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New Zealand China Friendship Society Inc.

Patron: The Hon. Philip Burdon
National President : Eric Livingstone

Hamilton Branch June 2012 Newsletter



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NZCFS Website : www.nzchinasociety.org.nz

NEXT BRANCH MEETING Wednesday 27 June 7.30pm at Parent's Place, 87 Boundary Road Hamilton – opposite the Migrant Resource Centre.

2012 marks the 40th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations.

Title of Address: The Establishment of New Zealand's Diplomatic Relations with the People's Republic of China: Waikato University's Contribution.

Guest speaker: Prof Dov Bing. Our speaker is particularly well qualified to speak on this subject – he is currently Professor in the Department of Political Science & Public Policy, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Waikato, as well as being a former President of our Branch of NZCFS.

Research Interests: Professor Dov Bing gained his BSocSc from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem and his MA and PhD from the University of Auckland. His research and teaching interests are in international relations, comparative government, and public policy. In area studies his particular interests are China, the Middle East, and the European Union.



60th ANNIVERSARY NZCFS CONFERENCE and AGM, AUCKLAND MAY 18-20



Hamilton Branch members Jenevere, Miao, Stan, Meryl, Diane, Muriel, Peter, Miles, Harry and Ian attended this very interesting, informative, and at times moving

Conference. A great opportunity, but never long enough, to catch up with old friends, make new ones, and a rare chance to meet generations of relations of our Society heroes Rewi Alley and

Kathleen Hall. It was very moving to hear Auckland members Cecil Fowler, Isabel Thomson, Warren Freer, and others speak of the days of the beginning of formation of NZCFS



For details on the Conference visit our website www.nzchinasociety.org.nz and click on “News & Events” on the top red bar. Click on NZCFS Conferences on the right hand list. For full text of some of the keynote speeches click on the names highlighted in blue under “Presentations”.

LAST BRANCH MEETING MAY 24th



Our May meeting saw a change of venue to St Peter’s Cathedral Hall for the screening of the Chinese film “ The Long Road Home ” .This moving and engrossing film, attracted an audience of twenty five, including old friends and new faces, a group from the Golden Age

Society, and branch members. Both before and after screening, Dr Junjun Chen from Waikato University and committee member Miles Barker, spoke about the film and aspects of rural education in China, and led a brief concluding discussion at the end of the screening. Our sincere thanks go to them for their special contribution to what proved to be a most enjoyable evening.

“ THE LAST TRAIN HOME”

At the invitation of the Hamilton Film Society, members of the Branch, joined several members of the Waikato Chinese Association, and attended the showing of the documentary, “The Last Train Home.” At the LIDO theatre on Monday 28th May. This was a remarkable film that highlighted aspects of life related to migrant workers in the big cities of China. Central to theme was the need and desperation of workers such as these in Guangzhou, to return home to their villages in the provinces to reunite with their families and children, and celebrate Spring Festival and Chinese New Year. The struggles to get tickets and then to get a train was driven home by shots of thousands jammed together with their luggage in the station waiting rooms and platforms, pushing and shoving waiting for the gates to open, and the surging rush for the carriages.



This was a graphic no punches pulled view of the problems and associated tensions facing one particular family. For those of us who have spent time China, it brought back many memories, and for some a feeling of homesickness, and a longing to return.

POST CONFERENCE VISIT by NZCFS HONORARY MEMBER MA BAORU

Following the end of our National conference, Honorary Member of our Society, Ma Baoru from the Municipal Foreign Affairs Office in Baoding, Hebei Province, visited Hamilton for several days as guest of David and Maggie Swain. On Wednesday 23 May, Branch member Miles Barker briefly treated her to a visit to Claudelands Bush Reserve, giving her an illustrated book giving details of



the history of this reserve and details of the native flora. Miles has done considerable research on this surviving remnant of the extensive native forest that used to encompass most of Hamilton, and has conducted a number of school and other groups through this reserve. Meryl then took over as tour guide for a walk around part of Hamilton Lake. The morning ended with the Branch hosting a lunch for Ma Baoru at Camelia House Restaurant at Zealong Tea Gardens, Gordonton. Tauranga Branch President John Hodgson arrived at the end of the lunch to take Ma Baoru on a visit to Tauranga. Ma Baoru, who is noted scholar on Kathleen Hall, will be in New Zealand for some time continuing research for her planned book on Kathleen Hall.

POST CONFERENCE VISIT by NZCFS HONORARY MEMBER LIU GUOZHONG

Following the end of our National Conference in late May, Honorary Member of our Society, Liu Guozhong, Deputy Principal of Shandan Baillie School, visited us here in Hamilton. Travelling from Hastings where he had been staying, he was met by Co President Jenevere on the Friday afternoon. That evening, Jenevere, and three of the committee hosted Guozhong for dinner at Dong's restaurant. It was a very enjoyable evening and an opportunity to chat about aspects of the Conference and our association with Duan Zhao Bing, the teacher from Shandan Baillie, who spent a year studying at Wintec some years ago. That evening, Jenevere arranged accommodation for him at Vision Forest Lake. The following morning she drove Guozhong to Morinsville, where he was to stay with Priscilla Ferguson, who had been a teacher at Shandan Baillie some years ago.



Shandan Baillie School, Gansu Province, China

SPEECH HONOURS FOR WAIKATO UNI STUDENTS.

Those who joined in our recent picnic would have had the opportunity to meet Sarah Thomson and Stephen McIntosh who are both studying Chinese under Dr WANG Xiaoning. Sarah was placed first and Stephen third at the 11th Chinese Bridge Speech Competition held 12 May at Auckland University. They competed against 19 students from other NZ Universities and each delivered a five minute speech in Chinese on the theme of "Me and China". Sarah spoke of her experience at the Harbin Ice Festival and Stephen's speech was on the difficulties Chinese students face when integrating into New Zealand culture. Sarah will represent New Zealand in China in July competing against other national winners from across the globe. We wish you the best of luck, Sarah!

One of the highlights for those of us attending NZCFS Conference in Auckland was hearing young (Auckland) non-Chinese Kiwi students speaking publicly, and so confidently, in excellent Chinese. One can only still wonder, with the long proven record of success of Waikato University in teaching Chinese, why so few of Hamilton schools, at any level, yet offer Chinese to their students! Did you know that almost all Rotorua schools, at all levels, offer Chinese to their students? <http://www.waikato.ac.nz/news-events/media/2012/05/waikato-students-win-top-prizes-in-chinese-speech-competition.shtml>

Terra Cotta Army in Xian Looted and Burned

Chinese archaeologists say they have proved that the famous Qin Dynasty (221-206 BC) terra cotta army in Xi'an was robbed of its weapons and figures broken and burned. Xiang Yu, a military leader who overthrew the dynasty, is the prime suspect for the arson and looting, officials from the Museum of the Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses of Qin Shi Huang said yesterday.

"We have found large quantities of red clay and charcoal along with holes for robbing in the major pit of terra cotta warriors," said Shen Maosheng, leader of the archeological team on the No.1 pit.

"These are evidence of arson and looting."

Archaeologists were publicizing the results of the third excavation since 2009 on the pits where thousands of life-sized terra cotta warriors and horses have been uncovered from three pits. The figures were discovered in 1974 by farmers in Lintong District, Xi'an, Shaanxi Province, near the mausoleum of Qin Shi Huang (259-210 BC), the First Emperor who united warring China. More than 8,000 soldiers, 130 chariots with 520 horses and 150 cavalry horses have been unearthed from the pits covering a total of 14,000 square meters. The majority of the site is still buried, the museum said.



Experts reassembling figures discovered some parts were their original blue color, while others were a red color, caused by burning. This means the figures were firstly broken into pieces and then some parts set on fire, said Shen. Most original weapons the figures held, such as spears, swords and crossbows, had disappeared, said Cao Wei, deputy curator of the museum.

"Rebel leader Xiang was the person with the power, time and motive to destroy the terra cotta warriors," Shen said. Xiang hated the First Emperor, so had a motive to destroy the spiritual protectors of his tomb, said Shen. He also needed weapons in order to fight the army of Qin Dynasty, as they had banned all weapons throughout the country.

The large holes into the pits gave another clue, said Shen. They could only have been dug by a large group of people - such as Xiang's army, he said.

Dubbed "one of the eight wonders in the world," and the "most splendid archaeological find" of the 20th century, the terra cotta figures are life-sized and vary in height, uniform and hairstyle in accordance with rank.

Excerpt from an article in the Shanghai Daily

ALL STAR BASKETBALL MATCH



The Chinese Students Association of Waikato University invited members of our Branch to attend their Annual All Star Basketball match. This was held on Saturday May 26th in the Hillcrest High gymnasium. Co President Jenevere, Harry, and Stan, joined students and other invited guests at this match. It was a very exciting game between two very evenly matched teams. Throughout the game the score remained closely tied, and it was hard to pick the eventual winning team. A most enjoyable afternoon ended with the presentation of prizes by Jenevere and Harry.

EASY WINTER WATER DUMPLINGS

At this time of the year, Chinese White Turnip or radish - Daikon (J) Lubo (Ch) are readily available at a very reasonable price. For this simple recipe you will need about 250g piece of peeled lubo. Grate (coarse), then blanch for a minute of two in boiling water, drain, and when cool, squeeze out any water. Mix well with 250g of minced pork, one egg, and salt and pepper to taste. You can buy shui jiaozi (water dumpling) wrappers from most Asian supply stores.



Use a good teaspoonful of the filling for each wrapper. There are a number of ways to wrap/fold the dumpling – easiest is to lightly dampen (finger dipped in water) around the edge of the wrapper, fold two sides together and squeeze edges to seal with fingers. Chinese cookbooks will give details on how to cook and serve. You can use a number of dips for the dumplings, or buy a small bottle of shui jiaozi sauce from an Asian supply store.

BOOK REVIEW: Bayonets to Lhasa *The First Full Account of the British Invasion of Tibet in 1904* by Peter Fleming (yes, he is brother of Ian Fleming the thriller writer). Published by Readers Union Rupert Hart-Davis, London 1962. This is really a British Imperial Military History but it does give an interesting insight of a foreigner's impressions, of Tibet, its people, and its priests, and Tibet/China relationship almost one hundred years ago. On the NZCFS Tibetan Minorities tour last we visited the impressive Gyantse Fort on our way from Shigatse to Lhasa and my room-mate Brian Foley (who is very keen and knowledgeable on history) told me of the importance of this Fort in the history of the British invasion of Tibet, and subsequently lent me his copy of this book. I found parts of the book rather heavy to read, with all its intrigues and power struggles at that time between the then Imperialist powers, between officials of the British Government in India and Great Britain, personality and policy clashes between politicians and administrators, and perpetual dispute between the pair of military and diplomatic leaders of the British mission. Colonel Younghusband, the diplomatic leader appeared to have considerable respect for the Tibetan people "the demeanor of the Tibetans was friendly and respectful" but generally had no time for the monks "lazy and sensual and effete", and lamas and administrators "logic was a concept wholly alien to the Tibetans – they did not evade issues – they declined to recognize their existence." "The general attitude of Tibetans, though exasperating, is more futile and inert rather than intentionally hostile"

CANTON TRADE FAIR



One of our members, Dr Con Tan, takes business people to attend the Canton Trade Fair. The Fairs are held in Guangzhou City in spring (April) and autumn (October) each year. These are the premier trade fairs in China. The domestic market in China is so huge, that apart from the businesses devoted to the foreign market, most businesses do not have English speaking staff. Con, a New Zealand citizen with Malay/Chinese and Mainland China connections, received his PhD in Chemistry from the University of Auckland, and has conducted research in Microbiology and Biotechnology, and for several years has conducted his own IT support consultancy and importing businesses. Con

is fluent in English and Mandarin. Con and his wife Fee Ching are attending the October Canton Trade Fair and are offering tour packages to anyone interested in attending the Canton Fair or sightseeing & culinary experiences in Guangzhou and Shenzhen. For details please contact Con—email contan@tiecs.co.nz or mobile 021 467 172.

NZCFS RAFFLE

With a wonderful first prize of two return tickets to Shanghai, China, provided by Air New Zealand to recognise the number of bookings we make through them for our tours, every dollar of the \$5 ticket price goes to the Society, with \$1 of those we sell going to our Branch. Tickets will be on sale at our meetings, with the draw done in Auckland on the Chinese National Day, 1 October, 2012. Please contact us if you want to buy any tickets, or if you would like to take a book of 10 tickets to sell to others outside the society.



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Our secretary has reported nil membership growth since our last newsletter! Are you doing your job in promoting the aims, objects, and membership of our Society. Promotional material and membership forms are available from our secretary Meryl Lanting.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF JULY MEETING:

Wednesday 25 July 2012 - Guest speaker Prof Michael Peters will speak on “Deng Xiaoping and the Politics of Openness”. Professor Peters is with the Faculty of Education at the University of Waikato and is Adjunct Professor in the School of Foreign Studies at Guangzhou University. Further details in July Newsletter.

Hamilton Branch NZCFS Executive Committee:

Co-Presidents:	Jenevere Foreman	ph. 850 1312
	Miao Fan	ph. 854 8051
Secretary and vice-President:	Meryl Lanting	ph. 843 5260
Treasurer:	Diane Lanting	ph. 843 8009
Vice Presidents:	Stan Boyle	ph. 847 4504
	Peter Vautier	ph 855 3922
	Howard Zheng	ph 856 3380
	Harry van den Berg	ph 0278 710 2411
Committee members:	Miles Barker	ph. 856 3778
	Muriel Adams	ph. 839 4488
	Ian Howat	ph. 855 9431

COMMITTEE MEMBER PROFILE – MILES BARKER



Miles is currently an Honorary Lecturer at the University of Waikato. He taught in secondary schools for seventeen years and at the University of Waikato for twenty-two years, where he became an Associate Professor of science education and environmental education. His interest in China stems from his having taught groups of masters and PhD students from Hebei province and Taiwan; his own quite extensive travels in China; his wife Elizabeth's family connections with China; and his love of Chinese history. Miles's other current activities and interests include ongoing educational research, choral singing and music generally, playing table tennis, his connections with Maoridom, and joyful grandparenting.

TRANSPORT TO BRANCH EVENTS:

If you require transport please phone a committee member to arrange this for you.



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