

Christchurch Branch Newsletter – August 2023

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In This Issue

- ❖ Important Notice: New Meeting Location
- ❖ 31 August Speaker - Luba Roth
- ❖ Harcourts Gold Spitfire Art Competition 2023
- ❖ Concept Reset Art Exhibition
- ❖ 2024 Chinese New Year Festival Celebration
- ❖ Branch Officers

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IMPORTANT NOTICE: NEW MEETING LOCATION

As from our 31 August branch meeting, our new location will be:

**Upper Riccarton Methodist Church
3 Brake Street
Upper Riccarton**

31 August Speaker - Luba Roth



Our speaker this month will be Luba Roth. Some of our branch members will remember when Luba spoke at a meeting something like 10 years ago. She has had a very interesting life. To quote Luba:

Kia ora, Ni hao, Brivet, Salut, Grüß dich, Hello, I am Luba Lu-Belikoff-Roth.

Uprooted from China, my family landed in France. In my youth, I lived and worked in Paris known as the city of haute couture and haute cuisine.

Immigrated to down under and married Edgar from Germany. China is my motherland, France, my second home, and New Zealand, the ultimate 'Home Sweet Home'.

Luba's parents were Chinese and Russian; a very interesting mix. Luba's life has been quite an adventure; this is guaranteed to be a fascinating talk.

Harcourts Gold Spitfire Art Competition 2023

Branch members will remember we held a very successful art competition last year for schools around the South Island. We received about 220 entries from as far north as Nelson and as far south as Western Southland; pretty amazing really.

We are pleased to announce that we will hold the competition again this year, with very generous financial support once again from Harcourts Gold Spitfire, in association with AJ White Motors.

This year's competition theme is **'Happy Chinese New Year'** and will be in three groups: Years 1 – 4, Years 5 – 8, Years 9 – 10 with the prizes being vouchers from Harvey Norman.

Documentation has now gone out to all South Island schools, giving the competition rules and guidelines. Following the closing of entries, judging will occur on 14 October. All entries will be displayed for 10 days from 10 am Saturday 4th November in the TSB room, Level 1, Tūranga (Central Library), 60 Cathedral Square, Christchurch, with the prizegiving commencing at 2.30 pm.

We will come back to you with further details on this exciting competition.



Concept Reset Art Exhibition The Great Hall, Christchurch Arts Centre 10 – 11 August

This very interesting exhibition was opened by Consul-General Madam He Ying on Thursday 10 August.

Our society's National Patron Sir David Carter was in attendance and gave a speech of welcome. The day before, he kindly hosted all the artists for a visit to his farm, which was greatly enjoyed by all.



Art works were exhibited by 10 different Chinese artists, each work being in a different medium. Unfortunately the exhibition only ran for two days, so the opportunity to see it is now gone.



2024 Chinese New Year Festival Celebration



A meeting of representatives from nine organisations - which has formed into the Chinese Advisory Group - was held on Sunday 30th July to hear the outline of a proposal to hold a multicultural event, planned for 9 - 11 February 2024. Branch member Vivien Qin was MC for the meeting and has a major role in the planning of the event. There will be stage performances from multicultural groups in the afternoon and Chinese groups in the evening, as well as food stalls and a lantern making festival. Five members of our branch committee attended the meeting.



The event will be expensive to stage, although some seeding funding has been provided by the council. A fundraising event is planned for 28th September at Madam Kwong's restaurant; details to come.

This is going to be a very exciting and important event for our city. We will keep you advised as further details unfold.

Branch Officers

- President: Chris Goodwin goodie.chris@gmail.com
- Vice President: Graeme Tinkler gandgtinkler@gmail.com
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- Branch Honorary Patron: Diana Madgin