



# NZ China Friendship Society

Dunedin Branch

NEWSLETTER April 2015

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## \* COMING UP...

## A Date for your Diary:

**A Welcome to Mandarin Language Assistants in Otago**

There are six Mandarin Language Assistants from the Confucius Institute working in schools in Dunedin and Clutha.

Goals: \* to make MLAs welcome and introduce them to our Society in Dunedin as a support and resource

\* to introduce our members to the MLAs – young Chinese people, where they are from, what motivates them, how their introduction to NZ and NZ schools is going;

\* an opportunity for the MLAs to get together after a few weeks of school/culture shock, and an opportunity for MLA hosts to get together and compare notes

## Date: Saturday 11 April

2.30pm Meet at Haixin's then drive and walk to Mt Cargill.

Then at 4.30pm (Or..if wet, and for those who don't want to do walk ) Meet at Haixin's for Tea and talk.

Our host is NZCFS member Dr Haixin Jiang (recently retired senior lecturer in Chinese at Otago University.) She says that a walk up Mt Cargill (near where she lives) is a wonderful experience and she has often taken her visitors there. You get wonderful views of Dunedin, the hills and the harbour and out to the coast.)

NZCFS members bring food to share.



**Question: What is this you will see?**



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

## Beginner Mandarin Lessons

Interested in learning Mandarin?

More information in our next newsletter about classes starting next term.

If you want to receive info, send your expression of interest "Please send me info about the Beginner Mandarin Course"

Send to Course Facilitator, Dunedin NZCFS Branch member Martha Bell:

[bell3patman@orcon.net.nz](mailto:bell3patman@orcon.net.nz) 021 067 1858

## BAROCK TO SHANGHAI

The Barock Choir, conducted by Karen Knudson, is composed of members from Otago Boys' and Otago Girls' High Schools. In 2014 they were selected for the NZ Choral Federation's Big Sing National Finale. They were joint winners of the Auahe Kore Award for the best performance of a song with Maori text. The combined choir has been rehearsing and performing for the last 14 years but has only been called the Barock Choir since their inclusion in the 2011 National Finale.

### Shanghai Trip

Members of the Dunedin Branch of the NZ China Friendship Society and the Dunedin Shanghai Association have been encouraging and supporting Barock's endeavors to participate in the 2015 Choral Arts Week of the Shanghai Spring International Music Festival. In November they received confirmation of their welcome to participate in the festival in May this year. They have already been given financial support from NZCFS – Simon Deng Li and Rewi Alley Friendship and Exchange Funds. As well their performances in the SSIMF, the Barock students will also spend time in their sister schools Number 8 High School (OBHS) and Guangming High School (OGHS).



Barock at 2014 "Big Sing" in Auckland.

Our next newsletter will give details of their itinerary and you will be able to follow their experiences and performances in this 20th anniversary year of the Dunedin-Shanghai Sister City relationship. Dunedin NZCFS is proud to support them.

## Coming Up:

**In April:** lots of visitors in town for the New Zealand China Association Easter Tournament

The Annual **NZCA** Easter Tournament this year is being hosted by the Otago Southland Branch (OSCA) in Dunedin.



Lots of sports, and this year a Mahjong Tournament too. <http://www.osca.org.nz/>

**In May: \* National NZCFS Conference in Nelson- May 22-24**



<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/18050/2015-nzcfs-conference/> Yo Banfa – There is a Way

## See more of China with NZCFS

### Check out this year's tours

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

**ACTION NOW: Sign up to NZCFS Facebook page for up-to-date info, articles and links.**



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

From our National Website: This month we highlight the NZCFS co-operative promotion programme in West China. See

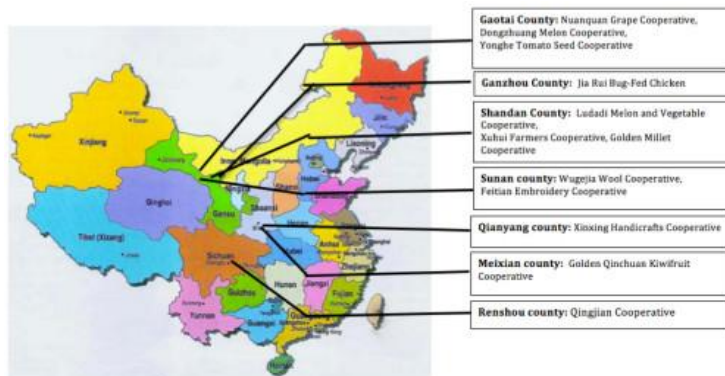
<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/19981/successful-west-china-womens-handicraft-co-ops-seminar/>

Presenting  
handicraft  
products



Role-play exercise for marketing to foreigners with NZCFS President Dave Bromich

NZCFS can be justly proud of the amazing work it has done in recent years to support over 50 co-operatives in its *NW and Central China Poverty-alleviation Project*.



## MEMBERS' NEWS

\* **Mahjong** - the March Mahjong has been postponed until later in the year. Thanks to those who registered interest.

### Report from Branch President Paul Fawcett



March 2015

After my re-election to Branch President at our Branch AGM on 12 February, I was happy to receive support from the National Executive to attend my first National Executive Meeting held in the Wellington Council Chambers on 14 February. Overall I found the agenda interesting and the meeting conducted in a friendly and efficient manner. Apart from the usual Committee business and discussion of the Constitution, a number of motions were carried including:

To further explore the setting up of a Hong Kong branch of the NZCFS, an initiative supported by Mr Simon Deng Li;

To subscribe to Sister Cities New Zealand Membership in order to be eligible to attend their National Conference;

To pursue an agreement with the Winston Churchill Fellowship in order to allow NZCFS members to apply for funding to undertake projects in China;

To ratify the Tours Committee's decision to appoint a Deputy Leader of tours and to pay half their airfare for tour groups greater than 15;

For President Dave Bromwich to present a gift to Ms Wang Fang, the NZCFS Tour Guide based in China, on the occasion of her wedding on 1 March.

It was also reported that: Alistair Shaw continues to work on the NZCFS history and requests photos of branch related activities; that two members of Youxie will attend the Nelson AGM on 23 May and then tour the region and branches; and that the Shandan Bailie School is looking for a new teacher to begin in August 2015.

On another subject, I'm sure that like me you are relieved to hear that despite many hurdles and setbacks the visit by the Barock Choir of OB and OG High Schools to participate in the Shanghai International Spring Music Festival in May is to proceed. Congratulations and thanks to Mr Rob Duffy and Ms Annie Zong for all their hard work. It is also great news that the choir has received financial support from China to attend a choral event in Nanjing after the Shanghai Festival but regrettable that this means the choir will not return to New Zealand in time for members to attend the forthcoming NZCFS National Conference in Nelson. It will therefore be up to me to give a talk at the Conference on how the long and tortuous path to Barock's success illustrates the Conference theme of Yo Banfa.

I look forward to seeing you all at forthcoming events .

**Paul Fawcett**

## **\* Become a member -**

There are advantages in membership of the branch.

### **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/>

Contact the secretary for a membership form.

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