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NZCA Waikato

SEP 2025 NEWSLETTER

47 Lewis Street
Glenview, Hamilton

Committee Profile



Paul Chin, President



Sid Lim, Patron and IPP



Fee Ching Tan, Vice President



Janet Young-Chin, Secretary/VP Admin



Jonathan Tan, Treasurer/VP Finance



Kewwa Low, VP Property



Anne Lee, VP Cultural



Linda Tai, Committee



Jeanie Holland, VP IT



Cameron Joe, VP Youth



Janet Leong, VP Corporate

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2025/2026

Here's what's coming up for Waikato Chinese Association members! Mark your calendars and register your interest early.

Welcoming Communities

Location: Claudelands Events Centre, Hamilton – Manaaki Village

Date: Saturday 6 September 2025

Join us for this community-led event celebrating connection and belonging.



Mid-Autumn Festival – Mooncake High Tea

Date: Saturday 13 September 2025

Time: 1:30pm-4.30pm

Celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival with a mooncake-making demo, high tea, and a friendly mahjong competition!

Cost: Free for WCA members and first-time guests; \$12 for others

Bring: A sweet or savoury plate to contribute to the afternoon tea

Mahjong Competition: Register to play! Scores will be tallied each round – the player with the highest total wins a prize.

WCA Festive End-of-Year Fusion BBQ

Date: Saturday 6 December 2025 (TBC)

A fun, family-friendly BBQ with festive games and the return of our much-loved Secret Santa.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2025/2026

ACC Chinese Market Day Festival – Auckland Trip

Date: Saturday 14 February 2026

We're planning a day trip or overnight visit to Auckland to enjoy the vibrant Market Day – a great event for all ages!



WCA Chinese New Year – Year of the Horse

Date: Saturday 21 February 2026 (TBC)

Celebrate the Lunar New Year with food, performances, and community spirit!

NZCA Sports & Cultural Tournament – Auckland

Dates: 3–6 April 2026

The 2026 Easter Tournament will be held in Auckland – just a short commute for Waikato members!

It's more than sports – join in for:

Generations Dinner

Cultural Concert

A chance to connect with Chinese communities from around NZ

Interested in playing a sport?

We're forming social teams – no experience needed!

Sports may include:

Touch Rugby
Futsal
Indoor Netball
Badminton
Basketball
Relay Races

Let us know which sport you'd like to join!



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As I write this report, the air conditioning units are being installed in both our hall and conference room.

The 2025 AGM NZCA Waikato report below covers the period from May 2024 to May 2025. Since May, the committee has met and re-elected officers to their incumbent positions. We have also discussed several upcoming matters, including events planned for 2025 and 2026, the need to review our hall hire rates, and updates to the constitution to ensure compliance with new regulations.

At the recent NZCA Conference in July, I was re-elected as National President. Established in 1935, the New Zealand Chinese Association also celebrated its 90th anniversary with a sumptuous banquet.

Heartfelt thanks for your continued support of both me and the Association. I look forward to connecting with you at one of our upcoming events.

Paul

August 2025

New Zealand Chinese Association – Waikato Branch President's Report for the Annual General Meeting Saturday, 24 May 2025

I present this report as President of the New Zealand Chinese Association (NZCA) Waikato Branch, while concurrently serving as the National President of NZCA. The past year has been marked by significant achievements and collaborative efforts that have strengthened our community both regionally and nationally.

Waikato Branch Highlights

1. (Voice) Engagement and Cultural Celebrations

Chinese New Year 2025: In February, we hosted the Lunar New Year celebrations at our hall, extending invitations to council representatives, including the Mayor and Councillors, to express our gratitude for the new 15-year hall lease. The event featured a traditional "salad toss," symbolizing prosperity for all attendees.

Golden Age Celebration: Also in February, we honored our senior members, acknowledging their invaluable contributions to the community.

Engagement with TANI: In August 2024, we met with The Asian Network Incorporated (TANI) to explore collaborative opportunities aimed at supporting the Asian community within the Waikato region.

2. (Sustainability) Initiatives

NZCA National Academic Awards: Continuing our commitment to education, I chaired the NZCA National Academic Awards. Notably, Waikato's own Alexander Mayo received a well-deserved scholarship in 2024. The awards process was streamlined through a digital application system, encouraging greater youth participation.

3. Cultural (Heritage) Preservation

Mid-Autumn Festival: In September 2024, we celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival with a Mooncake High Tea with community members, emphasizing cultural heritage and unity.

Manaaki Village Event: Also in September, we collaborated with the China Friendship Society to promote cultural exchange through the Manaaki Village event.

4. (Community) Activities

Culinary Exploration Trip: In October 2024, we organized a "Foodies Train Trip" to Auckland, fostering camaraderie among members through a shared culinary experience.

End-of-Year Lunch : In December 2024, our community celebrated the end of year with Secret Santa and festive activities

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

National Contributions

1. Leadership and Representation (Voice)

National Presidency (Voice): In June 2024, I was elected as the National President of NZCA, succeeding Jenny Too.

New Zealand China Council: (Voice) In August 2024, I was appointed as an ex officio member, facilitating stronger bilateral relations.

MBIE's RGB Group: (Voice) In July 2024, I participated in discussions aimed at enhancing government engagement with ethnic communities, particularly concerning immigration and visitor initiatives, including visa and resident applications.

2. Cultural and Community Engagement

'Fortune' Exhibition (Heritage): In August 2024, I attended the opening of Bev Moon's 'Fortune' exhibition, honoring Chinese heritage.

Asia Wellbeing Summit: (community) Also in August, I engaged in dialogues addressing mental health within Asian communities.

85th Refugees Dinner: (Heritage) In October 2024, I represented NZCA, acknowledging the resilience and contributions of refugees.

Lunar New Year at Parliament: (Voice) In February 2025, I addressed guests, including the Prime Minister, celebrating cultural diversity.

Chinese Embassy New Year Function (Voice): Also in February, I participated in festivities aimed at strengthening diplomatic ties.

Easter Tournament:(Sustainability) In April 2025, I delivered the opening and closing addresses in Otago and assisted in organizing the first E-Bike social event.

Youth Development Programs: (Sustainability) My support for the NZCA Youth Leadership Camp (YLC) and Leadership Development Camp (LDC) remains unwavering. I attended both camps in January and February 2025, welcoming delegates and promoting leadership skills and cultural awareness among young Chinese New Zealanders.

3. Strategic Meetings and Collaborations

National Executive Meetings: (Community) I chaired sessions in August and November 2024, and March 2025, steering NZCA's strategic direction.

Meeting with Race Relations Commissioner: (Community) In April 2025, I engaged in discussions with Dr. Melissa Derby on promoting racial harmony and understanding. She has been invited as a guest speaker at our upcoming conference in July.

Meetings with Chinese Officials: (Heritage) In April 2025, I met with Chinese Foreign Affairs Minister Madam Chen to discuss bilateral relations and community welfare. Subsequently, in May 2025, I met with Chinese Ambassador Dr. Wang to strengthen diplomatic relationships and community support.

4. Upcoming Initiatives

National Conference: (Community & Sustainability) I am leading preparations for the NZCA National Conference scheduled for July 2025, aiming to unite members nationwide under the theme of self-care and well-being within our community.

In conclusion, the past year has been one of growth, engagement, and strengthened relationships. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all members, volunteers, and partners who have contributed to our successes. Your dedication and support are the pillars of our thriving community.

Paul Chin

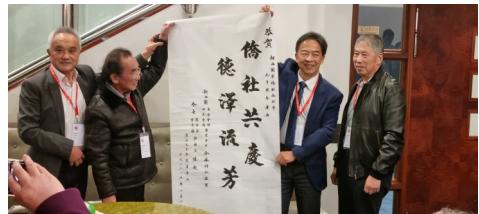
PAST EVENTS

2025 NZCA Conference – July 2025

The 2025 NZCA Conference was a significant and memorable occasion, commemorating the 90th anniversary of the New Zealand Chinese Association, which was founded in 1935. This milestone event brought together members and supporters from across the country to honour the Association's rich history and enduring contribution to New Zealand's Chinese community.

Highlights included a Saturday evening Chinese banquet, where guests enjoyed traditional dishes in a festive and elegant setting. A special presentation of commemorative scroll by the Sey Yip, Tung Jung and Pooh Fah Societies added a ceremonial and cultural significance to the evening. The night was further enriched by a heartfelt keynote speech delivered by Esther Fung, a respected senior NZCA member, who reflected on the Association's legacy and its continuing relevance in today's society.

The conference theme, "Health and Wellbeing Within Our Community," framed a series of talks and workshops focused on physical, mental, and social wellness. It reinforced the importance of community care and connection, especially in times of social and generational change, unity, and intergenerational participation.



Conference Reflections by Fee-Ching Tan, Waikato Branch Vice-President

My previous attendance at a few NZCA Conferences must have been about 20 years ago.

At the 2025 Conference, I experienced a lot of changes for the better. That was a truly well-organised and well managed event from start to finish. A lot of thoughts put into the planning and coordination. Having a competent conference facilitator, Ms. Doris Siew Hoy had enabled the Conference to run smoothly and create an interactive environment. She had set the scene with her keynote presentation as well as getting the attendees to engage with each other. All the speakers were inspiring and thought-provoking. The venue (near the airport), technology and support staff were great. There was a greater gender balance and a lot more younger attendees. We had opportunities to connect with other attendees for discussions, idea-sharing and foster relationships. The Conference dinner was delicious, enjoyable and memorable. All in all, that was a professionally-run conference. I truly enjoyed this Conference and am thankful for the opportunity to attend this 90th Anniversary Conference as I took away great experiences, new knowledge, learning, made new contacts, and not forgetting the set of commemorative 90th anniversary chopsticks !



PAST EVENTS

NZCA Waikato AGM and Dragon Boat Festival Lunch

This combined event offered a unique blend of governance, cultural celebration, and community building. Alongside the formalities of the Annual General Meeting, the gathering welcomed guest speakers from the Asian Network, who spoke on key services and support available for our local Chinese community—ranging from health resources to social integration initiatives.

The Dragon Boat Festival was celebrated with a delicious lunch featuring the traditional joong/zong zi (sticky rice dumplings), made and shared with care. The cultural symbolism of this dish offered a meaningful link to heritage and tradition, while also fostering a sense of togetherness and continuity.



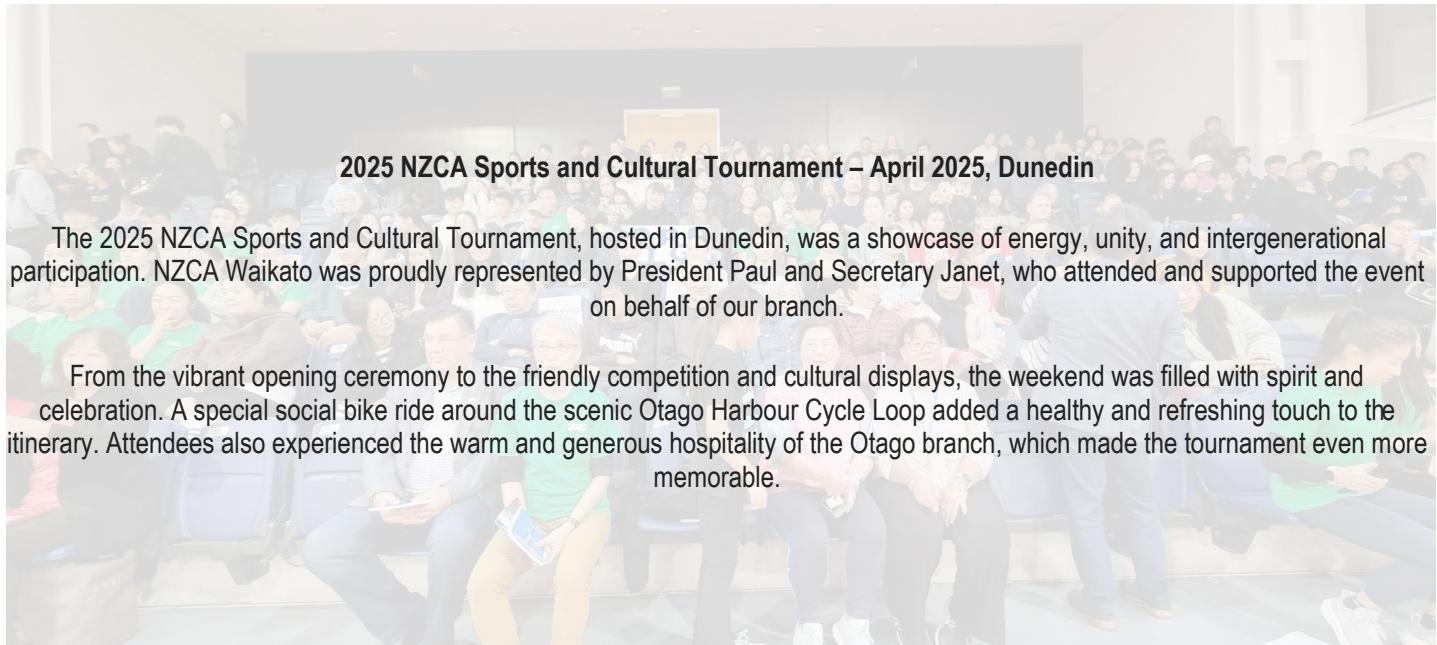
Social Saturdays – Now Up and Running

Launched this year, Social Saturdays are now held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM, and they've quickly become a highlight on the NZCA Waikato calendar.

These informal, drop-in style gatherings provide a welcoming space for members to relax, connect, and have fun. Mahjong has become the game of choice, but there's also room for other board and card games. . Whether you're playing, observing, or just having a chat over tea, Social Saturdays have created a warm and inclusive environment that continues to grow in popularity.



PAST EVENTS



2025 NZCA Sports and Cultural Tournament – April 2025, Dunedin

The 2025 NZCA Sports and Cultural Tournament, hosted in Dunedin, was a showcase of energy, unity, and intergenerational participation. NZCA Waikato was proudly represented by President Paul and Secretary Janet, who attended and supported the event on behalf of our branch.

From the vibrant opening ceremony to the friendly competition and cultural displays, the weekend was filled with spirit and celebration. A special social bike ride around the scenic Otago Harbour Cycle Loop added a healthy and refreshing touch to the itinerary. Attendees also experienced the warm and generous hospitality of the Otago branch, which made the tournament even more memorable.



2025 Chinese New Year – Year of the Snake

Our 2025 Chinese New Year celebration welcomed the Year of the Snake with joy, colour, and a strong sense of community. Distinguished guests included the Mayor, Councillors Tim Maclndoe and Andrew Bydder, the HCC Ethnic Development Adviser and leaders of various local Chinese groups.

The event featured a lively and symbolic Yi sheng Prosperity Toss, inviting participants to join in tossing the ingredients while making wishes for abundance and happiness. An interactive quiz added a fun and educational element to the afternoon, sparking friendly competition and laughter. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring people of all ages together to celebrate culture, community, and the hope of a prosperous new year.



WCA MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FORM

WCA MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FORM

APPLICANT:	
NAME:	DOB:
SPOUSE/PARTNER:	
NAME:	DOB:
DEPENDANT CHILDREN UNDER 18L	
NAME:	DOB:
NAME:	DOB:
NAME:	DOB:

ADDRESS:		
No:	Street Name:	
SUBURB:	CITY:	POST CODE:
CONTACT DETAILS:		
HOME:	WORK:	MOBILE:
E-MAIL:		
MEMBERSHIP (Put a 'Y' next to the type of membership):		
Family: \$25	COUPLES: \$20	INDIVIDUAL: \$12
Donations would be appreciated: \$		TOTAL PAYABLE: \$

PAYMENT METHODS (Put 'Y' in between Brackets):

() Make cheques Payable to NZCA Waikato Branch Inc. And post to P.O. Box 9294, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton 3240

() Direct Credit to Acct# 03-1560-0056023-00, NZCA Waikato Branch. Put first name and initial of last as reference please

() Newsletter by email

() Newsletter by postage mail

Date: