



NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION AUCKLAND INC

紐西蘭屋崙華聯會

PO.BOX 484 Shortland St, Akld.1140 -- www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz -- Spring Newsletter 2011

Dinner hosted by Madam Liao and her Consulate staff ;

NZCA Akl. Lawn Bowls Tournament - Glendowie



Winner of Viva Eclectika 2011 -- NZCA / AUT Dance team::

Ol' Tram- Wynyard Quarters:

NZCA / ACCC celebrating 62nd Anniversary of Peoples Republic of China

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On johns mind.



Since last attacking the keyboard quite a few events have past. What can't you buy online these days ? Electronic gear, Books, Clothes. Furniture, Watches, and we can go on and on. Well we had problems with the Nike RWC All Black Jersey. Yeh, they

pulled the plug for NZ residents when they got wind of supporters buying online for nearly half the price of the product being sold in NZ !

Is there such a thing as a free choice ? Goes to show how powerful corporations can manipulate the Free markets !

You also have to be computer savvy to buy online and if you don't mind the inconvenience of waiting for the purchase to be delivered, and of course most important is whether they will accept your credit card !

Now that I have mentioned credits - Never thought that the Auckland branch of the NZCA could be dragged into a local community election between two community minded candidates. I am baffled to understand why a topic bearing no relevance was used in a prepared election speech by the incumbent officer! , but it did happen, Oh Yeah !!

I suppose having a long association and being a life member of the organization at that can also becomes irrelevant when one is desperate ! Divide and conquer ?

12 years on now and unfortunately it makes one think twice as we all worked damn hard to try and stay harmonious and united.

Burning bridges amongst the community is a thing of the past, well I thought so, Had we not matured and moved on since 1999 ? Were we not looking towards a harmonious future amongst the community ? Well we must accept that politics can bring out the best or the worse of personalities. So much said but that's the way I saw it.

Now talk of seeing things . What did you think ? So-oo-o much Rugby over the last month – great to be entertained with very competitive matches

.Ireland upsetting Australia – France losing to Tonga –and the other nail biters – Argentina vs Scotland, South Africa vs Wales. and England vs Scotland. Whew ! and to boot – Rugby League- Warriors vs Manly – depression settling in, Ugh hhh ! But do we care ? Sure , but there is next season to have go for the NRL Trophy ! Silver Ferns are performing with Gusto with great wins and the Black Caps are playing with increased determination in Zimbabwe. Last of all need I mention the ALL BLACKS ? Are the Saviors of New Zealand ? Nail biting encounters to the very last minute ! Goes to show what Team efforts can achieve ! Are we not proud to be Kiwi Chinese ?

* * * * *

Letters to the editor--

Dear friends at NZCA,

thank you so much for your recent support at The First Asian AB ! In a burst of end-of-year activity, I am now putting on my second play of the year, *The Bone Feeder* (inspired by the story of the SS Ventnor). Some of you may have seen or heard of this two years ago when it was a university production. The play is now greatly expanded, and makes its professional debut at TAPAC in two weeks with a full cast of 19. We're promising a deep emotional journey and visual splendour with aerial wirework, shadow play, dance and live music. But you can be the judge!

I owe a debt to the NZCA as it was Nigel Sew Hoy's speech at a Banana conference many years ago which set me to thinking about this story. The cast is nearly all local Chinese, so please come and support our future culturemakers!

There's a group rate, a concession rate for seniors and our preview night is the 9th when all tickets are \$20 adults, \$15 children. The play is suitable for families and lasts 75 minutes. Details below and press release attached.

Renee Liang

The Bone Feeder 9-20 Nov

www.bonefeeder.com

How far would you go to find your family?

TAPAC, 100 Motions Rd, Western Springs

\$15-\$30

Bookings phone [\(09\) 8450295](tel:098450295) from 10am – 5pm or online at <http://tapac.org.nz>

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Chairman's message



As I write this on the eve of the Rugby World Cup final the nation has been caught up by the hype and emotion of the All Blacks run to the Final for the past 6 weeks. I hope you have all enjoyed the past 6 weeks as much as I have.

We as a Branch will have our own exciting tournament in April next year as we host the **64th Annual NZCA Easter Sports and Cultural Tournament**.

Planning is well in advance for a successful event. We do however still need volunteers to help run the day to day operations of the tournament, so if you can spare a few hours during Easter please contact myself.

Congratulations to the NZCA Auckland and AUT Dance school collaboration for winning the bi-annual Viva Eclectika dance competition-

Monica Mu and Mathew Chan were impressive in their dance performance telling the love story of the Dragon and the Taniwha. As part of their prize they got to perform as part of the Rugby World Cup Mardi Gras during September at Britomart.

I would like to thank **Gillian Young** for all the hard work and dedication that she has put into driving the **NZCA Women's Group**. She is stepping down from the leadership after 10 years to spend time travelling with Brian. We wish her all the best. We welcome **Myra Lowe** into the role of leading the women's group, I am sure that you will all give Myra your support in this role.

We have recently celebrated the **62nd Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China** by hosting a joint function with the Auckland Chinese Community Centre at the ACCC premises at 1 New North Road. We were joined by Madam Liao, the Consulate General and her deputy Consul Li and members of both organisations. I would like to thank Connie and her band of helpers for the excellent afternoon tea that everyone enjoyed.

With summer now well on its way we have organised an outing to the **Zealong Tea Plantation** in the Waikato. You can get details on www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz - I know that this will be a very popular outing so please book early or you could be disappointed.

We are still taking applications to the inaugural NZCA Youth Leadership camp for 14 to 18 year olds from 9 to 11 December at Camp Adair- if you are interested please contact myself or David D.Wong or the committee.

We are also offering 5 scholarships worth \$200 each for financial members to attend the NZCA Leadership Development Conference to be held in January 2012 in Palmerston North. This is a great opportunity for recent graduates to network with like-minded young professionals. **Please contact Kai Luey or David D.Wong for details.**

Our annual Xmas BBQ is on Saturday 3 December at the ACCC hall in Taylor Road, all members and their friends are welcome to join the committee for this family event. Also it is a good time to renew your annual subscriptions for the 2012 financial year. Our annual subscriptions are the lowest in the country \$10 for single member over 18 or \$20 for a family with children under 18. Without your continued membership we would not be able to run some of our events for our members. I hope to see you all there.

My final thought is Go the All Black



An interview with Virginia Chong JP, the newly elected first woman national president of the New Zealand Chinese Association.

Interviewed by Vivian Chow



Virginia, can you tell something about yourself.

Well, I have been married to Philip for thirty-seven years and am mum to three adult sons. Two are doctors and one a dentist. Have two daughters-in-law, - we are looking forward the birth of our first grandchild at the end of this year

I am a poll-tax descendant – my maternal and paternal grandparents paid the poll-tax. I was first involved with the Auckland Chinese Club when I was sixteen. My father firmly believed that Chinese should marry within the community, so this Club was started to ensure there were social activities and opportunities for Chinese youth to meet on a regular basis other than the Annual Easter Tournaments and Chinese New Year outings. I helped in the fundraising to establish the ACCC at Mangere about thirty years ago in the mid 1980s and later on was the Fundraising Chairperson on the ACCC

committee for the fundraising for the Chinese New Year and Dragon Boat Festivals.

Have been fully committed on the committee of NZCA Auckland Br for over ten years and organising the Bananas Conferences since its inception. My other passion is to promote the NZCA Heritage Tours to China as part of the NZCA programme, together with the annual Youth Winter Camp. with the Poll Tax Heritage

Have served for 15 years from 1995 to 2010 as a local body elected representative for the Eden-Albert ward of Auckland City, prior to the formation of the Supercity. I was appointed a JP for about 8 years ago.

I didn't play much sport in my younger days but am now into swimming and biking to keep fit. I am not really a sports person. I am more interested in Chinese history, sewing, knitting, handicrafts, cooking, baking and of course, eating hence the need for regular exercise.

What motivated you to stand for election as the National President?

It's about wanting to give back to my community which has a focus on the well-being of the Chinese and the Chinese youth. It's about wanting to be supportive and involved in the fellowship and helping to get things done in the community. Having served as the National Vice-president was good training ground for my present role.

What do you see as a priority for NZCA at the national level?

There isn't any particular priority above keeping the focus on the well-being of the Chinese in New Zealand and that NZCA continues to be the leading organisation. We now have the Future Dragonz and the Leadership Development Conference/LDC which are growing from strength to strength. We have also started the Youth LDC programme to appeal to the youth at the secondary school level. We are currently working on documenting NZCA's history and the possibility of holding another Bananas Conference in the near future.

What message do you have to the young adults of Chinese heritage?

Explore and know your culture, your roots and learn from these experiences. Appreciate and embrace your Chinese heritage as one of the many diverse cultures that are part of New Zealand. Accept and meet the challenges of being a Chinese New Zealander, to be the best you can be and contribute your skills and abilities to be a leader in your community



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Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon in Auckland.



It seems to me that Auckland has “crouching tigers and hidden dragons”. I have a chat with Kai Luey who has retired from being the President of NZCA in Auckland for the last ten years. I find a man of vision, vitality and passion for the cause for the Chinese community and as the interview evolved, I am increasingly convinced that as the crouching tigers and hidden dragons take the reigns in the future, it will be one man’s dream realised.

Kai, is life much more relaxed now?

Relaxed? No way! I’m busy busy. Let me see – Just this week, well, we had our NZCA Youth Leadership Camp meeting last night and I was up until 1.30am finishing work for the stalls at the ACCC 2012 CNY Festival which will be the sixth time I have been the Event Organiser; also working on sponsorships & the cultural concert for the Easter Tournament next year; I am ACCC’s property manager for 1 New North Road and co – Chair with Ron Sang of the Auckland Chinese Garden Steering Committee for which I recently gave a Powerpoint presentation at a few days notice to the Waitemata Local Board for a site in Outhwaite Park, Grafton. Thankfully we have now deferred the next Bananas Conference to 2013 instead of 2012. Yes, and I took time off to personally witness the All Blacks win the 2011 RWC Final and revel in the celebrations downtown on Monday.

As the immediate Past President of NZCA and a position which you have held for the last ten years, what has been the most fulfilling achievement/s that you feel you have accomplished for NZCA?

Looking back, I can say that together with my team, NZCA Auckland Branch is now on the map in the local and mainstream communities. It has won recognition. Our membership has kept increasing from about 200 to over 700 financial members. I have every reason to believe that NZCA Auckland Branch is the leading branch in NZ. Major activities have been implemented ... the last four International Bananas Conferences, the Dragon Sculpture presented to the 2008 NZ Olympic Team at the Beijing Games, Leadership Development

Conferences, Future Dragonz, the inaugural Youth Leadership Camp; the Women’s Group, the Bilingual School, the Senior Lifestyle Group. Then there are a host of social activities and festivities which draw the community together.

What drives you to do what you have been doing? It certainly takes more than time and energy. .

As in life, we should work at what we believe in - to achieve good end results. With the support of teamwork I want to make sure that our community stays together. In particular, I want the youth to realise and remember their Chinese heritage whilst living in a Western Society. I want to encourage the youth to step up and recognise their true potential. The best time is to do it NOW! The opportunities are now all here, something which we did not have in our youth. At the same time they should respect their heritage and culture and ensures that this lives on in them.

What were some of the challenges that you have experienced?

Its probably the language issue. For many of my generation born in NZ, we do not know the Chinese language – the Chinese literacy. It would have been easier in our communication with the new migrants to be bilingual in Chinese and English.

Probably, an issue is the new migrants tend to have their own enclaves. It is not easy to integrate. In future, we will all be recognised as Chinese New Zealanders despite our different backgrounds and multiple identities. All this will take time to evolve.

A challenge has been to attract the youth to NZCA and to make NZCA relevant to them. Not an easy task but we’re succeeding with initiatives like setting up Future Dragonz in Auckland and national initiatives –the Winter Camp, the Leadership and Development Conference and now the Youth Leadership Camp. Its part of succession planning for NZCA to work in tandem with the youth and ultimately pass on the reigns.

What message do you have for the young adults who can drive the future of NZCA?

My advice to all Chinese youths is to be proud of your Chinese heritage and to value education, moral values and family traditions. With the trend towards global economies and the emergence of China as a major world power, the opportunities for your true worth to be developed and recognised has never been better.

As the interview draws to a close, Kai reflects on the huge opportunities for all those crouching tigers and hidden dragons in Auckland and recalls “a faithful heart makes wishes come true” quote from the iconic movie ‘Crouching Tigers Hidden Dragons’.



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DIARISE your CALENDER for COMING EVENTS

ACCC Fun Dance

A fun night of all your favourite BALLROOM & LATIN dances.

Plus a few novelty dances.

Live Band "Amarillos"

Saturday, 12 November 2011

7.30 pm – 11.15 pm

99 Taylor Road, Mangere

Scrumptious Supper (Yummy)

Admission \$15 [BYO]

*Fund Raised Used To Keep The Hall In Top Condition
For Your Dancing Pleasure*

NZCA Akld ORGANISED One Day Trip

Sunday 27th November 2011

SPRING EXCURSION to ZEALONG TEA ESTATE –HAMILTON

Learn some interesting facts about Tea history

48 hectare plantation - traditional tea ceremony

PRICE: \$45 per adult (members only)

Price includes entrance fee to Tea estate (excludes lunch)

Casual dress, comfortable shoes and bring: drink / camera / sun hat and other comfortable gear for sun or rain,(walking stick) etc.

We had some disappointed members on our last trip !

So reserve your seats early *Limited seating !

For seat bookings: Connie or John Kum. P: 625 8611 E: cojay@xtra.co.nz

NZCA ANNUAL B B Q

Saturday 3rd December 2011 from 12 noon:

Welcome all members and families to join with the committee for an
exciting and happy pre-christmas function !

Food - Fun-and Friendship !! Lolly scramble – entertainment - games-
and a visit by Santa Claus for the children !

Chinese Community Centre. 99 Taylor Road Mangere

* Members free (* bring your membership card) non-members \$5



Training Wushu at Shaolin Temple

Wushu College

Simplicity and pure. That is the way of Shaolin life.

- a blog by Helen Cheng



Far away from your material world, from things, from stuff, from the ordinary life. You are not away from responsibility, but rather you are your sole responsibility, and you have all the time in the world to devote to yourself. Ultimately, you are here to train your body, your mind, and your soul. Simple, and pure.

I arrived here at Shaolin temple wushu training college in Henan after my China trip. It's a dream come true, and also an honour to train at the oldest temple of martial arts, where it all began thousands of years ago.

It's a bit more rural here, in the mountains. And it's quite funny seeing the well dressed and glamourize tourists wandering through the grounds and woods of Shaolin, in between the athletes in Shaolin uniform, and the golden and bronze status.

I can't help remembering how much I hated it and regreted it on my first day. What was I thinking? Training 5 hours a day in China's summer weather. But somehow Shaolin has a way to energize you, a new synergy found within you, and sooner enough before you know it, you are in sync and in love with the simple yet driven lifestyle, and never wanting to leave.

I am also extremely honoured and grateful for my especially warm welcome at Shaolin, though it's not what I would have wanted to start with, I'd like to think that I've earned my own stripes too, by the letter of appointment from the college, as their honorary English tutor.

To my great coach, I am extremely grateful for all my training, for your great patience, and also never laughing at me! And of course all the little but important lessons about wushu which is most valuable. I am sure these will help me greatly in my hopefully long road of wushu journey.

Life has a funny way of making you realise what you have, and what you don't have. Yes I may live in a big city with a secure 9 to 5 job, a city girl with all the material needs fulfilled. Driven, too, with all my commitments. But where is the time to reflect on your life, your self growth, and your soul?

I can't help but wonder if I am moving through life at such a fast pace that I haven't stopped to smell the roses? And can I really give up the lifestyle I have lived and known all my life?

Soul searching. At Shaolin. 2011.

Got something to promote or sell?

The NZCA Auckland newsletter reaches to over 1000 of our members!

Competitive rates available:

	1 issue	4 issues			
Full page	\$299	\$800	Half page	\$199	\$500
Quarter page	\$99	\$300			Price exclusive of GST

Contact John Kum: P: 625 8611 ; 021 1150689mb E: cojay@xtra.co.nz

華人網路社區

Chinese Digital Community

The Chinese Digital Library contains Historical and contemporary information, articles, images, videos, documents and web links about New Zealand community. www.chinesecommunity.org.nz



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New Zealand Chinese History

Have you had a recent look at your old photo albums, or things collected over the years – like wedding invitations, restaurant menus, sports club memorabilia, concert tickets, China Ball information, newspaper clippings, magazines?

The Chinese Digital Community contains historical and contemporary information, articles, images, audio, video, documents and web links about New Zealand's Chinese community. And they are looking for your articles. The site is easy to use, and a good place to share your memories. Here's the website <http://chinesecommunity.org.nz/en/site> . Have a go. We'd love to see what you have.

If you know the first names of these men from the Chinese Young Men's group, 1938, please let us know. You can add the information to the above website.



Back Row- N Choy, C Lum, J Lee, D Yin, Harry Chan, Willie Chan, Dan Chan Lee ; A W Gunn
Middle Row - Cecil Chan, M G Wong, A Yin, T Wong, C Wah Lee, A Fong, G Narotam, Y F Sin , H Kane
Front Row G W Yew, L F Wong, Charlie Chan, W Sidnam, H Ah Kew (Lawyer) Rev Y Chau, Allen On Kee, L Logan, Stanley Chan
Sitting in front -Peter Wong, K Steven , N W San



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An interesting newspaper report on a Chinese Wedding 1941- for the newsletter. (70 years ago)

CHINESE MARRY- BIG MASTERTON WEDDING

There were picturesque scenes at St. Matthew's Church, Masterton, on Tuesday night when a gathering of several hundred people crowded the church and its precincts to witness the marriage of Mok Chow Lunn, daughter of Mrs. P. G. Mok, Canton, China, to Norman Gee Dong, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Gee Dong, Masterton. The church was decorated for the ceremony, a choral one, conducted by the Ven. Archdeacon E. J. Rich. The bride, who had recently come from China, and had been in New Zealand a few weeks only, was a daughter of friends of Mr. and Mrs. Gee Dong. The ceremony was the culmination of a childhood romance for the bride and groom had known each other since their school days. The bride, who was escorted by Mr. Henry M. Dong, wore a trained gown of magnolia satin and a tulle veil. She was attended by Misses Grace and Joyce G. Dong, and two little flower girls, Molly Gee Dong and Catherine Gee (Wellington). The best man was Mr. David Wong (Wairoa), and the groomsman was Mr. James Gee (Wellington). The reception was held at the Masonic Hall, where Mr. and Mrs. Gee Dong entertained over 150 guests from all parts of the North Island. The respect and esteem in which the Dong family is held was shown by the fact that well over half of those present were Europeans. Mrs. Dong wore a dark coffee-coloured Chinese silk costume, with a shoulder spray to tone. A lengthy toast list was honoured. - Mr. Willie Wong (Carterton) acting as interpreter. The reception concluded with a dance. Mr. and Mrs. Norman Gee Dong will reside at Wellington.

Evening Post, Volume CXXXII, Issue 76, 26 September 1941, Page 8

Helen Wong

CHOCOLATE YOGHURT CAKE

Serves: 12-16

**Preparation and Cooking time:
55 minutes**

Chocolate Cake:

1 cup Fresh 'n Fruity Greek Style Lite Yoghurt
125g butter, melted and cooled
1 cup caster sugar
1 large egg
1 tsp vanilla essence
1 ¼ cups self-raising flour
½ cup cocoa powder
1 tsp baking soda

Chocolate yoghurt topping:

150g dark cooking chocolate (coarsely chopped)
½ cup Fresh 'n Fruity Greek Style Lite Yoghurt

Method:

1. Heat oven to 180°C. Lightly grease a 20cm round spring-form cake tin and line the base with baking paper. Combine yoghurt, melted butter, sugar, egg and vanilla essence in a bowl. Whisk together until sugar dissolves.
2. Sift together flour, cocoa and baking soda and add to the wet mixture, stirring just enough to combine into a smooth batter.
3. Pour mixture into prepared cake tin and smooth the surface. Bake for 40-45 minutes or until a skewer inserted in the centre comes out clean. Remove to cool in the tin for 20 minutes then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.
4. To make the topping, carefully melt chocolate, stir until smooth. Gently stir in the yoghurt to combine. Cool to room temperature until thickened then spread over cold cake.

Marie Wong



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NZCA Overseas Chinese Youth Summer Camp, Shanghai

– Root Seeking 2011

by Paige, Jessica, Brittany and Genevieve Young



L – R: Genevieve Young, Paige Young, Brittany Young, Amy Tay & Jessica Young

Friday 8th July at Auckland International Airport. We couldn't be more excited! We couldn't wait for the journey ahead of us. We all knew this was going to be an unforgettable experience. It was rather uncomfortable though, to go overseas without our parents. However, knowing each other out of the 20 other New Zealand students, ranging from 11 – 21 years old, settled our nerves. Everyone was so friendly towards one another. Checking in for our flights at 11.45pm, we said our last goodbyes to our families, took photos and headed to the terminal gates for Shanghai.

Nearly 12 hours passed until we reached the marvelous city of Shanghai. Once leaving the plane, we rallied up to do our group count off: "Yi, Er, San, Si, Wu" and our group was complete. We then headed through immigration and completed the usual procedures of getting our passports checked and collecting our baggage. When leaving the airport it hit us that we were actually in China. The rush of heat and humidity hit us as we climbed onto the bus for a two and a half hour journey to the island of Chongming. We caught up on lost sleep as we didn't want to miss out on anything while we were here.

Arrival at Chongming Island wasn't as glamorous as the lit up CBD, however it was well appreciated by us all – it was like a small, authentic, Chinese rural village which gave us a sense of what traditional Shanghai would have been like before it became westernized. This was a great highlight for our group. We spent the rest of the day acclimatizing and unpacking into our hotel which we stayed in for the next week.

Every day we ate breakfast, lunch and dinner at the restaurant right next door. Here, for our first time in Shanghai, we were served the usual breakfast of congee, noodles and bread with an assortment of garnishes including spicy pickles. Lunch and dinner were always a surprise, changing daily with dishes of meat, vegetables, seafood and soup. We thoroughly enjoyed the meals as it was a huge change to what we were used to eating in New Zealand. We would make it a goal to try every single dish to experience something new.

Day 2 comprised of Chinese culture classes. We learnt Chinese calligraphy and after lunch Chinese painting. In both, the teachers spoke in Mandarin which we could not



Brittany Young & Genevieve Young

understand, however we did not want to miss out on this experience or knowledge we could gain, so we asked fellow students to translate for us. They kindly helped us with this language barrier throughout the entire trip. In the calligraphy class we learnt the importance of brush strokes and movement, position and steadiness of our hand. It felt like an amazing accomplishment to simply write our names and a few other simple characters. So when the teacher showed us sheets of writing which local Chinese students had completed, who were the same age as us (if not younger) we were truly overwhelmed. At our Chinese painting class, we learnt about the different types of Chinese painting techniques. This was extremely fun and relaxing as well. It was fun to see how creative and artistic some people are.



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After dinners, we would have time to relax and rest. This was time when as a New Zealand contingency we could bond together. After a few short hours, it was if we had known each other our whole lives. Each night we would play cards, watch DVDs and TV.

These nights were all filled with moments of laughter and memories which will never be forgotten.

On 11th July, we visited Yuan River. Our walk was very scenic, surrounded by greenery and heaps of crabs. It was extremely hot but very enjoyable. In the afternoon we visited Chongming Planning Exhibition Hall. This was an exhibition where we were shown what the future of Chongming Island was going to look like. It was not only amazing how China has designed and presented the plans but also how they have already begun the process of making it all happen. The following days consisted of visiting Shanghai's shopping epicenter – Nanjing Road. Here, we enjoyed a day of shopping at international stores like Sephora and local Chinese markets (including food and toy stalls). We also visited places around where we were staying, like a park, fossil museum and temples.

itself. The exhibitions taught us the possibilities for Shanghai's future, displaying culture, the environment and technology. It was interesting to see a high level of creativity and thought behind the ideas of the extraordinary exhibits. At night, we took a boat cruise along the river, running along the CBD. We had an amazing time on this river cruise; taking pictures like there was no tomorrow. Being able to see the CBD in real life and absorbing the atmosphere of bright lights was remarkable.

After 6 days, it reached our last day in Shanghai, which we spent at the closing ceremony and finished with a nice buffet dinner at the Oriental Pearl Tower. At the closing ceremony we watched performances of international groups and locals and after, watched the professional performance of ERA circus; featuring acrobats, motorcyclists and gymnasts. This was a captivating and entertaining ceremony however, sad as it was coming to the end of our stay in Shanghai. We then went back to the hotel and packed our bags for our departure to Beijing.



New Zealand contingent outside the China Pavilion, World Expo

During the last few days in Shanghai, we travelled to the CBD, going to the World Expo, museums and a river cruise. These activities were organized on a larger, international scaled of Summer Youth Camp members, where we met people from America, Australia and Ukraine. We arrived at the World Expo, surrounded by a swarm of blue t-shirts, which we all wore to distinguish us as "youth campers". There were around 400 people from all over the world at this camp. It was enjoyable meeting new people and hearing their experiences of China so far. The World Expo was a great experience, even the queuing up was a new experience all in



Beijing was not officially part of the camp but was an extension to our lovely experience in China. We visited all famous sights including: the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, Olympic Bird Nest and went shopping. Staying at the Beijing Chinese Language and Culture College was so much fun. We met people from England, Dominican Republic, France, Denmark and Zimbabwe just to name a few. These new friends, made us realize how many different overseas Chinese there are in the world and how the different experiences they have encountered.

The new friendships we gained and appreciation for Chinese culture and language was truly life changing! We are extremely lucky to have been given this opportunity. Xie Xie!



Winning Viva Eclectika 2011 – ‘Land of Dreams’

Every two years our NZCA Committee member - Vivian Chow plans, organises and delivers a cultural and enthralling concert of interfusion dance - Viva Eclectika. With a small group of enthusiastic supporters Vivian produces a show of diverse and interesting dance troupes. This year the Auckland University of Technology Dance Company with our own members from NZCA (Monica Mu and Matt Chen) combined to develop a story of love, Maori enchantment and the power of the Chinese dragon. The judges were overwhelmed with the creativity of the story and the talents of each and every dancer - and voted their dance routine first prize. In addition to the prize monies - the troupe were invited to perform as part of the Rugby World Cup Mardis Gras exhibition.

We continue to admire Vivian's drive and determination to produce this biennial event.
VC.David.D.Wong

fusions in the competition included African, Brazilian, Greek, Irish, Korean and Ukrainian.

Why was the 2011 competition so thrilling for us – for the simple reason that we won!

The competition was held at Auckland Girls' Grammar School. The judging panel included: Jennifer King, Yu Fen Wang and Filoi Vaila'au.

The journey in preparing for this competition was quite a pilgrimage in itself. Just trying to assemble a team together was not an easy task. Many of us had exams whilst others were busy with equally pressuring activities such as moving house. Getting a dragon dance troupe initially proved to be difficult, but in the end, the AUT students did a fantastic job. This was the beauty of it – we all ended up stepping out of our comfort zones in order to create the dance that we wanted. Having never danced with professional dancers on stage before, I can truly testify to this fact! We were each individually challenged in getting a routine together and practicing it until we felt it met a high enough standard.

Our dance was named, ‘Land of Dreams’. The main theme of which focused on the friendship between two unlikely companions – a Chinese warrior and a Maori warrior, both of whom are protectors of their respective lands.



The Viva Eclectika Competition encourages the fusion and union of different cultures.

On 27 August 2011, the NZCA collaborated with Bachelor of Dance students from AUT to weave an intriguing tale whilst integrating Maori and Chinese culture through dance. Other creative

A 10-foot golden dragon is suddenly awoken and does not advocate this intercultural friendship. The dragon's fury is aroused and herein begins the spectacular dragon dance accompanied by the booming rhythm of the Chinese drum. The mesmerizing dance causes the Chinese warrior to turn against his friend. This leads onto one of the main dance scenes showing a fight between the two warriors. As suddenly as it begins, the fight ends as both warriors question why it started at all – neither had intended to harm the other. To solidify this reunion of hearts, a haka is performed. The dragon also realises

his tunneled perspective and is put to ease as it acknowledges it's error. Time just flew by and suddenly practice became even more rigorous as we had only two weeks to go until the competition.

By this time, I can say that we really wanted to win



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and to this end we spent many hours individually practicing until we were personally satisfied with our efforts. I can recall practicing the fight routine in Cornwall Park with Mana, one of the AUT students. It was dusk by the time we left. We just kept practicing until we got it right. We each went home satisfied.

Transportation of our equipment was a bit of a mission too. We had to transport the dragon back and forth to the various venues for each practice and then back to Uncle John Kum's house for safe-keeping. Our travels included going to AUT in North Shore and to Britomart – ever had to wander around the city holding a golden dragon? By the way, this was no ordinary dragon, it was a Christmas dragon painted bright gold, red and green.....did I mention that we also had a huge drum?

Before we knew it, the night had come and we were in our costumes waiting in the wings to be called on stage for our performance.

The air buzzed with anticipation as we waited to step onto the stage. Anxiety and nervousness gave way to excitement as we felt the support of each other and of all our supporters in the audience.

When all the competitors had performed, we had an agonizing wait of over half an hour whilst the judges decided who the winners would be. It was apparently a very tough decision between 1st and 2nd place.

All our hard work and perseverance paid off as the Mayor, Len Brown, announced that 'Land of Dreams' had won.

This was an amazing achievement. As a team, we were so proud of each other and couldn't believe that we had actually 'pulled it off' and won the entire competition.

Monica & Matthew poses with the AUT student performers

We had struggled so much to just get a team together let alone create the whole dance from

scratch. Perhaps it was this struggle that made the win all the more satisfying both on a team level and also on a personal level.

The prize consisted of the coveted Viva Eclectika Cup and \$2000 cash. For me, just the experience of shaking hands with Len Brown and having him come up to me a second time to say congratulations, was enough.

As part of the award, we were invited to perform at a 2011 Rugby World Cup event -Mika's Aroha Mardi Gras Festival on 24 September at Takutai Square, Britomart. It was an honour and privilege to be part of the programme and perform to such a supportive and appreciative crowd.

This performance not only took two young warriors on a journey, it also took the young team of performers themselves on a once in a lifetime journey that none of them would ever forget.

Many thanks to Vivian Chow for her many hours of work behind the scenes organising Viva Eclectika 2011 and ensuring that it was such an enjoyable experience for all concerned. Thanks also to Monica Mu and Philippa Pidgeon for your kind support throughout.

To the AUT dance crew, ka pai and thank's for all the happy memories.



by Matthew Chan



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(above) NZCA National President Virginia Chong, Debbie Leung, Kai Luey, Akld VC David Wong, Akld Chairman Richard Leung.

On 7th October 2011, several members of the NZCA Executive Committee attended a function hosted by the Taiwanese Economic and Cultural Office to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Republic of China. It was a convivial evening hosted by the newly arrived Director General Lincoln YC Ting and his wife. One hundred years ago China experienced the Xinhai Revolution or Hsinhai revolution - which began with the Wuchang uprising on October 10 1911 and ended with the abdication of Emperor Puyi on February 12, 1912.

The evening at Crowne Plaza was memorable as one of the TECO consulate had a good voice and sang the Taiwanese anthem and the NZ anthemin Maori.

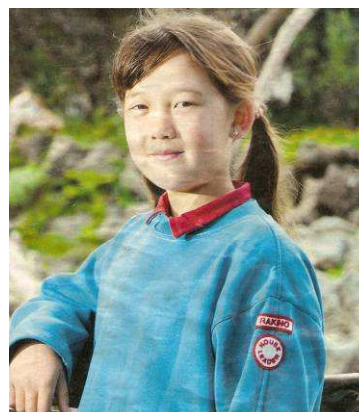
Below: Debbie Leung, Chairman Richard Leung, Director General Lincoln YC Ting and Mrs Ting



Tess Kai Fong

On 6th October Tess Kai Fong added to her list of successes at her graduation parade at the 269th. Intake of the N.Z. Police College in Porirua, where she graduated as the top cadet after 19 weeks of intensive training. She received the Minister's prize from Police Minister Judith Collins as well as the Ericsson Practical Prize for overall winner in practical assessments, skills files and fingerprinting. At 18 years of age, Tess is believed to be the youngest recruit to pass through Police College. This follows on from her primary school days, where she won \$500 in a top essay writing prize in the Sovereign Touch the Sky Scholarship with 3,300 entrants from schools across the country entering. Last year she was Proxime Accessit as well as Deputy head girl at Rangitoto College, where she was one of a small band of students from her college was selected to a "Leadership" conference at the prestigious Harvard University.

No doubt you will have guessed that only a very proud grandfather could write such a glowing account of Tess' achievements as she is far too modest to do so herself !



Percy Kai Fong

Tess @ 8yrs



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NZCA WOMEN'S GROUP **NEWS**

by Gillian Young

After over 10 years in the position, I am stepping down from the leadership of Women's Group at the end of this year. Myra Lowe has agreed to take on the role, but needs someone to assist her as a shared leadership. Please refer to the information about the duties required that are listed in a separate item in this newsletter. Please offer your help to keep our great social group going.



Last August, NZCA members Anne Lai, Meilin Chong & Brenda Tsun brought their beautiful craft work along to show our group. Anne brought her large colourful knitted dolls, lovely knitwear, crochet & hardanger items. She spoke about her craftwork and also made up some floral arrangements as prizes for winners of the quiz she gave us at the meeting. Meilin brought her Chinese knotting pieces, a variety of hanging

items, necklaces and also fish and animals made by Chinese knotting methods. She demonstrated the basics of her craft with a sample shown on a cloth covered work board. Brenda brought her nice hand made greeting cards that day. She spoke about card making and advised us of where to source materials to make cards.

Our September meeting was another craft session with different crafts from another 3 ladies. Lila Kaifong came all the way from Rotorua to show us her many beautiful embroidery pieces. She came with a fully loaded suitcase of many items she had made over the past 20 years! She has worked many different forms of embroidery.

Also on that day, Louise Chin came to show her lovely hand made jewellery, aprons made from her own designs and felted scarves of silk & merino blend.



Judy Joe was also there with her intricate and colourful origami paper craft items including vases, fruit, animals, etc. Wonderful to see!



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On 15th October we were invited to the home of Margaret & Jim Wong for a Chinese cooking demonstration. Margaret showed us how to make Chinese sago cakes, some with savoury pork filling and some with sweet red bean paste filling. She also made fish balls that were coated with pieces of diced bread, then deep-fried by Jim. It was a very enjoyable social afternoon with lots of chat over the more than ample afternoon tea of so many cakes and savouries as well as the food that Margaret and her helpers made.

A bus trip is planned for our next meeting on 12th November. We are going to the Waitakeres to take the Rainforest train trip that is run by Watercare services. It is a trip that will take us to many interesting scenic spots and up to the Nihoputu Dam. After that we will go to Arataki Visitors centre for panoramic views across the area and to visit the information centre. Following that we will go to Ranui to tour an Eco-town called 'Earthsong' to learn about the lifestyle of the community who live there self-sufficiently.

We have regular meetings, on the 3rd Saturday of each month, including an outdoor activity in February, 2 bus trips each year in March and November. Between April and October, we meet at Meadowbank Community Centre, 29 St Johns Rd, Meadowbank at 1.30pm. **Contact Gillian Young 528 9008, youngz@ihug.co.nz, or Florence Hing 528 6920, bfng@xtra.co.nz**

NZCA Women's Group **Volunteers Needed** **Urgently**

After over 10 years as leader of our Women's group, Gillian Young is stepping down from this role at the end of this year. We ask that you come forward to offer your help to assist our new leader Myra Lowe in this role as a shared position. Even if you can only carry out 1 or 2 of these duties, your help will be very much appreciated.

Please contact Gillian phone 528 9008, email youngz@ihug.co.nz or Myra phone

444 0717, email lowyee@xtra.co.nz if you are able to help in any way. Thank You.

Shared duties of the leaders are as follows:

- 1.** Choosing speakers or activities for each monthly meeting.
- 2.** Contacting speaker /activity person approx. 2 mths. before meeting date to book them in to give presentations. A phone call will take only 5-10mins. of your time.
- 3.** Sending email notices to members on our group email list approx. 3 wks. before each meeting. This will take no more than 30mins.
- 4.** Confirming attendance of speaker/activity person 2 wks. before meeting which will take only another 5-10 mins.
- 5.** Announcing future events/activities, introducing speakers at meetings.
- 6.** Planning outdoor activities for spring/summer months including bus trips if possible. This will take more time, but only necessary once or twice a year.
- 7.** Contacting bus driver to book bus for full day trip(s) and booking venues to visit. This can be done over a few days during a week or so.
- 8.** Organising a mid-winter lunch, usually yum char, for the meeting in July. Booking 2 mths. ahead, then confirming nos. attending to restaurant about a week before the day. Order yum char dishes from menu about that time.
- 9.** Writing Women's Group reports for NZCA newsletter quarterly, taking approx. an hour each time.
- 10.** Making bookings for the Meadowbank Community centre Hall for following year, a once a year task, usually done in October each year.

The new leaders have the prerogative to change the format of meetings at any times, so the above duties may vary. Please offer your help to keep this great social group going. Thanks.



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NZCA Akld 8th Annual Lawn Bowls Tournament

20 October 2011

On behalf of NZCA Auckland Inc, I would like to express my thanks to all the players who turned out to participate in our tournament. A record turnout with several players from Morrinsville Wellington, and Hawkes Bay . A warm welcome to Nola Young, Joy Young, Ray Lowe, Jim Kong, Sam and Lenor Kwok, and first time entrants, Moira Wallace and Nelly Yep. I hope that you all had an enjoyable day of “friendly” competition and fellowship.

A superb spring day with just a hint of a breeze, the players all went out full of enthusiasm - the weather promises much for all these keen bowlers who play regularly in competitions over the summer months.

We enjoyed the hospitality and wonderful facilities at the Glendowie Bowling Club – their carpet green is a superb surface for “all weather” bowls



Congratulations to the prizewinners – 1st prize winners

- 1st - Norman Ng and Tim Chan
- 2nd - Joseph Ouyang and Sidney Chan
- 3rd - Danny Leung and Virginia Yiu
- 4th - Monique Tse and Mow Tan
- 5th - Bet Leung and Andy Leung
- 6th - Nelly Yep and Moira Wallace

Spot Prizewinners -

Game 1: 1st Toucher Alan and Connie Cheng ; **below:**



Game 2: 1st Toucher - Florence Hing and George Lowe

Game 3: 1st Toucher Julie Liu and Annie Ho

Consolation prize – Jim Kong and Ray Lowe



Above : Bowling enthusiasts enjoying a cuppa at the Glendowie Bowling Club

I would like to express my sincere thanks to NZCA Auckland for their continuing support for this tournament – now in its eighth year. A special vote of thanks must also to Alan Lam for his constant and invaluable assistance in mustering a full field of players and to Bik Cheung for doing the score sheets.

NZCA Auckland Inc is delighted to support this tournament and we look forward to seeing you all again next year.

I wish you a successful summer season of Bowls.

Virginia Chong



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Dominion Federation of N. Z. Chinese Commercial Growers

SPECIAL BOOK PROJECT



The History of Chinese Growers in New Zealand

黃土子嗣

SONS OF THE SOIL

Chinese Market Gardeners in New Zealand

Chinese have been market gardening in New Zealand from 1867 and have formed the backbone of New Zealand's vegetable-growing industry. Chinese growers were an integral part of the market gardening industry in New Zealand, growing up to 80 per cent of the country's green vegetables. Market gardening was one of the key Chinese New Zealand occupations. More than 40 per cent of Chinese were directly engaged in gardening, and most Chinese New Zealanders had a family or business connection to the industry. The history provides multi-faceted insights into a range of social, political and community changes in Chinese New Zealand history. This book celebrates over 140 years of Chinese involvement in the vegetable growing industry and travels through each major region where there were communities of Chinese market gardeners. Combining history and the growers' own words, it presents the thoughts, stories and experiences of the life and times of those growers. Lavishly illustrated the book contains approx 400 pages including an invaluable list of Chinese growers from the 1940s to the present day.

成功得自苦寒來

SUCCESS THROUGH ADVERSITY

A History of the Dominion Federation of New Zealand Chinese Commercial Growers

The Dominion Federation of New Zealand Chinese Commercial Growers was established on 15 January 1943 at the request of the New Zealand government to support New Zealand's wartime commitment to supply vegetables to the allied forces in the Pacific. It has been the national representative body of Chinese market gardeners in New Zealand ever since. Its aims were to promote vegetable production, to unify Chinese growers in New Zealand and to promote and protect their interests with government, retailers and other market organisations. The Federation is unique in being the only national Chinese growers' organisation in the world. For almost 70 years it has looked after the interests of its community and a vital part of New Zealand's economy. The book covers the Federation's history including its formation, its relationship with the Dominion Council (now HortNZ), the challenges it has faced and its achievements over the years. This book contains approx 200 pages including a large number of photos.

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Dominion Federation of N. Z. Chinese Commercial Growers

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PUKEKOHE

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Email: howeyoung@xtra.co.nz

Greetings everyone

As you are aware we are now at the final stages in the publishing of the history of the NZ Chinese growers set of books. It has been a lengthy but valuable process, and has been of a voluntary nature with many people in the community contributing.

The writers have interviewed one hundred or so growers and have collected their oral stories from different areas of New Zealand. Much time has also been spent time researching from libraries, archives and Federation records.

The first book "Sons of the Soil" tells the story of many individual growers throughout New Zealand from gold rush days to the present day. The second book "Success through Adversity", tells the story of the Dominion Federation of New Zealand Chinese Commercial Growers from 1942 to 2011.

We are looking forward to the publishing of the books as it will be an important and significant historical record of the history of New Zealand market gardening of previous generations.

An order form and information is attached. We hope that you purchase the books for your family and friends. You will be notified as soon as the book is available and invited to attend the launch of the book.

Yours sincerely

Howe Young

Chief Executive Officer



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Dominion Federation of N. Z. Chinese Commercial Growers

ORDER FORM

ORDER FORM

A SET of BOOKS:

黃土子嗣

SONS OF THE SOIL

Chinese Market Gardeners in New Zealand

And

成功得自苦寒來

SUCCESS THROUGH ADVERSITY

A History of the Dominion Federation of New Zealand Chinese Commercial Growers

Please complete: Please print in BLOCK Letters:

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I would like to order:

1 set of books for **\$70.00** YES / NO

2 sets of books for **\$120.00** YES / NO

Or post cheque to: Dominion Federation of NZ Chinese Commercial Growers

c/o Ginny Sue

43 Paterson Avenue West, Pukekohe

Enquiries to Ginny: Phone/Fax: 09 238 7325

Mobile: 021 1714772 Email: ginnysue@hotmail.co.nz



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Peas

By Suzanne Gee

Manaia 1962 Behind the Fruit shop

It's Christmas. Hooray! I thought it would *never* come. My stocking had an orange in it, and a chocolate fish, and a doll with blonde hair. She's so beautiful. Her dress has strawberries on it. I love her, and love her again. I'm calling her *Elizabeth*. Mummy gave me a soft cloth for a blanket and I wrapped her in it straight away. Now she's all snug, sitting on the kitchen bench, watching me.

I have to wash the breakfast dishes. That's my job in the mornings. Daddy nailed a lid on a little tomato box for me to stand on. It's exactly tall enough. When I put it in front of the bench, I can reach right into the sink. I roll up my sleeves and stack the porridge pot and bowls and spoons by the sink. Mummy comes over to turn on the water. She growls

"Moy-moy! I warned you not to put on your new dress. Now look at you!" My name is Fay, but everyone calls me Moy-moy. It means *little sister*. Mummy uses the dish-cloth to wipe porridge off the sleeves of my new dress then wipes my face with it. She sighs, "Do you think you could try not to make any extra work for me today Moy moy? Just this one day in the year. I've got enough to do, with all the family coming over."

Our cousins are coming soon from Opunake. Mummy gets all fussy when they come. It'll be even worse when our millions of cousins from Hawera and New Plymouth come later for tea. I bet there's going to be a fight in the kitchen. Daddy said *It's Christmas. I want my roast*. That means roast lamb with peas and mint sauce. But *his* Daddy, Goong-goong, wanted Chinese food. Mummy decided. She said

"We'll do a roast for lunch and let Ah-Goong cook his big Chinese dinner. That way everyone's happy."

Goong-goong has been soaking dried octopus and fungus and sea cucumber and cloud ear for days. He loves cooking, and specially cooking for the family. He made up his own yummy recipe for fruit cake using a whole pound of butter. I watched him make it last night after dinner. He let me put in the walnuts and peel and raisins, because I'm his favourite. He said so. The eggs go in last. Duck eggs. He squishes them in with his strong hands. The cake cooked in the coal range in a big meat dish all night while we were asleep. This morning, before breakfast, I sneaked some. You

can break tiny little crispy bits off the edges and nobody can tell. Mmm. They tasted just like caramel.

Out the back door, daddy is hosing sticky green duck poos off the concrete. They float like little boats till they hit the grass. There's a huge concrete tub next to our house. Last week the weather was so hot, Daddy filled it up with water and said we could have a swim. Carol and I hopped straight in. We bobbed up and down and splashed each other. Doug squirted us with the hose. Mummy came out when she heard us laughing, she growled at Daddy, said it *Wasn't hygienic*, to wash lettuces in the water after we'd been splashing around in it. I felt sorry for Daddy. He only wanted to let us have some fun. Carol's naughty. She pulled a face at Mummy, behind her back. She's my big sister so I call her 'Jeh-jeh.' I'm supposed to call Doug 'Dai-gor,' which means 'big brother' but I call him both. He's always telling me and Jeh-jeh what to do. *Bossy Boots* is his real name, my secret name for him.

Our concrete goes between the sheds and the hot-house. The store-shed is joined onto the hot-house. It's scary and dark and all the sprays in there smell terrible. The weed killer's the worst. There's knives, hoses, spades, rakes, slashers, seeds - everything. All over the place. Mummy calls it *The Death Trap*. Jeh-jeh is supposed to stack the box-wood in there every day, but she doesn't. She leaves it lying around. She grizzles it's too hard to stack because all the nails stick out. The butcher comes with his van to take the wood away for his fire and he gives us free meat for our cat.

I'm not scared of the coal shed. Last winter, I watched the coal-man deliver eight sacks of coal. Dust flew all in the air when he tipped it out. His face was black from it. When he was gone, I climbed hand over foot right to the top of the coal. I was a brave mountaineer scaling cliffs of black ice. No one saw me. How come I got told off for it? It's not fair. Mummy said *Mothers have eyes in the back of their heads*.

In the summer, Jeh-jeh and I play hide and seek. There are lots of good places to hide, especially in the hot house. Daddy leaves big boxes and junk around. Mummy yells *Clean up the backyard you girls! Stack those boxes. Pick up all the rubbish. Put your jandals on!* Sometimes we do. When we're being good.

Doug says I'm spoilt. Am not. He calls me a *baby*. Liar. I'm *seven*. Dorothy is my cousin. Kelvin is too. They're Uncle Ronald's kids from his first wife. She died. He's got a new wife now, from China. She's pretty and much younger. Mummy doesn't like her. She gets all sniffy when you mention Auntie Tse Ming. She even says *That bitch has Ronald by the nose. Buying jewellery! He should be spending his money on a rotary hoe*. How rude. I think she's *nice*. She lets me and Dorothy dress up and she styles our hair. She's got a baby. He's so adorable. But she can only talk Chinese. Dorothy



reckons she can't understand her. I can though. Sort of. Goong-goong talks to me in Chinese and I know what he means.

Daddy says he's going to knock off a duck and two chickens but Mummy glares at him

"Two! Won't one of each be enough?" Daddy looks sad, but he doesn't answer. Goong-goong says *Better to have too much than not enough*, but Mummy never agrees with Goong-goong, so she takes it out on daddy.

Doug has lit the fire in the copper shed. I crouch there, next to a stack of wicker baskets, watching my dancing orange fire monster with steam hair. It's so hot I cover my face with my hands.

"Water's boiling dad!" he yells. "Shall I get it out? Watch out Moy-moy! You're in the way!" He thinks he's boss of the fire. Just because he's a boy.

"Careful son." Doug uses a long stick with a hook to dip a metal bucket into the copper. He carries boiling water across the backyard, it slops over the edge and the bucket goes *clunk* when he sets it down by the back door.

Daddy grabs a chicken. It's flapped itself under the concrete tub. Its legs are tied up with twine and boy, does it squawk. Daddy crouches on the grass. He pulls the chicken's head back and plucks tiny feathers from its throat. A breeze blows them up. I chase them and tuck one into Elizabeth's blanket. It's soft and brown, with little gold flecks.

Daddy slits the chicken's throat, drains its blood on the grass, lays it down. It flaps around for ages, then goes still. Daddy kills the duck by the tub. It wiggles, and quacks ever so softly. Its feet go round and round in circles but daddy holds it tight under his arm. Blood spurts out the hole in its throat. It lands in a dish of salty water and Jeh-jeh stirs it. I stand behind, holding Elizabeth and covering her eyes with my hand. The blood thickens. Goong-goong will steam it later, and cut it into little squares. It's yummy with sheih-yoh.

Dai-gor dunks the chicken in the bucket. The boiling water softens the feathers and makes them easy to come out. He rips out handful after handful of soggy feathers. Yuk. Mummy yells for us to come and shell the peas. She's made a circle of tomato boxes for us to sit on. There's bowls for the peas and big brown paper bags for pods.

"Doug! Get the peas out of the cooler. Hurry up!" she yells. "They're on top of the Paragon peaches. Two cases. Why did you buy that many Norman? One would have been plenty." She glares at Daddy, growling. He doesn't want to say, but I know. He told

me once. At the market, when the bidding's over, if you've won the auction, you couldn't just say *One case*. People would laugh. "Quickly Doug! Don't keep your sisters waiting!"

"But I'm doing the plucking..." Doug moans. He holds up the dripping chook. I giggle. It looks silly, with pink pimply skin and head all floppy.

"We don't mind waiting," says Jeh-jeh. What a sneaky voice. She's winding string around the new wooden spinning top she got in her stocking this morning. Daddy is holding the duck by its neck, dunking it up and down in hot water. Goong-goong is going to roast it later and we'll all sit down together for a huge feast.

"Do as your mother says," Daddy gently pushes Dai-gor's arm then pushes some more till he falls off his box. Dai-gor shoves him back then stomps off to the shop. What a smarty pants. He comes strutting back, wheeling the trolley. Green fingers poke out. Ha ha. It looks like the peas are trying to escape. Dai-gor carries a hammer in his apron. He sticks the claw under the box lid. The nails screech and screech. Finally they let go. He throws the lids down. Peas fall. I run to pick them up.

"Why do we have to shell all these stupid peas?" Jeh-jeh wails. She sounds like a fire-siren. Where's the fire?

"It's your father," Mummy rolls her eyes. "He says *It's not a New Zealand Christmas without fresh peas*. Doug! Put those lids in the store-shed!" Dai-gor glares at Jeh-jeh. It's her job. She ignores him and plays with her top. I know she won't do it, because Mummy told *him* to do it.

"Mummy, can you help us?" begs Jeh-jeh.

"Just for a little while. Your cousins will be here soon. They can help. Doug! Where are you going? Sit down!" Dai-gor sits back down, grumbling

"This is a girls' job!"

"Just keep shelling."

Skinny peas taste sweet. The yellow, wrinkly ones are old - no good to eat. Lucky these are nice green young ones. I hold my bowl between my knees. Mummy shells into a colander, the peas shoot out in lines.

"Put your pods in the bag Jeh-jeh. Not on the ground." Mummy pushes Jeh-jeh's bag closer to her.

"Not fair. You're faster than us. Slow down Mama." Mummy laughs.



"You don't want me to slow down." She pushes her toe against Jeh-jeh's leg, teasing. Jeh-jeh humphs.

"I hate shelling peas!"

"You should be more patient. Look at Moy-moy. She doesn't complain."

"That's because she's dumb."

"Carol!"

"Moy-moy," Mummy bobs down next to me, "we'll be here till New Years if you're going to pick out those peas one by one..." She holds both my hands. "Squeeze. At the top. See the crack? Press it. Now, open the pod wide. That's right. Now push with your thumb." Mummy watches me squeeze the pod. "Good. You're getting the hang of it." She *can* be kind sometimes. Jeh-jeh is winding the string around her top again. She lets it go, but the concrete is too bumpy. It won't spin. Doug grabs it. Jeh-jeh screams

"Give it!"

"You're not doing it right!" Doug yells, holding the top above his head. "Give me the string!" he bosses. "I'll show you!"

"No! It's mine!" Jeh-jeh jumps up at him. "Give it back!" He holds it high. She leaps and grabs it, takes off, holding it tight. He chases. She looks back, laughing. "Ha ha..." suddenly she screams. Mummy rushes to pick her up. Jeh-jeh is making so much noise I cover my ears with my hands. A piece of box wood hangs off her foot. It waggles in the air like a big flipper. Goong-goong comes out of the house holding a chopper and a bunch of spring onions, clucking his tongue

"AieYah! AieYah!"

"Keep still Carol!" Mummy growls. "Doug, I told you to put those box-lids away!"

"It's not my job," he growls, even though he quickly picks them up and takes them into the shed. Daddy kneels down, he gently holds on to Jeh-jeh's foot.

"Keep still Sweetie," he says. Jeh-jeh is quiet for a second then she howls.

"It hurts!" Now she sounds like a chainsaw. The nail has gone deep into her heel. Daddy holds her ankle tight. He pulls on the wood. The nail comes out ever so slowly. Jeh-jeh's tears are running down her cheeks. Dai-gor quietly shells peas.

Mummy rushes for plaster. She comes back with Dettol and cotton wool. The concrete is splattered with big blood drops with long points like stars.

"I'll take her to the doctor," says Daddy.

"On Christmas Day?" Mummy looks horrified.

"She'll need a tetanus injection..."

"No! Not on Christmas Day. The whole town will know. The nail's clean..."

"If it gets infected..."

Mummy knows he's right but she looks so worried. She thinks and thinks then says

"Moy-moy! You can go too. Give these to the doctor." In our family, the youngest gives the soh-sung, a gift from the hand and the heart. "At least it's something special. We hardly ever get nice peas to sell. Have you got money Norman? Make sure you give extra. Bothering the doctor at Christmas. What *will* people say?" Jeh-jeh starts up again, complaining now

"It hurts!" Daddy kisses her cheek. He hasn't stopped holding her.

"Off you go!" Mummy shoos us away. "Goodness, look at the time, people will be lucky if they get anything to eat at all."

As we drive away in the Light fifteen with Jeh-jeh in the front, Elizabeth and me and a big bag of peas on the back seat, we pass our cousins arriving. Uncle Ronald is driving, Aunty Tse Ming holds the baby. I look back and see Goong-goong sitting down plucking, see the circle of boxes. Ha ha! Dorothy and Kelvin and Doug will have to shell *all* the peas.

Ever stop to think, and forget to start again?

Being 'over the hill' is much better than being under it!

Wrinkled Was Not One of the Things I Wanted to Be When I Grew up.

Procrastinate Now!

Anon



NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION
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Chinese Sago Cakes

400gm. pkt. sago
1 ltr. boiling water
Chinese wheat starch
Small quantity of barbeque pork
A few Chinese chives (*gou choi*)
A few pieces of preserved turnips (*tou choi*)

1. Sprinkle sago into boiling water
2. Leave to soak and stir regularly for at least half an hour.
3. Make small balls of sago mixture, coat with wheat flour.
4. Mix chopped barbeque pork, chives, turnips in another bowl.
5. Flatten sago balls to fill with small amount of meat mixture, fully covering meat with sago.
6. Place sago balls in pan with non-stick liner. Steam for approx. 12mins.
7. Brush with oil to give shiny appearance before serving.

Sago cakes can also be made with a sweet filling such as red bean paste.

This recipe was demonstrated by Margaret Wong at a Women's Group meeting recently.

Fried Fish Balls

500 grams fish paste
1 Cup water
2 Tbsp oil
Few slices stale bread (2 day old bread, as it will on stick better)

1. Add the water and oil to the fish paste, beat mixture with electric beater in a bowl to give smoother texture.
2. Coat small balls of fish paste with finely diced bread.
3. Refrigerate fish balls for an hour so that bread sticks on better.
4. Deep fry in pan of oil for a few mins. until golden brown.



This recipe was demonstrated by Margaret Wong at the Women's Group meeting at her home on 15th October.

Ready-made fish paste is available at Chinese Grocery stores,
or Margaret recommends purchasing from a factory shop at
Unit B/18 Neil Park Drive, East Tamaki.
Open Mon-Fri only.



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Everyone in Canton speaks Mandarin

It is impossible to only speak Cantonese in Guangzhou. On a recent trip to China it took 3 days before a visitor found someone who could speak Cantonese. And that was by starting a conversation with a cook who was having a cigarette break.

I tried booking a hotel in Xintang and none of the staff spoke any Cantonese.

According to this website, (<http://larrysalibra.com/2010/02/25/7-reasons-cantonese-is-dying-mandarin-is-king/>) Native Cantonese is no longer a preferred language. Mandarin is the first language of 40% of all Chinese, and it's spoken by 70% of Chinese.

Who are the "just 70%" of Chinese that speak Mandarin?

- the business, political and academic elites
- all students
- the entire workforce
- Anyone who has gone to school since the mid-20th century.

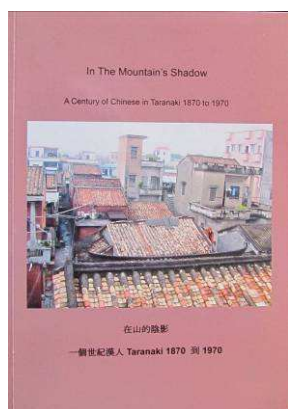
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The 30% that don't speak Mandarin are economically and politically irrelevant because they're for the most part out of the workforce. They spend their time at home and their only interaction outside of their generation is constrained to their own children and grandkids, all of which are among the 70% that speak Mandarin. The 30% that don't speak Mandarin will be dead in the next two decades.

Mandarin is to China what English is to the rest of the world. If you want to be successful and make money - speak Mandarin.

In 2007, Hong Kong's Education Chief told schools to teach more in Mandarin and English and less in Cantonese. In the Hong Kong Government's view, better English helps Hong Kong maintain its international competitiveness and better Mandarin helps Hong Kong to be more competitive in mainland China.

Should we in New Zealand, be making an effort to keep our Cantonese mother tongue? Or is it a case of... if you can't beat them, join them?



In The Mountain's Shadow

A Century of Chinese in Taranaki 1870 to 1970

The year in which the Chinese first arrived in Taranaki is unclear, but

it may have been some time before 1874. Entrepreneur Chew Chong had already discovered fungus in the province, having advertising for it in a January 1874 edition of the Taranaki Herald. This book provides a historical record of the Chinese in Taranaki during this period. A collection of early newspaper articles and advertisements, government records and interviews with locals and families of the early Chinese provide an insight to their lives. By the early 1970s there were no early Chinese families left in South Taranaki, and few families remained in the rest of the Province.

Helen Wong August 2010. Re-printed October 2011. ISBN 978-0-473-17508-5
Order from Helen.familytree@gmail.com
\$20.00 plus \$3.00 P & P

Coming Event

*** the ACCC Guy Fawkes B B Q party on Saturday 5th November!!!**

*** Bonfire - Sausage Sizzle - Drinks - Fireworks Display - Supper**

*** ACCC provides Sausage sizzle (on bread and tomato sauce) a green leafy salad - and the fireworks**

*** Its bring your own other meats - and salad to share. And a cake for supper with a cup of tea / coffee.**



NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION
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Cantonese Bilingual Music School

By Robert Wong

Adult Cantonese Class

The Adult Cantonese Class has finished Term 3 coinciding with the late finish to the school term to coincide with the last two weeks of the Rugby World Cup.

We have been studying a few more written Chinese characters this term such as *fah* which is flower, *chool* = grass, *yue* = fish, *tien* = sky and *yue* = rain. Fish and rain sound similar but have different tones. Remember Cantonese is a tonal language whereas English does not differentiate between tones.

One of my favourite vegetables is a radish. Naturally I wanted to know what the Cantonese word for radish was. I found out that there is no such word for radish in Cantonese simply because they are not widely grown in China. The closest words I could find was *hoong lor* but which is Cantonese for carrot. I went to the local Pak n' Save supermarket and asked the Cantonese speaking grocery assistant for some *hoong lor* but as I wanted some radish. She correctly pointed to the carrots for me! So to find the radishes I had to use a mixture of Cantonese and English!

With China becoming an increasingly important business partner around the world, the Chinese languages of Mandarin and Cantonese are becoming more popular as a language to learn. In my younger days, I spoke Cantonese out of necessity because my mother spoke little English. Today Cantonese is more accepted with more Asian immigrants in New Zealand. Although Cantonese is my second language after English, native Cantonese speakers appreciate the effort I make to speak to them in their own tongue. Strangers have been known to treat me like an old friend if I break out with a few words of Cantonese.

We continue to enjoy improving our Cantonese and learning more about Chinese culture. I fully recommend the class to anyone wanting to learn Cantonese as another language. We are fortunate to have our expert Cantonese teachers originally from Hong Kong, Tsui Lor Si and Ho Lor Si (Irene).

Classes are held every Saturday during the school term at Oranga Primary School, corner of Maroa Road and Rangipawa Road, One Tree Hill.

Preschool (3 -5 years) 9.30am to 11am
Primary 1 (6 -10 years) 11.15am to 12.45pm
Primary 2)Adult / (separate) 1pm – 2.30pm

Term 4 starts on the 29th October,

I can't believe how incredibly fast this year has gone. And Term 4 will be even faster as the term will be a very short one. In fact there will only be 5 weeks to the 26th November.

The 6th Saturday is the 3rd December - the day of the NZCA's annual Xmas B B Q lunch held at the ACCC 99 Taylor Road, Mangere. The students will entertain with some Christmas songs.

Numbers in the Preschool group have increased to fourteen last term. They are learning to sing songs in Cantonese without any difficulty. Developing confidence in speaking Cantonese and enjoy playing games. Do bring your preschool to become immersed in their heritage language and learn with them.

Each group (2) had its own end of term concert in which the children performed a number of songs for their parents and grandparents. The older group wrote their Chinese names and had to introduce themselves. Then they did some role play.

We have in our midst a member of NZCA who is a qualified dance teacher and is going to teach some children a dance for the Xmas BBQ.

The first class will be on Saturday the 12th November from 12 – 2 pm at Oranga Primary School hall, cnr Rangipawa road and Maroa Road, Oranga.

We welcome any children outside the Cantonese Music School and ex pupils to come to these classes.

**Enquiries please ring Connie Kum
P: 09 6258 611 email: cojay@xtra.co.nz
for details re the dances or the NZCA Cantonese Music School.**

2012 classes will commence 4 February - celebrating Lantern Festival.

Connie Kum - NZCA Cantonese Music School co-ordinator



NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION
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The Ballad of Graham and Richie

From Eden Park, the Fan Trail and the Cloud
Richie and the boys did us proud
Piri usually so sure and true
Had found the kicking blues
So he said to Stephen Donald
"Here, you try puttng it through"

So Beaver took the ball
And showed them once and for all

Three more hard earned points
And shook the French all through their joints

The All Blacks slogged on for half an hour
Clinging on sure and dour
The final whistle blew
The Cup was ours, "Phew!"
For eight years, the naysayers had dared to
pan Graham
At last, now the critics, back he could pay 'em!

Anon

* * * * *

NZCA Auckland Committee

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**NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION
AUCKLAND INC**

紐西蘭屋崙華聯會

PO Box 484 Shortland St, Auckland 1140

www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz

Membership Form

email completed form to cojay@xtra.co.nz or post to address above

Membership Type Please tick (✓)	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Membership No: _____ m / f		
Applicant	Surname	First Names	Date of Birth
Spouse/Partner	Surname	First Names	Date of Birth
Dependent children under 18years	Surname	First Names	Date of Birth
	Surname	First Names	Date of Birth
	Surname	First Names	Date of Birth
Address	Street Number		Street Name
	Suburb		City
			Postcode
Contact Details	Home #		
	Work #		
	Mobile #		
	Email		
Annual Membership Fee Please tick (✓)	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$ 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$ 20 Includes spouse/partner and dependent children under 18years <input type="checkbox"/> Donations \$ _____ Are kindly accepted and contribute to funding our events and initiatives		Payment Methods Please tick (✓) <input type="checkbox"/> Make cheques payable to NZCA Auckland Inc. and post to NZ Chinese Assn Auckland Inc, PO Box 484, Shortland St, Auckland 1140. <input type="checkbox"/> Direct credit to National Bank account # 06 0287 0016463 00 with reference to Applicant surname and initials and date of application in particulars.
	Total Paid \$ _____		
Volunteer Please tick (✓)	I/we can volunteer to help NZCA Auckland Inc. in the following: <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese School <input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities/Events <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising <input type="checkbox"/> Translation <input type="checkbox"/> Other please specify _____		

Declaration: I apply to become an Ordinary/Family (delete one) Member of the New Zealand Chinese Association Auckland Inc. I declare that I am of Chinese descent, a spouse of a Chinese person, or child of a Chinese person, over 18 years of age and agree to abide by the Rules of the Association on acceptance as a Member.

Signed: _____

Date: / /