



# NZ China Friendship Society

Dunedin Branch

**NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2017**

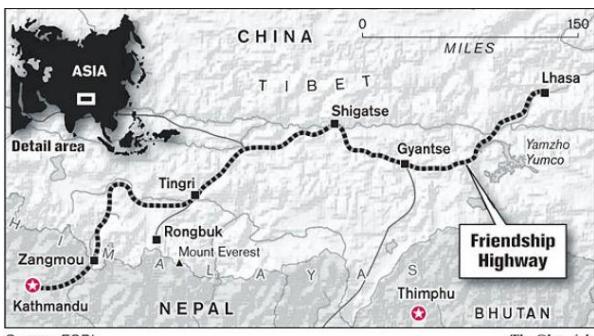
## IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Members News...Kim Wong

Branch President's report

August meeting – report

September – Cycling here and there



Dunedin Harbour  
Cycleway

**and more...**

## AUGUST MEETING

24 people heard a fascinating insight into the Belt and Road initiative from Professor Brian Moloughney. We appreciated his insights and there were lots of questions and discussion.



## From Branch President Craig Holmes:

Empire Building- Chinese Style

A few years ago, whilst engaged in a homestay visit in Kunming, our host invited me to watch a televised government announcement and documentary about a thing called the 'Maritime Silk Road'. Our host rightly supposed that, as the title suggested, it had something to do with ships and that I might be interested. And indeed I was.

The narrative and subtitles were moving too fast for my level of Chinese at that stage (I still read 汉子 han zi like an 8 year old Sichuan schoolboy), but the video pictures and maps were very informative and (con'd Page 6) ...

**Coming up: CYCLING IN TIBET**

**Branch member Rob Duffy talks  
about his 2016 cycle trip.**



*Informative talk ...*

*... Lovely supper*



*Good conversation...*

*Lots of discussion*



But first... A Saturday afternoon walk or cycle on the Harbour Cycleway. Meet for a leisurely walk or ride (you choose), then back to our venue for soup and dessert and presentation by Rob. For those who are less physical, or busy with spring gardening, work, shopping, family, or just plain lazy... or if the weather is less than wonderful - meet us at venue 2.

After a week of acclimatisation Rob spent 3 weeks with 6 cyclists (family members and friend) and a Tibetan support crew. The terrain was mostly on the Friendship Highway - an 800-kilometre scenic route connecting the capital of Tibet, Lhasa, with the Chinese/Nepalese border. It includes the westernmost part of China National Highway 318 (Shanghai-

Zhangmu) and crosses three passes over 5,000m before dropping to 1,750m at the border.

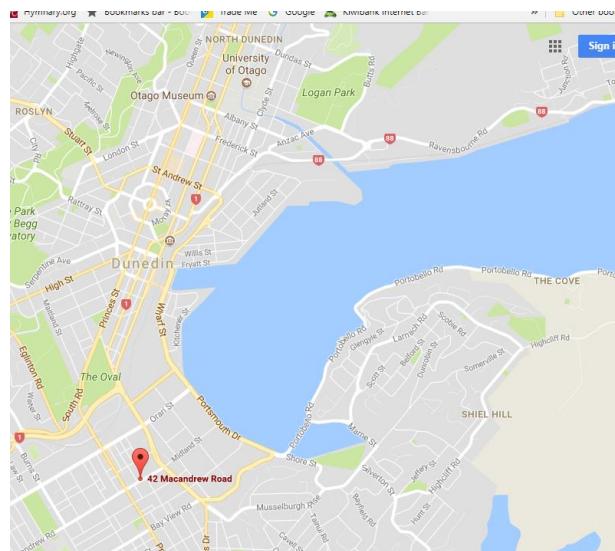


The group cycled 782km and drove many hundreds of kms, sightseeing the high country plateau, Namsto Lake (Tibet) and a primary school in hill country out of Kathmandu.



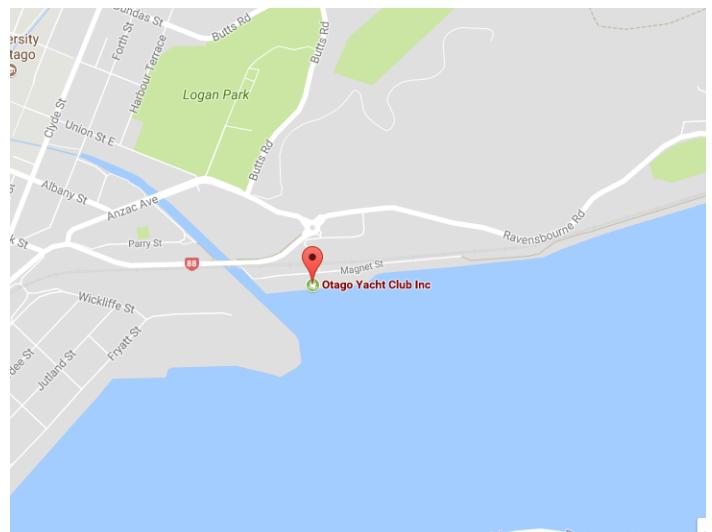
**Come and find out more...**

## Saturday 16 September



**Meet 1. For walk and/or ride: 3.30 pm  
Yacht Club Otago Harbour**

**25 Magnet St, North Dunedin**



## The Walkway/Cycleway Dunedin-Port Chalmers



*Wonderful, smooth path, great views*

### Meet 2. 5.00pm Tea and Talk

Mercy Room

Catholic Social Services Building (next to St Patrick's Basilica)

42 Macandrew Rd, South Dunedin

\$5.00 Please let secretary know if you are attending tea and talk.



A chance for a touch of fitness, and an interesting presentation. Some of Rob's photos...



## Dunedin Chinese Garden



**Moon Festival** Save the date!

Sunday 1 October



Receive regular updates from the Dunedin Chinese Garden by subscribing to the newsletter. It's a great way to keep up with the latest Garden news and events. You can unsubscribe at any time.

[Subscribe to the Dunedin Chinese Garden Newsletter](#)

**Mandarin Language Assistants from Confucius Institute, working in our Otago schools.**

**A COMMENT from MLA Bao Wenjuan (Bonnie) at Balclutha**



This term is the same as last term. We shift from this school to that school and from this classroom to next classroom. I am very busy but I like this job.

About some special thing we are doing, we had an open night day of SOHS at the end of last term. We decorated our Confucius Classroom as attached. Besides of this, we taught students how to use chopsticks, try to draw plums with a Chinese brush pen and straw, Play Chinese Chess, Listen some traditional Chinese instrument music, display some Chinese food recipes, show Peking Opera mask and TaiJi fun etc.

Next, we received an E-mail from Dunedin about Chinese Immersion Day on 18th of October. Maybe we three in Balclutha will go to Dunedin at that time.

(\*More about Chinese Language Week and Immersion day in our October newsletter. Ed)

## MEMBERS NEWS...

### Kimberly Wong

**Kimberley was introduced to our branch through the Mandarin Class in term two. She writes...**

*I was fortunate enough to be selected by Otago University to go on a 1 month language and culture exchange to China to the Shanghai University of Business and Economics in June/ July.*



*Studying in Shanghai was eye-opening to say the least. With over 24 million people in such a fast-paced city, I quickly realised that being assertive was of utmost importance. Although the month went by very quickly, I was still able to learn a lot about Chinese culture, its people, and business in China.*

*I attended various business lectures in China however I found the lecture on 'The Investment Environment in China' the most interesting. This lecture looked into the business drinking culture in China, localisation of employees and products, and*

*the importance of symbolism amongst Chinese consumers.*

*Additionally, I attended Chinese knot making classes and traditional Chinese dancing classes and performed a dance with my class at the end of the exchange which was out of my comfort zone but enabled me to make friends with local students.*



*On the weekends, I managed to travel to Hangzhou, Beijing and Huangshan. Hiking up the famous Yellow Mountains of Huangshan and walking the Great Wall of China were the highlights of my trip. It was great to learn about the rich history of China and moreover, made me very proud to be Chinese.*



*Before my exchange, I attended Mandarin lessons provided by the NZ China Friendship Society which I am very grateful for. Although it was only for a short period, I managed to learn important sentences which I tried out on locals in shops, restaurants and when asking for directions on the street.*

***Travelling to Shanghai has been the highlight of my year. Understanding the Chinese culture and people, and living in a different country pushed me out of my comfort zone and was both challenging and exciting. I can't wait to go back!***

***I have recently been fortunate enough to be awarded the Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia to do a Marketing internship in Zhuhai during Nov-Feb. I am super excited- Another chance to practise my Mandarin!***

Branch President's report...continued

I quickly realised that this was some sort of huge trade initiative being announced. How far it would progress, I had no idea.

Fast forward to last Wednesday night and Professor Brian Maloughney's fascinating talk about China's increasing commercial, *ergo* political, role in the Pacific region and its connection to what has now morphed into the Belt and Road Initiative; it was obvious how much this idea had become a reality since the Maritime Silk Road programme had aired in Kunming.

Is this empire building almost entirely by way of commerce and trade? Is it indeed being carried out in the very collectivist and inclusive way that *prima facie* it appears to be? If so, it's more than just a nod to Chinese collectivist culture and a bit of a change from the way we in the West have traditionally done things. In the West, our *modus operandi* over the past few hundred years has tended to be to "discover" a place which invariably and ironically, was natively-peopled, plant a flag, insert some settlers (usually in a fortified area giving the incumbents a big clue about what was likely to follow), then introduce an oversized military element to "protect our interests".

China is not averse to using a bit of modern military equipment, as we have seen in the Spratly's and at Gwadar, but perhaps realising that historically they're not very good at using it, then the more benign commercial trading

approach is seen as the best way forward. Having been brought up as a Cold War kid, I'm certainly inclined to view this option more favourably than that of threatening your neighbour with a four-minute warning of the impending arrival of a few buckets of instant sunshine as a way of improving ones trading position. 万事如意 !

More informed and diverse views on the subject can be found at, *inter alia*:<https://johnmenadue.com/james-oneill-the-belt-and-road-initiative-and-australian-foreign-policy-a-golden-opportunity/>

<http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/47725.htm>

## **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/>

### **For information about the Dunedin Branch NZCFS**

Contact: [dunedin@nzcfs.com](mailto:dunedin@nzcfs.com)

**President** Craig Holmes [advara@gmail.com](mailto:advara@gmail.com)

**Treasurer** Vivienne Child

vivholmes1@gmail.com 027 2808860

**Secretary** Colin Child

cchild@clear.net.nz 021 02222 679

### **SOCIAL MEDIA OF DUNEDIN NZCFS** Dunedin Facebook:

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

WeChat: 444858620



Twitter <https://twitter.com/nzchinasociety> to receive instant notification of NZCFS National News, Project Updates and more

