

New Zealand China Friendship Society Inc. – Nelson Branch

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No. 1 - January 2022

新年快乐
XIN NIÁN KUÀI LÈ!
Happy New Year!



You are invited to
New Zealand China Friendship Society, Nelson Branch,
AGM & New Year Banquet
Sunday 30 January, 6 p.m.
Eastern Cuisine, Richmond

We hope all members have had a happy and restful Christmas and New Year and are prepared for the year ahead.

According to the Chinese traditional lunar calendar, this is a tiger year from February 1 to January 21, 2023. In addition to the animals, there are other factors including five elements (water, wood, fire, earth, metal) associated with the year, so, welcome to the year of the water tiger (which happens only once in every 60 years).

Once again, we will be taking over the Eastern Cuisine restaurant in Richmond for a banquet. There will be a *brief* Annual General Meeting before the banquet begins. We welcome you to join us for this occasion of good food, fellowship, and fun.



Eastern Cuisine, Richmond

AGM & New Year Banquet

Sunday 30 January, 6 p.m.



Booking will be necessary. To book, please contact **Barbara Markland** (erm@xtra.co.nz or (03) 544 4712) by **Monday 24 January**.

Eastern Cuisine (275 Queen Street) is well-known to us for banquets, and we get exclusive use of the restaurant for Sunday night, as long as we have sufficient numbers; which has never been a problem! Your family and friends are all welcome to this celebration.

The banquet charge is a very reasonable \$35. The usual juice, beer, and wine will be available for purchase from the restaurant and there will be no corkage charge if you wish to take your own wine. Other payments for drinks, you will make directly to the restaurant.

Payment can be made by internet banking to the branch account (instructions below), or at the door (cash only - **no EFTPOS**).

You are also invited to make donations towards our Chinese projects on the night by buying tickets in the multi-draw raffle for excellent Chinese items - tickets will be just \$2 each, or \$5 for three, so please remember to bring some gold coins and/or \$5 notes.

Please be there by 5.45pm to enable the AGM to begin at 6pm. There will be no seating plan this year so it would be advantageous if groups could arrive early and together. It is expected that the banquet proper will commence about 6:45pm.

N.B. As our members tend to be a high-risk group and social distancing is difficult at our **gatherings**, your committee has agreed that we should endeavour to keep everyone as safe as possible by requiring attendees to be fully vaccinated. **As per current regulations for restaurants, vaccine passes will be checked at the door.** You can register your visit using the QR code at the door, or sign in manually. As we are enjoying a meal together as friends, masks are optional **once seated**.

Annual General Meeting

The items on the agenda for this are the President's Report, Financial Report, Election of Officers, and General Business to cover any items which need to be discussed. Nominations will be taken for the committee and some new members and some ideas would be most welcome. If you think you, or a friend, could possibly make a contribution and would like to be nominated, please have a talk with President Barbara.

Please pay for your banquet via internet banking to the new **NZ China Friendship Society - Nelson Branch** bank account at Nelson Building Society **03-1354-0490726-00**. Please make sure you enter your name as the reference and then email both Barbara Markland at erm@xtra.co.nz and Treasurer, Royden Smith, at royden@shangrila.net.nz so that they can then confirm your payment has been received.

February meeting with Meng Foon, Race Relations Commissioner – February 25. This is the date of our usual monthly meeting but will take place at Annesbrook Community Church in Saxton Road, Stoke, at 7 p.m. This change of venue is to allow a greater audience for this important speaker. We hope members will invite family, friends, colleagues, and acquaintances to this special event. We have not yet received confirmation on the topic but have asked that Meng Foon speak to the evolving cultural mix in New Zealand with particular emphasis on the integration of Chinese communities (including his own journey) including:

- * confronting racism in local communities;
- * difficulties Chinese have integrating into New Zealand Society;
- * historical connections between Chinese settlers and Maori;
- * synergies between Maori and Chinese cultural practices and traditions.

China Week – February 17-19. Thursday events will be related to business and Friday will involve a community evening with performances, food and lanterns (as it will be Lantern Festival time). The branch is arranging the display of some of the gifts Nelson has received from China, Huangshi and Yangjiang in particular, and members will be asked to help supervise, and sell raffle tickets and Appo Hocton books.

Christine Ward Memorial Service - When Christine died in September, family and friends in Auckland were not permitted to travel. Her family made the decision to delay any service to honour Christine until travel was again possible.

It has now been decided to have a memorial service on Saturday, February 5 (Waitangi weekend). You are welcome to come to The Granary, Founders Heritage Park, 87 Atawhai Drive, Nelson, at 11 a.m., followed by refreshments. Those attending will need vaccine passes. For those unable to attend, the service will be livestreamed – details will be available for this closer to the time.

Heritage Month - April is Heritage Month in Nelson and the branch will be contributing in a small way. Diana Clark is speaking about her great-grandfather, Appo Hocton, at the library, and we will work with her to arrange a tour of the houses he built, and visit Appo Hocton Way. We expect this will be Thursday, April 21.

Karin Clyne – In 2018 the branch was given a generous donation by a member who wished to remain anonymous. As a result of her death in December, it can now be revealed that the donor was Karin Clyne who was frequently seen at our meetings.

According to Chinese Astrology - People born in a year of the Tiger are brave, competitive, unpredictable, and confident. They are very charming and well-liked by others. But sometimes they are likely to be impetuous, irritable, and overindulgent.

With stubborn personalities and tough judgment, Tigers work actively and express themselves boldly, doing things in a high-handed manner. They are authoritative and never go back on what they have said.

With great confidence and indomitable fortitude, they can be competent leaders. They will not make preparations for anything, but can handle anything that comes along.

A child born this year would be a water tiger and will have a strong sense of self-esteem and learning ability.

