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No. 4 – May 2019



**May meeting**  
**Understanding Chinese**  
**Business and Culture**



**Bill Findlater**

**Friday, May 31, 5:30 p.m.**



Bill Findlater has extensive experience of the importance of Chinese culture gained over 20 years of interacting with the people in civic and business environments.

Bill was involved in setting up the Nelson Regional Economic Development Agency and established economic and business links with Nelson's two Chinese sister cities and also developed business opportunities in several other regional locations in China.

He has led several successful Mayoral, business and education delegations to various cities throughout China. In conjunction with NZTE, Bill established a regular China Business Network meeting for businesses dealing with or intending to do business in China. Now he has his own consultancy which can arrange delegations to China, and provide advice on etiquette, ethics, and building relationships.

The meeting will be at the usual place, Hearing House, 354 Trafalgar Square (next to Synagogue Lane). We start the meeting at 5:30, the meal arrives at 6p.m. and the guest speakers may begin after 6:45 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

If you wish to have the catered meal it costs \$12. Pay cash at the meeting or by Internet banking to our NZCFS Nelson account, 03-1354-0490726-00, use your name as reference, and contact Barbara Markland as below.

**To arrange catering, please contact Barbara Markland  
 by Monday, May 27.  
 ph. (03)544 4712 text: 021 447 180 e-mail: erm@xtra.co.nz  
 Please make sure she knows you are coming!**

## April meeting

Exec members have decided to minimise the business portion of our meeting and use 15 or 20 minutes before the meal arrives to do something different.

It was 'Library Time' after a brief business meeting on April 29. Christine Ward had brought a big box of mainly Chinese novels (in English) to hand out. She thanked Beverley Brown for her recent donations of a number of novels and remarked that our library contains a lot of treasures that cover history, culture, and politics as well as novels, poetry and art. After some discussion about the books, and some shuffling around, 18 books, mainly novels and biographies were issued on the promise they will be returned to the next meeting.

Our main Speaker on April 29 was Pip Wells, Principal of Nelson Central School, who went on the PP&L tour to Hainan Island in November 2018. Included in this tour was the International Friendship Forum, with speakers from several countries including NZ. What Pip saw on Hainan Island as part of this delegation was very far from the traditional cultural tours of the past. This was all about the new China and the setting up of trade and technology links for 'Belt and Road' connections from the eastern seaboard of China to countries to the east across the Pacific.

Hainan, and its two main cities, Haikou and Sanya, which were visited by Pip, used to be all about the quiet life and in-tourists for the lovely beaches and tropical landscapes. Now the beaches are lined with luxury sky-scraping hotels and much of the old city landscape has been replaced by enormous structures in which modern aspects of China's industrial and technological innovation are displayed. Clean energy development, including eco friendly manufacturing like electric cars, is a big part of the high-tech industries seen by the tour group. The group did visit a 'traditional village' but it was all new, and it was obvious to Pip that people were only 'working' there as part of a tourist display.

Huge investment in luxury tourism was also evident with casinos, horse racing, golfing and water-sport facilities focussed on tourist traffic. They also visited a new enormous medical centre designed to attract foreigners for 'high-tech' treatments in a luxury environment. Off-shore artificial islands are being built to attract cruise liners and other luxury tourists. Pip stayed in a luxury hotel overlooking a beautiful beach.

Certainly Pip's PP&L tour introduced her to a new China and she was able to tell us about a China we have not seen on our previous tours. Clearly things are changing and doing so very quickly.



## Our first He Ming Qing Scholar

The He Ming Qing (Kathleen Hall) Memorial Scholarship was established by our society in 2006, in her honour, in recognition of the work she did. The first recipient, in 2006, was Wei Yunjie. She was from a village in Jinchengjiang, NW Guangxi, west of Guilin. She studied at Guangxi Medical University with the support of a HMQ scholarship. Her family were very poor; her father died of liver disease, and her mother was very unwell. Recently, there had been no contact with NZCFS for eight years.

Miao Fan, who is now chair of the He Ming Qing committee, is working on bringing all our scholars together into a Wechat group, and mentioned Wei Yunjie to Dave Bromwich while he was in China. Dave still had her mobile number, a Wechat search soon found her, and Dave was able to detour to meet her.

Wei Yunjie has married her boyfriend from middle school, Lu Jiakun, and they have a nine month old son. She is now working as a nurse in the surgery department of the People's Hospital of Hechi, a city which includes Jinchengjiang. Her husband works in environmental protection.

## From Nelson Executive - April

The meeting was held a week earlier than usual, on Tuesday May 7, at Nelson oriental Restaurant. Discussions and resolutions related to the following:

- He Ming Qing Scholarships have hit another roadblock. The selected candidates turned down the opportunity because their parents want them to stay in the university centre rather than return to serve as nurses in their rural community after their training.
- A student exchange from Nelson to a Sister City in China is being investigated for 2020.
- Remits circulated for NZCFS AGM were discussed and direction was given to Nelson delegates for casting our votes on matters relating to the Constitution, Members at Large, and changes to financial reporting.
- Preparations are being made for NZCFS participation in Nelson's China Week in November. It is hoped we can mount another art exhibition/competition. China Week events, arranged by Nelson City Council, will be mainly at Trafalgar Centre with a concert at Theatre Royal.
- We have applied for 2019/2020 Sister Cities grant from Nelson City Council, for using for our two Sister Cities, Huangshi and Yangjiang.
- We have received from South Island Vice President's discretionary funds for Branch Development air fares for George Andrews to visit Nelson and speak at our June meeting.
- The official report from the 2019 student exchange to Yangjiang has been sent to the Deng Fund Committee by Barbara Markland (Project Director)
- NZCFS April Newsletter, Wellington Branch Newsletter, and Hamilton Branch memos have been received. Sadly we have news of the closure of the Dunedin Branch because they cannot assemble a management committee.

## New members

Welcome to the following new members:

Judy and Murray Campbell – who home host some of the MLAs.

Craig and Liz Holmes – Craig was president of Dunedin Branch (now closed down) and they hope to move to Nelson in the next few years.

Jingjing Jackson – works at Pitt and Moore Lawyers.

Ethan Xu – NMIT and new committee member.

## NZCFS tours to China

There are still places available on the October 2019 South-east China tour in the Explore China series. This tour begins in Guangzhou and visits tea plantations, Hakka roundhouses, Jingdezhen porcelain city, Nanchang, and Hangzhou with the Grand Canal, before finishing in Shanghai. Details here:

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/2019-SE-China.pdf>

With more than 30 years experience in running tours to China, the Society has a wealth of experience, knowledge, and contacts, that other operators cannot match, and can confidently say “We know China best”.



A new 'Ice and Tropics' tour is being planned for February/March 2020.

Immediately after the Spring Festival holidays, the tour will go to Harbin in Heilongjiang Province, to enjoy the ice and lantern festival. After three days there, it will retreat to the tropical far south, Hainan Island, Guangxi (Guilin and Yangshuo) and Hong Kong.



The Harbin section of the tour is intended as an optional extra, with those not going to the ice festival joining the main portion of the tour in the warmth of Hainan. The draft itinerary is at

[http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/IceTropics\\_Itinerary-2.pdf](http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/IceTropics_Itinerary-2.pdf)