



Wellington Chinese Sports & Cultural Centre Inc

Editorial:

Happy new year! Goong He Faat Choi !!

What a busy time we've had so far and its only February! Our cultural group has spent most of the Chinese New Year period performing throughout the greater Wellington area, and I hope you all managed to see them in action around the city.

This issue is a short one since we've included the subs along for the ride, but its an informative wee thing. We're currently about to undertake delivery of a 20 person dragon as the new addition to the cultural repertoire, so we'll be sure to let you know when we commission the dragon so you can be there to see it being brought to life. Easter practices are due to start soon, so if you're interested in going up to represent WLG in Auckland please contact the organisers to make your availability known. Line dancing is due to start up once again and the Cultural Group tell us about what they've been up to since Christmas.

The benefits of being members of the centre not only means that you're informed of whats going on within the club and within the greater chinese community, but it also means that can join in all the activities that's on offer.

If you want to join miniball, play basketball, send your preschooler to Yau-Yih-Yun, have your school aged child learn Cantonese, you may have seen the Cultural Group perform and thought to yourself – "I'd like my children/ grandchildren to be involved with the chinese dancing, lion dancing". With the new dragon due to arrive, there's definitely a need to get people to help man it, and if that's all a bit too much you can join the line dancing group on a Saturday morning. So you see, we have something for *EVERYONE* – its not just about maintaining a building on the hill, we're about keeping our members interested in our club and this is what your membership is all about. This is *your* club and we want you, to use it.

If you're wanting more detail about what's on offer at the centre – send an email to wccscc_nz@hotmail.com and we can let you know who to contact.

Essentially, we're all about family and I'd like to extend a big thank you to those members who, for the last 30 years have supported the centre from its inception, without all your hard work, your dedication and your passion for the Centre, we wouldn't be here doing the things that we do – bringing our community together - and I'm proud to say that I'm glad to be apart of it.

Next issue will be jam packed with whats on offer for the winter season and will have the dates for the AGM.

I hope to see you all at the picnic on **Sunday 15th February** out at Days Bay – the lollies are ready to be scrambled and the rope ready to be tugged, and those famous iceblocks!! .. who could say no to those?!!

See you all next edition

The Ed.

PICNIC AT THE BAY

Don't forget!! **Sunday Feb 15th 2004**. Starting at 10.30am, Williams Park – Days Bay. And just like last year – we'll be having ALL the races with some great prizes and who could miss out on the iceblocks??!!



Cancellations will be announced on the Breeze and if you're still unsure please contact:
 Ants Chiu 027 433 2398 Lenny Loh 021 668 412
 Malcolm Young 025 500 508 Justine Kohing 021 293 4862



WATCH OUT! THE DRAGON IS COMING.....!!

The Centre has been fortunate enough to secure a 20 person dragon, through the fundraising efforts of the Cultural Group and various donations and grants from many groups associated with the Centre. The Centre gratefully acknowledges the Creative Communities grant from the Wellington City Council in helping to secure the dragon.

The dragon is currently on its way to Wellington, and when a date has been fixed for the commissioning of the dragon all members will be invited to attend this fabulous occasion.



LORD OF THE RINGS: Return of the King

The cricket might have been rained off that day, but we had a superb time at the Centre's Boxing day fundraiser showing of LOTR: Return of the King. All 200 tickets sold out within a week. Thank you to all our members and friends of the Centre who supported the event.



WCSCC MEMBERS XMAS LUNCH

Many thanks to those of you that turned out for the annual members presentations and xmas lunch on Sunday 14th December 2003. It was great to see you all attend. We had a great time, with items and presentations from the cultural group and presentations from Sports. Read on for the recipients of the awards in the Basketball Diaries.

YAU YIH YUN UPDATE

ENROLMENTS

Enrolments for YYY are open to children up to the age of 5 years. Prospective parents and visitors may attend up to 2 free sessions **by prior arrangement** with a core committee member /teacher.



For further information contact:

President: Rita Tom rtom@quay.co.nz
 Secretary: Pam Lee aplee@clear.net.nz
 Teacher: Mandy Chen leonmandy@clear.net.nz

CANTONESE CLASSES

These are planned to recommence in Term 1 for school aged children. If you are interested please contact Linda Lim on 234 8849, or Shona Lee 972 2126.



The Basketball Diaries:



Basketball presentations were held at the end of year lunch and the following awards were given

WCSCC Most Improved Player Mens 2003 - Martin Lau
WCSCC Most Improved Player Womens 2003 – Natalie Yee
WCSCC Most Improved Player U18 Mens 2003 – Jonathan Shih
WCSCC Most Improved Player U18 Womens 2003 – Jennifer Zhang

WCSCC Most Valuable Player Mens 2003 – Mark Lowe
WCSCC Most Valuable Player U18Mens 2003 – Josh Thompson
WCSCC Most Valuable Player Womens 2003 – Katie Eng
WCSCC Most Valuable Player U18 Womens 2003 –Peggy Hung



M&M Cup for most outstanding Player was jointly awarded to 2 miniballers
 Jessica Loh & Stephanie Lee

This years **Warren Moon Trophy for Excellent Sportmanship 2003** was presented to Murray Young for his contributions to Basketball during 2003 which included coaching the intermediates and the MU18 C Team, and still managing to keep playing throughout the year. Well done Murray!!

MID WEEK TEAMS

Currently the Centre has 3 teams entered in the WBA midweek competitions, The Mens U18 team coached by Ants Chiu are playing in the C grade and the WCS Mums and the Girls U18 team coached by Kathy Young are playing in the C&D grades. Good luck for the summer season everyone and we look forward to reporting your progress in the next edition.

Incidentally, the WCS mums have managed to coerce a couple of legendary players out of retirement – we welcome back Karen (WCS old girl assassin) and Sharon (ex manawatu assassin) back to active duty!!



PRACTICES:

Details for when practices commence for Miniball, U18 and over's practices will be made available in the next edition.

2004 EASTER PRACTICES

This years tournament will be held in Auckland on April 9, 10th, 11th with the finals concluding on April 12th.

If you're interested in participating as a member of the Wellington Contingent, Registration and the first basketball scrimmage will be held on Sunday 8 February 2004 at the Centre as follows:

- 1) Women (all sports and all grades): 1.00 PM to 3.00pm.
- 2) Men (all sports and all grades): 3.00pm to 5.00pm.

(Trials / Practices to take place soon after).

Players will need to register their interest on the day so its essential that they attend the first practice.

To be eligible to participate, players must be current members of the Wellington Chinese Association.

If you're keen to help out on the Wellington Contingent tournament committee please contact:

Mark Ngan Kee
Ed Szeto

Home Phone: (04) 970-9361 or Mob: 021-68-47-68
Home Phone: (04) 473-4222 or Mob: 021-139-3036

LINE DANCING CLASSES



Line Dancing is becoming a very popular activity in our Chinese community.

It's a great activity for gentle exercising, good fun, and an opportunity to meet other people.

This year there are classes available at the Centre for beginners and for the experienced dancers.

Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings from 10.30 am to 12.00 noon, and for the dancers with some experience there are classes on Wednesday mornings from 10.30 am to 12.00 noon.

If you're interested in joining either the beginners class or the class for dancers with some experience please contact either **Yvonne Chew Lee**, 4 Scorian Close, Karori, phone 04 476 8382, or **Aimee Poy**, 8 John Sims Drive, Broadmeadows, phone 04 477 4228

WCSCC CULTURAL GROUP

Over the last couple of months a lot of activity has passed with the Cultural side of the club. With performances at the Christmas party, training of the kids with Winnie from Taiwan during the holidays, accumulating in over thirty performances for the YYY, lion dancing, girls choir and the dancing troupe over Chinese New Year 2004.



We are fortuitous and lucky to have so much talent in our midst. It is the Centre that offers the opportunity to showcase these skills to our peers and the wider community in our own unique style.

2004 Chinese New Year festivities

This has been a period of a lot of "firsts" for the Centre. It has opened up people's minds, and shown people a glimpse of our potential and captured their imaginations. The following is an insight into what we were doing over the 2 week period

CNY Concert: The Lion dance team performed at the Chinese new year Concert held on Feb 1st did really well changing the routine to adapt to a small stage in Shed 6 due to being rained off outside. We were the opening act and really fired up the crowd. Having performed the lion dance at restaurants around Wellington, a private home in Whitby, Wellington Public library, Te Papa, and the Civic Square. The team put on a very polished show.

Monkey drawing: Something fun where the whole family could participate in was the colouring in of the Stan Chan initiative of a monkey drawing in Civic Square on Saturday 31st January. Stan did an unbelievable job putting the monkey together with such a big canvas to play with. The kids did a lion dance and the girls a lantern dance, which was really well received. Cashill and Gregory took out the monkey act competition. Great impromptu performance!

WCC library: This was one venue where each cultural group of the WCSCC did a lunchtime performance on a different day. The YYY kids touched people's hearts with their cuteness. The dance troupe won the crowds with their poise, grace and class. The lion dance with the drum beating, cymbals clashing and gong gonging all adding to create an atmosphere of excitement, fun and celebration.

Petone festival: Thanks to the NZ Chinese Association we were able to borrow the nine-person dragon for this event held down Jackson Street on Saturday 24th January 2004. We managed to get a great write up and photo in the Petone Herald, you can see the write up at <http://www.localmedia.co.nz/newspapers/petoneherald/onlineversion>

Thank you to all that participated in this event. Really looking forward to building a dynamic team of dragon dancers with our new 21-person dragon that is coming. Let me know if you are keen to partake, as this will be huge and a lot of fun.

Te Papa: The dance troupe performed several items and we did a story telling session covering the origins of the lion dance. A Te Papa Tongarewa spokesperson wrote to us an hour after the performance with some fabulous comments with the performance and that they hope to see us next year.

"...We've had such an incredible amount of positive feedback from visitors and staff about the event ..." Rebecca, Te Papa Tongarewa Inspiration Station Host

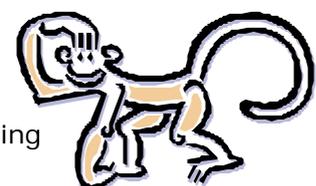
To the people of the cultural groups always keep this in mind and in focus when you are training and putting things together for performances. The reason we are doing this is because this is your culture. And a cultured community is a truly wonderful and rewarding environment to live in.

Last and but not least, a big THANK YOU to all the parents and supporters especially Shona, Anita and Viv, who were stressed out getting the kids to a reasonable quality before the performances. Thank you little ones, Cashill Tims, Gregory Cheng, Zach Young, Connor Young, Aaron Lee, Michael Young, Claire Cheng, Chelsea Wong She, Natasha Wong She, Nicky Lim, Kristine Lim, Stephanie Lee, Christine Lee, Jessica Loh, Kimberley Wong, Kimberley Low and a big welcome to Nigel up from the south island who helped us out with the lion dance performance.

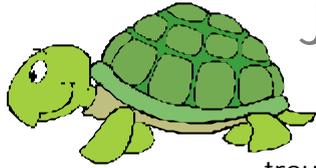
A full personalised report from Henry Lee on the activities of our cultural group over the last few weeks, together with photos will appear on our website, www.wcsc.org.nz shortly.

WCSCC CHINESE NEW YEAR DINNER 2004

It was the yummiest dinner! Held at the Grand Century for the 2nd year in a row, we had a turnout of about 300 people who really enjoyed themselves. With the Cultural group singing some songs to entertain the crowd and some zany raffle prizes (one wedding



ceremony from JP Ron Turner), 2 tickets to the sevens weekend, clothing vouchers and a fruit basket. The WCSCC gratefully acknowledges the prizes donated from Gloria & Allan Ngan, Hoons Foodmarket, and Ron Turner JP.



JOKE OF THE MONTH

Three tortoises, Mick, Andy and Roy, decide to go on a picnic. Mick packs the picnic basket with beer and sandwiches. The trouble is that the picnic site is ten miles away so, it takes them ten days to get there. When they get there Mick unpacks the food and beer.

"Ok Roy give me the bottle opener" "I didn't bring it" says Roy "I thought you packed it" Mick gets worried, He turns to Andy, "Did you bring the bottle opener?" Naturally Andy didn't bring it.

So they're stuck ten miles from home without a bottle opener. Mick and Andy beg Roy to go back for it. But he refuses as he says they will eat all the sandwiches. After two hours, and after they have

Sworn on their tortoise lives that they will not eat the sandwiches, he finally agrees.

So Roy sets off down the road at a steady pace. 20 days pass and he still isn't back and Mick and Andy are starving, but a promise is a promise. Another 5 days and he still isn't back, but a promise is a promise.

Finally they can't take it any longer so they take out a sandwich each, and just as they are about to eat it, Roy pops up from behind a rock and shouts,

I KNEW IT!I'M NOT BLOODY GOING!!

FREE GIFT WITH PURCHASE:

Please find enclosed your free gift with this edition of the newsletter– it's a **cut-out-and-stick-to-the fridge- diary** of important dates that are coming up for WCSCC members:

WCSCC DATES TO REMEMBER:

Sunday 8th February 2004

Easter practices start 1.00pm – 5.00pm

Sunday Feb 15th 2004

WCSCC Picnic at Days Bay starts @ 10.30 am

March / April 2004

Basketball practices due to commence – see next edition for more detail

Easter weekend 2004

fri 9th – Monday 12th April 2004

Catering job on – more info next issue with details for helpers.

March 2004

Dragon commissioning – date to be advised

www.wcsc.org.nz

