

New Zealand China Friendship Society Inc. – Nelson Branch

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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2pm-4pm

周日 9月 27日 下午 2点 -4点



As the ginkgo tree in Nelson's Huangshi Chinese Garden springs into life again, Nelson Branch of the China Friendship Society celebrates Chinese Language Week with an event in the Chinese Garden.

在尼尔森黄石花园的银杏树悄悄地萌发新芽之际，新中友好协会尼尔森分会将在中国花园举办新西兰中文周庆典活动。

Come along and bring your friends for music, mooncakes, Chinese tea, calligraphy.

欢迎您和亲友的光临 共赏音乐，月饼，茶和书法

Celebrate:
Chinese Language Week
The spring equinox
The first day of daylight saving

同庆:
中文周
春分
夏令时首日

If Covid Level 2 requirements still apply: scan QR codes or sign in at the gates, use hand sanitiser and wear masks when serving food.

如果届时仍维持二级警戒，敬请扫描 QR 码或在入口处签到，接触食物时请使用手消毒液并佩戴口罩。

Appo Hocton Way

The information panel for Appo Hocton Way (at the top of Pioneer Crescent) was unveiled at a small ceremony in late August.

Councillor Trudie Brand spoke on behalf of Mayor Rachel Reese. Here is an extract from her speech and some photographs of the event.

Please imagine boarding a wooden sailing ship in 1842 as a 9yr old boy, as Appo Hocton did. He must have been excited, apprehensive and unsure of his immediate future. He started out as a cabin boy and then, over time, became a steward. He served on many voyages and then, after 14yrs, as he arrived in Port Nelson, he jumped ship and stayed in the Nelson region of NZ for the rest of his life.

I was thinking about this myself as I have experience of travelling to foreign lands as a 8/9yr old child travelling to where different cultures and languages were spoken. But unlike Appo I had my parents and a sibling to help me feel secure while experiencing these difficult cultures – which at times were overwhelming.



So what courage and determination Appo showed at such a young age.

So here we are today to share a story of a boy, who made good in Nelson, through hard work, integration, acceptance, and by the building of strong relationships, all during the early years of colonial New Zealand. That period in time would have brought its own challenges. His approach paid dividends when Appo became the first naturalized emigrant of Chinese descent in 1856.

Appo was well respected, literate and astute, qualities that allowed him to become a successful local businessman and property owner.

As such we honour him as a true Nelson pioneer.

In Nelson we continue to highlight the importance of the migrant communities – with a special link with the Chinese communities through 2 of our Sister City Relationships with China:

- Since 1996 with Huangshi City, then
- In 2014 with Yangjiang.

In Nelson, we are fortunate to have this symbolized by the bridge linking Queens Garden to the Chinese Garden, which was developed in unison with the Sister Cities.

Another example of the great relationship that Nelson has with China, is the “Appo Hocton Scholarship” established in 2012 at NMIT. The scholarship enables students from China to study in Nelson for a year with the support of the Nelson Branch of the NZ China Friendship Society.

Today these relationships are even more important in a troubled world, enabling people to communicate with each other and for local schools and communities to engage freely. A strong formal relationship continues between each city’s representatives.

It is with honour that I share in the unveiling of this heritage panel, at the entrance of the recently named path “Appo Hocton Way”.

Diana Clark, one of Appo’s great-granddaughters also spoke.

As a young woman, Diana was surprised to learn that she had Chinese forebears, and that her father John Inwood was Appo Hocton’s grandson.



Her father never spoke about Appo, although he knew him, and it was Appo who taught him and other grandchildren to bow three times to a new moon, which must be done through a glass window.



As Diana grew older, she became more and more interested in her great grandfather and began researching and collecting all the information she was able. She has a letter, written in Chinese, from Appo's mother begging him to come back to China, a tea caddy, a walking stick, a set of stair rails, a handwritten cheque, and other memorabilia which had belonged to Appo.

Appo had never had a headstone, so Diana's husband Tony created a concrete base in his garage and a brass plaque was made and

engraved. Diana then organised an unveiling ceremony for family and friends at the Dovedale Cemetery.

Appo's Chinese name means "Little Treasure" and Appo was indeed one of Nelson's and New Zealand's unknown 'Little Treasures'. The information panel is such a nice way to remember this great and talented man.



A group of Appo Hocton descendants

China awakens to digital privacy concerns

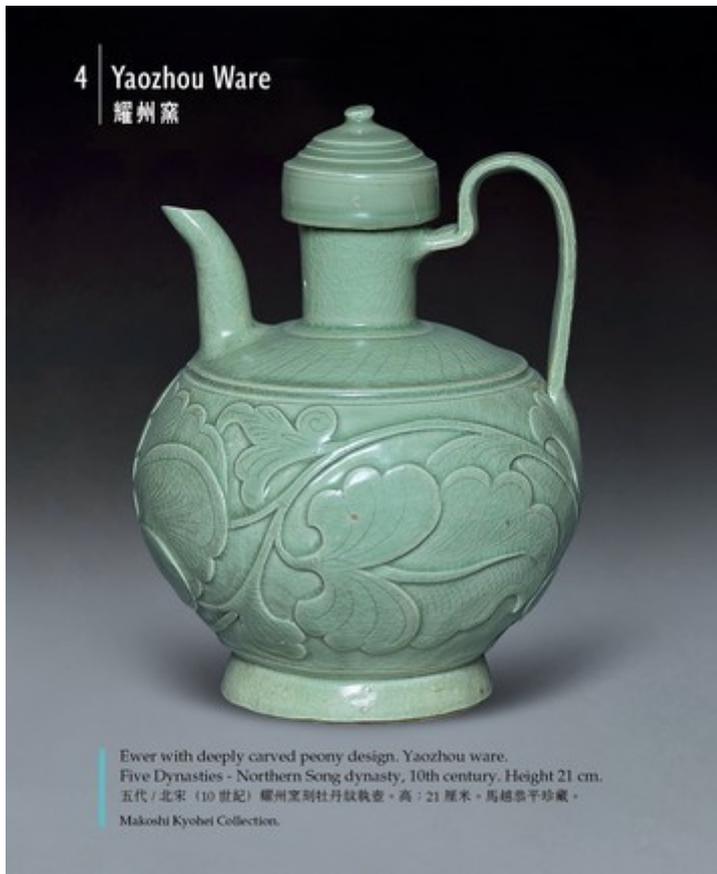
Recent testimony to a U.S. Congress committee from a group of CEOs of social media platforms was the message "don't regulate us or we can't compete with China". Regulating use of personal data would cause them to lose advantage in data-intensive innovation, such as artificial intelligence (AI).

The conventional wisdom is that because China has lax regulation on personal data collection, it has acquired a vast amount of data useful for AI research. However the situation may be changing in China.

China has over 900 million internet users in a 'mobile only' and 'mobile first' environment, who use their mobile phones to shop, order meal deliveries, buy tickets, and pay for nearly all daily activities. This leaves a vast amount of data on digital platforms. It has meant an exchange of privacy for convenience and efficiency, but the accumulated data can be used in ways the subjects may not be comfortable with. Recently Baidu, the Chinese search engine equivalent to Google, was sued for collecting user data without consent, and responded by removing the function to monitor users' contacts and activities to avoid going to court.

Chinese consumers are now getting some help from new laws setting up a regulatory system for data protection and giving a right to privacy. There is a new code to take effect next year which protects 'personality rights' and contains provisions on protecting personal information. There are, however, compromises too. There is a lack of detail on how long people's information may be kept and when it must be deleted.

The full original version is at <https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2020/09/07/china-awakens-to-digital-privacy-concerns/>



The new edition of Rose Kerr's book 'Song Dynasty Ceramics' has just been published in Britain. This is her most popular book and this edition has text in both English and Chinese. It is appropriate that we are receiving the flyer for the book, and an order form, as we lead up to Chinese Language Week in New Zealand.

It seems a beautiful book with wonderful pictures as shown here. This is a ewer with a deeply carved peony design. It is Yaozhou ware from the Five Dynasties – Northern Song, 10th century.

Rose and Steve were working on the preparation of this book when they were trapped here from March to August.

Once again we realise what sophisticated art work was being done in China in those long-ago times.

Nelson Events for Chinese Language Week

- Garden Party in the Huangshi Chinese Garden 2pm to 4pm, Sunday September 27. See page 1 of this newsletter.
- Chinese Meal at NMIT Rata Room is a possibility for Thursday September 24. Booking details will be notified later.
- Library display of calligraphy scrolls with historical explanations and translations of the classical poetry. See below.

The Library Display

Nelson friends of China have been gifted scrolls of paintings or calligraphy from our first sister city, Huangshi in Hubei province. Several of these will be displayed in the Elsie Turner Library during Chinese Language Week.

The calligraphy poems on the scrolls have been translated loosely by Jifang Black so we can appreciate what modern-day calligraphers have chosen to use to make into their art works. There is a long history of this type of art in China, where the artists use calligraphy brushes to 'paint' the characters which make up the poems of ancient poet/philosophers.

One of the scrolls which will be on display in the Library has a three-stanza poem, written by Wang Ling, who lived from 1032 to 1056 in the North Song Dynasty. He used the rules of Ci poetry to construct his poems which were based on philosophical responses to nature and moral issues. Classical Chinese poetry is considered worthy of being used by modern calligraphers who develop their own 'handwriting' style to 'paint' their art-scrolls. People who know the work of various calligraphers can identify their work in much the same way as we (older people) could identify the handwriting on the address of a letter.

Jifang knew when she read this calligraphy scroll that that it was a poem by Wang Ling, because she knows many examples from classical literature from her early training. Modern students learn these classical works off by heart, and the calligraphers prepare their art using similar ancient literature.