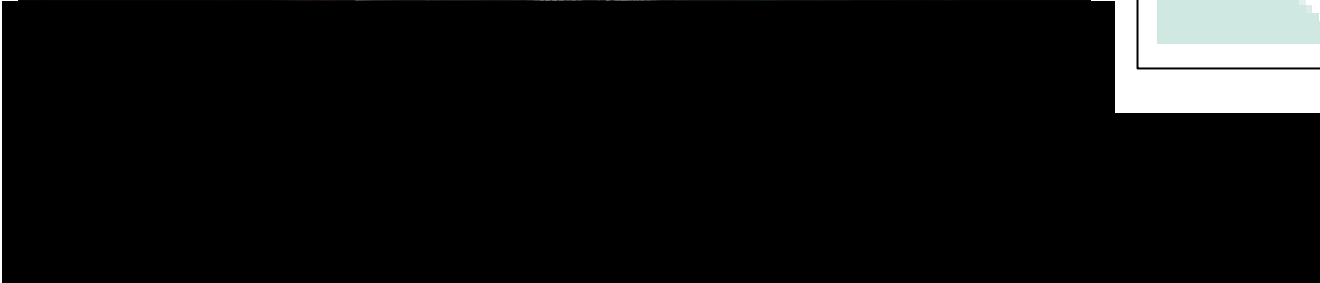
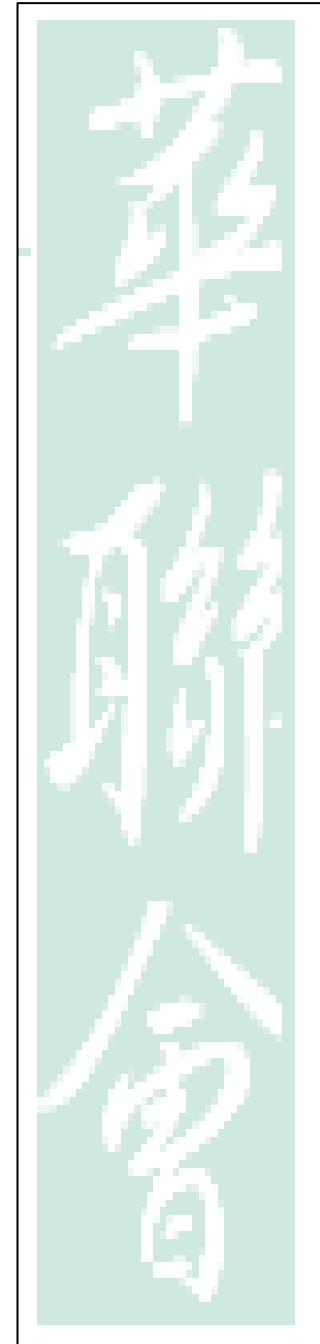


# 2008 Winter Newsletter

P.O.BOX 484



At the unveiling of the Dragon Sculpture gifted to the NZ Olympic Team for Beijing 2008 @ Villa Maria Estate Ak.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR THE 2008 CONFERENCE

As this is my last report as National President, I wish to take the opportunity to review what has been achieved over the past three years, and give my thoughts on the future direction of our national organisation especially since the workshop discussions at this conference will concentrate on "NZCA Tomorrow"

The Executive Committee and Conference have previously agreed that our vision is **"to be the leading Chinese organisation in New Zealand"** and my focus over the past three years has been to raise the profile of NZCA and to develop activities and policies that will allow NZCA to make meaningful progress to achieving this goal.

### Increasing Our Profile with Recent Chinese Migrants

Our three "Going Bananas" events have greatly raised the profile of NZCA with the new wave Chinese migrants and the Kiwi mainstream community, especially with the strong media coverage.

There has been considerable interest created with the 1.5 generation youths who have a good grasp of English. We are now actively planning the next Banana conference for July 2009 in conjunction with the International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas, and this will provide additional exposure for NZCA with Chinese worldwide.

As National President, I have taken every opportunity to promote NZCA as one of the oldest Chinese organisations in New Zealand and the only one with a truly national representation through its 13 Branches throughout the country. This message is gradually being understood by the recent migrants and local Kiwis. For the "Bananas NZ Going Global" Conference in August 2007, I had a banner displayed which featured in various TV interviews with the new NZCA logo and the motto **Serving New Zealand Chinese for over 70 years with 13 branches nationwide**

### Leading New Zealand Chinese into the future

Besides the interest in our Banana events, there has been increasing participation from the recent migrants in our Leadership & Development Camps and the Easter Tournaments and this is helping to build bridges between the new and old Chinese communities. I have stated very explicitly anytime I speak in the public arena that it is our duty to help the new migrants integrate into NZ society quicker.

### Increasing Our Profile in the General Community

NZCA has now a greatly enhanced profile in the general community from the extensive media coverage of the three "Going Bananas" events. Other major media coverage of NZCA activities that I can recall during the last three years were :-

Asia Down Under & World TV features in 2005 on the formation of the Chinese Poll Tax Trust

Asia Down Under features on the 2006, 2007 & 2008 Easter Tournaments

Asia Down Under and TV1 Breakfast Programme features on the 2007 Youth Leadership Camp

TV3 Open Door documentary in April 2007 on some NZCA members and Auckland Branch activities such as the Chinese school, "Going Bananas" Forum and Xmas BBQ.

Maori TV & TV1 features on the Treaty of Waitangi submissions by Steven Young

TV3 & Prime News features on NZCA responses to Peter Brown's views on Asian immigration

The organising by NZCA in a very short time frame of the sculpture gift to the NZ Olympic Team going to Beijing this year was also a very important public relations exercise. The objective was to demonstrate both to the Kiwi mainstream and to compatriots in China that Chinese feel completely accepted here in NZ and are fully supportive of our NZ Olympians. The Olympic sculpture is a stunning and spectacular piece of art for which we can all feel very proud. The response to our fundraising campaign finally exceeded our expectations and it has been decided to make a replica of the sculpture (without the costly NZ Olympic logo) which will be ready for the official opening of the Dunedin Chinese Garden in September 2008, thereafter displayed in Auckland, and eventually will be permanently installed in the Wellington Chinese Gardens. Many thanks to everyone who supported this project.

Likewise, it was great that NZCA and its Branches responded very strongly to the request for donations to the Sichuan Earthquake Disaster Relief Funds. This again demonstrated to the Kiwi mainstream and compatriots in China that NZ Chinese do care about the suffering of the disaster victims and that we are willing to assist to provide relief. Previously, NZCA had shown its commitment to assist with our combined donation of \$NZ20,000 to the Guangdong Typhoon Bilis Flood Relief Fund 2006 which was a much smaller disaster and did not attract the same worldwide publicity.

As stated previously, I think it is very important for NZCA to formulate policies regarding all matters affecting the Chinese community. Then we should also be more proactive by writing articles about subjects of great concern to the Chinese community based on the NZCA policy papers and

try to get these published in local and national media. For various reasons progress has been very slow, and I trust that the new incoming National President with his keen interest in such matters can accelerate this strategy.

## **Developing Youth Policies & Activities**

I consider it essential for the longer term future of NZCA that we continue to develop policies and activities that are more meaningful for our younger generation to supplement our annual cornerstone activities, the Easter Tournament and the Guangzhou Winter Camp.

There have now been two very successful Leadership & Development Camps held and the third event is currently being organised for 1-6 February 2009 at Willow Park Camp in Auckland. Hopefully, this will become another cornerstone annual event, because the two camps held have already achieved its main objectives of getting Chinese youths to participate more fully in NZCA activities and taking leadership roles in these as appropriate.

In addition our traditional events, the Easter Tournament and Guangzhou Winter Camp are increasing in popularity with not only our own youth but also with children of recent migrants. The recent 2008 Easter Tournament in Auckland was the largest ever held with nearly 1,000 participants and at the workshop meeting held on 24 May 2008, the 20 attendees had some very constructive proposals about improving the Tournament to make it even more popular.

Auckland Branch has submitted a remit to this year's conference about a next generation initiative.

Overall, our youth policies have proven to be successful, with increased participation in our activities and therefore increased membership for NZCA Branches.

## **Consolidating Relationships with Mainland China**

As discussed at various meetings, it is very important that NZCA develop closer relationships with China and its representative offices in NZ. China is now the major manufacturing power in the world and trading relationships, tourism and international education with China, especially with the signing of the Free Trade Agreement, are critical aspects for the benefit of our NZ economy. The Chinese Government want all overseas Chinese to have a warm regard and "allegiance to the motherland" and actively encourage NZ Chinese to visit China to gain a greater appreciation of their heritage and culture and to experience the changed environments.

My attendance at the Overseas Chinese Association Centennial Event in Guangzhou on 20 – 25 November 2006 consolidated NZCA's relationship with the host, the Chinese Overseas Chinese Office of the Guangdong Provincial Government and Mr Lu Weixiong, General Director. However, I believe that Mr Lu has been promoted to a Guangdong Provincial Government position and hence we need to liaise very strongly with his successor, Mr Wu.

However, I do get the impression that our NZCA's continued strong recognition of TECO in New Zealand has hampered our relationship somewhat with the Guangdong Provincial Government, and other Chinese organisations in New Zealand do have closer ties with them.

Our strong promotion of the Guangzhou Winter Camp including special sessions at the Banana & Leadership events has resulted in strong participation over the last three years since I became President, whereas before that we struggled to get the optimum number of 20 persons. There were 40 attendees in 2005, 24 in 2006, and 26 in 2007. Despite the need to again advance the closing date for applications to alleviate travel booking hassles and have easier administration, there are 30 youths confirmed for this year's tour and we already have enquiries for the 2009 camp.

In addition, eight youngsters aged 12 – 18 and one adult leader had a great experience at the Chinese Folk Dancing & Martial Arts Winter Camp held in Guangzhou for three weeks in Dec 06 / Jan 07. This camp was attended by 350+ students from 11 different countries. These camps are held regularly twice a year in China but the problem of having suitable adult leaders for children in this age group is a challenge. A solution is to have our youngsters join in with other recent migrant organisations but then we lose the identity of a separate NZCA group.

It is very pleasing to report that four young adults aged 18 - 35 whose applications were endorsed by NZCA, were selected to attend the prestigious Dragon 100 – 2006 Study Tour in Hong Kong and Xian. Glen Joe, Jason Kwan & Jason Sew Hoy who participated in this tour and James To who went on the 2005 Tour thoroughly recommend this annual event as a fabulous learning experience and the opportunity to meet young Chinese leaders from China and throughout the world. There were no nominees last year but I have submitted nominations for two NZCA members from Auckland, Ken Ginn & Justin Yang, for the 2008 Dragon 100 Forum on 22-30 August 2008 in Hong Kong & Guangzhou.

The desire to re-connect with our heritage and culture has extended to the older generation. After only 15 persons participated on our China tour in May 2006, 30 adults in May 2007 had an enjoyable trip discovering or re-discovering China with persons of similar backgrounds and upbringings, and now there will be 30 persons on our next NZCA China trip in October 2008.

Our Olympic sculpture will be featured in a very prominent position in the New Zealand compound in the Olympic village in Beijing before and for the duration of the games for all to see. Afterwards, the NZ Olympic Committee are presenting the sculpture to the Chinese Olympic Committee who have undertaken to have it displayed in the front foyer of their brand new administration building in central Beijing. Hence, NZCA and the NZ Chinese will have its profile raised in the capital of China with a permanent monument. Even though we wish to have closer relationships with China, we have maintained our friendly relationships with the TECO offices in Wellington and Auckland. There has been changes in both TECO offices over the past two years. The new Representative in Wellington, Mr John Chen, had a short stay before being promoted to an Ambassadorial position elsewhere, and this position is

currently vacant. I have met the new Director – General in Auckland, Mr Carl Yang, on several occasions but he has a much lower profile than his predecessor, Mr Bruce Linghu.

## Increasing Membership

We were very pleased to welcome Wanganui as a new Branch of our Association at the 2006 Conference, and their representatives have partaken fully in our Executive meetings since then.

After the SGM in March 2007, our 13 Branch organisation remains intact, and the challenge is now to extend our Branch network to other centres.

I requested from all Branches details of membership numbers so that we can use this for publicity purposes and to track our progress in increasing our memberships. The Secretary is still awaiting details from several Branches to collate this information.

In general terms, all Branches should continue to actively promote membership to recent migrants and to our younger generation plus encouraging older members of the community to re-join. I know that our new activities in Auckland over the last three years such as the “Banana” events, Chinese school, Youth Leadership camps, Women’s Group, Easter & Annual Sports Tournaments, China tours and regular outings have created membership increases.

Overall, I am heartened by the enthusiasm and dedicated efforts of the Branch Committees in organising their activities and providing benefits for their members and the Chinese community generally as shown in their newsletters and Branch reports.

## Improving Procedures & Communications

The approval at the 2007 Conference of the Executive Manual was a major step forward for NZCA as this very important document clearly details the policies and procedures for the Executive Officers, the Executive Committee and Branches to follow. This will eliminate any uncertainties and misunderstandings, and greatly assist harmony and cooperation within NZCA.

In addition, the list of amendments to the Rules of NZCA as discussed at the last Conference have now been officially registered with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies.

The NZCA website, [www.nzchinese.org.nz](http://www.nzchinese.org.nz) went live in September 2005 and its value has been proven during the lead up to the Easter Tournaments in Wellington, Dunedin & Auckland as information could be constantly updated by the organisers and be read online by all intending participants. In addition, the Secretary and I have received many enquiries about the involvement of NZCA in a very wide range of issues affecting Chinese in NZ.

The next developments for the website are to implement user friendly software so that information can be updated by the Executive Officers without relying on the designer to do this, and to improve the linkages with other relevant sites. However, for the website to become more useful as an information medium for the whole of NZCA, the Branches need to provide regularly the latest details of their upcoming events for the “Calendar of Events”.

Another important development is the finalisation of the NZCA logo so that we can have a common branding and profile for NZCA and all our Branches throughout New Zealand.

## Looking to the Future

I feel that at the end of my three year term as National President, NZCA, is in very good shape to continue its drive “to be the leading Chinese organisation in New Zealand”.

NZCA now have a stable membership base of 13 Branches, sound administrative procedures in place, an exciting logo that provides a common branding for all Branches nationwide, an active Youth & Sports Sub – Committee that is seeking to improve established activities and create new directions, and several new initiatives in place (the Banana Conferences and the Leadership & Development Camps) that could become regular events.

Some suggested action plans (not necessarily in order of importance) are as follows :-

- Write NZCA policy papers and get these published in local and national media
- Be more proactive in defining the role of Chinese in our multi-cultural society
- Be more proactive about Government legislation especially those that vitally affects Chinese in NZ
- Use websites and other modern techniques to get our messages across to a wider cross- section of the Chinese and mainstream communities
- Build bridges with recent migrants and encourage them to become members and join in NZCA activities
- Encourage our youth to re-connect with their Chinese identity
- Arrange activities that appeal to the young adults and groom them to become future leaders in NZCA
- Continue organising China tours for all age groups
- Organise any public relations project which enhances the profile of NZCA

## Conclusions

I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenges of being National President of NZCA, and I wish to acknowledge the assistance and support of the Executive Officers and the members of the Executive Committee members over the last three years.

However, I wish to make a special note of appreciation to Harvey Wu who has been a dedicated and supportive Secretary, and has done an excellent job with the Executive Manual, changes to the Constitution, the new NZCA logo and his ongoing role as Property Manager of our building.

Also, I wish to thank the Auckland Branch Executive Committee for their great assistance and financial support for the major projects that have immensely raised the profile of NZCA viz the three Banana events, the inaugural NZCA Chinese Youth Leadership Camp and the Olympic sculpture gift project.

As I pass over the reins to Steven Young, I would like to reiterate my message given at the 2005 Conference when I was first elected National President, that as an organisation we need to forget about personalities and past disputes, focus on what we are trying to achieve, and all work harmoniously together for the overall benefit of NZCA.

Kai Luey  
National President

6 June 2008

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

**WOW !** what a busy start for the Year of the RAT. Only 3 and a bit months just like the Rat, NZCA and its members have been in Top gear ! How many of you managed to get to **Albert Park** and see the Lanterns this year? Wasn't the weather wicked ? Guess NZCA made a **lucky call** and not blow hundreds of dollars by renting a Stall this year !

**MEMBERSHIP !** Our Auckland Branch membership has increased to over **750 members !** Great ! But - why aren't you complaining ? You must all be **happy** with our **SERVICE !** We seem to serving you the same ol' menu and **YOU'RE HAPPY ?**

**GOOD GRIEF !** Lets hear some voices - Change the Menu give us some suggestions and **TELL** the Committee what **YOU** want. Organised trips . Dances, Women's Outings, Sports Events, Dinners and Special Functions only seem to attract 300 to 400 members and friends \*\* **So where are you all ?** Lets become more proactive and contribute suggestions that we may feed off and where are our past Committee members ? Long time passing -- like fresh flowers ! or do they ?

**Great Turn-out for the 2008 Easter Sports Tornment** held at the Waitakere Trust Centre ! If you missed this occasion – then you missed something unique -- **Community Spirit !**

Some other Events that need some mentioning apart from the competitive sports at the Waitakere Trust Stadium were the **Veteran's Lawn Bowls** held over 2 days in Mt. Eden and enjoyed by many.-- the **Social Dance** held on Easter Sat.Night @ Community Hall in Mangere - Terrific night to let your hair down – and many ' oldies ' did just that. The Sunday Social **Walkathon** turned out to be a popular event, a leisurely stroll around Corwall Park and up One Tree Hill. This was followed by a **BBQ** sponsored by Billy Chong. Boy oh boy –did some of you forget your diet -- 'cause I saw a lot of food disappear ram-bam fast !

Oh I forgot to mention the **SEGWAY** competition on Friday arvo! -- They were really something ! -- to see so many gereiatrics ( I won't name you ) participating was a **breath of fresh air** -- so come on - there is more fun to be had -- **YOUR IDEAS** may not be as silly as you may think !

JK: Ed Hey All Check out [our Website !](http://www.nzchinese-alkd.org.nz) **www.nzchinese-alkd.org.nz**

### Disclaimer.

*Neither the association nor any person or persons associated with it accepts any liability whatsoever for the contents of this newsletter which has been prepared in good faith without material reward and to the best of our knowledge is true and correct in all aspects*

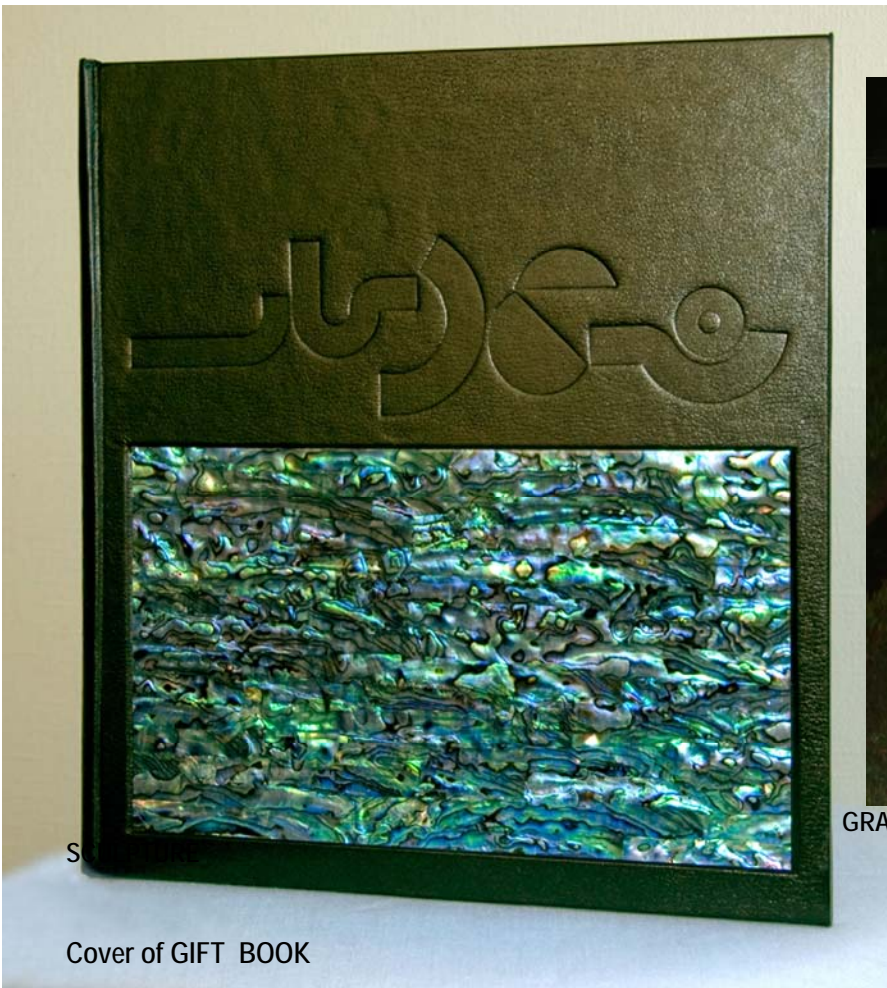
# CHINESE COMMUNITY PRESENTS DRAGON SCULPTURE TO NZ OLYMPIC TEAM

Steven Young  
Vice-President

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

1. I am here today to represent Kai Luey, the President of the New Zealand Chinese Association to present this Dragon Sculpture to the NZ Olympics Team.
2. The sculpture will be shipped to Beijing and located outside the Team's quarters during the Games. After the Games, the NZ Olympic Committee will present the sculpture to the Beijing Olympic Organisation and it will go on permanent display at its new building.
3. I should emphasise that although the fundraising was organised by the New Zealand Chinese Association, the funds came from a wide cross-section of the Chinese in New Zealand, drawn from both the old migrant community and the new migrant community. The names of the major donors to this project are inscribed on the stainless steel sculpture and all donors are recorded in a book.
4. Apart from Kai Luey, Guy Ngan and Ron Sang have had major roles in the project.
5. Guy Ngan is New Zealand's most senior Chinese artist who work in various contemporary media is underpinned by Chinese philosophy. Guy has been responsible for many public art works including sculptures outside the Wellington City Council, the Reserve Bank, the Government Printing Office and the entrance to Stokes Valley. Guy was responsible for the design of the dragon.
6. Ron Sang, who besides being an eminent architect in Auckland, is a long-time collector of art. His home houses one of the greatest private collections of modern New Zealand art. He has recently branched into fine art publication. Ron has been instrumental in the implementation and delivery of the design.
7. As you can see, the sculpture is a dragon in abstract form, fabricated in stainless steel with a pounamu pearl on its tongue.
8. The dragon is a symbol representing the Chinese people. Unlike the dragons of the western tradition, the Chinese dragon has many positive connotations such as moral rectitude and justice.
9. The fact that this dragon is executed in a contemporary idiom shows that the Chinese people are not stuck in the past, but adapt themselves continuously to the modern world.
10. In the case of this dragon, the indigenous Maori culture is recognised by the inclusion of a pounamu pearl on its tongue. How appropriate!
11. The Chinese community is presenting this sculpture to the NZ Olympics Team in a year that the Games are being held in Beijing.
12. This shows that the New Zealand Chinese community is proud to be kiwi, supporting our national team. At the same time the community proudly remembers its links with its former home country.
13. In a world which is increasingly globalised, relocations and the formation of new communities have become increasingly common and necessary. But at the same time, recognition of ones history and heritage are increasingly important to ones sense of identity.
14. By choosing one of its own artists to create a contemporary representation of a central deity from its ancient mythology and presenting it to the New Zealand Olympics Team the Chinese community in New Zealand affirms that its future is firmly grounded in the New Zealand and its western culture. By doing so on the occasion of China's first Olympics, the community re-affirms its pride in its heritage, its confidence in the future of China and its hope and wish for an ongoing, dynamic and deepening relationship between the community's new home and its historical home.
15. So on behalf of the Chinese community in New Zealand, and the particularly the major sponsors, I would like to transfer this sculpture to the care the NZ Olympics Team. As you see it each day, may it remind you of the link between the country you are visiting for the Games and that community of New Zealanders who originally hailed from those shores. May the Dragon bring you good luck, good health and success in your endeavours.

END



S

Cover of GIFT BOOK



GRANITE BASE of OLYMPIC DRAGON



Donor's Names on Sculpture



OLYMPIC DRAGON Gift Book by Wah Ying Chong

## Report on the 2008 NZCA Leadership & Development Conference, Wellington.

### *For NZCA Auckland Branch.*

As a first generation Chinese New Zealander I have an intrinsic interest in the Chinese community along with my goal of being an effective leader were my motivators for attending the 2008 NZCA Leadership and Development Conference (LDC) in Wellington. Little did I know when I applied back in November last year that it would offer and mean more to me than I had ever thought.

The conference started on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January. It was a fairly laid back beginning with plenty of handshaking and introductions as we all got to mix and mingle with fellow delegates. Assembling by the river, the conference officially kicked off with a Maori blessing. Shortly afterwards we were told that "the drinking water is not drinkable!"

Our first speaker that evening was Dunedin Mayor Peter Chin who, like most of the other speakers, gave us an account of growing up Chinese in New Zealand and the importance of self identity, a crucial factor in successful leadership. At the end Peter gave a rousing rendition of Frank Sinatra's *My Way* - echoing the theme of his speech "Do It Your Way". Other notable speakers throughout the week included Andrew Young, Robyn Wong, Lynda Chanwai-Earle and crowd favourite Prof James Liu. There were also sessions in Chinese art and calligraphy, Tai Chi, discussion forums and team building exercises which gave all delegates an opportunity to get to know each other better and demonstrate their leadership qualities.

At a personal level there were many highlights during the LDC, including being part of the team that won the overall group prize for all the team based activities during the week. I just can't express how much I enjoyed working closely with my team members. We were made more aware of our strengths and used these to work together to achieve an awesome result and I'm sure each one of them will become successful leaders in their fields in the very near future. But perhaps the most significant highlight for me was being asked to address Chinese ambassador Zhang Yuanyuan on behalf of the NZCA and the LDC delegates at the conclusion of our visit to the Chinese embassy. Though terribly nervous for the 4 hours from being told I was to give the speech to actually delivering, I was honoured and privileged in doing so and the reception I got from everyone on the bus afterwards instilled me with a great sense of humility.

The LDC definitely ranks as one of the best things I've done and is a great opportunity to learn about Chinese history and culture in New Zealand, gain insight from successful leaders in the Chinese community and meet likeminded people from across the country and the world. I have come away from the Leadership and Development Conference with not only the skills and tools necessary for me to become an effective leader within my professional and personal life but also having made life long friendships.

Raymond Kwok



Left to Right: Kim, Jo, Mel (me), Larina, and Steph posing on Mt Victoria in windy Wellington



## NZCA Leadership and Development Conference 2008

In January 2007, NZCA ran its first Leadership and Development Conference (LDC) in Auckland. It was a great success. Due to its popularity, NZCA decided to hold its next conference, a year later, in Wellington. This 2008 conference was held at the Wellesley Country Club, which was set in the idyllic dale of Akatarawa Valley, Upper Hutt. Nestled amongst mountains, surrounding forests, a meandering stream, and with no cell phone reception, this venue provided a brilliant place for total concentration, relaxation, and for fostering individual development and cultural identity.

In the course of five days, we were put through an intense programme, featuring twenty-three inspirational speakers from all walks of life. Some of my favourite speakers were:

Peter Chin, the current mayor of Dunedin, who, not only delivered us a speech filled with life lessons and morals, he even sang opera to us a Frank Sinatra adaptation “Do it Your Way”.

Professor James Liu, was another brilliant speaker, a psychology lecturer at Victoria University, he challenged us with stereotypical images: “What’s Hot and What’s Not”, and also taught us that the “X-Factor” pose can even be acquired... and all it takes is... practise!

Nigel Murphy, author, researcher for the Chinese poll tax apology reconciliation, and historian with the Waitangi Tribunal, gave an extremely well laid out presentation. He revealed to us the history of Chinese in New Zealand. His speech was personally very touching, as my maternal grandfather in the 1917 paid the Chinese poll tax, so he could immigrate into New Zealand. I learnt the £100 my Gong Gong paid is today’s equivalent of NZ\$50,000. After Nigel’s speech, I now have a better understanding of the suffering my ancestors faced, and of my own cultural heritage and history.

Personally, the Leadership and Development Conference widened my understanding of group dynamics and how society functions. Before this camp begun, one of the requirements was to fill out a Meyers-Briggs personality test. For group competition activities, we were pre-chosen and purposely placed in groups of six, with each group member displaying a diverse (and opposite) set of personalities. It was like the reality television series “Survivor”. Tension and conflict ran high, as we had to perform group tasks, such as confident courses, blind folded exercises; pop quizzes, and prepare a fifteen-minute “Dragon’s Den” like presentation. Our group had lots of dominant and competitive personalities. One of the main lessons I learnt was I had to trust others more, sit back, relax, and let the others lead me. This was very difficult... and a new experience for me. I can fortunately say, by the end of our camp, our group managed to overcome our differences to take first place in the team activities.

This camp not only furthered my cultural insight and personal skill set, but it also introduced me to some other wonderful Chinese New Zealanders, who are now fantastic supportive friends. I feel privileged to be a recipient of the LDC scholarship, and encourage all young adults to step up for the challenge. You don’t have to consider yourself to be a leader to enrol into this conference. During my camp, I watched many people grow emotionally; this growth was most detectable in those that had considered themselves previously as “non-leaders”. Everyone grew in some form from this course; a brilliant testimony of this is that a group of participants from the 2007 LDC helped organise our 2008 camp.

I strongly encourage every young adult to take part in this opportunity. You can develop leadership skills and learn about your cultural heritage. Go on take it, the world is your oyster.

Thank you NZCA for providing me the opportunity and sponsoring me on this camp. Big thanks to the 2008 camp facilitators – Where would we be without you? Hugs and kisses to my fellow campers.

Melissa Wong  
February 2008

I didn't expect to cry  
But as his story of China unfolded  
Ours echoed eerily in parallel  
And crossed in Akatarawa

Where chilly evenings  
And starlit skies  
Intense debate whilst cocooned  
Inside in sleeping bags

Difficulties of childhood  
Shared experiences seldom voiced  
Galvanising a generation  
Determined to globally influence

### Kaukapakapa

And in the morning steaming bowls of porridge  
Followed by diligent attempts  
To carefully copy commands called  
By the tai chi teacher

And here we learned about our whakapapa  
*Dragons on the long white cloud*  
But at Hokianga Heads  
Their ghosts go hungry

We learnt about who we were  
And were inspired as to who we could become  
We heard leaders speak wisdom into our lives  
To teach us the tools to succeed

I learnt to trust  
In the decisions of others  
Or shout friendly abuse at team members|

### Bee Shop

In the obstacle course

And we all  
Are called to be leaders  
Which I tried to deny  
Until I became comfortable in this new skin

From this fertile  
Ground grew grand ideas  
*Your young men will see visions*  
Ignited with new purpose

And as we turned to leave  
The rain began to fall  
Heavy drops deafening on corrugated iron  
*Yin shui si yuan*

### Kauri Grove

-YLS



Karma Choeling Buddha --



Estella, Kai, Rosie, Connie, Meilin @ the Honey



Happy NZCA Members taking a rest @ Warkworth

## **Book Review – *Beijing Confidential*, by Jan Wong**

If you have ever been to Beijing, or are interested in the city which is host to the 2008 Olympics, you may enjoy this book as much as I did.

In this 2008 publication the author, Jan Wong, a Chinese resident in the USA, gives the reader a personal portrait of the Beijing she had resided in a few decades ago, and the Beijing she found in 2007.

Readers will be able to picture the Chinese political climate of a few decades ago, when the author addresses her past actions involving a student acquaintance.

I found *Beijing Confidential* an entertaining and informative read. You may be as delighted by the author's wit and writing style, as I was.

Jan Wong's previous books include *Red China Blues*, and *Jan Wong's China*.

*Reviewed by Janice Lowe*

# **NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION INC ANNUAL SPORTS TOURNAMENT**

Easter 21-24 March 2008

## **SUMMARY**

- All sports enjoyed a marked increase in entries from the previous tournament in Auckland in 2004
- I would like to acknowledge again the contributions of our sponsors which helped make an expensive project such as this possible;
  - ACC (Accident Compensation Corporation) \* Rayden Mitre 10 \* Auckland Chinese Community Centre Inc
  - The National Bank of New Zealand \* Thomas Doo Investment Trust \* Billy & Evelyn Chong
- 960 participants entered in 177 teams spread over 12 sporting codes, add another 40 for the Segway and walk events and the Tournament has broken the 1,000 mark, perhaps for the first time in the Tournament's long history. Each sportsperson is only counted once irrespective of how many sports he/she played. Spectators are also not included and I would normally estimate spectators at 20% of participants but there seemed a much higher proportion this year, closer to 35-40%...amazing effort, congratulations to everyone!
- The Waitakere Trusts Stadium catered for basketball, volleyball, badminton, netball, indoor soccer and the cultural concert. Touch rugby and the athletics events were staged in the fields and running track surrounding the stadium. Indoor netball took place in a facility 300m from the main stadium. Only golf, lawn bowls, hockey and tennis were held "off-site".
- The centralisation of activities in one location was a focal point of this year's Easter Tournament and significantly enhanced the aims of NZCA in a way no other Tournament in Auckland has achieved by bringing together large numbers of sportspersons and families in one place. The atmosphere that resulted was quite unique in my experience.
- All Centres participated in the Tournament in a spirit of goodwill and friendship. The contribution of senior members of the different Contingents must be acknowledged. They may not have attended the nightclubs but they stayed up just as long ensuring the safe return of the young people in their Contingents.
- The profile of NZCA was enhanced from media exposure on Radio New Zealand, Asia Down Under and World TV.
- It was a privilege for me to have chaired an outstanding young organising committee, all of whom must feel immensely proud of what they have achieved at this Tournament. The effort they put in ensured the smooth running of the Tournament programme. They have earned the gratitude of the New Zealand Chinese Association



# Next Generation Initiative

- To provide a club and events for Chinese people who are in their 20's to early 30's age group.
- To provide an opportunity to network, retain and encourage Chinese Culture in New Zealand.
- To bring together an understanding of current change in society and plan for the future. Thus create community projects using new ideas and knowledge.
- Provide a better understanding of Chinese culture.
- To help build bridges between overseas born Chinese and local born Chinese.
- An outreach for school leavers, graduates and young professionals.
- Provide events to help the Next Generation Chinese to find their way into the community.
- Build confidence and connection in this age gap within the Chinese Community.

## Currently in development.....



[jeremy.lowe@rugbytransfers.com](mailto:jeremy.lowe@rugbytransfers.com)

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|                                   | 1/2 page  | \$100 per issue or \$350 prepaid for 4 issues |
|                                   | Full Page | \$200 per issue or \$700 prepaid for 4 issues |

The NZCA (Auckland Branch) newsletter will publish advertisements depending on if payments and information for advertisement is given within 2 weeks of publishing. The newsletter is to be published in the first month of summer, spring, autumn and winter. Enquiries to NZCA (Auckland Branch) committee members

# WOMEN'S GROUP NEWS

The Women's Group has had 2 more enjoyable activities since the last newsletter.

First a day trip by bus to Silverdale and Coatesville on the North Shore on 15<sup>th</sup> March. Our kind regular bus driver, Bill Houghton, drove us to the Silverdale markets, which have many outdoor stalls as well as stalls inside the community hall. There were crafts, jewellery, ornamental items and produce for sale. Behind the stalls there are the popular outlet shops which sell clothing, bags and shoes. We were all pleased with our very reasonably priced purchases with many bargains gained.

After that we visited 2 beautiful gardens in Coatesville. The first called 'Mincher' was a very large garden of 22 acres, where we saw a big variety of plants, including orchards of apples, macadamias, figs, olives, etc. There were also duck ponds and an area where the owners kept King Charles Spaniel dogs. A very interesting garden to visit. We enjoyed a lovely fresh lunch there, ordered from a local café.

Next was a visit to nearby 'Pinelee' garden. This was a smaller garden with many exotic trees, some from as far away as South Africa. The owner is a timber craftsman who makes period Edwardian style furniture for local and overseas markets. We saw wonderful views of the surrounding countryside from this garden.

In April, we returned to the Meadowbank hall for our meeting. On 19<sup>th</sup> April a Thai lady called Pog Thompson came to teach us the skilful art of vegetable carving. She owns a Thai restaurant in New Lynn and has practised this art for many years. Her sister also came to help teach, as we were a very big group of enthusiastic students that day ! We had a lot of fun trying our hand at making vegetable flowers, leaves and even decorations in the shape of corncocks ! We were also treated to a display of very elaborate carvings the ladies had prepared the day before. These were amazing - beautifully carved melons, pumpkins and turnips in many different shapes and sizes.

On 17<sup>th</sup> May we had a cooking demonstration by Mr Liu who is an expert at making Chinese Rice Flour rolls 'Jew Cheung Fun'. It was interesting to see the thin rice flour pastry mixture being steamed in the square drawers of the little tin house especially made for this purpose. When the pastry was ready, we filled them with chopped barbeque pork and everyone was able to sample the results. Cooking demonstrations are always popular and the end product enjoyed by all.

The following month, on June 21<sup>st</sup> we had a photography session when we brought along old family photographs to learn how to preserve them for the future. Stanley 'Kim' Gee who is a professional photographer was the guest speaker. He also talked about framing photographs. It was a very interesting session.

Our next event is a Mid-winter Yum Char lunch at Sichuan restaurant, 333 Remuera Rd at 11am on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July. All women welcome, but please reply to Gillian or Florence by 10<sup>th</sup> July at the latest if you wish to come.

**The Waikato Women's Group have been invited to join us for this event.**

Gillian Young Ph. 528 9008 email [youngz@ihug.co.nz](mailto:youngz@ihug.co.nz)

Florence Hing Ph. 528 6920 email [bfng@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:bfng@slingshot.co.nz)

## Gwa Leng (Gualing) Family Publication.

Following the successful launch in 2006 of the Tung Jung Association of NZ publication, Zengcheng NZ's, which profiled the various Jungseung villages and families that originated from there, a number of Gwa Leng family profiles were not able to be included due to the limitations on content on the book.

Consequently the Gwa Leng New Zealand Family History Group was established with the following aims:

to produce a contemporary historical record of Chinese New Zealanders tracing their roots back to Gwa Leng  
to promote and encourage families to develop their own family histories and family trees as a record for future generations.

A number of family profiles and family trees have already been submitted and this is a request to target those families from Gwa Leng that we are not aware of and have not been contacted.

If you have family roots from Gwa Leng, have an interest in your genealogy, have a story to tell and are comfortable to have it published along with other Gwa Leng families, please urgently contact Mike Wong at [mike.wong@transit.govt.nz](mailto:mike.wong@transit.govt.nz) or Ph 06 8775085.

This project is supported by the Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust

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### **\*\*\* SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING \*\*\***

**N**OTICE is hereby given of a **Special General Meeting** of New Zealand Chinese Association (Auckland Branch) Inc ("the Association") to be held at Auckland Chinese Community Centre, 99 Taylor Road, Mangere Bridge on Sunday at 2.00pm on 28 September 2008 to consider the business described below;

1. To grant the Committee authority to continue in office until the next Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held in April 2009.
2. To consider nominations of members of the Association for the award of Life Membership.
3. To consider a change of name of the Association to NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION AUCKLAND INCORPORATED.
4. To review the provisions in rule 4(c)(iii) of the Rules of the Association for the election of Life Members and, if thought fit, to adopt a new procedure and criteria for awarding Life Membership to any member of the Association.

Susan Wong  
Secretary

## NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSN.( Akld Br ) Committee

|                |  |  |          |
|----------------|--|--|----------|
| President      | Kai Luey   | <a href="mailto:kailuey@xtra.co.nz">kailuey@xtra.co.nz</a>                             | 522 1840 |
| Vice President | Edmond Yee   | <a href="mailto:edmond.yee@noumegenlaw.co.nz">edmond.yee@noumegenlaw.co.nz</a>         | 379 6302 |
| Secretary      | Susan Wong   | <a href="mailto:susan.wong@ird.govt.nz">susan.wong@ird.govt.nz</a>                     | 985 7020 |
| Treasurer      | Connie Kum   | <a href="mailto:cojay.ep.nz@xtra.co.nz">cojay.ep.nz@xtra.co.nz</a>                     | 625 8611 |
| Committee      | John Kum   | <a href="mailto:cojay.ep.nz@xtra.co.nz">cojay.ep.nz@xtra.co.nz</a>                     | 625 8611 |
|                | Donald Sew Hoy   | <a href="mailto:donald@glacierinvestments.co.nz">donald@glacierinvestments.co.nz</a>   | 368 9180 |
|                | Elsie Wong   | <a href="mailto:emwong@slingshot.co.nz">emwong@slingshot.co.nz</a>                     | 579 0838 |
|                | Estella Lee  | <a href="mailto:estellalee@xtra.co.nz">estellalee@xtra.co.nz</a>                       | 520 6338 |
|                | Kitty Chiu   | <a href="mailto:kittychiu@xtra.co.nz">kittychiu@xtra.co.nz</a>                         | 533 8506 |
|                | Jeremy Lowe  | <a href="mailto:jeremy.lowe@rugbytransfers.com">jeremy.lowe@rugbytransfers.com</a>     |          |
|                | Lynette Wong   | <a href="mailto:pharmacist@tcp.co.nz">pharmacist@tcp.co.nz</a>                         |          |
|                | Meilin Chong   | <a href="mailto:chongs@xtra.co.nz">chongs@xtra.co.nz</a>                               | 633 0043 |
|                | Percy Kai Fong   | <a href="mailto:percykf@iconz.co.nz">percykf@iconz.co.nz</a>                           | 520 1862 |
|                | Richard Leung  | <a href="mailto:richard@glacierinvestments.co.nz">richard@glacierinvestments.co.nz</a> | 634 1817 |
|                | Robert Wong  | <a href="mailto:wongrob1@gmail.com">wongrob1@gmail.com</a>                             | 525 0220 |
|                | Schep Noon   | <a href="mailto:shnoon@xtra.co.nz">shnoon@xtra.co.nz</a>                               | 416 1613 |
|                | Virginia Chong   | <a href="mailto:pchong@ihug.co.nz">pchong@ihug.co.nz</a>                               | 630 6641 |
| Vivianne Chow  | <a href="mailto:vchow@ihug.co.nz">vchow@ihug.co.nz</a> | 521 2986   |          |

## NZCA Leadership Development Conference (LDC) 2009

The annual **LDC** next year **February 1 to 6<sup>th</sup> 2009** is a tightly packed 6 day event aimed at bringing together the next generation of leaders in the New Zealand Chinese community. The focus of the camp is to help participants better their understanding of their cultural identity. Involved in this understanding, influential speakers will be present to discuss their experiences and opportunities, provide a forum to develop social awareness in our community and activities that build on leadership qualities on each individual. Ultimately, participants will take away from the camp an enhanced understanding of who we are as Chinese and how we each integrate into the community. This camp will build confidence in the next lot of leaders to continue what others have achieved, or explore new opportunities to benefit our community.

**Keep these dates free in your calendar for February 2009-  
application forms available soon.**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Informative and Historical Books now available to members :**

*GUIDE TO LAWS AND POLICIES* relating to the Chinese of New Zealand 1871 - 1997

By NIGEL MURPHY commissioned by the New Zealand Chinese Association.Inc - \$35 ea.

*THE POLL-TAX IN NEW ZEALAND* - A research paper by Nigel Murphy  
Commissioned by the New Zealand Chinese Association Inc. ---- \$25 ea.



**New Zealand Chinese Association Auckland Branch AGM Minutes**  
**99 Taylor Road Mangere Auckland**  
**Meeting commenced 2.30 pm 13<sup>th</sup> April 2008**

**Present:**

|             |             |                |                |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| Ray Young   | Andrew Wong | Marie Lee      | Percy Kai Fong |
| Jean Yee    | Anne Lai    | John Kum       | Lynette Wong   |
| Kelvin Lowe | Thomas Lai  | Janice Lowe    | Jeremy Gin     |
| Ben Wong    | Connie Kum  | Virginia Chong | Meilin Chong   |
| Schep Fong  | Brian Young | Gillian Young  | Rose Luey      |
| Kai Luey    | Susan Wong  | Edmond Yee     | Laurence       |
| Elsie Wong  |             |                |                |

**Apologies:** Donald Sew Hoy, Estella Lee, Jeremy Lowe, Richard Leung

**Chairmans Report**

Distributed and summarised by Kai, with special thanks to Connie, John and Jeremy for newsletter, Ed for sports and Susan . Acceptance moved Kai, seconded Susan – passed unanimously with special vote of appreciation by John Kum for the leadership Kai had provided over the last year.

**Treasurers Report**

Tabled, discussed and moved for acceptance by Connie, seconded by Meilin. Passed unanimously.

**General business**

Thanks extended by Kai to Edmond Yee for the excellent Easter tournament. Brief overview given by Ed, - Easter 2008 the largest yet, with nearly 1000 participants, and approximately 80 teams from around New Zealand. Discussion on the future Easter tournaments in Auckland, the costs and organisational issues with large tournaments.

Ray Young queried whether NZCA Auckland was fully utilising all funding areas for its activities. Cttee replied that funding was sought as much as possible from external sources, as well as internal fundraising like dinners, entertainment book.

**Winter Camp** discussed. Closing date for applications - May 1.

**Academic awards** - call made for members to send in potential awardee forms for decision at NZCA annual conference.

**Womens Group** tabled application for life member award to original convenor of group. Chairman ruled it out of order as new guidelines had not yet been finalised. Under the constitution, any award nomination had to be accepted by 2/3 of those present at AGM or SGM

Women's Group advised that the next meeting would be on vegetable carving – all welcome to attend. Small charge for materials and hall hire.

There being no further matters, meeting closed at 3.15 p.m.

Thanks to all who brought food for the afternoon tea after the AGM

# N.Z CHINESE ASSOCIATION ( Akld Br ) INC

## Summary of Receipts and Payments 1 July 2006 ----- 31 December 2007 ( 18 months )

Balance July 2006 6872.79

### REVENUE

|                            |                |                 |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Subscriptions              | 4435.00        |                 |
| Interest                   | 119.60         |                 |
| Donations                  | 976.59         |                 |
| Fundraising Events Surplus | 7729.24        |                 |
| Profit on Book Sales       | 430.00         |                 |
| Profit on Sales-Ent.Books  | 636.00         |                 |
| GST Refund                 | <u>1347.98</u> |                 |
| Total Receipts for period  |                | <u>15674.41</u> |
|                            |                | <u>22547.20</u> |

### EXPENDITURE

|   |                |                 |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| Printing and Stationery                 | 4612.59        |                 |
| Xmas BBQ Expenses ( 2006/2007 )         | 1807.65        |                 |
| P O Box Rental                          | 125.00         |                 |
| Conference Expenses ( 2007 )            | 1166.00        |                 |
| Sporting Activities                     | 2012.18        |                 |
| Easter Tournament Subsidies ( 2007 )    | 3030.49        |                 |
| Meadowbank CC Hall Hire                 | 71.00          |                 |
| Social Events Expenses                  | 1392.83        |                 |
| Achievement Awards Trophies             | 235.20         |                 |
| Ak Language Sch. Speech Comp (2006)     | 450.00         |                 |
| Books -- Library                        | 69.00          |                 |
| Leadership Camp Subsidies (2007/2008)   | 3000.00        |                 |
| Grants -Glen.Joe, J. Kwan,              | 600.00         |                 |
| Kirsty Leong, Thomas Wong, Amberley Yee | <u>1500.00</u> |                 |
| Total Expenditure for period            |                | <u>20071.94</u> |
|   |                | <u>2475.26</u>  |

Subs received for 2008 2390.00

**BANK BALANCE 31 / 12 / 2007** 4865.26

### ACCOUNT BALANCES -- 31 December 2007

|            |                                       |                        |
|------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 00 Account |                                       | 4865.26                |
|            | Term Deposit -Accumulated Funds       | 21842.93               |
| 02 Account | 5211.84                               |                        |
|            | Term Deposit                          | <u>25000.00</u>        |
|            | <b>Banana A/c</b>                     | 30211.84               |
| 03 Account | 1818.7                                |                        |
|            | Term Deposit ( incl, Poll Tax Grant ) | <u>10000.00</u>        |
|            | <b>Chinese Music Sch. A/c</b>         | 11818.7                |
| 04 Account | 597.50                                |                        |
|            | Online                                | <u>14051.87</u>        |
|            | Easter Tournament A/c                 | <u>14649.37</u>        |
|            | <b><u>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u></b>       | <u><u>83388.10</u></u> |

A great BIG Thank You to allmembers and supporters for your contributions of Time, Effort and Participation. This has meant all our Social Activities have not run at a loss an excellent result for the past 18 months

**Connie Kum** Treasurer

Hi John, I'm not the official " Public Relations Officer " of the bus companies, but last weekend, decided to give badminton a miss, and ride the buses over to Takapuna to check out the Sunday Market over there. The experience was absolutely fabulous, because , not only did I learn which buses to get there, but the terminal in Takapuna was right opposite the marketplace. My sister travelled down from Orewa, and I embarked from Broadway Newmarket , to arrive within 20 minutes of each other. Notwithstanding the drizzly weather on the day, it was quite a revelation to wander around the stalls and compare prices before deciding on which stall to make our purchases. My backpack was filled with Pacific Queen apples, Giant pears [ nobody at the stall knew the name of them ] but they look really tasty, and I will look forward to them being as tasty as they look! Apart from the fruit, I also bought a jar of Tamarillo chutney, a jar of Lemon spread, as well as a cute looking cactus. Anne's purchases consisted of Chinese veges and Kiwifruit, all of which were very reasonable in price. The thing that really took my eye though, was a stall selling bouquets of fresh flowers, at about 2/3rds the price of similar bouquets in the florist across the road from where I live. Can recommend riding the buses to any of us "Old Codgers", especially if you purchase a "Ride On " card & use it in conjunction with the A.R.C. seniors's card. My next excursion will probably be to the Avondale Markets.

Cheers, Percy

## Congratulations

### **Donald & Jennie Sew Hoy, QSM**

Donald & Jennie Sew Hoy for being awarded the Queen's Service Medal in the 2008 Queen's Honours list. This recognition of the contributions that Donald & Jennie have made to the Chinese community whilst in Dunedin and Auckland over a long period of time is richly deserved. Donald & Jennie are also Paul Harris Fellows, which are the highest awards given for Rotary service.

### **Lorna Wong, QSM**

Did you know NZCA (Auckland branch) Member and Auckland ex-Committee Member, Lorna has been recognised for her service to the Chinese Community? Yes, the NZ Government has awarded Lorna a Queen's Service Medal in the 2008 New Zealand Awards, in the New Year Honours.

## Obituary Henry Chan 1937 - 2008

Born in Guanzhou and came to Auckland in May 1940. Educated at Remuera District School, Auckland Grammar School, and the University of Canterbury.

Taught history at Colenso high School, Napier and at Massey University .

Post graduate studies in Chinese History and studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Taught Chinese history and civilization at the University of Newcastle

Taught Chinese History in Dept. of Chinese Studies at the University of Sydney.

Honorary Associate in Dept. of Chinese & Southeast Asian Studies, School of Languages and Culture, and in the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, both within the University of Sydney.

Was Founding President of the Chinese Australian Historical Society.

Was National Director and Chair of the NSW State Project Committee of the Govt. funded Chinese Austrlian Cultural Heritage (CACH) Project.

2004 elected 17<sup>th</sup> National Library of New Zealand Research Fellow : 2007 Edited 'Zengcheng New Zealanders' for Tung Jung Assn. of NZ.

Inc



# What makes a Chinese-CHINESE?

Please check the list to see how Chinese you or your friends really are:

1. You unwrap gifts very carefully, so you can save and reuse the wrapping (and especially those ribbons).
2. When there is a sale on toilet paper, you buy 100 rolls and store them in your closet or in the bedroom of an adult child who has moved out.
3. You keep a Thermos of hot water available at all times.
4. You save grocery bags, tin foil, and tin containers. You use the grocery bags to hold garbage.
5. You hate to waste food:
  - (a) Even if you're totally full, if someone says they're going to throw away the leftovers on the table, you'll finish them.

(Your mom will give you a lecture about starving kids in Africa ).
  - (b) You have Tupperware in your fridge with three bites of rice or one leftover chicken wing.
6. You don't own any real Tupperware- only a cupboard full of used but carefully rinsed margarine tubs, take out containers, and jam jars.
7. You have a collection of miniature shampoo bottles that you take every time you stay in a hotel.
8. You wipe your plate and utensils or wash them in a small basin of hot water before you eat every time you go to a restaurant.
9. You own a rice cooker and a slow cooker
10. You wash your rice at least 2-3 times before cooking it.
11. You fight (literally) over who pays the dinner bill.
12. You have a teacup with a cover on it.
13. If you're under age 20, you own a really expensive Walkman; if you're over 20, you own a really expensive camera.
14. You're a wok user.
15. You only make long distance calls after 7pm.
16. You prefer your shrimp with the heads and legs still attached - it means they're fresh.
17. You never call your parents just to say, ' Hi. '
18. If you don't live at home, when your parents call, they'll ask if you've eaten, even if it's midnight.
19. Your parents tell you to boil herbs and stay indoors when you get sick. They also tell you not to eat fried foods or baked foods because such food is ' heaty'
20. You e-mail your Chinese friends at work, even though you only sit 10 feet apart.
21. You always cook too much.
22. You eat every last grain of rice in your bowl, but don't eat the last piece of food on the table.
23. You starve yourself before going to an ' All You Can Eat ' buffet.
24. You know someone who can get you a good deal on jewelry, electronics, or computers.
25. You own your own meat cleaver and sharpens it.
26. Your toothpaste tubes are all squeezed paper-thin.
27. You call a sausage a hotdog.
28. You wrap with napkins all the knives, spoons and forks of the airline that you fly on and put in your travel-bag as souvenirs
29. You never forget to take with you all the unused bath and facial tissues when you check out from the hotel because you believe that you have paid for it all.

**Now that you have read the lot, are they mostly true?**

# 66<sup>TH</sup> NZCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2008

The NZCA annual conference was held at the Wellington Sports & Cultural Centre over the weekend of the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> of June.

Auckland branch was represented by Edmund Yee, Richard Leong, Susan Wong, Virginia Chong & Lynette Wong.

Elections were held for executive officers following the retirement of Kai Luey (*President*) and Harvey Wu (*Secretary*).

The executive officers are Stephen Young as president & Virginia Chong as vice president, Mark Ngan Kee as treasurer, James To, secretary & Zhang Wei Chinese Secretary. The outgoing officers were thanked for their work and enthusiasm.

The financial position of NZCA remains healthy with a recent valuation on the Marion St head office property, but prudence in financial matters was encouraged in anticipation of the loss of a major tenant in early 2009.

The theme of the conference was "NZCA tomorrow", and discussions followed on how NZCA could be promoted as the foremost Chinese community group and become the primary point of contact for matters concerning the Chinese Community.

Points of interest from the conference included

- Presentation and adoption of use of national logo (in principle)
- Very successful and continued popularity of NZCA organised Winter Camps
- The continuation of the Auckland Branch initiative of the Youth Leadership & Development Conference. A presentation was given of the 2007 experience in Wellington & delegates were reminded to support our youth
- Use of NZCA website ( [www.nzchinese.org.nz](http://www.nzchinese.org.nz)) to advertise branch activities, events & contacts.
- Total grant to NZCA language schools to remain the same, divided equally between applying branches.
- Academic awards are currently being appraised
- Discussion on success of Easter Tournament and possibility of more "arts & cultural" participation
- Discussion on level of interest of extending to other centres the very successful Manawatu Aged Chinese Pilot
- Discussion of how NZCA may be able to retain the interests and skills of the 25-45+ age group as future leaders.
- Sichuan Earthquake fundraising

Conference delegates were invited to the Chinese Embassy for dinner on Saturday night, where Ambassador Zhang Yuanyuan announced he had been recalled to Beijing and will take up a future role in Brussels. Delegates wished him for the future.

Catering, as usual was provided by the Wellington Sports and Cultural Centre and was superb. Thank you so much for your hospitality. Delegates were treated to a spectacular performance by the WSCC Dragon Dance Team currently raising funds to compete in the 2009 Dragon Dance Festival in Hong Kong. Conference finished at 4.30pm

# Retaining The Cantonese Language

I spoke to the mother of my daughter's friend with a few words of Cantonese when we went to visit. She was overjoyed that I could speak her native language as I assume she spoke little English. There must be many parents born in China who stand silently in the background without being able to communicate with their children and their friends when they have a conversation in English.

Having grown up speaking Cantonese, until I went to school at age five, the English language has taken over ever since. My wife and I have never taught Cantonese to our children although our younger daughter is learning Cantonese at a Saturday class run by the NZ Chinese Association.

With the apology over the Poll Tax by the Labour Government, our Cantonese origins have taken more prominence. Although my Cantonese speaking skills have diminished over the years, if I was starting from scratch, it would take many years of practice to learn the Cantonese that I have retained. So to me, it is a privilege to have been taught this language as a child from my mother because she knew little English.

Now many parents like me, want their children to learn to speak Cantonese so that they can converse with their grandparents. That is probably the original reason but also to pass on some of our cultural heritage through our language.

When I think about it, it would be a shame, if our Cantonese language was not passed down to the next generations. So my suggestion is that all of you people out there that who were brought up speaking Cantonese at home, pass it down to your children. Spend an hour or even a few minutes every day or week, teaching them a few phrases.

Robert Wong

\* \* \* \* \*

NZCA Music School focuses on Oral Language – music and movement to achieve that goal. Makes it great fun for the children. Teaching Chinese Culture is another very important aspect of the curriculum. We have the services of another teacher this year so each class is divided into three groups giving the children quality teaching time. - teacher ratio one to three, four, or five depending on the attendance of the day. Children can be enrolled anytime during the year. It is a fact that the best time for learning languages and music is between the ages of three to seven. (Connie)

## NZCA (AK Br) BILINGUAL (CANTONESE/ENGLISH) MUSIC SCHOOL Oranga Primary School Hall, Rangipawa Road, One Tree Hill

|                                       |                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Saturday Pre School (3 1/2 – 5 years) | 9.30 - 11 am     |
| Primary One ( 6 - 10 years)           | 11.15 - 12.45 pm |
| Primary Two (10years + )              | 1.00 - 2.30 pm   |

TERM TWO starts - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July - 27 September.

Music School Committee – to contact for more info:

|                |       |  |                              |
|----------------|-------|--|------------------------------|
| Connie Kum     | email | <a href="mailto:cojay@xtra.co.nz">cojay@xtra.co.nz</a>     | Phone 625 8611               |
| Debbie Sew Hoy | email | <a href="mailto:qbee@ihug.co.nz">qbee@ihug.co.nz</a>       | Phone 634 1817 M:021 2716010 |
| Kai Luey       | email | <a href="mailto:kailuey@xtra.co.nz">kailuey@xtra.co.nz</a> | Phone 522 1840               |



**MEDIA STATEMENT:  
17 JUNE 2008**

**POLICE URGE ASIAN COMMUNITY TO BE VIGILANT:**

Police are urging all sectors of the Asian community to be increasingly vigilant after a surge in bag snatching incidents in West Auckland and North Shore.

Sergeant Todd Bartlett says officers from the Law Enforcement Team [LET] are investigating numerous thefts where women have had their handbags stolen.

"More than twenty bag snatching incidents are being investigated in various locations that include Henderson and Takapuna. We believe there are other handbag thefts that are yet to be reported to us," he said.

"Our enquiries have established that a gang of criminals are targeting lone Asian women soon after they use an ATM cash machine, or while they are walking to their vehicle that's located in the local shopping mall's car park."

"In some cases a car has stopped behind a victim's vehicle blocking them in their park. Often the victim has just got into the car and placed their handbag on the front passenger seat. The thief has then rushed forward, opened the passenger door and snatched the handbag."

"The LET team's investigations include details of similar crimes in both Auckland and Counties Police Districts. The offenders appear to be working in groups, selectively targeting lone female victims, many of whom are Asian."

"Police officers are regularly patrolling popular shopping malls and car parks on foot providing community reassurance as well as educating the public about how to best prevent their personal handbags or purses being stolen."

Police offer the following suggestions to those in the Asian Community:

1. Where possible have a person accompany you when conducting activity such as exiting a bank, or accessing an ATM cash machine.
2. Where possible avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
3. Where possible refrain from openly carrying handbags or purses.
4. Before you enter your car place the handbag at your feet.
5. Be vigilant to everybody and be aware of your surroundings.
6. Call Police immediately whenever you see a suspicious vehicle.
7. Where possible advise a friend or relative of your movements
8. Be aware – do not take anything for granted
9. Be careful – satisfy your own safety when alone
10. Never hesitate - to call Police 111 in any emergency

Anyone with information on handbag thefts can contact Sergeant Todd Bartlett of the Police Law Enforcement Team on 09 481 0359.

## **COMING EVENTS** : diarise your calender !

**NZCA Waitomo Day Trip** ( whole day ) Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>  
October 2008 Cost. Members \$50 approx Lunch provided.  
Should be a fabulous trip -- watch this space for further  
information ! Limited seating

**NZCA Olympic 2008 Celebration Dinner** - to be held at  
SICHUAN Restaurant. 133 Remuera Road at 6.30pm  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2008 - \$35pp - \$25 (under 12 ) BYO.  
Make up your table of 12 ( \$420 ) Limited seating so be  
quick -- don't be disappointed !

**ACCC -Garage Sale and Market Day 2008 !** Yes! to be  
revived for October 18<sup>th</sup> 2008 ! -- Prepare to clear out your  
unwanted treasures !! To be held at the ACCC Community  
Centre Hall - 99 Taylor Road Mangere - for Further notice to  
contact John or Connie Kum