



NZ China Friendship Society

Dunedin Branch

JUNE 2014

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NEXT BRANCH MEETING...

Fresh back from leading the NZCFS NE China Tour, branch president Paul Fawcett will present highlights of the tour.

We will have a shared meal (please bring a Chinese main or Kiwi dessert). Our host is Dr Haixin Jiang (about to retire from Otago University Dept of Languages).

You are welcome. Please let the secretary know if you are coming, *contacts below*.

JUNE MEETING:

THURS 26 JUNE 6.30 pm

Venue: Home of Dr Haixin Jiang
55 Glendining Ave, North East Valley

(*Editor: *The NZCFS NE China Tour departed on 28 May with a full complement of 16 tour members. The tour is led by our Dunedin Branch President Paul Fawcett who has lived and worked in that area. The tour concludes on June 20, so we look forward to seeing him on the 26th*)

ON LEARNING MANDARIN AND LANGUAGES – A successful class



The beginners' course in learning Mandarin concluded at the end of May. The final class was followed by a dinner at Wong Gok restaurant attended by 12 of the participants with teacher Min Li and branch sec and treasurer Colin and Viv. Thank you Min Li and other conversation helpers and coordinator Kate. Your work was much appreciated.

The participants have undertaken a review which is being collated in order to influence future plans. It is clear that there is a need for another beginners' class and an intermediate level class later. Here are a few samples of the comments received:

"I loved all of it and friends with some basic Mandarin told me that I had to learn sounds system of tones, pinyin and characters, before learning English translations, and I was pleased that we got an introduction to all of these in the very first class. I understood after a few weeks that the teacher was giving us as much as she could in 6 weeks so that we could keep working by ourselves after the course was over."

"The class was excellent revision of basics for me, with some additional knowledge gained from discourse with teachers and aides. I was corrected a few times on my pronunciation and that is a good thing to keep me on the right track. I appreciated it."

"I learnt enough to want to do more. I went to China for three weeks in the middle and so could use what I had been taught"

"I loved all of it and was thrilled to be involved. Thank you for all your effort and organisation to make this happen."

Interested in future lessons? Contact the branch secretary,
or Mandarin Course Coordinator: Kate Miller
katebjb@gmail.com

Do you follow NZCFS on Facebook?



<https://www.facebook.com/#!/NZChinaSociety?fref=nf>

Here are two recent posts that caught my eye:

1. This is a nice **documentary** about two Chinese twin sisters separated at birth. One sister is adopted by an American family and the

other one adopted by a Norwegian family. Neither of the family knew they adopted a twin at the time. The sisters later reunited, and this is their story.

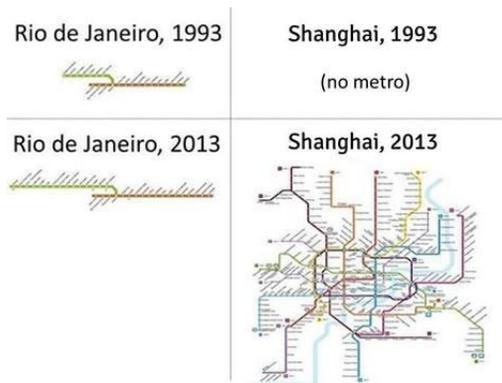
More details about this film can be found here:

<http://documentaryedge.org.nz/2014/wgtn/film/twin-sisters#screeningTimes>



Twin Sisters (2013) | Documentary Edge Festival 2014

2. The Shanghai Metro system just keeps growing



EXCITING NEW NZCFS ARTS

TOUR: See more of China with NZCFS

NZCFS China Arts Tour, October 2014

NZCFS China Arts Tour,
October 2014

This tour will appeal to artists as well as those who are interested in gaining a deeper understanding of

Chinese culture through its artistic traditions – which will include painting, calligraphy, opera, architecture and traditional garden design.



A unique non-commercial tour that will start in Beijing and also visit the cities of Xian, Shanghai and Suzhou, and will include:

- seminars and master painting and calligraphy classes followed by visits to art museums and galleries with experts in their field;
- a visit to folk art gallery and participation in workshop;
- talks and visits to sites of architectural interest, old and new;
- a seminar on the origins and meaning of Peking Opera and an evening at the theatre;
- a visit to traditional gardens in Suzhou with explanations on the symbolic significance and meaning of the placement of rocks, plants and water.

It will also include iconic tourist sites: architecture – from the Great Wall to the iconic cantilevered CCTV building and Olympic Birds nest; in Shanghai state of the art international award-winning buildings, the Bund, old French quarter; the Terracotta Army in Xi'an; the classic gardens in Suzhou.....

[Read more...](#)



Details of the NZCFS Annual Conference, 23 – 25 May 2014



'Welcoming family' by Deng Bangzhen, exhibited at the Conference

The NZCFS 2014 Conference, '**Voices for Youth**', was a tremendous success, due in great part to the seamlessly efficient organisation by Sally Russell of Hawke's Bay branch and her tireless branch members. The first sign that other branch members saw of the conference was a Chinese flag flying at the town centre as they drove in. On entering the Function Centre they were greeted by a stunning display of art, paintings and sculpture by Chinese artists Jim Lin, Dan Zeng, Deng Bangzhen and Lu Bo, which gave a beautiful backdrop to the more serious items for discussion.

The conference was attended by 92 delegates. Read more:

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/16583/details-of-the-nzcfs-annual-conference-23-25-may-2014/>

including **Summary of the contributions made by a panel of 'Younger' members**



Ken Liu and Hamish Young from Auckland, Jack Irvine, Kirk McDowall and Faye Zhang from Wellington, Tony Tian from Christchurch each gave short talks on the development of the youth part of the Society and their hopes for the future of the Society.

Mandarin Language Week launch

A Conference highlight...



In launching Mandarin Language Week, Raymond Huo, List MP for Auckland, credited Rewi Alley as a source of inspiration for a process which began with an idea four years ago, and has led to the establishment of the first language week in a western country. He emphasised the need for Chinese residents of New Zealand to live as ordinary New Zealanders, as well as being given the opportunity to fully embrace their culture.

With regard to the different organisations serving the cause of the Chinese, he emphasised the importance of a clear identity for each one and of correctly reporting differences between organisations. That marginalisation of Chinese New Zealanders must be avoided is one of the aims of Mandarin Language Week. The documents launching Mandarin Language Week were signed by His Excellency Wang Lutong, Dave Bromwich, President NZCFS, and Raymond Huo, List MP, Auckland while Ngahiwi Tomoana led a group of participants in a song in Mandarin.

‘As co-chair I am very honoured to see the level of support from across the board,’ says Raymond Huo. **‘Chinese Language Week is not just about learning the language, it’s about how New Zealand can better promote our multiculturalism and prepare our future**

generations for the increasingly important market in Asia.

NZCLW will most likely take place from 8-14 September. Trustees recognise, however, that the initiative will take a number of years to evolve and over time should develop into a full and stimulating calendar of events.

Read more:

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/16542/nz-chinese-language-week-is-launched/>

Look forward to being involved with a week of events both informative and fun, showcasing Chinese art and heritage, but also offering hands-on advice and training to any New Zealander who shows an interest in learning more.’

Remember to check out the **DUNEDIN LIBRARY’S “WINDOW OF SHANGHAI” COLLECTION**

<http://www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/your-library/collections/window-of-shanghai>



WINDOW OF SHANGHAI COLLECTION

Dunedin Public Libraries 'Window of Shanghai' collection was kindly donated by the Shanghai Public Library in 2008 as part of its 'Window of Shanghai' Programme - an integral part of the 'China Book International' Project.

The collection aims to introduce Chinese history and culture to overseas readers, promote Chinese civilizations, and publicise new progress by means of donating books to foreign libraries and related institutions.

The "Window of Shanghai" seeks to redress the limited Chinese language holdings in overseas libraries, and to provide overseas readers with more access to the latest Chinese publications.

Some of the books are aimed at children while most are of adult interest across many subject areas with luscious illustrations.

The collection is located on the first floor of the City Library.

Access to e-books in Chinese is available via the Shanghai Public Library link



Note – comment from Zhu Yi MLA (Mandarin Language Associate) teacher 2013
When I walked on the street and heard the kids say loudly “nǐ hǎo, zhū lǎo shī!” to me (which means hello, Miss Zhu), I think that’s the happiest time! They do enjoy Mandarin and are happy to participate in it. Except we have Chinese Garden in Dunedin, the other thing I feel warm is I saw the “Window of Shanghai” in Dunedin library. There are lots of Chinese books there, both have Chinese version and English version.

They introduce lots of aspects of China, like the customs, the festival, the buildings and clothing, food. They really become a window of China. Maybe we will have a window of Dunedin in Shanghai. What a great idea to communicate each other’s culture!

Courtesy Dunedin Chinese Garden

1 June Dragonboat Festival



See more:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.708912315834558.1073741850.164881163571012&type=1>

FOR YOUR DIARY

*** JUNE 26 (Thurs) Branch Meeting**

NEW ZEALAND CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

“Building New Friendships on Solid Foundations”

Learn more about the aims of NZCFS, its history, its current projects

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/>

Please join. Check out our goals and activities on the website and Contact the branch treasurer vivholmes1@gmail.com with ‘membership enquiry’ in the subject line.

For information about the Dunedin Branch NZCFS Contact:

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