



NZ China Friendship Society

Dunedin Branch

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2015

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Beginner Mandarin Lessons

Interested in learning Mandarin?

6.00pm Thursdays from 18 June

\$20 for 8 one hour lessons. Branch members free.

If you want to receive info, send your expression of interest "Please send me info about the Beginner Mandarin Course" (for those not at school or University Mandarin course).

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

bell3patman@orcon.net.nz 021 067 1858

BAROCK IN SHANGHAI

The May Highlight.

The Barock Choir, conducted by Karen Knudson, is composed of members from Otago Boys' and Otago Girls' High Schools. Dunedin branch of NZCFS has been instrumental in enabling them to take part in the Choral Arts week as part of the 32nd Shanghai Spring International Music Festival.

After a visit to Beijing, with superb excursions to the Great Wall, Summer Palace etc, and an

impromptu performance at Beijing St Joseph's Catholic Church, the choir arrived by overnight train in Shanghai.

Travelling group at Jingshan Park, Beijing



There they joined 20 other choirs from 10 different countries in an opening concert. The choir was very well looked after in the following days and they performed in a series of concerts. A highlight for the students was their warm welcome at a local school where they learned the art of shadow puppets, and they were thrilled to be hosted at their sister schools in Shanghai.

Otago Boys and Otago Girls High School Combined Choir members with Karen Knudson, Eugene Shields and Robert Duffy



This was a wonderful way for our youth in Dunedin to be part of the 20th anniversary of the sister city relationship.

Dunedin branch have been pleased to support our local schools by organising financial support from NZCFS – Simon Deng Li and Rewi Alley Friendship and Exchange Funds.

Well done to music masters Robert Duffy, Eugene Shields, conductor Karen Knudson, parents, and of course the students.

Shanghai Spring International Music Festival,
Opening Concert at Shanghai City Theatre



Choir members performing 'Maranga Ra' at Opening Night of 2nd Choral Arts week of Shanghai Spring International Music Festival



Choir members performing 'Atlantis' (by Abigail Knudson) at Opening Night of 2nd Choral Arts week of Shanghai Spring International Music Festival



COMING UP WEDNESDAY

June 17 Check your diary now! See details at end of newsletter

China Connections ... Through the Decades

A FORUM OF GUEST SPEAKERS

1970's: Yvonne Fogarty - NZ Champion Table Tennis Player: "Ping Pong Diplomacy"



1980's: Thelma Fisher: "Meeting Rewi Alley"

NZCFS China Tour Dec 1983- Jan 1984 for

nurses and educators - how an intermediate school teacher from Oamaru caught a glimpse of life and society in China, including meeting Rewi Alley for afternoon tea.



1990's: Jim McRae – the 80's - oilfield technology in remote areas, and again in the 90's for 2 years as GM of a joint venture company and also as GM of one of the first wholly foreign owned enterprises in China....



2015: Two students from Dunedin – A Beijing and Shanghai Choir Trip - hear their first hand reactions to this new experience.

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



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

MEMBERS' NEWS

***Dunedin Branch Member Briar Topp is on a year's language study in Dalian.**

China is great! Studying everyday and teaching English too, being with a host family... I don't see how it could have worked out better for me. Dalian is a pretty nice city, modern with not such crazy driving. I had a wonderful time on holiday during the Labour day festival, during which one of my Chinese friends and I headed to the Gobi desert in Dunhuang, and then to Xi'an for a culture and food experience! Such a great holiday, and seeing these parts of China allows me to appreciate how diverse and rich in culture and history this country is. Just loving it!

Right, well I'm off to cook some Chinese food for dinner and then plan my next English lessons.

Wishing you warmth and cosiness to get you through the oncoming Dunedin winter!
From Briar



My beautiful grumpy camel. — in China.

This is what China looked like some while back. I kinda like it.



My wee host sister and !! I teach her and her older brother English in the weekends in return for my living with the family



Lunch at uni with friends



Pictures speak a thousand words, so here's a link you can follow to see more of my pics.
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10200369558238582.1073741831.1743950608&type=1&l=d9c8de6ca2>

GEORGIA BROMLEY DUNEDIN AIESEC

AIESEC is the world's largest youth-driven not for profit network of young professionals. Their exchange programmes engage over 20,000 young people across 110 countries and territories. In addition, leadership programmes develop over 60,000 students in 2100 universities. See <http://www.aiesec.org.nz> to

Georgia Bromley of Dunedin was one of three winners to gain a scholarship to China.

AIESEC has partnered with [New Zealand China Friendship Society](#) - [Wellington](#) to make this scholarship happen.



Branch President...Paul Fawcett

"I enjoyed the Nelson AGM and Conference on the theme of "You Banfa" which was



well attended and very well organised by the Nelson Branch particularly Christine Ward, Royden Smith and their team. There was an opening ceremony by the local Mayor, Kaumatua and and Tahunanui Kapahaka group and many Chinese cultural themes presented on the Saturday afternoon including calligraphy, Kong Fu, Tai Chi, Guzhong playing etc.

The emphasis of the Conference was again on increasing youth involvement in the Society and reaching out to the wider community through the website and social media. Dave Bromwich, the National President, also stressed the continuing relevance of the Rewi Alley legacy to the Society and how cooperative projects in North West China still value the support provided by NZCFS. A particularly interesting talk on Rewi's early life in New Zealand was provided by Maurice Alley entitled "Manawatu: Rewi's story continues in the Whanganui Hills" which will no doubt feature on the website in the near future.

The banquet was a lively social occasion opened by the Society's patron, Philip Burdon, who pointed out how our Society is poised after its long history to make a unique contribution to the future relations between New Zealand and China. All in all I came away enthused and keen to continue to grow our Branch and, with your help, increase the range of our activities."

Paul



Dunedin Branch Committee **hosted two members of Beijing Youxie** (People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries) . Zhang Weixiao and Lin Zhichang (Sarah) had attended national conference, then visited Dunedin. Together with Timaru Branch members Derek and Margaret Hughes, and Dunedin Branch committee members, a luncheon was held on the most glorious day of May. Sarah comments: "...thank you for receiving us and guiding us around during our stay in Dunedin. Both beautiful scenery and well organized branch work have left a deep impression on us."

Zhang Weixiao and Lin Zhichang enjoying St Clair.



Committee Members Colin and Viv Child...

back from 17 days in China. Great to see the enthusiasm of Barock choir in Shanghai; and they enjoyed the cities of Baoding and Shijiazhuang; also a Shanghai highlight – the Chenshan Botanical Garden. For those of you who love Dunedin Botanical Garden, Chenshan is a must-see in Shanghai.

Chenshan Garden – scientific research matched with a huge botanical collection, and beautiful views.



Thank you to Shanghai Youxie for their support with Barock arrangements, and facilitating a visit to Chenshan.

Reminder: NEXT MEETING

**China Connections ... Through
the Decades** A FORUM OF GUEST
SPEAKERS

Wednesday 17 June 2015 7.00pm.

Venue: Burns Room 2, Otago

University. The Arts Building (aka the Burns
Building) is located in the central region of the
Dunedin campus, near the Castle Theatre Complex
at the end of the Information Services Building.
Access from Albany Street

*** 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.

For information about the Dunedin

Branch NZCFS Contact:

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