



Next Meeting

Thursday 27th May 7.30pm

Rewi Alley Education and Cultural Centre, 32 Matipo Street

Gold coin donation (suggest \$2). Bring-&-buy table!

Mr Wang Hongqiang & Mr Xu Fenghua Youxie Beijing

Youxie – The Chinese Peoples’ Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries

We will ask Mr Wang and Mr Xu to tell us about their work and also give you a chance to question them further about their activities. We can have a frank discussion on:

“How we can make our relationship stronger and more vibrant.”

Please send any questions you have to Annette Hill (address as above) – this will not exclude any other questions on the night

Branch News.

Welcome to our new member – Merv Millar

Resignation – we were saddened by Simon Courtney’s resignation during the month due to other pressures. He had such innovative ideas for the society. He will be missed

Supper Helpers needed – please contact Ailsa 365-6863 ailsa@ihug.co.nz

June Meeting Thursday 24 June

Conference is this month in Hamilton 21-23 May. I will be attending with Annette Hill who is your representative and also Bill Willmott, Di Madgin and Eric Livingstone as they are National Executive members. Please feel free to ask any questions from any of us re the conference

Mr Wang & Mr Xu will also be attending the conference in Hamilton and then visiting Tauranga, Wellington, Timaru, Christchurch and Auckland Branches.

If any one wants to help with sightseeing with them on Friday 28th please let me know by email or ph 3385574

Chinese Proverb: If you stay at home, you can live 1,000 days without a hitch; once you go out, you will immediately encounter difficulties.1

Welcome Home

Bill, Di & other members from the Garden Tour, We will hear about the tour later on in the year

Bigfoot. Not a twist on foot binding but did you know that China has its version of this story and in China he's known as 'the wild man' or *yeren*? The subject of government study in central Hubei, he is described as vegetarian, 2.7 meters tall (feet 40cm long), covered in red hair and with strong body odour.. The story is not without its skeptics, though there are literary references centuries old to 'mountain ogres', 'hairy men' and 'monkey-like yet not monkey' creatures. Bigfoot Encounters.com

Subscription rates and notices. Rather than putting a notice in the newsletter the intention this year is to send individual accounts but for your information annual subs have been set as follows \$30 family. \$22 waged and \$18 unwaged / student. The modest increase is to cover costs and contribution to the national organization and, you'll appreciate, is still fantastic value! Payment due **30 June 2010**

Last Month's Meeting – 28 April

President Judy welcomed Steven Hoare-Vance and Adam Lam who spoke on the Confucius Institute and the Evolution of China's Foreign Policy.

Steven told us how he had looked at the evolution of the Confucius Institute and its role in the world. He compared it to other models of cultural diplomacy such as the Alliance Francaise that has branches around the world and receives some support from the French Government. He gave examples of other countries with similar organizations such as the German Goethe Institute. Steven explained how countries are now looking at "soft" power as a means to influence countries. Other countries also promote the use of "soft" power to influence foreign opinion.

Adam, as Interim Director of the Confucius Institute at the University of Canterbury, outlined the operation of the Confucius Institute. Canterbury University is the host and has a partner university in China. The objectives of the C.I. are to promote Chinese Language learning in NZ, understanding of culture and support academic exchange between China and NZ. The Confucius Institute promotes standard Mandarin, the official language of China. Additional areas are to support NZ engagement in trade and investment in China, and to enhance the sister city relationship between Christchurch and Wuhan, and Canterbury and Gansu.

Haibao 海宝, literally the treasure of the seas, is Shanghai's 2010 World Expo mascot and is based on the character *ren*, "人" means 'people'. The blue character has come in for a bit of ridicule and flak having been described as looking like a squeeze of toothpaste and being copied from the American cartoon character Gumby (which is green), shown at right below.



News from China –Bayka wrote

How are things going over there? There seems to be a lot happening in your newsletters, and I feel that China and New Zealand's relationship is getting stronger by the day.

The point of this letter is to inform the New Zealand China Friendship Society and all interested parties on my current education projects in China and if anybody would be willing to participate.

I'm currently based in Shenzhen and am setting up the first Eco technology English School of it's kind in China. Three courses will be offered initially;

An introductory course for young children which combines Eco-English, basic science, and sustainable living patterns;

An intermediate course which exposes students to international cultures, languages, cuisine, customs etiquette etc. and further promotes green living;

And finally an Eco Leadership course which will teach students how to be a business leader in today's world.

For the leadership course, we are currently in negotiations dealing with sponsorship and/or support with various businesses both locally and internationally. This leadership course will also expose students to current business leaders who are on the path to sustainability.

What we are seeking are current green business leaders, educational facilities, or organisations who are willing to support our school in any way. For example; providing 30mins of their time to speak to our class about Eco Leadership via skype conference call in exchange for advertising and promotion from within China.

Please forward this email on to anybody who may be interested.

ON the Sunday 23 May the following film is being Shown

CHRISTCHURCH RIALTO

Sunday, 23rd May at 6.30pm

ONE NIGHT ONLY RETURN SCREENING

running time 67 minutes

"A documentary about the remarkable life of New Zealand's very own T'ai Chi master, Loo-Chi Hu, affectionately known by his nickname Huloo. A master mariner, Huloo was seconded from Taiwan to New Zealand in the late 1960s to work as a fisheries consultant. This is simply one element of an adventurous life that has ranged from sailing a Chinese junk across the Pacific to rescuing explorer Thor Heyerdahl near Barbados. Before the revolution, he studied T'ai Chi under master Chen Wei Ming in Shanghai. He has brought these teachings to New Zealand where he continues well into his 80s to conduct classes in a shed next to his house. His down to earth approach to his achievements and cheerful embrace of life are truly inspiring"

NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2008

Directed by Robin Greenberg

Produced by Robin Greenberg and Stephanie Beth

Enquiries to: (03) 374 9404 or contact robiekgreenberg@yahoo.co.nz
On-line bookings www.rialto.co.nz

Chocolate Cake – Birthday Cake (March meeting)

**1 C Sugar, 2 Eggs, 1/2 C Milk, 100 gm Melted Butter,
1 tsp Baking Soda, 1 tsp Vanilla Essence, Pinch Salt,
1 1/2 Cups Flour, 1 1/2 tsp Baking Powder, 1/2 tsp Coffee
in 1/2 Cup Boiling Water.**

**Mix all dry ingredients together. Add cooled melted butter.
Beat in eggs and vanilla essence. Make up coffee and add
baking soda. Mix together well.**

**Pour mixture into sprayed round baking tin and
bake 175 – 189c for 40 minutes. Leave to cool and then ice.
This recipe can be doubled and baked in a roasting dish.**