

Christchurch Branch Newsletter – May 2023

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25 May Speaker



Our speaker this month will be Dr David Heath. His talk will be about grazing animals and human hydatid cysts, and the dogs! He will talk a little about New Zealand, and then describe his work in China for the past 20 or more years.

His background summary below shows this will be a very interesting talk.

Strategic Consultation on Hydatid Disease Control and Dog Population Management.

Project Champion for the EG95 anti-hydatid vaccine. (Echinococcus granulosus)

Project Champion for the TO18 anti-sheep measles (Taenia ovis) vaccine.

Previous joint-leader of Possum Biological Control research in New Zealand

- Working in China from 1997 to 2017 with AgResearch and NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- First 10 years in Xinjiang and Beijing. Second 10 years in Sichuan and Beijing
- 2006 **Jinding Award** in appreciation of your enthusiastic support to economic construction and social progress in Sichuan Province from Zhang Zhongwei, Governor, Sichuan Province.
- 2007 **Friendship Award** in appreciation of your enthusiastic support for China's construction and your friendly co-operation.

Consul General Madame He Ying to Wainui



A month or so back your branch committee decided to hold a function for Consul General Madame He Ying, where we could thank her for her friendship and the positive impression she has made since she arrived in Christchurch. It was also seen as a way for the committee and Madame He to get to know each other better, which of course is very important in all relationships.

Branch member Dave Adamson offered the use of his family bach at Wainui on Banks Peninsula as a suitable venue. The function was held in April, and weather in the week previous was not good, with the forecast even worse for the weekend of the function. Happily, the Saturday dawned calm and by afternoon brought us sunshine, which meant all were able to sit on the deck and enjoy the views.

A delightful day of good food, good fellowship and good views over Akaroa Harbour was enjoyed by all. With the salmon farm being a short distance along the coast, it was of course important that we had delicious salmon steaks amongst the range of food available.



By a happy coincidence, Kiwi Andy Boreham, who has lived in Shanghai for several years and is business editor with the Shanghai Daily, was in town with two of his colleagues as they were working on a documentary to do with Rewi Alley. This was a chance too good to miss of course so we ensured they were invited along to the day as well. For his two colleagues, it was their first visit to New Zealand, so to be able to visit a typical Kiwi bach by the sea added another exciting experience for their time here.



For the committee, this was a great opportunity for it to get to know Madame He better, and she really is a very delightful woman. Very kind, very friendly, very smiley, easy to talk to.

Judging by the buzz of interest and voices, I think we can confidently say the afternoon was a resounding success. Certainly, Madame He did not seem to be in a hurry to leave!

We know that something like this will for Madame He be a welcome piece of pleasurable relaxation from her normally very busy life, and of course it gives us the ability to give her an insight into Kiwis; who we are, what we do etc.

All in all a very successful function, and the committee is quite confident it and Madame He Ying now know each other much better, which will undoubtedly lead to even better relations in the future.



Annual Conference, 19 – 21 May: Tauranga

By the time you receive this newsletter, our annual conference will be underway. A lot of work has gone into the planning of it, and we are very confident it will be a great success. Watch next month's newsletter for all the conference news!



Dave Bromwich in China

At the November 2022 meeting of the National Executive, Previous National President Dave Bromwich was appointed our society's Special Envoy in China with "*Powers include the ability to facilitate dialogue with and enter into negotiations on behalf of the New Zealand China Friendship Society and do all those things that are needful to advance the reputation, resources, and capability of the Society in China*".

He is in China at the moment. He's been there for about three weeks, and will come back to New Zealand in June. He forwarded a report for his activities to date to the Senior Executive, which is so interesting we thought it was of value to forward to our membership.

*After Guangzhou, stopped over in **Guilin**, met with old colleagues from Guangxi Institute of Botany, with whom I have worked off and on for the last 25 years. Met with old friend from Guilin Foreign Affairs Office, (FAO) and met the young woman who will replace him in the NZ relationship with Hastings. Future young people's exchanges still open to their support (2016, 2017, 2018 had a series of visits between Hawke's Bay Youth Orchestra and Guilin Children's Palace, (funded by our society's RAFE Fund).*

*Flew to **Xi'an**. Attended a Gong He forum and unveiling of a Rewi Alley statue at Peihua University, the first private University in China, and high stature today. I facilitated a NZ teacher there some years back. They have opened a Rewi Alley Commemoration Hall there, including a series of photos I provided covering our activity in Shaanxi - cooperative workshops, He Ming Qing scholars. Met a vice president of Xi'an FAO/Youxie if we need a connection there in the future. Met Yang Yang and a new person at Shaanxi Provincial Women's Federation. Met two of our HMQ scholars there. Did not go to Fengxian on this occasion.*

*Travelled to **Baoji**, visited the Changle Yuan, the old cave factory supported by Rewi Alley, opened in 1940. Most famously, a cotton mill, all hidden from Japanese bombers. Photos provided to Amy for Facebook. The factory museum just opened last year, with some good foot traffic visiting this site.*

*Train to Lanzhou then **Shandan**. Arrived after midnight. Just stayed two nights. Met with Leaders of the old Shandan Bailie School (SBS) and new Bailie Vocational College (BVC). Report sent; teachers requested. They also have a new Memorial Hall of Bailie School history, including a record of the teachers provided from 1944 through to 2019, with a gap from 1952 to 1987, when Tom Newnham went back. After such a record of teacher placements, it would be sad to be unable to continue this. Their brief is to maintain relationships with NZ. Also, a new Rewi Alley Commemoration Hall there, very good!*

*Train to **Lanzhou**, where I stayed for four days. A forum on Rewi Alley's spirit, where I was a guest speaker. Had a good relationship with the new Party secretary, and President. Met them both with Shi Hong and the new international relations officer to promote the proposal to establish an on-line cooperative training programme there as a continuation of the co-op workshops we delivered in Gansu and Shaanxi. An open response from them that they are considering.*

Visited Lanzhou Resources and Environment Vocational Tech University at request of both Shandan BVC and Chen Jinming. High level research into environment and impacts. I forwarded a project I designed with SBS and a technical college in Guangzhou in late 2019, looking for some traction with them.

Flew to **Qingdao** to support Chen Jinming there in relationships. Facilitated the inclusion of FAO, who enthusiastically received me. Qingdao and Auckland have a sister city relationship. A district of Qingdao is looking for a sister city relationship. Suggest a district of Auckland could be approached.

I kept open earlier plans to stopover in **Shanghai** on the way back to NZ on May 2 (today!), but in fact now return to Gansu to spend 3 weeks in Shandan, where they are desperate for a foreign face. They would like me to stay 3 months, or a year, but that long is not part of my programme for this year. Keep promoting the NZ teacher request please!



NZ Heroes of China tour: 10 - 31 October 2023

2021 was the 125th anniversary of Kathleen Hall's birth. 2022 was Rewi Alley's 125th. An overview of the tour itinerary is to travel from Beijing to Shandan, ending in Shanghai. The focus 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 RA and KH, 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!**



NZCFS is confident that we are able to deliver this tour free of restrictions on both international travel and in-China travel, free of constraints from Covid other than testing requirements. Expressions of interest are free from commitment at this stage.

What an exciting tour! For further details go to our society website www.nzcfs.com Get Involved China Tours

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!



New China Media Links

The following are portions of a number of interesting interviews National President Chris Lipscombe has given recently.

Insights | China an increasingly important engine of world economy: New Zealand's expert

<http://www.ecns.cn/cns-wire/2023-04-10/detail-ihcnkeae0511194.shtml>

Insights | New Zealand, China have room for exchanges: expert

<http://www.ecns.cn/video/2023-04-09/detail-ihcnkeae0510002.shtml>

Insights | BRI brings opportunities to New Zealand enterprises: expert

<http://www.ecns.cn/video/2023-04-09/detail-ihcnkeae0510354.shtml>

Insights | China's modernization brings world ability to scale, create multiple iterations: expert

<http://www.ecns.cn/video/2023-04-09/detail-ihcnkeae0510352.shtml>

Insights | Chinese macroeconomic policies provide certainty for foreign enterprises: expert

<http://www.ecns.cn/video/2023-04-09/detail-ihcnkeae0510350.shtml>

Insights | Chinese tourists important to New Zealand: expert

<http://www.ecns.cn/video/2023-04-09/detail-ihcnkeae0510004.shtml>

Insights | China's economic strength, resilience to bring Asia Pacific increased prosperity: expert

<http://www.ecns.cn/video/2023-04-09/detail-ihcnkeae0510000.shtml>



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