



# NEW ZEALAND CHINESE ASSOCIATION AUCKLAND INC

紐西蘭屋崙華聯會

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Opening Ceremony Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas International Conference 17-19 July 2009

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## From the Vice Chairman



The weather is starting to warm up and Spring is upon us. Since our last newsletter we have had a big winter of activities organised by your busy committee.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Banana Conference was held in July with over 300 delegates attending and the profile of NZCA Auckland Inc. was given a great boost cumulating with an entire Asia Downunder episode devoted to the *Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas* International Conference.

The success of these Banana conferences has also been acknowledged nationally with NZCA Auckland Inc. being selected by the Human Rights Commission as one of twelve recipients of their Annual Diversity Awards for 2009. The award is in recognition of the outstanding contribution to the New Zealand Diversity Action Programme through our diversity projects and programmes. This was presented by the Governor General, Sir Anand Satyanand and accepted by Virginia Chong on behalf of the Branch on Monday 24 August at a ceremony at Te Papa.

The Women's Group celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Yum Cha at Sun World Chinese Restaurant on 25 July with about 80 persons attending including representatives from Waikato branch's Women's Group, and an LDC 2009 reunion was held on 3 July.

The Senior Lifestyle Group in conjunction with ACCC is going from strength to strength. All are welcome on Tuesdays at the ACCC premises at New North Road.

Congratulations to Virginia Chong who was re-elected as National Vice President of NZCA.

No doubt you have seen on television the devastation that Typhoon Marakot has had on Taiwan. This year we are going to use our Annual Moon Festival dinner as a fundraiser for

the typhoon relief effort. We will donate all profits from the dinner and raffles to this, so please can I ask you all to support this event and get your tickets for this dinner being held on Saturday 12 September at Mandarin Seafood Restaurant in Highland Park from 6:30pm. For ticket sales and donations for the raffles please contact Connie Kum - phone 625 8611 or email [cojay@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cojay@xtra.co.nz).

This year we will be combining with the Auckland Chinese Community Centre, the United Chinese Associations of New Zealand and other Auckland Chinese groups under the banner of the Auckland Chinese Community Associations in hosting a dinner to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. This dinner will be held at Coral Reef Restaurant on Saturday 26 September, cost will be \$300 for a table of 10. So get a group of friends and family together to celebrate this historic occasion. Again, please contact Connie for tickets.

Other upcoming events to mark on your calendars for the remainder of 2009 include the Annual Bowls Tournament on 6 September, a one day outing to Whangarei on 3 October, the Annual NZCA Auckland Volleyball Tournament 3-4 October, Ten Pin bowling in November and our Annual Xmas BBQ on Saturday 5 December.

I hope to see you all at these up coming events.

Richard Leung  
Vice Chairman  
NZCA Auckland Inc.

### ON THE COVER

From left: LDC '09 delegate Deanna Yang in traditional Chinese costume; Former Prime Minister The Rt Hon. Jim Bolger; Minister of Ethnic Affairs The Hon. Pansy Wong. Photographed by Stefan Raabe.



# On John's Mind

John Kum - Editor

**YOU CAN DO BETTER!** I managed somehow to get my arm twisted (the pain!) and help at the **Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas International Conference**. Guess it doesn't hurt anymore after being shackled to help in the first Banana Conference then the second, then the third, ah well — guess I'm yellow (excuse the pun) that must make me a coward. No guts to fight back! But guess what? I found out that I somehow enjoyed it. What would I have been doing had I not suffered by getting up at 5:30am and with all those jobbies, preparations and being responsible in setting up the venue for the hundreds that were about to attend this years Banana Conference!

Maybe, just maybe, I could have slept in for say another 2-3 hours! Then what's sleep? It's good if you can get it when you want it, so I could do with a little less sometimes!

This year's **RDSB** International Conference was **Different**. It had gone **Global!** With the addition of the co-hosts, **ISSCO (International Society for the Studies of Chinese Overseas)** it was undoubtedly a resourceful and knowledgeable presentation by so many highflying speakers and academic papers presented by the many New Zealand and international speakers over the weekend of lectures.

**Who?** When? Who was speaking? Where? Which lecture room? What Topic? Dr. Who? Hui Kian Kwee! Peter S Li! Chee-Beng Tan! Wei Wang! Mary-Alice Waters! Yit Seng Yow! and on the NZ scene – Nigel Murphy! James To! Mai Chen! James Ng! Rodney Wong! – and I could go on and on and on and - but - where were the

local **New Zealand born Chinese audience?** Was it the cost? Was it the topics? Was it the Venue? No interest? \$90 for students! 14 hours of mind boggling informative and inspirational talks! – i.e. under \$10 ph. Where else would you hear the life experiences and decision makers speak under one roof? What an inspiring and memorable Conference!

This is one 'banana' that learnt something of the Chinese diaspora – no matter which country they migrated to – they had to overcome the same barriers, sufferings and hardships that our parents and grandparents had to deal with! My mind is now reinforced to the 'whys' of so many overseas Chinese migrants were so resilient and industrious having to overcome the humiliations and racist overtones that they were confronted with.

**WE ARE WHO WE ARE! ONE CANNOT FORGET / ERASE what we see in the mirror!**  
Also we are what we eat – so be healthy - eat well!

Remember **YOU CAN DO BETTER!**  
Because you have those industrious, resilient and illustrious genes within you!

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.

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## Subscription Renewal

Your continued support is an important factor to our NZCA organisation, funding for activities for you as members and publishing the newsletters!

Show your support in renewing your subscription fees. The 2009 calendar year subs are now overdue. Visit our website <http://www.nzchinese-akld.org.nz> to download our latest membership form.



# Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas International Conference

Bevan Chuang

The 4<sup>th</sup> 'Going Bananas' Conference was held at the University of Auckland Business School this year and attracted excellent interest from the general public as well as the media.

The conference was organised by the New Zealand Chinese Association Auckland Inc. in conjunction with International Society for the Studies of Chinese Overseas.

The Honourable Pansy Wong, Minister of Ethnic Affairs and Minister of Women's Affairs spoke at the opening reception. Wong, the first Chinese in a ministerial position in New Zealand, set a great example for the Chinese community.

Wong certainly presented to the New Zealand public that ethnicity and gender should not hinder one's success and motivation, but should be an attribute. Her 'Chinese-ness', her humbleness and hardworking traits enabled her to succeed and speak out on behalf of the minority groups (of ethnic or of women).

It was a privilege to hear the presentation by Ms Libby Wong, former Director of Social Welfare, and Secretary for Health & Welfare and member of the Legislative Council in Hong Kong. Wong highlighted the importance that Overseas Chinese were indeed, like the phonetic sound in Chinese, *huaqiao*, the bridge between China and the rest of the world. A trait that should be utilised under these times of globalisation.

Mai Chen, Xiaoying Fu and Don Ha reminded us the struggle Chinese will always face. People of ethnic descent will always face barriers and stigma by the mainstream society. These challenges should make us stronger and better.

It was interesting to hear about the Overseas Chinese in other parts of the world, such as Canada, Japan and Equatorial Guinea, and the similarities and differences compared to Chinese in New Zealand.

Despite geographical differences, overseas Chinese behave differently depending on their time of arrival. The similarities reminded policy makers and social workers that Chinese should not be dealt with as a homogenous group.

Well done to the organising committee and all those who were involved. It was welcoming to see Chinese of all walks of life participating in this inspirational and motivating conference.

For more information about the Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas International Conference, visit [www.goingbananas.org.nz](http://www.goingbananas.org.nz)



Robyn Wong (centre) presents Ron Sang (left) and Kai Luey (right) with Olympic memorabilia.



NZCA dance team enters during the opening ceremony of the conference.

## Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas – 國際研討會 2009 年 7 月 18 到 7 月 19 日 莊家欣

由紐西蘭屋崙華聯會與世界海外華人研究學會所舉辦得第四屆「Going Bananas」研討會今年於奧克蘭大學的商業學院舉辦並引起大批公眾與傳媒的關注。

本國種族事務部長與婦女事務部長黃徐毓芳議員為此盛事開幕。作為新西蘭第一位華人部長，黃部長是本地華人社團的好榜樣。

黃部長證明了種族和性別並不對個人的成就構成障礙，而更可以變成優點。中國的謙虛與勤儉等美德讓輔助她做為成功人士，並可自信地代表少數族群(如種族與婦女)提出意見。

這個研討會很榮幸邀請到香港前社會福利署署長、衛生福利司、立法局議員黃錢其濂作為主禮嘉賓。黃女士強調作為海外華僑，有如諧音「橋」一樣，可以為中國與全世界作為一個橋樑，促進溝通。對於現在全球化作出很重要的幫助，並該好好利用。

Mai Chen 女士，付小英博士與 Don Ha 先生等人提到身為華人所面對公眾所引起的障礙與羞辱。這些一切都應該被視為讓個人變得更強與更好的挑戰。

很高興可以在此研討會認識海外華人在，如加拿大、日本、赤道幾內亞等世界其他地方與紐西蘭的華人所面對一樣與不同的事情。

儘管地理上的不同，海外華人在每個角落會因應他們移民的時間而擁有不同的行為舉止。這也再一次提醒政策與社會福利人員並不該以一種方法處理華人的問題。

很感謝主辦單位主辦這次活動，讓世界從不同角落而來的華人參與這個令人鼓舞的研討會。

想知道更多有關「Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas」的國際研討會，請到 [www.goingbananas.org.nz](http://www.goingbananas.org.nz)



Xiaoying Fu presenting in the 'Cracking the Glass Ceiling' session on day 2.



Mai Chen presents during the 'High Flying Bananas' session on day 1.

# Shanxi and Henan Province

Rose Luey

How would you enjoy a private tour in a Honda Van with leather upholstered armchairs? After requesting a tour, to see the Yungang Grottoes and the Longmen Grottoes our New Zealand tour company designed a beautiful holiday for us.

We started in Xian on a 17 hour overnight train. Maybe that part was difficult. Sharing with a couple of ladies in a 4 bunk berth. It started with 2 males who swapped because they found it difficult to talk to us. It is an experience. But Kai has vowed he will not take anymore long train journeys in China. Having said that our 5 hr train journey from Taiyuan to Xian was unexpectedly interesting. We had 3 Australian 60 year old ladies sitting near us and 2 locals. It was fun practicing our Mandarin on them. And they in turn tried out their English. In between we had a friendly train attendant trying to market stocking socks that didn't ladder. I bought a couple of pairs, as I like to give things a try. There were tops for kids, and toys, and almost a rebounding sales person.

The food in the area was very good. Not a lot of meat was served to us. But the vegetable and noodle dishes were delicious. Their oat flour noodles are famous. We had 6 to 8 dishes for lunch and for dinner. It was a little too much, so we had to leave it. Their breads and buns were also great. The Shanxi plain is a wheat growing area.

From Datong we saw the very famous Hanging Temple (Xuangongsi). This delicate beautiful wooden structure was built on a concave cliff. So the top of the cliff protected all the wooden beams. Now it sits 50 metres above ground

because the riverbed that was there in the 6<sup>th</sup> century dried up. We also took a walk along the Yungang Grottoes. It is full of Buddhist carvings from 1000 years ago. The biggest Buddha is about 17 metres high.



Another interesting town with a Unesco designation is Pingyao. We stayed 2 nights. I guess we are not used to, "sleeping back in time!" This walled city was built in the Ming Dynasty. Wealthy merchants abounded especially when 2 of them started China's first draft

bank. It must have made a big difference to those who wanted to remit money to another city! The earlier choice was to take a chance by loading up the silver & gold into a 2 wheel wooden wagon, with security guards to protect it. It makes you wonder how much of the money actually reached its' destination!

We had mountain scenery and Temple retreats to see, the peak of one of the Wutai Mountains to gaze from. There was the Longman Grottoes a marvel of caves with Buddhist carvings and

the Shaolin Temple. This is the area where the monks devised kung fu. There are literally hundreds of kung fu schools, all with students hoping to make it big or even to become famous in the movies.

Our guide Catherine gave me a great health tip. She says many of the locals use and

drink the local Shanxi black vinegar. It is made from sorghum and grains. The vinegar is great to help your complexion, helps digestion and can help remedy a lot of imbalances in your body. I have got hold of a bottle. It is pleasant and mild, tastes a bit like balsamic vinegar. Anyway you can just add a bit of water to mellow the taste!



## NZCA Whangarei One Day Tour

mark your diaries now!

Have you been to New Zealand's only oil refinery in Whangarei - **Marsden Point**? In the refinery visitors' centre, you can learn how the natural gas and underground oil are formed, how the oil companies find them and how they were refined before our use. More info at <http://www.nzrc.co.nz>

In Whangarei, you can also see the biggest **clock museum** in the country. You will definitely be amazed by the different time calculators that were made in the past.



**Whangarei Falls** is one of the biggest waterfalls we find in NZ. For those capable of walking, we can walk down the bottom of the fall.

**Please join us on our “Whangarei One Day Tour” on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2009 to see all the interesting spots above!**

**Date:** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2009

**Gathering place:** Greenlane McDonald's

**Time:** Bus will depart at 8am

We will be back to Auckland at around 7:30pm

**Price** including includes visit to the clock museum:

**\$50/member; \$60/non-member; \$30/child**

Be prepared - bring with you: drink/camera/walking stick/comfortable gear for the sun or rain.  
Limited seating available (31 seats taken) - reserve your seats now!

**Contact: Connie 625 8611 or Virginia 630 6641 for reservations**

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Try to read these words and follow the whole paragraph quickly. It's said that only smart people can do this!!

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# Basketball Notice

Edmond Yee

Basketball practices and scrimmages are held every Sunday without fail at the Auckland Chinese Community Centre Mangere Hall, 99 Taylor Road, Mangere Bridge.

The following are the dates for the dedicated basketball practices for specific groups between 2:30 – 3:30pm:

9 Aug	Veterans; men & women
16 Aug	Mens Under 17
23 Aug	Mens Open
30 Aug	Women; all ages
6 Sep	Veterans; men & women
13 Sep	Mens Under 17
20 Sep	Mens Open
27 Sep	Women; all ages
4 Oct	Veterans; men & women



Regular practices for the young basketballers still apply:

<b>12:30 – 2:30pm</b>	Tiniball (7 years & under) miniball (8 – 9 years) intermediate (10–11 years) & under 17 years	Mainly for younger players and under 17 players learning to play. More accomplished under 17 players should join the later sessions.
<b>2:30 – 3:30pm</b>	Practice times as above.	
<b>3:30 – 6:00pm</b>	Scrimmage games for everyone	Open for all players

**NOTE:** Please remember to pay your door fees as you arrive and sign in on the register.

## Senior Lifestyle Group visits Fresher Chips factory

Percy Kai Fong

The most recent outing our Senior Lifestyle Group undertook, was a visit to Steven Wong's "Fresher Chips" factory in East Tamaki, where potato crisps as well as potato "fries" as the Americans call them, are manufactured on a grand scale at Steven's "state of the art" factory. About 30 people either met at Greenlane Countdown to carpool for the trip to East Tamaki or else made their own way to the destination. We were met at the front entrance to the factory by Steven, who then ushered us up to a conference room for a briefing by his factory manager on the do's & don'ts as we progressed through this vast enterprise.

This was in the interests of Safety First. Whilst taking in all the aspects of safe practices on the factory floor, we were piled with generous amounts of potato crisps to enjoy during the talk. On with the tour, and the first stop was a walk into the vast "cool rooms" which were set at degrees below zero where the final product was stored prior to distribution. Working in this





environment would be a great way for a quick "cool off" during the summer months, but I certainly wouldn't recommend this job during the winter months!



We were shown every aspect of this huge operation, from seeing the huge wooden bins of potatoes to the mechanical peeling and washing of the spuds before progressing to the slicing or chipping machines, then on to the huge cylindrical deep fryers, where the "fries" are blanched, blast frozen, then packed into plastic bags ready for distribution to the takeaway bars throughout the length & breadth of the country.

Having reached the "Senior Moments" stage of life... and may I say they become more frequent as the days roll by, most of the relevant statistics, seem to have gone to "some other place".

Suffice to say that it is a huge operation, and a credit to Steven and the crew working there, including Steven's wife, who doesn't have a nice "cushy" job in the office, but is actively engaged on the factory floor as one of the workers. At the end of the factory tour, we were shown through a shop attached to the factory, where Steven has an enormous collection of Chinese pottery - one could either admire or purchase the exquisite products that are crafted in Jing Dezheng China which is world renowned in the manufacture of fine pottery, vases & objets d'art.

Finally we had a group photo taken outside the factory, and were once again piled with cartons from our most generous host, Steven to take home. To end the outing, we headed off to Sylvia Park's huge foodcourt for lunch before returning home. At the risk of "big noting" Steven's Father & my Maternal Grandfather were brothers! *[Senior Lifestyle Group meetings are held every Tuesday at 1 New North Rd, 10AM to 2PM. New members are always welcome]*



Fresher Foods Ltd CEO Steven Wong poses with the Senior Lifestyle Group taken in front of his factory.



# NZCA Auckland wins 2009 Diversity Action Award

Alistair Kwun

NZCA Auckland Inc. was one of 12 recipients of the 2009 Diversity Action Award from the Human Rights Commission in recognition of its outstanding contribution to positive race relations.

The awards night was held at the 2009 New Zealand Diversity Forum in the Soundings Theatre of Te Papa in Wellington on Monday 24 August.

The winners were selected from over 200 organisations participating in the New Zealand Diversity Action Programme, facilitated by the Human Rights Commission.

NZCA President Steven Young and National Vice-President Virginia Chong attended the

awards ceremony at which the Governor General of New Zealand, Anand Satyanand and Race Relations Commissioner, Joris de Bres presented NZCA Auckland Inc. with the award.

Human Rights Commission acknowledged the achievements of NZCA Auckland Inc. around its regular activities, ranging from sport tournaments and Chinese New Year celebrations to youth leadership and cultural storytelling conferences.

To see last year's Diversity Awards winners, or find out more about the Diversity Action Programme, visit [www.hrc.co.nz](http://www.hrc.co.nz).



NZCA National Vice President and NZCA Auckland Inc. committee member Virginia Chong receives the 2009 New Zealand Diversity Action Award on behalf of NZCA Auckland Inc.



# LDC Replay

Yik Kun Heng & Sandy Ling

On a hot Sunday afternoon at the beginning of February this year, a group of 44 'young people' gathered together at Willow Park Convention Centre. They were mostly strangers to each other and about the only thing they had in common were that they were of Chinese heritage. Over the next 5 ½ days, the 44 were subjected to one of the most grueling, punishing, tortuous and quite honestly – soul devastating experiences. It was torture on a scale unseen by the likes of Guantanamo Bay and sleep deprivation was the frequent tool of punishment. This was LDC '09, and for all the sleepless nights had by all – the bonds of friendships and the networks built left a lasting impression on all those who attended.

Moments were captured in digital bits of data and stored in mummy and daddy's 'made in China' 8.2 Megapixel cameras, the documented moments were compiled into a single DVD by the facilitators. The deal was that whoever handed in their written report was entitled to receive a DVD. So what better excuse than to organise an event – a few of the group got together and started planning. Six months on from the conference and with the support of Auckland branch of NZCA, 'LDC Replay' invited the Conference attendees back together for a reunion. It was a perfect opportunity for the conference attendees to exact their revenge on the '09 organising committee by making them go through the very same exercises the

conference attendees were subjected to. Organising committee members were broken into two teams and asked to draw the silhouette of NZ using 3 pieces of string, crawl under chairs, and then climb through a maze of toilet paper whilst blind folded. Needless to say hilarity ensued as the two teams vied and jostled for victory position.

Along with past attendees of '07, '08 and friends; the adventures, triumphs, epic fails and bitter humiliations were laughed, celebrated and relived. With chocolate as the reward for the committee members' bitter humiliation, the event lasted well into the evening as the LDC alumni celebrated and shared their experiences. A slideshow clip was put together to give snippets of what the DVD contained, and for 5 minutes the '09 attendees relived their camaraderie.

A huge thanks goes out to the LDC organising committee for bringing a group of total strangers together and empowering them to go out and achieve more in the community, who had supported and continues to support us all after LDC; conference attendees who slaved and suffered and all the while doing it with smiles on their faces, but who also help made LDC a success; and most importantly a BIG THANK YOU goes to Auntie Elsie, Connie, Kai, Rose and Mike Wong's mum who organised all the tasty treats that satiated the bellies but left

the taste buds yearning for more, who support and continues to support the growing LDC Alumni. A signed photo poster of the '09 attendees was gifted to the organising committee on the evening.

Live, Dream, Create /  
Laugh, Dance, Catch-up  
– LDC REPLAY!



# Cantonese Music School

Connie Kum

Cantonese is our Heritage language – as it is for those that have come from the Guangdong province of China or Hong Kong. Many then have learned Mandarin at school and then become fluent in both mandarin and Cantonese.

NZCA gives you the opportunity to take your child to a school where the focus on learning is “The Fun Way”

- Through music and movement – words are learnt very quickly via songs.
- Games – competition using colours, numbers and objects. Simple but a very effective learning medium.
- Pre-schoolers – know at least four songs (my 4 ½yr grandson has been attending for nearly a term)
- The primary age children are becoming quite confident in making conversation. One group is making up their own little play.
- The senior girls enjoy learning the art of Chinese cooking – gaow gees, sushi, Vietnamese rice rolls, fried rice to name a few dishes.
- The adult classes are learning Chinese etiquette, culture and customs as well as oral language.

Its never “too early” (preschooler) or “too late” (senior citizens) to learn.

Give your child the opportunity to learn their Heritage language.

Re enquiries for booking a place ring Connie on 625 8611 or email [cojay@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cojay@xtra.co.nz)

Classes held at Oranga Primary School hall, Rangipawa Road, One Tree Hill.

Preschool	9.30 am	to	11.00 am
Primary 1	11.15 am	to	12.45 pm
Primary 2 and	1.00pm	to	2.30pm
Adult classes			



**NZCA Auckland Inc.**  
*cordially invites you to the*  
**MOON FESTIVAL Dinner**  
**Saturday 12 September**  
**6:30 pm**

**Mandarin Palace Seafood Restaurant**  
**9 Aviemore Dr**  
**Highland Park**

**\$35 per person BYO**  
**\$25 under 12yrs**  
**Proceeds to aid the Taiwan Typhoon ‘Morakot’**  
**Appeal**  
**Organise your group now!**  
Reservations contact Connie ph 625 8611 email [cojay@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cojay@xtra.co.nz)



# Women's Group News

Gillian Young

The Women's Group is continuing well with excellent attendances at all meetings. We have had some very interesting speakers and events lately.

In June, a lady from Arthritis NZ came to speak about the different forms of arthritis that can affect people of a wide range of ages – from childhood through to elderly. She also spoke about the treatment and management of symptoms and gave information of where to seek help with ongoing problems related to arthritis.

Our Women's Group 10th Anniversary Celebration brunch was held on Saturday 25th July at 'Sun World' Chinese Restaurant in Newmarket. We enjoyed a large selection of dim sums and shared dishes of fried rice and noodles as well. It was a wonderful social occasion for 70 members and friends to 'catch-up' with one another.

On 15th August 2 talented musicians, Jessica Fong and Eli Moore, performed at our meeting. Jessica, the daughter of Loretta and Alan Fong, sang several popular jazz songs. Eli played keyboard to accompany her and also sang one song. They both have beautiful voices giving us a wonderful performance. Jessica has appeared on TV, on 'Asia Downunder' and has previously performed an item at the Bob Dylan Show at Sky City. It was great to be entertained by these 2 rising stars. We wish them both all the best in the entertainment world in the future.

Coming Up:

On 12th September, Iris Cheng from the Sogetsu Ikebana Association will be giving an

Ikebana demonstration. She will teach us this lovely Japanese art of flower arranging by guiding us in a 'hands-on' class at this meeting. It should be an interesting session.. Please come along to learn and have a fun afternoon.

In October we are planning a bus trip to Hamilton, on Saturday 17th. It will be a full day with a visit to the large and beautiful Hamilton Gardens first. Afterwards we will visit the very friendly Waikato Women's Group at their premises for a lunch meeting. On the way back we can stop at Pokeno to purchase the famous 'Pokeno Bacon' and other meat products. Nearby, a delicious Pokeno ice cream can also be purchased!

If you are interested in joining us for this day trip, or if you have any queries about our meetings, please contact Gillian or Florence. You will need to reply by Tuesday 6th October at the latest if you wish to come on the Hamilton trip. All women of Chinese descent and non-Chinese women who are related to Chinese are welcome.

Our hall meetings are usually held at 1.30pm on the 3rd Saturday of each month at Meadowbank Community Centre, 29 St Johns Rd, Meadowbank, near the Meadowbank Shopping Centre. New members always welcome, so please ask your friends and relatives to come along. Costs: \$2 per NZCA member, \$3 per non-member, to cover costs of hall rental and afternoon tea.

Gillian Young Ph. 528 9008; email youngz@ihug.co.nz

Florence Hing Ph. 528 6920; email bfng@xtra.co.nz

Think about this for a minute...

If I happened to show up on your door step crying, would you Care?

If I called you and asked you to pick me up because something happened, would you come?

If I had one day left, to live my life; would you be part of that last day?

If I needed a shoulder to cry on, would you give me yours?

This is a test to see who your real friends are or if you are just someone to talk to when they are bored.





16 – 20 September, Rialto Newmarket

### **Brief Film Synopsis**

#### **The Way We Are**

*The Way We Are breathes life into a simple portrait of regular people and a Hong Kong suburb that normally gets a bad rap and in the process, creates a award winning masterpiece.*

#### **True Women for Sale**

*A young pregnant woman from mainland China and a drug addicted prostitute cross paths with a photojournalist and an insurance salesman. A poignant and real look at life in a lower class area of Hong Kong.*

#### **Beast Stalker**

*In the tradition of finely executed stories about law and order in Hong Kong, comes Dante Lam's outstanding dark Hong Kong cop thriller.*

#### **Protégé**

*Protégé is a finely crafted film that combines suspense with a thoughtful exploration of the complex relationships and loyalties within the multilayered, international crime syndicates of today.*

#### **Three Kingdoms: Resurrection of the Dragon**

*An epic historical drama telling the life story of a simple man who rises to greatness in a time of civil unrest. Three Kingdoms is a soulful epic which explores the inner emotions and spirituality of a hero.*  
[www.three-kingdoms.com](http://www.three-kingdoms.com)

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#### **\* Ratings to be advised for all films**

The Festival is the brainchild of the Hong Kong NZ Business Association in conjunction with the Asia NZ Film Foundation. This is the first year that a festival celebrating Hong Kong film has been organised and we intend to make it an annual event.

This year the festival features 5 Hong Kong films which are a mixture of arthouse, thriller and epic historical drama. The films are in Mandarin and Cantonese with English subtitles. I have attached a very short synopsis of each film for you to look at.

For more information about the festival itself, you can visit our website [www.hkfilmfestival.co.nz](http://www.hkfilmfestival.co.nz).



# The Chinese Digital Community

Meilin Chong

This website is where the Chinese community can share their family history, read about other families, share family stories about life in New Zealand and being able to upload photos, videos and other interesting happenings that have occurred over the years, that if not recorded now will be lost to future generations.

I have been involved with this project for more than a year now and have written my story (reluctantly I must admit) and have found it an interesting exercise. Being not overly computer literate it took me many sessions to get it right. But with perseverance and many promptings I finally got there in time for the launching of this site at the recent Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas Conference. I probably need to add more stories and photos but will get around to that in due course.



I recommend that people go to the web site [www.chinesecommunity.org.nz](http://www.chinesecommunity.org.nz) and have a browse. There are already many interesting things to read and if you enjoy old photos look at some of the old Double Tenth sport clubs magazines. You younger ones may find pictures of your parents there!! For those of you that don't know how to use the site, get into the above website and on the home page, click on view in the online website tutorial. Then click on view to download the tutorial instructions.

Happy browsing everyone!

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## BOOKS FOR SALE

We currently have the following books about Chinese in NZ and globally available for purchase.

### Contacts

**Kai Luey** email [kailuey@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kailuey@xtra.co.nz) or ph 522 1840  
**Connie Kum** email [cojay@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cojay@xtra.co.nz) or ph 625 8611

- |   |                 |             |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. A Guide to Laws & Policies Relating to the Chinese in NZ | - Nigel Murphy  | <b>\$35</b> |
| 2. NZCA Manawatu Branch Inc 70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary    | - Tony Thackery | <b>\$25</b> |
| 3. Chinese Dimensions - Their Roots, Mindset & Psyche       | - Yow Yit Seng  | <b>\$55</b> |

All prices include GST. Limited quantities available.



# Just do it

Alyssia Hargest

*NZCA Leadership and Development Conference 2009 delegate Alyssia Hargest shares her thoughts and experiences of the 6-day event for Chinese youth held in Auckland.*

The NZCA's LDC 2009 had a big effect on me. I went in with an open mind and voila! I came out with a big fat slab of 'what to do with my life'. It probably wasn't the same kick up the bum for the other 40 of my fellow delegates but I think they'll agree it was pretty motivating... and I know they'll agree it was a whole load of fun! From cultural dancing to awesome games and icebreakers to entertaining and inspiring speakers - we had a pretty smashing week.

My mother's parents were born in New Zealand and they encouraged their children to assimilate to Kiwi culture, because of this, no-one in my immediate family speaks Cantonese; on my father's side I am New Zealand European. All in all, I've had a very kiwi upbringing and I'm not that involved in anything particularly Chinese. So when Mum sent me an email about the conference I thought, "Time to get involved!" this was the best foot in the door to the Chinese community I could've asked for - 40 other NZ Chinese who were a similar age and all there for the common purpose of learning about what it is to be Chinese in New Zealand, and to be a New Zealand Chinese leader. The interesting thing was that during the week it became obvious to me that this exposure to other young NZ Chinese made me feel more western than it did Chinese. I think because everyone else was, or seemed to be, 'in the loop'; I felt ignorant to something that 'should' have been natural to me. I knew about identity crises and multiple identities but with regard to the conference, this was the opposite feeling to what I'd expected. But I didn't let it bother me because throughout the conference the other delegates and the co-ordinators had reinforced my suspicions that my experience was pretty universal and, that it would pass.



My week at the LDC was filled (and I mean stuffed!) with amazing activities both for our brains and our bodies. Our afternoons were filled with mildly competitive and oh so awesome team sports, like Ultimate Frisby, that really got the adrenalin pumping. We were also put into groups to learn cultural dances from different regions of China and its surrounding countries. Our teacher, Sunny, was supportive and helpful and we performed our dances to family and friends at the end of the week in full costume which I loved. Some of my favourite speakers were Peter

Chin, Mayor of Dunedin who was our fun and encouraging first speaker; Andrew Young, CEO of Starship Foundation who shared his story of finding his passion in life; Chris Chong, Managing Director of Redcactus, who I award Most 'Outside the Box' Presentation; James Liu, Associate Professor of Psychology at Victoria University, a favourite for everyone - his talks were relevant, useful, engaging but mostly, simply fascinating.

After finishing high school I was convinced I needed a break from studies and I hadn't decided what I wanted to do anyway! So I made my mind up that I would have a gap year. Many of the speakers at LDC stressed the importance of finding your passion and just going for it. 100%. All the way. And as



they spoke I was getting excited about the intensity and dedication that success takes... and then I realised (on the last day of conference funnily enough)... I wanted to study Film at university! I'd been thinking about film since Victor Huang's laugh-out-loud presentation on Wednesday, as an animator at Weta Workshops he'd done some awesome things in his career – and I was jealous as! Now I'm at the University of Auckland beginning my first year of a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Film, TV and Media Studies and I'm SO psyched! LDC taught me this handy tip for success: find your passion, and then focus on it. Seems simple but you can't fault it.

The conference taught me about Chinese culture and what it takes to succeed, but it also gave me a huge gift of 40 awesome new friends. The experiences delegates share on conference mean that tight bonds are formed. Despite the short time we've known each other and our diverse backgrounds, as LDC graduates 2009, those relationships have already begun to blossom and I know they'll stay strong.

If you're thinking about applying for the LDC then stop and, in the words of a wise, globalised brand I know – just do it! *[Applications will soon open for LDC 2010 being held in Wellington, Sunday 24 – Friday 29 January. For more information contact Justine Kohing: email [justinekohing@paradise.net.nz](mailto:justinekohing@paradise.net.nz)]*



## You listen and you learn

Yuanyong Yang

In New Zealand, the dominant language is English. Cantonese is rarely being used amongst the younger Chinese generation. They may experience difficulties whilst learning Chinese culture in English.

Chinese perspective is different to English one. Though good quality translation service has been applied, it may still cause confusion, and sometimes misinterpretation. For instance, when we talk about a dog, in New Zealand, the image of a dog easily comes up as a lovely and furry puppy. But in Chinese culture, a dog is often referred as a shameless person, or a hatchet man.

The other interesting thing about Chinese culture is that it is learnt, not inherited. Normally we get it from our parents and family. But if our parents are too busy to teach, or we're

too afraid to learn in terms of lack of reading ability in Chinese, the Chinese values, attitudes and behaviours would not be able to be carried on therefore.

Besides encouraging Cantonese learning, now a free on air radio programme "the beauty of Chinese" being produced by Yuanyong Yang is available for our Chinese community. It's only 15 minutes long in plain Cantonese per Saturday night at 8:40pm for easy listening and learning. It consists of short Chinese poems, Chinese music, conventions and values telling. If you have knowledge of Internet, when you miss the programme broadcasting time, you can still enjoy streaming audio listening through the PlanetFM's website, 7 days a week.

You listen and you learn.



# Book review of the latest addition to the NZCA Auckland Inc. Library

Virginia Chong

## The Murder of Chow Yat

Joan Rosier-Jones

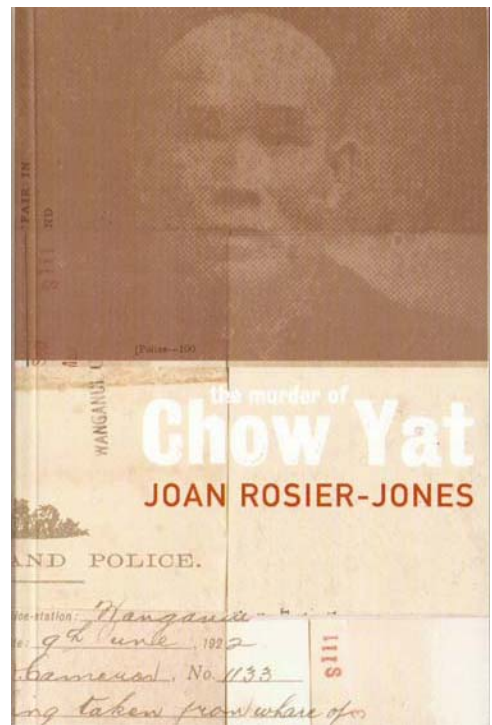
Stead & Daughters Ltd 2009

A market gardener, Chow Yat lived on the outskirts of Wanganui in post World War 1 New Zealand. On 31<sup>st</sup> May 1922, this humble, hardworking Chinese man was brutally shot four times.

Joan Rosier-Jones puts in writing the facts and investigation of this true but little known murder. As a 'cold case detective', she probes for the facts, dissecting the botched police investigation and gathers evidence pointing to another suspect, now dead. Of Chow Yat we learn little other than that he was from Panyu county in Guangdong province in China, a kindly sixty two year old bachelor who was approached in his whare (a Maori style hut), shot four times in the head and robbed. After a superficial investigation, suspicion falls on another foreigner, Toldy, a Hungarian, who is arrested and charged, but the case against him is "not proven". Rosier-Jones finds some circumstantial evidence pointing an irrational and shell shocked World War 1 veteran who may have suspected Chow Yat of interfering with his daughters, remembering that xenophobic prejudice against the Chinese included accusations of child molestation.

This sketchy portrait of Chow Yat is filled out by reference to background material of the Chinese of that era – the civil war and turmoil in China, the economic situation causing the second wave of Chinese sojourners to follow the first wave of gold seekers to the new Gum Sarn, and eventually drifting to other provincial centres when the gold ran out, seeking employment on the periphery of European society, not really accepted but tolerated.

Consequently there is no great public clamour to find the real murderer, although the



Commissioner of Police in Wellington was not impressed by the investigative work carried out by the local constabulary, and ordered them to re-open the case, albeit after the intervention of the Chinese Consul to the Minister of Justice. No-one was convicted of the murder despite a handsome reward of 250 pounds being posted. After all, 'he was only a Chinaman'.

With an objective viewpoint and an inquisitive approach, we learn about the social mores of the time (for instance it was not acceptable for a woman to leave the house without a hat on), as well as the developing Wanganui, eg the arrival of the first electric passenger trams. We are informed about Kwong Chong For, a prosperous Chinese businessman and the help he gave many of his fellow countrymen on his market gardens following the depressing WW1 years.

Thank you, Joan, for your research and for putting together the story of Chow Yat and the community in which he lived. Your efforts in writing this book, and the faith of your publishers in helping to record a small portion of NZ Chinese history before it is forgotten, is truly appreciated.

I attended the Auckland launch of the book on 17 August 2009 at the Takapuna Library.

# Viva Eclectika ( VE ) 09

David Wong

Having never been to a Viva Eclectika concert before - I was not totally sure what to expect. But after sitting through the 2 hour plus event - I was most impressed with the intercultural fusion dance of all participants - the vibrant colour of costumes and the enjoyment on the faces of young and old. This is the 5th event under the franchise and Vivian Chow continues to promote this concert with enthusiasm and vigour. Vivian's organising team is small but tight and hard working - and to be amongst the 800 crowd at the Dorothy Winstone Theatre (Auckland Girls Grammar) and to see the streaming stage lights and helpers in national costume was a delight.



The competition entrants came from Mt Roskill Grammar, Macleans College through to a group called the Candomblack Uruguay performers - who had that fantastic South American rhythmic beat whilst the ladies wore the blue and white feather boas (and very minimal skirts) flowing to the music. I didn't realise there were so many diverse indigenous groups within the Philippines - and a group known as Igorots danced in chanting circles which reminded me of the Incas of Peru. Then an innovative combination of Anglo saxon folk dancing with Chinese lantern dancing mixed with Fred Dagg's "If it weren't for your gumboots" - got the audience laughing out loud - for the creativity and the kids in small gumboots.



Whilst the judges made their decisions - we were entertained by our very own NZCA dance troupe, a Michael Jackson impersonator and it was great to see the moonwalk revived and then a very synchronised humorous hip hop group Limit Break did some amazing moves and sound effects (must have been flatulence!). The overall winners were the AUT Bachelor of Dance students who transcended the Maori haka through to ballet - grace and Maori tradition combined.

Well done to Vivian for organising the event - in conjunction with the Human Rights Commission's Diversity forum. As Chairperson of the NZ Asian Association (NZAA) Inc- Vivian is right - the event truly promotes unity, goodwill, understanding and with dance - brings all cultures and races together. It was great to see support and words of encouragement from Pansy Wong, Melissa Lee, Chris Carter and of course the patron - Sir Paul Reeves (who could not attend on the night).



Looking forward to 2011!!



# Lost in translation

Alysia Lee

*NZCA Leadership and Development Conference 2009 delegate Alysia Lee is in her third (and final) year of a Bachelor of Communication Studies majoring in Public Relations at AUT University. She interviews fellow delegate Simon Lee on his recent tour to Asia with hip hop dance collective TRiPLE8FuNk, sharing his experience of traveling through Japan and Hong Kong.*

## **Where did you go?**

Tokyo, Japan for 13-14 days. After Tokyo we went to Hong Kong for 3 days.

## **Who did you go with?**

TRiPLE8FuNk, my dance crew.



## **Why did you go over?**

One of the guys in the crew is Japanese and he has family in Tokyo so his mum hooked us up with a few gigs here and there. We also did some sightseeing and shopping.

## **Why Hong Kong?**

To be honest I don't know. It might have been the deal we had through Cathay Pacific. I have no idea. But I'm glad we did because we had a pretty awesome time.

## **What were your impressions of Japan?**



It was always busy, day or night. It was a real metropolis compared to what Auckland is. Even at one or two in the morning on a weekday the streets would be busy. There would be people everywhere and not just young people but old people and kids as well. It's the craziest thing because you don't know where they are going or what they are up to because none of the shops are open at that time.

## **Anything interesting you ate?**



If you watch a lot of Japanese anime they have these triangle type rice snacks. It's rice with a filling inside like pickled eel or some sort of fish and then wrapped in seaweed. They were probably one the cheapest things you could buy. We ate a lot of those.

## **Anything interesting that you saw?**

At this museum they had on display this robot called ASIMO that Honda developed. It's the most human-like robot that has

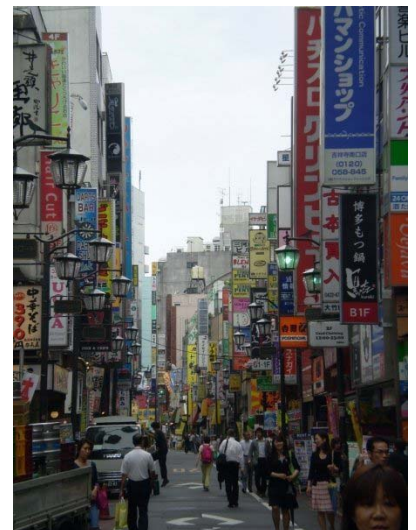
been built. It can run, talk, and can kick a ball.

## **Was there anything you did that was out of your comfort zone?**

Communal showers. After a few days we figured out it wasn't too bad if you go close to closing time. It would be empty as. You would have the whole shower to yourself and it wouldn't be that bad. Even if someone else was in there you would mind your own business and do your own thing.

## **Most missed memory?**

The thrill of being in another country and seeing things you don't normally see. The people were so different, so



polite, so kind, and so friendly.

## **Any bad experiences?**

I lost my camera. That ruins everything.

**How was Hong Kong?**

That's when I lost my camera, at the airport. That was bad. I was kind of pissy about that for the whole first day. And a little bit for the second. And third (laughs). But Hong Kong was R&R. A different crew member had family over there. They took us out to a couple of clubs, gave us free drinks the whole night and got into a few of the



exclusive clubs. It was high rollin'. After our big night out we went on their luxury \$3million, 4 storey boat anchored in Deep Water Bay. There was a Jacuzzi on the top deck. We jumped off the different levels of the boat. They gave us free food and drinks. There were a couple of jet skis on board we took out.

**Did you prefer Hong Kong to Japan?**

It was two very different experiences. It's like comparing apples to oranges. In Japan we were more focused on our dancing. We had to rehearse and attend

gigs. Japan was more of an eye opener than Hong Kong.



Hong Kong was more relaxing and mucking around and thinking about anything apart from dancing. They were both great.



**COMING SOON...**



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**Back:** Elsie Wong, Lynette Wong, Michael Ng, John Kum, Raymond Kwok, Alistair Kwun, Ken Ginn, Melissa Wong.

**Front:** Edmond Yee, Virginia Chong, Connie Kum, Kai Luey, Susan Wong, Meilin Chong, Percy Kai Fong, Donald Sew Hoy.

**Absent:** David Wong, Estella Lee, Justin Yang, Richard Leung, Robert Wong, Vivian Chow.

Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas







## NZCA Annual Conference

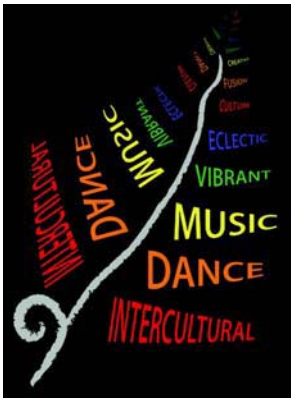


## LDC Replay





Viva Eclectika



## RESIGNATION

I am hereby officially tendering my **resignation as an adult**. I have decided I would like to accept the responsibilities of an 8 year-old again.

I want to go to McDonald's and think that it's a four star restaurant.

I want to sail sticks across a fresh mud puddle and make a sidewalk with rocks.

I want to think M&Ms are better than money because you can eat them.

I want to lie under a big oak tree and run a lemonade stand with my friends on a hot summer's day.

I want to return to a time when life was simple, when all you knew were colors, multiplication tables, and nursery rhymes, but that didn't bother you, because you didn't know what you didn't know and you didn't care.

All you knew was to be happy because you were blissfully unaware of all the things that should make you worried or upset.

I want to think the world is fair. That everyone is honest and good.

I want to believe that anything is possible.

I want to be oblivious to the complexities of life and be overly excited by the little things again.

I want to live simple again.

I don't want my day to consist of computer crashes, mountains of paperwork, depressing news, how to survive more days in the month than there is money in the bank, doctor bills, gossip, illness, and loss of loved ones.

I want to believe in the power of smiles hugs, a kind word, truth, justice, peace, dreams, the imagination, mankind, and making angels in the snow.

So ... ***here's my checkbook and my car keys, my credit card bills and my Kiwisaver statements. I am officially resigning from adulthood.***

And if you want to discuss this further, you'll have to catch me first, cause... "Tag! You're it."

*Anon*

## Contributions welcome

Would you like to write for us?

Got a story to share?

Identity stories, food recipes,  
book/film/travel/event review?

We'd love to hear from you!

Contact John Kum:

phone 625 8611

email [cojay@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cojay@xtra.co.nz)

or Alistair Kwun:

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email completed form to [cojay@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cojay@xtra.co.nz) or post to address above

<b>Membership Type</b> Please tick (✓)	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	
<b>Applicant</b>	Surname	First Names
<b>Spouse/Partner</b>	Surname	First Names
<b>Dependent children under 18years</b>	Surname	First Names
	Surname	First Names
	Surname	First Names
<b>Address</b>	Street Number	
	Street Name	
	Suburb, City	
<b>Contact Details</b>	Home #	
	Work #	
	Mobile #	
	Email	
<b>Annual Subscription Fee</b> Please tick (✓)	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual                      \$ 10	<b>Payment Methods</b> 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 000 with reference to Applicant surname and initials and date of application in particulars.
	<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	
<b>Total Paid</b>	\$ _____	
<b>Volunteer</b> 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 _____	
<b>Declaration:</b> 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. <b>Signed:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> /                      /		

