Do you enjoy meeting new friends ?

Do you have skills of some sort that can be shared ?

Are you bored ?

If your answer is Yes then I recommend that you be pro-active and get involved with our “ Senior Lifestyle Group “ held every Tuesday 10am to 2pm at 1 New North Rd. Mt Eden.

For more information contact Kai Luey: kailuey@xtra.co.nz or any committee member.

* * * * *

JACKS PIG TROTTER RECIPE

3 kgs pig trotters
500 grams green ginger
6 slabs brown sugar
1 650ml bottle sweetened vinegar (pearl river)
300 mls white vingar
1 tablespoon salt

method.

boil pig trotters for 8 mins then rinse in cold water .clean off scum and scrape off any hairs left on the trotters. scrape the ginger and cut into pieces. put all ingredients into a pot, bring to the boil then cook on slow heat. add a little water if necessary. cook for 60 mins

bon appetite

Disclaimer.

Neither the association nor any person or persons associated with it accepts any liability whatsoever for the contents of this newsletter which has been prepared in good faith without material reward and to the best of our knowledge is true and correct in all aspects

WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON?

NZCA LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (LDC) 2009

Introduction

Following seven months of planning and preparation the NZCA LDC was successfully hosted at Willow Park, Eastern Beach in the first week of February 2009. The tightly packed six day event brought together forty four young NZ Chinese - the next generation of leaders in the New Zealand Chinese community. The sun shone throughout the week as the participants became acquainted with themselves and became familiar with the early morning wake ups – as each day brought new cultural insights and challenges.

An array of activities

By mid Sunday afternoon the registration was complete and the participants were eager to know who they were sharing their dorms with and whether they were local Aucklanders or further afield like Palmerston North or Dunedin. The icebreakers in the stadium got everyone opening up on their personalities and attributes and this followed on with Peter Low's Lion dance troupe with the Wu Shu artists showing their flexibility and skill. The first nights dinner got the conference attendees into the discipline of eating fast ...going for seconds, finishing dessert and clearing their dishes – to get ready for the evening sessions. The Sunday evening session was appropriately opened up by Peter Chin – Mayor of Dunedin – inspiring all to “do it your way” and face the challenges that appear as we progress our careers.

NZCA LDC Future DragonZ participants and Organisers at Willow Park - Feb 2009 (below)



A careers consultant (Allison Fisher) took the attendees through their personality traits from introvert to extrovert – each participant valued their individuality and how they combined a variety of traits to become comfortable with who they are. Later on the group got their first taste of Chinese folk dancing and how to keep the fans held high without watching their feet.

Throughout the week the attendees benefited from the business insights of Jilnaught Wong (University of Auckland), Chris Chong (Red Cactus) and Andrew Wong (Ascot Mercy Hospital) and appreciated the successes and ambitions that these people articulated. The benefits of forward planning with the scheduled speakers ensured there was a cross section of talented and inspiring topics – from animators with Weta productions to the assimilation of Chinese into western cultures.

The fellowship

One of the achievements of the conference, as with previous LDC forums – is the friendships and camaraderie that is forged between all participants. The bonding and genuine fun & humor as the various teams concentrate on preparing and delivering their projects – was witnessed on the final night when they all performed their folk dances. The laughter and applause for each group came from their parents and friends – but also across their peer groups. The black Future DragonNZ t-shirts unified this group of young aspirational NZ Chinese – just as their colourful folk dance costumes brought out the cultural identity.

The benefits of the Conference

By the end of the week the leadership skills and cultural awakenings were embedded in each of the 44 participants. The legacy of the conference is that these young people will go forward into the workforce and community not just as young adults but young NZ Chinese leaders – ready to take on whatever comes their way in a NZ society.

Footnote: A big thanks to Justin Yang & Kai Luey and the organizing committee for doing the hard yards – and making the 2009 LDC a great success.

* * * * *

NZCA Auckland Goldrush Trip

21-22 February 2009





A group of 20 people gathered at Auckland Airport at 6:30a.m. on Saturday 21st. to travel to **Dunedin** to see the recently completed "**Chinese Gardens**", which was constructed on the site of a carpark site, practically in the heart of the city. We were met at the hotel apartments by Peter & Janice Sew Hoy, who were to be our hosts for the Dunedin City part of our brief tour , which was made so much more enjoyable, with all the local knowledge that gave us a better insight into all the places we visited in the short time we were there. First of all, we were taken to the **Otago Museum** to see an

exhibition called "**The Emperor's Dragons** ", which was a collection of precious treasures showcasing the importance of the symbol of the dragon in Chinese culture & civilization. All of these exquisite treasures were crafted for Emperors through the different dynasties of their ancient history , and consisted of pottery , cooking utensils, vases, robes, and mirror like ornaments, all embellished with the "dragon theme" . We were told that one

could tell that the dragons depicted were created for Emperors by the number of claws the dragon had.....most of which had five , which showed that the articles were created for the top level of the rulers of the day. This wonderful exhibition was made available by the **Shanghai Museum**, exclusively to the Otago Museum , as Dunedin City is a "Sister City" of Shanghai. Peter & Janice , ably assisted by our own Cecil Wong, who had arrived in the city a few days earlier, and was "schooled " up by niece Janice & nephew-in-law Peter, on the most interesting aspects of this comprehensive exhibition of ancient artifacts, which made the tour so much more interesting. Next port of call for the group was the "Chinese Gardens" which was within walking distance of the Otago Museum, and free entrance to this magnificent group of buildings, lake & gardens was facilitated by Peter, who is a trustee of the "Chinese Garden", and Janice & he, were our guides at this truly authentic cluster of buildings, lake & gardens, which were mainly designed in Shanghai, built & fabricated on a site identical in size & shape to that of Dunedin. The buildings, were built then dismantled, then shipped to New Zealand in 100 containers, where they were reconstructed by artisans & supervisors from Shanghai. The * **Dunedin Chinese Garden** is the only authentic, as well as the first in the Southern Hemisphere, and well **worth the trip to the "Deep South" to view** this magnificent edifice.

That evening, we had a scrumptious dinner at the "**Golden Harvest**" restaurant with members of the Otago Chinese Community, after which we paid a short visit to the local Casino.....not to gamble, but to see how an old, old, hotel, was restored and converted to what is known down there as a "boutique casino" . This restoration would leave our Civic Theatre in second place, as far as the attention to detail is concerned! After an





hour or so socialising and drinking water, we were delivered back to our "digs" by the casino's courtesy van to rest up in preparation for an early morning bus trip to **Lawrence**, where we met up with James & Eva Ng, who gave us a brief history of the area.....Chinese gold diggers had worked in this area a hundred or so years ago, and the ultimate plan is to re- create the village that was established on the site, all those years ago. After viewing slides and listening to Jim's account of the history of the area, we had a welcome cup of tea and biscuits, before carrying on to a few fruit stalls along the waythe third one called "Jones's in Cromwell " being the pick of the bunch by far, and the place where a good amount was spent on cherries, nectarines, as well as dried fruits.

The best part was the "sample table" where we were able to try dried fruit such as cherries nectarines, plums & apricots as well as pine nuts and almonds. Next stop was **Arrowtown**, where we had a quick lunch before visiting the old Chinese village, before setting off for **Queenstown**, where we had an hour or so checking out the local shops , before setting off for the airport and our 90 minute flight back to Auckland.

I'm sure all of the group would like to join me in thanking Virginia, our tour leader for looking after us and making sure that we all had a very memorable & enjoyable weekend. Last but not least, a special thanks to Kai Luey for the part he played in instigating and facilitating this trip.

Percy aka PKF



My Experience

Another tale about riding the buses of our fair city. As you know, the beginning of " Free Rides " for superannuitants has been in force for several months now, and instead of using the postal system, I decided to ride the bus over to Browns Bay to settle my account at a nephew's travel agency, for a trip that I'm taking with no.2 son and granddaughters to visit no.3 son and family in Hong Kong, then go on to Guangzhou to visit the family village. However, being unsuccessful at contacting no. 2 son that morning, assumed that nephew's office was where I remembered it.....in Brown's Bay. Imagine my annoyance to find on going into his former office, to find out that he had relocated to the Albany office. Next, I found out through asking local bus commuters how to get from Brown's Bay to Albany, and was told that I would have to take a bus back to Takapuna, then get the bus to Albany from there, which I duly did. On boarding the bus, and flashing my gold card, I inquired of the driver whether Bush Rd. was on the way, and he assured me it was, so I sat back to enjoy the ride. After travelling for about 20 minutes, I had an idea that Bush Rd. was in the vicinity, so at the next stop, asked the driver whether there were shops at Bush Rd., and he nonchanantly informs me that the bus passed Bush Rd. about 1/2 a mile earlier, so I alighted at that stop muttering under my breath " Thanks mate! ", and duly started hiking back to Bush Rd. To make my walk even more interesting, I was at the wrong end of the road, and ended up walking for nearly a couple of miles before I reached my nephew's travel shop. When I had finished my business with him, I asked how often the buses went past the bus stop near his front entrance, and was told not very often at that time of the day, so he very obligingly took me in his car to the Albany bus station, and after a 5 minute wait for a city bound bus, was back at Britomart in 15 minutes, and back home 10 minutes later, so it was not all bad! Pity some of the drivers don't get a few lessons in " Public Relations", but with free travelling now, it will make rude bus drivers more tolerable. To end the story on a good note, I went on the bus to Orewa the previous Friday, to meet a friend for lunch, and you couldn't have met a more friendly driver.

Percy [Unofficial P.R. man for the bus company].

* * * * *

Love and Marriage

| | |
|---|---|
| Love is holding hands in the street. | Marriage is holding arguments in the street. |
| Love is dinner for 2 in your favorite restaurant. | Marriage is a take home packet. |
| Love is cuddling on a sofa. | Marriage is one of them sleeping on a sofa. |
| Love is talking about having children. | Marriage is talking about getting away from children. |
| Love is going to bed early. | Marriage is going to sleep early. |
| Love is a romantic drive. | Marriage is arrive on tops curvy tarmac . |
| Love is losing your appetite. | Marriage is losing your figure. |
| Love is sweet nothing in the ear. | Marriage is sweet nothing in the bank. |
| TV has no place in love. | Marriage is a fight for remote control. |
| Love is 1 drink and 2 straws. | Marriage is "Don't you think you've had enough!". |

Conclusion: "Love is blind,

Marriage is an eye opener!"

From all at World Vision our sincere regards

Michael Sheppard

Dear Kai , please find below one example, putting a family face on the relief effort, of the ongoing earthquake disaster relief work that World Vision is undertaking in China..I wanted, especially for you (please pass this on to your members if of value) to see how very valued, through the Red Cross your organisations wonderful contribution was and the very real difference it is making in the efforts they are undertaking as part of a multi-agency contribution..My understanding is that, via World Vision 10,000 quilts will be distributed as well as the individual housing etc work as per below-all making a great difference in peoples lives.

Monday, 27 October 2008

By Guo Dongni

As the sun goes down, 45-year-old Lian Dongyan folds up the quilts which are hanging out to dry. Sitting in front of her new house, still not quite completed, she watches her husband busily at work on it. She does not want to go home, back to the wet and small tent, but she knows those days are almost over; she is eagerly looking forward to the final completion of her new home. Thanks to World Vision, we don't have to suffer the cold this winter she says.

Lian's husband Liang Xing is overjoyed, full of plans as to how he will use the RMB 10,000 (USD1,500) house reconstruction subsidy received from World Vision.

I am going to town to buy some cement, lime and tiles. The sooner we finish building the house, the sooner we can move in. We will no longer be afraid of the rain. Life will become better in winter.

He is excited, counting the money over and over again, It's just incredible! It really warms our hearts before winter comes.

Lian lives with her husband, two daughters and a son in Wayaopo Village, Yingge Township, Taibai County, Shaanxi Province. High in the hills, surrounded by slippery slopes, the natural environment and living conditions have always been challenging there.

Before the May 12 Wenchuan earthquake, the family lived in the high hill. They had to walk up and down for a long journey if they had to go to town. Their livelihood depended on beans and corn grown in their poor farmlands on the slope. While Lian's father-in-law was still alive, he was paralysed and seriously ill. Giving the old man proper treatments had put the family in serious debts.

Earthquake is not a word that Lian enjoys using. On May 12 when the quake happened, she witnessed the total collapse of her poorly built clay house. When her second daughter, who worked in another city, came back for her parents, the old couple was found squatting at the foot of the hill, looking lost and covered in grey dust.

Indeed, everything turned grey at that moment. The sky was grey, so were the trees and the people. Food, furniture, clothes and quilts were all buried under the rubble and dust.

The house was gone. Everything was gone. After all these years, we lost our home and were left in big debts. Our child still has to go to school. What were we going to do?

I had no money to build a house. For more than 10 years, I have been collecting wooden materials to build a new house, and yet I was still unable to do so.

Her husband continues, rubbing his hands embarrassingly, I am very poor. I cannot support my daughters to go to school and they

have to go out of the village to work. They are not educated and people look down on them. They can only make very little money.

Their second daughter was not willing to leave her parents after the quake. But sharing a small tent with the entire family was awkward for them.

It was also scary when rain or storm visited them. Rainwater leaked from the temporary kitchen set up by tarpaulins and kept pouring on the tent. Often the firewood was too wet to be burnt. The puddles, mud, chilly weather and wet bedding all made the family miserable.

Not long ago, it rained for more than two weeks and made the family suffer much. They all got skin problems. Red and itchy swollen spots kept growing all over their bodies making life really unbearable.

As autumn season began, the temperatures dropped to freezing in the mountains. Despite the two quilts covering their bodies, they still shivered under them at night.

World Vision distributed quilts to us before and they now keep us much warmer at night. But we would really be worried if we had to stay in the tent for winter, Liang says.

Liang Xing says the government offered some assistance to rebuild their house but it was not enough. The whole village was short of finances and had no way to get loans. This family had no income and the credit cooperative was reluctant to lend money to them, even though they had asked for help a couple of times. The family had no money to buy materials and pay to the workers. It seemed that reconstructing their house was an impossible goal.

Fortunately World Vision's subsidy just came in time to relieve their problems and keep the house reconstruction work going. Liang Xing smiles, Once the house is complete, our daughters should no longer worry about us but go and get married. We really thank World Vision very much! We thank all the kind-hearted people from World Vision.

Now, everything seems to be starting anew. Lian sits by the corn she has collected from their field and talks of her future plans.

People are so kind to help us and so we got to live our life well from now. When construction is finished and our family settles down, my husband will go to big cities to find a job and earn money to repay our debts as soon as possible. My son is going to graduate from technical school soon and he will go out and find a job too. When our children have their own children, they must study and go to college and live a good life.

World Vision helps us so that we have food to eat, quilts to cover and house to live. We will never forget it for the rest of our lives. j±

Lian smacks the sturdy wall of the new house with joy, saying, Though I can't meet the people who help us, I shall remember their kindness in my heart. I will make sure my children live a good life, not forgetting those who have helped us. If there is any one in need in the future, we will surely help without any reservation.

Neil Riley, B.Mus (Hons), B.A., Dip. Tchg

Managing Director & General Editor

Live-wire Learning Ltd

DDI: +64 3 218 4747 Mobile: +64 21 115 4764

Web: <http://livewirelearning.co.nz>

eLearning: <http://my.livewirelearning.co.nz> "*Putting the digital edge into education.*"



WOMEN'S GROUP NEWS

The Women's Group welcomes members to a New year of exciting activities.

Last November meeting we enjoyed a day trip by bus with our kind regular bus driver Bill Houghton. This time we went to 3 beautiful gardens in South Auckland. First to the Auckland Botanical Gardens, a very large garden in Manurewa. It consists of many different gardens and ponds, including a big rose garden with a very good variety of lovely roses in full bloom at that time. There were lots of other plants and flowers in separate areas, a truly interesting place to visit.

Our second stop was at Atarangi Garden & Nursery in Papakura. This garden was very pleasant to walk around with more roses to enjoy as well as giant poppies and sweet pea flowers. We had a lovely homemade lunch organised by the owner there.

Afterwards we went to Amesbury Park Gardens in Ramarama. We were fascinated by the wonderful garden statues and ornaments the owner had arranged amongst the plants and flowers in her garden and around the beautiful pond.

In February this year we took a ferry trip to Motuihe Island. It was a quick 30 min. trip across the harbour. On arrival we took part on a guided walk through the bush area on part of the island seeing many native trees and plants as well as native birds. After that we enjoyed a social picnic lunch on one of the beautiful beaches.

Coming Up : On Sunday March 29th we will take a bus trip to the Awhitu Peninsula. There we will visit the monthly Awhitu Country Market where local organic produce and arts and crafts can be purchased. Following that we will go to the Orua Bay Bird Park to see the exotic birds and have lunch in the tearooms there. After that we will drive up to the top of the peninsula to the Manukau Heads lighthouse. From that point we will be able to take in stunning views of the surrounding areas. One last stop will be at the large 'Earthtalk' property where we will have a guided walk to see many native plants as well as fruit orchards, organic vegetable, herb and flower gardens.

If interested, or if you have any queries about our meetings, please contact Gillian or Florence. You will need to reply by 20th March if you wish to go on the March trip.

On Saturday 18th April, Brian Young will be giving a talk about his recent travels to the Middle East. He visited Israel to see Jerusalem, Bethlehem & Nazareth. He also went to Syria, Jordan & Dubai. He will have photographs to show from a DVD played on a television. Men are also welcome to attend on this occasion.

Our meetings are usually held at 1.30pm on the 3rd Saturday of each month at Meadowbank Community Centre, 29 St Johns Rd, Meadowbank, near the Meadowbank Shopping Centre. New members always welcome, so please ask your friends and relatives to come along.

Gillian Young Ph. 528 9008 email youngz@ihug.co.nz

Florence Hing Ph. 528 6920 email bfng@xtra.co.nz

NZCA AUCKLAND INC CANTONESE MUSIC SCHOOL

GUNG HEI FAT CHOY - Welcome to the Lunar Year of the OX (stubborn, patient and hardworking)!!

The vision of the School is to encourage the learning of our heritage language – Cantonese , so that the children can communicate to their grandparents and great, grandparents. At the school we teach oral language through song and movement. Embrace the Chinese Culture by giving cooking lessons to the older girls . To celebrate the Chinese New Year the girls made glutinous rice dumplings (sweet and round - symbolic for health and prosperity).

We are very fortunate to have the services of Mr Tat Ming Tsui and Ms Irene Ho. Tat taught at primary level in Hong Kong for a number of years before coming to NZ. And Irene has just completed a Diploma in Counselling. They have been in NZ for over 15 years. Both are indeed very qualified to teach bilingual oral language to the children.

Current pupils and parents are very enthused by the programme and some parents are very keen to be teacher aides to help their children progress even further.

Some people find that there is a clash with sporting activities on a Saturday morning especially in the winter sports season. All are welcome back any time as time permits.

Venue Oranga Primary School Hall, Rangipawa Road, One Tree Hill

Time Saturday
* Preschool 9.30 – 11am
* Primary One 11.15 – 12.45pm
* Primary Two 1.00pm - 2.30pm

Term One Saturday 7 February – 4 April 2009
Two Saturday 2 May - 4 July 2009

There are vacancies at all levels. Do encourage and bring your children/grandchildren to learn their heritage language and culture.

For more information contact

Connie Kum: cojay@xtra.co.nz Phone 6258 611
Debbie Sew Hoy qbee@ihug.co.nz Mobile 021 2716010

* * * * *

Notice

Check our website regularly www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz

NZCA Akld Inc. is planning another interesting Outing for you
in May 2009

Tree Planting at Motutapu Island - Date to be confirmed.

The New Zealand Chinese Association (Auckland) Inc.

Annual Golf Tournament 2009

The annual NZCA Auckland Branch Inc. Golf Tournament will be held at the Onewhero Golf Club on Sunday 3rd May 2009.

Take the motorway (SH1) south to Mercer, cross the bridge over the Waikato River. Follow Mercer Ferry Road and on to SH 22, heading towards **Pukekawa**. Follow the road signs to Onewhero Golf Club – about 3 km from the Tuakau/Pukekawa junction.

There will be competitions as follows:

1. Men's competition – Best Nett and Best Stableford
2. Women's competition – Best Nett and Stableford
3. Inter-Branch Challenge Cup – Team of four - Stableford

Entry is on a first come first served basis (maximum 60 players). Each player must have an Official NZ Golf Handicap. Participants must be able to furnish their Club number and Membership number.

Social golfers are not required to have an official handicap. They will not be eligible for the Branch competitions, or the Inter –Branch Challenge Cup.

Prizes for best nett, best stableford, longest drive, and closest to the pin. Spot prizes.

All players must be a member of their local branch of NZCA. The annual subscription for membership to the Auckland Branch is \$10.00.

Due to the interest and participation by NZCA Waikato Br at the 2008 tournament, NZCA Auckland Inc has decided to set up an Inter-Branch Golf Challenge Cup, open to all branches of NZCA.

Each team will consist of four players,(may comprise both men and women). A branch may enter more than one team. The team with the **highest aggregate stableford** points for the three best players will win the Challenge Cup. In the event of a tie, the winner will be the team with the **lowest aggregate handicap index** for the three counting players.

The Inter-Branch Challenge Cup will be held each year in Auckland in conjunction with the NZCA (Auckland) Inc Annual Golf Tournament. Both competitions will be played concurrently over 18 holes.

Players do not have to be part of a team.

The latest Royal and Ancient Rules of Golf and normal golf etiquette apply. For the enjoyment of all, please keep up with the group ahead. A time target for the round is 4.5 hours.

Entry fee for each player is \$35.00 which entitles them to be part of a team entry. Tee off will commence from 10.00am.

Entries close on **Friday 24th April 2009**. Payment **must** accompany entry forms.

Please post your entry form together with your remittance to:

Virginia Chong
29 Shiphers Avenue
Epsom Auckland 1023

Please feel free to copy the entry form for distribution

For all enquiries, please contact: Virginia Chong P: 09-630-6641 (home) Mb: 021-982-726 El: vchong@ihug.co.nz

NZ Chinese Association (Auckland) Inc

Annual Golf Tournament 2009

Name_____

Affiliated Club_____ Club No;_____

Membership No;_____ Handicap Index_____

Address_____

Contact Details: Home _____

Work _____

Mobile_____

Email Address_____

Are you entering a team: Yes / No

- If yes, Branch represented:_____

Name of Player1_____ Player 2_____

Player 3_____ Player 4_____

Separate entry form must be completed giving each player's details.

- If no, do you wish to be assigned to a team? (Every effort will be made to place you in a team, but this may not be possible)

Entry Fee: \$35.00 if current member of NZCA

\$45.00 if non member of NZCA

Entries close on Friday 1st May 2009.

Cheques must be made payable to NZCA Auckland Inc.

Please post your entry form together with your remittance to:

Virginia Chong
29 Shipherds Avenue
Auckland 1023

NZCA AUTUMN CHINA TOUR 05 SEPTEMBER 2009

21 Days China Tour Package

05 – 26 September 2009

Price: \$7680.00 per person twin-shared + applicable taxes*- Single Supplement + \$1980.00

TOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES:

Airfare: AKL/HKG/KWL-CAN/HKG/AKL travelling on Cathay Pacific Airways

China Tour: Touring with Janet Joe

Includes all China Domestic flights with Taxes, Transportation, 4 * Hotel Accommodation, Western breakfast, Lunches & Dinners, Entrance fees to all sightseeing as per itinerary, English speaking local guides, Porterage & Gratuities.

Various: Single China Visa

COST DOES NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

*Applicable Security Taxes, China Departure Tax & Fuel Surcharges en route on ticket approx \$280.00 if ticketed today ex Auckland and subject to change up until time of ticketing

Changes to the Itinerary will incur additional costs Please contact Janet

Hong Kong Optional HK Stopover Package but can be arranged at the end of the tour

Travel Insurance available and can be arranged.

Lunch & Dinner in Beijing & Shanghai on the free days and on the free days in Guangzhou

NZCA Branch Membership fee (\$10.00 per person or \$20.00 per family for Auckland Branch)

Price is based on a minimum of 20 persons traveling together in a group.

Due to the fluctuating NZ dollar and unforeseen increases, prices are subject to change up until full payment has been received.

A non-refundable deposit of \$400.00 per person is required to secure a booking by 05 April 09
However, this deposit will be refunded if the tour does not proceed because of insufficient numbers.
Full payment is due before **05 July 2009**

The above price quoted is for cheque payment only.

For those wishing to use their Visa or Mastercard a credit card fee of 2% is to be added to the amount.

For further enquiries please contact Virginia Chong of NZCA

Tel: **09 630 6641** or **021 982 726** or Email: vchong@ihug.nz

Janet Joe at Planet Earth Travel **09 368 0237** or **021 633 889** or email janet@planettravel.co.nz

Please complete and return the enclosed registration form with your Deposit and Passport details to:

Planet Earth Travel

PO Box 5102, Wellesley St,

Level 7, Smith & Caughey Building,

253 Queen St, Auckland

NZCA Autumn China Tour 09 September 2009
[05-26 September 2009]

Please complete and return this application form together with a photocopy of the first page of your Passport and \$400.00 deposit per person before 05 April 09 to:

Planet Earth Travel – P O Box 5102, Wellesley St, Auckland

Please make cheques payable to Planet Earth Travel or by Credit card (see details below)

Attention: Janet Joe Tel: (09) 368 0237, Fax: (09) 379 0988 Email: janet.joe@xtra.co.nz or janet@planettravel.co.nz

PASSENGER DETAILS: Please tick

| | |
|---|--|
| Surname as it appears on your passport: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss | Surname as it appears on your passport: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss |
| First Name: | First Name: |
| Other names: | Other names: |
| Address: | Address: |
| | |
| Telephone (Home): | Telephone (Home): |
| Telephone (Work): | Telephone (Work): |
| Mobile: | Mobile: |
| Email: | Email: |
| NZ Passport number: | NZ Passport number: |
| Passport Expiry Date: | Passport Expiry Date: |
| Date of Birth: / / | Date of Birth: / / |

| | | | |
|---|--------|--|-------------------|
| Accommodation required (circle) | | Sharing with | |
| Single | Twin | I / We wish to end the tour in (please tick) | |
| | | Guangzhou | Hong Kong NZ |
| Special requirements | Where | Date of return travel if not returning on 25 Sept 09 | |
| Visit Ancestral Villages in Guangzhou | | Require hotel in HKG | Yes No |
| Yes No | | Dates | |
| NZCA Branch & Membership # | | Number of nights required | |
| Credit Card | Cheque | CX /QF Frequent Flyer # | |
| | | Amount \$ | |
| Please +2% credit card fee for Visa & Master card | | Plus 2% | |
| | | Total on Credit Card \$ | |
| Name on Credit Card | | Total on Credit Card \$ | |
| Credit Card Number | | Expiry Date | |
| Signed | Date | | |

Emergency Contact & Details

| | |
|------------|------------|
| Name: | Name: |
| Telephone: | Telephone: |

ITINERARY for NZCA AUTUMN CHINA TOUR 05 SEPT 2009

| | | |
|------------|--------------------|--|
| SAT 05 SEP | 07:30AM 7:35 PM | Depart Auckland on the Cathay Pacific flight to Guilin via Hong Kong Connect flight from Hong Kong to Guilin Arrive in Guilin. Met & transfer to your hotel 3 nights in Guilin |
| SUN 06 SEP | | Enjoy the picturesque mountain scenes along the Li River as you cruise to Yangshou with lunch on board. Test your bargaining skills in the local shops in West Street and a visit to Sai Wai Tao Yuen Minority village to learn of the many Minority Nationalities that live in this area before returning to Guilin. |
| MON 07 SEP | | Guilin sights include the Elephant Trunk hill the symbol of Guilin, Fubo hill for the city views and the amazing limestone formations inside the Reed Flute caves . If time permits we can visit the South Sea Pearl factory. |
| TUE 08 SEP | | GUILIN – XIAN by air 2 nights in Xian Known as Chang On during the Qin, Han & Tang Dynasties, Xian has been the Ancient capital for many centuries in China. Visit the ancient Xian City Wall and the Bell or Drum Tower . Enjoy the Dumpling Banquet Dinner & the Tang Cultural Music & Dance Show |
| WED 09 SEP | | The First Emperor Qin Shihuang's buried army of Terracotta Warriors is the highlight of Xian, visit the Big Wild Goose Pagoda first built in the Tang Dynasty and discover the amazing snacks & stores in the Muslim Quarters |
| THU 10 SEP | | XIAN – BEIJING by air 5 nights Walk through the Temple of Heaven where the Emperors prayed and gave thanks to the Heavenly God for a good harvest. If time permits market shopping at the Hongqiao markets |
| FRI 11 SEP | | Beijing has been China's capital during the Ming & Qing Dynasties Visit Tiananmen Square , Mao's Mausoleum and the Forbidden City home to 24 Emperors of the Ming & Qing dynasty. Take a ride in a Rickshaw around the Hutongs (alleyways) to see how the local Beijing people live in the old style courtyard homes. After dinner enjoy the Kungfu Legend Show |
| SAT 12 SEP | | Visit the Summer Palace with the longest corridor in the world & the Marble boat built by the dragon lady Empress Dowager. Stop at the Olympic Village on the way to the China Tea Tasting House . Market shopping at Ya Show markets if time permits Tonight enjoy the famous Peking Duck dinner |
| SUN 13 SEP | | Stop at a local Jade factory on your way to Great Wall at Jurong Pass where you will have time to climb the wall or just enjoy the great views After lunch walk along the peaceful Sacred Way to visit the Ming Tomb of one of the 13 Ming Emperors buried here |

| | |
|------------|---|
| MON 14 SEP | A Free day to explore Beijing Suggestion: Take the subway to Wangfujing Pedestrian St, visit the Ancient Observatory, the Lama Temple or the Raising Flag ceremony at sunrise |
| TUE 15 SEP | BEIJING – Hangzhou by air 2 nights Visit the largest Buddhist Temple in south China Lingyin Temple and then to the DragonWell Tea Village to taste the famous Longjing green tea After dinner enjoy the magnificent Song Dynasty show giving you an insight on the history, the love and the tragic legends of the West lake |
| WED 16 SEP | A boat ride on Westlake is a must to view the hanging willows and blossom trees surrounding the misty lake and causeways that inspire so many Chinese artists and poets. Visit Hefang Street and the memorial hall of the Southern Song Dynasty hero General Yue Fei when Hangzhou was the capital city of China |
| THU 17 SEP | Depart Hangzhou by bus stopping for lunch at Xitang , one of the many water towns along the Grand Canal that carried the silk & tea to emperors in Beijing. Capture the many camel hump bridges along the canal and the traditional architectural homes built during the Song & Ming dynasty Accommodation in Shanghai 4 nights |
| FRI 18 SEP | A visit to the Shanghai History museum will give you an insight of the Shanghai during the Opium Wars & Treaty Port days Walk along the famous Bund waterfront with the contrast of the old & new architectural buildings then follow the signs to Nanjing Pedestrian Road and experience being in a city with 17 million people. After dinner the Huangpu River night cruise shows you the amazing lights of Shanghai City |
| SAT 19 SEP | Yu Garden is a traditional Chinese garden in the heart of the Old Shanghai Bazaar surrounded by local shops & restaurants where you can taste the local snacks & shop for your Chinese souvenirs. See the life like Jade Buddha statue at the Jade Buddha temple and a visit to a local Silk factory to learn how they make the silk duvets. After dinner enjoy the amazing Shanghai Acrobatic Show |
| SUN 20 SEP | A Free day to explore Shanghai Suggestion: Shanghai Arts Museum in Peoples Square, Huaihai Rd (was the French concession) and still famous for shopping or check out the magnificent views from the 88 th floor Jinmao Building or the new 101 story Shanghai World Financial Centre in Pudong or Xintiandi for the Shanghai nightlife |
| MON 21 SEP | Depart Shanghai to Guangzhou by air 4 nights Guangzhou sights include the Chen Clan Ancestral Hall now a museum for local Guangdong Arts & Crafts and the Five Rams Statue in Yue Xiu Park. Check out the shopping and historic site on Beijing Pedestrian Road |
| TUE 22 SEP | Visit Ancestral villages in the Xintang area or a free day in Guangzhou |
| WED 23 SEP | Visit Ancestral villages in the Taishan/ Xinhui area or a free day in GZ |
| THU 24 SEP | Visit Ancestral villages in the Bai Yun district or a free day in GZ |
| FRI 25 SEP | Depart Guangzhou to Auckland via Hong Kong |
| SAT 26 SEP | Arrive Auckland |

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO EASTERN BEACH !

A story to lighten your heart.

Can you imagine the gales of laughter around our table when this person eventually arrived for dinner about an hour late. It seems some people are so intelligent , erudite and successful in business that sometimes the simple things in life are lost on them. Given a GPS by the family and ample directions every 15 to 20mins. by mobile phone how to get there didn't make one iota of difference.

It was a case of children's game " Round and round the mulberry bush" only in this case it round and round the round - about. Not once,not twice, not three times not four times and on the fifth time around a young Chinese girl who must have seen the whole saga innocently asked "ARE YOU LOST" Ha! Ha

What a ribbing this person received from us all! Stone cold dinner and dessert was of no consequence and all the ribbing and jokes were received with great grace and humour.

P.S .I think if it had been me in that situation, after the second or third time around the round - about I would have given up and gone home in disgust ! Maybe that's why that person is so successful and I'm not. No stickability. EW

* * * * *

Take a risk

To laugh is to risk appearing a fool
To weep is to risk appearing sentimental
To reach out for another is to risk involvement
To expose feelings is to risk exposing your true self
To live is to risk dying
To hope is to risk despair
To try is to risk failure
To love is to risk not being loved in return
But risk must be taken, because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing.
The person who risks nothing, does nothing and is nothing.
He may avoid suffering and sorrow, but simply cannot learn, feel, change, grow, love - live.
Chained by certitudes, he is a slave. He has forfeited his freedom.

(Author Unknown) EW

2009 EASTER TOURNAMENT

The Easter Contingent for 2009 competing in Christchurch is now taking shape rapidly. At last count there are 103 competitors representing Auckland in the following sports;

- basketball 10 teams
- volleyball 5 teams
- touch
- netball
- indoor netball
- hockey

We are still on the lookout for more players in the following sports/grades so please contact me urgently if you are thinking of playing but haven't made yourself known yet;

Netball

Indoor netball

Basketball (various grades)

- tiny-ball (attending year 1-4 at school)
- intermediate (attending year 7-8 at school)
- women under 17 years old
- women 21 years plus
- men under 17 years old
- men 40 years plus

Contact: Organiser

NZCA Akld Vice-Chairman

Edmond Yee : eyee01@gmail.com or text 021 1104467 mb

There's no such thing as a free lunch unless you're over 70 and a member of NZCA

NZCA ANNUAL SENIORS YUMCHA

Venue: Sun World Millenium Restaurant
Kyber Pass Rd. Newmarket

Date & Time: Wednesday 1 April 2009 @ 11am.

Contact: Percy - 09 520 1860 ; Elsie - 09 579 0838

Seniors (70+ free) under 70 - \$15.00 charge

NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION AUCKLAND INC

2008 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Executive Committee of the NZCA Auckland Branch wishes to congratulate the worthy recipients of the 2008 Achievements Awards which were presented at the NZCA Auckland Chinese New Year Dinner at the Imperial Garden Restaurant on Saturday,

24 January 2009.

The Significant Achievement Award (for persons over 21) winner was Don Leong for outstanding success in the sport of Taekwon-do, a form of martial arts.

In October, Don attended with his family to the **2008 ITF World Cup** tournament in **Italy** as part of a 37 strong New Zealand contingent. It was a massive tournament with nearly 1200 competitors from 45 countries. Daughter Kristy, son Mitchell and Don competed in their respective age divisions. Don competed in the mens 46+ division in three events and was won three gold medals for patterns, flying side kick and flying high kick and a took out the best overall male 46+ Black Belt Trophy.

The Youth Achievement Award (for persons under 21) winner was Logan Lim for outstanding success in his academic pursuits.

Logan Lim was inducted into the International Golden Key Society in 2008 in recognition for his high academic performance during his studies at Waikato University. Membership is extended to the top 15% of undergraduate degree students in the University.

In the second semester of 2008, Logan participated in an exchange programme with Maastricht University in The Netherlands to further his studies in international marketing and strategic management. He was awarded two scholarships, The New Zealand Undergraduate Study Abroad Award (NZUSAA) and the Waikato Management School International Exchange Scholarship, totalling \$5,500 in recognition of his ability to be an excellent ambassador for Waikato University and New Zealand during his time abroad.



**NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION
AUCKLAND INC**
紐西蘭屋崙華聯會



**Senior Lifestyle Group
Meets Every Tuesday
1 New North Road
10am to 2pm**

Regular Activities

*Tai Chi (45 minutes with David Wong at 10am prompt)
Mah Jong
Table Tennis
Indoor Bowls
Karaoke
Basic Conversational Mandarin
DVD/film/photo screenings especially about China & NZ Chinese
+ anything else you want*

*Entry Fee \$2 per person
Tea & Coffee provided
Please bring your own lunch*

Since its startup on 18 November 2008, this group has met regularly each week (except for a five week holiday break) with an attendance generally of 10 to 20 persons. Extra activities have included talks on various topics including reflexology & Chinese migrant settlement issues, cooking demonstrations and a yum cha. Outings have included a visit to the Fo Shan Buddhist Temple in Dannemora and to Mt Albert Chinese Day Care Centre.

All persons not working fulltime are very welcome to join our weekly get-together, and we look forward to getting suggestions about further extra activities and outings.

Kai Luey



LDC Conference Feb 2009 (top)
 Music/Language School Break-up (centre)

NZCA Xmas BBQ helpers 2008 (top)
 Committee members with Pansy Wong (centre)

LDC Conference (bottom L & R)

Launch of the Chinese Journals

On the 10th February 2009 the Chinese Journal Digital Database was launched at the Auckland Central Public Library. Auckland City Mayor John Banks conducted the formalities; Kai Luey (on behalf of NZCA and representing the Chinese Poll Heritage Trust) and Howe Young (on behalf of the Dominion Federation of NZ Commercial Chinese Growers) were the main speakers. About 80 guests attended the launch.

Allison Dobbie, John Banks, Kai Luey and Howe Young .taken at the Auckland City Library's Chinese Digital Database launch. (below)

The Chinese Journal Digital Database database is the culmination of 12 months of intense work between Auckland City Libraries, the Alexander Turnbull Library, the NZ Chinese Association and the Poll Tax Heritage Trust. The database combines three periodicals: The Man Sing Times 1921 – 1922; New Zealand Chinese Weekly News 1937 – 1946; and New Zealand Chinese Growers Monthly Journal 1949 – 1972.



The database enables people to browse these periodicals in the comfort of your own home, any person with knowledge of Chinese and a love of history will find the site very stimulating. Go to: www.aucklandcitylibraries.com. Then go to **Digital Library**.

I am sure it will be of particular interest to new migrant Chinese to be able to read about some of the events and activities of the early Chinese in New Zealand from the 1920s through to the 1970s. Furthermore, researchers worldwide will be attracted to the site.

Cover page of the first issue, July 1949

Here is an excerpt (from p. 2) about the 'New Zealand Chinese Growers Journal' compiled by Ruth Lam:

Chan Chung Yock, known as Dan Chan, was the first editor. Dan Chan was also the secretary of the Dominion Federation, but as the editor he



took responsibility for the writing, editing, scripting, typesetting and distribution of the journal. For the first three years, each issue was hand-written in Chinese script and cyclostyled on a Gestetner machine. Each issue had 700 copies printed and distributed free to Chinese residents in New Zealand, funded by donations and advertising revenue. It was a vital link between the Chinese residents in New Zealand, especially those in rural areas who had less opportunity to associate with their fellow Chinese.



Dan Chan gifted his collection of Growers' Federation journals to the National Library in 1989. Note: The complete article entitled "The NZ Chinese Growers journal" will be placed on the Auckland City libraries website shortly.

This article is part of a book project on the history of the Chinese Growers in New Zealand. If you have historical information, old photos and items of interest please contact Lily Lee, Project Co-ordinator, email address: lily@rautaki.co.nz

Lily Lee

REPLICA OF OLYMPIC SCULPTURE @ AKLD LIBRARY FOYER



SENIOR LIFESTYLE GROUP MEMBERS VISIT TO FO GUANG TEMPLE



NZCA Wintercamp 2008

Late in 2006, a friend told me she was heading to China during summer break. She described the tour briefly; I didn't think much of it. She returned with incredible stories and pictures of the places she went, things she saw and people she met. I had an idea by then that I ought to go. The next two years were spent saving up and talking to other 'China trip alumni'. Rumours spread that Janet was no longer operating the youth trip so it was a relief when my application for the 2008 tour was accepted. Thank you NZCA and Janet for making these root-seeking tours possible.

Meeting with Janet and the 29 other members at the airport on Nov 23rd was exciting and a little daunting, I can be quite hopeless with names at the best of times (luckily, there were some I already knew). It was interesting to learn of all the siblings/cousins in the group.

The flight to HK was an indication of things to come; it's as if transport creates mass chronic fatigue in the group. Planes and buses were the greatest sleep inducers. Shortly after boarding, heads lolled and snores could be heard, regardless of whether the ride was 10 minutes or 10 hours. Solid hotel beds were only inviting after long days spent travelling followed by late nights out on the town. Early wake-up calls also left us slightly sleep deprived.

Touching down in Guangzhou, we picked up Jessie, Cindy and Sunny, our translators and Chinese teachers from GZ Technical College. The three young ladies were so helpful for the two weeks they were with us. We also picked up all the differences that demonstrated we were a long way from home. Air was dusty, roads

had a lack of rules and a lot of toll gates, food was chewy, bony and/or oily, toilets were simply holes in the ground with a flushing mechanism and many of the homeless were severely disabled. I was surprised by the abundance of trees,

bright city lights, luxury of our hotels,

billboards in rural areas, different flavours/ingredients used in cooking and the beautiful orange sunsets.



Foshan's ancestral temple introduced us to Wang Fei Hong's style of Kung Fu. Taught by provincial champions, with incredible amounts of patience, we slowly memorised a short routine of defensive manoeuvres. Shi-fu (master) ensured our stances and movements were absolutely correct so the performance would be a success. Over the 3 days of informal training, we learned a lot about our masters and their lifestyles. They were selected at a young age to move from their village and work in the city without an opportunity to study at a normal school. The lives of most Chinese children are set out for them from birth, we're so lucky to have so much free-will in New Zealand.

A stop off in Zhongshan allowed us to see Dr Sun Yat Sen's home and memorial park. We all came away with a greater appreciation of his contribution to modern China. Walking into a Kung Fu and Lion Dance competition at the local University was a nice surprise. Stunning displays of co-ordination and balance like nothing I've ever seen!

Taishan was memorable for its people and nightlife. The proximity of the hotel to the city centre allowed us to check out the streets, shops and nightclub around the corner without worrying about catching dodgy taxis. I enjoyed visiting the ancestral villages of fellow campers as it gave me an idea of what to expect from my own villages (also how to perform the bai-san ritual of respect for the ancestors). Jessie, Cindy and Sunny were crucial in helping to break down language barriers and tracing our roots. The living conditions are so basic and most of the young people have shifted to the cities but those left in the village are free to keep pets and play social sports just as we do back home.

Xintang was darkest town we visited. Janet advised us to restrict our evening outings, travel in groups and watch our money. The place is notorious for crime, though we managed to keep ourselves safe. My father's long lost relatives from nearby Dongguan visited me at the hotel then returned two days later to show me the cemetery where my great-great grandparents and my father's half brother are buried, their own homes and the house my grandfather lived in. I was also fortunate enough to be taken on tour around the largest jeans factory in the area in which my 'niece' and her husband work as managers in the design department. The complex was massive and most employees live and work on site. It was difficult to communicate without the translators and other campers for help but the experience was overwhelming

with positive outcomes. The people I met were complete strangers when on arrival but I left with a true sense of belonging and what it means to be family.

A day trip to Shenzhen was a helpful reminder of the progress the Chinese have made in recent years. In the 1980's the area was declared a Special Economic Zone and has been developed accordingly. The Splendid China and Cultural Park had a lot to offer in terms of entertainment and education. Miniature models of famous landmarks were true to the real-life counterparts we witnessed later on the trip. The evening cultural show had spectacular stage effects and performances.

Guangzhou had too much to see and do. The time we did have allowed for brief visits to my mother's parents' villages in Baiyun District, pictures at the five rams statue and Guangzhou Museum, a spot of shopping and a trip to Guangzhou Technical College for painting & calligraphy lessons, sports (basketball & soccer) and a show put on by the 'Business English' students who were keen to learn more about us and New Zealand. Cruising down the Pearl River gave a different perspective of the city lights and bridges. Free time on the final



day was liberating, no uniforms, no wake up call, no time limits! Learning to use the subway was a novelty that never wore off, wish we had one here in Auckland.

After a short flight we arrived in Hangzhou. Our new tour guide told us of the romantic folk tales of that characterise the city. A bike ride around the lake and boat cruise across the surface were perfect ways to take in the beautiful scenery of the West Lake and surrounding mountains. Lingyan Buddhist Temple had a sense of calm about it and much to explore. The Longjing (Dragonwell) Teahouse was our first encounter with highly organised sales seminars. Many of us purchased a carton or two of tea, convinced that we needed a daily brew of the "Emperor Quality" leaves to cleanse our insides.

Xitang water village had certain quaintness about it, the people were incredibly friendly and the shop owners were fun to bargain with (not too pushy). Posters and plaques of Tom Cruise in Mission Impossible III show their pride in hosting a scene of the film. Cats and dogs sat in doorways; a rumour was started that we'd be having their meat for lunch... didn't feel hungry after that.

We did typical tourist activities in Shanghai and Beijing, led by yet another guide. Pleased we went to the factory shops but proud of myself for refusing to cave into sales pitches at Shanghai's Silk factory and Jade factory.

Highlights - shopping at the Yu Garden Bazaar, getting measured up for a coat at the Tailor's market and getting a 'fresh' new hair colour. The Temple of Heaven, Forbidden City, Summer Palace (with frozen man-made lake), Ming Tombs, Sacred Way and Olympic Village in Beijing provided post-card picture opportunities. The achievement that is the Great Wall is just breathtaking, not due to lack of fitness and cold, thin air but thinking about how many lifetimes and lives it took to build such a massive structure on such inhospitable terrain left me in awe. Swimming in the hotel pool and shopping at the Silk Markets were reasons to go back some day.

Free time in HK felt so limited, I hated thinking about the trip drawing to an end but at the same time I was ready to go home. Spent a lot of shopping time with friends not involved in the Winter Camp and missed a lot of sites because of it. Managed to catch the campers at Ocean Park, a place I'd definitely like to return to once renovations are complete. Our final day of the trip was bittersweet, especially since we left Janet at the airport without a proper farewell and gesture of thanks. We've got much to be thankful for, we've gained new experiences, a greater appreciation for our Chinese heritage and genuine friends.

Since returning, I've been asked countless times 'So, how was China?' and I can honestly say it was truly amazing. We experienced so many new sights, sounds, smells, tastes and feelings. Each city was memorable for its own reasons; even travel in between destinations was an adventure. For future Winter-campers, I recommend taking a decent camera, at least 10GB photo storage and keeping a travel diary. It seems like a chore to write it during the trip but you'll be thankful when memories get hazy. Also, take some extra red packets for unexpected relatives! As for contact and photo-sharing with your new found friends... Facebook shall be your new addiction ☺

Samantha Lay Yee - January 2009

NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION (INC.)

紐西蘭華聯總會

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

NCEA (Level 1) or
Cambridge International Examination (IGCSE)
(2009 AWARDS BASED ON 2008 EXAMINATION RESULTS)

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

1. Each Award for the above will have a value of \$250. Up to five awards will be given out annually, one award to each of five students provided each student has attained a satisfactory standard of NCEA Level 1 or IGCSE examinations in the previous year.
2. Applicants of the award will:
 - a) Have studied in a New Zealand secondary school for at least three years.
 - b) Be of Chinese descent.
 - c) Be a permanent resident of New Zealand.
 - d) Be under the age of 17 years at the time of application.
 - e) Have been a member of, or the daughter or son of a person who has been a member of a branch of the New Zealand Chinese Association for more than twelve months at the time of application closing date **(local branch Secretary, please check and confirm this)**.
3. Applications must be made on the official form obtainable from your local Branch of the New Zealand Chinese Association.
4. Candidates must complete and fill in all the details as requested in the form.
5. Candidates must submit certified **hard** copies by the Senior Dean, Principal or the Justice of the Peace the following: the **NCEA Result Notification (qualification and achievement summary, standards achieved)** sheets showing results and credits of subjects and standards achieved or the **IGCSE examination results** showing grades and numerical results of subjects.
6. The application must be accompanied by a testimonial from your school Principal or a Senior Dean, who has access to your academic record.
7. Your completed application form and the necessary documentation must reach your local branch by **15 April 2009, who will forward them after verification, to the New Zealand Chinese Association by 20 April 2009 (local branch Secretary, please insert date of receipt)**.
8. Selection of winners of the awards will be made by the Education/Cultural Sub-Committee of NZCA. This Committee will base their decision on the applicant's academic achievements as shown by the examination results. However, in the event of a close tie between applicants, consideration will be given to attainment of school performance during the year.
9. Successful applicants will be notified via the Branches. Any queries should be made to the Secretary of your local branch.

Application forms; www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz

NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION (INC.)

紐西蘭華聯總會

NCEA (Level 3 or 4) CHINESE AWARD

(2009 Award based on 2008 Examination Results)

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

1. The main objective of the National Certificate of Education Achievement (NCEA Level 3 or 4) Chinese award is to promote the Chinese language.
2. This Chinese Award has a value of \$250 and is awarded annually to a student who sat the NCEA, Level 3 or 4 Examination in Chinese in the previous year and obtained the highest Level, grade and number of credits, if any.
3. Applicants of the award will:
 - a) Have studied in a New Zealand secondary school for at least three years.
 - b) Be of Chinese descent.
 - c) Be a permanent resident of New Zealand.
 - d) Be under the age of 20 years at the time of application
 - e) Have been a member of, or the daughter or son of a person who has been a member of, a branch of the New Zealand Chinese Association for more than twelve months at application closing date (**local branch Secretary, please confirm this**).
4. Applications must be made on the official form obtainable from your local Branch of the New Zealand Chinese Association.
5. Candidates must submit a certified **hard copy** by the Senior Dean, Principal or the Justice of the Peace of the Record of Learning showing the results (e.g. Level attained, grade and number of units if Level 3) of the Chinese Examination sat.
6. The application must be accompanied by a testimonial from your school Principal or the Senior Dean who has access to your academic record.
7. Your completed application form and the necessary documentation must reach your local branch by **15 April 2009, who will forward them, after verification, to the New Zealand Chinese Association by 20 April 2008 (local branch Secretary, please insert date of receipt)**.
8. Selection of winner of the award will be made by the Education/Cultural Sub- Committee of NZCA. This Committee will base their decision on the applicant's academic achievement as shown by the NCEA (Level 3 or 4) examination results. However, in the event of a tie between applicants, consideration will be given to school performance during the year.
9. The successful applicant will be notified via the Branches. Any queries should be made to the Secretary of your local branch.

Application forms : www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz

NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION (INC.)

紐西蘭華聯總會

NZCA TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIP

(2009 Awards Based on 2008 Examination Results)

Information for Applicants

There will be up to three NZCA (NCEA Level 4) Tertiary scholarships awarded annually, each having a value of \$750, to students who have completed their secondary education to the University Entrance level, in order to assist with their tertiary education.

Selection is made by the Education/Cultural Sub-Committee of the New Zealand Chinese Association. You will be advised of the results by your local Branch Association when these are received from the New Zealand Chinese Association.

Criteria considered in awarding the scholarships are:

- a) Academic excellence
- b) Leadership qualities
- c) Outstanding sporting achievements
- d) Cultural achievements
- e) Community involvement.

Any enquiries should be made to the Secretary of your local Branch Association.

Rules Governing the Tertiary Scholarship

Applications are to be made on the official application forms (photocopies are acceptable) which may be obtained from any Branch of the New Zealand Chinese Association. Applicants will:-

- a) Have studied in an New Zealand secondary school for the last three years.
- b) Be of Chinese descent
- c) Be a permanent resident of New Zealand.
- d) Be under 20 years of age on 1 January of the year following the completion of their secondary school education
- e) Have been a member of, or be the daughter or son of a person who has been member of a branch of the New Zealand Chinese Association for more than twelve months at application closing date (**local branch Secretary, please confirm this**).

Completed forms must be accompanied by a school testimonial from your Principal or a Senior Dean who has access to your school results.

You must also send in certified **hard copies** by the Senior Dean, Principal or the Justice of the Peace of all relevant documents of Examination results (e.g. Record of Learning showing scholarship results with attained, not attained or outstanding performance and any relevant completed certificate and examination results of subjects sat).

Applicants will have sat any or all of the following examinations:-

NCEA (Level 4) Scholarship examinations (Note: NCEA Level 3 papers do not qualify for this award).

Cambridge International Examinations

International Baccalaureate Examinations

Two referee reports to support your application are to be submitted. Enter your name and address on the two referee forms and give one to each referee. **These referee reports and your completed application form must be sent directly to the Secretary of your local Branch Association by 15 April 2009 which will verify and forward them to the New Zealand Chinese Association by 20 April 2009 (local branch Secretary, please insert date of receipt).**

Application forms: www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz