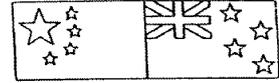


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**NEW ZEALAND CHINA
FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY.**

新中友好協會



www.nzchinasociety.org.nz

AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2010 If you would like to receive this newsletter by email please let Sally Russell know at salmike@xtra.co.nz

NEXT MEETING: **There will be no meeting in September**
The Hastings District Council has started major renovations and the Chambers are not available for our use.

The next meeting will be
A Banquet
on Friday 1st October
to celebrate
China's National Day



The PRC's National Day was declared at three o'clock on October 1, 1949, in front of 300,000 people during a ceremony in Tian'anmen Square where Chairman Mao declared the founding of the People's Republic and waved the five-star PRC flag.

Dates for Branch Monthly Meetings for 2010:

October 1 - National Day Banquet –details in the next newsletter.
November 5
December 3

CHIT CHAT

Dave Bromwich is in China and went first to Xian to talk with the Shaanxi Women's Federation about NZCFS projects and is currently in Guizhou doing development work for a Massey university project. In October he will lead the NZCFS Projects Tour and **Colleen and Doug Hamilton** are members of the group.

Lou & Janice Klinkhamer are enjoying visiting family and friends in Europe for three months.

Fred Chu is writing his memoirs and if you have photos of Hawke's Bay Branch activities in the late 1980s and 1990s, please phone him on 877 8800.

Prof. Bill Willmott, Past President of NZCFS and currently on the National Executive, is a contributor to the book, '**WAS MAO REALLY A MONSTER?**' (Lin and Gregor Benton-editors) that was reviewed in our July Newsletter.

REWI ALLEY DOCUMENTARY SERIES ON CCTV 10

(Ministry for Culture & Heritage Press Release 7 July)

A television series celebrating the life of an extraordinary New Zealander premiered in China on 9 July to coincide with New Zealand Day at the Shanghai World Expo. The series on Rewi Alley aired on CCTV, which has an audience of 300 million viewers. The five part series is a co-production between China's state broadcaster, CCTV, Dunedin based production company NHNZ and the New Zealand Ministry for Culture and Heritage.

The series explores the life achievements of Rewi Alley, a farmer from New Zealand who dedicated 60 years of his life to improving the lives of ordinary Chinese people. From 1927, until his death in 1987, Rewi Alley worked tirelessly in China, firstly as a fireman and factory inspector in Shanghai, and then as the founder of the "Gung Ho" industrial co-operatives, and the Bailie Technical Schools. After the formation of the People's Republic of China in 1949, Alley was one of a handful of foreigners allowed to reside in Beijing as a guest of the Communist Party, where he became a prolific writer about China, authoring 30 books in as many years.

The biographical series was filmed in New Zealand and China earlier this year and showcases rare archive film footage and interviews with Rewi Alley's family, colleagues and students. The series provides both a unique insight into Alley's incredible life and an extraordinary commentary on the tumultuous events of 20th Century China. "Today Rewi Alley is revered in China and probably much better known in that country than in New Zealand," says NHNZ Managing Director, Michael Stedman. NHNZ is currently in negotiations to create a one-hour version of the production for the New Zealand market.

The five episodes, broadcast in Mandarin with Chinese subtitles, can be viewed online at the following links:

Early Years

<http://bugu.cntv.cn/documentary/explore/tansuofaxian/classpage/video/20100709/100868.shtml>

Shanghai Ten Years

<http://bugu.cntv.cn/documentary/explore/tansuofaxian/classpage/video/20100711/100017.shtml>

Join the Gung Ho

<http://bugu.cntv.cn/documentary/explore/tansuofaxian/classpage/video/20100711/100646.shtml>

Bailie School

<http://bugu.cntv.cn/documentary/explore/tansuofaxian/classpage/video/20100713/100011.shtml>

In the New China

<http://bugu.cntv.cn/documentary/explore/tansuofaxian/classpage/video/20100714/100018.shtml>

Next Project in Guangxi

The Government has changed the way organisations like NZCFS can get support for project work. The subsidy scheme has been replaced by a total grant scheme with projects to focus on economic development. Another big change is that now Pacific projects will have priority with only 20% of the fund available for projects outside of the Pacific and South-East Asia. The first allocation round closes in September and NZCFS will apply for funding and will also directly fund some projects. So please continue to make donations for projects as you have in the past.

Rabbits in Sanzhiyang Township (SZY) in Duan County is the centre for smaller villages and hamlets. Sanzhiyang means 'Three Goats' and this name comes from the steep hills where three goats can't walk side by side. The people are mainly of the Yao ethnic minority (67%) but are also from Maonan and Zhuang minorities.

The average annual income is 716 RMB per person with the range 400 - 800 RMB, with each person living off 0.9 Mu (0.06 ha). The main crops are maize, sweet potato, soybean and vegetables and livestock are chickens, pigs, and goats. Farming activities are predominantly carried out by women due to the men leaving to find work in the cities. Sanzhiyang is remote, the men leave for extended periods of time, and it is not possible for them to return home for 'the weekend', which puts even more pressure on the village community and particularly women.

Rabbits are good for such an area as they are small animals feeding on local grass. This year there was a severe drought in the South-West of China and Duan



County was affected. This has meant that crops were not planted at all or if they were the production will be very low. The farmers say that without crops it is very hard to raise pigs and chickens.

*From left:
Lan Ganning, Township Government, Sally NZCFS, Wu Shanting, Farmer and Yuan Jianzhui, SZY Animal Husbandry Station.*

The farmer Wu Shanting explained that rabbits have been good to raise as last year he had over 100 and sold both adult and young rabbits. During the drought he reduced the numbers down to 5 breeding stock and in April 2010 he had 22 rabbits. He sells his rabbits to farmers from other hamlets and shows them how to raise them. He said his income from rabbits was over 1,000 Yuan last year, and the family ate some on special occasions. He was very pleased with this.

Sanzhiyang Animal Husbandry has put forward a plan to help 20 families from Jiadiao and Bama hamlets of Dingdong village. The people in these hamlets have not received any government help and are further away from the township centre. The **total cost is \$1342** and includes buying four female and one male rabbit for each of **20 families**, transporting this breeding stock from a nearby city, and bringing the farmers to the Animal Health Centre in SZY for one day's training. Booklets on rabbits and petrol for Animal Health to visit the farmers regularly helps to ensure success. Farmers make their own cages and agree to keep breeding stock numbers the same for two years or return them so that Animal Husbandry can reallocate them. Local people have priority to buy young rabbits.



Left: Hamlets vary from six to thirty families in size.

Below: Sanzhiyang Township

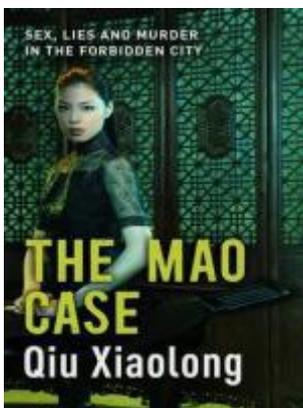


To contribute to this project please donate to the NZCFS Hawke's Bay Branch account 030658- 0072369-00 and put **rabbits** as the reference. Thank you.

Much crime fiction being detected in Asia

The main character of Singapore-based novelist Shamini Flint, Inspector Singh, is typical of the crime fiction genre, where a brilliant maverick manages to thoughtfully observe and deduce who the criminal really is, when all around him are completely stumped. Inspector Singh is just one of a number of detectives who work the Asian beat these days. These quirky detectives endear themselves to readers who, while following the twists and turns of the plot, are offered insights into the daily life and attitudes of the country where the crime takes place.

North Korean Detective O, (in **A corpse in the Koryo. An Inspector O novel** by James Church) Sartaj, the only Sikh detective in Mumbai, (in **Sacred games** by Vikram Chandra), Dr Siri, the Lao coroner who is forced to double as a detective, (in **The coroner's lunch** by Colin Cotterill), Chinese Detective Chen (in **Mao** see below) and Thai Buddhist Monk Father Ananda (in **Mindfulness and murder** by Nick Wilgus) - are all crime solvers par excellence. They are only a few of the Asian fictional crime busters observing, deducing and making the world more interesting and entertaining for all of us.



Mao case. By Qiu Xiaolong. Hodder & Stoughton.

Tucked away from modern Shanghai are the beautiful mansions once owned by the smartest families in 1930s China. They have since been bought by rich businessmen and high-ranking members of the Communist Party. All except one. The owner is an old painter who holds a glittering party each night: swing jazz plays for his former neighbours, who dance, remember old times and forget for an evening the terrors that followed. But questions are being asked. How can he afford such a lifestyle? His paintings? Blackmail? A Triad connection? Prostitution? Inspector Chen is asked to investigate discreetly what is going on behind the elegant facade. But, before he can get close to anyone, one of the girls is found murdered in the garden and another is terrified she will be next. Chen's quest for answers will take him to a strange businessman, Triads, Chairman Mao himself and a terrible secret the Party will go to any length to conceal.

President's Notebook July/August 2010

SHANGHAI WORLD EXPO VISIT JULY

The World Expo was more than our delegation of twelve Society members expected as the guests of the Shanghai Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. We participated in the New Zealand Honour Day arrangements, saw a number of pavilions, gained an understanding of the immensity of the whole Expo. It was like visiting two Expos, with the numerous Chinese pavilions focusing on aspects of Better City, Better Life and their regions on one side of the river, and the rest of the world showcasing their countries and achievements on the other. Such a huge site, large crowds - up to 500,000 the days we were there.

Our time of five days went very fast with sightseeing to a new Arts Gallery complex, the Jade Buddha Temple, the Bund and the World Expo. We were very grateful for the excellent arrangements, sightseeing and the special banquet with Shanghai Youxie Vice President Wang Xiao Shu at the Shanghai Mansions. What a special occasion that was for us with the excellent food, the delightful discussions followed by the roof top view of the lights of the Bund.

LANZHOU CITY UNIVERSITY

Following home hosting President Kong of Lanzhou City University eighteen months ago, two of us accepted an opportunity to visit the University following the visit to the Shanghai World Expo for a very busy week in Gansu as their guests.

Our Society has had a long association with this University as one of its three campuses was the Lanzhou Bailie Oil School being the original Shandan Bailie School that moved after the disastrous earthquake in 1954 and still operates under Rewi Alley's philosophy with subjects of urban planning, environmental, civil engineering, & horticulture.

SHANDAN BAILIE SCHOOL

Our visit here was all too short and the new Principal was very complementary about our Society's efforts and the work done by Dave Bromwich, as well as the current teacher, John Kirby. They were very pleased also to be involved in the Gung Ho training of trainers programme arranged by Dave Bromwich.

We were briefed on the a new teaching building costing \$2 million soon to be built, that 29% of students from poor families receive free tuition and they advised they are maintaining the Rewi Alley Philosophy of 'hands and minds together'.

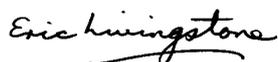
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BRIEFING

Your National Executive at its recent meeting, was pleased to have an excellent illustrated web demonstration by Ray Brownrigg on how national committees and branches can input their own material onto the web to keep the content up to date.

PROMINENT PERSONS & LEADERS DELEGATION

What an excellent team we have in this delegation that has five of our own Society members including leader Past President Bill Willmott, and five excellent media and community people - a TV producer from Christchurch, journalist from Auckland, a media person from Hibiscus Coast, Civic Affairs & Chinese exchanges co-ordinator from Hamilton and an Instep Programme manager from Tauranga. We wish them well as they prepare to head out on 6 September for Shanghai and the Friendly and Sister Cities two yearly Conference and other special events and visits.

Regards



National President