

From Aotearoa to Taihang Mountain

从长白云之乡到太行山

In Memory of Kathleen Hall



Hamilton Branch

New Zealand China Friendship Society

Preface

I would like to express my great appreciation to the Rewi Alley Fund for supporting this project so that the NZCFS Hamilton Branch is able to present you with a documentary and booklet about Kathleen Hall (Chinese Name: He Mingqing) and the Kathleen Hall/He Mingqing Scholarship.

Kathleen Hall, a New Zealand missionary nurse in China, worked in poor rural areas under extremely difficult conditions. She trained local nurses to work alongside her. She was also swept up in the Chinese War against the Japanese Invasion. She not only nursed the sick and wounded, but time and time again, she smuggled medical supplies through the Japanese lines to Dr. Norman Bethune, the Canadian surgeon who was in charge of medical services for the Chinese 8th Route Army.

In 1996, the centennial of Kathleen's birth was celebrated by the New Zealand China Friendship Society. In the same year, in her honour, the Kathleen Hall Centennial Memorial Scholarship was established for postgraduate community nursing training in New Zealand.

In 2006, the Kathleen Hall Centennial Memorial Scholarship was replaced by the He Mingqing Memorial Scholarship, to provide three or four-year scholarships for young female students from an impoverished area in China, to complete their degree at a local medical college or university, in order to return to a rural community and work for improved health standards. In her honour, NZCFS continues to fundraise for these nursing scholars from rural China.

I would like to sincerely thank all the many people who have contributed countless hours to produce this documentary and booklet in honour of Kathleen Hall's memory.

Miao Fan, Justice of the Peace

President, NZCFS Hamilton Branch
NZCFS National Vice President (Northern)
Chair of He Mingqing Scholarship Committee

序

2017年金秋十月，我和丈夫由朋友驾车从山西太原来到河北保定，专程拜访新中友协终身荣誉会员马保茹女士。我向她谈起新西兰中国友好协会哈密尔顿分会承揽的收集制作 **Kathleen Hall** 片子的项目，希望通过这个短片让更多的人了解 **Kathleen Hall**（中文名何明清），了解新中友协设立的何明清奖学金。尽管马保茹女士当时身体不太好，但听到我此行的意图后，她坚持亲自陪我们前往河北曲阳县宋家庄。10月31日一大早，我们一行三人在马保茹大姐的陪同下驱车前往宋家庄。

十月末北方的天气有些转冷，但天空格外的晴朗。这在空气污染严重的河北保定是不多见的。一路上马大姐兴奋地讲述着她与新中友协的特殊情感，谈到与 **Tom Newnham** 的相识，谈到多年来对 **Kathleen** 的研究。马大姐指挥我们的司机朋友先开去唐县，参观白求恩柯隶华纪念馆。她想让我们看看白求恩大夫去世前写给聂荣臻元帅的信。想让我们更多的了解白求恩和 **Kathleen** 之间的友谊。因为历史原因我们以前所看到的信并不是全部的内容，而白求恩纪念馆陈列的那封信是完整版。白求恩在信中提到他对 **Kathleen Hall** 的感激。

汽车从唐县一路开到曲阳县，离开宽阔的公路，进入了稍窄的乡间小路。这时马大姐突然让车停下叫大家下车，原来我们已经快到宋家庄了。马大姐指着路的左前方的山峰说：那是莲花峰，是 **Kathleen** 当年经常散步的地方，**Kathleen** 的部分骨灰就撒在那里。

进了宋家庄，我们直奔何明清小学。首先映入眼帘的就是 **Kathleen** 的大理石塑像，她左手抱着药箱，右手握着手电筒，聂荣臻元帅送的军犬陪伴着她，黑色的基石上刻着聂帅的亲笔题词“救死扶伤，忘我献身，支援抗战，青史永存—纪念新西兰友人凯瑟琳霍尔女士”。望着塑像及题词我的视线越来越模糊，眼泪已充满我的眼眶，脑海中浮现一幅幅 **Kathleen** 背着药箱，打着手电行走在黑夜的村庄中的画面。“一个外国人不远万里来到中国，为了中国人民的解放事业……”毛泽东主席在《纪念白求恩》中所说的“外国人”不正包括 **Kathleen** 在内吗？

漫步在村庄的土路上，经过屋边的碾子、已弃之不用的水井，我的脑海中不时会出现 **Kathleen** 当年在这里生活的画面。当我们登上撒着 **Kathleen** 骨灰的莲花峰，一群羊正在山坡上悠闲的吃着草。站在峰上放眼望去，宋家庄及周边的景色尽收眼底。正值秋末，秋高气爽、蓝天白云，每家的房顶上都晾晒着玉米，在太阳照耀下金灿灿的一片，远处的小溪潺潺流水，宁静的村庄……这也许正是 **Kathleen** 喜欢在此散步的原因。

范森太平绅士

新中友协总会副会长

哈密尔顿分会会长

何明清奖学金负责人

Kathleen Anne Baird Hall

(1896 - 1970)

Biography

Family background

Kathleen Anne Baird Hall was born in Napier on 4 October 1896, the fifth child in a family of seven. Her father, Thomas Hall, was the district land registrar in Napier. Her mother, Helen Baird Hall (née Macky), was a teacher before her marriage.

Kathleen Hall attended a private primary school in Napier until 1909. The Hall family then relocated to Auckland for Kathleen's father's work, where Kathleen attended The Ladies' College in Remuera.

Of the five Hall children, two of Kathleen's brothers died in war, her sister married a farmer from Raglan and another brother Cecil assisted Kathleen in establishing local branches of the New Zealand China Friendship Society.

Training

On leaving school, Kathleen was expected to stay home and help her mother. However, after her elder sister returned home, she took the opportunity to train as a nurse at Auckland Hospital. She was registered in 1921 and was soon promoted to Sister.

While working at Auckland Hospital she met Crichton McDouall, an Anglican priest and missionary, who was on furlough in New Zealand from his work in north China with the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Kathleen had been involved in church and Bible class activities for some time and, wanting to serve God, she volunteered for work in the mission field. In 1922, she was accepted by the Society for missionary work in China. Before leaving she trained in midwifery at St Helens Hospital, Christchurch.



China

Kathleen arrived in China in early 1923 and spent two years studying the Chinese language, history, and culture in Peking (Beijing). At that time, there was one outstanding hospital where western medicine was practised, Peking Union Medical College (PUMC). This was a very advanced institution, funded by the American Rockefeller Foundation and operated by British and American Protestant missions.

Kathleen Hall was given a teaching position there, and during this time she built up her teaching role to two classes, each with 30 students.



A recent photo of Peking Union Medical College

“... Kathleen trained about 60 nurses in her time here. Some became her assistants, while others went to more remote villages where medical care was even less available. Soon afterwards, she herself went out among the villages. In 1935 she overcame great difficulties to set up a church and clinic in Niuyangou Village, Tang County, deep in the Taihang Mountains, and later her main clinic many kilometres away at Songjiazhuang in Quyang County.” (McLeod, Jan 1997. Translation)

After language training and professional practice there, Kathleen was appointed Sister-in-Charge of a provincial hospital at Datong, later being transferred to the same position at Hejian and Anguo in Hebei Province.



Kathleen Hall with four of her nurses, probably at Angua Hospital, 1937

The consequences of the famines in the 1920s would have been seen by Kathleen Hall during her time in Northern China, not only in the extreme poverty, but in the health and social issues which followed in the years ahead.

“I have seen dirt, disease, ignorance, malnutrition, and poverty such as I had never believed possible.”

Kathleen wrote of her experiences. It is believed that nearly 500,000 people perished during this period with millions more being affected. Areas were largely governed by warlords at this time. In 1921 the Chinese Communist Party was formed, and China faced great challenges economically, politically, and socially.

In 1933, Kathleen, being acquainted with the deplorable living conditions and seeing the need to extend medical services to the country areas, applied to the Bishop for permission to set up a cottage hospital in Songjiazhuang, a small village in western Hebei. Before going on furlough in 1934 she heard that her request had been granted. From March 1934 until January 1935 Kathleen returned to New Zealand on leave. This was only her second leave in 12 years.

After returning to China in April, she recruited two Chinese nurses and began working in Songjiazhuang,

living simply, and using her salary for the needs of the villagers. In five months, she made 400 visits to homes, tended to 3,000 patients, and set up clinics and afternoon classes for girls, and night classes for men and boys.

In 1937, she had to return temporarily to take charge of the hospital at Anguo on the plains, and she was in charge there, when the Japanese invaded.

“to save the nation the Chinese Eighth Route Army had raced heroically to the resistance front and opened up battlefields in the enemy’s rear. By 1938 when Kathleen returned to Song Village, this area was already part of the Jin-Cha-Ji Border Area, a resistance base behind enemy lines. She described it in her letter home “The corrupt old country government has gone...What a joy it is to see the Eighth Route Army teaching the people to elect their own leaders and bringing them hope of better living standards for all.”(McLeod, Jan 1997. Translation)

There was a great battle nearby, in which the Chinese were defeated, and hers was the only hospital for hundreds of miles. The doctors fled and with a few Chinese nurses, she was left to deal with many hundreds of casualties.

By 1938, the area lay in the no-man’s land between the Japanese-occupied lowland and the mountain

headquarters of the Eighth Route Army. She made trips to Peking to collect supplies for the hospital and was asked by the medical adviser to the Eighth Route Army, Norman Bethune, a Canadian doctor if she would also bring back medical supplies for the army. Although she was opposed to war, Kathleen decided that the saving of lives was God's will. Fully committed to this dangerous course of action, she not only organised mule trains of medical supplies, and saw them through Japanese checkpoints, but also attended to wounded soldiers and partisans and recruited nurses for the army, bringing them through the rough terrain and mountains.

“As the Japanese pushed southwards, she was able to return to her own hospital in the mountains, to find that it was now in “no-man’s land” between the Chinese guerrilla forces and the Japanese. With her British passport, she could move comparatively freely, and before long she was making long journeys to Peking to purchase medical supplies, much of which she passed on to the Chinese army until she was caught by the Japanese.”

(McLeod, Jan 1997. Translation)

In 1939 the Japanese carried out a punitive raid on Songjiazhuang, destroying the mission hospital. Kathleen travelled to Peking to re-equip the hospital and found the Japanese had demanded that she be expelled from China. Rather than compromise the safety of

others, she went to Hong Kong. She had made over thirty trips through the enemy lines.

“They put her on a ship for New Zealand, but she disembarked at Hong Kong and joined the Chinese Red Cross. She made a dangerous journey through inland China to re-join the 8th Route Army. After the war, she helped to establish a model leper colony in Hong Kong”(McLeod, Jan 1997. Translation)

With the help of Madame Sun Yat-sen (Soong Ch'ing-ling), she re-entered China through Vietnam with the Chinese Red Cross. She joined a medical unit attached to the Eighth Route Army at Guiyang and travelled north under conditions of great hardship and deprivation to Chongqing, and then onto Luoyang. Eventually, she collapsed from the effects of exhaustion and beriberi. After recuperating, she returned to New Zealand in 1941.

Kathleen Hall had arranged to return to north China via Burma, but her mother became ill and she stayed to look after her. While living in Auckland she took in six pupils from Epsom Girls' Grammar School as boarders. She spoke about China whenever she had the opportunity and worked for the missions, for the China Aid Council, and for CORSO.

After the war, she moved with her mother to a cottage on her brother-in-law's farm near Raglan. When her mother died in 1948, she made plans to return to China, but by then, it was difficult to get a visa.

In 1950 she travelled to Hong Kong, and while waiting for permission to enter China, helped Neil Fraser of the Mission to Lepers to set up a mission in Hong Kong. When it was established, and the door to China remained closed, she returned to New Zealand in May 1951. In her final years of service, she worked with the Anglican Maori Mission at Te Kuiti and Waitara and retired in 1956.

In 1959, she was a delegate with the New Zealand Peace Council to the Australian and New Zealand Congress for International Cooperation and Disarmament in Melbourne. About that time, she had a cottage built in Weymouth in Auckland. In March 1960 she finally met Rewi Alley, who was home on a visit from his work in China. Her wish to return to China was granted later in the year when she was invited to take part in the National Day celebrations in Beijing.

She again visited China in 1964. She flew to Hong Kong and went on to China where she was escorted as a

special guest by members of the Peace Committee in Guangzhou and Beijing. A member of the Chinese People's Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries was also her guide in Beijing, where she was able to explore old memories and visit the hospitals at Datong and Anguo, but sadly her hosts considered her to be too frail to make the journey to the mountain villages she missed so much.

In retirement, she devoted her life to telling New Zealanders the truth about China. She worked very hard to bring the various friendship groups in Auckland, Hamilton, Napier, Wellington, and Christchurch together to form the NZ China Friendship Society, which was inaugurated in Wellington in 1958, with Kathleen as a member of the first National Committee.

In 1968, with a failing memory, she moved to a retirement home in Hamilton. She died on 3 April 1970 in Te Awamutu. Her funeral service in St Peter's Cathedral, Hamilton, was conducted by Canon Wi Huata. From Beijing, Rewi Alley wrote:

“So wonderful a woman and so great a friend of the Chinese people... It seems just the other day that we went with her to Shijiazhuang for a little ceremony at

the grave of Dr. Bethune. How she loved the trip and how longingly she looked over there to the hills in blue where Fuping lay, and where she had left so great a portion of her heart!

She was a truly great New Zealander - great because of her capacity to sacrifice, great because of the love and warmth with which she worked with ordinary Chinese people at a time of chaos and bitterness. If she had been a man, she would have been famous long ago”(Newnham, Tom 1992)

Legacy

Kathleen Hall never married. In 1985, the name of Beisong Primary School was changed to He Mingqing Primary School in her honour, as suggested by the New Zealand China Friendship Society.

In 1993 her ashes were carried back to China in accordance with her wishes. They were placed in an impressive tomb that was built for her by the Chinese government in the Martyr's Memorial Cemetery in Quyang, Hebei Province, and were also scattered on the hill at Songjiazhuang in accordance with her wishes.

In 1996, the local people of Quyang County celebrated the centennial of her birth by creating a beautiful marble statue and setting it up in the village of Songjiazhuang where she established her clinic. It bears an inscription in Chinese quoting NieRongzhen, a marshal of the Chinese Liberation Army. It reads: *“To heal the wounded and rescue the dying, she worked with selfless dedication. Her deeds in support of the War of Resistance will go down in the annals of history”*.

Tom Newnham led a group of New Zealanders including Kathleen’s niece and John Paterson, the Anglican Bishop of Auckland, to the unveiling of the statue. A small replica of the statue now stands in the Marsden Chapel of the Anglican Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Parnell, Auckland. It is visited by many people and is becoming worn where they have lovingly stroked the image in homage to her memory. Next door in St Mary’s-in-Holy Trinity Church, Claudia Pond-Eyley’s magnificent stained-glass windows depict Kathleen among the revered women of the diocese.

Her centennial was also celebrated by the New Zealand China Friendship Society inaugurating the Kathleen Hall Memorial Nursing Scholarship for postgraduate community nursing training in New Zealand in 1996.

In 2006 this Scholarship was replaced with the He Mingqing Scholarship. Branches of the NZCFS organise various fundraising events to raise money for the scholarship. A committee selects the recipient and organises the payments.

Kathleen Hall's Chinese name was He Mingqing, meaning clear, bright, earnest. A small, gentle, but decisive woman of great faith, courage, and integrity, her long-standing support of China and its people was significant in a period when many New Zealanders had little understanding of events there.



Painting of Kathleen Hall with her beloved dog

NZ China Friendship Society

Kathleen Hall (He Mingqing)

Memorial Scholarship

新中友协何明清奖学金



Kathleen Hall RGN, RM (1896 – 1970)

Kathleen Hall Centennial Memorial Scholarship (1996- 2005)

From 1996 – 2005 the NZ China Friendship Society Inc. in association with the NZ Nurses Organization Inc. initiated the Kathleen Hall Centennial Memorial Scholarship to provide an award of \$1,500, later raised to \$3,000, for a New Zealand registered nurse to undertake graduate study in an area of nursing in the community.

The recipients were: Sue Mathews (1996), Suzanne Fitzgerald (1997), Parani Harding (1998), Mary Freeman (1999), Shelly Blackwell (2000) who completed her certificate studies in Community Child Health through Otago University, Frances Waimate (Wai) Ngamoki (2001) who furthered her studies in the care of diabetes in Bay of Plenty, Jenny Caston (2002) who undertook a postgraduate diploma in Public Health at Auckland University, Gabrielle Gallagher (2004) who completed a Master's degree in Nursing and Christine (Tina) Darkins (2005) who completed the second year of her Ph.D. in nursing at AUT.

He Mingqing Memorial Scholarship (From 2006-current)

In 2006 the Kathleen Hall Scholarship was replaced with the He Mingqing Memorial Scholarship which provides a three-year or four-year scholarship for Chinese young female students from poor rural areas enabling them to complete nursing training at a local medical college or university in order to return to a rural community and work for improved health standards. NZCFS pays for books, board, travel, and full tuition fees.

The recipients to date are:

2006 - 2010 WEI Yunjie 韦云洁. Yunjie is from Chuan Shan, Huan Jiang County, Hechi City, Guangxi Province. The Scholarship supported her to complete a degree from Guangxi Medical University.

2008 - 2011 SHEN Qianqian 申倩倩. From a village in the mountains of She County, Handan City, Hebei Province. The Scholarship supported her to complete a degree from Hebei University, majoring in nursing.

2009 - 2013 SHI Hongli 史鸿丽. From a small village in Minle County, Zhangye City, Gansu Province.

The Scholarship supported her to complete a degree from Gansu Medical University, Nursing Studies.

2010 - 2014 WANG Shuizhen 王水珍. From Feng County, Baoji District, Shaanxi Province. The Scholarship supported her to complete a nursing degree from Northwest Minorities University in Lanzhou.

2012 - 2016 ZHU Caixia 朱彩霞. From a village of Shandan County, Gansu Province. The Scholarship supported her to complete her study in Jiangxi Institute of Technology, with a major in nursing.

2012 - 2016 WANG Xuejun 王雪珺. From Shandan, Gansu Province. The Scholarship supported her to complete a nursing degree from Jiangxi Institute of Technology.

2017 - 2021 CHEN Yuan 陈媛. From a mountainous rural area in Zhen An County, Shangluo District, Shaanxi Province. She is currently studying at Xi'an Medical College.

2019 - 2023 Wu Baoyi 吴宝怡. From Yihe Village, Baihe County, Ankang City, Shaanxi Province. She is now studying at Xi'an Medical College.

何明清小学校史

The History of He Mingqing Primary School

1985年由新中友好协会提议，北宋小学命名为何明清小学。
Originally named Beisong Primary School, but the name was changed to He Mingqing Primary School in 1985 as suggested by the New Zealand China Friendship Society.



Entrance gate to He Mingqing Primary School

宋家庄小学始建于 1921 年，属于私立小学，教学班一个（1-3 年级），组建教师刘振刚，校址大场，教室 3 间，办公室 1 间，宿舍 1 间，共占地面积 257 平方米，学生 27 人。

历任教师：

1925 年 – 1930 年： 崔高生

1931 年 -- 1934 年： 庞文亭

1934 年 – 1935 年： 冯九丁

1935 年 – 1936 年： 韩青吉

1936 年 – 1938 年： 崔文奎

1939 年，新西兰友人何明清女士（原名：凯瑟琳 霍尔 Kathleen Hall）来宋家庄投资建校，后来发展到 60 余人，分为白夜两班，吴红炉、木苑茹在校任教。

不久以后，校址由大场搬迁到何明清教堂（原北宋小学旧址），教室 6 间，办公室 2 间，宿舍 2 间，共占地面积 425 平方米，学生 75 人。一年后，宋家庄小学分为北宋小学、南宋小学。北宋小学在旧址，南宋小学迁到南宋村，其中北宋小学在校生 45 人。

1940 年 – 1949 年，在战乱时期，校址不定，教师短缺，学生分散，曾有王秋芬、庞文亭、冯双灵在校任过教。

解放后，北宋小学属于公办小学，王占居组建完小一所，小学发展到 6 个班，校长张颜生。

历任教师：

1950 年 – 1951 年： 王登科

1951 年 -- 1952 年： 王占居 王长山

1952 年 - 1960 年： 颜玉柱 李雪梅

1960 年 - 1967 年： 潘自有 冯彦杰

1967 年，学校进行扩建，校舍发展到 21 间，校占地面积 715 平方米，教学班 5 个，学生 210 人。

历任教师：

1967 年 - 1970 年： 负责人 张义珍

1970 年 -- 1975 年： 负责人 李秀芬

1975 年 - 1981 年： 负责人 苑献良

1981 年 - 1985 年： 负责人 冯二楼

1985 年由新中友好协会，把北宋小学命名为何明清小学，当年八月协会主席召开命名大会，并赠铜匾一块：新中友谊万古长青。

历任校长：

1985 年 - 1990 年： 王法良

1990 年 -- 1991 年： 张长振

1991 年 - 1994 年： 颜国军

1995 年何明清小学进行重建，在村北建教学楼一座。在资金短缺的情况下，新西兰驻华大使捐款 47000 元，

村民纷纷捐款 14700 多元，使教学楼在 1995 年 8 月 17 日顺利竣工。特在本年九月立捐款纪念碑一座，县政府特立何明清纪念碑一座。教学楼建筑面积 315.5 平方米，校占地面积 3150 平方米。

历任校长：

1995 年 – 1999 年： 王法良

2000 年 -- 2013 年： 贾登峰

2013 年 8 月至今： 刘敬雷



The marble statue of Kathleen Hall after the unveiling 1996

Kathleen Hall Timeline

4 October born in Napier.

1909 Attended The Ladies' College, Remuera, Auckland.
Her art teacher was Horace Moore-Jones. 1921 Attended nurse and midwifery training.

1922 Accepted for missionary work in China.

1923 Arrived in Beijing.

1924 Attended language school and nursed at PUMC.

1925 Sent to Mosse Memorial Hospital in Datong.

1926 Worked with Eunice Preece, Heijian hospital.

1927 Set up St Barnabas Hospital, Anguo.

Returned to New Zealand on furlough.

1930 Visited outlying villages.

1932. Kathleen's father died.

1934/1935 Furlough in New Zealand

1935 Set up clinic and base in Niuyangou then
Songjiazhuang

1938 Met Norman Bethune. Brought medical supplies
from Beijing for the 8th Route Army.

1939 Japanese destroyed the Songjiazuan clinic.

1940 Japanese expelled her from China,

Kathleen resigned from North China (S.P.G.) Mission.

1941 Returned to New Zealand.

1948 Kathleen's mother died.

1950 Travelled to Hong Kong and established the
Mission to Lepers.

1951 Worked with Wi Huata in the Anglican Maori
Mission at Waitara and Te Kuiti.

1956 Retired to Auckland.

1957 Set up an NZCFS branch in Wellington with Rewi Alley's sister Joy.

1958 Organised the first NZCFS National Conference in Wellington.

1959 Executive of the Auckland Branch. Member of the World Peace Council. and the Christian Pacifist movement.

1960 Met Rewi Alley in Auckland.

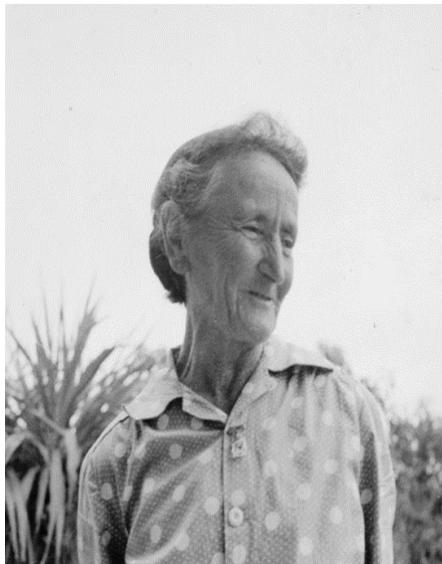
1960 Attended Chinese National Day celebrations in Beijing. Visited the tomb of Dr. Bethune at the Cemetery of the Revolutionary Martyrs.

1962 Executive of the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship and the NZCFS.

1964 Visited Datong and Anguo Hospitals.

1968 Moved to Bryant Village Retirement Home in Hamilton.

1970 3rd April died in Te Awamutu



Acknowledgements

The passion and dedication of the following Hamilton branch members, and many others, have helped to make this project possible.

Miao Fan

Jenevere Foreman

The Late Ian Howat

Kylie Meredith

Annette Wright

Dr Wang Xiaoning

Plus, many others who also gave of their time.

Sincere thanks to Scott Granville and Ben Woollen from *Chasing Time English* who made the documentary come alive by editing existing documentary footage from a Chinese Media production in 1996 and adding additional testimonial content.

Thanks also to the contribution from Christine Ross (Kathleen Hall's great niece) and John Paterson (former Anglican Bishop of Auckland) who feature in the segment filmed at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell, Auckland in 2021.

Hamilton Branch of the New Zealand China Friendship Society

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He Mingqing Primary School with Miao Fan and the Principal standing in front of Kathleen Hall statue in 2017

In this world of deep division, Kathleen Hall
is a shining example of devotion, loyalty,
and tenacity.

“I have just met an angel”
(Dr Norman Bethune)

“If she had been a man, she would have
been famous long ago”
(Rewi Alley)

This is her story.