

## Christchurch Branch Newsletter – April 2022

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### Next Meeting – 28 April 2022 (via Zoom)

Click here at 7.15pm 28 April and wait to be invited to join the meeting:

<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87560747149?pwd%3DQXA3cTZ3ZVpvY2dQUUGloNDByZ0ZxUT09&sa=D&source=calendar&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw2q57r6OnarUnv105KqSI57>

We will have two speakers at our meeting. We are honoured to have new **Consul General Madame He Ying**, who will give us a short introduction of herself and talk briefly about how China is tackling the latest Covid outbreak. She will be assisted by a translator.

This will be followed by:  
**Chris Lipscombe**

For ten years, Chris Lipscombe travelled with Wellington-based businesses, local government-based businesses, local government officials, Mayors, and councillors in the People's Republic of China, as General Manager, Creative Business and Technology with Wellington's regional economic development agency, Executive Director of his own company Ground Zero, and Manager Economic Development with Porirua City. From 2004 to 2013 Chris made fifty city visits to China. Some cities, like Ma'an Shan and Liuzhou, he visited only once or twice. Other cities like Xiamen, Beijing, and Shanghai Chris visited many times, leading or participating in civic and business delegations. After enough banquets, meetings, exhibitions, tours, and toasts to last a lifetime, Chris reflects on a decade that saw the establishment of the New Zealand-China Free Trade Agreement, the doubling of New Zealand exports to China, and Chinese tourism that — pre-Covid — reached over \$1 billion in revenue per annum. Post-Covid, the world may look very different, but the futures of New Zealand and China remain inextricably linked.



Chris has formerly served as Co-Chair of the China and New Zealand Business Council (CANZBC), Director of NZ China Trade Association (NZCTA), and President of Wellington Xiamen Association (WXA). He is currently Director of NZ China Cross-Border Electronic Commerce (NZCCC) and Trustee of NZ Chinese Language Week Trust (NZCLWT). Chris is also Wellington Branch President and Vice President (Central) of the New Zealand China Friendship Society (NZCFS).

At our monthly branch meeting, Chris will talk about what that future might look like for New Zealand, and for the New Zealand China

Friendship Society.



### ***Webinar, 29 March 2022***

This was hosted by the Chinese People's Assn for Friendship with Foreign Countries (All-China Youxie). It was themed as "Carry Forward the Spirit of Rewi Alley, open a new chapter of Friendship between peoples of New Zealand and China" with a working title of "New Zealand China Peoples' Friendship Year" Launch Ceremony.

This was planned as the initial forum to start the year of celebrations with NZCFS and for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NZ-China relations.

Wellington branch president Chris Lipscombe acted as MC on the New Zealand side. The webinar was opened by speeches from CPAFFC vice-president Ambassador Jiang Jiang and NZCFS President Dave Bromwich. This was followed by five minute video recorded speeches from Chinese Ambassador to New Zealand, Wang Xiaolong, and NZ ambassador to China, Clare Fearnley.

It focused on two sister city relationships: Wellington - Xiamen and Christchurch - Gansu. Wellington mayor Andy Foster spoke on the past achievements and forward hopes for the Wellington relationship, and Xiamen Vice Mayor Zhuang Rongliang spoke from Xiamen's side.

Dave Adamson, with his long serving role with the Christchurch City Council sister city relationship and his knowledge of NZCFS' engagement, outlined the activity and exchanges from the city's relationships with Gansu and Selwyn District's activity with Shandan. Gansu FAO president Zhang Baojun, replied for Gansu, followed by an outline from Lanzhou City University Rewi Alley Research Centre director Shi Hong on achievements and two-way activity with New Zealand. Maurice Alley suggested ways that Rewi's educational legacy may be continued today, and his hope for young people to become involved.

A total of 62 participants joined this webinar, including those from several provinces in China, and 28 from NZCFS.

Youxie recorded the webinar, and it is hoped we will receive a copy, which will be forwarded to all branches.



### ***17 – 19 June Conference: Auckland***

This year's National Conference and AGM will be held in central Auckland. As this year is the 125th anniversary of the birth of Rewi Alley, it will be a very important conference.

The venue for the afternoon workshop and evening drinks on Friday and the AGM on Sunday is the **Rewi Alley Commemoration Hall** at the NZ Bailie Training Base, UUNZ Tower, 76-78 Symonds St. The conference venue will also be in central Auckland, location TBC.

**Go to our website for registration details: [www.nzchinasociety.org.nz](http://www.nzchinasociety.org.nz)**

## 17 - 19 June 2022

**THEME: “What do friends do? Renewing and enhancing NZ China friendship in difficult times.”** 作为朋友该怎么做？在困难时期重振和增进新中友谊。

This follows last year’s theme: “What it means to be a friend of China”.

### Friday 17 June

**Venue: Rewi Alley Commemoration Hall**

**1.00–2.00 pm NZCFS National Executive Meeting**

Final meeting of the outgoing National Executive

**2.00–4.30 pm Youth Workshop**

2.00–3.00 pm Introduction of topic, introductory presentations by four panellists followed by Q&A

3.00–3.15 pm Afternoon tea

3.15–4.00 pm Breakout sessions

4.00–4.30 pm Report back & planning of Conference feedback

**4.30–6.30 pm Registration opens**

- Opening ceremony
- Speaker(s) to be confirmed
- Nibbles and drinks

### Saturday 18 June

**Venue: TBC**

**8.00–8.40 am** Registrations continue.

**8.40-9.15 am** Mihi whakatau, followed by Pat Turoa, Chin-Mao.

**9:15–10.10 am Keynote Speeches**

Presentations by China Embassy, Auckland Council, Minister, and National President Dave Bromwich

**10.10-10.30 am** Morning tea

**10.30–11.35 am Youth Forum**

Report from Friday workshop, followed by panel discussion and questions/discussion from the floor. Confirmed panelists Luke Rikiti, Ersha Island, and Laura Carter.

**11.35–12.10 pm** Presentation by Naisi Chen MP, followed by entertainment from Ersha Island.

- 12.10–1.00 pm** Lunch
- 1.00–1.15 pm** Videoconference link with National Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC).
- 1.15–2.15 pm** **Business Insights**
- Panel discussion and questions/discussion from the floor.  
Confirmed panelists David Mahon (videoconference link from Beijing) and Trevor Johnston.
- 2.15–2.35 pm** Videoconference link with Beijing CPAFFC.
- 2.35–3.10 pm** Presentation by NZCFS Patron Hon Sir David Carter, followed by entertainment.
- 3.10-3.30 pm** Afternoon tea
- 3.30-4.15 pm** **Media Perspectives**
- Debate on the conference theme, with representations for and against, followed by questions/discussion from the floor.  
Confirmed debater Any Boreham (videoconference link from Shanghai).
- 4.30–4.45 pm** Closing remarks from John McKinnon, former Ambassador to China and Chair of NZ China Council.
- 6.30–9.00 pm** **Chinese-Style Conference Banquet**
- Venue: TBC**

### **Sunday 19 June**

**Venue: Rewi Alley Commemoration Hall**

- 9.00–12.00** **NZCFS AGM**
- 1.30–3.00** **NZCFS National Executive Meeting**
- Inaugural meeting of the new National Executive.



### **Gansu News**

*Branch member Roger Davies, has spent several years in Gansu province. Owing to Covid, he has been in Christchurch now for some time, which has allowed him time to produce this following article, which you will find of interest. Thank you Roger.*

Gansu province, in NW China is at the roots of our history and friendship with China, and therefore of our mutual purpose of cooperation.

I've just found the "This is Gansu" page on Facebook and, scrolling back through the past six months or more, I'm staggered to see the scope of agricultural, technological, and industrial development occurring there now ~ a giant leap forward from the Gansu I first came to love in 2009.

A few of us, notably NZCFS national president Dave Bromwich, are working with rural cooperatives, and Phil Rolston of Lincoln University with his expertise in pastoral agriculture, has been there since the early stages of this evolution and progress. In my early years in Gansu, several of our Gansu friends made a deep impression on me, with their dedication and genuine drive to improve their rural economy and living standards. Now it's truly gratifying to see the progress they've made.

On the "This is Gansu" page, there are many photographs of development in several of the six rural counties in the Hexi Corridor administered by Zhangye City (Ganzhou, Shandan, Linze, Minle, Gaotai, and Sunan). Sunan has opened a photovoltaic industrial park. Shandan, at the core of our China friendship, now has a high speed rail station passing through **山丹马场** the military horse farm founded more than 2000 years ago, and famous for breeding the resilient horses which helped to develop both silk and tea routes. In Zhangye, a laboratory is tissue culturing disease-free vegetables on a vast scale for spring planting.

See: [www.facebook.com/ThisisGansu/](http://www.facebook.com/ThisisGansu/) (NO NEED SIGN IN)

Roger Davies / 罗杰



### **A Bailie School Old Boy Remembers**

The following very interesting article has been forwarded to us by Zhu Yuming (Stephen) of the Gansu Foreign Affairs office.

Zhang Xianwei is 98 years old now. He was a student of both Rewi Alley and George Hogg. From 1942 to 1950, Zhang studied and worked in Bailie Schools at Shuangshipu, Chengdu and Shandan as well as in Hunan with UN disaster relief administration. In 2019, his right hand was broken and early last year he hurt his waist. Despite this, Zhang stays well.



December 2 was the 124th anniversary of Rewi Alley's birth. This old man, with support from accessible facilities, took up his brush to practise his calligraphy so that he could memorialise his teachers. Although his style is not as good as it once was, he remains thankful for Rewi Alley and George Hogg.



The calligraphy reads:

***Adhere to school motto of Hands and Minds together, Create and Analysis, love motherland, work hard, and whole-heartedly cultivate talents for China's socialist modernization drive.***

***To: Gansu Bailie Vocational College***

***from: The first group of graduates from Bailie School,***

***Zhang Xianwei at 98 in Xingping, Shanxi Province, December 16, 2021***

What a wonderful touching story this is, and yet another example of the impact Rewi Alley, along with George Hogg, had on the people of China.

Thank you to Zhu Yuming for this story and photos.



## **Chu Cuisine**

Branch member Anna Lu is a teacher of Chinese at Hagley College, as many of you will know. She has a student who would like to learn about Chu cuisine. If you know of anyone interested in teaching it, or if in fact you wish to teach it, can you please contact Anna [annnnalu@gmail.com](mailto:annnnalu@gmail.com)

The following two websites give some details of Chu cuisine.

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hubei\\_cuisine](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hubei_cuisine)

and

<https://cookpad.com/uk/search/chu>



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