



## Wellington Chinese Sports & Cultural Centre Inc

### **Editorial :**

My apologies!! Its been a long time in between newsletters, we've been busy busy the last few months, Bringing back the picnic at the bay in February was a great idea – and it was fabulous to see the next generation of Centre members coming through and enjoying themselves at the beach, we even brought back the egg and spoon race, although some kids ate their eggs before the race had even begun! (Big Thanks to Murray and Greg for supplying the Crème eggs).

In April we held the AGM and elected the committee for the 2003-04 year. We're having a garage sale in October, so now you don't need any more excuses for putting off the big spring clean!

I have discovered that there are currently two exhibitions on at present all dedicated to Chinese – The National Library in Wellington and Te Manawa in Palmerston North are currently showing and I suggest that if you're in the area they're definitely worth seeing.

The cultural group has been very busy – did you see them on What now? The girls were great – read about what they and the lion dance boys have been up to.

Growing up at the Centre, I always remember hanging around the kitchen watching the older aunties show all the younger aunties how to make things, passing on the wisdom, well, a lot of years on, and its all about to happen again, currently in the works, are a series of cooking demonstrations that will be held at the centre – keep an ear out for more details coming soon!

On the sports front, its tournament season! The U18's recently went to Palmerston North for the Manawatu Tournament - you'll have to read about what happened up there – I'd love to spill the beans – but my lips are sealed!!

Early on in the year – many of our members turned out in full force to a fundraising dinner for Robyn Wong. Robyn is hoping to qualify for the New Zealand Olympic Mountain Biking team and being a member of the Centre she was totally overwhelmed by the support given to her from the Chinese community. Robyn is currently in Europe racing, but she did write something for the newsletter before she left which you can read further on.

And last but not least, there's a one woman show on at Bats theatre being performed by Sonia Yee, a graduate of the NZ School of Drama, of which the Centre has arranged tickets for one performance as a fundraiser. Read on for a synopsis of the play and if you're keen phone Stephanie Tims for tickets. (Details follow)

Looking forward to seeing you all in the next edition where you can read more about the forthcoming cooking demonstrations, diary the dates for the Sports Presentations and the Annual Centre Christmas party, and of course, catch up with whats going on up at the Centre.

Cheers  
The Ed.

## 2003 AGM:

At the recent AGM held on April 13 2003, the elected committee for 2003 was as follows:

**President:** Kevin Hing  
**Vice President:** Victor Wu  
**Club Secretary:** Justine Kohing

### *2003 Committee members*

Graham Young	Irene Lau	Malcolm Young
Dennis Young	Sam Shum	Lenny Loh
Don Wong	Mark Chiu	Henry Lee
Peter Kohing	Tom Moon	Linda Lim
Tom Ng	Charles Lum	Steph Tims
Kaye Wong	Richard Chiu	
Alec Wong	Bill Hoon	

## PRESIDENTS REPORT 2002/03



Centre members

I am pleased to present the President's annual report for 2002/03.

In the past year the Centre reached another milestone when we celebrated the Silver Jubilee of the completion of our building. Our celebrations were held in fine style over Queen's Birthday weekend with a number of functions including a banquet dinner which was attended by the Ambassador for the Peoples' Republic of China and the Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office as well as 300 members and friends. At this function we were pleased to be able to bestow our first life memberships. Graham Young and Peter Kohing have contributed a great deal to the success of the Centre over many years through the devotion of many many long hours of effort in working bees, catering and preparing for the numerous functions that have been held over the years, building maintenance, fundraising, social events and the list goes on. It was our pleasure to be able to grant them life memberships on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee.

While the Silver Jubilee was the highlight of the past year there were other activities which were enjoyed and appreciated by members including the continuation of ballroom dancing classes, Tai Chi and mid week line dancing. Our annual bus trip this year took us to the Kapiti Coast where our senior members and friends were able to enjoy a garden and nursery tour, chocolate and liqueur tasting and apple picking to say nothing of sumptuous morning and afternoon tea and a buffet lunch.

The second Chinese New Year parade was a worthy successor to the first, this time with a longer parade route and an even bigger audience for the concert afterward. This was a big budget affair for which we thank the Southern Trust, Community Trust of Wellington and Wellington City Council for their financial support. Our thanks also go to the dedicated band of mothers who worked so hard to make this event a success. The Centre's Chinese New Year dinner was also a resounding success with in excess of 300 in attendance.

Some of our younger members also organised a fundraising dinner to assist Robyn Wong in her efforts to qualify and gain selection for the New Zealand mountain biking team at the 2004 Olympics to be held in Athens.

Basketball continued to be our mainstay sport with Centre teams competing in Chinese tournaments and in local leagues. Our annual Queen's Birthday tournament was held and again proved to be a good social event as well as being a sports tournament. Centre members also participated in the New Zealand Chinese Association's Easter sports tournament.

I am pleased to note that numbers participating at age group levels (college, intermediate, miniball and tiniball) are still strong which bodes well for the future.

Our cultural activities have maintained their solid base with the dancing group and the Lion Dance Troupe having regular engagements to perform at public events. There is no doubt that these engagements have served to heighten public awareness of the Centre as well as bringing Chinese culture to the wider community. Both groups benefitted from two weeks of tuition by Miss Natalia Chen who was brought to Wellington with the assistance of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office. We thank the Office for its generous assistance. I can only hope that the members of these groups will retain their enthusiasm for and pride in the culture of their ancestors and that they and their activities will remain an important part of Centre life.

Chinese (Cantonese) language is another cultural dimension in Centre life and both the Yau Yih Yun and the Cantonese class have continued to thrive.

During the year we hosted another series of midweek evening presentations, this time on matters of health; optometry and health of the eyes, homeopathy and diabetes. These presentations were all well attended and created a lot of interest judging by the many questions that were asked.

In February 2002 the Prime Minister apologised to the Chinese community for the imposition of the poll tax on immigrants from China between 1881 and 1944. After a series of consultative meetings throughout the country to consider the matter of compensation an advisory group was set up to bring down recommendations to the government. Centre members were involved in these consultative meetings and other meetings that were held arising from the apology. The Centre was also invited to nominate persons to serve on the advisory group, to which we responded with the names of interested persons. The Centre did not express any opinion about the apology or compensation. There is a wide range of views held by individuals on these subjects and it was felt that it was not the role of the Centre to express an opinion when such a diversity of views exists.

Over the last few years we have gradually upgraded and redecorated our building and facilities. In the past year we have installed a new system of miniball hoops, re-varnished the gym floor and upgraded the alarm system.

Fundraising continues to be a major necessity and in the past year we have continued with various activities; Westpac Stadium, weddings and banquets. Rental income from the gym has been maintained in the past year with regular hirers, masters basketball, volleyball plus others in season. Our problem in the past has been to find hirers to utilise the Centre during the day. In recent months we have been able to rent a significant number of hours to the Institute of Sport during the day which has resulted in a marked improvement in our rental income. We also raised the rental during the year which will result in a higher income. Fundraising will however continue to be a challenge and we are always on the look out for new ideas.

No organisation such as the Centre can succeed with out the efforts of its members and I thank all of those who have contributed in one way or another to our success in the year just gone. We could not have done it without your input and willingness to participate. Thank you again and I look forward to you keeping up the good work.

**Kevin Hing**  
**President**



## WCSCC GARAGE SALE!!

**Spring has almost Sprung!  
And we're having a garage sale!**

**DATE:** Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2003  
**TIME:** 9.00am – 1.00pm  
**WHERE:** to be held at the Centre

If you haven't started already now is the time to do some spring cleaning, if you have any **household goods, furniture surplus bits and pieces** that you'd like to donate for this huge Garage sale please feel free to drop it up to the centre every Saturday throughout the month of **SEPTEMBER** between **10am and 12 Noon**.

And to all those keen gardeners, we're want to be able to offer lots of **plant cuttings** at the garage sale as well. Early October is a perfect time for planting out in the warmer weather. So, if you are able to pot up some cuttings they'll be very useful for the sale.



Start now to be ready on the big day!!!!

All inquiries please Dennis Young – ph: 388 3731

**p.s – if anyone has a tv (that works) that they no longer need and would like to donate it to the Centre – the Eastern Lounge would be most appreciative!!**

## A Barbarous Measure

From July through to October 26<sup>th</sup> there is an exhibition being held at the National Library which follows the history of the Poll Tax via photos and documents from collections held by the Alexander Turnbull Library. The Centre's own Joshua Thompson (son of Robyn and Larry Thompson) gave a mihi during the opening Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July which was well received by those in attendance.

There will be a number of events held throughout the 3 months of the exhibition, these are:

**“Ching Chong Chinaman” – growing up Chinese in New Zealand**  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August, – National Library Auditorium 12.10pm  
Raybon Kan, Wong Liu Sheng and Beven Yee talk about what its like to be Chinese in New Zealand and the effects of living in a racist society.

**Chow down under**  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August, National Library Main Foyer 2.00pm  
Author Jennifer Yee shows us how to prepare a 'poll tax descendent menu' and talks about the place of food in the lives of Chinese New Zealanders

**Footprints of the Dragon**  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August, National Library Auditorium 12.10pm  
Director Helene Wong introduces her film *Footprints of the Dragon*, originally screened as part of the television series *New Zealand: An Immigrant Nation* (Top Shelf Productions, 1994, colour video, 46 minutes)

**‘Keeping New Zealand White’ – the poll tax and beyond**  
Friday 22 August, National Library Auditorium, 12.10pm  
Nigel Murphy, curator of ‘A Barbarous Measure’, explains what the poll tax was, why it was introduced, how it fitted into

New Zealand's policy of 'Keeping New Zealand White', and how that policy impacted on Chinese New Zealanders

### **Mosaic**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August, National Library Auditorium, 12.10pm  
Stan Chun reads stories and shows pictures from his early years in Wellington South and the daily life of his Chinese family. Going back 60 years, each story forms a piece in the mosaic of Stan's life and illustrates how the slow process of integration with mainstream New Zealand society occurred.

### **'The Eighteen Laments'**

Thursday 11 September 11, national Library Gallery, 12.10pm  
Short concert of traditional Chinese Music played by Rong Jinbang on the erhu, a two-string chinese violin.

### **Linking people with Ink**

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September, National Library Main Foyer 11.00am – 1.00pm  
Join the workshop on traditional chinese brush painting and calligraphy with master artist Stan Chan from inkLink Art

Studio. Stan will teach the fundamental techniques of these ancient crafts and how to write our names in Chinese. All materials supplied.

### **'To be happy for the rest of your life' – Chinese Market Gardeners in New Zealand**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, National Library Auditorium, 12.10pm  
Steven Young gives an illustrated talk about the history of a remarkable community that was recruited by the Government to grow vegetables during the Second World War. Steven grew up on a market garden and went on to build three produce markets.

### **Guided Tour of 'A Barbarous Measure'**

Thursday October 9, National Library Gallery, 12.10pm  
Guided tour of 'A Barbarous Measure' by exhibition curator Nigel Murphy.



## **John Thomson**

### **China and its people exhibition**

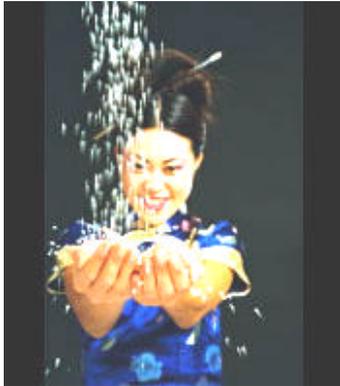
Next time you're in Palmerston North, make some time to visit Te Manawa which is exhibiting photographs of life in nineteenth century China. These photos provide a rare and intriguing glimpse into the past of an ancient country taken by John Thomson on his travels through China.

This exhibition is on between July 12 and November 2 2003

**Te Manawa** – 396 Main Street, Palmerston North

**Phone:** 06 355 5000

## THE WHOLLY GRAIN



**"The Wholly Grain"**- a Chinese New Zealand solo show written and devised by Sonia Yee of Christchurch and a recent graduate of the NZ Drama School.

The Wholly Grain is a multi-character solo show which interweaves Ancient, Chinese legend with the story of a contemporary Chinese NZ family.

After school hours and tied to the takeaway, young Jocelyn Chan dreams of everything but taking over the family business. Resisting her conventional NZ Chinese upbringing, Jocelyn's unwillingness to abandon her dreams of becoming an artist sweep her into turmoil. Here a challenge emerges as she

is forced to confront her conflicting sense of 'self'...that of being both Chinese, and a New Zealander. To complicate matters further, Pau-pau (Jocelyn's Grandmother), has an unrelenting fondness for 'match-making' which adds to Jocelyn's already stifled, adolescent social life. Her only way to carve out her future, and make sense of the present, as she attempts to find her 'place of belonging' in NZ's bi-cultural landscape, is to delve back into the past- revisiting the Ancient legend of a princess from the influential Han Dynasty.

This is a simple story about listening to one's heart...and what it means to find your way home.

**The show is on at Bats Theatre, along Kent Tce, (next to the fire station) and the Centre has booked a session to the show for the night of *Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August* as a fundraising event for the Centre.**

**If you're interested in coming along to this session, Tickets are to be purchased through *Steph Tims: 236-5565, 025 526 393, or [stepht@paradise.net.nz](mailto:stepht@paradise.net.nz)* Ticket prices are \$18 waged and \$12 unwaged.**

## POLL TAX - UPDATE & INFORMATION –

Mark Chiu and Peter Kohing are members of the Poll Tax Advisory Group set up by the Office of Ethnic Affairs and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.



This advisory group which is made up of 31 descendants from the Poll Tax community from throughout New Zealand met in February and April to consider and assess the responses received in the submissions the Chinese community made to the Office of Ethnic Affairs.

The Office of Ethnic Affairs (OEA), which received over 400 responses in the submissions, grouped the ideas and suggestions received in the submissions for the Advisory Group to consider and discuss what possible actions could be recommended to Government to consider for further action.

At the present time a draft paper is being prepared by the OEA for the Minister of Ethnic Affairs to take to Cabinet for consideration on what the further actions and possible

outcomes the advisory group has recommended could take place in the reconciliation process promised by the Prime Minister in the apology she gave in February 2002.

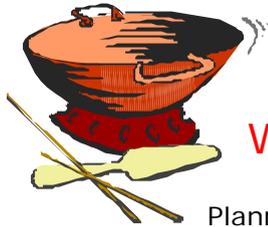
The Poll Tax descendants in the Chinese community will be advised of what these possible outcomes and actions will be as soon as possible.

*Compiled by Peter Kohing*

## SUBS:



Thanks to all those that have returned their 2003 subscription forms. We've had a great response from all club members this year –the general committee would like to extend its thanks to all members for their support this year. If you have not sent back your subs and activity fees, please email [Justine@jullianassoc.co.nz](mailto:Justine@jullianassoc.co.nz) to have a renewal form sent to you



## COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS

Watch this space!

Planning is underway for some Chinese Cooking Demonstrations to be held at the Centre on some Sunday afternoons in the near future.

Would you like to know how to make 'toons'? – How to make the sweet ground peanut mixture, and wondered how the sticky pastry is made so it doesn't stick? Make 'garl gees'? – How is the pastry made so it doesn't split when it's being steamed? Wrap 'joongs'? – What kind of rice is used and how the filling is kept in place while the bamboo leaves are wrapped around the mixture and tying the string so it doesn't fall apart?

We are trying to persuade some Chinese cooks to share their skills with us, and show us how it's done! So watch this space for more info....

Have you got Chinese cooking skills or 'cooking tips' you'd like to share with us? Please contact Peter Kohing. ph 4785865. We would love to hear from you....

## THE DANCING CORNER:



## Sunday night Ballroom Dance Sessions with Geoff Hunter

The Sunday night dance lesson sessions with Geoff Hunter have continued since March this year. These lessons are held in blocks of 7 weeks at a time, and cater for all levels of ballroom dancing – beginners, intermediate, and advanced.

The Waltz, Foxtrot, Quickstep, Rumba, Cha Cha, Tango, and the English Foxtrot, together with Jive, and New Vogue dances are included at the different levels.

Here's a good opportunity to learn some new steps, and/or brush up on the steps you already know.

It is recommended that you join this group at the beginning of a block of lessons.

The next block of lessons will commence on 10 August 2003.  
Cost is \$65 per person for 7 weeks.

If you are interested in joining this ballroom dancing group on Sunday nights, please contact Peter Kohing, ph 4785865, or email kohing@actrix .gen.nz



## Line Dancing:

Enthusiastic senior members of the Centre have also continued with their Line Dancing on Wednesday mornings from 10.30 am to 12.00 noon.

Members who have been to Line Dancing sessions have found they have great fun learning new moves and dancing to lively rhythmic music.

Line Dancing is an American mid-western form of dancing, and one of the great appeals of this form of recreational exercise dancing is that you don't require a partner! Dancers stand in lines, and follow an instructor through a series of steps and movements to lively music, make a half or quarter turn, and then repeat the sequence. Many of the steps are used in other dances too.

It's easy to learn, very sociable, and a great form of exercise. It's also been claimed that over a period of time, Line Dancing can help reduce high blood pressure, arthritis, and even asthma!

You will need to wear a good comfortable pair of shoes, bring a drink, and be prepared for an enjoyable morning.

Please contact either Yvonne Chew Lee, ph 4768382 or Aimee Poy, ph 4774228, for more information

## NEWS FROM THE CULTURAL GROUP

Its been a relatively quiet time for the Cultural group following the full on celebrations of Chinese New Year held in February.

The Cantonese class have taken a two term break from classes with the birth of Mandy's second child..... a little sister for Raymond. The Cultural Group congratulates Mandy, Leon and Raymond on the recent addition to the family and looks forward to her return to the classroom! Cantonese classes will commence again in Term 4.



The Chinese Dance Group have started regular practices after miniball on Sunday mornings. The objective of these practices is to maintain the dances taught by the Taiwanese dance teacher Natalia. The versatility of the girls is impressive as they switch from the rough and tumble of miniball to the grace and elegance of Chinese dancing!!

The girls were asked to appear again on What Now last month and performed the Auspicious Lion of Peace Dance. The is was part of a show that What Now did on International Dances which also featured dances from Sri Lanka, Scotland, and Ireland.

The **Wellington Chinese Speech & Cultural Day Competition** takes place on Saturday 16 August 2003, and while the Centre will not have any entries in the competition this year, the girls have been asked to dance at the opening of International Languages Week, of which the Speech & Cultural Day forms a major part. The official opening of International Languages Week will take place at Parliament on Tuesday 12 August 2003 by the Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Helen Clark. This will be an amazing experience for the girls and they will be working hard in the next couple of weeks to ensure they put on a very polished performance.

## The Lions Roar



“Success breeds success” the lion dance team continues to build and grow with each performance. The team prospers and is able to offer a professional performance, which is welcomed by the public. In order for any team to grow, there needs to be continuity and succession. We are fortunate to have this in our team culture where the performers have the flexibility to perform different roles as required.

Our latest team member is Stuart Chung who has recently migrated from Dunedin to live in Wellington. Stuart has fantastic lion dance and drumming skills. He was the team leader and head coach for the Dunedin lion dance team. He is a great and most welcome addition to our team. You will see his talent and experience flow through the team in future performances.

### Poll Tax exhibition opening 10 July.

‘A Barbarous Measure’ – the poll tax and Chinese New Zealanders  
*From the collections of the Alexander Turnbull Library*

The lion dance team was asked to perform at the opening for this event. The lion dance team gave a great performance amidst a series of 5,000 co-ordinated fireworks, which is a first for them. The performance was well received - around 350 people attended- and the opening had a Mihi whakatau and speeches.

There was coverage of this event in both the Dom Post and Capital Times.

### WCSCC Flags

When I think of the lion dance I visualise colour, movement, excitement and energy. The question I ask myself is “how can I make this performance brighter, more vibrant and more spectacular?” One initiative is to use flags.

So we have now got 12 flags of gold, jade, blue and red. They have a dragon on them and the Centre logo. They look real flash and will be used in future performances and parades. This also gives the opportunity for 12 more people to be involved in our performances. They are designed so that our smallest children can participate if they wish.

Many thanks go to Jill Ford who had the foresight and initiative to design, organise and get us funding for the flags. A fantastic effort and one, which the Centre is once again indebted to.

### Waikanae New World opening 19<sup>th</sup> July.

Following our performance at the Chinese New Year concert we were approached by Richmond Lee and asked to perform at this event. Richmond enjoyed the performance the team gave at his opening. The team performed the good luck lettuce eating ceremony and wheeled the drum with the lions in and out of all the aisles. It was a fun event and the kids really appreciated the Coke, chippies and Froggos.

We wish Richmond and his New World good prosperity and encourage the Centre members to support him as he has supported us.

Thanks also go to Murray Young for providing a van to transport the equipment and to Warren Chin who organised and co-ordinated the event. You guys did a great job.

**Christchurch Lion Dance seminar 18- 20<sup>th</sup> July.**

I went down to the above event and there were also representatives from Christchurch, Napier, and Dunedin. The event was organised by George Chan who has done some amazing things with the Qiao Yi lion dance team. The Christchurch team would be the most advanced in NZ, their instruments are well co-ordinated and their lion dancers are doing pole work.

George got Sifu H P Siow to lecture and run the seminar. This guy is famous in the world of lion dancing, he is the head judge for Gentings –organisation for the world champs- also has coached the Malaysian teams to 14 titles. For the net literate do an advanced google on “Siow Lion Dancing” and you will see his name pop up everywhere. Fantastic knowledge and understanding of the lion dance. I have some video footage of the “man in action” if anyone is interested.

The lion roars and dances on, the team is in good shape and there will be lots of opportunities to see the team in action. If you know if anyone interested in the lion dance performance let me know Ph: 494 2338 Wk or 972 2126 Hm. Or you can point them to the web site, which has good coverage of the lion dance. [www.wcsc.org.nz](http://www.wcsc.org.nz)

We are asked often to perform and as we are a club there are criteria we take into account before we can commit to a performance. Some of the more prominent influencing factors are:

- Timing of the event – can we get the team members together for the performance?
- Occasion and intention – is the event in line with the Centre’s vision and philosophy?

We move in exciting times so come and roar, and celebrate with the spirit of the lions when you see them perform.

*Cheers  
Henry Lee*

## The Basketball Diaries:

### Queens Birthday weekend 2003

What a weekend! We had entries from teams we didn’t know were out there! The old boys dusted off their boots and managed to win the C grade final. The old girls got their team together and showed that they still have it!

The final results were:

<b>Intermediates:</b>	Dragons
<b>MU18:</b>	ACM Bruthaz
<b>WU18:</b>	Dragons A
<b>WO:</b>	Dragons A
<b>Mens A Grade:</b>	Dragons A
<b>Mens B Grade:</b>	WCS LOTR
<b>Mens C Grade:</b>	WCS LP1900

## PRACTICE TIMES:

With only about 6 weeks left until Dragons Tournament – we have scheduled practices as follows:

### Sunday 27th July –

Womens Overs	12.30 - 1.30pm
U18 Sessions w. Kenny McFadden	1.30 – 3.30pm
Mens Overs	4pm – 6pm

### Sunday 3rd August-

Womens Overs	12.30 - 1.30pm
U18 Sessions w. Kenny McFadden	1.30 – 3.30pm
Mens Overs	4pm – 6pm

### Sunday 10th August –

NO PRACTICE DUE TO  
WCSCC MINIBALL GOODWILL GAMES

### Sunday 17th August-

Womens Overs	12.30 - 1.30pm
U18 Sessions w. Kenny McFadden	1.30 – 3.30pm
Mens Overs	4pm – 6pm

### Sunday 24th August-

Womens Overs	12.30 - 1.30pm
U18 Sessions w. Kenny McFadden	1.30 – 3.30pm
Mens Overs	4pm – 6pm

### Sunday 31 August –

Womens Overs / WU18	12.30 – 2.00pm
MU18	2.00 – 4.00pm
Mens Overs	4.00 – 6.00pm

### Sunday 7th Sept –

(last practice before tournament)

Womens Overs / WU18	12.30 – 2.00pm
MU18	2.00 – 4.00pm
Mens Overs	4.00 – 6.00pm



## SEE YA!!

Last month we waved goodbye to Richard Chiu, a valued member of the Centre Sports Committee. Richard is off to the UK to do that thing that seems to be a rite of passage for all young kiwis in search of adventure.

Richard's presence on the Sports committee has been greatly missed already (*and its only been a month!*). His enthusiasm for taking the kids away to the Palmerston North tournament last year was infectious, I think he enjoyed it more than they did! We really missed having him drive the kids up in the minivans this year, but luckily for us, Murray Young (now on his 2<sup>nd</sup> tour of duty) and Matt Far (still on his 1<sup>st</sup> tour of duty) stepped up to drive the lil rascals up and we can say with much confidence that not too much bribing went on to secure these drivers...

Rich, we wish you all the best for your adventures in the UK!

## U18's SLEEPOVER

5 July 2003

For the second consecutive year, the Sports Committee held, at the request of the college kids another sleepover. It just happened that the date the kids chose would turn out to be one of the coldest nights in recent memory.

6.00pm - Slowly but surely, the boy and girls made their way to the Centre, as (grandma) Justine and Ants warmed up the lounge. Both were pleased that they wouldn't be staying over that night as Kat and Jared had drawn the short straws to stay the night this year.

Once all the kids arrived, the noise levels got louder as they all mingled and giggled. Dinner was fetched for the oldies in a quick trip downtown, and it seemed that the wafting smell of the butter chicken from Masala had spurred the young 'uns to get themselves some dinner. We can't believe how long it took them to agree on what flavour pizzas to get and how many to order – nevertheless, it arrived and was demolished in record time!

Looking for something to do, the “supervisors” laid down the gauntlet for a grueling game of TP. The stakes were set. A free dinner in Palmerston North for the winners. BRING IT ON!! The Trivial Pursuit board came out. A great game was had, but unfortunately the male team lost to the girls narrowly (*er... WOTEVER... – ed*). After Kat announcing that she'd have an entrée, a dinner AND a dessert – and seeing the look of Horror on both Jared and Ants' faces, Justine suggested that the next game should be played for dessert. The game was on, the chance to redeem themselves was on the line and the boys put their money where their mouths were. Well, they lost that game by an even narrower margin (*again... WOTEVER!! Face it buddy – the girls kicked your ASS! - ed*), however one can't help but wonder what would happen if one of the boys managed to answer more than just TWO questions.....

After the Clash of the Titans, the kids were keen to play and this led to the beginning of more fun and games. The Xbox was out, so were the cards and the kids also went for Trivial Pursuit. Hilarity ensued but only because of the answers that were given, the outcome of games and the money that was lost on the cards (just kidding). We're all so glad that the intelligence levels of all our kids have improved since all know what the four primary colours are.

At around 12:30am, Grandma and Ants decide leave. Kat and Jared pleaded to be taken but that didn't happen. Fortunately they were left unharmed and even managed to enjoy watching DVDs and playing videos games with the kids. Just a pity though, that they all fell asleep before anyone else did.

Fearing that the Stadium may be burnt if he didn't return from town, Ants returned to party central. He slowly crept up the stairs to see if all was well and found the “supervisors” asleep while the kids ran rampant (Ok, they were watching movies but running rampant sounds more exciting!). Being the wise and wonderful one, he would later be found staying up playing Trivial Pursuit again with a few others (For the record, he won too).

By morning, the sleepy-eyed natives began to stir and rummaged about for breakfast. A quick hurry up to get a wriggle on down to McDonalds. Everyone was fed and we made our way back up to the Centre where the slowest, most unenthusiastic college practices in history would finish off the sleepover.

Everyone had a great time, including the oldies, and the requests have come thick and fast for another one next year.....

By the way, for those of you who didn't pick it up, there are only three primary colours boys.

*- The mouse under the photocopier never lies....*



## Diary Girls - Adventures from Palmy

Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> 2003.

When we woke up it was dark. We staggered out of bed and just managed to reach the meeting points on time. This early wake up was quite a shock, as it was the holidays and we were all used to sleeping in. Antz looked like death! At Jville McDonalds we were all together and ready for the long drive ahead. We bundled into three vans and one car. Lucky Matt was stuck with the gossiping girls for the entire two hour trip. Our car was in the lead, and so far, things were going smoothly.

Twenty minutes later, Justine received a phone call from the vans telling us everyone was hungry already. A little annoyed, we reluctantly made a stop at the nearest McDonalds - the one with the train. We patiently waited in the car, doors open for a bit of fresh air and music blaring. When the boys finally decided they were quite finished with breakfast, we discovered the car would not start, due to a flat battery. Just as we thought things couldn't get worse, Jared realised he had left behind the boys basketball tops. Little did they know, the boys ended up wearing women's singlets for the entire weekend. Using jump starters to get the car going, we were on our way again. Making up for lost time, we seemed to be travelling a little faster than before, braking heavily at all speed camera checkpoints. Cell phones were being used more like walkie talkies as the Palmerston North turnoff was approaching and we had no idea where it actually was. However, Katrina knew exactly where to go, which is why her carload and the van following it, arrived in Palmy half an hour later than everyone else.



But we got there in the end and the tournament began. All four Centre teams played exceptionally well, and our teamwork was evident in every game. Each team played two games and as the afternoon progressed we all became quite tired. After the games for the day had finished we went back to relax at our motel. Later that night was the social, and all the college kids from the tournament were there. We made a fashionably late entrance by turning up one hour after the party had started. Our college boys seemed to be extremely popular with the ladies, and didn't hesitate to show off their funky dance moves. And a couple of girls (who shall remain nameless) worked the art of tabletop dancing. The night finished too soon, and we were back at our motels by 2am, although the last few girls didn't get into bed until 7am. The 8am wake up call proved to be quite a challenge to these few girls, but after a hearty breakfast we were ready to play our last game. All the boys were already at the stadium when we arrived, and the 'A' team had managed to make the finals against the Dragons. Our Centre team won by just two points, but it was a good game played by all.

After that nail biting final, the teams wearily trudged into the vans and we began the journey home. Using the whiteboards, the vans started up a war of insults, and the drivers helped this along by using (careful) manoeuvres and tricky overtaking methods. The road trip was finally finished, and we all went our own ways after a thoroughly enjoyable weekend. This is all thanks to Aunty Justine our awesome coach and camp mother, Antz for keeping

the boys in line and coaching them to victory and Katrina our number one supporter and head cheerleader. And last but not least, thanks to Murray, Matt and Jared for giving up their weekend to drive us to Palmy, for chaperoning us as well as coaching and reffing. We couldn't have done it without you.

*The diary girls*

**Disclaimer:**

**All participants on the Palmy tour have sworn not to disclose any information about what went on in Palmy. After all, what goes on tour, stays on tour.... Isn't that right Dave??!!!**

## Thanks You Guys!

The Sports committee would like to acknowledge the Centre members that are keen to help out the younger members of our club – without them, our younger ones wouldn't have an example to follow and they all appreciate the time that is volunteered, whether its by coaching, supporting the teams, or even just hanging out and getting to know them.

Like those that came before us, and those that will follow, by giving a little bit of Time, Enthusiasm and Commitment. There is a reward. Its evident in the teams that are coming through. After all, it's a cycle and for everything that you put in, you're sure to get back.

## WCSCC MINI-BALL NEWS !!!

**Lenny Loh 479-7509**

The season has started again. There are good attendances every Sunday. Just a reminder to all parents that the start times are:

9:30am to 11:00am – Tiniball, 5 – 7 years

9:30am to 11:30am – Miniball 8 – 10 years

11:00am to 12:30pm – Intermediate School grade.

The club is getting a lot of young ones below the age of 5 years. All the parents of these children help with the activities. The emphasis is not so much on basketball, but having lots of fun activities to get the kids to participate. At times, there is not enough gym space for these kids but the parents do what they can with the space available to them. Thank you for your input and support for these kids.

The basketball camp was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> June. We had over 25 kids staying at the Centre and we had a record number of five fathers who stayed with the kids (probably trying to get away from house work). Games were organised, the highlight being the treasure hunt in the dark with torch lights. Yes, the prizes were chocolate bars. What type of responsible adult would give kids chocolates before bed time? Wait a minute, I did get them to brush their teeth before they went to bed! Anyway when I wasn't watching them, they were having a midnight feast (who gave them lollies, wasn't me this time). Uncle Warren had the whip. "Lights out or you will be sleeping by yourself in the gym." Even I was scared. The next morning, Macdonald was our energy food. Watching the kids play with their friends, with big smiles and lots of laughter, that was my reward for the weekend. The kids were great and very well behaved, it was a pleasure to have them.

Our kids participated in the Hoop Club Under 12 tournament held at the Centre gym at the end of June. They had a tough run with other teams which had bigger and taller players. The skill level of the players in that tournament was high as expected. But our team did extremely well, winning 3 out of 5 games, all played in one afternoon.

Then there was the Dragons Fun Day. The Centre had about 40 kids participating. As usual the parents were getting more excited than the players themselves. It was another good tournament and as usual the afternoon tea was delicious.

Last weekend, we had 2 intermediate teams entered in the Palmerston North tournament. Again, the kids had lots of fun and it is always a special time when you travel away to play.

This term, we have entered an intermediate team into the WBA league on Thursday afternoons. We hope that the kids will benefit from some outside competition. We have also entered a year 3/4 team in the Nairnville league. Good luck to you all!!

The Centre's Goodwill Games are fast approaching, to be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> August. Please keep coming to practices as there are only 2 more practices before then.

The last tournament will be for intermediates and above only. This will be in early September.

## WCS MUMS



The WCS MUMS are still going strong, playing in the Wellington Basketball Winter League. We have found that even tho' we are in the D Grade, it is very competitive and have had a 'mixed bag' of results. One team has acquired a "Coach" and by just giving a few tips here and there they managed to beat us by 6 points last time. We still enjoy the Thursday night runs and keeps us fit! Looking forward to our "end of the season" meal - any suggestions?

*Kaye Wong*

## Life Member of Basketball New Zealand

Congratulations to Hori Thompson, one of our Foundation Members, who was made Life Member of Basketball New Zealand on February 15, 2003 at their Annual General Meeting.



## Sport for Life

The above was the slogan for the Melbourne 2002 World Masters Games - the fifth to be held.

Participation was encouraged and attracted 26,000 competitors - I was No. 13473 - in 29 different sports ranging from archery to volleyball.

Basketball was my sport, of course, and I managed to get into a team from Newcastle, Australia and unbeknown to me my name was given to a team in the older age group, 60+. I arrived and found I had 12 games in eight days! If I had known that, I do not think I would've agreed to play!

I took each day as it came and just enjoyed playing basketball - 20 minutes each way with the clock being stopped. There were 6,000 volunteers for the Games - score bench, medical staff, people to check the score sheet with our name tag before each game, information people and lots more which I never came in contact with. People came from different cities for the 10 days and worked as a volunteer! There were 266 teams entered with 2,500 participants.

I survived by having a massage, reflexology on my hands, drinking tons of water, drank half of the free tin of Sustagen I was given, ate bananas (the smell stayed in my backpack and when I came home through Customs the beagle dog sat down by my backpack and would not budge until his/her owner had questioned me!), took Mag. Phos.

tablets to stop me from getting cramp, and brought myself a magnetic underlay to sleep on.

Results of the 12 games - lost five and won seven. The last two we won by 45 to 14 in the 60+ game and 51 to 35 in the 55+ game and hence I came home with two gold medals.

I enjoyed playing with the different teams and the 60+ team was made up with players from Alice Springs, Darwin, South Australia, Melbourne, Adelaide, Newcastle, me (Wellington, New Zealand) and had one other player play for one game. A great experience!

The main venue we played in was the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre which will be used in the 2006 Commonwealth Games. They had seven sports being held in this one Centre under the one roof - basketball, volleyball, swimming, squash, badminton, table tennis, and diving. Worth visiting if you are in Melbourne.

We were given a free pass for public transport, whilst the Games were on, and I was able to use the trams, buses and trains - saved me a bit of money!

I was able to visit my 83 year old Auntie Ruby and cousin, Andrew. Auntie Ruby baked us a cream sponge and biscuits - was greatly appreciated and a big bonus!

Was it worth it? I thoroughly enjoyed my trip/holiday/break, and will I be going to Edmonton in 2005?

The organiser of the 60+ team was keen to organise the team - I said, "Wait until the time comes!"

Since writing this my knees have stopped aching so I am keen to participate in the next World Masters Games! "When are you going to finish your house alterations, Kaye?", I can hear people say!!!!

**Kaye Wong**

## Matt's Joke of the month

The Iraqi Ambassador to the UN had just finished giving a speech, and walked out into the lobby where he met President Bush. They shook hands, and as they walked the Iraqi said, "You know, I have just one question about what I have seen in America."



President Bush said, "Well, anything I can do to help you, I will."

The Iraqi whispered "My son watches this show 'Star Trek' and in it there is Chekov who is Russian, Scotty who is Scottish, and Sulu who is Chinese, but no Iraqis. My son is very upset and doesn't understand why there aren't any Iraqis on StarTrek."

President Bush laughed, leaned toward the Iraqi ambassador, and whispered back, "It's because it takes place in the future ....."

!!

www.robbynwong.com

### Saturday March 15, 2003

We had a highly successful evening at the King Wah restaurant in Courtenay Place raising over \$5,000 to assist me in my endeavours to qualify for the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. I am totally overwhelmed at the generosity and support of the Chinese Community. It seemed that everyone had a fun evening over a glass or two of bubbly, a few casual words from myself, drawing of some awesome raffle prizes, a fine display of dancing and the odd keen Karaoke singer. Many, many thanks to...

Jason Moon, Lisa Ting and Peter Kohing for all their time and effort to organize the evening.

To those who kindly donated raffle prizes.

To those who couldn't make it for their kind donations.



#### Raffle Donors

Gee Dental Centre, Lower Hutt  
 Scott USA  
 Penny Farthing Cycles  
 Jet Lounge  
 Jason York, Johnsonville  
 Karori Service Centre  
 Area 51, Cuba Street  
 Shell Eastern Suburbs



#### Donors

The Holiday Shoppe, Lambton Quay  
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 Vernon Chang  
 Peggy & Gordon Young  
 Peter & Aimee Poy  
 Marion & Mark Chui  
 Dora & Campbell Sun  
 Aaron Stagg & Pip Wenman  
 Alec Wong  
 Helen Chen  
 Julius Johnson  
 Conrad Young, USA  
 David & Bevely Young, Levin

### NZ National Championships, Blenheim, April 6, 2003

This was the One off race to decide the 2003 NZ National Champion and the race I really wanted to win. However it wasn't to be so. Despite two practice days on a stone dry course amidst blue skies, the night prior to race day the skies opened up and rained poured down. The course changed immensely which provided even more challenges on the already technical 5.6km circuit. Due to the rain, the organizers dropped our laps from 6 down to 5, to target an optimal race time of 2 hours. I had a good start and along with fast starter Sadie Parker-Wynyard we opened up a gap on the field. On the second lap I crashed heavily on the slippery rocks putting a 3cm gash in my chin. I quickly picked myself up and got back into the race and rode hard to gain back time lost in the crash. I closed the gap to a minute to take 2<sup>nd</sup> place in a time of 2 hours 17 minutes.



#### Going Forward

There's another 10 weeks of solid training and some pre overseas racing before Christian and I leave Wellington on June 21 bound for Canada. First stop Quebec for Round 3 of the World Cup series. Second stop Colorado for Round 4 and then the final North American destination of Vancouver for Round 5. By mid July we shall hit Switzerland where we are still planning accommodation, transportation and/or campervan where we will base ourselves for the next 2 months. I will race some of the Swiss series in build up to the World Championships in Lugano

(Switzerland) on September 7. Last but not least there is a final World Cup in the French Alps. During the 3 months away I'm anticipating 10 Mountain Bike races, which will leave little time for any road racing.

Hopefully while in Europe we will catch some of the Tour de France and see my hero Lance steal his 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive win. Once again, thank you all so much for your support. I'll be sure to keep you posted on my progress.

# Robyn

Thanks to: Scott USA, Time, Penny Farthing Cycles, Havana Coffee, Elite Success, Wellington Chinese Sports & Cultural Centre & Vorb

**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 10<sup>th</sup> August**  
WCSCC Miniball Goodwill Games-

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August**  
*The Wholly Grain @ Bats theatre –*  
Tickets are to be purchased through Steph Tims  
Telephone: 236-5565 or 025 526 393, or  
stepht@paradise.net.nz

**Every Saturday in SEPTEMBER**  
Drop offs for the garage sale can be made  
between 10am – 12 noon.  
All inquiries to Dennis Young ph: 388 3731

**Saturday 13/14 September**  
Dragons Tournament – Walter Nash Stadium

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October**  
WCSCC Garage sale  
9.00am – 1.00pm

**Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup>**  
Last day for 'A Barbarous Measure' exhibition at  
the National Library – Molesworth Street



[www.wcsc.org.nz](http://www.wcsc.org.nz)