

Note from the Editor

October 2024

Tea & Talk is an initiative our NZCA Auckland branch has been enthusiastically working on and is about to pilot next month with our inaugural event planned for take-off on Saturday 9th of November. Tea & Talk is about bringing our community together to learn about subject matter that is topical, relevant, and of interest to a variety of different demographic groups within the NZCA community. We hope to bring guest speakers to present on topics that people may find difficult to access direct information. Talks will be followed by a light afternoon tea and more chatter - the casual kind!

We are proud to announce our first Tea & Talk guest speaker, Dr Wai Tze Cheng. Dr Cheng is a qualified GP who trained as a medical doctor at Imperial College in London. Dr Cheng is also an expert in the field of menopause medicine having worked as a menopause specialist at a London hospital for five years. Dr Cheng now lives and practices medicine in New Zealand and is the founder and director of Menopause Care NZ. Menopause is a condition that will eventually affect up to half of our population and will impact to varying degrees a wider number of people who have connections with important women in their lives. Historically there is a stigma attached to this topic despite it being a condition that all females will experience to some degree in their lives and it is not often discussed openly. This is beginning to change and over recent years there has been an increase in media coverage of the topic.

Despite increasing media coverage, there is still a great deal of misconception and a real barrier for people to access accurate information and expertise. To this end, we are so privileged to be able to offer our members an opportunity to hear from a certified expert in

the field of Menopause medicine and learn how you can take steps to be informed for you to make informed decisions based on accurate information. This inaugural talk will be followed by a panel discussion and an opportunity for Q&A with Dr Cheng and the panel. I encourage anyone who has an interest in women's health and wellbeing to come to this pilot tea & talk event. The event is free for paid members of NZCA Auckland. We look forward to your feedback and welcome any ideas you may have on topics of interest for future Tea & Talk events that are relevant to our community. Get in touch with your feedback here; nzcaauckland@nzchinese.org.nz

I want to take this opportunity for anyone who is a young person currently in secondary school studying in years 11, 12, or 13 to sign up to be a part of something truly special and life-changing. We currently have 40 young Chinese New Zealanders registered for the NZCA 2024 Youth Leadership Camp to be held on 19-22 December this year. This national event is only held every two years and has a profound impact on all delegates who leap out of their comfort zone. It is a truly life-changing experience in connecting like-minded people from all over New Zealand (and even from across the Tasman) with each other and their shared Chinese heritage and journey of growing up in New Zealand as a Chinese New Zealander. There are only ten places left for this year's camp so do not delay if you are the tiniest bit interested in leadership, personal development, having fun, and making friends from all over NZ please check our Instagram nzcaylc to learn more and register today at YLC 2024

Till next time, keep talking and go well. Victoria Wong Editor



A Seat At The Table

NZCA Auckland branch chairperson Richard Leung recently attended a meeting with Prime Minister Christopher Luxon in Wellington. Richard along with Debbie Chin from NZCA Wellington branch were representing the Chinese community with other national ethnic and faith-based leaders to discuss major policy issues of significance to ethnic minority groups. Melissa Lee, Minister for Ethnic Affairs was also in attendance at the meeting held at the Beehive on the 24th of September 2024.

A number of issues of importance to ethnic communities were raised with the Prime Minister including Health, immigration, national security, foreign interference, law & order, gun control, and hate crime. Click on this link to read about the <u>Meeting with Prime Minister Christopher Luxon</u>.

Debbie Chin in addition to being on the board of NZCA has extensive experience and leadership roles in the NZ health and disability sector and is on the board of Asian Family Services and is currently chair of Tu Ora Compass a Wellington Primary Health Organisation. At the meeting with Prime Minister Chris Luxon and Ethnic Affairs Minister Melissa Lee, Debbie highlighted the disparities and inequities facing Asian communities in the health arena. Debbie expressed the desire within the groups represented to focus health resources on need rather than ethnicity. There is a slowgrowing awareness among our community and wider society that some health legislation priorities focus on ethnicity rather than need and this has been in some areas at the expense of health equity for the Asian population. For example, there are clear examples of the impact of the current policy on the health disparities in national cervical and breast screening rates. Rates for cervical & breast screening among Asian ethnicities are the lowest among all major ethnic groups. Asian health inequities and barriers. As a community it is important that we are aware of these issues, talk about the issues, and continue to seek increased representation to address the needs of our community within health policies and strategies.

The seat at the table on the 24th of September at the beehive is just one example of how we as a community can participate in ensuring that our voices are heard on the issues that matter to our community. We can all have a seat at the table by keeping the conversations going and making connections with each other to provide a stronger and unified voice for

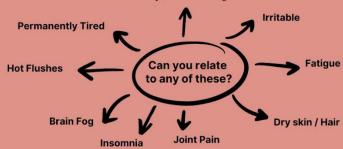


LET'S TALK ABOUT MENOPAUSE

Don't suffer in silence, come and learn how to feel like you again. Join us for an informative talk with Menopause specialist Dr Wai Tze Cheng.

Plus panel discussion and Q & A.

Anxiety / Mood changes



Saturday

9th November, 2024

Held at:

Auckland Chinese Community Centre,

99 Taylors Rd, Mangere Bridge Afternoon tea provided

Time:

2.30PM - 4.00PM

Cost:

FREE for Members \$5 non-members





www.auckland.nzchinese.org.nz

Speaker: DR WAI TZE CHENG MBBS, BSc, MRCGP, DCH, BMS

Waitze is a certified menopause specialist with the British Menopause Society and is also an experienced UK qualified GP. She now lives & practices in New Zealand. www.menopausecarenz.com





Youth Leadership Camp 2024 - Be There!

Last calls for registration for this year's NZCA Youth Leadership Camp (YLC). This is a flagship biennial event for the NZCA and has positively impacted the lives of hundreds of young Chinese New Zealanders in the eleven years of operation. The 2024 event will be

the seventh camp and will be held on the 19th-22nd of December 2024 at Camp Adair which is located in Hunua, Auckland.

This life changing event aims to bring together like minded young people who have all shared a similar journey of growing up as Chinese New Zealanders. The camp aims to discover and strengthen their understanding and appreciation of their Chinese heritage and what it means to be a Chinese New Zealander. The opportunities for personal development, self awareness and leadership together with the genuine social benefits of making lifelong friendships are what makes this camp a must do for any young Chinese New Zealander. The delegates have the opportunity to take on all sorts of challenges that push them outside their comfort zone all with the goal of further developing their chinese identiy, leadership, social skills, teamwork and character. All this is achieved with a backdrop of fun and lots of incredible food!

YLC is only run every two years and is only available to young Chinese New Zealanders currently in years 11, 12 or 13 of secondary school, so for many people there is only one opportunity to participate in this incredible experience. Many delegates and parents alike over the years have commented that they found the camp exceeded their expectations in every regard and go onto being vocal supporters and advocates within their groups of friends and family. For more information please click here Learn more about YLC or check out our Instagram page onzeale.

One of the benefits particularly for year 13 delegates is that they inevitably end up meeting people from all over New Zealand in the year before they go off to University and benefit hugely from having made connections with other students who are often attending the same university in the following year. YLC also proves to be a springboard to future participation at Easter Tournaments as YLC alumni often see Easter Tournament as the perfect chance to meet up with all their YLC friends.

Spaces are available but limited so don't delay, register now. To register please click here; YLC Registration



Mid Autumn Festival Dinner

What is the Mid-Autumn Festival and why is it sometimes called the Mooncake Festival or August Moon Festival? The festival dates back 3000 years and is a highly celebrated time of year in Chinese culture, almost on a par with Chinese New Year. It is a time for families to gather and celebrate the mid-autumn harvest which in China is the 15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar. The association with the moon is due to the festival taking place when the moon is at its roundest and fullest. Historically people would worship and pray to the moon for a bountiful harvest along with fine weather for the harvest. Furthermore, the roundness of the moon symbolises the completeness and togetherness in Chinese culture and reunion of the family. Moon cakes complement the mid-autumn festival with their round shape representing the moon. Along with moon cakes other symbols associated with the festival are lanterns, jade rabbits and pomelo!

Our annual Mid Autumn Festival Dinner was held at the Lucky Fortune restaurant in Three Kings on Saturday 31st of August. This popular event was a sell out providing a chance for many extended families and friends to get together over a delicious Chinese banquet. The BBQ meat platter was exceptional as was the perfectly cooked blue cod. Each table was treated to delicious traditionally made moon cakes. It was wonderful to see so many people enjoying the food, chatter, family, friends and community.

During the dinner, we were fortunate to celebrate the academic achievements of NZCA Auckland branch member Ashley Wong. Ashley was awarded a NZCA academic award for her outstanding NCEA Level 2 results from the 2023 academic year. These awards are a nationwide award and all recipients are achieving at an exceptionally high level. All applications are judged at the national level of NZCA by a dedicated academic sub-committee and are assessed for the award alongside applicants from all over New Zealand. Congratulations Ashley for your outstanding achievement and we wish you all the very best for the completion of your high school studies this year.



NZCA NIGHT OUT REVIEW





We were excited to host another successful NZCA Night Out on 28th September. Members and friends of NZCA packed out the Nectar Bar at the iconic Kingslander. With DJ Grayson.D aka Ethan King pumping out the beats, and live rugby on the big screen, there was something for everyone. It was good to see people catching up with friends and having some fun in a relaxed setting. Special thanks to the organising team of Debs Mar, Jennifer Young and Wendy Lau.

For DJ enquiries go here!









LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE



At the heart of the NZCA Leadership Development Conference is our mission to empower young Chinese New Zealanders. We believe in fostering a deep connection to our heritage, discovering our strengths as leaders today, and building a future filled with pride and purpose.



What You'll Experience:

- Connect with your roots and reflect on the experiences that shaped you.
- Explore your identity as a leader and develop key skills.
- Gain the confidence to create meaningful change in your community and beyond.

Whether you're just starting your journey of self-discovery or looking to strengthen your leadership skills, this conference is for you.



Let's connect, learn, and lead—together.

Dates: Sunday 2nd Feb - Friday 7th Feb 2025

Location: Willow Park Convention - 1 Hostel Access Road, Eastern Beaches,

Auckland

Registrations close 31 October - don't wait! Register now!

Registration Details:

Apply now through our website here.

Check out our website for more information: https://www.ldcnzchinese.org/



NZ Chinese History Strikes A Chord with NZ Singer Songwriter

Joe Kum Yung was a Chinese gold miner who came to New Zealand in the late 1800s. Tragically, he was shot by a white supremacist in 1905. This story along with many stories of Chinese migrants are often not widely known in the wider backdrop of New Zealand history. Nearly 120 years later, his poignant story is captured in a song titled 'Countryman' and music video released by NZ Bangladeshi and Muslim, Sabreen. The talented young creative, who is Auckland raised, worked with NZCA (Lynette Shum), NZ On Air and cinematographer Daryl Wong among others, to produce the work. Read more about what motivated Sabreen to write a song about Joe Kum Yung's story and to gain more insights into NZ Chinese History you can read an article written by Liu Chen for RNZ Shining a light on NZ Chinese History and check out her beautiful song and video here www.mmf.co.nz.

It is encouraging to see awareness of NZ Chinese history being told and talked about in a variety of different and unexpected avenues. The launch of the NZ Chinese history curriculum and website in the future will continue to build on the awareness of our past and promote greater understanding and tolerance within society now and in the future.



A note about unsubscribing

A reminder to members, if you hit the 'unsubscribe' option at the bottom of your newsletter or any other electronic communication from the NZCA Auckland Branch you will be removed from our database. This will mean you will no longer receive any form of electronic communication. If you have unsubscribed but wish to start receiving communications from our branch you will need to contact us auckland.membership@nzchinese.org.nz

A note about Membership Subscription Payments

We thank all our members who have renewed memberships and paid subscriptions. We would like to encourage members who make online payments to please help us by including details such as 'membership number' and or a 'phone number' in the reference section along with your payment. A phone number will enable us to contact you directly if we need to verify who this payment is from.

NZCA Auckland Branch Membership Renewal 2024

It's that time of year when the end of year rolls around as does the end of the NZCA Auckland Branch membership subscription. We operate on a calendar year membership so every December we look to remind members of the opportunity to renew membership and subs to ensure members can make the most of all the events and stay upto date for the full year.

Please click on the link below which will take you to a form to complete to renew your membership.

https://forms.gle/Jyc7wQf29G4ayuqa9

It's simple. Fill in this form and transfer the fees to our bank account on the form. Please be sure to provide your membership number or phone number as a reference.

We offer 2 options - an annual membership, or for your convenience, a 3-year multi-year

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membership.

If you have any questions feel free to contact us at nzcaauckland.membership@nzchinese.org.nz.