

**NEWSLETTER      FEBRUARY      2005**



**NZ CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY  
HAMILTON BRANCH**

**GENERAL MEETING:**

**Sunday February 20th 2005**

WCA COMMUNITY CENTRE LEWIS ST GLENVIEW

**Presidential Visit and Welcome to Hebei Teachers**

**This is a Luncheon Meeting**

**NOTE Starting time    12,00 pm**

**This is an opportunity for members to meet our National President Margaret Cooper who will be our guest speaker. and to welcome to the Branch the current group of teachers from Hebei, who are completing their Masters Degrees at the University of Waikato.**

**Editor's Comments.**

**In wishing you all good fortune, health and prosperity for the year of the Rooster, I draw your attention to the notices of upcoming events in February. Lets hope this summer weather lasts. Secretary Meryl, Treasurer Diane, and myself are all back from our various stints overseas, and look forward to a great year. Vice President Ian and his family have just returned from a short break in Penang, Malaya. We have some really interesting speakers lined up and plan to organise some social outings throughout the year One such event will be our annual picnic with the new Consul General and members of his staff at Raglan. A tentative date for this is Sunday March 20th, but full details will be in the March newsletter.**

## OFFICE HOLDERS 2005

**President** Stan Boyle Ph/ Fax 847 4504 [stanzb@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stanzb@xtra.co.nz)

### Vice Presidents

Meryl Lanting Ph. 843 5260 [meryl.l@xtra.co.nz](mailto:meryl.l@xtra.co.nz)  
Ian Howat Ph. 8392341 [ian@hls.co.nz](mailto:ian@hls.co.nz)

**Secretary** Meryl Lanting

**Treasurer** Diane Lanting Ph. 843 8009 [dianz@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dianz@xtra.co.nz)

### Committee

Muriel Adams Ph, 839 4488

Jenevere Foreman Ph. 838 1312

Harry van den Berg Ph.

Linda Tai Ph. 7 889 7397

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

**Subs are now due and Treasurer Diane would appreciate the receipt of these as soon as possible.**

**Diane's address**  
61 Sunnyhills Ave  
Melville  
Hamilton

## The Year Of The Rooster



**1921, 1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005**

People born in the Year of the Rooster are deep thinkers, capable, and talented. They like to be busy and are devoted beyond their capabilities and are deeply disappointed if they fail. People born in the Rooster Year are often a bit eccentric, and often have rather difficult relationship with others. They always think they are right and usually are!

They frequently are loners and though they give the outward impression of being adventurous, they are timid. Rooster people's emotions like their fortunes, swing very high to very low. They can be selfish and too outspoken, but are always interesting and can be extremely brave. They are most compatible with Ox, Snake, and Dragon.

**NEW ZEALAND CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY  
PRESIDENT'S NOTEBOOK - JANUARY 2005**  
National President Margaret Cooper [gatcoop@clear.net.nz](mailto:gatcoop@clear.net.nz)  
National Secretary Debra Wang [debraian@sohu.com](mailto:debraian@sohu.com)  
Website: [www.nzchinasociety.org.nz](http://www.nzchinasociety.org.nz)

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**Dear Members**

*Another exciting year is here and the highlight will be the National conference being held in Christchurch 17 – 19 June 2005.*

*The negotiations for the Free Trade Agreement between New Zealand and China to be signed next year is wonderful for New Zealand and it will certainly raise the profile of trading with China and there will be some negative impact as well. Our society objective is to foster friendship between the two countries and it is not our intention to become actively involved in this matter, however always refer interested people in the negotiations to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Wellington.*

**Brief summary from Guozhong Liu, Shandan Bailie School.**

In January 2004 after receiving funds from NZCF and VASS for the rural women legal training project, commenced the first group training in April, total of over 100 women from the whole county for the five days training that covered marriage, women rights, baby care and other related matters to rural women's daily lives.

From May to August, the training team went to 10 different townships and another 400 women attended the training. In October Sally Russell (Hawkes Bay Branch President) came to evaluate the results of the training. Special thanks to NZCFS, Sally Russell and Dave Bromwich for their hard work running the project.

In May former New Zealand Ambassador Mr John McKinnon visited the school. While Mr McKinnon was at the school the Governor of Gansu and also the Mayor of Zhangye met to talk about Rewi Alley and the Bailie School. The meeting was shown on TV gaining good publicity for the school.

In September the Silk Road Tour 2004 led by Mr & Mrs Bain visited the school.

2005 is already shaping us to be a busier year with another visit scheduled by the 2005 Silk Road Tour in September. (Full report available on our website)

**Reminder to Branches:**

- *The Photographic exhibition from The People's Republic of China Embassy available in 2005 for branches to promote China today (Contact the Chinese Embassy for further details)*
- *Best of China Tour 2005 - proving very popular and Silk Road Tour 2005 attracting new travellers to China. (for further information view our website [nzchinasociety.org.nz](http://nzchinasociety.org.nz))*
- *Remember to enter the Best Branch Activity Award. The 2005 award will be presented at the National Conference dinner.*

**News from Beijing Review**

**SARS Vaccine.** The Chinese Government announced in December that the development of the world's first SARS vaccine has finished phase-one clinical testing and has proven to be both safe and effective. All 36 volunteers did not report any abnormal physical reactions after being injected with the vaccine. Antibodies were found in 24 of the volunteers.

Yin Weidong, head of the research team, said that the 56 day test aimed at verifying the safety of the vaccine. His research team has already set technical standards for manufacturing the vaccine.

The drug will not be ready for commercial use until it completes two more phases of clinical tests, according to Yin.

**Multi-Satellite Control.** China has created its own multi-satellite automatic control system, marking a transformation in the methods by which it manages its satellites. The traditional manual method of supervision will no longer be needed with the new system, which is expected to improve the management efficiency and identify and fix common technical defects while the satellites are in orbit. China has launched 45 satellites so far.

Margaret Cooper JP  
National President

### **Highlights from the November National Executive Meeting**

\$5,000 grant to the Chinese Language Foundation NZCFS is now a founding Sponsor. Payment will be over a 3 year period.

China New Zealand Video Challenge – to be supported in 2005 (the proposal put to the Executive by George Andrews from Auckland was endorsed)

Photographic exhibition from The People's Republic of China Embassy available in 2005 for branches to promote China today  
Best of China Tour 2005 - proving very popular and Silk Road Tour 2005 attracting new travellers to China. (for further information view our website [nzchinasociety.org.nz](http://nzchinasociety.org.nz))

Linda Hart from Tairua – 2004/2005 Kathleen Hall Scholarship winner.

2005 National Conference 17 – 19 June – Christchurch Branch will have an outline of the planned programme in early 2005.

Best Branch Activity Award. Chinese Embassy is sponsoring the trophy for this important award. The 2005 award will be presented at the National Conference dinner.

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### **Astronomical Telescope**

China's largest domestically developed near-earth objects telescope has been installed and will soon be put into operation. The telescope, the world's fifth largest, is able to automatically search and calculate the position of near-earth comets and minor planets to determine their exact orbit.

Experts say, in the next 20 years, the telescope could help to find 500 to 1,000 minor celestial bodies crossing Earth's orbit that are likely bring disasters to the blue planet.

### **Income Growth**

Chinese farmers' per-capita income rose nearly 11.5 percent to more than 2,100 Yuan year on year during the first three quarters of 2004, according to the National Bureau of Statistics. Statistics show that farmers' income from wages registered an increase of 13.8 percent, while their average income from sales of farm products rose nearly 25 percent. Over the same period, the average tax and fees for each farmer fell by half.

## IMPORTANT NOTICES!

"Kung hei fatt choy!"

### **"Chinese New Year Party"**

**Saturday 12 February 2005 from 6.30pm**

Waikato Chinese Community Centre, 47 Lewis St, Glenview

It's a PotLuck Dinner so bring enough food for your family or group to share  
& remember to bring your own eating utensils & dinner plates.  
(Dessert will be provided by the Association)

Entry fees: \$5 pp with plate & \$10 pp without plate Children under 5 will be free

There will be a show for the children, lucky draws & you can play mah jong or other board games afterwards (bring along your own board games please) or table tennis or badminton in the hall!

**Special show for the children & the "big" kids -  
Magic Clown "Presto" will be entertaining us so bring along  
your children, grandparents & all to enjoy the show!**



### **THE LANTERN FESTIVAL**

**Saturday 19 February 2005 at Turtle Lake, Hamilton Gardens**

If it is fine weather, think about having a picnic dinner with family & friends first,  
then at nightfall join us in the Lantern parade around the lake.

Times: about 6.30pm for your picnic & approx. 8.30pm for the parade.

Bring along your own colourful lanterns & lighters if needed.

*Everyone will be welcome to join in so help us to spread the word!*

### **Games Evening Saturday February 5<sup>th</sup>**

W.C.A. Community Centre Lewis St. Glenview. Starts 7.30pm.

## **INDIGO FESTIVAL .**

### **Here is the tentative programme:**

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 26 February - 20 March                 | Indigo Treasures Exhibition,      |
| Waikato Museum foyer - 10am - 4pm.     |                                   |
| 14 - 19 March                          | Films at Rialto Cinema - to be    |
| advised.                               |                                   |
| 17 March                               | Taste of Indigo, Waikato Migrant  |
| Resource Centre - 6 - 9pm.             |                                   |
| 18 March                               | Indigo Style fashion show,        |
| Waikato Museum Level 5 from 7pm - 9pm. |                                   |
| 19 March                               | Indigo Parade, Claudelands Park - |
| 10am - 4pm.                            |                                   |
| 19 March                               | Race Unity Day, Claudelands Park  |
| - 10am - 4pm.                          |                                   |
| 19 March                               | Waikato Migrant Resource Centre   |
| opening, 10.30am.                      |                                   |