

THE CAPITAL CHINA LETTER

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NEW ZEALAND CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY WELLINGTON BRANCH NEWSLETTER
PO Box 5423 Lambton Quay, Wellington. Website: www.nzcfs.org.nz/wellington

NZCFS Wellington Branch - celebrating 60 years of promoting friendship, understanding and goodwill between the peoples of New Zealand and China

Newsletter July 2021

Next Branch Meeting: Wednesday 21 July 2021 at 6:30pm

Guest Speaker: Lynette Shum

Speaking on the *SS Ventnor*: shipwrecks, bones, memorials, and relationships?



In 1902, the *SS Ventnor*, en route to China, sunk off the Hokianga Heads, with the loss of the lives of some of the crew and passengers. What was remarkable about this ship was that in its cargo were the remains of around 499 Chinese men who had died in New Zealand. Since 2007, the Chinese community, including direct descendants, have built relationships with the local iwi who have looked after the bones for all these years, and have together honoured the memory of those whose bones were lost.

Lynette Shum, a third-generation Chinese New Zealander and Oral History Advisor at the Alexander Turnbull Library, will talk about the *SS Ventnor* project and the event she attended on 10 April in the tradition of Qing Ming, thanking local iwi in the region for taking care of the bones and for the 13 crew who were lost at sea with the sinking of the *SS Ventnor*.

The following dates have been booked for the 2021 monthly meetings: 18/08, 15/09, 20/10, and 17/11. Please book these dates in your calendar!

Our monthly meetings are now held at **Newtown School Hall**.

The school is located in Mein Street, Newtown, Wellington (off Riddiford Street, car park entry from Mein Street alongside Wellington Hospital), and on bus routes 1, 3, 12, 18e, 23, and 29.

There is plenty of carparking onsite.



BRANCH MEETING REPORT



At our June branch meeting, Emily Swan spoke to members and friends about her various Chinese interactions and engagements through her study in China and during her working life in China-related jobs — including her current role as Asia Market Manager for Sanford, New Zealand's oldest and largest seafood company.

Emily was born in Wellington, studied at Victoria University and, in 2014, attended Fudan University (Shanghai) as a NZ-China Scholarship recipient, developing her Chinese language skills. In 2015, Emily graduated from Shanghai Jiaotong University with a China-specific MBA.

Emily talked to us about building a successful brand and creating dramatic sales growth in the Chinese market. When she worked for Sanitarium she saw sales of Weetbix unexpectedly sky-rocket when a buyer of hers managed to get their Weetbix product onto a popular Chinese TV show. The interest flooded in and sales quadrupled!

Emily also told of the same Chinese buyer opening up a niche market for the sale of Weetbix to hospitals and rest-homes in Shanghai. The product was mixed in with the traditional congee (mǐzhōu 米粥) breakfast in order to increase fibre content for the elderly and infirm.

More recently, Emily has this year worked hard to develop live, green-lipped mussel sales in China. Emily explained that getting live mussels out of the sea in New Zealand and to the front door of a consumer's Shanghai apartment in just 36 hours is no small logistical feat!





Emily also had time to mention other China-jobs she has held. She has worked as a Brand Ambassador for Yealands Wine Group — a job she took early on during her time in China because she knew the company would be sending her to local restaurants where would get to eat copious amounts of delicious Chinese cuisine. While working with NZ Trade & Enterprise in Shanghai Emily took a short secondment as International Market Manager (East Asia). Later, in her business development role with New Zealand brand Antipodes, Emily enjoyed not only their great skincare products but also saw the company harnessing the power of China's idiosyncratic personal sales system using *dàigòu* (代购) — see <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daigou>.



Emily's popular presentation won the attendees' seal of approval when she cleverly ingratiated herself with her audience by providing beautiful Sanford salmon and oysters for all attendees to taste !



MANDARIN CORNER (WELLINGTON)

Mandarin Corner (Wellington) is a weekly event where students learning Chinese meet with native speakers of Chinese for conversation and cultural activities in a friendly, relaxed setting, and is open to all levels. This year, Mandarin Corner is run online on Thursdays at 6pm. Zoom ID 660 699 6275. For more information follow their Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/ConfuciusInstituteWellington/>

REPORT ON SINO-US DECOUPLING

The New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre is pleased to share their latest report by Caleb Hoyle, *Mind the Gap: Chinese Academic Views on Sino-US Decoupling*. The report reviews Chinese language academic articles on the US-China decoupling debate published in the People's Republic of China. The report demonstrates significant differences in how Chinese language scholarship in the PRC has approached the decoupling debate and trade war, highlighting the challenge of bridging the growing conceptual gap between China and the US on this issue. The report can be found at

https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/1944130/Mind-the-Gap-Chinese-Academic-Views-on-Sino-US-Decoupling.pdf

BRANCH OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

President: Chris Lipscombe
Vice President and Treasurer: Juping Zhou
Secretary: Vera Xu
Committee Members: Michael Dunwoodie, Liqin Mi
Immediate Past President: Kirk McDowall
Honorary Advisors: Luke Qin, Michael Powles
Life Members: Michael Powles, Ray Brownrigg, Rob McKibbin, Bernie Richmond, Elaine Richmond, Christine Strickland, Luke Qin

WEBSITE <https://nzchinasociety.org.nz/wellington-branch-of-the-nzdfs/>

[Pay for your 2021 subscription here](#)

PRIVACY STATEMENT

With the passing of the Privacy Act 2020, privacy protections for New Zealanders have been strengthened and there is a greater obligation on organisations like ours to take care of the information you share with us. We have adopted a privacy statement that describes how we will do this. If you have any questions about your privacy, please email the Secretary at wqtnzdfs@gmail.com. On acceptance of your membership subscription, you or the organisation you represent will become a member of the Wellington branch of the New Zealand China Friendship Society Incorporated ("the Society"). Your membership will expire on the 31st of December of the year to which the membership applies ("the expiry date"). The information you provide on this membership subscription form ("the information") will be held by us electronically in a Register of Members as required by the Incorporated Societies Amendment Act 2005 and will be removed from the current Register of Members following the expiry date. The information will be used by us to tell you about member events and activities and to send you notices of meetings. The information will be held securely by us and will be available for you to view at any time on application to the Secretary. The information may be shared with our parent organisation the New Zealand China Friendship Society Incorporated. We will not disclose the information to any other parties, except where required by law. Non-current members will remain on our branch mailing list as supporters and we will continue to let you know about member events and activities. If you decide that you do not want to receive emails from us, you can 'unsubscribe' and we will remove you from our mailing list.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2021

You can complete the [online form](#) to join us or renew your membership, or complete the subscription form below.

I/We would like to renew/commence membership of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand China Friendship Society Inc. for 2021 (subscription period is January to December):

- | | | | |
|--|------|--|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student (full time) | \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single | \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional | \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$32 | | |

Name:

.....
(Surname)

.....
(Given names)

Spouse's/Partner's Name:

.....
(Surname)

.....
(Given names)

Address:

.....
(Postal Code)

Phone Email

Contact Person for Organisations:

Payment total is as follows:

Membership Subscription	\$
Donation	\$
Total	\$

Payment method:

Payment by Direct Credit to:
New Zealand China Friendship Society
Bank Account No 117200 0080836 11
ANZ Bank

Please add your name, reference "Subscription", and code "2021" to your direct credit payment and email your completed form to wgtnzdfs@gmail.com.

Please tick if receipt is required.

Note: Donations over \$5 are tax-deductible.

Charitable Trust Registration No: CC27242