

# NZ China Friendship Soc. Hibiscus Coast Branch Friends News

朋友們消息

péng yǒu men xiǎo xī

May 2007



Patron:	Philip Burton	
Branch President:	Marie Greetham	09 426 2274
Secretary:	Allen Crosby	09 427 4009
Treasurer:	Dicky Hutchings	09 426 4480
Editor:	Duncan France	09 424 8809

**Yum cha**, (飲茶, pin yin: yǐn chá) a term in [Cantonese](#), literally meaning "drinking [tea](#)", refers to the custom of eating small servings of different foods while sipping [Chinese tea](#) in Cantonese speaking areas of [southern China](#).

It is an integral part of the culinary culture of [Guangdong Province](#) and [Hong Kong](#). In any city with a sizeable population of [Cantonese people](#), to *yum cha* is a tradition on weekend mornings, and whole families gather to chat and eat [dim sum](#)



A tea-drinker tapping the table with her fingers to show gratitude to the member of the party who has re-filled her cup.

(點心, pinyin: diǎn xīn) and drink [Chinese tea](#).

Yum cha is also a morning ritual for the elderly to spend a good part of the morning after early morning exercise of [tai chi](#) or a walk. The tea is important, for it is said to help digest the rich foods which are generally on offer. In the past, people went to a [teahouse](#) to *yum cha*, but [dim](#)

[sum restaurants](#) have been gaining overwhelming popularity of late.



Typical dim sum breakfast in Hong Kong. From left to right and top to bottom: shrimp dumplings (*ha gau*), jasmine tea, chicken and vegetable congee (two bowls with spoons), hot sauce dip (red), steamed dumplings, rice noodle rolls with soy sauce (*cheong fun*, on plate), steamed buns with pork filling (*Cha Siu Bau*).



A lady serving dim sum in a restaurant in Hong Kong.



## Recent Events

**April 26,** Talk by Rewi Kemp on '1421', at 2pm, Pohutokawa Room, Whangaparaoa Library.

Rewi gave a very informative talk that ranged widely over many aspects of the exploration efforts of the Chinese fleet in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Unfortunately he was unable to run the DVDs, so we hope to see these at a later date.

**May 4-6** Society's National Conference, Nelson. See next page for photos.

It was a very informative conference, with talks on 'Local government in China', 'The economic impact of China', and 'The history of the Society'.

We were updated on the He Ming Qing scholarship whereby a Chinese girl is supported by the society in her training to be a nurse). All branches are asked if they will contribute to this fund.

The National Executive asked Marie to cut a very large cake celebrating the birth of our Branch.

Everyone visited Nelson's Chinese Garden which will be excellent when finished at end of this year.

Saturday evening there was an excellent dinner at which the award for the Best Society Activity, 2007, was presented by His Excellency the Ambassador, Zhong Yuanyuan. **WE WON!!!**

Not only do we get a fine trophy (for a year) and a cheque for \$200, but our efforts received great plaudits from the National President. She held our Branch up as a shining example to the other Branches, and that our effort should be a template to be followed!

**May 8** A teaching course on **Mandarin for Tourists** (initiated by us), has started at Orewa College. For further details, please contact Allen Crosby.

## Membership News

Membership stands at 28 incl. 'additional' family members and 3 Corporate members.

## Programme

(meetings are usually on 4th Thurs of each month):

**May 20,** Trip to North Sea Restaurant, Albany, for Yum Cha. Leaving New World car-park, Orewa, at 11.30am – car-pooling.

**June 21 (Monday),** Talk by Prof. Bill Willmott (NZ's leading expert on China) on **The current situation in China, problems and progress** (7pm, Orewa College Lecture theatre).

**July 20,** Talk by Joan Campbell, M.B., Ch.B., Clin. Acup. (Nanjing), on **Aspects of Acupuncture**, (time and venue to be decided).

**August 16<sup>th</sup>,**

**September 30<sup>th</sup>,** Sunday, Banquet for China National Day (Mon Oct 1st).

## Forthcoming Events 最新動態

### John Yang\*'s Solo Exhibition

15 – 31 July 2007, 9:00am – 5:00pm

*Opening Function:* 5:00-7:00pm on 15 July.  
Art Gallery, level 4, Aotea Centre, Auckland City

*Admission:* Free

\* [www.aucklandartgallery.com](http://www.aucklandartgallery.com)

### (6th) New Zealand Chinese Arts Exhibition

5 – 25 August 2007, 9:00am – 5:00pm

*Opening Function:* 5:00-7:00pm  
on 5 August.

Art Gallery, level 4,  
Aotea Centre, Auckland

*Admission:* Free

### (5th) Chinese film Festival in New Zealand

September-October 2007

*Exact dates:* To be determined  
Skycity, Auckland

*Admission:* Tickets for Sale

### 2008 First Night Auckland Celebration

31 December 2007

6:00pm– 2:00am 1 January 2008

Aotea Centre, Auckland

## Learn-Chinese Corner

Hello everyone	nǐ mén hǎo 你们好
Hello everyone (in class)	dà jiā hǎo 大家好
How are you?	nǐ hǎo ma? 你好吗?
I am exceptionally well	wǒ fēi cháng hǎo 我.非常.好
I am extremely well	wǒ tài hǎo le 我.太好了
I am not very well	wǒ bù tài hǎo 我.不太.好
I am very tired	wǒ hěn lèi 我.很累
I am extremely tired	wǒ fēi cháng lèi 我.非常.累



Conference top table, with Alistair Shaw (National Secretary, Wellington Branch), Eric Livingstone (National Vice-President, Christchurch Branch), Margaret Cooper (National President), and June Clark (President, Nelson Branch).  
Note our Best Activity Application folder on table.

Marie cutting our 'birthday' cake, aided by Duncan.  
Note the picture of the first Chinese resident of New Zealand (behind Duncan's right shoulder)



Nelson's unfinished Chinese Garden

His Excellency, Zhong Yuanyuan (PRC Ambassador) and Marie, posing for photographs, after H.E. had presented Marie with the trophy for the 'Best Activity 2007' award. Margaret Cooper (National President) is commentating.



#### Annual Subscription:

Personal	\$20
Family	\$30
Corporate	\$50

Contact: Dicky Hutchings (Branch Treasurer)  
09-426-4480  
dickyh@xtra.co.nz