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New Zealand China Friendship Society Inc.

PATRON: THE HON. PETER DUNN
Hon. Patron: Simon Tang LL
National President: Dave Stenwick

Hamilton Branch
December 2016 Newsletter



NZCFS Website : www.nzchinasociety.org.nz

On Friday 9 December, 2016 Civic Award ceremony was held at Hamilton Council Chamber. Sixteen award recipients, their families and friends attended the ceremony. Our co-secretary Ian Howat received a Civic Award for his long service to the community. We are proud to be associated with you and with this well-deserved award. Congratulation Ian!



Wednesday 28 September 2016 “The Chinese Mayor” at the Lido Theatre, Hamilton. Seven of our members attended this Chinese (with English sub-titles) movie with assistance from Jenevere and Hamilton Film Society. A very topical and interesting film giving an insight into the life and position of the mayor in a large city in China.



Thursday 29 September 2016 – Farewell of Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Miao and Ian were honoured to be invited by Mayor Julie Hardaker to attend a Special Hamilton City Council meeting to farewell the Mayor and Deputy Mayor Gordon Chesterman and retiring councillors who were not seeking re-election. Julie was presented with a new rose bred in Hamilton by Council staff, and named after her. Gordon Chesterman was awarded the Freedom of the City of Hamilton.



Friday 30 September 2016 Celebration of 67th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Miao Fan, Jenevere Foreman and Dr Xiaoning Wang represented our Branch and attended the function at The Event Centre at AucklandMuseum hosted by Auckland Consul-General Madame Xu Erwen.



Sunday 2 October 2016. Ma Jiang afternoon in conjunction with Waikato Chinese Association at Chinese Community Centre. We are looking at making this a more regular event.

Sunday 16 October 2016 Jenevere and Erin represented our branch at a China National Day dinner at Spring Trees Sichuan Restaurant in Newmarket, Auckland hosted by NZCFS Auckland Branch. Consul-General Xu Erwen was the special guest of honour.

25-28 October 2016 China-Friendship Conference in Tonga. Pacific-China Friendship Association was formed following the conference attended by NZCFS delegation consisting of Dave Bromwich, George Andrews, Heiko Lade, and Miao Fan. A full report on the Conference is on our website www.nzchinasociety.org.nz under National News and Events.



October-November 2016 – Visit by Ines Roth-le-Gentil. Members of Auckland, Hamilton and Tauranga branches may remember Ines when she was in New Zealand in 2012. Ines was working, looking at ways to encourage young people to join our Society, Ines and Etienne were married in Paris in April and for the next year will be travelling and volunteering at St Therese's missions. Their first week in NZ was spent with Erin (our member resident on Waiheke Island) in Auckland and Waiheke, and Jenevere Foreman who drove them around the Coromandel. After a few weeks enjoying walks in the North Island and adventures in Queenstown they left NZ for Calcutta. Photos of Etienne and Ines on The Driving Creek Railway, Coromandel, and with Murray Hoare in Auckland.



Sunday 27 November 2016 12noon – Branch End of Year luncheon at Canton-Hong Kong Restaurant. 57 members and friends attended this annual event. Special guests included NZCFS National President Dave Bromwich and former Hamilton Branch President Prof Dov Bing.



Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd December 2016 Wuxi Delegation Visit to Hamilton. There have been a number of events in Hamilton late this year in celebration of the 30th Anniversary of Sister City Relationships between Wuxi and Hamilton culminating in a visit by Wuxi Deputy Mayor WANG Jinjian on 1 and 2 December 2016. The Deputy Mayors Delegation of 17 included a number of news media and TV journalists and photographers. Mayor Andrew King hosted a formal welcome and greeting and afternoon tea at Zealong Estate on Thursday afternoon. Deputy Mayor Martin Gallagher and Councillor Philip Yeung met with the delegation at the Hamilton City Council Reception Lounge area to view items gifted by Wuxi including two beautiful large figurines of Ah Xu and Ah Fu, symbols of Wuxi City. A special unveiling ceremony of the figurines was conducted by Deputy Mayor Wang. The delegation then left for a quick visit to the Chinese Garden and 3 other gardens at Hamilton Gardens before having lunch at the Gardens Restaurant. Miao, Ian, Philip Yeung, Dr Peter Sergel, Peter Vautier and ZHU Xi were also invited to the event. While in Hamilton the delegation also visited Aerospace Industries Limited, and Tainui College at Hopahopa, before leaving to go sightseeing in Rotorua.



Board required 2017. Young lady 25 years old is an undergraduate (Normal English) from Tangshan Normal University (Hebei Province), and postgraduate (Foreign Linguistics and Applied Linguistics) from Beijing Language and Culture University. This young lady is a Mandarin Language Assistant under the Confucius Institute (The University of Auckland) and will be teaching at Aberdeen Primary, Forest Lake Primary, and Maeroa Intermediate schools next year and will be requiring board from February until December 2017 so requires board ideally in the Forest Lake, Dinsdale or Maeroa areas so that she is close to the schools she will be working in. If you are interested could you please contact Annette (teacher at Aberdeen Primary email: annettew_nz@yahoo.com)

COMING EVENTS – please note these dates in your diary now,

Saturday 11 February 2017 Chinese New Year of the Golden Rooster – Concert at Clarence Street Theatre. This year we were honoured to have our sister city Wuxi send a very talented team of artists to feature at our concert and next year our sister city Chengdu will be sending us a team of performing artists (all teachers from the Chengdu Children's Palace Tutors Group) to feature at our 2017 concert. Further details will be sent out in January 2017.

Saturday 11 March 2017 Branch picnic/lunch at Tauranga. We have prebooked 3x 12 seater mini-buses (any volunteer drivers?) (expected bus cost \$15-20 per person) for the day and look at leaving Hamilton at 9am and should have time for a little sightseeing before we arrive at 88 Devonport Chinese Restaurant for our Yum Cha lunch. Some members may wish to take their own cars. After lunch we will do more sightseeing and will return to Hamilton late in the afternoon. It would be appreciated if you could make a booking as soon as possible – last day for booking will be 18 February 2017 to give us time to arrange transport and to confirm our seating booking – we are hoping to fill the restaurant (65 seats). You may remember from our last Newsletter that 88 Devonport is owned by two of our members Alan and Helen Lin. There is an illustrated Yum Cha menu which you order from, and you pay for what you order or agree to share among the table at the end of the meal. This is a specialised Yum Cha restaurant with two trained Yum Cha chefs so you do not have to wait long for dishes to be prepared and served. For booking please email Ian ian@howat.net.nz or Annette annettew_nz@yahoo.com

Welcome to new members

Tim MacIndoe

Martin Gallagher

Anne Shaffer

Vicky Young

Mark Major

Christina & Denial Howard

Our branch committee would like to wish you all a very Happy and Successful Year of the Golden Rooster.