



屋崙華僑會所  
AUCKLAND CHINESE COMMUNITY CENTRE INC

## ACCC Newsletter April 2025

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- Golden Enterprises

# Chairman's Message



Since my last message in December, we have all enjoyed a number of important Western (Christmas and New Year) and Chinese (Chinese New Year and Chinese Lantern) festivals. I trust everyone has had many enjoyable family get-togethers over this period.

Our premiere annual Chinese New Year Festival & Market Day event was once again successfully held at the Auckland Showgrounds on Saturday, 25 January 2025. We were very lucky that the bad weather stayed away to enable us to have a record attendance at our event. Sadly, we lost a few past major sponsors but fortunately we were able to attract more major sponsors; one new major sponsor being Healthy & Fresh company owned by one of our long-term Committee Member, Peter Pan. A separate report on this event is included in this newsletter.

As the Community Trust partner of the BNZ Auckland Lantern Festival event for the first time, we were successful in obtaining over \$120,000 of grants for this event to contribute to its success. This wonderful event was enjoyed by over 200,000 people this year. Our Riddle stall located in the cultural tent at the Lantern Festival remained very popular.

Our Executive Committee has organized a number of activities that you should enjoy over the next few months and notices for these activities are included in this newsletter. These activities include the following:

- 2025 ACCC Badminton Tournament on Saturday, 12 April 2025 at Mangere Hall
- 2025 Social Mah Jong Tournament on Sunday, 27 April 2025 in the Lounge at Mangere Hall
- Identity Shift of NZ Chinese Seminar on Saturday, 10 May 2025 in the Lounge at Mangere Hall
- 2025 ACCC Golf Tournament at Redwood Park Golf Club on Saturday, 18 May 2025
- 10 Pin Bowling Event at Zone Bowling Centre, Wairau Valley on Sunday, 25 May 2025
- 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner at Lucky Fortune Restaurant on Saturday, 7 June 2025. The ACCC Academic Excellence Awards for secondary students from years 11, 12 & 13 will be presented at this dinner.

Our Building sub-Committee continues to work hard in tidying up the gardens and re-coating of the floor at Mangere Hall. This sub-Committee wishes to apologize for the length of time taken to re-coat

the floor. The cause of this delay was due to the line marking sub-contractor using paints that were not compatible with the main contractor's polyurethane coating and this led to an insurance claim followed by the redoing of the whole floor work.

The 2025 Annual General Meeting is coming up in July 2025 and it is an election AGM so we will be calling for nominations for Officer and Committee positions. We do need good community minded people to put their hands up to help manage this wonderful organization of ours. If you or you know of someone like this, please nominate them.

At this year's AGM, we will need to consider and approve our updated Constitution that has been prepared by the Executive Committee to bring it in line with the requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. After approval of this Constitution, we will be able to re-register our organization as an Incorporated Society under the new Act.

The Executive Committee is considering whether to use the financial reserve that our organization has accumulated over the years to extend our Mangere Hall facilities. The current utilization of our Mangere facilities has increased over recent years due to growth of pickleball and volleyball and is near full capacity. A successful online consultation meeting with all Mangere Hall Users was held on 18 March 2025 to determine if there is a need for this and if so, what additional facilities should be provided. This meeting confirmed that there was a need for an extension; a smaller one rather than a larger one requiring strings attached funding from the Auckland Council. The smaller extension should provide a smaller multi-purpose hall, small office, classroom/meeting room and storage space.

We wish to express our deepest condolences to the families of our Enduring members who have recently passed away and they are Mervyn Ah Chan, Percy Kai Fong and Stella Li.

I wish to express my deep appreciation to the officers and members of the Executive Committee for the time and effort they have made in organizing the many activities for members to enjoy and the management of our Mangere Hall facilities and investment properties.

I am pleased to be able to end my message by congratulating our immediate past Chairman, Kai Luey, in receiving the Companion of New Zealand Order of Merit honour for his valuable services to the Chinese and New Zealand communities. I am sure you all will agree with me that he fully deserves this great honour.

David Tai  
**Chairman**

## 會長訊息

自從我在去年 12 月發佈的最後一段消息之後，我們都經過了許多重要的西方(聖誕和新年)及中國(春節和元宵節)節日。我相信大家在這段時間都度過了許多愉快的家庭聚會。

我們一年一度的春節花市同樂日活動於 2025 年 1 月 25 日星期六在 Auckland Show Grounds 再次成功舉辦。我們非常幸運沒有遇到壞天氣影響了活動，使我們創下了活動的入場人數記錄。不幸的是，我們失去了一些過去主要的贊助商；但幸運的是，我們另有更多的主要贊助商；其中一個主要贊助商是由我們永久委員潘東傑先生的 Healthy & Fresh Company 公司。本期通訊中包含了關於這次活動的單獨報告。

作為 BNZ 奧克蘭燈節活動的社區信托合作伙伴，我們首次成功獲得了超過\$120,000 元的資助，為活動的成功做出了貢獻。今年有超過 20 萬人享受了這一精彩的活動。我們的猜燈謎攤位在文化帳篷也非常受歡迎。

我們的執行委員會在接下來的幾個月裏組織了許多活動，您們都應該會喜歡，這些活動的通知包含在本期通訊中。這些活動包括：

- 2025 年 ACCC 羽毛球錦標賽，4 月 12 日星期六在 Mangere Bridge 運動場舉行。
- 2025 年社交麻將比賽，4 月 27 日星期日在 Mangere Bridge Lounge 舉行。
- 新西蘭華人身份轉變研討會，2025 年 5 月 10 日星期六在 Mangere Bridge Lounge 舉行。
- 2025 年 ACCC 高爾夫球錦標賽，5 月 18 日星期六在 Redwood Park 高爾夫俱樂部舉行。
- 10 瓶保齡球活動，2025 年 5 月 25 日星期日在 Wairau Valley, Zone Bowling Center 舉行。  
65 周年晚宴，2025 年 6 月 7 日星期六在喜運來酒樓舉行。ACCC 學術卓越獎將頒發給 11,12, 及 13 年級的中學生。

我們的物業管理小組會繼續努力整理 Mangere Hall 的花園並重新油漆運動場地板。該小組委員會對油漆地板所花的時間表示歉意。延誤的原因是由於劃線分包商使用的油漆與主要承包商的塗層不兼容。導致保險索賠並重新進行整個地板工作。

2025 年年度會員週年大會將於 2025 年 7 月舉行，這是一次選舉委員大會，因此我們呼籲提名辦公人員及委員會委員。我們需要有良好社區意識的人來幫助管理我們這個美好的組織。如果你或你認識這樣的人，請提名他們。

在今年會員週年大會上，我們需要考慮並批准由執行委員會準備的更新後的章程，以使其符合 2022 年(注冊社團法)的要求。批准此章程後，我們將能夠根據新法例重新注冊我們的組織為注冊社團。

執行委員會正在考慮是否使用我們組織多年來積累的財務儲備來擴展我們 Mangere Hall 設施。近年來，由於 Pickleball 和排球的增長，我們的 Mangere Hall 設施的利用率接近滿負荷。2025 年 3 月 18 日，我們與所有 Mangere Hall 用戶舉行了一次成功的在線諮詢會議，以確定是否有必要進行擴展，如果有，應該提供那些額外設施。會議確認需要進行擴展；一個較小的擴展，而不是需要奧克蘭市議會附帶條件資金的大型擴展。較小的擴展是提供一個較小的多功能廳，小辦公室，教室/會議室和儲存空間。

我們對最近去世的永久會員家屬表示深切的哀悼，他們是 Mervyn Ah Chan, Percy Kai Fong 和 Stella Li .

我想對執行委員會的議員和委員表示深深感謝，感謝他們為組織安排許多活動和管理我們的 Mangere Hall 設施同投資物業所付出的時間和努力。

我很高興祝賀我們剛卸任的主席 Kai Luey 獲得 Companion of New Zealand Order of Merit，感謝他對華人和新西蘭社區的寶貴服務。我想信大家都會同意他完全值得這一偉大的榮譽。

屋崙華僑會所會長  
戴榮都

# **MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR APRIL 2025**

We are now into the second quarter of 2025 already, and many, but not all annual Individual and Family Members, have renewed for the year. Enduring or Life Members do not need to pay annual fees for the calendar year. For those who have not done so yet, please fill out the online membership form and pay the appropriate subscription amount into the ACCC account detailed at the bottom of the form.

Any member wanting to notify us of changes in contact details can also use the form for that reason. It is also helpful when using the form to ensure your details are easy to read, and bank payments are tagged with 'membership' and provide your membership number. The online form is available on the ACCC website (<https://www.aucklandchinese.nz/membership/>).

As ACCC communications are digital now, it is essential that an email address is provided to avoid missing out on news, events and activities that are happening. Note that because of changes and the coming and going of internet service providers some email addresses no longer work. Also, because of some email management programs, such as the Mailchimp program used by ACCC, multiple uses of a single email address (such as when Family members share), it is tricky to communicate or send out notices to everyone or you may get several copies to your inbox.

ACCC membership in the last year continued to grow significantly. At the end of 2024 there were 2344 members (Family 734, Individual 445, Associate 54, Enduring 1111). The same categories at the end of 2023 were: Family 423, Individual 243, Associate 31, Enduring 1130, a total of 1827. The growth is no doubt due to the availability of our facility in Mangere Bridge and the many activities that are organised by the Executive Committee. The membership subscription has to be the best value for money and in some cases the investment is paid back in attending one of our often subsidised events.

# KAI LUEY

## COMPANION OF THE NZ ORDER OF MERIT



Kai-Shek Luey QSM was recognised in the 2025 New Years Honours List by receiving the Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZM). Kai has been a leader and stalwart voice within the Chinese community and has been instrumental in forging the strategic relationships between mainstream New Zealand and Asian ethnic groups. Since Kai's retirement in 1999 from a successful corporate career here in New Zealand, Australia and other countries within Southeast Asia – Kai has dedicated the past 25 years in integrating Chinese community initiatives into the multiethnic tapestry of New Zealand society.

### **Auckland Chinese Community Centre (ACCC)**

Kai was active as ACCC Chair from 2013 to 2023 and throughout this period and prior has led the annual ACCC Chinese New Year Festival and Market Day – held at the Auckland Showgrounds. This iconic Chinese New Year celebration brings in over 20,000 attendees Auckland region wide and showcases the important Asian celebration to all New Zealanders and ethnicities. The end-to-end planning reflects again Kai's passion and dedication to harness a team of volunteers to come together and put on this large event of Asian food stalls, concerts and cultural activity.

Each opening ceremony over the years has been attended by Prime Ministers, Mayors of Auckland, distinguished business leaders and other cultural office holders. This is in no small part to Kai's contacts across the community and apolitical spectrum.

There have been several other key projects that Kai has led including the recent refurbishment of the Mangere Hall and the addition of a much-utilised members' lounge. The building contract began in April 2016 and was successfully completed in February 2017. Again, the foresight and leadership of Kai ensured the physical construction work and community funding was generated and coordinated.

### **Recognition of Kai Luey's contribution across all Chinese networks**

It is appropriate that we acknowledge all of Kai's involvement across the sectors of our community and why the CNZM is deserved.

## **NZ Chinese Association**

Kai Luey served as National President of NZ Chinese Association from 2005 to 2008. Thereafter, Kai focussed his community contributions through NZ Chinese Association Auckland Branch – as Chairman through to 2014. During the latter period several key initiatives were launched under his leadership: -

- **Going Bananas conferences** (2006, 2007, 2009, 2014) brought together a cross section of Chinese keynote speakers and achievers in fields of business, arts and culture, history, language and recreation. Kai over the years has extended his network to academics, historians, Asian holders of public office – to celebrate their stories and profile to the next generation of NZ Chinese – pride in their heritage. The planning and commitment to these conferences reflected Kai's ideals and dedication to push the profile of NZ Chinese into a forum of recognition within NZ society.
- **Leadership Development Conference (LDC) and Youth Leadership Camps (YLC)** were also programmes that Kai led from the front – by opening up forums for the younger Chinese to have voice and identify with their Chinese heritage and culture. Based on the models within Rotary – Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) and Rotary Youth Programme of Enrichment (RYPEN) – Kai encouraged young Chinese nationwide to attend the various camps and embrace their Chinese culture with traditional Lion Dance learning, calligraphy and listening to keynote speakers like Meng Foon (then Mayor of Gisborne) and Mai Chen (constitutional lawyer). Both LDC and YLC have been running over 17 years now.
- **China-Guangdong relationship** – Kai has always enthusiastically maintained good relations with the Guangdong Chinese Affairs Office. This has resulted in several 'Winter Camps' which comprised young NZ Chinese travellers heading to Guangzhou for three weeks to reacquaint themselves with heritage and visit the village of the grandparents/forefathers. Kai has always encouraged the need for young Chinese to return to China and connect with their culture and identity. There have also been other GCAO exchange visits between the two countries and Kai has actively worked as facilitator.

## **Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust**

Kai has served as a Trustee for two discrete terms on the Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust; with one term as Chairperson. Kai's business and community acumen was important to bring balance to the assessment of strategic initiatives including the research and publishing of major books of record including "Turning Stone into Jade" – the history of the NZ Chinese Association and the "Sons of the Soil" – the history of Chinese market gardeners.

## **Rotary Club of Auckland Harbourside**

Kai was President of the Rotary Club of Auckland Harbourside during 2002/2003 and during that term carried on the traditional fundraisers of Chinese New Year and Diwali raising monies for a variety of causes. More recently a Chinese New Year fundraiser under Kai's project management raised funds for a new St John Ambulance for rural services.

Again, Kai has profiled the diversity of Rotary, in particular with the Harbourside Club having Chinese, Indian, Pacific Island and European membership. And with Kai's ability to invite an array of guest speakers to the club across business, local & central government, arts and culture – the speakers themselves take away a beneficial exposure to the ethnic mix which is Rotary and New Zealand generally.

## Collaboration and mentoring

Kai has been unselfish in his mentoring of the younger committee members. Many of us have willingly worked alongside Kai across all the abovementioned organizations and we have found his style of management and mentoring to be collaborative and well intentioned. We have admired Kai's determination to launch a project and see it through to completion – but also his ability to rally support with his enthusiasm and a drive to help the wider Chinese community.

We are also in admiration of Kai's wife Rose Luey – who has stood by him patiently and with great support – during his continued legacy of work for the wider NZ Chinese community. Kai has enlivened the main objectives of the Chinese community – to be proud of our heritage and build a generational pathway for our Asian/Aotearoa relationships.



# **NOTICE OF 2025 AGM**

## **ACCC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE MEMBERS LOUNGE, MANGERE HALL, 99 TAYLOR ROAD, MANGERE BRIDGE, AUCKLAND AT 2 PM ON SUNDAY 27 JULY 2025**

All financial members are cordially invited to attend our 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM). This AGM will include the election of Committee Officers and Members. These elections occur only once every two years. Our organisation encourages financial members who are willing to offer their time for the betterment of the ACCC to put their name forward for election to these positions.

The Agenda is as follows:

1. Chair's Welcome
2. Confirm that the financial members present exceed the meeting quorum – 16 financial members personally present.
3. Apologies
4. Confirmation of Minutes for the 2024 Annual General Meeting.
5. Receive and approve the Chair's Annual Report for the 2024-25 year.
6. Receive the audited Annual Financial Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025.
7. Election of the following Committee Officers and Members:
  - i. Chair
  - ii. 2 x Deputy Chairs
  - iii. Secretary
  - iv. Secretary (Chinese Language)
  - v. Treasurer
  - vi. 15 – 19 other Committee Members
8. Setting of Membership Fees for Calendar Year 2026.
9. Appointment of Auditor for the financial year ending 31 March 2026.
10. Approval of the updated Constitution for ACCC to meet the requirements of re-registration under The Incorporated Societies Act 2022.
11. General Business
12. Refreshments

Nominations of financial members for election to the Officer and Committee member positions are being sought. The Nomination Form contained in this newsletter must be completed by Nominators for each of their Nominees and **all completed forms must be in the hands of the Secretary before 5pm on 30 June 2025.**

Completed forms can be posted to the organisation's post box detailed on the top of the Nomination Form or emailed to the Secretary at [lesyoung25@gmail.com](mailto:lesyoung25@gmail.com).

**Leslie Young  
Secretary**



屋 嶺 華 僑 會 報

Auckland Chinese Community Centre Inc

99 Taylor Road, Mangere Bridge  
P.O. Box 1747, Auckland 1140  
Tel: 09 634 5671  
[www.aucklandchinese.org.nz](http://www.aucklandchinese.org.nz)

## Nomination Form for Officers and Committee Members

**Name of Nominee:**

**Address:**

**Financial Member on 30 June:**

Yes

No

**Signature:**

**Nominated Position:**

Chair (x 1)
Secretary (x 1)
Treasurer (x 1)

Deputy Chair (x 2)
Secretary – Chinese Language (x1)
Committee Member (x 15 – 19)

**Nominated by:**

**Name of Nominator:**

**Address:**

**Financial Member on 30 June:**

Yes  No

**Signature:**

**Name of the Nominator:**

**Address:**

**Financial Member on 30 June:**

Yes  No

**Signature:**

\*Only financial members can be nominated or be a nominators.

\*All new nominees must include their biographic notes with the application.



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Auckland Chinese Community Centre Inc

2025

# 屋仑杯羽毛球赛

*ACCC Badminton Tournament*



Men's, Women's Singles,  
Men's, Women's & Mixed Doubles

日期 Date: 12 April 2025    时间 Time: 9:00 AM

地址 Venue: 99 Taylor Road, Mangere Bridge

费用 Fee: ACCC会员免费, 非会员\$10  
ACCC members are free, non members are \$10

报名 Register: [director@asiaworks.co.nz](mailto:director@asiaworks.co.nz)  
[www.aucklandchinese.nz](http://www.aucklandchinese.nz)

**Sponsors:**

**asia**works



**Media Support:**



# **Identity Shift of the NZ Chinese Seminar**



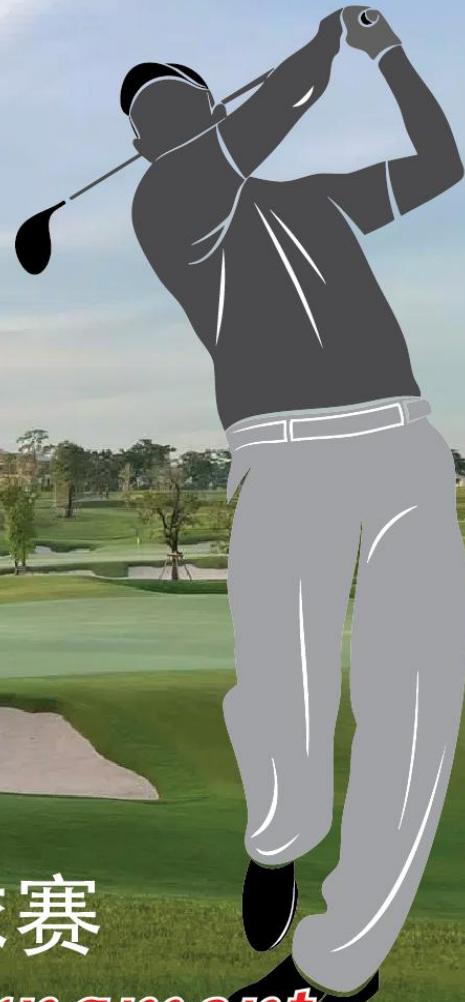
**Talk by Professor Zhiyue Bo  
at Members Lounge, Mangere Hall  
from 2pm to 5 pm on 10 May 2025**

**FREE ENTRY**

**RSVP for Catering Purposes to  
Kai Luey at email [kailuey@gmail.com](mailto:kailuey@gmail.com) or phone 021 333 125**



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Auckland Chinese Community Centre Inc



# 屋仑杯高尔夫球赛 *ACCC Golf Tournament*

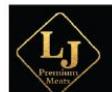
**Sunday 18 May 2025**

**地址** Venue: Redwood Park Golf Club,  
13 Knox Rd., Swanson, Auckland

**费用** Fee: ACCC members \$70, non members are \$80

**报名** Register: [www.aucklandchinese.nz](http://www.aucklandchinese.nz)  
Contact: Virginia Chong, [virginia.chong29@gmail.com](mailto:virginia.chong29@gmail.com) / 021 982 726

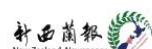
Premium Sponsor: **JARDEN WEALTH** Sponsors:



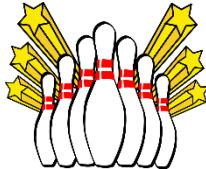
**asia works**



Media Support:



# **ACCC**



## **10-PIN BOWLING**



**Members and their family are invited to enjoy an afternoon of 10 Pin Bowling  
at**

**Zone Bowling Centre**

**10 TARGET COURT, WAIRAU VALLEY, GLENFIELD, NORTH SHORE**

**Sunday, 25 May 2025**

**1.30 pm for 2.00 start of games**

**\$15 PER PLAYER FOR SHOE HIRE, 2 GAMES AND REFRESHMENTS**

**RSVP ESSENTIAL BEFORE 18 MAY 2025 TO**

**Harry Wong Kam**

**jennakam@xtra.co.nz**

**021 922 397**

**LAST YEAR'S EVENT WAS OVER SUBSCRIBED SO DO NOT DELAY**

**LIMITED TO 48 PLAYERS**



# 星 岛 華 僑 會 所

Auckland Chinese Community Centre Inc

## 周年 *65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner* 周年

Lucky Fortune Restaurant

532 - 536 Mount Albert Road, Three Kings

Saturday, June 7, 2025 at 6:00 PM (BYOW)

\$45.00 per person (Table of 12 - \$540.00)



For bookings, please contact - Connie Kum mob: 022 184-1925 or email: [cojay@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cojay@xtra.co.nz)

Kai Luey mob: 021 333 125 or email: [kailuey@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kailuey@xtra.co.nz)

Online Banking to ANZ *Bank account name: ACCC Inc. Bank account number 06-0101-0300774-02 with reference: first name and surname*

**BOOK AND PAY AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID MISSING OUT**  
**\*LIMITED TABLES AVAILABLE\***  
**[LATE BOOKINGS WILL BE WAIT-LISTED]**

# ACCC New Year's Eve Dance Report



The ACCC New Year's Eve Dance Party at the Mangere Hall was another hit with over 200 people attending. It was a great evening with everyone enjoying themselves right up to the Balloon Drop at midnight!



We introduced a new band this year and they proved very popular, playing a mix of Ballroom, Latin and Dance Floor Classics and with Cecil Wong teaching a new line dance they had everyone up on the floor.



New fairy lights this year added to the party atmosphere and Supper was provided thanks to the hard working ACCC Dance Committee and the ACCC Catering team.

**The ACCC Dance Committee with the band:**



Report by Les Young, Photos thanks to George Gin

# 2025 ACCC CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL & MARKET DAY EVENT REPORT



The 2025 ACCC Chinese New Year Festival and Market Day event was held with great success at the Auckland Showgrounds on 25 January 2025 to welcome the Chinese New Year, the Year of the Wood Snake.

The Official Opening of the event began at 10am with the Prime Minister (Rt Hon. Chris Luxon), Ambassador (Dr Wang Xiaolong) and Consul General (Chen Shijie) of the Peoples' Republic of China, Mayor of Auckland (Wayne Brown) and the Deputy of the Leader of the Labour Party (Hon. Carmel Sepuloni) dotting the eyes of five Lions before the lions danced and then led the guests into the indoor concert hall for formal speeches. Major Sponsors presentation of ceremonial cheques to ACCC Executive Officers followed. The Official Opening ended after three cultural performance items.

The event was a great financial success for ACCC. This success has been mainly attributable to the support from our co-host Channel 33, our loyal major sponsors, such as Multimedia, Tiger Brokers, Barfoot & Thompson, ANZ Bank, Legendary Homes and Fresher Futures plus many new major sponsors such as Healthy & Fresh, Oriental Merchants (NZ) Ltd and New Zealand Chinese Business Club. ACCC wishes to express their sincere thanks to all these sponsors and other minor sponsors, stallholders, and valuable hard-working volunteers who have made this 2025 event such a great success.

All the sponsors and stallholders were very happy with this year's event and many have expressed their wish to participate in the 2026 event. ACCC has pencil booked the Auckland Showgrounds on Saturday, 14 February 2026 for its 2025 Chinese New Festival event.



## **AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY YUM CHAR REPORT**



The annual ACCC Auckland Anniversary Yum Char was held on 27 January 2025 at the Cypress Restaurant, 296 Dominion Road, Mt Eden from 10am to 11.30am.

It was an Auckland Chinese Community Centre subsidised event priced at \$10 per person for their Enduring and Financial Members. Despite it being a long weekend with many still on holiday and prior to the Chinese New Year it was still well attended with a full house of 25 tables (300 people) and needing to occupy the side room of two additional tables (a "Private Party").

It is becoming a very popular event for the 'elderly' who otherwise would not be at a table partaking of so many different selections of dumplings, rice rolls, chicken feet, custard tart, sesame balls, turnip cake, fried rice, noodles etc. An amazing selection for \$10??? And 'doggie bags' for those unable to consume all at 11 am in the morning.



# **ACCC Brings Tradition to Life at the Lantern Festival as a Proud Community Partner**



The Lantern Festival in the Year of the Snake, held from 13-16 February at Manukau Sports Bowl, was a resounding success, drawing a diverse crowd of locals, ethnic groups, new arrivals, and tourists. With a registered entrance, free public transport, and shuttle services, the event provided an opportunity for Aucklanders from all walks of life to come together in celebration of Chinese culture.

As a longstanding participant, the Auckland Chinese Community Centre (ACCC) played a central role in this year's festivities, proudly partnering with Auckland Unlimited as a community partner. Since the festival's debut in 2000, the Year of the Dragon, ACCC has been a familiar and beloved presence, and in 2025, this partnership grew even stronger.

One of the highlights of the ACCC's contribution was the riddle booth, which provided the traditional Chinese fun game, recognized as the sole provider of lantern riddles at the event. Offering riddles in both Chinese and English, the booth drew in participants of all ages, ensuring that the ancient custom of solving riddles was accessible to a wide audience.



A particularly touching moment came when a Chinese participant in his 70s shared his memories of solving riddles at the market back in China, a cherished tradition that has become less common in recent years. He expressed his deep gratitude to ACCC for preserving this practice and bringing it

to Auckland, allowing new generations to experience the joy and challenge of lantern riddles.



This event was a true community effort, and we want to extend a huge thank you to all the volunteers whose hard work and dedication made the four-day festival a success. Their commitment was instrumental in creating an unforgettable experience for all attendees. The ACCC is incredibly proud to have partnered with Auckland Unlimited to help keep this wonderful cultural tradition alive, and we look forward to continuing to bring the community together in future celebrations.

Ling Ling Liang



# 2025 SOCIAL MAH JONG TOURNAMENTS



The 1<sup>st</sup> Social Mah Jong Tournament for 2025 was held on Sunday, 23 February with a full complement of 48 players and a wait list. An enjoyable day was had by all participants with the winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Jeanie Stewart / Maggie Poon
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Norman Ah Nam
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Alexander Wong

Many thanks to the administrators Cathrine Ming and Keith Wong and to Bonnie Lynch and her volunteers for an excellent afternoon tea, dinner and supper. In addition, a note of appreciation to Peter Pan for supplying the vegetables and Sam Gin for the supplying the melons.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Social Mah Jong Tournament is scheduled for Sunday, 27 April and we already have a full list of 48 registered players but we are still taking names for the waitlist in case of withdrawals.





## ACCC Sports Club Update

*Paige Young, ACCC Sports Club President*

After a fantastic finish to 2024, we've hit the ground running in 2025!

Our **Christmas Party** was a huge success, featuring our **Junior Basketball Prize Giving**, a delicious potluck, and fun games that brought everyone together to celebrate our community.



We also kicked off the new year with an exciting **Waitangi Tennis Tournament** at Windmill Park, where 26 players showcased their skills in a weekend full of fierce competition and great sportsmanship.

We're thrilled that we can restart our weekly basketball sessions in Term 2, and bring in more events to our members.

Stay tuned for more updates on upcoming events and be sure to follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram** to keep up with all the action. We can't wait to see you at our next event!

# **SENIOR LIFESTYLE GROUP OUTINGS**

## **HOBBITON MOVIE SET - MATAMATA**

**4 DECEMBER 2024**



On a brilliant 24C degree sunny day, 41 keen adventurers coached to the shire of Hobbiton in Matamata. This twelve Acre film set is located on the 1250 acre sheep and beef farm of the Alexander family who owns Hobbiton film set along with Warner Brothers, and Sir Peter Jackson.



Hobbiton film set is now listed in the 1 percent of most desirable places to visit on this planet. It is the 3rd most visited attraction in NZ. On our day, we were a walking group of 41 people out of 2,500 who visited. The Shire is the filming location of Tolkien's famous The Lord of the Rings film trilogies and the Hobbit Trilogies. The walking path went past hobbit holes with colourful doors and gardens, and past the lake and the Mill house. Our guide Sam showed us intricate detailing, pointed out famous locations, and explained how the movie magic was made.



The most thrilling portion of this journey was a new attraction completed in 2023 - the internal replica of a Hobbit House. We entered through a front red door ducking our heads. Hobbits are about 3ft 6 inches tall! It was fully furnished in Hobbit size furnishings, cooking and eating utensils, tables and chairs, beds. All to scale. Just like in the first Lord of the Rings movie where Bilbo Baggins was being enticed to go on an unexpected adventure.



We indulged in exclusively brewed beverages at the Green Dragon Inn to conclude our Middle-Earth adventure. This was a stunning outing with 100% enjoyment thumbs up by everyone. Hobbiton is a photographer's delight.

Janet Lowe



Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust  
華人頭稅歷史遺產信託委員會

## STARCH WORK BY EXPERTS: CHINESE LAUNDRIES IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

### Starch Work by Experts

*Chinese Laundries in Aotearoa New Zealand*

專業漿洗 紐西蘭/長白雲之鄉的華人洗衣房

Joanna Boileau



Chinese laundries first opened in the 1880s and were an integral part of New Zealand's social fabric until at least the 1950s. How did they develop in towns from Southland to the far north before slowly disappearing after the 1940s? Who ran them and how did they fit into their communities? *Starch Work by Experts: Chinese Laundries in Aotearoa New Zealand* tells the story of the laundrymen, laundrywomen, their families and customers.

Hand laundries were one of four main occupations for early Chinese settlers, along with mining, market gardening and storekeeping. They provided a low-cost stepping stone to a new life through hard work, skill and long hours. This book counters the stereotype of Chinese laundry work as menial and unskilled. While Chinese laundries were humble establishments, Chinese laundrymen (and women) were experts in starching, particularly men's shirts and detachable collars.

Blending documentary research, personal stories and fascinating images, *Starch Work by Experts* goes beyond the grille to step inside the world of steaming coppers, hissing irons and perfectly starched collars.

**Dr Joanna Boileau** is an historian specialising in the history of the Chinese in New Zealand and Australia. Her most recent book *Chinese Market Gardening in Australia and New Zealand: Gardens of Prosperity* was published by Palgrave MacMillan in 2017.

\* \* \* \* \*

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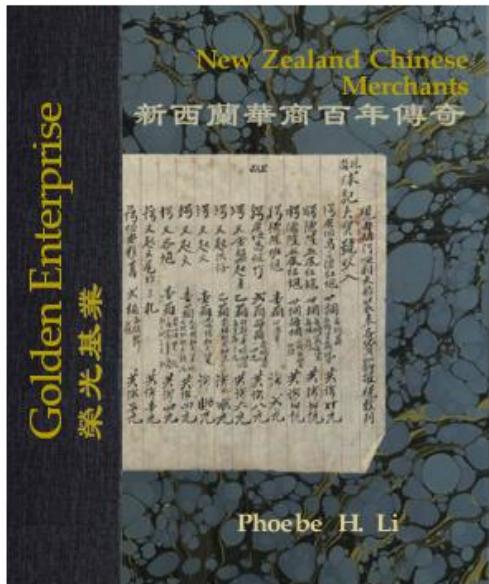
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Cantonese merchants facilitated early Chinese immigration to New Zealand and their social and business networks laid the foundation of the Chinese community in the South Pacific. Zooming in on these merchants' dynamic roles in the making of Chinese New Zealanders through a lens of New Zealand's changing relationships with China, Britain and beyond, this book commissioned by the [Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust](#) revisits New Zealand Chinese history from the 1860s to the 1970s.

*Check out the [Golden Enterprise](#) website for more information*

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*About the author* – Dr. Phoebe H. Li was the principal curator for the popular photographic exhibition *Being Chinese in Aotearoa*, which was held at the Overseas Chinese History Museum of China in Beijing, the Auckland War Memorial Museum, the Waitangi Treaty Ground Museum and the New Zealand Portrait Gallery between 2017 and 2020. She has also published *A Virtual Chinatown: The Diasporic Mediasphere of Chinese Migrants in New Zealand* (2013), *Recollections of a Distant Shore: New Zealand Chinese in Historical Images* (2017, co-authored with J. B. Turner), and some research articles.

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