

President: Barbara Markland
Phone: (03) 544 4712 **email:** erm@xtra.co.nz
Secretary: Jeanette Jones
Phone: (03) 544 3322 **email:** yellowhouse63@yahoo.com
Website: www.nzchinasociety.org.nz



No. 5 – June 2018



June Meeting
Mandarin Language
Assistants



Friday, June 29, 5:30 p.m.
Hearing House



He Anni and Liu Shenzhen, who have been in Nelson for nearly a year, and Wang Lingling who arrived earlier this year, are the present Mandarin Language Assistants in Nelson. They are teaching in a number of schools in the region, as well as in the Mandarin classes at NMIT. These young ladies will be at the centre of this meeting as they tell us about themselves, their teaching, and their impressions of New Zealand.

This meeting is also an opportunity to farewell He Anni and Liu Shenzhen as they are coming to the end of their time in Nelson and will soon return home to China.

The meeting will be at the usual place, Hearing House, 354 Trafalgar Square (next to Synagogue Lane). A catered meal costs \$12, paid at the meeting. We start the meeting at 5:30, the meal arrives at 6p.m. and the guest speakers will begin at 7 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

**To arrange catering, please contact Barbara Markland
 by Monday, 25 June
 ph. (03)544 4712 text: 021 447 180 e-mail: erm@xtra.co.nz
 Please make sure she knows you are coming!**

Last meeting – Yangjiang Experience

Our May meeting, on May 18, held at Founders' Park Jaycee Room, was a celebration of our student cultural exchange with Liangyang Senior High School in sister-city Yangjiang. There were about 70 present, including families of the students. All present were thoroughly entranced by the presentations by the touring group: Meila Gillam, Lark Brudvik-Lindner, Jade Alborn, Megan Ritchie, Sidney Barron, Sam Ancell, and their leaders Ian and Jane Lister. Each of the students had an aspect of the trip to report on (food, classes, school environment, weekend) and they did this in various ways with the accompaniment of slide shows and film. We enjoyed an edited version of the concert where the Nelsonians performed group and individual items, and a film made by Jade Alborn covering the various experiences and activities in which they participated.

At the school they helped in some senior English classes and visited a range of 'clubs' where they learned Chinese crafts such as kite-making, calligraphy, mask-making, lion dancing, and drumming. The whole time, they were entertained and cared for as VIP visitors and were followed by large numbers wherever they went. In the weekend, when the local students got to go home, they stayed for two nights at nearby Hailing Island to see the sights, including the Maritime Silk Road Museum. It was obvious that the whole experience was life-changing for these Year 12 and 13 students who have made many friends across the cultures.

Grateful appreciation was expressed to Jane and Ian Lister for all the preparation and leadership they provided. The students presented them with gifts and a gift for Nelson City Council from Yangjiang was also handed on. Members and friends enjoyed a remarkable evening, thanks to the positivity and enthusiasm of our first youthful delegation to sister city Yangjiang.





Maritime Silk Road Museum



Hailing Island

Yangjiang Exchange feedback report.

“This inaugural exchange met and exceeded our expectations in all areas” is the beginning of the feedback report by Jane and Ian Lister and presented to the branch executive. The report is the result of input both from the Listers as group leaders and from the students. It mentions the immense friendliness and consideration our group were shown during their visit and the range of activities.

Activities favoured by the students included attending clubs and classes and the free time allowing them to explore Hailing Island quietly. Although there was great satisfaction with the arrangements, some did not work as well as hoped.

Recommendations in the feedback, for future visits to China, include having the chance to attend some regular classes and keeping the concert since it is a focus of cultural exchange, although it was faced with apprehension by our students. Other recommendations are fine-tuning of the process which did deliver an excellent and memorable visit to Yangjiang.

NZCFS National Conference 2018, May 25-27

The National Conference and Annual General Meeting was held at Waikato University, with the Conference occupying the whole day on the Saturday. The theme, ‘Mahi Tahī – Working Together’ was woven throughout the events and speeches of the day. Some highlights were:

- Entertainment by Hillcrest High School with a splendid lion dance with drummers, and a beautiful Han Chinese dance by girls from the school.
- An opening address by National President Dave Bromwich with comment on the society’s rich friendship history and the challenges facing the society at present.
- A paper by Hamilton’s Dr Miles Barker which traced the history of NZ poet and novelist Iris Wilkinson (Robin Hyde) as she met Rewi Alley and other famous activists when travelling in war-torn China in 1938.
- Wonderful steam buns at lunchtime, brought in by a local Chinese restaurant.
- A speech by Pat Tauroa (Maori-China Friendship Society, widow of Hiwi Tauroa) tracing the history of the Maori links and detailing their recent initiatives.
- A film of the Maori and Media Studies students from Otumoetai College who were in Nanchang in April.
- Speeches from the Auckland Consul General, the Hamilton Deputy Mayor, and (on Sunday) the head of Youxie Beijing, briefly in Hamilton with our friend, Linda Wang, in his group.
- The Conference Banquet was held at the Canton Hong Kong Restaurant in the evening.

NZCFS Executive member in 2018 Sky Tower Stair Challenge

Congratulations to our National Vice President & Honorary Advisor Luke Qin JP for competing in and completing the 2018 Sky Tower Stair Challenge. This involves 1103 steps going up 51 floors, while carrying 30kg of firefighters equipment! Luke's time was 19 minutes 55 seconds, finishing 31st (middle of the pack) in the 'Firefighter of Steel' category. 950 participating firefighters raised more than \$1,250,000 for Leukaemia and Blood Cancer NZ. Well done, Luke!

Chinese policeman piggybacks pensioner

An elderly Chinese man moving slowly was only part of the way across the pedestrian crossing (6 lanes plus a cycle lane) when the traffic lights turned green. An on-duty traffic policeman saw his predicament and came to his aid by carrying the elderly man on his back to the safety of the centre of the divided road while 3 lanes of vehicles waited. From there they could continue the journey when the next pedestrian cycle occurred.



If you want see video of this:

<https://www.theage.com.au/world/policeman-piggybacks-chinese-pensioner-20180606-55gwr.html>

Geothermal Energy in China

Most of us are aware of our use of geothermal resources at places such as Wairakei, and many of us will be aware of, and possibly have seen, the roof-top evidence of the Chinese growing use of solar energy. We may not be aware of the fact that there are also geothermal resources in China, and these are being exploited in many places. The New Zealand Consulate-General in Chengdu has released a report into these resources, particularly in south-west China, including Tibet.

- China's potential geothermal resource accounts for almost 8% of total global resource.
- Almost half of Lhasa's municipal electricity grid demand is met by geothermal energy.
- China aims to add 500MW of new geothermal capacity by 2020 – an almost 17-fold increase.
- Geothermal heating is increasingly popular as a clean heating solution in northern China.

The report can be downloaded from

http://www.nzcta.co.nz/downloads/files/Geothermal_Resources_Report_on_Southwest_China.pdf

From Nelson Executive, June

- The Yangjiang Student Exchange was entered for a Sister Cities NZ award and received second place in its category. Thanks to Ian Lister for his work on this. Ian and Jane were congratulated on the success of the exchange visit.
- Ian Lister has been co-opted onto the branch executive.
- The photograph 'fronting' the branch page on the NZCFS web-site is outdated. Bruce will try to find a more suitable photograph. The text also needs checking.
- Ian and Jane Lister presented a report of feedback from them and the exchange students.
- An application is being made for funding to host students from Liangyang High School in Yangjiang when they come to Nelson. This return visit is expected to be early next year. It is hoped to be able to reciprocate the hospitality our group found in Yangjiang. Deng fund support which helped our group to visit China is not available to support visitors from China.

Rule change remit not presented to National AGM

At the writing of last newsletter, it was thought that a remit proposing to change the objects of our society would be considered at the A.G.M. The remit sought to replace the clause:

To affirm the historical significance of the establishment of the People's Republic of China
with a new clause:

To support the people of China

After discussion by the National Executive, this was withdrawn and not considered by the A.G.M. Alternative wording is to be discussed and presented at the next A.G.M.