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**TUNG JUNG ASSOCIATION OF NZ INC**  
PO Box 9058, Wellington, New Zealand

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**Newsletter**

**MARCH 2003**

**COMMENTS FROM THE CONVENOR - COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Tung Jung Association of New Zealand newsletter.

The committee is deeply conscious that the Association is still without a home and has been endeavouring to seek out a suitable property as a replacement to the Webb Street building.

We have been handicapped by the lack of suitable funds to purchase a property which not only gives us a home but provides us with sufficient income to carry out our activities. The present financial climate has seen property prices increase to such an extent that we are not able to offer a realistic price for buildings up for sale within the inner city region. The Association welcomes any suggestions and assistance as to how we can overcome this problem. Meantime we are grateful to the Wellington Chinese Sports & Cultural Centre for the use of their facilities for our meetings and the up and coming Ching Ming celebrations. Details of this is outlined later in this newsletter.

The Association is still without a Chinese Secretary and once again apologies for the lack of a Chinese translation for this edition. Anyone willing to help in this regard would be appreciated. We plan to hold the Annual General Meeting of the Association towards the end of May of which appropriate notice will be given to members. New committee members are always welcome so if you are willing to serve please let us know.

Robert Ting

**President's Message**

Welcome to all of those people born under the sign of the Goat. Goats are imaginative, careful about their appearance and sensitive.

We were delighted with the numbers of people supporting the Christmas and Chinese New Year celebration dinners. To see two Father Christmas's at the same function at the same time was a first! Thanks Sam and Jim! Thanks to all of the other folk who helped make these two functions so enjoyable.

A lot of background work has been done to replace the association's building in Webb Street that was sold at the end of October last year. Committee members and especially Gordon Wu have identified a number of suitable buildings but so far we have not achieved a purchase. Even though the association has a substantial amount of money to put towards a purchase, it has become obvious that any building must already be producing an income. Members may be able to help us through this difficulty. Some lateral thinking is needed. A short term (interest free?) loan perhaps. Time is passing and we need to have our own facilities. Please contact any member of the committee if you can help.

See inside this newsletter for details about:

- Ching Ming – this is planned for the weekend of 30 March. Details inside this newsletter.

- Dr Henry Chan and his New Zealand History Research Award. Following a committee meeting with Henry, it is likely that the association will be applying to the Ministry for Culture and Heritage for funding to conduct an Oral History Award for 2003 so that it can interview and record oral histories from some of our more senior members. If you are interested and able to help with this research please contact the President.

Best wishes for 2003

Allen Chang  
President

### **The Year of the Goat**

The Year of the Goat was heralded in on 1 February 2003. The Association had a celebratory dinner on 26 January. The function was not as big as usual due to other organizations having similar dinners to celebrate the new year.

An extract from the website [www.chinese.astrology.com/goat.html](http://www.chinese.astrology.com/goat.html) says that those people born during the Year of the goat would be well-served by learning to relax and let others run the show from time to time. Once they can be certain that their friends won't be gone when the Goat returns from its daydreams, life will be a field of daisies. The most compatible match for a Goat is the Pig or Rabbit.

### **Ching Ming Celebrations**

This is an important event in the Chinese calendar when we remember and pay homage to our forebears. The actual date for Ching Ming this year is 5 April; however we have decided to observe it on **Sunday 30 March**. The programme is as follows:

12 noon meet at Wellington Chinese Sports & Cultural Centre, Mount Albert Road, Newtown.

1 pm meet at Karori Cemetery Tung Jung Association commemorative headstone. In the event of wet weather meet at the Wellington Chinese Sports & Cultural Centre.

6.30 PM dinner at Regal Restaurant, cost \$25 per head. Soft drink and grape juice supplied BYO wine. Enquiries to any committee member.

### **Tung Jung Association Website**

The association's website continues to be developed. It has started to bear fruit already with a reporter from the "Independence Daily" Chinese newspaper in Auckland interviewing our President for an article about the Association and his family. This started when the reporter accessed the website and became interested in the association and its aims and objects etc.

### **Poll Tax**

This continues to occupy the time and the minds of a number of members of the Tung Jung Committee. Allen Chang, Steven Young and Peter Kohing along with 27 other Chinese poll tax representatives from around the country are on the advisory group set up by the Office of Ethnic Affairs and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Following the closure for submissions in January, the advisory group and Government officials met in February to do a preliminary assessment of the responses received. Over 400 written submissions were received by the Office of Ethnic Affairs who grouped the ideas and suggestions into themes for the advisory group to consider.

The advisory group meets again early in April when it is expected that the group will decide what it wants in the reconciliation package, or not. Trying to ensure that all views have been taken into account including the

numbers of people who said they wanted no further action has been an extraordinarily difficult exercise for the advisory group.

Further information will be available after the advisory group has met with Government officials early in April.

### **Robyn Wong Fundraising Dinner.**

Robyn's mother is of Zengcheng descent. Robyn is representing New Zealand at the World Mountain biking Championships later this year. She hopes to go on to represent New Zealand at the 2004 Athens Olympic Games. With this in mind a fundraising dinner for her has been organized at the King Wah Restaurant on 15 March 2003. Cost is \$40 per ticket and includes participation in a substantial raffle.

The Committee is supporting this project by purchasing a table on a user pay basis. If any member is interested in purchasing tickets for this cause please contact any committee member.

### **Seminars on Chinese New Zealand**

The following series of seminars may be of interest to members. Admission is free and commence on 12 March 2003.

Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies invites you to a new series of Wednesday Seminars

> CHINESE NEW ZEALAND held in March-June 2003

> VENUE: 12 Waiteata Rd Wellington

> TIME: 4:15-4:30 pm

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>March 12 Brian Moloughney, Professor of History, University of Otago, 'Translating Cultures: Rethinking New Zealand's Chineseness'

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> March 19> Nigel Murphy and Lynette Shum> "Unsmeltered Gold, Uncut Jade: Sources and Resources for the Study of History of Chinese New Zealand"

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> March 26> Steven Young> "Politics and Culture: The background and recent developments in the political culture of Chinese New Zealanders

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> April 2> Alison Wong (novel)> "Writing Historical Fiction from a Cross-Cultural Perspective"

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> April 9> Manying Ip> "Unfolding History, Evolving Identity"

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> April 30> Anne Marie Brady> "Rewi Alley - the Man and the Myth"

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> May 7> Henry Chan> "Trans-Tasman Connections and Contrasts"

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> May 14>Helene Wong> "A Dragon by the tale: Writing Memoir"

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> May 21> Paul Millar> "New Zealand Literature's "Unpatriotic Celestials."

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> May 28> Duncan Campbell> "'What lies beneath these strange rich surfaces!': Chinoiserie in Thorndon"

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> June 4> Charles Ferrall> "East by South: China in the Antipodean Imagination"

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## **Proposed Tung Jung Association of New Zealand Inc Group Visit to Jung Sen (Zengcheng)**

The Tung Jung Association Committee would like to hear from members or from members' families to see if there is any interest in a group visit to Jung Sen possibly sometime during the Chinese Spring season (March/April) 2004 or some other time depending on the response.

Your committee is particularly interested in arranging a group visit for people who have not had the opportunity of visiting their ancestral villages before.

We need to ascertain the level of people's interest before planning a draft itinerary or programme, and working out the costs involved. We will try and meet everyone's needs and expectations. You must be a financial member of the Association.

The itinerary/programme could include time in Hong Kong, spending time in Zengcheng visiting the ancestral villages of our parents/grandparents on both the maternal and paternal sides of families. People who wish to travel on to other parts of China would be free to make their own arrangements.

Some Jung Sen villages are: Bak Shek, Sun Gai, Dai Dung, Gwa Liang, Gwun Fu, Nga Yiel, Peng Dei, Shak Ha, Tong Mei, Tein Sum, Sa Tow, Gong Larm, and there are others too. There is a list of villages on the Tung Jung Association website. Using Yahoo, search on Tung Jung and this will take you to our site. Background information about Zengcheng and Doon Guan has recently been added.

If you or any members of your families are interested in joining a group visit to Zengcheng next year during March or April 2004 please complete the form below and return to Tung Jung Association PO Box 9058 Wellington.

Completing the form puts you under no obligation – we only wish to determine the level of interest at this time.

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### Expression of Interest only

#### **The Tung Jung Association of New Zealand Inc Group Visit to Jung Sen**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Ancestral Village(s) - if known \_\_\_\_\_

I/we would be interested in joining a Tung Jung Association of New Zealand Group Visit to Jung Sen during (indicate months/year) \_\_\_\_\_

Places I would also like to visit: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to spend time in Hong Kong. How many days? \_\_\_\_\_

Other activities I would also like to do while visiting China \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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### **History of the migration of Chinese people from Zengcheng – Special project by Henry Chan.**

One of our Australian members, Henry Chan has been awarded one of the 2003 NZ History Research Trust Awards for History and will be using the award to complete his research into the history of migration to New Zealand of people from Zengcheng, their families, institutions, and contributions in New Zealand.

Henry, whose ancestral villages were Sun-gai (Paternal) and Gwa-lang (Maternal- Wong), retired at the end of 1998 after teaching Chinese history in NZ and Australian universities for thirty years. He is President of the Chinese Australian Historical Society Inc and is very active in the promotion of the study of the history and heritage of the Chinese in Australia and New Zealand.

If you are interested in learning more about Henry's project or can contribute information, memories, photographs, you should contact members of the Tung Jung Association Committee or contact Henry direct by email: [hdm.chan@unsw.com.au](mailto:hdm.chan@unsw.com.au) or by post to Henry Chan, PO Box 269, Katoomba, Blue Mountains, NSW 2780, Australia. He will be coming to NZ several times during 2003 to do research and would be very pleased to meet you if you are interested or wish to be involved in the project.

A copy of his explanation given to Tung Jung Association about the aims and objects of his project and a bit About his background is published in the following pages of this newsletter.

# **Explanation to the Tung Jung Association of New Zealand about the “Zengcheng to New Zealand: the history of the migration of Chinese people from Zengcheng (Jung Seng, 增城) to New Zealand” project of Henry Chan (陳民熙, 陳興利, 陳光利)**

## **Background:**

For a number of years I have been researching the history of my family in Australia and New Zealand, and its ancestral village of Sun-gaii (新街). My family were part of the Ye-fong (junior house) of the Sun-gaii Chans and they tended to migrate to Australia and the Pacific Island, especially Fiji. My grandfather was a successful store-keeper in Wellington, Australia, and my father grew up there together with his two brothers, before he was sent over to Auckland to start a business in the early 1930s.

The NZ History Research Trust Fund Award in History recently made to me enables me now to broaden my research to encompass the cluster of villages that made up the marketing community around Bak Shek (白石), and possibly to other emigrant villages in Zengcheng.

## **The project:**

The project aims to document the histories of the cluster of Zengcheng villages from which people emigrated to New Zealand, and the history of the settlement of Zengcheng people in New Zealand and their contributions to New Zealand life and society.

Under the History Award I expect to focus on the following:

1. The factors that led to emigration and how emigration was organized at the village level.
2. Understanding the process of migration, especially chain migration and the role of NZ Presbyterian Church missionaries may have played in arousing Zengcheng people's interest in New Zealand.
3. An outline history of the settlement of Zengcheng people in New Zealand from the goldfield days in Otago to their dispersal to other towns and cities in NZ.
4. The development of a Zengcheng community in NZ, its associations, and their contributions to the wider NZ community.

During 2003 I shall concentrate on archival research in NZ and Zengcheng, oral history research in Zengcheng, and on building networks and collaborative links with the Zengcheng communities in NZ.

## **Involvement of the Tung Jung Association:**

I am hoping that the Tung Jung Association will agree to be involved with this project, and specifically to assist me in:

1. gaining access and permission to use, the older records of the Tung Jung Associations, so that I can reconstruct the history of the Association and its role in the Zengcheng community
2. the oral history research in NZ, probably with the assistance of an oral history award for this purpose, applications close at the end of April 2003;
3. encouraging an interest in their history among the Zengcheng community in New Zealand, perhaps by forming a history committee of the Tung Jung Association.

**Future plans:**

1. I shall ask my university's IT division to create an e-mail discussion group on Jung Seng to NZ history to which any Jung Seng person may subscribe;
2. I plan the following further periods of research in NZ during 2003:
  - a. 28 April to 12 May in Wellington and Auckland;
  - b. August and September in Dunedin and Wellington.

**Outcomes:**

1. Conference papers leading to publications in November 2003 and during 2004.
2. Completion of a monograph in 2005 or 2006.

**Some personal information:**

My paternal ancestral village is Sun-gaii, and maternal (Wong) ancestral village is Gwa-lang. I was educated at Remuera District School and Auckland Grammar School, the University of Canterbury, and the University of London. After teaching at Colenso High School, Napier (1964-68), Massey University (1969-75), University of Sydney (1976-85) and the University of Newcastle (1986-98), I retired from teaching at the end of 1998. My main research fields have been the history of Chinese science and the social and cultural history of China since the Ming.

At present I am:

Honorary Visiting Fellow, School of History and Philosophy of Science, UNSW  
Honorary Research Associate, Department of Chinese Studies, University of Sydney  
Distinguished Overseas Professor, Hunan Normal University, Changsha, PRC  
Member, National Committee for History and Philosophy of Science, Australian Academy of Science.

Councilor, Royal Australian Historical Society  
President, Chinese Australian Historical Society Inc

National Coordinator, Chinese Australian Cultural Heritage (CACH) Project  
Chair, NSW State Project Committee, CACH-NSW.

Henry Chan  
13 February 2003



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