



NZ China Friendship Society

Dunedin Branch

DECEMBER 2014

IN THIS NEWSLETTER...

- * Film Connections
- * Writers in Shanghai
- * Members news
- * Coming up... in 2015

Branch President Paul Fawcett reports...

President's Report 2014



I think you will all agree 2014 has been a good year for the local Branch and that things have been running well in the Year of the Horse. With fine support from Secretary Colin, Treasurer Viv and enthusiastic members, we have moved forward in achieving two of the goals I set for the Branch at the beginning of the year viz to grow our Membership and improve our relationships with the various Chinese related organisations within the city. Thus we now have closer links with the Otago Southland Chinese Association, the Dunedin Shanghai Association, the Confucius Institute satellite office at the University of Otago and the Otago Chinese Professional and Business Association. We have also benefitted from the work of the office of the Confucius Institute at Canterbury University particularly through their support of Mandarin Language Assistants and established good relations with the Chinese Consulate in Christchurch and the Consul-General Mr Jin Zhijian.

The Branch also mounted an interesting programme of events throughout the year and maintained and distributed a fine Newsletter that

has grown its circulation and raised our profile within the city and beyond. In 2015 I hope to maintain this momentum and cement our important role in “Building new friendships on solid foundations”.

Many exciting things are in the pipeline for next year, not least being the probable attendance of the local choir “Barock” at the Shanghai Spring International Music Festival Choral Arts Week and the forthcoming Discover China tour of North Central China and Mongolia. I plan to take part in the latter as well as attend the NZCFS National Conference in Nelson with its theme of “Yo Banfa – there is a way”.

I hope that like me you look forward to getting involved and enjoying the activities we have planned. As President Xi Jinping said in his “Open letter to New Zealand” on the occasion of his recent stopover in Auckland: “From more quality and inexpensive goods and services to more jobs, from more convenient people-to-people exchanges to better study opportunities, more and more visible and tangible benefits are made available to our two countries and peoples as a results of our friendly co-operation”.

Interestingly, at the private dinner hosted by the Prime Minister, the two leaders talked, among other things, about Rewi Alley who, according to the report in the New Zealand Herald was “a New Zealander who is a household name in China and who was a friend of Mr Xi’s father, a revolutionary hero of the Long March”.

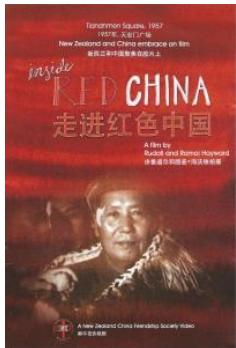
Hopefully we can organise to host the “Rewi Alley in China” exhibition in Dunedin in 2015.

Best wishes for the festive season. Look forward to seeing you all next year.

FILM CONNECTIONS

November meeting...

INSIDE RED CHINA



It was fascinating to enjoy the film made by Rudall and Ramai Hayward in 1957, and the additional features such as Ambassador John McKinnon commenting on the historical background of the film. Good discussion followed.

Want a copy for yourself or gift: see
<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/18899/get-your-own-dvd-of-inside-red-china-film/>

How appropriate that filmmaking should continue as a way of developing a relationship between the two countries:

Recent News Release

China-NZ Film

Thursday, 20 November, 2014

The New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) today welcomed the signing of the New Zealand-China Television Co-Production Agreement and announced two initiatives to further support feature film and television collaboration between the two countries.

Signed in Wellington by State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television of the People's Republic of China (SAPPRFT) Minister, Hon



Cai Fuchao and Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage, Hon Maggie Barry ONZM, this is the first television co-production agreement China has signed with another country.

To assist filmmakers to develop feature film projects with China the NZFC has established a dedicated NZ\$1million China Co-Production Production fund for investment in the production of one or more official feature film co-productions with China. The fund builds on the China Co-Production Development fund established earlier this year.



Announcing the fund, NZFC CEO Dave Gibson said a delegation of senior New Zealand screen sector professionals, including China-focused producers and regional film office representatives, will travel to Guangzhou, Shanghai and Beijing at the end of the month.

"China played a huge role in my former life as an independent producer and I kept this a major priority when I joined the NZFC. The timing of the delegation to China with the signing of the television treaty and the introduction of the feature film co-production production fund is incredibly significant and will have a strong impact on our filmmakers working with China."

NHNZ is one of the companies participating in the delegation. General Manager, John Crawford says, "We've been collaborating with China for decades but haven't had access to all the benefits that treaty-based co-production brings until now. We're really excited to see NHNZ's relationship with China

deepen - the launch of the feature film co-production fund and the delegation's visit next month really couldn't be better timed for us."

Official international co-productions are an increasingly attractive option for many producers. As well as sharing of creative and technical resources, other benefits include:

- access to local and foreign incentives and subsidies
- access to the market of the other co-producer or co-producers
- the ability to pool financial resources
- the ability to share the associated financial risk
- the ability to deliver projects of larger scale

See more at www.nzfilm.co.nz

FILM - COMING UP IN 2015...

The 2015 programme will include a presentation by Dr Paolo Voci, an expert on Chinese Film. Dr Voci is a Senior Lecturer in the University of

Otago Department of Languages and Cultures. She teaches Chinese language and culture, as well as a paper on Chinese cinema. Dr Voci's research focuses on visual culture and in particular, film and videomaking practices in contemporary China.



FILM – FROM OUR ARCHIVES: November 2010 Branch Newsletter:

SUCCESSFUL RE-LAUNCH OF DUNEDIN BRANCH OF NZCFS

Receptive Audience for MICHAEL STEDMAN, Speaker at October meeting

Michael Stedman, managing director of **Natural History New Zealand (NHNZ)** spoke of the journey to becoming the world's most successful film company producing documentaries in and about **China**. It was a fascinating talk in which the background was as interesting as the details about the actual programmes. He helped us come to grips with the attitudes that are required to establish links and operate a business partnership in China. He highlighted and developed these themes :

... at that time the company had...

*Co-produced with Chinese Television (CCTV) a series of films about New Zealand for the Chinese market, shown 9 times to an audience of 300 million.

* Produced a 5 part documentary series on New Zealander Rewi Alley (designated in 2009 "No. 6 Friend of China") and shown on NZ Day at the Shanghai Expo. And on four different channels on CCTV.

* Produced over 40 documentaries on Chinese History, Culture, Natural History and Science. He gifted our branch some examples of his companies work – watch for an opportunity to see these at a future meeting.

A memorable meeting. Your local committee was thrilled to have an audience of just under 30 people for the **inaugural public meeting of the branch.** The response from audience members was warm and enthusiastic.



Michael Stedman and Dunedin Branch President Steven Spelman 2010

Thank you to several members who have suggested or contributed material to the newsletter this month.

TVNZ On demand NEIGHBOURHOOD



Season 3 Episode 28 – **celebrates Dunedin's diversity – including members Malcolm Wong and Li Wang and the Chinese Garden**— lovely background information and visually stunning. Also Columbian, Estonian, and Japanese links.

<http://tvnz.co.nz/neighbourhood/s3-ep28-video-6115222>

The discovery of the Ventnor, and the Otago connection



Raw video footage and article here:

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11361059

Shanghai Window on the World Writing Competition

<http://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/321572/city-writer-wins-china-essay-prize>

Dunedin writer Tony Eyre won second prize in the Shanghai Library's international writing competition. His essay, "Friendship First, Competition Second - a Story of How Ping Pong Diplomacy Led to an Enduring Friendship over 40 Years", detailed his wife and former New Zealand table tennis champion Yvonne Fogarty's trips to China in the 1970s.

Mr Eyre will collect his award in Shanghai on December 19.

NZCFS 'WRITER IN SHANGHAI' SENDS HER FIRST REPORT



Award-winning novelist and poet Alison Wong was chosen as our writer to travel to Shanghai as a guest of the Shanghai Writers Association to join the Shanghai International Writing Programme. In return NZCFS have agreed to host a writer from Shanghai at the Michael King Writer's Centre in 2015. Alison is a third-generation Chinese New Zealander and she will work on a family memoir while she is in Shanghai.

See nzchinasociety.org.nz/18263/our-writer-in-shanghai-sends-her-first-report/ includes some useful hints on using your smartphone!

NZCFS teacher Jane Furkert sends her latest report – A DAY IN THE LIFE AT SHANDAN BAILIE SCHOOL



<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/18837/a-day-in-the-life-of-sbs-november-2014/>

Dunedin's Youth Choir "Barock" from Otago Boys' and Otago Girls' High School are off to Shanghai in May 2015 to take part in the Shanghai Spring International Music Festival Choral Arts Week and visit their sister schools. One of their fundraisers is the Post-Concert Supper (\$5) at City Choir Dunedin's



**GLORIA
A BAROQUE
CHRISTMAS**

on 19 December.

See <http://www.citychoirdunedin.org.nz/>

**Dunedin NZCFS
WELCOME to new member**

Ao (John) Zhu

"I am very much looking forward to taking part in the many activities to come, and would love to help out if I can. My company is an advisory firm specialised in macroeconomic matters in the Asia-pacific region, of which China of course, is a major focus. I'm very pleased to find out that the people at the Society share the keen interest of understanding China's past and present and are also quite knowledge about it. As a young Chinese person that finds China fascinating, I am also very eager to learn from all of you and ready to share my experiences and knowledge (Mandarin, etc.)."

**Dunedin NZCFS
CONGRATULATIONS to
member Briar Topp**

"I have been learning Mandarin for six years now, through high school and at university, but I'm still not fluent! So I decided I would go to China so I can really tackle the language through full immersion- that ought to do it. In March 2015 I will be starting my first of two semesters at **Dalian University of Foreign Languages as an exchange student.** Intensive Mandarin classes everyday, making friends with exchange students and Chinese students, and finally reaching my goal of becoming fluent are

what I'm really looking forward to. I'm also very much looking forward to getting lost amongst millions of people and thousands of years of history, tasting the delicious seafood that Dalian is renowned for, and of course having some time being a tourist in the semester breaks.

Going on exchange is not cheap, even when going to China, so one hefty application process later, I managed to receive \$10,000 worth of funding from the **Prime Minister's Scholarship.**

This scholarship offers funding to students who want to study in Asian countries and help to create bonds between New Zealand and Asia. I most certainly wish to use Chinese in my career, though being only eighteen I have yet to figure out what that will be!

This year and last year I have been focusing on my university studies, taking papers towards my PPE major (philosophy, politics, economics) and

towards my Chinese major. This has proven to be an interesting mix, and I like being able to take a wide range of papers to challenge my thinking processes. University, spending time with an amazing bunch of friends, and teaching taekwondo, a Korean martial art, have been my main focuses this year. Next year will bring many new challenges, most likely including culture shock. It may be difficult, but I'm very ready for that to hit me hard!

I look forward to many more Chinese experiences and connections back here in Dunedin through NZCFS when I return, so a big thank you to the wonderful coordinators of the Dunedin branch, please keep up the amazing work!"

Info on Exchange Programme with Dalian University:
<http://www.otago.ac.nz/study/studentexchange/partners/dalian.html>



FOR YOUR DIARY

Branch AGM

February... take part in a traditional Chinese tea ceremony..



March ... a special evening, combined with Otago Southland Chinese Association – an intro to MAHJONG.



麻雀

NZCFS TOURS 2015

* Chinese Gardens Tour, 25 April to 13 May 2015

* Mongolia and North Central China Tour, 21 Days July-August 2015

The New Zealand China Friendship Society offers a unique opportunity to explore the Mongolian heritage in North China, including a visit to Mongolia. As well as experiencing the distinct culture and lifestyles of the Mongolian people today, the focus will be on Genghis Khan and his grandson, Kubilai Khan, and the legacy of the Mongolian Empire.

It was Kubilai Khan who united China as the first emperor of the Yuan Dynasty in 1271. The tour will also spend time visiting other sites in Shanxi and Hebei, including visits to areas where New Zealand missionary nurse Kathleen Hall was active in the 1940s.



* Photographers China Tour, September 2015

Details on all these tours:

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/news/tours-to-china/>

With Diana Madgin and Bill Willmott



Diana and Bill have taken many tours to China, several of them with a Chinese garden theme. Diana is a highly-respected garden writer and speaker and has a specialised knowledge of Chinese Garden design and history.

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/>



For information about the Dunedin

Branch NZCFS Contact:

President Paul Fawcett

paul.fawcett@otago.ac.nz

Treasurer Vivienne Child

vivholmes1@gmail.com

Secretary Colin Child

cchild@clear.net.nz 021 02222 679



<https://www.facebook.com/NZChinaSociety>