



Wellington Chinese Sports & Cultural Centre Inc July 2010

Editorial

Welcome to the first edition of the WCSCC newsletter for 2010. Gosh, so much has happened in the first 7 months as you will read. Hopefully this edition will bring you up to date on what's been happening. In summary, the WCSCC Dragon Dance Troupe travelled to Hong Kong for the international competition in January and came back with a credible 8th position in the world, Chinese New Year celebrations bringing in the Year of the Tiger were supported by our dancing children, Dragon and Lion performers. Easter Tourney in Wellington – was the biggest to date! We had over 2,500 competitors and supporters descend on Wellington for 4 fully packed out days, what a fantastic line up of sports and social catch ups everyone had. Activities for the young and old alike – well done to the NZCA Tournament committee. The Leadership Development Conference was held in Wellington with some very informative speakers and a strong turnout of youth attending.

The AGM was held in June, with some new faces joining the committee, always good to see! We hosted the NZCA Annual Conference again, with a new group of caterers.

Some stand out individual members of the centre have amazing achievements, and they all get to go to Las Vegas! Zach Young and Jah Wee Lee in the U17 Wgtn Hoops club have just returned from 2 international tournaments in Vegas. Nicky Lim, Jess Loh and Steph Lee are part of the Wellington Emerge dance group competing in the World Hip Hop competitions (yep, in Vegas!). Congratulations to both groups on representing NZ!

Keeping in touch with our members is important, so if you have any 'news' to share with the club please contact me and we can either get it in print or on the website. We are also planning to keep the website more updated with news, views and of course photos so please keep visiting the website – let us know what you want to see! www.wcsc.org.nz

As part of the database update, we have asked if you would like to receive the newsletter by email, this

should be in our systems in time for the NEXT mailout.

STOP PRESS: Yau Yih Yun has plenty of spaces available, we're looking for more centre pre schoolers to join us at YYY! If you know of anyone that may be keen to attend, please let me know, and send them along! YYY is a great facility for pre-school kids to learn Cantonese language and culture. Please pass on the word.

Bronwyn Chin

Editor

dunwell@paradise.net.nz

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Upcoming dates:

Working Bee/dim sim making	8 August
Goodwill Games	15 August
Kapiti Basketball trip	29 Aug
Centre Subs due	30 August
Dragons Tourney	11-12 Sept
August Moon Festival dinner	19 Sept
Line dancing function	October
Ballroom dancing function	October
Centre family Xmas lunch	28 Nov

WCSCC AGM 2010

The WCSCC Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday 27th June where the following members were (re-)elected:

President	<i>Malcolm Young</i>	Secretary	<i>Justine Kohing</i>
Vice President	<i>Mark Chiu</i>	Communications	<i>Bronwyn Chin</i>
Treasurer	<i>Andrew Young</i>	Buildings	<i>Peter Kohing, Thomas Chong</i>
Membership	<i>Karin Won</i>	Fundraising	<i>Rita Tom, Lisa Chin</i>
Line Dancing	<i>Yvonne Chew Lee</i>	Sports	<i>Grant Young, Murray Young</i>
Cultural	<i>Vincent Sue</i>	Sports (cont)	<i>Lawrence Young, Kathy Young</i>
Yau Yih Yun	<i>Kim Lau</i>	Sports (cont)	<i>Monica Mercury</i>
Eastern Sports Club	<i>Tom Moon, Bill Hoon</i>	Cantonese Class	<i>Thomas Chong</i>
Social	<i>Peter Kohing</i>		

The summarised version of Malcolms Presidents Report follows. For a full version, please go to our website: www.wcsc.org.nz/Presidentsreport2009

20 June 2010 WCSCC President's Report 2009

I am pleased to table the WCSCC President's Report for 2009.

I would like to formally thank the Centre's General Committee and the members of the various sub-committees for their continued support to ensure the smooth running of the Centre and the delivery of the myriad of activities throughout the 2009 year. The Committee members included: Mark Chiu (Vice President), Andrew Young (Treasurer), Justine Kohing (Club Secretary), Peter Kohing (Fundraising, Building and Social), Yvonne Chew Lee (Social), Bronwyn Chin (Yau Yih Yun & Cultural), Grant Young (Sports), Charles Lum, Murray Young, Lisa Chin, Monica Thompson.

Over the last couple of years I am pleased to see a number of younger members stepping forward to take on official roles within the club structure, this is crucial to the ongoing success of the Centre and I am encouraged that this fantastic facility will go from strength to strength.

Thanks



Malcolm Young
President, WCSCC

Finance

Key points to note

The net deficit for the year was \$47,245 compared with \$20,485 in 2008. The increase in the deficit of \$26,760 was due to the following;

- Income was down in 2009 by \$27,000 due to a decrease of \$20,000 in fundraising activities mainly from the Dragon Hong Kong Troupe.
 - In 2008, the Dragon Troupe raised \$8,000 and spent a net \$2,000 in 2009 meaning a net movement \$10,000.
 - Other fundraising, including the Collation work for \$6,000 in 2008 was not repeated and 2009 catering income was down \$4,000.
 - Interest income was also down \$4,000 reflecting lower term deposit interest rates.
 - Expenses decreased in 2009 by \$10,800 during the year mainly due to
 - the provision for the replacement of assets dropping by \$10,800 due to 2008 being the first year the provision was recognised and included a catch-up from prior years.
 - The increase in Section activities costs of \$10,000 reflects the decrease in Yau Yih Yin bank account and the timing of their expenditure.
 - The Statement of Position reflects a stable cash position with Term Deposits increasing by \$10,000 during the year and the Westpac cheque account also increasing by \$13,000.
- The increase in cash of \$23,000 is matched by the increase in other current liabilities of \$28,000 reflecting the timing of these payments.
- The net outcome is that the cash position is a slight drop of \$5,000 year on year.

In summary, the deficit of \$47,000 may cause some concern. However, the financial stability of the Centre can be better reflected in the overall cash position. As per above, the net change in cash is only around \$5,000. This is due to the deficit including non-cash items of provision for asset replacement (\$21,000) and depreciation (\$7,000).

- The Section activities reflect a decrease in cash of \$10,000 but these amounts are in separate bank accounts.
- The Centre has incurred significant “one-off” repairs and maintenance over the last two years including; Repairs to the roof for \$25,000, upgrade of the Alarm for \$6,000; new security lighting \$5,000 and sanding the floor in 2009 for \$5,000. We must all be aware that the building is now 33 years old and the repairs will continue to be at the \$20-\$30,000 per year.

Building

For 2009 the Centre continued to expend significant funds on building maintenance in particular the roof and the emergency lighting. Discussions with Programme Maintenance are ongoing into 2010 to resolve the satisfactory performance maintenance contract. Key projects planned for 2010 include the building security access and the toilet/changing room upgrade.

Deep thanks to Dennis Young, Tom Moon and Peter Kohing.

Fundraising

During the 2009 year the Centre catered for the following functions:

- the 2009 NZCA Annual Conference held in June
- Centre’s 2 Fundraising Dances & Social Evenings held in September & November; and
- Sponsored the Eastern Suburbs Community Dance in August

Other social activities included the 2009 New Year Dinner held at Grand Century Restaurant, and the 2009 Moon Festival Dinner which was held at the Regal Restaurant.

Yau Yih Yun

Continued funding from various groups such as the Ministry of Education, Community Organised Grants Scheme and the New Zealand Chinese Association. This enables Yau Yih Yun to run cost effectively and provide the most up to date resources for the children. In addition to their classroom activities the children have continued a long tradition of performing in a number of events (such as Chinese New Year) around the city during 2009.

Social Activities

Sunday night attendance continues to be strong for the Ballroom Dance Classes where sessions are held for both Beginners and Intermediate/Senior levels. The annual club dance is eagerly anticipated by members and friends alike. Line dancing continues to grow steadily with strong interest in the Saturdays and Tuesday classes. The social aspect is a strong draw card.

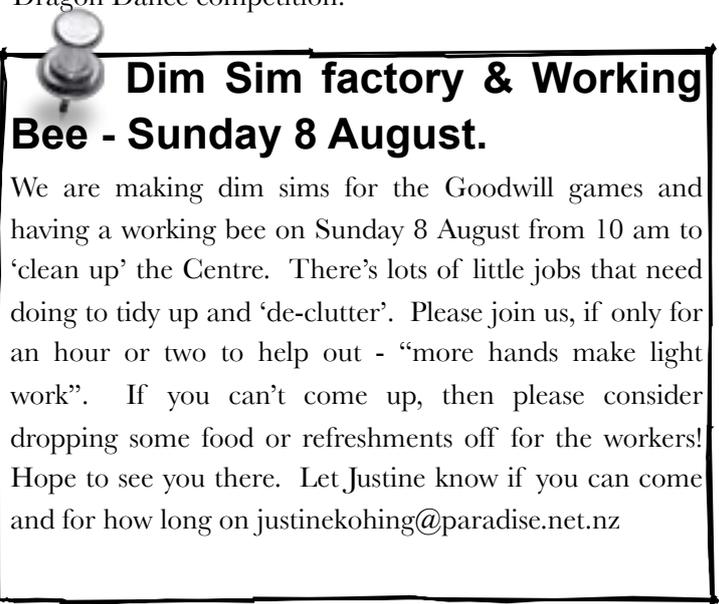
Sports

In 2009 a new basketball program was initiated with a more structured approach to coaching based around an Australian coaching system which included a stronger focus on basic skills particularly in the junior grades. Coaching Manuals were used with positive outcomes. The grades continue to include Bini (3-5yrs), Tini (5-7yrs), Mini (8-10yrs), Intermediates (10-12yrs), Under 18’s and Overs.

In addition to our own successful annual Basketball Tournaments, we had a series of social activities for the kids which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Cultural

The Cultural group’s focus tends to revolve around the Chinese New Year at the beginning of each year, however the popularity of the performances have seen that expanded to almost a year round activity. The Cultural group is made up of the Dance Troupe, Lion Dance Troupe and the Dragon Dance Troupe. We’ve received funding from Poll Tax Trust to support the costuming, equipping and training of each of the Troupes. The quality of the performances has grown in leaps and bounds with the growth of the performers guided by the excellent tuition gained from our friends from Singapore. A key focus has been the organisation, training and fund raising for the Dragon Dance troupe to compete in the 2010 Hong Kong World Luminous Dragon Dance competition.



Dim Sim factory & Working Bee - Sunday 8 August.

We are making dim sims for the Goodwill games and having a working bee on Sunday 8 August from 10 am to ‘clean up’ the Centre. There’s lots of little jobs that need doing to tidy up and ‘de-clutter’. Please join us, if only for an hour or two to help out - “more hands make light work”. If you can’t come up, then please consider dropping some food or refreshments off for the workers! Hope to see you there. Let Justine know if you can come and for how long on justinekohing@paradise.net.nz

Oldies Dance Group

The ODG is chugging along steadily, maybe a little slower but still moving. Everyone is now dancing in the same direction, mostly but not always with the lady in front of the man which is a bonus. Its true you know, the older you get the less you know and these days while the feet are willing the brain is about two weeks behind which makes for interesting moves at the weekly dance lessons.



The oldies trained hard for Easter Tournament especially when they heard the Auckland crowd were coming to show off their salsa steps. Not to be outdone the ODG put in the hard yards at practices training with the cheerleaders squad and got quite good at high stepping in white gum boots while twirling pom poms all at the same time. Watching the ODG perform at the Tournament Vets dances brought tears to the eyes and reminded the Ayatollah of the following poem by that renowned poet Spike Milligan.

“When you’r feeling lonely
And you can’t find romance
Jump into a dustbin – and dance

When you’ve got no trousers
And ragged underpants
Jump into a dustbin – and dance”

Which really says it all about the ODG’s efforts but Lulu has told the Old Fellow that wearing a dustbin to bed was taking dancing a bit too seriously.

Anyhow the oldies got together again a few weeks latter with their own No Frills Dance where the emphasis was on fun and fellowship with some dancing in between. Everybody brought a plate along for supper and it was great sampling the different dishes. The food wasn’t bad either.

The old Line Dancers turned up in great numbers and did their thing with great energy and enthusiasm. Also threw themselves into the Snowball Waltz and the Gay Gordons having practised these steps the previous few weeks. Some of the braver ones even tried the Pride of Erinhow we gonna keep

them in the retirement village now they have seen the city?

A highlight of the evening were the Bollywood Dancers.... how do they manage to move like that without their clothes falling off ? A little more field research needed here. Lulu sez don’t even think about it.

Unfortunately there are no printable photos of the ODG’s in action, maybe next function when clothing will be compulsory.

Big thanks to everyone who helped with this function, no names but you know who you are, wouldn’t have happened without your efforts. Also big thanks to Peter and Audrey for their patience, support and guidance. Had some great planning meetings at their place and the suppers after were superb. Would you believe 10 types of dessert. 6 cheeses, fresh fruit salad, roast duck, kul yuk and jook all washed down with some good old kiwi fermented grape juice. The hangover the next day was worth it.

What’s next? who knows? will it stop raining tomorrow? where have all the flowers gone?..... what’s that Lulu ? I can’t hear you.....ouch..... stop banging on my dustbin, I’m trying to dance in here.

Ayatollah Sor Tou

Line Dancing

Line dancing at the Wellington Chinese Sports and Cultural Centre is now a very popular activity with members. The number of people attending the Saturday and Tuesday classes continues to grow steadily.

New members are encouraged to attend the Tuesday classes as well as the Saturday classes where Avelyne teaches beginners and the not so experienced dancers.

Members enjoy the opportunity to do some exercise as well as have the time to socialise with other people of the community. The classes are for people to have some fun and enjoyment. Morning tea is provided and many thanks to members who contribute snacks etc to have with our cuppas. It is very much appreciated.

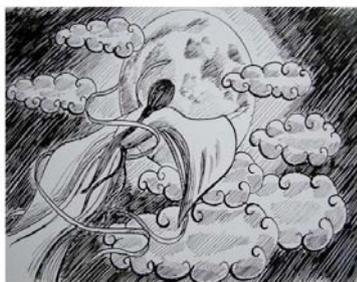
The line dancers together with the ballroom dancers joined for an evening held on May 29th. Many line dancers joined in with some of the ballroom dances and vice versa and everyone had a thoroughly good time. The evening was a great success. We are looking forward to having another such get together in the not too distant future.

Anyone wishing to attend our line dance classes are welcome to join and also become a member of the WCSCC if they qualify under the eligibility criteria of the WCSCC.

Yvonne Chew Lee ph: 476 8382

Moon Festival Dinner - 19 September.

The WCSCC will be holding its annual Chinese Mid-Autumn Moon Festival Dinner in September for members and friends. A fabulous



menu has been planned, and there will be a special menu available for the childrens table.

Make up a party of family and friends to celebrate this traditional Chinese festival. ***Funds raised go towards upgrading the changing rooms and toilets.***

To book your table of ten or reserve your tickets, please contact:

Lisa Dong dongs@clear.net.nz
475 8281

Victor Wu vjwu@xtra.co.nz
4773 974 / 021 441225

Justine Kohing justinekohing@paradise.net.nz

Tickets - Adults: \$32.50 per person

BYO Drinks

Children: \$10 each (aged 5-12 on separate table)

Under 5's – free (if seated with an adult at a table of 10 adults)

Date: Sunday 19th September

Time: 5.30pm

Venue: Dragons Chinese Restaurant, 25 Tory Street, Wellington

The Basketball Diaries

The basketball season has been up and running from 11 April 2010. Grades & practice times as follows:

Biniball (3-5 years) & Tiniball (5-7 years)

9:30 am – 11 am

Mini (8-10 yrs) & Intermediates (11-12 yrs)

11 am -12:30 pm

U18 Women & Senior Women 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

U 18 Men & Senior Men 2:30pm – 4:30 pm

All new faces welcome!

We've had good attendance in all grades particularly the junior grades.

Tournaments to date

Queens Birthday Tourny was held on 4th & 5th June at the Centre. We were a bit down on teams which is often the case when Easter Tournament is in town the same year. Team numbers included Mens Open: 13 teams, Mens U 18: 4 teams, Womens Open: 5 teams, Womens U18: 2 teams, Intermediates: 3 teams. The Highlight of Tournament was Centre winning Mens Open and a very exciting MU18 final closely won by Dragons.

Dragons Funday was on 18th July at Walter Nash Stadium. We entered 3 teams, 1 Tiniball & 2 Miniball. Unfortunately we didn't field an Intermediate team. We did very well with Tiniball winning 1 of their 2 games and Miniball A & B teams defeating their respective Dragons A & B Miniball teams.

Juniors: Important Upcoming Dates

- **WCSCC Goodwill Games** Sunday 15th August at the Centre. All junior grades from Tini to Intermediates.
- **Kapiti Hoop Club Visit** Sunday 29th August. A tournament day with the Kapiti Hoop Club and will be entering teams in Grades U8, U10, U12, U18 Mens, U18 Womens.
- **Movie Fundraiser**, date To Be Confirmed (Aug/Sept)
- The ever popular **Sleepover at Centre** also date To Be Confirmed (Aug/Sept)

Check our website for more details, you will also be emailed closer to the time by me.

Grant Young, Sports Committee

Cultural Dance Group

We have had another successful season with the Dance Troupe performing at various venues in and around Wellington. Whilst our performances are mainly during the Summer, our Troupe is also invited to perform at paid and community events during the year, which is a great way to showcase our talented group of Children! Our main focus each year is the Chinese New Year celebrations. We had past dancers (Nicky Lim, Steph Lee and Natasha Young) give up their time during the



Ponies Dance group - 5-7 yrs old at Chinese New Year

School Holidays to teach existing dances to the groups. Their past experience and input was invaluable, and what a great teaching resource to have within our WCSCC community – thank you girls!

As well as the Chinese New Year Celebrations this year, the Troupe performed at Te Papa where *Nutri-Metics* showcased their launch to Beijing at the Wellington Town Hall where they were one of a number of local acts before the Wushu athletes from China performed and more recently our “Dragons group” (aged 9 - 10 yrs) performed at a fundraising show for the hip-hop dance group Emerge. Four of the girls in this group previously danced with our cultural dance troupe and three of them (Steph Lee, Nicky Lim and Jess Loh) are representing New Zealand at the World Hip Hop stage in Las Vegas this month. Good luck girls.

We were also fortunate to have a grant approved by the Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust which has provided us with funds to purchase new costumes and paraphernalia for our performances. If anyone is interested in joining or would like some more information about the troupe please email Bronwyn at btims@xtra.co.nz or Liane at malandliane@paradise.net.nz



Tigers (11-12yrs old) and Dragons (9-10 yrs old) Dance group at the Nutri Metics presentation

The Dance Troupe continues to grow in talent and strength each year and compliments the other cultural activities the Centre has to offer - we look forward to this continuing in the future.

Bronwyn Tims
Cultural Dance Co-Ordinator

Yau Yih Yun

The young pre-school children participated in the Chinese New Year celebrations for the Year of the Tiger along with the other Centre dance and cultural groups. They all really enjoyed dancing, singing and especially receiving their little snack packs afterwards!

The AGM was held in April this year with a number of committee members stepping down as their children have turned 5. The 2010 committee is: President: Kim Lau, Secretary: Christine Lim, Treasurer: Andrew Gee/Neil Wong, teacher: Mandy Chen, general committee members: Joanne Leung (Grants), Tina Young, Sylvia Yan, Chris Carleton, Tania Joe.



Children in the float for Chinese New Year parade with tiger face balloons!

Field trips this year included a trip to the Zoo, where the children had to spot the tiger, and other animals in the Chinese Zodiac cycle, a



Children performing at the Parent and Child Show

social fish'n'chips evening for Wednesday and Saturday classes to mix and mingle. The children also performed well at the Parent and Child Show in June.

We are always looking for more children to join us in this unique playgroup/learning environment and welcome your enquiry. Its lots of fun, the children learn Cantonese language and culture in many forms in a very interactive way. Please contact me if you have any queries!

Bronwyn Chin
Outgoing YYY President.
dunwell@paradise.net.nz

Cantonese Class

As the perfect follow on from Yau Yih Yun, we currently run classes as 2 sessions - one class for 5 to 7 years and another for over 7 years. Classes focus on the development of basic conversational and written skills in an interactive and fun environment.

We are in the process of confirming student numbers, however with 21 families involved (many with more than one child attending) interest has certainly increased in the last 2-3 years - an acknowledgment of the importance that the Cantonese language plays as part of our identity. If you would like to find out more, please join us on Sunday mornings or contact me.

Thomas Chong, Cantonese Class co-ordinator
thomas.chong@tcarchitect.co.nz

Dragon Dance Troupe

Wow what a year, 8th place at the Crocodile World Luminous Dragon Champs in Hong Kong and taking part in 14 shows of the Broadway Musical Miss Saigon to name a couple of highlights. A short

show on TV One's Good Morning at 6am on the morning after many of the team arrived back from Hong Kong was a real test of the teams ability. The routine was compiled the day before and after a couple of practices that morning we were ready to perform. The same challenge was laid down for Chinese New Year celebrations the following weekend. The routine was hatched on the flight back from Hong Kong.

During the 4 intensive training clinics the team trained for over 30 hours per week, whilst juggling their normal "day job". The training schedule leading up to competition date steadily increased from twice a week to 4 times per week with evening sessions ending around 10 or 11 pm. Eleven teams from 10 countries participated in the World Champs which included the very best teams from Asia and one team from Scotland. The team from Singapore claimed first prize with the two Hong Kong teams placing 2nd and 3rd. We exceeded all expectations by placing a very credible 8th place.



Our squad of 20 left New Zealand in mid January for Hong Kong with a heap of equipment. Most of the squad travelled on Royal Brunei Airlines which was an adventure in itself. Flights left Auckland at 5.30 am, so we travelled to Auckland the night before with some of us getting to know Auckland International Airport very well. Our hotel was located in Tseun Wan – L’hotel. A brand new, huge, flash hotel and convention centre with over 1,500 rooms. Notwithstanding the number of rooms available we were not allocated as many as we were originally advised, so some quick thinking and changes lead to some rooms of 4. Certainly one way of getting to know your team mates.



Percussion: Peggy Roberts, Steph Lee, Kim Wong, Kris Lim, Natasha Young, Jon Roberts (back up)

Organising Committee: Vince Sue, Liane Young, Linda Lim, Bronwyn Chin, Denis Chin

Funding for the project was via grants, donations for performances, and fund raising activities (including two dinners).

A special thanks to the entire troupe who stayed focused throughout the entire adventure, a support team which has been there whenever required and provided unquestioning support throughout and a leadership team which stuck to their guns.

On Day 2 we were taken to the competition venue, The Hong Kong Coliseum, it is the shape of a huge inverted pyramid and seats over 12,500. This also gave us the opportunity to check out the competition which was kind of strange as it was the first time many of us had actually observed another team perform a live luminous dragon dance.



The rules of the competition required each team to perform for a minimum of 9 mins and maximum of 11 mins. Penalty points apply for finishing your routine outside of this time period. To complicate matters, you are not able to see the clock so we had individuals in the audience ready to provide signals to let us know we were getting close to the maximum time. Our performance scored 9.09 out of 10 (winning score 9.39) however we also incurred a 1 point penalty for a couple of “mistakes” which dropped us from 5th place to 8th place. Overall, a very good result considering the competition.

Practice up at the Centre

Also a huge thanks to our supporters (of around 50) who travelled to Hong Kong to watch us compete - we could hear you as we competed which made it all the more special and gave us the extra boost when required. Thanks to Chris Chong and his team at Red Cactus for designing the awesome Centre Dragon logo.

For the record, the inaugural WSCC Dragon Troupe who attended the 2010 World Champs were:

Dragon Pearl: Nicky Lim, Colin Ng (back up)

Dragon Team: Denis Chin, Aaron Lee, Liane Young, Allan Tai, Jason Roberts, Brendan Ng, James Roberts, Alex Ng, Drew James, Graeme Yee, Vince Sue

On a personal level, it was fantastic to see our team compete against world class competition. We have set ourselves a goal of returning to Hong Kong in 2012, where the goal will not be to just participate but to return with a top 3 placing.

There has been a great deal of media interest in the team prior to our departure and upon our return in the Dom Post, Radio NZ, TV1 Good Morning Show, Asia Down under show. (detailed links on the website).

Since our return from Hong Kong we have performed at events and festivals not only in Wellington but nationally as follows:

- ◆ Wellington Chinese New Year Festival (finale for New Clothes event, street parade, Festival Day).
- ◆ Preview screening of Mao's Last Dancer at Reading Cinema
- ◆ Wellington Dragon Boat Festival
- ◆ International Day celebrations in Hastings
- ◆ Re-opening of Singapore Restaurant, Napier
- ◆ Opening for NZCA Easter Sports and Cultural Tournament
- ◆ 14 performances as part of the Miss Saigon show at St James Theatre
- ◆ Opening for International Wushu show at Town Hall
- ◆ "World on Stage" event in Palmerston North

Now that the performances are over we have a chance to develop new patterns and invest time in new and not so new team members. We have a regular training time every Saturday, 3.30pm to 5.30pm. Our short term objective is to grow the dragon troupe which will create depth and internal competition but also enable us to take our performances to a new level. A medium term objective is to purchase smaller and lighter dragons which will enable us to bring in younger talent. It would be fantastic for the year of the Dragon (2012) to be celebrated with a family of dragons performing along Courtenay place.

If you are keen to get involved or just want to have a try (any age, male or female – no previous fitness or experience required!), please email me at vymz.sue@xtra.co.nz, or come along to training.

Vince Sue, Dragon "Se Fou"

Lion Dancing

The 2010 year started off with the Chinese New Year celebrations in February beginning with the New Clothes for the New Year show, 4 Restaurant Performances, the Lo Family, the CNY Parade and Parliament's Chinese New Year celebrations.

Some new performances this year have involved

the group leading the parade for the South -East Asia Night Festival held at Frank Kitts Park and also being involved in the Dragon Boat Festivities. In April we were the opening act for Fiona Hunter's Kids Cancer charity concert and recently in June we performed at the Grand Century for the NZCA Dinner.

I want to say thank you to the lion group performers and parents for their participation and



support in what had been a busy start to the 2010 year and for producing some amazing performances so far.

The pride includes:

Lion dancers

Aaron Lee & Jason Roberts
Jonathan Roberts & Allan Tai
Brendan Ng & Colin Ng
Cashill Tims, Nicholas Dong
Anthony Dong, Joshua Dong
Rory James, Jasper James
Jaiden Young

Joshua Dong, Ryan Yee
Dylan Yee, Raymond Li

Instrumentalists

James Roberts, Jordyn Chin
Jacqueline Dong, Kristina Lee
Brittany Young, Samantha James

We are always looking for new recruits to join our group either as a lion dancer or instrumentalist and any age is welcome.

Angela Wong,
angela.ken@vodafone.co.nz

WASSUP?! kids space

During **Easter** our favourite things were the pool plus the hydroslide, because Sabrina, Yasmin and us would try to catch up with each other on the hydroslide. We also enjoyed buying things at the vending machine. On Friday there was an awesome dance crew which did a dance, it included the ad "Spray and walk away!" which Yasmin and we were always making jokes about. (By Brittany Young and Jordyn Chin)

Chinese New Year is a busy time for me because every year I have to practice my dancing, watch my Mum dragon dance practice and try on new outfits for the dancing. Now it doesn't seem like much but it is my favourite thing about Chinese New Year is the food because you get to try new foods and have some old classics. I also enjoyed the Red Whispers plus the fashion show because its really interesting to see what people have designed and watch the new performers. So thats what I like about Chinese New Year. (By Brittany Young).

When I went to **Hong Kong** in January my favourite thing was staying at the 5 star hotel with my (and extended) family because there was a 5 level shopping mall in it and it was so much fun going shopping there. We also went to Disneyland which was totally awesome. My favourite ride was on the "space mountain" roller coaster - my cousin Brittany and I always screamed because I thought I would fall off! We also went on this ride called "Its a Small World" where you sit on a boat type thing on water and sail into different rooms, each room has a different country theme, and we saw the coolest New Zealand theme room. The reason we went to Hong Kong was because Dad had a dragon competition which is pretty cool. Their aim was to not come last and they came 8th which I think is really good! (By Jordyn Chin).

Hell's Kitchen - "Get Out if you haven't got what it takes to make it"

A number of aspiring chefs took on the challenge to cater for over 60 discerning diners over 2 days in 19 -20 June 2010 to see if they had what it takes to make it in Hell's Kitchen. The Blue Team and Red Team got it together to come up to Chef's exacting standards and delivered on a different menu for each day.



The planning for the weekend's catering started weeks in advance and despite no confirmation of the final numbers till 2 days before, the team of Liane Young, Bronwyn Tims, Rita Dong, Bronwyn Chin and Bev Hong got together with catering supremo Peter Kohing and finalised the plan.

However, it was all about the execution, and special thanks to;

Friday Day 1: Yvonne Chew Lee's Line Dancing crew who got the ball rolling with the food preparation

Saturday Day 2: Liane, Bronwyn C & Bev directed all the chef hopefuls, sous chefs, pot stirrers and dish washers, catering to the hungry NZCA delegates.

Sunday Day 3: it was the turn for Rita & Bronwyn T to implement their menu (and G Ramsay's beef brisket), with many of the miniball parents helping out. Even members of the Saturday team turned up again for a second round to see if they had the stamina to push through another round of service or see who got sacked.

Thankfully, Gordo didn't have to shut the kitchen down for raw haddock or slow service - it was a brilliant effort for a green Red & Blue teams to deliver on two days of good food and service. The NZCA delegates appreciated it - as per usual seemed to be more eating than deliberating....

I haven't named everybody who helped as there was so many and I'd probably omit somebody by accident. But a BIG thank you and well done (with minimal swearing and no injuries!!).

Cheers, Gordo "The Chef La" Ramsay

NZCA Easter Tournament 2010

This year's Wellington hosted NZCA Annual sports tournament was one of the largest tournaments held in the history of the tournament, where 2500 participants and supporters came out to watch 14 different sports being played over 4 days of competition.

The tournament opened on Easter Friday at Te Rauparaha Arena with a fantastic performance from the WCSCC's own Dragon troupe which provided spectators a glimpse of what was performed at the world champs in Hong Kong earlier this year. This opening sequence paved the way for the tournament cultural concert that showcased the talent that our community has by way of song, dance and multimedia categories.

During the next 4 days of play, in and around Te Rauparaha Stadium in Poirua, people played a variety of sports from badminton to indoor bowls, tennis to touch rugby there was so much to do in such a short amount of time!



Evenings were packed for players, young families and veterans from indoor soccer & netball, to dancing the night away at all the social events. Our younger tournament participants had an opportunity to attend a pool party, a LAN party, go indoor bowling, while our tournament veterans has an opportunity to catch up with old friends at two social dancing evenings and a dinner at the Grand Century.

However, on the points table, Wellington proved as strong as ever on the sporting front taking out the main tournament trophy.



What was pleasing to see at this year's tournament was an increased number of family groups that participated at the tournament. It was really good to see children and grandchildren of previous tournament participants continue the tradition of attending what is now known as "Easter" within OUR community.

Next year's tournament will be held in Dunedin and I encourage all WCSCC members to get involved, you can play, coach, help out where you can – it's a good way to meet other people from within the region and around the country.

If you'd like to see the photo gallery from this year's tournament – go to:

www.nzchinese.org.nz/easter/2010/gallery.php

and check out the photos taken by Richard Ng and Martin Yee – they're fantastic photos!

Justine Kohing

CONGRATULATIONS TO ..

Congratulations to VP Mark and Marion Chiu on becoming very proud grandparents to Cameron Chiu - proud parents are Greg and Dom in London.

To add to the excitement at the Chiu household, also big congrats to Ants Chiu and Natalie Gee on their recent engagement!

Also congrats to Eric and Dolly Sue becoming grandparents again with a grandson, Owen - proud parents Rob and Celine in Shanghai.

NZCA Leadership & Development Conference Jan 2010

In January of this year, the Wellington branch hosted the 4th annual NZCA Leadership & Development Conference for 18-28 year olds, the sub theme for the conference was “Homegrown” where delegates were given an opportunity to hear from speakers who were either born, raised or educated in New Zealand. These speakers chosen to speak were people who have gone on to make their mark on either the National or International stage in a professional or personal capacity.

Some of this years speakers included -
Andrew Young, CEO Starship Foundation
Charles Mabbett, Asia New Zealand Foundation
Prof Jilnaught Wong, University of Auckland
Jonathan Ling, CEO Fletcher Construction
Melissa Davies, TV3 News
Mayor Meng Foon, Mayor of Gisborne
Monica Mercury, Sportsperson / Teacher
Dr Natalie Ngan, Surgeon
Dr Paul Gee, Emergency Specialist
Mayor Peter Chin, Mayor of Dunedin
Stan Chan, Artist
Warren Young, Architect

Every speaker was well received and delegates had their own favourite speakers that they were keen to talk to after each session.



In addition to the speaker sessions that are scheduled throughout the conference week, part of the LDC curriculum is to offer delegates team building activities. This year, delegates took part in completing team building challenges within a specific time period. These activities always go

down well and tends to ensure that teams work together to complete the challenges.

In summary, the extended organising team believe this years conference a success. This environment provided an opportunity for people of like-minds to meet and network and talk about their experiences growing up Chinese within a multi-cultural New Zealand.

Once again, one of the positive outcomes of this initiative has been the enthusiasm that the NZCA LDC has fuelled amongst this year's delegates to get more involved in branch and NZCA initiatives. We had a fantastic time, we've learnt a lot about each other and ourselves and how we function on a few hours of sleep each night in the months leading up to and during the conference.



On a personal note, I'd especially like to thank the Centre for supplying equipment used out on site during the week and it would be great to see more of our younger WCSCC members attend these conferences in the future as it provides a larger insight into the community and our place within it on the whole.

For more information on the next NZCA Leadership & development Conference that's being held in AKL early February 2011, please email justinekohing@paradise.net.nz

*Justine Kohing, Chairperson,
NZCA Leadership Development Conference*

Membership and Subs news

Hello, I'm Karin Won and I am the new **membership secretary**. I take over from Justine Kohing who has worked tirelessly on the WCS membership database since 2003. Thanks Justine for all those years of work. I return to the Cultural Centre, after an 18 year break from the club, having started my basketball days way back in the late seventies when the Centre was first built. I can remember going up there to putty the nail holes in the new wooden floors! I look back on those years as some of the best years of my life.

You will have received a membership subs renewal letter recently. I urge you to keep up your membership, the Centre is a great facility for all of us Wellington Chinese. We have some great basketball coaches on Sunday if you know of or have kids who may be interested in trying out the sport. Besides, I note our family membership of \$35 has not gone up in the last 8 years!

I would also like to point out that we have a dedicated subs email address - wcssubs@gmail.com should you have a membership query or want to change your contact details on our database. We are looking at putting a link onto the website soon so you can also change your contact details online. I look forward to catching up with you round the Centre.

Regards, *Karin*

Viva Las Vegas

Jah Wee Lee and Zach Young are two of the Centre's Men's Under 18 team who are also members of the Wellington U17 Hoop Club Team.

The team is competing in two tournaments in Las Vegas between 15 - 17 July and 22 - 24 July. The first tournament is a small one made up of local Las Vegas high schools, while the second has over 60 teams from all around the US competing in front of college basketball scouts. This is a fantastic opportunity for the boys with a chance to measure themselves against the best in the US.

The first tournament, the boys won their first 2 games, lost the 3rd and the Plate Final. The competition is fierce and of a high standard. Hopefully they also do as well in the second tournament.

Apparently, Sky TV is seeking damages for breach of copyright for the illegal transmittal of the 2nd All Blacks vs Springboks match over the internet from Wellington to Las Vegas.

Centre Xmas party - 28 November 2010

Just when you thought we were well clear of any Christmas celebrations, we just wanted to give you plenty of warning for our party this year! It will be held on Sunday 28th of November at the Centre, 11am. So please mark your diaries now for another fun Centre Xmas time! Its going to be loads of fun for the whole family with everyones special guy

