

# THE CAPITAL CHINA LETTER



## 新中通訊

**NEW ZEALAND CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY WELLINGTON BRANCH NEWSLETTER**  
12 Colchester Cres, Newlands, Wellington 6037. Website: [www.nzchinasociety.org.nz](http://www.nzchinasociety.org.nz)

No 1002 March 2010

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

#### Connolly Hall

Guildford Terrace, off Hill Street, Thorndon, Wellington.

**Wednesday, 17 March 2010, at 5.45 pm**

followed by

#### Dr Hongzhi Gao

Senior Lecturer in Marketing at Victoria University of Wellington

speaking on

#### **“Consumer Vengeance and Scapegoating in the 2008 Chinese Milk Contamination Crisis”**



Dr Hongzhi Gao is Senior Lecturer in the School of Marketing and International Business (SMIB), Victoria University. Before coming to New Zealand, Dr Gao was a chief analyst of foreign loan management and market risk for the Jilin Provincial Government in China. Dr Gao received a New Zealand Postgraduate Study Abroad Award in 2005 and the Early Career Researcher award from the Marketing Department of Otago University in 2007. Apart from his current role, Hongzhi also holds the position of Associate Director for the New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre, a multi-university program based at VUW involving Otago, Canterbury and AUT as partners. Hongzhi's roles in the Centre are mainly website development, facilitating business-related research of China, organising national symposiums on marketing and business management relating to China, engaging with the New Zealand business community to promote trading relations with China.

An optional Chinese buffet meal, supplied by the Fujiyama Café, will follow the meeting at 7 pm.

**Orders for the \$10.00 meal (please pay at the door) will be taken up till 6 pm.**

If you think you may be arriving late, please let the Secretary know in advance.

#### **SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS**

Subscriptions for 2010 are now due. Please use the attached Nomination/Subscription form. We prefer that you fill in all the details on the subscription form each year to confirm that we have them correct. Notice that we now offer electronic banking for subscription payments, and that donations over \$5 are tax deductible.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand China Friendship Society Inc. will be held on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at 5.45 pm at Connolly Hall, Guildford Terrace, Wellington.

### Agenda

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2009  
President's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Election of Officers and Committee  
Appointment of Auditor  
General Business

Nominations are invited for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and seven Committee members. The following current members are prepared to serve for another year:

President: Bernie Richmond  
Secretary: Bruce Asher  
Treasurer: Doreen Launder  
Committee: Ray Brownrigg, Bing Fon, Elaine Richmond, Sadie Ng, Ellen Yang

Nominations should be made on the attached form, to be sent to the Secretary. Proxy forms can be obtained from the Secretary.

### CHINESE NEW YEAR BANQUET REPORT (from Greg Ford)

The Wellington branch of the NZ China Friendship Society hosted a Chinese New Year banquet on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> of February. There was a fantastic turnout of 132. It was good to see so many families; family values being of the highest importance in Chinese culture, and this being the greatest yearly celebration of family ties and rejuvenation.

The 'Dragons Restaurant' was packed to capacity, a boisterous and enjoyable atmosphere, truly indicative of a traditional Chinese New Year. Following a brief introduction by Bernie Richmond, Branch President, the entire restaurant was brought to concentrated silence by the performances of Zhang Lei and Wang Hui from Xiamen University, here on the Wellington Asia Residency Exchange programme. Professor Zhang Lei performed two pieces "Fishing boat at dusk" 漁舟唱晚 and "Spring comes to Lhasa" 春到拉薩 with an intensity and concentration almost belied by the peacefulness of her facial expression, all in attendance were spellbound. Following this, Wang Hui joined her in a performance of "Jasmine Flower" 茉莉花 both performers were beautiful and delicate as jasmine flowers, performing this romantic and moving piece. The music was beautiful in its entirety, shifting in intensity, cadence and emotion. Evocative of travel and the four seasons, at times gentle and almost sorrowful, shifting pace to a lively and joyous climax.



H.E. Ambassador Zhang Limin spoke of the strengthening ties between NZ and China, and wishing all good fortune and health in the new year. Mayor Kerry Prendergast also gave a brief speech, and introduced everyone to her brand new granddaughter!

Of course, mention must be made of the delicious meal; it was a banquet truly befitting great celebration. Course followed course with mouth-watering delicacies, roast duck with plum sauce, crackling roast pork, orange beef, seasonal vegetables to mention just a few, concluded with fresh fruit as a traditional desert.

A quiz on China and New Zealand trivia was held by quizmaster Douglas Day. The winning table (Unsurprisingly, and indeed one would hope it such) was the former ambassadors' table. Prizes for the quiz, and for the raffle, were graciously provided by the Chinese Embassy.

Everyone left with a full heart and a full belly, two cultures having met in the happiest of circumstances.

萬事如意, 虎年大吉

**NEW MEMBERS** - A warm welcome to Michael and Wen Chin Powles, Christine and Ross Bartlett, Wellington Girl's College and Gao Hejun and Ma Jing.

## MANDARIN CORNER 汉语角 - Saturdays during school terms

Want to practise your Chinese? Want to learn more about China? Come to Mandarin Corner!

- Open to all ages, all levels
- One to one or small groups

Victoria University of Wellington, Seminar Room, 20 Kelburn Parade  
3.15pm - 4.30pm every Saturday *Gold coin donation*

For more information phone (04) 473-7558 or email [mandarin.corner@gmail.com](mailto:mandarin.corner@gmail.com).

## CHINESE FEATURE FILM - Thursday 11 March 7:30pm

Committee Room No. 1, Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield St. *Gold coin entry*

### **Hutong Days (Hutong li de yang guang 胡同里的阳光)**

Zhao Jianping, an ordinary middle-aged Beijing person, lives with his wife and son in a small hutong. His biggest dream is to move someday into a high-rise apartment and have a modern life. Yet somehow odd things happen . . . NB: A documentary will be screening from 7.00pm and the door closes at 7.45pm.

## WELLINGTON ASIA RESIDENCY EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

This annual artist residency programme is supported by Wellington City Council and the Asia:New Zealand Foundation. It aims to facilitate an exchange of art practices and ideas between Wellington and Asia; to establish ongoing relationships with Asian cultural centres, developing Wellington's international profile and creative identity in Asia; to raise the profile of Asian arts in Wellington; and to work towards creating an Asia-literate society in New Zealand by 2020. WARE is aimed at professional, contemporary arts practitioners of all disciplines.

The seventh annual eight week residency involves two musicians from Xiamen, Wellington's Sister City; Lei Zhang (guzheng) and Wang Hui (yang qin). While in Wellington they have taken part in Chinese New Year celebrations and will workshop with the School of Music at Victoria University.

The Wellington Xiamen Association has helped Wellington City Council and Asia:NZ organise this residency. In the photograph, David Tai, President of the Wellington Xiamen Association, introduces the two artists at the recent NZCFS Chinese New Year Banquet.



Wang Hui will perform at a **Farewell Concert** in the Music Theatre, Massey University Campus (Mount Cook) at 5.30pm on **Friday 26 March**.

## THE MOON MUSICAL ENSEMBLE from SHANGHAI



The Moon ensemble was formed in 2003 by Tony Yue, a young pipa soloist from the Shanghai Traditional Orchestra. Yue wanted to make traditional Chinese music accessible to a young audience whose musical tastes were attuned to modern western influences. The result is a dynamic ensemble of young, professionally trained, musicians who play traditional instruments such as the pipa, erhu. The group started performing cover music, and has gradually migrated to playing original compositions. Moon has performed to critical acclaim at many major events in

China. The Moon musical ensemble is visiting New Zealand courtesy of Cathay Pacific and the Chinese Ministry of Culture.

The ensemble will perform at the Illott theatre, Wellington Town Hall on **Wednesday 3 March** at 6.30pm. Tickets cost \$10 and can be obtained from Ellen Yang, Ph 473-7558.

## MAO'S LAST DANCER

Based on Li Cunxin's internationally best selling autobiography and directed by internationally acclaimed Australian film director, Bruce Beresford, Mao's Last Dancer is in cinemas now.

Filmed in China, Canada, the US and Australia, there is a brilliant performance from Chi Cao as Li Cunxin.



## NEW NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

We welcome two new members to the newsletter creation process. Mary Busch has taken over from the indisposed Allan Levett in the role of Newsletter Editor, and Greg Ford has joined the team providing copy. Douglas Day remains providing copy, while Christine Strickland is slowly withdrawing from the process.

## THE WELLINGTON CONFERENCE ON CONTEMPORARY CHINA - April 12 & 13, 2010

*An International Conference to be held at Victoria University of Wellington sponsored and organised by The New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre in association with University of Canterbury and Asian Studies Institute, Victoria University of Wellington.*

### China and India : The End of Development Models ?

The impressive growth performance of China and India has caused a new wave of global anxiety about the rise of power and wealth outside the developed world. Scholarly interests and debates have focused on how the rising China and India would change the international political and economic structure. China and India have taken very different paths in modern development. How have colonial experiences, nationalism, communism and socialism affect each nation's modern development? How have traditional social structures, values and relations been transformed or persisted in modern development and how do these shape the emergent modern state?

The conference will bring leading international scholars in the field to address these issues.

The conference will be open to the public.

For more information:

**Email** ChinaCentre@vuw.ac.nz **Web** <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/ChinaResearchCentre>

## BOOK CORNER (No. 5 - from Douglas Day)

Non Fiction

**Chinese Whispers** by Jan Wong, *Atlantic Books, 2009*. Wong goes back to Beijing forty years after she became the first Canadian to study there since the Cultural Revolution.

**The Penguin History Of Modern China: The Fall and Rise of a Great Power 1850-2009** by Jonathan Fenby, *Penguin, 2009*. To understand China, one must understand its troubled past ... A masterly narrative with surprising and tragic stories, it is a perceptive study of political power and its abuse.

**China's Generation Y: Understanding the Future Leaders of the World's Next Superpower** by Michael Stanat, *Homa and Sekey Books, 2006*. A comprehensive study on China's Generation Y, ranging from its socio-political consequences to the generational gap and the economic factors that ensue.

Fiction

**The Piano Teacher** by Janice Y K Lee, *Harper Press, 2009*. In 1952 newly married Claire Pendleton arrives in Hong Kong and becomes piano teacher to the daughter of a wealthy, well-connected Chinese couple. She meets their enigmatic chauffeur, Will Truesdale, whose links to the family go back to the wartime occupation of the territory by the Japanese.

**Peony in Love** by Lisa See, *Random House, 2008*. A novel built on research about oppressed 17<sup>th</sup>-century women who yearn for literacy and freedom.

**The Girl from Junchow** by Kate Furnivall, *Penguin, 2009*. A story of danger and love set in 1929.

## CHINA WEBSITES (No. 5 - from Douglas Day)

News media – Xinhua News Agency [www.xinhuanet.com/english2010/](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english2010/)

Computer and networks – ChinaByte [www.chinabyte.com/](http://www.chinabyte.com/)

Government and organisations – [www.china.org.cn/](http://www.china.org.cn/)

Industry and commerce – China Market [www.china-business-market.com/](http://www.china-business-market.com/)

Culture - Cultural China [www.cultural-china.com/](http://www.cultural-china.com/) (from Mary Busch)

## BRANCH OFFICERS

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