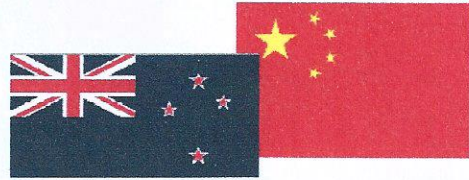


NZ China Friendship Soc.
Hibiscus Coast Branch
Friends News

朋友們消息

péng yǒu men xiǎo xī

September 2007



| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Patron: | Philip Burton | |
| Branch President: | Rhyl Jansen | 09 426 1547 |
| Secretary: | Allen Crosby | 09 427 4009 |
| Treasurer: | Dicky Hutchings | 09 426 4480 |
| Editor: | Duncan France | 09 424 8809 |

Marie Greetham

1939-2007

President HBC Branch

Nov 2006- 25 Aug 2007



Our President has sadly passed away. Marie had fought her cancer so gallantly, and beat it! But she couldn't beat the opportunist infection that snuck-up on her chemically-battered body. What irony that it was the chemotherapy that beat the cancer that hit her immune system!

Your editor cannot do better than publish the NZCFS national obituary (see next page), though here is our suggested modification which didn't make the finally published version.

As do all those who worked with Marie, the new Hibiscus Coast Branch feels a great loss - of a cheerful and humorous friend, a practical leader, and a positive, determined and personable role model. Enthusiasm summed up Marie's life at HBC as in her earlier life. The HBC Branch is determined to build on Marie's legacy and, drawing inspiration from her memory, move towards even greater friendship between the peoples of China and New Zealand.

Suffice it to say that Marie was an inspiration to all those met her. Her sense of humour (sometimes 'wicked!'), her common-sense, her knowledge of many things Chinese, her very presence, will be sorely missed.

Marie is interred at North Shore Cemetary, Schnapper Rock Road, Albany, Auckland, in an area where a number of Chinese are also buried. She would be happy to know that.

NEW ZEALAND CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY INC

PRESIDENT'S NOTEBOOK SEPTEMBER 2007

National President Margaret Cooper: eatcoop@clear.net.nz

National Secretary: alistair.shaw@vuw.ac.nz

Website: www.nzchinasociety.org.nz

Dear National Executive and members

I am writing this month's notebook in the absence of our National President and South Island Vice President. President Margaret Cooper is on the way to China, leading a group of Rewi Alley's friends and family from New Zealand to attend the Rewi Alley commemorations on 7th September in Beijing and on 10th September at the Shandan Bailie School. Vice President Eric Livingstone is on holiday in Perth.

The 2007 Silk Road and Rewi Alley Commemoration Tour, led by National Executive members Bill Willmott and Diana Madgin, departs 3rd September. Best wishes and happy journey to all travellers.

Marie Greetham

It is with great sadness that I have to inform you that long-time member Marie Greetham died on 25th August after a long battle with illness. Marie was President of the Hibiscus Coast Branch which she had been key in founding, had been President of the Auckland Branch and had served on the National Executive of the Society.

Marie and her husband Bob first joined the New Zealand China Friendship Society (NZCFS) in 1982; their interest in China heightened by backpacking through the People's Republic the year before. Marie and Bob joined their local (Auckland) branch and they were quickly elected onto the Branch Committee. Their tireless undertaking of the less than glamorous tasks (Bob used to refer to himself as the tea-lady) was a small measure of their commitment.

Marie was to return to China a half-a-dozen times over the next twenty-five years. The most significant of the early trips was when she joined an NZCFS Study Tour in the early 1990s and spent three months studying Chinese Language at Beijing University in the Chinese capital.

Marie served as Secretary to the Auckland Branch for an extended period and was President for two years, 2002-2003. In addition she was elected to the national committee for four years, ending in 2006 when poor health meant she was unable to seek election again.

In September 2006, Marie was selected to represent the National Society on a Leaders and Prominent Persons' Tour to China. The tour coincided with a Friendship Forum where groups from Australia, Canada, Guyana and the United States joined the New Zealand delegation to discuss deepening and extending the relationship between the peoples of China and those from the Americas and Oceania. Being selected on that tour was meant to bookend Marie's involvement in China friendship activities. Her illness and a move to Orewa had meant she was unable to continue to participate in Auckland Branch activities. But back on the Hibiscus Coast Marie was invited by a number of groups to talk about the PRC; both the recent trip and as a result of her long involvement with the NZCFS. Her warm and friendly manner and the power of her argument for closer relations with China attracted others to her cause. On February 24th the Hibiscus Coast launched the China Friendship Society's newest branch. The Branch, and its contribution to the ongoing work of the National Society, will carry Marie's legacy towards greater friendship between the peoples of China and New Zealand.

The Society has sent a donation to the Cancer Society, in accordance with Marie's wishes. On behalf of National President Margaret Cooper and the National Executive, I would like to convey our condolences to Bob and the family.

2007/2008 Calendar of Events

Attached is a list of events in 2007/2008. This is being added to the Society website and will be updated regularly. If branches or members have any other events of national interest, please let me know.

Best regards

Christine Strickland, North Island Vice-President

NEW ZEALAND CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY INC

2007/2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2007

| | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Saturday | February 17 | National Executive Meeting | Wellington |
| Sunday | February 18 | Chinese New Year - Year of the Pig | |
| Saturday | February 24 | Hibiscus Coast Branch Inauguration | Orewa |
| | February 27-March 8 | Visit by Mr Qing Boming (CPAFFC) | New Zealand |
| | April 9-17 | Principals' Tour Jointly organised by Auckland University Confucius Institute and NZCFS | China |
| | April 23-May 5 | Moppetts Beijing Opera Troupe Tour | Auckland, Rotorua, Wellington, Christchurch |
| | April 26-29 | Sister Cities Conference | Te Anau |
| | April 30-May 1 | Visit by CPAFFC Mme Li Xiaolin, Mr Xei Yuan and Mr Liu Yanling: Rewi Alley's Commemoration | Christchurch |
| Friday | May 4 | National Executive Meeting | Nelson |
| | May 4-6 | National Conference & AGM | Nelson |
| Sunday | May 6 | National Executive Meeting | Nelson |
| | May 26-June 6 | Prominent Persons & Leadership Tour | China |
| Saturday | July 21 | National Executive Meeting | Wellington |
| | July 24-August 2 | Qing Mei Jing Yue Chinese Quartet | Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch |
| | September 3-25 | Silk Road Tour and Rewi Alley commemorations | China |
| | September 4-15 | Rewi Alley Commemoration Tour | China |
| Tuesday | September 25 | Mid-Autumn (Moon) Festival | |
| Monday | October 1 | China National Day | |
| | October 19-November 3 | Chinese Pianist Sa Chen with NZSO | Wellington, Napier, Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin |
| Saturday | November 10 | National Executive Meeting | Wellington |

2008

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Thursday | February 7 | Chinese New Year -- Year of the Rat | |
| Saturday | February .. | National Executive Meeting | Wellington |
| Thursday | February 21 | Lantern Festival | |
| Thursday-Saturday | April 10-12 | Sister Cities Conference | Rotorua |
| Friday-Saturday | May 16-18 | National Conference | Masterton |

Recent Events

August 30, Thursday, 2pm

(Whangaparaoa Library – Pohutokawa Room).

Duncan France gave a copiously illustrated talk on his China trip. Even though it lasted 2 hours, the audience, including several who will soon be also visiting China, seemed to enjoy it.

Membership News

Rhyl Jansen, as the only Vice-President, constitutionally steps into Marie's role. At the last committee meeting, Helen Li and Simon Yan (of Star Restaurant fame) were co-opted, and welcomed onto your committee.

Membership stands at 29 incl. 'additional' family members and 2 corporate members.

Please note
finalised date

Programme

October 7 (Sunday), 7pm. Dinner in celebration of China National Day

(in fact, 1st October)

at Star Restaurant, Whangaparaoa Plaza.

We have invited Mr Ma Zhongren, the Chinese Consul-general, and his staff, to share the celebrations. We will contact Chinese students or others living locally via the language schools & colleges etc. We will be entertained by several Chinese musical items.

Price: \$30 for adults and children 10 years old and older, children up to 10 are free.

For tickets, please e-mail Duncan France, dsf@clear.net.nz, **before Oct 1st**. **Payment will be on the night**

Why not learn to speak Mandarin?

Tutor: Shelley, wife of Simon Yan

Where? Simon's Star Buffet
Restaurant
Whangaparaoa Plaza

Cost: \$5 per hour per person

If interested, ring Allen Crosby 09-427 4009

Confucius Institute

Level 4, 58 Symmonds Street, Auckland

- Prof. Chan Wan Yiu is presently running classes in **Chinese Calligraphy + Chinese Brush painting** – Saturday mornings
- Join Confucius Institute (\$30 for life) to access their **excellent library**

Contact 09 373 7599 ext. 84493, for details.

Forthcoming Events 最新動態

CELEBRATION of 58th China National Day AND 35th Anniversary of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations between PRC and New Zealand

❖ **Concert** by local Chinese performers. It will include singing, dancing, Beijing Opera, and musical instruments, and will last about 2 and a half hours.

October 6 (Saturday) at the ASB Theatre of Aotea Centre.

One session only: 3:00pm

Admission: Free to public with entrance tickets.

If you want **free tickets**
for the concert,
contact Jim He:

jimhe@nz.nufarm.com

We could car-pool.

If you are interested, please contact
Duncan France: dsf@clear.net.nz

As part of the Celebrations:

❖ Photography Exhibition

Display of over 80 photographs highlighting all aspects of **Today's China**, at the Aotea Centre: **Air NZ Foyer (Level 5)**

3 – 10 October 2007