

# THE CAPITAL CHINA LETTER

## 新中通訊



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NEW ZEALAND CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY WELLINGTON BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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

NZCFS Wellington Branch - celebrating 70 years of promoting friendship, understanding and goodwill between the peoples of New Zealand and China

Newsletter November 2022

Next Branch Meeting: Wednesday 16 November 2022 at 6:30pm

Guest Speaker: David Lee



David was the first Chinese Councillor for Wellington City from 2013 to 2019. In 2019 David stood successfully for the Greater Wellington Regional Council and was elected for a second term in the October 2022 local body elections. An experienced urban planner and certified RMA commissioner, David has worked for 25 years in central government (NZ Defence Force, NZTA) and local government (Greater Wellington Regional Council, former North Shore City Council). During this time, David has developed a deep understanding of the processes and mechanisms for getting action and results.

**David's great-grandfather migrated to New Zealand some time late in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, making David's family a double Poll Tax paying family. Born and raised in Christchurch, David lived in Auckland before making Wellington his home.**

David will share his local government experience and life journey as a Chinese New Zealander.

## MEMBERS' MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings are held at

Newtown School Hall

The school is located on Mein Street, Newtown, Wellington (off Riddiford Street, car park entry from Mein Street alongside Wellington Hospital), and on bus routes 1, 3, 12, 18, 23, and 29.

There is plenty of carparking onsite.



*This is our last monthly meeting of the year. The following dates have been booked for the year of 2023: 15 February, 15 March, 19 April, 17 May, 21 June, 19 July, 16 August, 20 September, 18 October, 15 November. Please mark these dates in your calendar.*

## BRANCH MEETING 19 October 2022 — MEETING REPORT



At our October Branch Meeting, Ray Chung gave an inspiring talk about his life journey and election experience.

Born and bred in Wellington, Ray grew up in a family of nine siblings. His maternal grandfather came to Wellington in 1895 and his wife — **Ray's** grandmother — joined him in 1915. Like the majority of the established Chinese community members, both were Cantonese, coming from small villages in Zengcheng county. For 53 years **Ray's grandfather ran a variety of fruit shops, on Lambton Quay, Willis St, Newtown and Kilbirnie.**

**Ray's grandparents had 18 children, all born in** Wellington. His mother, Doris Chun, was born in 1917, the second child in the family. At 19, she **married Ray's father, Chung Chun Ying, who had arrived in Wellington as a 17-year old in 1920 to work in his uncle's Tory Street Chinese herbalist shop.** When his parents married, his father took over the herbalist business.

Growing up in the family house on Jessie Street, Ray shared the two important things his parents gave him and his siblings. They supported children to learn, and taught them the difference between right and wrong. Ray went to St Mark's School, took Cantonese classes after school, then went onto Wellington Tech.

After college, Ray started his career as an engineer for Telecom, building and maintaining telephone exchanges. It was a great job and Ray enjoyed working in the field. Then came an opportunity to move into office work as a Telecom production manager.



More by good luck than good management, says Ray, he went on to work in marketing. While working in sales and international business, Ray returned to part-time study at Massey University He gained **a Bachelor's degree in Marketing**, followed by a Diploma in International Business. Ray talked about the importance of learning the ropes by working in the field. He even gave feedback to the lecturer of the international **business paper that 'you don't do** any of these from **the textbook**'.

After a long and successful career in telecommunications, marketing and international business, moving from Telecom to work for international companies such as Unisys, Ericsson, and the German company Hansaluftbild, and working on almost every continent of the world, Ray decided that the time was right for him to give back to the city. He stood for Wellington City Council in 2016, and came fourth out of a field of seven — only 600 votes behind the lowest successful candidate. He worked with three others to establish the Onslow Residents and Community Association (ORCA) in 2017. ORCA helped residents in the Broadmeadows, Khandallah and Kaiwharawhara suburbs make their area a better place to live.

In his work with regional and city councillors, Ray became frustrated that things were not happening more quickly. So he decided to try again for Council in the Onslow-Western Ward in 2019. Unsuccessful a second time, he changed strategy this year to stand as a mayoral candidate, which increased his profile. Ray was ranked number three in the mayoral election, and was voted in as the top polling candidate for the Onslow-Western Ward.



When asked by a member of the audience about career advice, Ray highlighted the following

- **Don't be shy to take up opportunities.** Who knows what doors are open? I go to open a door that no-one sees.
- With people you meet on the journey, maintain your relationships.

After the talk, some very good questions were asked and attendees enjoyed good discussions about the meaning of being Chinese in New Zealand and the importance of language learning in Aotearoa. We thank Ray for his inspiring presentation and look forward to hearing more of Ray's work in the future.

## MANDARIN STORYTIMES AT WELLINGTON CITY LIBRARIES

The popular Mandarin Storytimes is back at Te Awe Library, 29 Brandon Street, Wellington Central. The time is first Tuesday of each month, 10:30-11:00am.



**Mandarin Storytimes**  
Te Awe Library  
Brandon Street  
**First Tuesday of the month!**  
Fun and interactive stories and rhymes for children aged 2–4 years with their caregivers. 10:30 - 11am.  
每个月的第一个星期二，在提亚威图书馆，上午10:30至11时，我们将会有中文普通话讲故事时间。  
通过故事和玩耍，儿童将会学习自我表述，并了解周围的世界。  
建议2-4岁儿童和家长参加，无需报名和入场费！  
**Nau mai rā tātou katoa**  
**Everybody is welcome**  
Wellington City Libraries    Absolutely Positively Wellington City Council  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

## ART EXHIBITION: FORTUNE

Artist Bev Moon has created a yum cha feast, not of food, but lovingly knitted wool. **FORTUNE** is the artist's tribute to her Chinese mother and grandmother who faced great obstacles to settle in New Zealand. Both women were superb cooks and accomplished knitters. Moon weaves both crafts together in this touching tribute. Complete with table and all the trimmings, this is a yum cha not to be missed.

The exhibition will be held at the [Expressions Art Centre Whirinaki Whare Taonga](#), 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt from Saturday 5 November till Sunday 23 January 2023.



Image Credit: Bev Moon, Fortune, 2021-22.  
Photograph by Richard Ng.

## THE STORY OF ARIES RESTAURANT #1



The date and venue for the 2023 Chinese New Year Banquet have been confirmed. The banquet will start 6:30pm on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at Aries Restaurant, 7 Tennyson Street, Wellington. Please mark this on your calendar.

In this newsletter, we introduce the Chinese name of the Aries Restaurant. The three characters 牮羣鱻 are all 三叠字, a type of Chinese character in which a single component is repeated three times.

Character	Sound	Connotation
犇	bēn	the momentum of the ox
羣	shān	the taste of the lamb
鱻	xiān	the freshness of the seafood

These three characters together represent elements essential to the restaurant.

In the next newsletter, we will share more about the name 'Aries Restaurant'.

## BRANCH OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

President: Chris Lipscombe

Vice President and Treasurer: Juping Zhou

Secretary: Vera Xu

Committee Members: Michael Dunwoodie, Liqin Mi

Honorary Advisor: Michael Powles

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

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## MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

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	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Single	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> Organisation	\$50

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

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

Address .....

Email .....

Contact Person for Organisation: .....

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

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.