



NEW ZEALAND CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY
HAMILTON BRANCH

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2004

PRESIDENT STAN BOYLE SECRETARY MERYL LANTING.

GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18th 2004

WCA COMMUNITY HALL, LEWIS ST., GLENVIEW

7,30pm

Speakers Meryl and Diane Lanting
Topic From Angkor Wat to the Killing Fields

Meryl and Diane are inveterate travellers, who have over the past few years travelled extensively in Asia. Burma, China, Vietnam, India, and now South India, Laos and Cambodia. As members will remember from past accounts given by Meryl and Diane, their talks are enhanced by the wonderful slides that Meryl produces. Make sure you are there, with a friend, for our first meeting of the year.

BRANCH OFFICERS and COMMITTEE 2004

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Editor's Comments

Here we are again ready to begin another year. Our priorities for 2004 remain much the same as last year. It is vitally important that we make an all out effort to increase our membership. Groups such as students, Chinese families, and young people generally, are those we should target. If you know of people near you who are home hosting Asian students, let them know we are here, and ready to offer assistance in any way we can. We work closely with the Waikato Chinese Association, and their Games Evenings on the first Saturday of every month, are an ideal opportunity to introduce people to our organisations in an informal setting. Table tennis, badminton, board games, ma jong are just some of the activities available. Already we are looking at providing social evenings with dancing. We have interesting events coming up. Our annual picnic with the Chinese Consulate in late February. A social mix and mingle Pot Luck Dinner evening in March involving Chinese students studying in the Waikato area. Within a short time we hope to have our library of books on China up and running again. We are always short of helpers on the ground when it comes to organising major events. If you can help in any of these coming projects let Stan, Ian, or Meryl know.

Lets make 2004 a year, that when people say "What does your Society actually do?," we can proudly list both Branch, and NZ Society projects and ongoing outcomes.

Stan Boyle

Coming Events.

Games Evening. WCA Community Hall Lewis St. Glenview Saturday February 7th 7.30pm

General Meeting. Meryl and Diane ' Angkor Wat to the Killing Fields' Wednesday February 18th 7.30pm. See details first page.

Annual Picnic with the Consulate. Tentatively Early March.

Pot Luck Mix and Mingle Dinner with the Students March.
Date, time, and details in the March Newsletter.

Yangtse River Tour Advertised in this newsletter. April

IN THE NEWS

Over past weeks there has been much comment in newspapers, radio and TV, on the dramatic fall in numbers of Chinese students attending English Language providers, both nationally and locally. Reports seem to indicate that secondary schools in the area are somewhat less affected. Readers may be interested in this report culled from the Beijing Review.

'RISKS FOR STUDYING ABROAD

Over six hundred Chinese students studying at the Modern Age

Institute of Learning in Auckland, New Zealand, were stranded there recently, without classes or living expenses when the school went bankrupt. There has been quite a lot of bad news about Chinese students studying abroad recently. But many parents still blindly try hard to send their children overseas, in the hope that the children will get better education and have a brighter future. Actually, not all of the students going abroad can really learn useful knowledge. Some of the foreign schools invite Chinese students simply for making money.

When Modern Age Institute of Learning went belly up, it showed that there were risks in studying abroad.. Parents should be more cautious in choosing countries and schools with good reputations, as well as use an authorised agency to go through some related procedures.'

Guangming Daily

ARE FOREIGNERS BETTER TEACHERS?

Many people firmly believe that only native speakers can teach authentic English, and that schools with foreign teachers are of better quality. That is why a number of middle schools, and even primary schools and kindergartens are willing to spend a lot of money to hire foreign teachers.

But foreign teachers do not always deliver quality services. Some schools even hire foreign teachers as an advertisement, to attract more students, with little concern about real teaching results. We should take a more rational attitude to foreign teachers.

Many students feel that if foreign and Chinese teachers have the same proficiency, they prefer Chinese teachers.

Foreign teachers can expand a school's teaching vision, and teaching methods. But in regards to English teaching, we cannot blindly assume that foreign teachers are better than Chinese – especially when the former teach primary and middle school students. At this level, a knowledge of Chinese history and culture should also be taken into account in addition to English proficiency when selecting teachers.

China Youth Daily

I find this a most interesting news item. Of all my Chinese friends, who have majored in English at Chinese Universities, the two women, who have an exceptional command of all aspects of English, written spoken, and a comprehensive knowledge of major works in literature, have never had a foreign teacher, Only Chinese lecturers.
Editor

NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS

Royce Barclay has returned to Guilin, to resume teaching, and most interestingly to resume working as frontman in a restaurant with his Chinese partners.

Stan Boyle has been appointed a Foreign Consultant to the Changsha People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries.

Catherine Harrington, is now Head of School, Language and Communication, Fuzhou Napier College, Fuzhou, capital of Fujian Province.

Her daughter, **Nathalie**, has returned from China to commence as a border at Hamilton Diocesan School for Girls. Nathalie, incidentally, is now fluent in both Mandarin, and Liuyang dialect. **Emma Yao** will be helping her to maintain her efficiency, and help further development.

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REMEMBER

When you are emailing, writing, or talking to friends, here in New Zealand, and overseas, we have an excellent web site to keep people informed and up to date on what is happening in the Branches, information about our ongoing overseas commitments and projects, links to other web sites, information about teaching positions in China, and as they say in the advertisements MUCH MORE !

www.nzchinasociety.org.nz

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S NOTEBOOK – January 2004

Margaret Cooper JP – 60 Matua Road, Tauranga eatcoop@clear.net.nz
National Secretary: Jennifer McMurray - mcmurrayjennifer@hotmail.com
Website: www.nzchinasociety.org.nz

GONG XI FA CAI HAPPY NEW YEAR

Years of the Monkey: 1908, 1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004



Nominations are currently being called for the Prominent Persons and Leadership Tour 2004 from May 9th – 21st. The tour coincides with the 50th anniversary celebration of CPAFFC. Similar delegations from Australia, Canada and United States will be attending these festivities and a special Friendship Forum in Chongqing. The programme for the Friendship Forum is as follows:

Morning: Introduction of visitors
Welcome remarks by Madam Li Xiaolin
Welcome remarks by Vice Mayor of Chongqing
Remarks by the Presidents of the Friendship Associations of Australia, Canada, New Zealand and United States
Presentations and discussion by visiting associations

Afternoon: How do we develop our cause of friendship in the new century?
What creations can we make to enrich our activities?
How do we attract new members, especially young members?
How do we improve our financial situation?
How do we improve cooperation among the different associations?
Discussions with representatives of Chongqing Municipal, Sichuan, Guizhou and Gansu Provincial Friendship Association. On Friendship provinces and cities, exchanges in education and cultural fields, tourism and study tours, investment.

Branches are asked to urgently consider appropriate leaders and prominent persons and have nominations in by 18 February. All Branches have been forwarded the nomination forms.

21 February 2004: The National Executive Meeting is being held in Wellington. Branches please forward any items of business onto your nearest National Executive member.

A successful visit to New Zealand by Vice-Commerce Minister Ma Xiuhong The recent visit by this prominent Chinese official highlighted the importance of the friendship between New Zealand and China.

The Society's public tour 'The Best of China/Yangtze Three Gorges Tour' from April 25 – May 13 is proving very popular with 18 people confirmed. Only another six seats are available. This tour was deferred in 2003 because of SARS. The Tours Committee are also planning a Silk Road Tour later this year.

Tentative Dates for the 2004 New Zealand China Friendship Society Conference in Tauranga are the 4th & 5th of July. Confirmation will be made at the National Executive Meeting on the 21st February. I will endeavour to keep everyone totally informed on the conference in the coming months.

Margaret Cooper JP
National President

ANNUAL BRANCH - CONSULATE PICNIC

This is to be held early in March as in previous years, at Wainui Reserve. (the exact date should be available by the night of our General Meeting on Feb, 18th) Take the road to Whale Bay, and about 4ks out, the Reserve is a clearly marked turn off on the right hand side of the road. As in past years we hope to be joined by, Her Excellency Mme Yang Xiuping, Consul General, and members of the Auckland Consulate. Members, families and friends are invited to join us on this happy occasion. If you know of people home hosting Chinese students, or Chinese families near you, ask them, Tauranga and Rotorua Branches are cordially invited to join us. We take a picnic lunch and share the meal together. There is a lovely beach, with safe swimming between the flags and it's a wonderful place to fly kites. Those wishing to travel in convoy **meet in the Countdown car park (corner of Anglesea and Liverpool Sts.), at 10.30 am** In the event of wet weather, or to learn of the date, m ring Stan 8474504, Meryl, 8435260 or Ian 8238745

RECIPE

Each month we will ask someone to contribute a favourite recipe. To kick the ball off here is one of mine, a favourite, because it's very tasty, simple, and quick to prepare and cook.

Honey - glazed Mushrooms.

300 g button mushrooms	Serves four
1 tablespoon peanut oil	
1 tablespoon honey	
1 tablespoon soy sauce	
1 teaspoon of sesame oil.	

Wipe mushrooms with damp paper towel and trim the stalks. Heat the oil in a wok and stirfry for 1 minute. Add the honey and soy sauce, lower the heat, cover, and simmer for 3 minutes. Uncover, and cook until the sauce reduces and thicken stirring to glaze the mushrooms. Turn off the heat, sprinkle with sesame oil and mix. Serve hot or cold with other Chinese dishes,



Yangtze 3-Gorges Cruise



plus Beijing, Xi'an, Sichuan & Shanghai

April 25 – May 13

A chance to enjoy the wonders of the Yangtze River's spectacular Three Gorges and also visit the the world's greatest dam.

PLUS the magnificent sights of Beijing, Xi'an – Home of the Terracotta Army, historic Sichuan Province including the Chengdu Panda Institute, Wuhan, and vibrant Shanghai – economic powerhouse of modern China

Includes: Wuhan,

Yichang, Yangtze Dam Tour, 4-Day Gorges cruise, Chongqing and much more.

A Fully Escorted Quality Tour organised by the NZ China Friendship Society and led by Society National President Margaret Cooper

— “We know China Best”.

Maximum size of tour party 24;
seats allocated strictly on basis of \$500 deposits received.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Tel: Margaret Cooper Tel 5766-378 (evenings)

- OR NZCFS National Tours Committee : Fax: 07 5786-429 ; Email: chinatours@value.net.nz

Estimated All Inclusive Cost

\$6498.00

Includes:

ALL transport outside New Zealand, ALL meals (in China), ALL accommodation (twin share),
ALL sightseeing, ALL transfers, ALL departure taxes.



Fully escorted by New Zealand Tour Leader experienced in Chinese conditions , & English speaking Chinese guides through-out)



猴

Year of the Monkey

How to write
the sign :

猴



Monkeys are always alert and can feel surroundings even as they are thoroughly engaged in conversation. Monkeys are sociable and have an active outside life. Monkeys sympathize with people and they in turn trust you with their secrets. Monkeys can forgive, but never forget and can be revengeful if somebody wrongs them several times. They wait their turn for the perfect opportunity and nothing can stop them from achieving a goal. They have a lively love life. Monkeys are good at making people comfortable and even the most shy individuals open up to them. Having a very attractive openness, and as a partner they are reliable, adaptable and cheerful. Inherently brainy, monkeys very rarely fail in their mission. They are good at assessing risk and financial problems. Monkeys are intellectual and their memory is incredible. They don't care what opinions others may have of them. They know they are lucky, and they also know they have the power to change things when convenience calls. Monkeys are virtually unsinkable! If people try to trick monkeys, they will probably catch them. They never make a move without a plan. They are great strategists. They can spot an opportunity in any form. They never miss a trick! They improve and try to do things better, and often amaze even themselves. They are the ultimate diplomats and slip in and out of difficulties with ease. Monkeys are always out in front! Dragons and rats will match up with the monkey. Famous people like Will Smith, Julius Caesar, Lord Byron, Elizabeth Taylor, de Vinci, Harry S. Truman, and Jennifer Anniston are signed under the monkey.



N.Z.China Friendship Society

If unclaimed please return to

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