
WELLINGTON CHINESE SPORTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE
PO BOX 541, WELLINGTON



Wellington Chinese Sports & Cultural Centre Inc

Editorial :

Can't believe its nearly Christmas, have you made your lists and checked them twice? Figured out whose been naughty or nice? Your General committee thought that it would be a good idea to bring the annual end of year function back to its roots. Our club rooms. For some of us, it's been a second home, for others its been a good place to pick up and hook up with their significant other and for the youngies – it's a place to hang on a Sunday. Whatever the reason that brings you here, make Sunday the 8th of December another reason to be around – it's the Christmas party and you can read all about it further in this edition of the newsletter.

TAI CHI SESSIONS



These classes are continuing at the Centre on Saturday mornings commencing at 10.30am. The current series will end in early November and we wish to thank Aimee Poy for giving up her time to take these lessons. All those who have attended have enjoyed the opportunity to learn these traditional Chinese exercises and also to socialise with one another. Members are welcome to attend the remaining lessons for a small gold coin donation.

SPRING SEMINARS:

We will be holding another series of talks of interest to members and friends in October/November. There will be three presentations on health related matters. Each will start at 7.00pm and will conclude with a cup of tea or coffee at about 9.00pm.



The talks will be focused on:

Wednesday 6 November

Optometry An Overview - Robert Dong

Astigmatism, Myopia, Hyperopia, Glaucoma, Cataracts, Laser Surgery – What Are These?

Come and have your questions answered and hear about the new innovations for eye care

Wednesday 13 November

Diabetes - Todd Collings

Todd, who is vice president of the Wellington Diabetes Society will talk about diabetes and how to cope with its effects in everyday life.

Wednesday 20 November

Homeopathy – Michael Dong

Learn about the history and principles of homeopathy and its uses around the home.

All talks will be followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion. All members and friends are welcome to attend.

Live from Indianapolis



“Basketball really had its beginning in Indiana, which remains today the center of the sport” Dr James Naismith, who invented basketball, made that statement in 1936. It remains true today. Indeed, as the FIBA World Basketball Championship for Men comes to the United States for the first time in its 52-year history there is no more appropriate place for the event to take place than the city of Indianapolis, in the state of Indiana. Basketball is far more than just a game here. It is a way of life. Indeed with these words David Young and I were lucky to have attended the tournament. Indianapolis is blessed with two magnificent venues, namely, the Cosenco Field House (home of the Indiana Pacers) and the RCA Dome, a multi-purpose covered stadium seating 50,000. Only half of the RCA Dome was used. These two venues are about ten minutes apart, and our hotel was smack in the middle so getting around was no problem.

The tournament was a disaster in terms of spectator participation with the biggest crowd being about 25,000 for the China/US game. Otherwise, it was great for the Kiwi supporters, as we could sit together in a group and usually on half way in the front six or seven rows. The loyal group of supporters consisted mainly of the wives and partners of the team and only about a dozen or so from NZ. This support group grew as we progressed into the second round with more support from New Zealand, Germany and England bringing the total to approximately 120 supporters. It was this support that led us to befriend a security guard who was a former army veteran (Dan Heavrin) to support the Kiwis and present us with an American flag. The crucial game against China where we were down by about 20 points and still managed to win was due to excellent coaching. The Tall Blacks put on a half-court press and China had real problems finding the big men. And, big men they were with Ming Yao at 7'5" and centre Batere Menk (unusual name for Chinese) at 6"11" and 125 kgs. This half-court press was exactly what the United States did to China when they were about 26 points down and came back to win.

After the match, most of the supporters headed down town where we celebrated in style - singing the national anthem, doing the haka led by Brendon Pongia who had only arrived the day before. This was all filmed for the Holmes programme.

It was during this session that Dan presented me with an American flag out of respect and for sentimental reasons. We, in turn, presented Dan with a Kiwi flag, an All Black jersey and a Silver Fern pin. After that evening, Dan spent many more evenings with us.

Lunch with the team was a great thrill - being able to mingle with the players, wives, partners and management. Even Jeff Green was there - he's quite ok off the basketball

court, and very friendly. Standing with the boys you really get a perspective of how big they are. I have a photo where I am flanked by Cameron and Boucher and boy, am I short.

The team really enjoyed meeting its supporters as they only ate, drank and slept basketball during these world cup matches. They were very focused but it was not unusual to see players from other teams nightclubbing around Indianapolis. I have photos of the guilty ones. The lunch was very enjoyable with plenty of photos being taken, and they thanked us for our vocal support, and asked us to keep it up.

After lunch four of us decided to see drag car racing. It was an expensive excursion with \$US80 for the taxi each way and \$60 for the entry. We had to sit around for 20 minutes or so waiting for each race to begin and in six seconds it was over. It was a bit boring but still we had to go and experience it. Do you know after every race the motor is stripped down and this costs \$US 8,000 every time. The amazing things were the big, big trucks and trailers with complete workshops. These cost about \$US2 million, so it is a very expensive sport - a new experience but again, not for any of us. After the racing, we had to wait 2 hours for a taxi to take us back to the hotel.



The beating of Puerto Rico was great - you all saw it on TV but from the courtside it was unbelievable. When the game was over the excitement of the team and the supporters was a sight to be seen. The players were prancing around the court with clinched fists, punching the air and hugging each other. Some with tears in their eyes - tears of joy!!! We, the supporters jumped over the seats and the team jumped over the barrier to hug each other. Many many supporters also had tears in their eyes. You would have thought that we had

won the tournament as this went on for about 10 minutes. Suddenly, for some unknown reason quietness prevailed - we discovered that this was because the final two minutes of the US/Yugoslavia game was shown on the big screen -we would be playing the Yugos in the semi!!! I really could write more about my trip as it was such a wonderful experience. David and I did the right thing by postponing our trip to Chicago to see the quarter-final when New Zealand beat Puerto Rico.

I would like to finish with Tab's words, "We exceeded our wildest dreams!!!"

PS On our trip from NZ over to Los Angeles, Keith Mair (NZ coach for the previous 12 years) had already predicted that NZ would be a medal contender.

Willie Wong

POLL TAX - UPDATE & INFORMATION – WHAT IS HAPPENING??

What is happening? The community consultation reconciliation process, which was suspended because of the General Election, is about to resume again.

The Office of Ethnic Affairs (OEA) has sent out an Update dated



17 September 2002 which included information about the second Wellington community meeting being held on Thursday 17 October 2002 at 7.00 pm at the Department of Internal Affairs, Waring Taylor Street.

This latest OEA Update also gives a summary and interim report of the ten meetings held in different regions of New Zealand.

The next stage seems to be focusing on representation on the next Advisory Team for the next step of the consultation reconciliation process.

Nominations from groups or individuals for representatives on the next Advisory Team can still be made to OEA, AND no closing date for submissions on the Poll Tax issues has been decided yet.

If any one is interested in making a submission, or wishes to nominate people for the Advisory Team, it is essential they do so soon.

If you haven't received your copy of the latest Update dated 17 September 2002 from OEA, please ring Vanessa Traill, OEA, 04 4957200 and ask for a copy to be sent to you.

Remember:

Wellington Community Meeting, Thursday, 17 October 2002, 7.00pm at Department of Internal Affairs, Waring Taylor Street.

NEWS FROM THE CULTURAL GROUP –

From the Lions Mouth



MOMENTUM as stated by Isaac Newton "a body will travel at a constant speed and direction unless acted upon by an external force."

The life of a club, organisation, business in fact any living organism adheres to Newton's law.

With momentum, clubs can survive, be resurrected and in fact prosper even if core personnel leave the club. A classic example of this is the lion dancing team.

In the beginning...

The lion dancing team was formed in 1999, there were three lion heads and seven boys: Andrew Young, Michael Young, Michael Loh, Aaron Lee, Kieran Moon, Jared Moon, Nicolas Chong. There was also seven adults: Lenny Loh, Stephen Low, Phil Lim, Henry Lee, Pam Young, Robin Moon, Dianne Chong.

This lion dance troupe performed together for the Centre for over two years. Our thanks go to all of the above and the support from the Centre, for having the foresight, initiative and drive to making the lion dance team a credit to the centre.

This year saw significant changes with the team. For the majority of the boys their interest had moved on. We wish you all well in your new endeavours, you are always welcome to return to the team if you so desire.

Today Aaron is the only original member from that group of boys. His skills with the lion head are impressive and the lion is incorporated as part of the girls dance. The lion dance troupe today has over a dozen other enthusiastic kids and eleven adults.

New Lion Head

In May 2002 the Taipei Economic and Cultural office donated to the Centre a new lion head and uniforms. My thanks go to them for not only their generosity, but also their foresight. For the lion head has added a new dimension to the lion dance troupe and made the performances more authentic and significant.

The lion head is an adult sized one and as such allowed many of the fathers to participate in the act. A second adult lion head was procured from Peter Kohing and this has been lovingly restored by Sau Wah Ng. Our thanks go to her for her hours of labour in repainting the lion head.

2002 Performances

May Lion head dotting ceremony: a first for the centre.
 June Centre Silver Jubilee: 3x medium lions and 2x adult lions performed.
 August Luncheon for Taipei Economic and Cultural office.
 September Chinese speech and Cultural day. Opening act with 7 lions.
 September Beijing festival. Civic centre.
 Well done to the whole lion dance troupe, your act is looking very polished and the audience are enthralled and entertained.

The future

The next performance for the lion dance troupe will be at the Centre Christmas party. Your support for this event will be appreciated.

Chinese New Year will be a major event next year. Plans are underway already for this event. I see this as a great opportunity for the Centre to show the public our culture and raise our profile in a constructive way. Currently we have over 20 people involved in each performance. I believe we can co-ordinate a spectacular performance with over 50 people.

This is very much a family show and it is heartening to see father and son/ daughter teams working, performing and having fun together. We will run practices in January next year so if you want to participate we will find something for you to do.

Recruitment officer is Warren Chin you can call him on 384 9015 (wk) or drop him an email: warren.chin@netsecureglobal.com

Look forward to seeing you out there.

Cheers

Henry Lee



THE DANCING CORNER:

The last block of Ballroom Dancing sessions for this year commenced on 29 September – the last next lesson in this block will be held on Sunday 1 December.

We have had an enthusiastic response and good attendances on Sunday nights throughout the year – and I think many of us have learnt some interesting dance steps for the waltz, foxtrot, quickstep, chachacha, rumba, tango, jive, and rock n roll – besides helping us become more confident.

Some people also attended salsa and meringue workshops sessions organized by Geoff earlier in the year.

It has certainly been an interesting and active exercise – both physically and mentally. If there is sufficient interest next year we may consider more of these dance sessions.

Line Dancing – Tuesday afternoons 12-15 to 2-15 pm

Line Dancing has been held at the Centre on Tuesday afternoons since May this year. This has been a lively activity which has been well received and attended by some of our senior members who have enjoyed the fun and thrill of stepping and moving together to music.

George Billing the Line Dance tutor has been amazed and impressed at how quickly our senior members have learnt to dance the various steps he has been teaching them.



Future Line Dance sessions will depend on the number of people interested in attending – George Billing is able to cater for people at all levels of ability for absolute beginners to the more experienced.

Please contact Yvonne Chew Lee, phone 4768382, if you are interested in joining in future Line Dance activities at the Centre. There is a small charge to reimburse George for his travelling expenses.



The Basketball Diaries:

Well, what a year we've had. I guess you could call it *interesting*, the annual dragons tournament was held in August and we entered 8 teams – a Men's A team, a Men's B team, a Men's C grade team and of course the LOTR team who proved that they can still run up and down the court, drink their body weight in bourbon that night, and still show up to a reasonably early game the next morning! (albeit it with the help of an on-site team masseuse!!)

We entered a women's team, two college boys team and a girls college team. Miniball was also represented in the tournament by two teams from the Centre.

Big ups to the 2002 Sports committee (Richard, Katrina, Jared, Ants, Justine and Lenny) for their fantastic organising skills throughout the year! They're looking forward to seeing everyone turn out for the Christmas lunch and presentations – come along and see who picks up the M&M cup for outstanding player of the year, the Most improved player for all grades and the Warren Moon memorial Trophy for Excellent Sportsmanship 2002.

WCSCC MINI – BALL NEWS !!!

Lenny Loh 479-7509

Hey kids and parents,

There have been a few tournaments for our Intermediate teams after the season finished for the rest of miniball. They participated at the Palmerston North tournament - well done Belinda, Ashley, Jason, Michael, Lucia, Fraser and Sammy. Then they played in the Hoop Club tournament held at the Centre, the team being Ashleigh Young, Belinda Lowe, Aaron Lee, Andrew Young, Lucia Sohn, Byrone Morrison, Sammy Aubrey, Megan

Bradshaw. All these kids, and Yuen Chee Ngan, played in the final tournament of the year, the Dragons tournament.

The miniball players (U10) also participated at the Hoop Club tournament, held at the Centre, and the team was made up of Michelle Eng, Michael Lowe, Aaron Lee, Jessica Loh, Ryan Smith, Matthew Szeto, Brendan Ng. Stephanie Lee also participated but under the Hoop Club team coached by Henry Lee, in the 8 yrs and under grade. These external competitions were much tougher than our own internal tournaments as the opposition were taller and faster. Congratulations to these kids who gave the opposition a tough fight. Great experience for our kids as they pick up more basketball skills. If any of you have the opportunity to join other clubs like Hoop Club or school leagues, this is a great way to pick up more skills and learn to play with other kids. If you want to know more about Hoop Club, please contact me.



The final annual event was held at the Huia Pool on Saturday 21/9/02. We started at 5pm with Prize Giving before hitting the pool. Congratulations to the Prize winners :

Tiniball

Most Improved Player (Boy) : Colin Ng
 Most Improved Player (Girl) : Tessa Low
 Most Valuable Player (Boy) : Cashill Tims
 Most Valuable Player (Girl) : Natasha Ng

Miniball

Most Improved Player (Boy) : Matthew Szeto
 Most Improved Player (Girl) : Stephanie Lee
 Most Valuable Player : Jamie Ng

Intermediate

Most Improved Player : Belinda Lowe
 Most Valuable Player : Michael Loh

Between 6pm and 9pm, we had the whole pool to ourselves. Henry and I attacked the big pool on the inflatable obstacle course. We had a race with the kids to complete the obstacle course in the quickest time. The boys' race was won by Matthew Szeto in 9 seconds and the girls' race was won in 14 seconds by Michelle Eng. It was great to see the kids having a good time.

Well it has been another successful year. It has been very pleasing to see the kids' progress and the consistent numbers coming to practice each week. Thank you for bringing them and supporting them through all the tournaments.

Thank you to the coaches, Mike Smith, Henry Lee, Sharon Ng, Brenda Ng, Phillippa Ng, Steven Low, Warren Chin, Glenn Tims, Murray Young, also to Anita Loh, Pam Young and all the helpers at the Westpac Trust fundraising events.

Hope you have a good break for the summer, see you next year.



Diary Boy - Adventures from Palmy

Saturday, August 17

6:30am

Its cold and windy and I'm up EARLY on a Saturday morning. Must be another tournament again. And to think, I thought I'd outgrown all this!!!

7:45am

Waiting at McDonalds in J'ville. As always, the van is late. Can someone please remind me why I do this?!? Oh well, I'm sure I'll find something amusing to write about later...

About 8am

We're finally on our way; all the kids are in the vans. It must be me or something but I had this idea that one of those questions you hate to hear was about to be asked..."Um, can we stop soon?", Why?, "I need to go to the bathroom."

Sometime around 9am

Nothing interesting other than how is it that Kat and Richard who are leading all the vans suddenly becomes "lost" and now ends up BEHIND all the vans??? Also, I have noticed that girls giggle too much and make THAT much more noise than boys do!

10am

Finally up in Palmy, just in time for the first game. Let the games begin!!!

Both boys' teams are playing first. At the end of the games, the A team has an unfortunate loss and the B team has a draw. The girls also play well but lose to the Dragons girls.

About 1pm

We have a break between games so naturally everyone wants to eat. This also gives everyone a chance to go back to the hotel and have a quick rest. We have all the girls in one room and the boys in another. Also, we have them as far apart as possible...

About to head back out for the boys last game. I always said they were smart. When you tell them to get in the car they do it. Pity they can't jump into the right car though. Right, Yong, Frank, James and David?

7:30pm

All of the kids want to go to town but are undecided as to what they want to do. Movies? Video games? Food maybe? How about the dance? I'm sure I was never this indecisive!!! In the end they all decide dinner would be a good idea, followed by either a movie or the video arcade.

10pm

The kids have decided they will all be attending the dance tonight. This should prove interesting!!! Ants is left there to "supervise" and "watch over the kids. The others have actually left him here as he's the youngest of the "oldies" and is more "in-touch" with the younger crowd. He says he feels old. Oh, well, at least he'll have some stories for the rest of us...

2am

Home now. Enough said.

Sunday, August 18

8am

Its morning and all the kids are having trouble getting out of bed. Oh the memories of a hard night out?!? Us oldies are used to this so we just watch and laugh. I wonder if any of them will be able to play later???

9am

Breakfast at McDonalds, again. Had it more in the past two days than I have the whole year!!! Breakfast seems like a quiet little affair, the effects of the late night may be beginning to take their toll. Hey Ants, got any stories for everyone to hear???"Well there was..." and "What-his-name had an interesting night without his shirt(???)!!!" but nothing else worth mentioning. By the way, Happy birthday to Mike Kwong.

10am

The most interesting game of the tournament. Centre A vs. Centre B. Who wants bragging rights? Well, the upset belongs to the B team, who weren't tired after last night. BIG lesson learnt by those in the A team. The most exciting game however goes to the Centre Girls vs. ACM. Not just because of the closeness of the game and that the Centre Girls won. More because of the noise that Coach Justine and Manager Kat made on the sideline was more than the rest of the spectators combined!!! Great play and composure from Alex, Gabby, Edwina and the girls to seal the win.

12pm

Despite the disappointment of losing to the B team the boys picked themselves up for a strong finish against the Manawatu team.

About 1:30

We decide to have lunch before we leave. A stop at the food court in the mall should be good. Hopefully once the boys get themselves out of the video arcade, they might manage to find some food! And they're been told that they had better go to the toilet BEFORE we leave, as we don't want to take too long driving back.

2pm

Finally back on the road again. It seems rather quiet at the moment. Jared is complaining that his van is not as good as the other. Someone wants to get home quickly doesn't he? The kids have found the whiteboards and have taken to writing messages to each other from the vans. And to think, I thought kids preferred to text message each other.

6pm

Finally back at the Centre. The trip back seemed to get noisier and noisier as well as taking ages. Well got back safely and all the kids had fun so that's all that counts. All that remains now is to recover and prepare for next year!!! And since nothing amusing has been said about the "oldies", which one of them believes that "Womens Day" is better than "New Idea"?

Diary Boy



Want the real truth about the trip to palmy? Read what the college boys had to say about it

This basketball tournament was only for the College and Intermediate grades. Two college boys, one girls', and one intermediate teams went up to compete with the Dragons, Palmerston North and ACM Clubs.

Two minivans and a car were organised for about 23 of us, including the Sports Committee. Jared and Richard drove the vans. We met at Johnsonville,

had breakfast at McDonalds and set off to PN at about 8am. We then had to stop the van at Waikanae because some of us had had too much to drink.

We got there by 10am. We all wore our personalised black T-shirts organised by Aunty Kathy. This was just in case we had too much fun and then forgot our names, like Dengue, Shmang, Andz, Franky. The "B" team played at 10am against Palmy. I thought for a team which just got together, they played really well. They lost but they played hard and it was a close game. Richard was coaching them and you could hear him from Wellington. The "A" team coached by Anthony, played against the ACM. It was a good game but the ACM team was very strong and 'cleaned up' every other team. Just when we thought the practices at the Centre had well prepared us, when under pressure, we easily forgot what we had been taught.

The social was on the Saturday night. The vans took us to town for some dinner and we hung around town for a while. Later that night, we were taken to the social. Everyone had a good time, and made lots of new friends. Needless to say, it was a late night and we were extremely tired the next morning. Consequently the game between the Centre A and B teams at 10.00am was not taken very seriously. Well done to both teams!

Thank you to the organising committee from Palmerston North. It was great success for all of us. Hope you make it an annual event!

A big THANK YOU to the WCSCC Sports Committee, Justine, Jared, Katrina, Anthony, Richard and Lenny for organising the trip. How many people would give up their weekend to take a bunch of (well behaved) boys and girls to an out-of-town tournament? They organised the vans, the accommodation, and the social night out. We promise we will do it for your kids in 15 years time!! You need to get a move on guys!

Andrew Loh



2002 WCSCC Christmas Party

Everyone is invited to attend the
WCSCC Christmas party on Sunday the
8th of December.

The Centre 's 2002 Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, 8 December 2002.

This year 's Centre Christmas Party will involve all of our Centre groups - YYY, Dancing Group, Lion Dance Troupe, Miniball, Line Dance group, Ballroom Dance group, and the Sports Committee.

Starting at 11.30 am there will be a BBQ style lunch, similar to (but better than) the lunch held on Queen's Birthday Monday after the 5 km walk.

This BBQ style lunch will include sausages, steak, meat patties, chicken wings, green salads, breads, etc. BYO drinks.

The cost will be \$16 per person for adults, and \$1 per year age for all children including primary & intermediate school age children. College children will pay adult rate.

The Party will start at 11.30am with lunch to be served at 12.00 noon. Followed at 1.00 - 2.00 pm with short performances by the YYY, Dance Groups, Lion Dance Troupe and Sports Committee presentations.

Father Xmas will be attending – parents are welcome to bring along named presents for their own children. The presents will be distributed by Father Xmas by the Xmas Tree. This Christmas Party is for ALL Centre members, families and friends, and will be our final function for the year. Come and celebrate the end of year with us.

For catering purposes, it is essential that you book by 1 December 2002 with either

Kevin Hing, phone 9723202;
Linda Lim, phone 2348849;
Lenny Loh, phone 4797509;
or
Peter Kohing, phone 4785865.

Diary your calendars now and keep this Sunday 8 December free for the Centre Christmas Party.

POLL TAX - YOUTH FORUM – HAVING OUR SAY

Held over two Sundays, during July and August, the organizers were quite pleased with the turnout, a variety views were expressed by those that attended and a greater understanding of the issues was promoted by the organizing committee. It is hoped that more younger members of the community will attend the 2nd Wellington Community meeting on **Thursday 17th October at The Office of Ethnic Affairs in Waring Taylor Street.**

If you have any queries, please contact:

Richard Chiu
email: richard.chiu@d-cypha.co.nz
021 248 7408

Roger Chang
email: Roger.Chang@fire.org.nz
wk 496 3622 mb 021 620 323

Justine Kohing
email: Justine@julianassoc.co.nz
mob: 021 293 4862 a/h 478 5865

RETURN TO THE BAY!!



Its been a long time, but we thought that we'd bring it back, if they can bring back the mini and the VW in a new shape then we can bring back the annual Days bay picnic, an old fave in the WCSCC calendar of events.

The day will start Sunday 9th February at 10.00am, and we have some great activities lined up for everyone. There'll be a walk around eastbourne for the nosey parkers, we'll see who can make the biggest splash off the wharf, who can run the fastest in the age group sprints (naturally for those over 50 – we'll call it the *masters* event), and if you're really keen the good ole 3-legged race. Bring out your sneakers, the tennis racquets, the cricket sets and the Frisbee and of course the SUNBLOCK and we'll see you there.

Cancellations will be called on 2ZB that morning, or you can call

Richard 021 248 7408
Lenny 479-7509
Justine 478 5865 / 021 293 4862
Katrina 021 302 2935
Kevin 972 3202

Or any of the WCSCC committee members on the day. Looking forward to seeing EVERYONE there!

FREE GIFT WITH PURCHASE:

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



**WCSCC
DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Thursday 17th October 2002
2nd Wellington Poll Tax Community Meeting
7.00pm – *Dept. Of Internal Affairs – Waring Taylor Street*

Wednesday 6th November
Spring Seminar Session 1 –
Optometry - 7.00pm WCSCC Eastern Lounge

Wednesday 13th November
Spring Seminar Session 2 –
Diabetes – 7.00pm WCSCC Eastern Lounge

Wednesday 20th November
Spring Seminar session 3 –
Homeopathy – 7.00pm WCSCC Eastern lounge

Sunday 7th December
WCSCC Annual Christmas Breakup function
11.30am Lunch @ the Centre.

Wednesday 25th December
Merry Christmas everyone!!

Sunday 9th Feb 2003
WCSCC BBQ Picnic lunch at Days Bay 10.00am
start – be there for some summer fun and
games!!



www.wcsc.org.nz