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No. 10 – November 2019

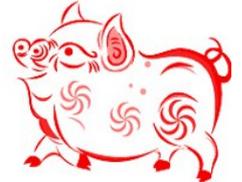
November meeting

Faces and Places

Paintings on Chinese Porcelain

Dr. Rose Kerr

Friday, November 29 5:30



Once again we welcome Rose and Steve back to their summer home in Nelson. They are just in time to join us for our last meeting of 2019.

Dr Rose Kerr is an art historian, internationally recognised as an expert on Chinese ceramics. She is an honorary citizen of China's Porcelain Capital, Jingdezhen, and was formerly the keeper of the Far Eastern Department of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Over the last three years we have enjoyed presentations by Dr Kerr on a range of topics from her extensive repertoire. First was the story of her experiences as a student in Beijing in 1976, towards the end of the cultural revolution. In March last year, we were treated to a comparison of two buried armies related to different emperors. Earlier this year we heard stories of life in the Song Dynasty as represented in the art and artifacts of that period. This November Dr Kerr is offering us a lecture titled 'Faces and Places' as these appear on samples of Chinese Porcelain. This is sure to be another fascinating exploration of the art history of China..



The meeting will be at the usual place, Hearing House, 354 Trafalgar Square (next to Synagogue Lane). We start the meeting at 5:30, the meal arrives at 6p.m. and the guest speakers may begin after 6:45 p.m. Visitors welcome.



If you wish to have the catered meal it costs \$15. Pay cash at the meeting or by Internet banking to our new NZCFS Nelson account, 03-1354-0490726-00, use your name as reference, and contact Barbara Markland as below.

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

You are invited to help farewell Joyce (Chen Biyao) at a Christmas barbeque at Tahunanui beach at the barbeque station on Bisley Walk, opposite the playing fields. This will be on Friday, December 6, at 5 p.m. Joyce has been in Nelson since February, teaching at the Nayland Hub, and will be leaving Nelson on December 12. All welcome, bring food and drink.



NELSON CHINA WEEK 2019

NZCFS Nelson cooperated with Nelson City Council to organise our biennial China Week. This year a range of events were held in the Trafalgar Centre (North End).

A grand opening ceremony was held on Wednesday 13th. Nelson's Mayor Rachel Reese and HE Wang Zhijiang, Consul General in Christchurch, spoke and both praised the contribution of NZCFS to China Weeks since the first in 2015. After the speeches, the China Week Art Exhibition was opened by the traditional cutting of the red ribbon and the three flowers. This was done by the Mayor and the Consul General in partnership.

The Art Exhibition was organised superbly by Jifang Black assisted by a willing band of NZCFS members. There were 117 works (paintings and china paintings) by 35 local artists, most showing a Chinese influence. The judges, Lloyd Harwood and Sally Barron, had made their choices during the afternoon, and the prizes were presented in the evening.

It was with great joy we heard that NZCFS stalwart, Nigel Hucklesby, had won first prize for his work entitled 'Boulder Bank'. Our picture above shows him with Jifang, the Consul General, and the painting which shows the essence of the boulders, the bank, and all the way to Haulashore Island, Fifeshire Rock and the Tahuna hills. The judges said it was a remarkable distillation of a landscape in the Chinese calligraphic style.

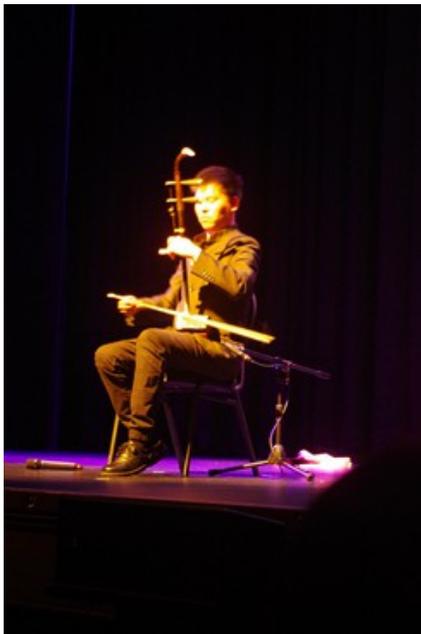
Other pictures above show scenes of the opening ceremony.

Other events during the week involved a Business Forum organised by Bill Findlater, a Chamber of Commerce meeting, and a China Week Community Day on Saturday 16th. All were well attended, and this meant that the Art Exhibition had hundreds of visitors.

Another superb event was the Friday night concert with visiting artists from Christchurch, local performers, and a fantastic Lion Dance troupe. NZCFS performers, pictured below, included Dmitri Romanenko and his daughter Alina in a charming duet, a vocal performance by Joyce (Chen Biyao), and a dance by Sharon (Chen Xiaolu).



Some performers from Christchurch, sponsored by the Consulate, included an energetic Er Hu player, a group of traditional dancers, a spectacular Wushu demonstration, and a delicate pipa player.





The Lion Dancers and Drummers Troupe from Christchurch were spectacular crowd favourites. All of the Friday night concert items were presented again at the Trafalgar Centre during Community Day.

NZCFS Tours

In February 2020 NZCFS has scheduled a tour called "Ice and Tropics". It will go to Harbin, in the northern Heilongjiang Province, to the world renowned Ice Festival for a few days, and then to the tropical south to explore and defrost!

Another tour which includes Harbin will leave in September, avoiding the winter. This tour will visit a number of places in North-east China and end in Beijing. Included is a 3 day excursion into North Korea (DPRK) visiting Pyongyang and the Panmunjom dividing line between the two Koreas.

More information about these tours can be found at <http://tours.nzchinasociety.org.nz/>.

Other branches

At a recent meeting, Manawatu Branch were introduced to one of the four great classics of Chinese Literature, "A Dream of Red Mansions", an 18th century semi-autobiographical novel. The novel has a cast of 400 characters (more than those in the complete works of Shakespeare). There have been attempts to translate it, but its length and complexity have made complete English translations difficult. One translation, by an eminent translator, produced five volumes.

Hamilton Branch have held a Kathleen Hall Fundraising Lunch with auctions and raffles of donated goods. One item auctioned was a Tang dynasty pottery horse donated by the Auckland Chinese Consulate