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# NZCA Waikato

JAN 2025 NEWSLETTER

47 Lewis Street  
Glenview, Hamilton

# Committee Profile



Paul Chin, President



Sid Lim, Patron and IPP



Fee Ching Tan, Vice President



Janet Young-Chin, Secretary/VP Admin



Jonathan Tan, Treasurer/VP Finance



Kewwa Low, VP Property



Anne Lee, VP Cultural



Linda Tai, Committee



Jeanie Holland, VP IT

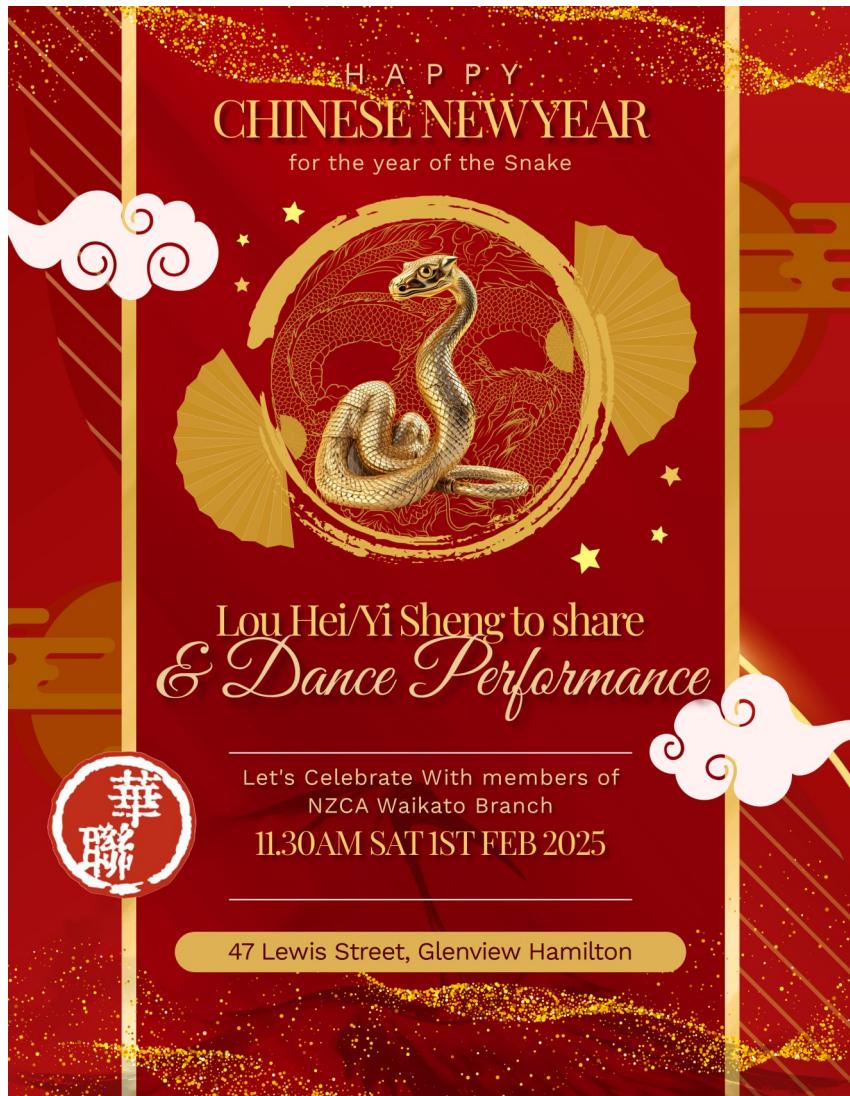


Cameron Joe, VP Youth



Janet Leong, Committee

# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS 2025



## 2025 Chinese New Year Celebration – Year of the Snake

We warmly invite all members and friends to join us for our exciting Chinese New Year celebration!

**Date:** Saturday, 1 February 2025

**Time:** 11:30 AM

**Location:** 47 Lewis St, Glenview

**RSVP By:** Wednesday, 29 January 2025

**Cost:**

Free for members and first-timers who bring a plate to share.

\$15 per person for others.

Feel free to bring your own eating utensils and plate to support our sustainability efforts!

Join us, along with invited guests from our local council and fellow Chinese community group leaders, to celebrate the Year of the Snake and welcome the new year with joy and tradition! Experience the festive Lou Hei/Yi Sheng ceremony – a cherished Chinese New Year tradition.

### What is Lou Hei (撈起)?

Lou Hei, meaning "tossing up" or "lifting up," is part of the Yu Sheng (鱼生) prosperity toss salad tradition. Participants toss the salad high while reciting auspicious phrases, symbolizing the boosting of fortune and prosperity for the year ahead.

Don't miss this chance to come together for good food, fun, and cultural celebration. We look forward to seeing you there!

# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS 2025



## Auckland Lantern Festival – Day Trip

Date: Saturday, 15 February 2025

If there is sufficient interest, we will organize a minivan day trip to the Lantern Festival in Manukau. The cost will be shared among participants.

## NZCA Sports and Cultural Tournament

Dates: 18–21 April 2025

Location: Dunedin

This year's tournament features the popular pickleball alongside other mainstream sports. Let us know if you're interested so we can provide relevant information.

## NZCA Academic Awards Applications

Applications for the NZCA Academic Awards are now open and can be submitted once you receive your results. Please note that you must have been a member of your branch for at least two years to be eligible.

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## Happy New Year

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and are enjoying the warmth and vibrancy of the summer season. As we step into 2025, it's a special moment to reflect on our Association's proud history. While our local branch was established in 1938, the national New Zealand Chinese Association (NZCA) marks its 90th anniversary this year. That makes it the oldest Chinese organization in New Zealand—a remarkable milestone! As we gear up for the celebrations, let's take a moment to look back at some of the highlights from the last six months.

## VOICE

### Community Hall Lease Renewal (Sep 2024)

One of our most significant achievements last year was the successful renewal of our community hall lease. This process demanded strong advocacy and heartfelt participation from our members. Through spirited lobbying and thoughtful contributions during submission forums, we showcased the power of our collective voice. It's a testament to the importance of standing together for the good of our community.

### Welcoming Manaaki Village (Sep 2024)

Celebrating ethnic diversity, we joined hands with other groups in Waikato to welcome Manaaki Village. This vibrant event wasn't just about sharing food and stories; it was about building bridges and embracing the voices of all who make our community richer.

### Ethnic Police Forum (Nov 2024)

We proudly represented the local Chinese community at this forum, sharing our unique perspectives and advocating for issues that matter to us. Being heard in spaces like these ensures our community's needs are met and valued.

## COMMUNITY

### WCA Foodie Group Events (Aug and Oct 2024)

Who doesn't bond over good food? Our foodie outings brought members together at local Chinese restaurants, and our train trip to Auckland added an extra dash of adventure.

Sampling Chinese street food and indulging in Hong Kong desserts became more than a culinary experience—it was a chance to connect and share laughter.

### WCA Community Garage Sale (Nov 2024)

This was no ordinary sale! The garage sale buzzed with activity as members mingled with the wider community. Beyond decluttering, it was an event that promoted sustainability through recycling and reusing preloved treasures amongst our members. It's always heartening to see how small actions for others can make a big difference.

### WCA End-of-Year Fusion BBQ (Dec 2024)

What a way to wrap up the year! From exchanging thoughtful Secret Santa gifts to the spirited competition of creating the best Christmas star and mallow puff pudding, the BBQ was brimming with joy. Even a little drama over team games couldn't dampen the fun—if anything, it added to the laughter and camaraderie!

## HERITAGE

### Mid-Autumn Mooncake High Tea (Sep 2024)

A cherished tradition took centre stage as we gathered to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival. With homemade mooncakes, both traditional and snow skin, we honored our roots while fostering creativity and connection. It was more than just a tea party—it was a celebration of heritage and heart.

### Weekly Mahjong Sessions (Fri)

What started as a trial had started to become a beloved weekly event! The Mahjong Fridays are potentially a cornerstone of our community, blending cultural tradition with social bonding. Whether it's strategy or luck, the laughter shared across the tables reminds us why we cherish these moments so let's



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## SUSTAINABILITY

### **Community Hall Lease Renewal (Sep 2024)**

Securing our community hall was not just a win for today—it ensures a space for future generations to gather, connect, and thrive. This achievement underscores our commitment to long-term sustainability.

### **Mid-Autumn Mooncake High Tea Planning**

Looking ahead, we plan to hold next year's celebration earlier to improve participation and inclusivity. These small adjustments help ensure that our events remain sustainable and enjoyable for all.

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous year ahead. Let's continue to make memories, celebrate our culture, and strengthen our bonds. I hope to see many of you at our Chinese New Year celebration soon!

Paul Chin

NZCA Waikato Branch President

# PAST EVENTS

## Highlights from September to December 2024

### Mid-Autumn Mooncake High Tea – September 2024

Members celebrated traditional Chinese culture by making and sharing homemade mooncakes, including both traditional and snow skin varieties. The event fostered cultural engagement, inspired creativity, and strengthened community bonds over a delicious high tea.



### Weekly Mahjong

Supporters of this event enjoyed a weekly dose of mahjong, combining friendly competition with opportunities to socialize. This initiative was trialed during November and is now on a break over the Christmas and New Year period. If there is sufficient interest, it will resume in February next year.



## PAST EVENTS

### WCA Foodie Adventures – October 2024

Members enjoyed a delightful outing that included an exciting train trip to Auckland. The group savored authentic Chinese street food and delectable Hong Kong desserts, deepening connections through shared culinary experiences.



## PAST EVENTS

### WCA Community Garage Sale – November 2024

This event encouraged interaction with the wider community and gave members a chance to declutter. The sale of pre-loved items promoted recycling and reusing. Stallholders expressed joy in seeing their items find new homes, sparking satisfaction and fostering sustainability.



### End-of-Year Fusion BBQ – December 2024

A festive celebration combining creativity, laughter, and camaraderie. Members crafted Christmas stars and marshmallow Christmas puddings, participated in a hilarious team bauble-and-spoon race (with one team humorously disqualified and returning their prize), and enjoyed a lively Secret Santa exchange. The gift-swapping brought fun and banter as members tried to secure their preferred gifts, making it a cheerful close to the year.



# WCA MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FORM

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<b>APPLICANT:</b>	
NAME:	DOB:
<b>SPOUSE/PARTNER:</b>	
NAME:	DOB:
<b>DEPENDANT CHILDREN UNDER 18L</b>	
NAME:	DOB:
NAME:	DOB:
NAME:	DOB:

<b>ADDRESS:</b>		
No:	Street Name:	
SUBURB:	CITY:	POST CODE:
<b>CONTACT DETAILS:</b>		
HOME:	WORK:	MOBILE:
E-MAIL:		
<b>MEMBERSHIP (Put a 'Y' next to the type of membership):</b>		
Family: \$25	COPLES: \$20	INDIVIDUAL: \$12
Donations would be appreciated: \$		TOTAL PAYABLE: \$

**PAYMENT METHODS (Put 'Y' in between Brackets):**

Date: .....