

新中友好協會

# THE CAPITAL CHINA LETTER 新中通訊



NEW ZEALAND CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY WELLINGTON BRANCH NEWSLETTER

Website: <https://nzchinasociety.org.nz/wellington-branch-of-the-nzcf/>

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

Newsletter December 2021

**2022 CHINESE NEW YEAR BANQUET  
SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022 AT 6.30PM  
ARIES RESTAURANT  
7 TENNYSON STREET, WELLINGTON**



The Wellington Branch invites you to join us in welcoming the Year of the Tiger at our Chinese New Year Banquet on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The banquet will be held at Aries Restaurant, 7 Tennyson Street, Wellington, at a cost of \$40 per person (including limited wine and juice). Discount for table bookings of 10 people.

To RSVP, please [book online](#) or fill out the form at the end of this newsletter and email to [wqtnzcfsg@gmail.com](mailto:wqtnzcfsg@gmail.com)

## BRANCH MEETING 17 November 2021 — MEETING REPORT

### From Xi'an to Xinxilan! Curating the Terracotta Warriors

At our November branch meeting, Dr Rebecca Rice, first spoke to members and friends about what it means to be a curator at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, before discussing the challenges and joys of working on the exhibition *Terracotta Warriors: Guardians of Immortality* in 2018.



Rebecca is Curator Historical Art at Te Papa. While she normally specialises in historical New Zealand art, she has worked on two important exhibitions showcasing Chinese art and culture at Te Papa and has travelled to China many times.

In 2014 she worked with colleagues at the National Museum of China to develop the exhibition *Shi Lu: A revolution in paint*. In 2017 she began working on *Terracotta Warriors: Guardians of Immortality*, an exhibition developed in association with Shaanxi Cultural Relics Bureau, Shaanxi History Museum, and the Qin Shihuang Terracotta Army and Horses Museum.

### Art Diplomacy — From Xi'an to Xinxilan

Bringing the Terracotta Warriors to New Zealand was an exhibition which was decades in the making.

Dr Rice described a long history of engagement starting in the 1980s, which finally, more than 30 years later, enabled Te Papa to secure this sought-after Chinese collection of antiquities.

- 1986 Terracotta Warriors first visited Wellington, hosted at Dominion Museum in Buckle Street.
- 1991 Director of Dominion Museum visits Xi'an for opening of Shaanxi History Museum.
- 2012 MOU signed with Shaanxi History Museum.
- 2013 Visit by NZ Prime Minister Sir John Key to Xi'an – where he informally requested an exhibition of terracotta warriors.
- 2014 Te Papa's Kura Pounamu exhibition travelled to Shaanxi History Museum.
- 2014 Visit by Shaanxi Cultural Relics Bureau decision makers to Te Papa – Endorsed Te Papa securing terracotta warrior exhibition event.
- 2014–2015 Three visits by Te Papa Directors to Shaanxi Cultural Relics Bureau and Shaanxi History Museum.
- 2016 Te Papa advised to partner with National Gallery of Victoria (NGV).
- 2017 Joint curatorial delegation from Te Papa and NGV to Xi'an.
- 2018 Exhibition contract signed.



## The Exhibition

The exhibition was shown at Te Papa from December 2018 – April 2019. *Terracotta Warriors: Guardians of Immortality* offered visitors a rare opportunity to have an intimate and immersive encounter with some of the remarkable ancient terracotta warriors. For more than 2,000 years, the warriors secretly guarded the tomb of Qin Shihuang, China's First Emperor.

Discovered by chance in 1974, the underground army is one of the greatest ever archaeological finds — and regarded by some as an eighth wonder of the world.

This landmark exhibition featured eight warriors standing 180 centimetres tall, and two full-size horses from the famous terracotta army, as well as two half-size replica bronze horse-drawn chariots.

Also on display were more than 160 exquisite works of ancient Chinese art made from gold, jade, and bronze. The works date from the Western Zhou to the Han dynasties (1046 BCE – 220 CE) and were found in imperial tombs in and around China's ancient capital, Xi'an.

Almost 200,000 visitors experienced the wonder of these ancient artefacts and gained a deep understanding of the First Emperor's vision for his afterlife and his unification of China, which shaped the nation we know today.

## **The Exhibition by Numbers**

- Over 170 individual objects in total
- 24 Category-1 'historic' items
- 10 life-size sculptures from the Terracotta Army (8 figures, 2 horses)
- Ancient Chinese art objects crafted from jade, gold ceramic, and bronze over 2000 years
- Exhibition items spanned 1000 years of production from the Western Zhou (1046-771 BCE) to Eastern Han Dynasty (20 - 220 CE)
- Exhibition borrowed from 24 different institutions in Shaanxi province
- 198,021 visitors
- 87% of visitors left feeling they learnt something new about ancient art
- 83% reported a greater understanding of Chinese culture
- 65% were more interested in going to China after visiting the exhibition

*Acknowledgements:*

*Parts of this report were taken from the Te Papa Museum website:*

<https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/about/past-exhibitions/2018-past-exhibitions/terracotta-warriors-guardians-immortality>

## **MANDARIN CORNER (WELLINGTON)**

Mandarin Corner (Wellington) is a weekly event where students learning Chinese meet with native speakers of Chinese for conversation in a friendly, relaxed setting, and is open to intermediate/advanced levels. This year, Mandarin Corner is run online on Thursdays at 6:30pm — Zoom ID 939 8879 3379.

For more information follow the Mandarin Corner Facebook page on

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

Mandarin Corner Online will finish on 16 December and start again on 13 January 2022 following the Christmas/New Year break. There will be no class on 3 February over the Spring Festival holiday in China.

## AGM DATE FOR 2022 – NEWTOWN SCHOOL HALL

The Wellington Branch Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

## NZCFS WELLINGTON BRANCH MEMBERSHIP FOR THE 2022 YEAR

**Membership is open for the 2022 year.** To commence/renew your membership for next year, please fill out the form at the back of the newsletter, or with your banquet RSVP.

## 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

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

[Pay for your 2022 subscription here](#)



**Merry Christmas and a relaxing holiday break to all our members, supporters, and friends from the Wellington Branch of NZ China Friendship Society. We look forward to seeing you at our Chinese New Year Banquet in 2022 and at our monthly member meetings during the year. Be kind to each other and stay safe!**

**Booking Form — CHINESE NEW YEAR BANQUET**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 6:30pm  
Aries Restaurant, 7 Tennyson Street, Wellington CBD**

Please reserve me \_\_\_ place(s) for the Society's Chinese New Year Banquet at **\$40 per person**  
or \_\_\_ table(s) for the Society's Chinese New Year Banquet at **\$380 per table**

Names of person(s) attending banquet:

.....

If you prefer, you can book online at [CNY Banquet Online Form](#)

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**MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION (Optional)**

To join as a member or renew your membership, you can complete the [online form](#) or the membership form below.

I/We would like to renew/commence membership of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand China Friendship Society Inc. for 2022 (subscription period is January to December):

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unwaged / Student (full-time) / Superannuitant | <b>\$15</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single   | <b>\$25</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family   | <b>\$35</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organisation                                   | <b>\$50</b> |

Name: .....  
(Given names) (Surname)

Spouse's/Partner's Name: .....  
(Given names) (Surname)

Address .....

Email .....

Contact Person for Organisation: .....

<b>Payment total is as follows:</b>	<b>Payment method:</b>
Banquet \$ .....	Payment by internet banking to:
Membership Subscription \$ .....	NZ China Friendship Society
Donation (optional) \$ .....	ANZ Bank Acct No: <b>11-7200-0080836-11</b>
<b>Total</b> \$ .....	

When making internet banking payment, please quote your "NAME" and the word(s), "SUBS" or "BANQ & SUBS", and be sure to email this form to [wgtnczfs@gmail.com](mailto:wgtnczfs@gmail.com)

**Banquet payment must be received by Monday 14<sup>h</sup> February 2021.**

Please let us know if a receipt is required.

*Note: Donations over \$5 are tax-deductible. (Charities Registration No: CC27242)*

**Privacy Information:** 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.