

WCSCC Newsletter



March 2011

Musings from the Little Red Book

Welcome to the first Centre newsletter for 2011.

We must first express our condolences to the people of Christchurch, I am sure we all know of somebody who has been affected in one way or another. Wellington as a city and community has been supporting Christchurch with a number of aid and fundraising events. If you are able to please support our friends in Christchurch through donating to organisations such as the Red Cross. The wider Chinese community is looking to come together to arrange an event to fundraise - details are still being finalised, we'll see if there is a role for the Centre. The Centre has made an offer to the Canterbury Chinese Sports community to utilise our facilities if any of them need to get out of town and have a place to stay for a while.

Well Chinese New Year has come and gone, Wellington put on a beautiful day for the parade and performances down at Frank Kitts Park. Leading up to the 12th & 13th February its an intense period of dance choreography, practices, uniform and equipment repair, float preparation and logistical planning. Thanks to all the participants of the Cultural groups, Yau Yih Yun and helpers from the wider Centre community for making our part of Wellington's Year of the Rabbit celebration so successful. A special thank you to Brent Fon for allowing us to use your premises while we all prep for the parade on Tennyson St.

Going forward, our event calendar is getting full with all the key dates and events - please keep your eye out for email notices and newsletter updates:

- Easter Practices for Dunedin have started 1.30pm Womens, 3pm Mens Sundays @ the Centre
- Centre AGM coming up on Sunday 1 May - if you're keen to be actively involved on the General Committee - come along and get voted on, all are welcome!!
- Kids, basketball practices will be starting soon, Sunday 3 April, Mum and Dad are already looking forward to getting up early on Sunday morning!!
- We've got requests for cooking lessons - so hopefully we can fit those in
- Our annual sporting events with Queens Birthday tournament in June, hopefully we can do a reciprocal hosting of Kapiti Hoop Club, and of course our own Goodwill Games later this year



Planning has begun for our highly anticipated toilet/changing room upgrade, we would reallllly love for it to be completed this year - no pressure on our architects and builders!! We are also considering other large scale building projects, to maintain and improve the Centre as well provide for the ability to offer new facilities. So if you have an idea - let us know.

Towards the end of last year the Ballroom Dance group hosted their annual dance social, a highly successful event, tickets were oversubscribed, I think some were being scalped on Trademe. We need to acknowledge this part of the Centre community who have been putting in the hard yards for years and still turn out to make this social so popular and successful. Thanks again for the contribution to the Centre.

So heaps coming up this year, I look forward to seeing you at the Centre.

Cheers

Chairman Mao



Photos from Year of the Rabbit Celebrations





Year of the Rabbit

Goong Hei Fat Choi

We wish you all a prosperous Year of the Rabbit and a very happy Chinese new year.

People born in the Year of the Rabbit are articulate, talented, and ambitious. They are virtuous, reserved, and have excellent taste. Rabbit people are admired, trusted, and are often financially lucky. They are fond of gossip but are tactful and generally kind. Rabbit people seldom lose their temper. They are clever at business and being conscientious, never back out of a contract. They would make good gamblers for they have the uncanny gift of choosing the right thing. However, they seldom gamble, as they are conservative and wise. They are most compatible with those born in the years of the Sheep, Pig, and Dog. (From Chinese c-c-c.org/chinese culture/zodiac/Rabbit.html)

Cultural Dancing

We've had another successful dance season for the Year of the Rabbit.

Our annual workshop was held in late December in readiness for the Chinese New Year celebrations, and due to increased interest, another group was added to our mix, making 4 girls' groups.



We were also very fortunate this year to have past dancers come back and TEACH our girls. A huge thanks to Steph Lee, Nicky Lim, Jess Loh, Kim Wong and Tash Young - who gave up their time to give back to the Centre and pass the dances on. I know the dancers had a lot of fun, and they learnt the dances quickly under the expert guidance of our awesome teachers.



The events we've participated in to date are: Giggles skit for TVNZ6, and Chinese New Year celebration performances at Capital E (Sin Nian), The Loh House in Whitby, Parliament, ANZ Bank, and of course parade day and Frank Kitts park.



We have another performance scheduled for 27 March - GlobalFest at Capital E, so if you missed previous performances and would like to see the dancers performing, here's your chance. We've had a great group of girls (and dedicated parents) this year, so we're going to build on that success by holding monthly dance practices soon - to keep our skills up, and ensure we're ready to perform at short notice when called upon.

Bronwyn Tims



GenR8

Genr8 is a hip-hop group that consists of nine boys aged between 6 and 13. In the group are Nicholas, Joshua, Rory, Jasper, Raymond, Alex, Jaiden, Maxwell and Anthony. All of these boys were taught their great routine by Tobie Jayme over several Sunday afternoons. The boys practiced at the WCSCC, and then later at the Poon Fah Association building in Wellington. We performed at all of the events at Chinese New Year Festival.

The highlight was being the opening act at the New Clothes for the New Year fashion show with the Lion Dance troupe. There, they let off giant party poppers loaded with brightly coloured confetti and streamers. Hopefully we'll be able to see these boys perform again next year.

Nicholas Dong

Dragon Troupe

The Troupe's main focus over the last couple of months has been Chinese New Year celebrations. Performances included a luminous routine on Saturday 12th, a new daylight routine and parade on the following day. The weekend started with a luminous performance on the Saturday night at Zirka Circus (Waitangi Park) followed by a quick impromptu dragon parade along the waterfront prior to the fireworks display in the harbour.

Our debut of our daylight routine the next morning went really well and included patterns with sit-ups, dancers on the shoulders of another, (top photo) patterns completed with 5 dancers instead of 9. We have been adding to our day light repertoire by bringing on more physically demanding and acrobatic patterns which really adds a new dimension to our current luminous routines.

This year we took on the challenge and trained 2 dragons for the Chinese New Year parade performing more intricate patterns. In addition we also completed some of the patterns in sync which looked fantastic. Our squad of 27 including a number of debutantes performed well in spite of the Wellington wind doing its best to blow us off course.



Earlier this month we performed at Cannons Creek at their annual festival (Creekefest), New Plymouth the following weekend for a number of performances over three days at WOMAD, and then we will perform at Palmerston North (27 March) to be the headline act at the Festival of Cultures.

Looking out further, the team is looking into the WOW awards and also other events at the time of the Rugby World Cup. For more information contact me on vymz.sue@xtra.co.nz



One final note to say good luck to Nicky Lim - a long standing member of our team. Nicky has left for Auckland University to start her next phase of study.

Training times from 3 April onwards (for Dragon and Lion):

- 3/10 & 17 April: 12-1 30 pm
- 24 April & 1 May - NO TRAINING
- 8 May and further 12.30 - 4 pm.

Lion Troupe

Firstly, I would like to start with a big thank you to all the parents and supporters of the lion dance troupe for bringing all the kids to training and helping out with transport and just being there, without you guys it wouldn't be possible to have the huge number of performances we have had over the Chinese New Year period.

During this Chinese New Year, we completed 12 performances within the two weeks of the celebrations. We did 5 restaurant performances, the Lo House, Capital E (Sin Nian) all in one weekend, followed by performances at Parliament (pictured beside), ANZ Bank, New Clothes, Parade day and Frank Kitts park the following week.

Over the last six months we have been training hard, learning new and exciting routines which



were performed at Capital E and New Clothes with a number of new lions that have just recently joined the troupe. It has been great to see the number of junior lions coming up every week training hard and having fun.

Now that Chinese New Year is behind us the lion dance troupe still have a few performances coming up including a Kindergarten, Wedding, Global Festival and even running workshops along with the dragon at WOMAD.

Aaron Lee

Departing words ...

I have decided it is time for me to pass the role of Lion dance group coordinator to someone else. I have enjoyed my years in this role and it has been especially pleasing to see this group grow. We



now have seven senior lion dancers that are very talented and able to create their own new routines guided by Aaron and Jason (as well as being our backup drummer and instrumentalists). And have up to 14 young and dedicated junior lions and six very hardworking instrumentalists who cope very well with new performance pieces thrown at them. Thank you Aaron, Jason and James for leading this group with your talents, without you guys we wouldn't have the fantastic troupe we have now.

Lastly as Aaron has mentioned, many, many thanks to the wonderful parents that have helped me over the years with transport, sewing etc and getting their children to the performances. I wish the Lion Dance Troupe well for the future and will pass the reins of co-ordinator to Jason Roberts and know you will continue to give him your support.

Angela Wong

New Lion Troupe Co-ordinator

My name is Jason Roberts and I will be taking over as Lion Dance Troupe Co-ordinator from Angela Wong at the end of March. I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to Angela on behalf of myself and everyone involved with the Troupe. I know she has spent many a stressful night planning, organizing and coordinating the Lion Dance Troupe and I look forward to picking up that challenge.

We welcome anyone that would like to join our Troupe as a lion dancer or instrumentalist. If you, or anyone you know, would like to request a future performance, my email address is jason.roberts@xtra.co.nz or by phone on 0272046466.



**Yau Yih Yun:
Mini spice girls and boys!**

Yau Yih Yun has had a very busy year - and its only just begun! A dozen future spice girls and boys dazzled spectators outside Capital E as part of Sin Nian (pictured above).

The following week on Festival day, the children participated in the City's Chinese New Year Parade on their own float. Frank Kitts park was packed to the rafters for their afternoon

Thanks also to all the parents and helpers who are crucial in helping the kids to participate.

We are always ready to welcome new children interested in attending YYY either on the Wednesday or Saturday sessions! All the children really enjoy their learning time - learning both Cantonese & Mandarin through song & dance, games as well as more traditional teaching methods. They have a chance to play together in the play area & make a craft each week. Parents enjoy the chance to socialise at morning tea time.



performance - a flurry of perfectly synchronised pom poms! Beautiful new cheung sarm complemented the childrens' singing and dancing. The kids also handled their impromptu photo session with great aplomb!

The performances enhanced YYY's public profile, gaining mention in local Chinese media, (special thanks to Mandy Chen who organised a reporter to attend the performances and take photos)!



EASTER 2011 - DUNEDIN



WELLINGTON CHINESE ASSOCIATION INC
惠靈頓華聯會

The 2011 New Zealand Chinese Association Easter Sports Tournament will be held in **Dunedin** from **Friday 22nd April 2011** through to **Monday 25th April 2011**.

Planning and practices are all well underway for the annual Easter tournament. If you would like to be involved or attend the tournament please contact Alex Foy (027 300 7400) or Kylie Ngan Kee (027 304 0801) or email them at: R2rwtneaster@gmail.com

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER:

Sunday 6th March 2011 - WCA Easter Tournament Registration form due
Sunday 30th March 2011 - All fees due (activity fee, accommodation and/or transport costs)
Easter weekend Friday 22nd April to Monday 25th April 2011 (incl)

Best wishes to all participants and hope you all have a great time. We look forward to hearing about your results. Go Wellington!

Calling ALL Centre members

WCSCC Annual General Meeting Sunday 1 MAY, 10 am

Please read the attached note with details for the upcoming AGM at the Centre - if you have any ideas, suggestions or would just like to get more involved, then please come along to the AGM - we would love to see you!

Member subs renewals for 2011 will also be coming to you in the post in the next month.

Miniball Basketball Season starts Sunday 3 April 2011

Basketball and miniball season is back. Times are a little staggered so please make sure you read it through as it changes from 24 April onwards.

We will have a sausage sizzle going for the first two weekends along with re-enrolment forms so come on down and check it out! The popular Club hoodies are back - full zip or pull over, and long sleeve t-shirts. They are black with embroidered WCSCC emblem. Samples will be here on the 3rd April to view, try, and order.

3 April - 17 April times are:

Beenyball & Tini ball - 3-7 years old - 9.30 am - 10.30 am

Miniball - 8-10 years old -and Intermediate age, 10.30 am - 12 pm

24 April onwards:

Beenyball 3-4 years old - 9.30 am - 10.30 am

Tini ball - 5-7 years old - 9.30 am - 11 am

Miniball - 8-10 years old -and Intermediate age, 11 am - 12.30 pm



NOTE: Senior Mens and Womens recommences on 1 MAY from 4-6 pmb .

Basketball reps in Noumea and Australia - Zach and Connor Young

Our own Zach Young (16 years old) was once again selected to play in the NZ Under 17's International FIBA Oceanic Youth Tournament that was held in November last year in Noumea.

“My trip to Noumea was a great experience. It took me a couple of days to get used to the living style, but I then found that it wasn't that hard after all. The weather was great and I also got to meet lots of people from other Oceanic countries, which I enjoyed and I now look back on it and it is one of the most enjoyable experiences of my life.

The Basketball competition was good playing against other countries, as each country had something different to offer. This made it challenging, and we pulled through, only to lose to Australia by 10 points in the final.”



Zach, second from right, and team performing the haka before a game.

STOP PRESS - STOP PRESS

Zach Young has just been named as part of the New Zealand Mens U18 team for 2011 to play in the Australian U18 State Champs, Tasmania in early April! Congratulations Zach, thats awesome - well done!

The Centre will be doing some fundraising to help Zach get to Australia, so please look out for something on your email very soon.

Not to be beaten by his older brother, Connor Young was also selected to play for the NZ Koru tour development team in Australia during January this year. He played in the under 16's team, Connor is 14 years old.



Above: Connor, 6th from left standing with his team.

“The Koru is about NZ player development. You are invited to cluster camps in your region throughout the year and then you may be chosen to advance to the next cluster camp. If you're identified you are rated and your marks are tallied against players from other regions. There are 3 regions - Auckland, Central and South Island. I was lucky enough to attend the Koru tour and went to Albury/Woodonga which is between Victoria and NSW. We spent 5 days training and getting to know the other 19 players selected from NZ, and then 5 days at the tournament. We were split into 2 even teams and played Australian state teams. My team won 4 and lost 4 games. Overall I had a great time.”

AMAZING JOB OPPORTUNITY

A position has come available for someone who has a background in web design and has loads of imagination. We are looking for someone with fresh ideas to 'revamp' our current website! Remuneration package includes loads of fun but no pay - its a great chance to do YOUR bit for the Centre! All enquiries to Bronwyn Chin - dunwell@paradise.net.nz.

DANCING

Line Dance Classes continue

Line dancing is still very popular. Over the last few weeks our Tuesday class has been relocated to Vogelmorn hall. Members are still attending these classes regularly so it shows how keen they are and that they do not like to miss their line dance sessions. Class will be back on home territory from 29 March and continue through the school holidays.

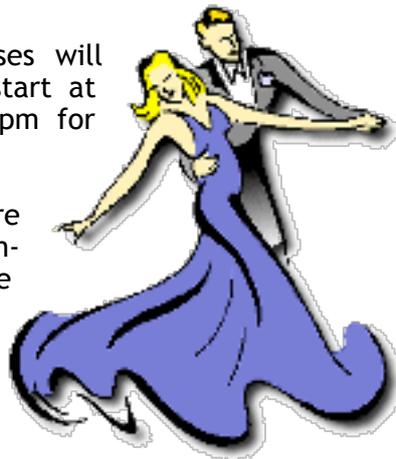
New members are welcome and our classes are on :- **Saturdays 10am to 12.30pm**
Tuesdays 10am to 12.30pm

If you are interested in joining just come along to one a class and introduce yourself to Stuart Chung or Yvonne Chew Lee.

Ballroom Dancing starts off for 2011

After a nice Summer break, classes will start back on the 1st May. They start at 7pm - 8pm for beginners and 8-9pm for intermediate.

Cost is \$72 per person for Centre members for a 6 week block, non-members \$90. All new people welcome!



WCSCC Year 5/6 Summer Miniball Team

The Centre entered a year 5/6 team in the Nairnville Park Rec centre school summer miniball league in term 4, 2010. The team consisted of: Adam - left hand layup - Yeo, Rory - score every time - James, Jasper - quick foot - James, Oscar - running shot - Szeto and Josh - mongrel defence - Wong.

This is the first time we have entered a Centre team in the league. They played extremely well and went through the season unbeaten coming first. The team was coached by Karin Won and Gary Szeto.

We had a couple of close games but the skills gained from practices up at the Centre really showed through and most games were won by a convincing margin. We are lucky to have such a great facility for kids in our community to practice basketball. Go boys!

Key Contacts

Chairman/Stadium rental enquiries: Malcolm Young - malcolmcyoung@gmail.com

Cultural - Dragon/Lion: Vince Sue - vymz.sue@xtra.co.nz

Cultural Dancing: Bron Tims - btims@xtra.co.nz

Membership/Address changes: Karin Won - wcsubsub@gmail.com

Ballroom Dancing: Bobby Ng - ng@xtra.co.nz & Eric Sue - eric.sue@xtra.co.nz

Line Dancing: Yvonne Chew Lee ph 476 8382

Yau Yih Yun: Kim Lau - kimjit@gmail.com

Basketball: Grant Young - grant.young@bayleys.co.nz

Fundraising/Events: Justine Kohing - justine.kohing@paradise.net.nz

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