



NZ China Friendship Society

Dunedin Branch

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2016

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

September ... Celebrate NZ Chinese Language Week and Moon Festival

August meeting review

Feedback and Members News

Review: August Meeting

**Archaeology:
the China-
Dunedin
Connection
Speaker: Dr
Anne Ford**



We thoroughly enjoyed learning about Anne's archaeological work and her insights into the Chinese way of viewing history. I particularly appreciated Anne's personal comments about how she was able to gain entry into the field of working in China and her enthusiasm for the people she works with, and her discoveries. (Ed)

Responses from some of those present:

We greatly benefited from Anne's years of diligent study and we are sure that is the reason she was given this privileged opportunity. It would be great to have further contact.



A thoroughly enjoyable and informative evening.

Really enjoyed Anne's talk last night!

That was my first time to an Archaeology presentation.

I am amazed and astonished how archaeology reveals BC history.





See what's on
around the
country

**12-18
September 2016**

<http://nzclw.com/>



<https://www.facebook.com/New-Zealand-Chinese-Language-Week-480944268727088/>

ACTIVITIES AT DUNEDIN CHINESE GARDEN



Language Classes, Movies, Children's
Activities, Quiz, Poetry Competition....

<http://www.dunedinchinesegarden.com/events/chinese-garden/nz-chinese-language-week>

CHINESE MOON FESTIVAL THURS 15 SEPTEMBER

A day of celebration at the Garden



<http://www.dunedinchinesegarden.com/events/moon-festival>

**NZCFS DUNEDIN will celebrate on
WEDNESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER with a
meal at Wong Gok Restaurant.**

**A chance to celebrate the festival and
Chinese Language week, particularly
with members of the current language
course. So branch members and
language course members - join us for a
meal. 7.30pm. \$25**

**If coming, contact committee member
Annie Zong by 10 September
anniezong@hotmail.com**



MANDARIN CLASS

The current class is underway with a full complement of 21 students.

Interested in learning Mandarin? Beginner class or intermediate conversation class. Contact Martha now about future courses.

"Please send me info about the NZCFS Mandarin Course" (for those not at school or University Mandarin course).

Send to the Course Facilitator, Dunedin NZCFS
Branch member Martha Bell:
bell3patman@orcon.net.nz 021 067 1858

MEMBERS News...

Branch President Paul Fawcett...
...in China at a Pharmaceutical
conference.

Dr Ian Hall – our “mushroom connection speaker from earlier this year – **reports from Tibet:**

I am heading towards the end of my stay in Tibet and feeling a bit embarrassed for not keeping in touch with the folks back home. So here is a token gesture.

I have been allowed to go to lots of places during this current stay in Tibet so a couple of weeks ago we went east on the main road from Lhasa to Chengdu as far as Bomi, about 600 km away. The start and finish are superb stretches of 4 lane motorway carrying not too much traffic. However, the middle bit runs through several river valleys and over mountains and is in the process of being upgraded. In the meantime it is something of a challenge. The attached photo is one of the more demanding bits. The journey took us something over 20 hours - one way. Even so it was one of the most beautiful roads I have been on.

The other photo is of the most poignant place I

visited. It is just outside the small town of Yi Gong where in 2000 a massive 300-million cubic meter landslide of mud and rock dammed the Yigong River and created a lake that drowned Yi Gong

(<http://www.earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=78293>;
<http://visibleearth.nasa.gov/view.php?id=78293>).

A relief channel was cut but eventually the water broke through the dam made by the landslide and a wall of water, rocks and mud travelled down the river and wiped out three villages in India 2000 km away. You can see the two sides of the landslide in the photo. There are lots of web pages that talk about it such as <http://www.atmos.albany.edu/geology/webpages/yigong3m.html>.



and breaking news... a high honour to Dr Ian Hall... more in our next newsletter.

FEEDBACK

Good feedback on our blog last newsletter from “The Boy from Mosgiel”. You can read more from **Gavin Crombie**, now writing at <https://goodmaninchina.com/>

Good Man In China

HARD WON INSIGHTS FROM THE DRAGONS' LAIR



From...Ashley Cheng

After a year in New Zealand, as an MLA (Mandarin Language Assistant) working in Balclutha, what's it like to return “home” to Wuhan?



About the huge culture shock, I don't think I can simply identify it as positive or negative. It's just with my experience in New Zealand, now I have another country to compare with when I look at China. i.e., I have a different angle to see things happening in China. China is still a very young child going through its own development. There are a lot of problems going on in China, like pollution, aging population, decreasing demographic bounds and so many more.

I see a few positive things as well. For example, I was very surprised to find out that in China we do have blue sky and white clouds, it's just it is not as blue as the sky in New Zealand and it doesn't happen that often.

I was also stunned to find out that one can pay everything through alipay or an app called wechat, sort of a Chinese version of facebook, even the street vendors, so you don't have to carry any cash at all.

And it's very convenient to call a cab through some specified apps like Uber and Didi. It's quicker and cheaper than calling a standard taxi, and often the vehicles are so much better than taxis. You simply just need to put in your current position and your destination, then the registered drivers will get your information and the first driver who accept your request for a vehicle will show up in a few minutes, the quickest only 1 minute, and get you to your destination. It's not a new thing in China, but it is till now that I realised how convenient and amazing it is.

Life in China is totally different from life in NZ. It didn't take me long to get used to my old life style. But I miss my life in NZ as well as it's so very different. I miss the nice view, nice people, the English speaking environment and all the other different things in of New Zealand.

My major for my postgrad study is Interpreting Between Chinese and English. I'm determined to be the best I can be in that area though it'll be a challenge. Currently, I'm busy visiting friends and family. I'm enjoying it very much !



Wuhan First and second River Bridges (There are 8)



Balclutha Bridge

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/>

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REMINDER....

*A good chance to relax with people who
grew up in China, have lived in China,
want to go to China, are going to go to
China, have friends in China, have friends
in New Zealand, have photos of China,
are experts in some aspect of China, know
a little bit about China, want to know
more about China....*

Dunedin Branch NZ China Friendship
Society

Moon Festival Dinner 14 September

Contact Annie

SOCIAL MEDIA OF DUNEDIN

NZCFS Facebook:

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

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