



## Christchurch Branch Newsletter – March 2023

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 Alex Fraser  
 Matt McKenna  
  
 Laura Carter  
 Cara Chen

### 2023 Committee

At our 23 February Annual General Meeting, branch president David Stringer and treasurer Felicia Chen decided to not stand again in those roles; thank you David and Felicia for your work over the past two years.

The following were elected as your committee for the coming year:

President: Chris Goodwin  
 Vice Presidents: Graeme Tinkler and William Qiu  
 Treasurer: Anna Chen  
 Secretary: Gwynneth Tinkler

Vivien Qin, Jodie Martin, Dave Adamson, Alex Fraser, Laura Carter, David Stringer, Matt McKenna, Felicia Chen.

Welcome back Chris Goodwin as our branch president! Please give the committee your full support, and if you have any suggestions as to anything you feel we could be doing better or any activities or speakers which could be of interest, please feel free to approach any committee member.

NZCFS Christchurch Branch		NEWSLETTER
<b>A CHINESE POLICE OFFICER IN NZ</b>		
Speaker: Canterbury Police District Ethnic Liaison Officer Constable Liying Cai.		
Lying is one of the first Chinese women police officers in Christchurch and is well known in the community as an example of and champion for diversity. She is also a highly accomplished artist.		
This meeting will also be our annual AGM. There will be light refreshments served after presentations.	<b>JOIN US!</b>	
<b>LOCATION:</b> Rewi Alley Chinese School, Wairarapa Building, Oak Drive, (off Parkstone Ave or Spilway Ave)	7.30 PM 23 FEBRUARY 2023	

**23 February**

Canterbury Police District Ethnic Liaison Officer Constable Liying Cai gave us a very interesting talk on her experiences when she first moved to New Zealand from China several years ago; some amusing and of course some not so amusing. However, being the strong woman she is she overcame several challenges and obstacles to become the first Chinese police officer in Christchurch in her very important ethnic liaison role.

**30 March Speaker**

At the moment our March speaker has not been confirmed, but If we can get who we want then you certainly will not be disappointed! An email will be sent as soon as the details have been settled.



**Thank You Ailsa!**



Branch member Ailsa Dodge has just stepped down from the committee after an unbelievable service of 17 years. During that time she has helped in all sorts of capacities, the one probably most known to most of us is when she used to don her Mickey Mouse ears and sell raffle tickets at the banquets! Contrary to popular belief, and for those of you who only saw her at our banquets, the Mickey Mouse ears do not in fact grow out of her head!

Photo: John Tan

Ailsa has been on seven of our society's China tours, between 2012 to 2018. She used to say each time that the government was sending her to China; that was her way of saying she would squirrel away her government super and then have an annual spend!

At its last meeting, the committee voted unanimously to make Ailsa a Life Member of our branch.

Thank you Ailsa for your years of service and dedication to our society, and to the furtherance of understanding between New Zealand and China.



**National Conference, Tauranga: 19 - 21 May 2023**

**Theme: Friendship in Action**

As you will see from the following programme, planning is well underway for our exciting conference in Tauranga in May.

You can register for the conference through our society website:

[www.nzchinasociety.org.nz](http://www.nzchinasociety.org.nz) Conference & AGM

## New Zealand China Friendship Society Inc.

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Patron: Sir David Carter KNZM

Honorary Lifelong Patron: Simon Deng Li MNZM

President: Chris Lipscombe

E-mail [president@nzcfs.com](mailto:president@nzcfs.com)

### NZCFS 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AGM 19 –21 May

THEME: “Friendship in Action”

友谊在行动。

This follows last year’s theme: “What do friends do? Renewing and enhancing NZ China friendship in difficult times.”

This year’s National Conference and AGM will be held in Tauranga. The venue for Friday evening drinks, the National Conference on the Saturday morning, and the AGM on Sunday is:

Friday: The Armitage Hotel  
9 Willow Street  
Tauranga 3110

*All visiting conference attendees, including VIPs, speakers and panellists, are asked to gather outside the entrance to the Washington Room by 8.50 am on the day of the conference. Local conference attendees, including Tauranga Branch committee members, will be seated inside the room. Visitors (manuhiri) will be called into the room at 9.00 am for a mihi whakatau (welcome ceremony).*



## Friday 19 May

Venue: Domain Room  
The Armitage Hotel

2.00–3.30 pm **NZCFS National Executive Meeting**

Final meeting of the outgoing National Executive

4.00–5.00 pm Early registration opens in hotel foyer

Venue: Poolside Restaurant & Bar  
The Armitage Hotel

5.00–7.00 pm **Welcome function**

Presentation by Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) **TBC**

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## Saturday 20 May

Venue: Washington Room  
The Armitage Hotel

8.00–8.30 am *Registrations continue in hotel foyer*

8.45 am *Manuhiri assemble outside room entrance*

9.00–9.20 am Mihi whakatau by local iwi

Introduction & housekeeping by MC Rowan **TBC**

9.20–9.30 am Welcome by Western Bay of Plenty District Mayor James Denyer

9:20–10.00 am **Keynote speeches**

*NZCFS National President Chris Lipscombe*

*China Ambassador Dr Wang Xiaolong **TBC***

10:00–10:30 am **Panel discussion — “Friendship in Action: New migrants to Tauranga”**

*Tauranga Multicultural Council President Premila D’Mello*

*Tauranga City Diversity and Culture Advisor Haidee Kalirai*

*Representative from local marae **TBC***

10.30–10.50 am Morning tea

10.50–11.20 am **Zespri *Speaker TBC***

11.20–11.35 am **Labour MP *Speaker TBC***

11.35–12.05 pm **Panel discussion — “Friendship in Action: International students in Tauranga”**

- Former (?) international student **TBC**  
 Representative from Toi-Ohomai Windermere Campus **TBC**  
 Teacher from Tauranga Intermediate **TBC**
- 12.05–12.15 pm** Group photograph (VIPs, speakers, panellists and attendees from morning session)
- 12.15–1.20 pm** Lunch
- 1.25 pm** Assemble outside hotel entrance and leave on tour coach
- 1.30–4.30 pm** ***Tauranga Tours — “Friendship in Action: Primary exports from Tauranga”***

### ***Tauranga Port***

- 1.30–2.30 pm** **Port Site Induction** — everyone entering the Tauranga Container Terminal (TCT) at Sulphur Point AND the Mount Maunganui port sites must complete this induction before entering the Port.
- The Port** — Tauranga Port is now New Zealand’s largest port. Forestry, kiwifruit and dairy exports account for almost 75% of exports. Much of this cargo is destined for customers in Japan, China, South Korea, South East Asia, Australia and the Pacific Islands. China continues to receive the largest share of New Zealand exports.

### ***Kiwifruit Production***

- 2.30–3.30 pm** **Zespri Pack House** **TBC**
- 3.30– 4.30 pm** **Te Puke Kiwifruit Orchard** **TBC**
- 5.00 pm** Tour coach returns to hotel

**Venue: Oaktree Restaurant**

**1237 Cameron Road, Gate Pa, Tauranga**

- 6.30–9.00 pm** **Conference Banquet**
- Welcome from Tauranga Branch President Tina Zhang
  - Speeches **TBC**
  - Table seating

### **Sunday 21 May**

**Venue: Domain Room**  
**The Armitage Hotel**

- 9.00–12.00 pm** **NZCFS AGM**
- 12.00–1.30 pm** Lunch (own arrangements)
- 1.30–3.00 pm** ***NZCFS National Executive Meeting***
- Inaugural meeting of the new National Executive*



## ***NZ Heroes in China Tour: October 2023; 21 days!***

2021 was the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kathleen Hall's birth. 2022 was Rewi Alley's 125<sup>th</sup>. The focus of this exciting and interesting tour is to visit heritage sites of both Kathleen Hall and Rewi Alley, and organise some official/semi-official meetings with partners of their heritage in China. The plan includes activity like English corner with students in Gansu, Youxie support for forums on Rewi and Kayhleen, meet Kathleen Hall scholars, all to be confirmed. Along the way there will be a number of historical, cultural and scenic sites of interest. **Underlying all of course will be a diverse and authentic food experience of the regions!** And to have FUN!

This is a unique tour that only NZCFS can deliver. Through the focus on Rewi Alley and Kathleen Hall, it provides a platform for a broad appreciation of where China came from and how it got to where it is today, with contact with real people! All Inclusive cost estimate \$8500.

Have a look at our website [www.nzchinasociety.org.nz](http://www.nzchinasociety.org.nz) for further details of this exciting tour.



## ***Culture Galore: Saturday, 18 February***



Our branch has taken part in this annual event, which is always held in Ray Blank Park, for many years now. This year more than 30 cultures celebrated through food, arts and crafts, music and dance. With more than 40 food stalls available, everyone was kept well fed.

Chris Goodwin was as usual well-organised with his gazebo and all the requirements needed to set up on our site.

There was a huge crowd and a really festive atmosphere, with everyone enjoying the amazing array of ethnic food stalls, great entertainment on the stage and the superb weather (except for the wind gusts!).



Branch member Anna Lu's Chopstick Challenge drew a good crowd to our stall. She was assisted by two of her students from Hillview Christian School, who taught children how to use chopsticks. She also had her colour activity as well.

Committee members Matt McKenna, Gwynneth Tinkler, Chris Goodwin, William Qiu and Vivien Qin spoke to many people who were interested in our displays and what our society offers. Quite a few membership forms were handed out, so we're hoping to recruit some new members from this event.





## ***Teachers for Shandan Bailie School, Gansu Province***

Our society has had a request from the Shandan Bailie School (SBS), Gansu province, for us to supply two English teachers. The society sent a teacher annually to the school for many many years, although for various reasons this has not happened for the last two or three years. The SBS, which was founded by Rewi Alley in 1944, has about 3000 students. It is an integral part of the Rewi Alley/NZCFS story.

The role involves 20 hours per week. Qualified teachers of English are welcomed, but the school would accept somebody who has a good level or fluency, both spoken and written, in English. The school would like teachers to be there for one year; starting date to be negotiated with the school.

Our society will fund up to \$2500 per teacher for return airfares and visas. Travel costs within China will be paid by the school. The school will pay a monthly salary of 4500 RMB, as well as providing a furnished apartment (70 m<sup>2</sup>-90 m<sup>2</sup>) including natural gas, water, electricity, heating, and internet.

This is an exciting opportunity to be involved in the Rewi Alley legacy in a very interesting part of China. It will be an adventure never to be forgotten!



Rewi Alley's house at the school



For further details please contact National Secretary Dave Adamson [secretary@nzcfs.com](mailto:secretary@nzcfs.com)





***Branch Officers***

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