

# Summer Newsletter

JANUARY 2026

<https://tungjung.nz/newsletters/>


## 新西蘭東增會館

### Tung Jung Association of NZ *Incorporated 1926*

#### Presidents Update:

Dear Members and friends

As I write this from my home in Palmerston North, there is a slight wind and partly cloudy skies — a welcome improvement after the storms and high winds we experienced following the New Year. The drop in temperature combined with the high moisture levels has clearly had an effect: one of my shiitake logs has fruited for the first time.

Back in July 2024, I noticed city council arborists trimming the oak trees and chipping the branches. I was fortunate to persuade them to let me take a few of the smaller limbs, which I later inoculated with plug shiitake spawn. Seeing this first flush is reassuring, and I'm hopeful the larger logs will also fruit in due course — a pleasant start to the year.

We also note with sadness the recent passing of two prominent Jungsen businessmen, Jack Chan (下基) and Keith Lowe (官湖). Jack's obituary appears in this issue. I was surprised to learn that he became a partner in Arthur Lowe Ltd; Arthur Lowe (石下) was the eldest of my mother's four brothers. It is another example of how Jungsen people supported one another, as they so often did.

The Association gratefully acknowledges Jack's generosity in leaving a \$10,000 bequest to support our future projects. Although it is still early days, we are exploring the possibility of securing the old Chinese Mission Hall in collaboration with the other Cantonese district associations for community use. The building once housed a Chinese school, among other activities, and one of our long-term aims is to re-establish a school in the central city.

Best wishes  
Dr Graham Chiu, President

#### In this newsletter:

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Social Update

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Photo Book  
Update

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Obituaries

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West Part 1

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Lanzhou  
University  
Teaching  
Position

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# Tung Jung Association Celebrates Christmas with Festive Yum Cha at the Dragon Restaurant - 4 December 2025

By Peter Moon



The Tung Jung Association brought holiday cheer to its members with their annual Christmas yum cha event, held at the popular Dragons Restaurant. Approximately 70 attendees gathered to sample a traditionally tasty selection of dim sum treats, enjoying a lively and festive atmosphere.

In a generous move to commemorate the Christmas season, the Association presented a tin of Christmas Cookies gift to every person in attendance, ensuring the festive spirit extended beyond the meal itself. The successful gathering provided a wonderful opportunity for members to connect, share in seasonal celebrations, and enjoy delicious cuisine together.



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## Senior Christmas Visits - December 2025

Our annual Christmas visits to senior members were warmly welcomed once again. Gift bags were prepared with homemade baking, fruit juice, chocolates, and this year, a Chinese calendar. Most importantly, the visits gave us a chance to spend time together and connect with members who may not often be able to attend our events.

Cedric and Wai  
Geek Lowe



Allan Wong



Mary Ming Wong





May Ching



Linda Lowe

Santa's: Graham Chiu, Thomas Chong, Ray Chung



Elves: Lucinda Chiu, Valerie Ting

Freda Luey



Gelaine Luey

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# Upcoming Social Event - Chinese New Year 2026

Fire Horse 丙午年



We would be delighted to have you join us for a banquet filled with delicious food, drinks and festive cheers.

**Date: Sunday, March 1st 2026**

**Time:** 6 p.m. be seated

**Venue:** Dragons Restaurant, 25 Tory St. Te Aro, Wellington.

**Non-Members** \$55 pp

**Subsidized Rates for MEMBERS:**

**Ordinary Members** \$40 pp

**Senior Members** (age >= 80) \$30 pp

**Child Under 1.3m** \$30 pp

**Children Under age 5** Free

**Cash or Internet Banking to Account**

01-0505-0178453-00

Ref: CNY26 with initial, surname

**RSVP by Sunday, February 15**

For ushering purposes, please provide the names of the people at your table when you RSVP.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

Peter Moon,  
Social Convenor  
peteraumoon@yahoo.co.nz

San Nin Faai Lok (新年快樂!)  
Happy New Year!

## TUNG JUNG ASSOCIATION CHINESE NEW YEAR BANQUET 2026

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Banquet Menu

### Soup

Three Treasure

\*

### Main

1. Sautéed Chicken with Cashew Nut  
Served in a Noodle Basket  
\*
2. Crispy Roast Belly Pork  
\*
3. Peking Roast Duck with Wraps (SIG\*)  
\*
4. Steamed Blue Cod with Ginger, Spring  
& Onions  
\*
5. Stir Fry Gai Lan, with Shiitake  
Mushroom  
\*
6. Fish Ball with Vermicelli (Chef Special)  
\*
7. Silkin Tofu with Chicken Mince  
\*
8. Long Life Noodles with Vegetable's  
\*

### Beverage

BYO, Orange Juice, Chinese Jasmine Tea

\*

Jasmine Rice

\*

### Dessert

Mango Fish Pudding

\*

Fresh Fruit Platter

\*

Raffle 3 Tickets for \$5

Over \$400 of Prizes

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# Social Calendar 2026

Sun 1 March	Chinese New Year Dinner Lantern Festival
Sun 5 April	Qing Ming festival
Wed 3 June	Senior Mid-Year Yum Cha Mid Autumn Festival ( <u>Cancelled</u> )
Sun 18 October	Cheung Yeung Festival
24-25 October	<u>100 Year Anniversary Celebrations</u>
Labour Weekend	Book Launch, Dinner Banquet Farewell Yum Cha to our guests from out of town and overseas. More activities, Planning on-going
Wed 2 December	Senior Christmas Yum Cha
Mid December	Senior Christmas Visit

## Centenary Photo Book - Project Update (December 2026)

In April 2025 the Association began work on a centenary photo book to mark 100 years since the founding of the Tung Jung Association. Since then, we have made strong progress, with hundreds of photographs received from community members and heritage institutions across New Zealand.

**Funding:** We are pleased to confirm that the project has received \$25,000 from the Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust. This contribution covers our design and print costs. The book will operate under a proportional payback model, with a share of future sales income returned to the Trust in recognition of their support.

**Content Collection and Shortlisting:** We now have far more images than can be published, and the next phase of work is to refine our shortlist and ensure that all selected photographs meet print-quality standards. Over the coming weeks we will be contacting contributors to request higher-resolution originals or rescans (600 DPI or higher), along with any additional background information needed for captions.

This technical review is essential before any image can be confirmed for inclusion.

We look forward to sharing further updates as the project continues to develop.

### Obituary - Keith Lowe

**24 December 1926 - 11 November 2025**

The bonsai master who reshaped Wellington's gardening world

<http://bit.ly/3Nf9wRh>

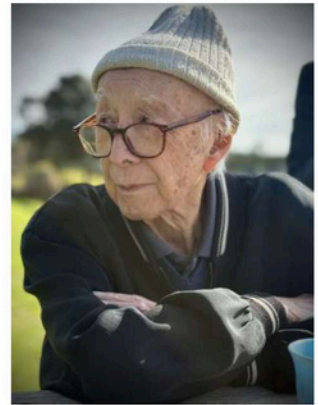
<https://bit.ly/49xbZhI>



## Obituary - Jack Foh Chan 陳紹雄 30<sup>th</sup> September 1930 - 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025

### A Life of Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

Jack was born in the small rural town of Raetihi near Mt Ruapehu in 1930. His parents Mr Chan Yin and Mrs Mark Moy Chan, ran the Waimarino Supply Store in Ohakune. His father was somewhat famous in the area, for getting lost in the bush on a hunting trip, and was the subject for the story “The Lost Chinaman” written by James Hyndes in 1911.



Jack came from a family of six children, although as Jack's mother was the third wife of Mr Chan Yin, there were 19 children in total with some not surviving infancy. Some of Chan Yin's other children living in NZ and some remained in Hong Kong and China .

When Jack was six, the family moved back to the hustle and bustle of Hong Kong. However not long after, they were caught up in the turmoil of World War II. His father owned the Cathay Cinema Theatre on Wanchai Rd which was confiscated by the Japanese for war time use. As a small child living through war time Hong Kong, Jack witnessed the cruelty of war, and lost his own father during those times who died from illness.

After the war ended, the remaining family returned to New Zealand, aboard a small cargo ship as refugees, determined to start a new life. For economic reasons the family was spit up to live with close family friends, Jack and his mother stayed in Wellington along with his brother Young who had returned to NZ earlier. Jack spoke little English when he returned to New Zealand, despite this, he attended Wellington Technical College and excelled in his studies. Years later, he would be honoured by the school, along with some of Wellington's most well-known figures, as the highest-achieving alumni in its history.

After graduating high school, and with the family now reunited in Wellington, Jack helped out in the family run store **Pacific Fruit Supply**, when a sharp-eyed bank manager noticed his book keeping skills, and encouraged him to consider business as a career.

In these years, Jack was a keen basketball player, and even helped organized a trip to Fiji for his team to play in a tournament. He also gained his pilot's licence with a dream of flying commercial aircraft. Unfortunately, there were too many barriers after the wars for that dream to come true.

In 1960, he moved to Auckland, to become a partner of Arthur Lowe Ltd, a well-known food manufacturer. Taking the role of sales and marketing manager, he achieved a most memorable contribution to New Zealand's culinary story – introducing *Spring Rolls* to the many Fish and Chip shops across New Zealand. He even flew a plane to deliver Spring Rolls to some of NZ's smallest towns, and show shop owners how to cook them in their deep fryers. His promotion of spring rolls was so successful the factory was unable to keep up the supply, taking them a full 15 months to catch up with incoming orders.

On 25<sup>th</sup> February 1967 Jack married the love of his life Marcia Chan in Auckland, the start of a long life together over the next 54 years. He also in that year helped develop a high-rise apartment building in Devonport which still stands today.

A few years later Jack and Marcia moved to Wellington, and they bought a small corner store in

Berhampore, that they named **Chan's Place**. They lived above the shop in a modest apartment where they started their family with the arrival of their two sons Lincoln and Stephen. Jack found the routine of running specials in the store too stressful to maintain, he decided to scrape them in favour of lowering all his prices, and advertising his price lists on the free TV Weekly. Customers flocked in from all areas - and soon sales in their little store increased by a whopping 450 percent.

Having his sights set on a much larger challenge, they closed their little shop, and in 1980 along with Marcia's brother Vivian Chan opened **Chan's Supermart** in Newtown. Carrying over the same operating model from his smaller store, the supermarket was given the accolade as the cheapest store in the North Island by Consumer Magazine. He then expanded in 1987 with a new branch in Johnsonville Mall which he named **Chan's For Food**, where he introduced Asian food products onto the shelves, which were well received by his customers.

When circumstances forced him to close the Johnsonville store, Jack didn't want to end his retail career on such a low note. He teamed up with his long-time friend Charlie Young, and opened in downtown Wellington what became probably his most iconic store **Mr. Chan's**. Expanding on the Asian products line, it was one of the first Asian supermarkets in the city, and it quickly became a household name.

At the age of 67, Jack finally decided it was time to retire, although anyone who knew him, could've guessed that "retirement" would not last for very long. Always looking for another challenge to occupy his time, he joined forces with developer Warwick Angus, to embark on his biggest and boldest venture yet - building and opening the five-star **Bolton Hotel** in the heart of Wellington city.

Throughout all his many ventures, Jack would often say the greatest reward wasn't the success itself, but all the friendly greetings, that he and Marcia would get in public from those who would come up and shake their hands, genuinely expressing their pleasure in having shopped at their stores.

Apart from his many businesses Jack was an avid golfer well into his 90's. He also enjoyed practicing Tai Chi - and was once featured, in a McDonald's commercial as a Tai Chi Master. He even tried his hand at acting, once appearing in a Peter Jackson film called *Forgotten Silver*, as a Chinese gold prospector. He had a lifelong fascination with Chinese history and literature, and he could tell you about every dynasty, and every emperor in great detail. As well as describe the "Eight Great Cuisines of China", and how of course (without bias), that Cantonese food was the best of them all. He had a fondness for travel, especially on cruise ships, and he and Marcia were often off on a trip exploring different parts of the world.

He faced life's challenges with determination and grace - none more so, than when he and Marcia cared for their son Lincoln during his battle with cancer. In 2021 he lost Marcia to Alzheimer's, he stood by her everyday until her very last, always devoted to her as her husband.

Jack passed away on October 13<sup>th</sup> after a long struggle with dementia. A service was held for him at Davis Funeral Services in Auckland on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025. He is survived by his son Stephen and his granddaughter Maya.

# JOURNEY TO THE WEST - PART 1- GANSU

A photographic record of our experiences travelling thru two of China's lesser-known provinces. By Thomas Chong and Nicola Clissold

Our trip through Yunnan last year left us wanting to experience more of the diversity of China away from its coastal provinces. So earlier this year we decided on our own "Journey to the West"- travelling through Gansu, (learning about Rewi Alley's Gung Ho movement along the way) and southern Xinjiang- travelling to Kashgar and beyond to China's western border with Pakistan.



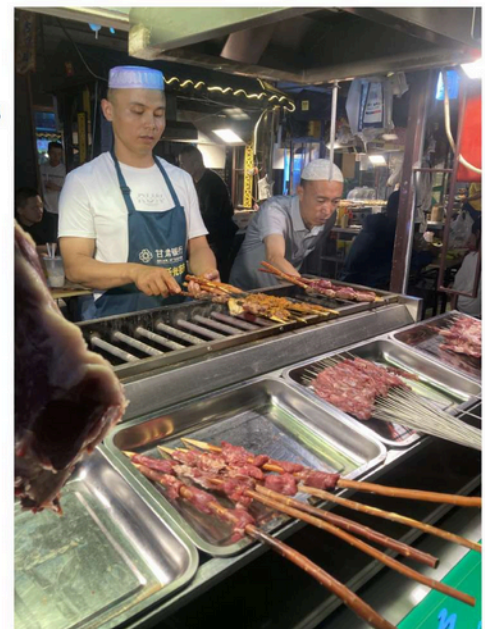
## SHANGHAI

We started our journey in Shanghai. It's great to be back- and very relieved our eSIM and Alipay works. We decided to stay in same hotel as last year- "The Magnificent International Hotel" (actually not that magnificent- but OK). Familiar surroundings is a nice way to start a journey and it was fun seeking out the little restaurants we frequented last year. We spent 4 days getting lost in the old French Concession in Shanghai- an area we could easily live in. Quiet tree lined streets with shops; bakeries; cafes & restaurants squeezed into the smallest of corners.



## LANZHOU

12 hours on high-speed rail from Shanghai and we arrived in Lanzhou- the city on the Yellow River. Totally different vibe here with many Muslims (mostly Hui but also Dongxiang; Yugu & Sala) and Tibetans about.





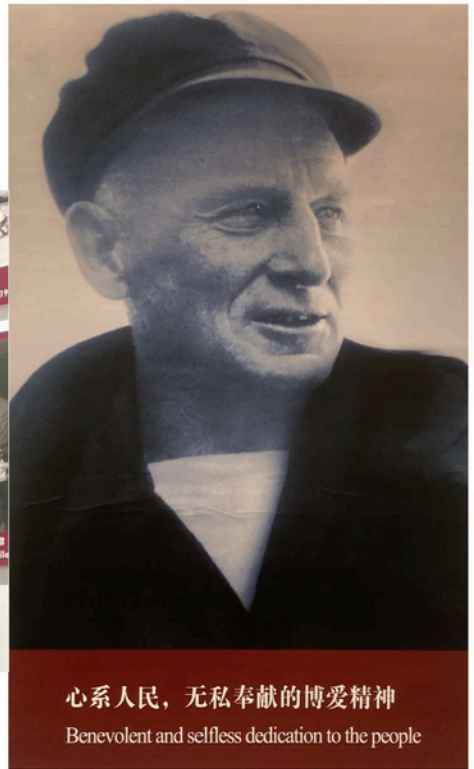
All sorts of activities around the banks of the Yellow River - dancing, tai chi & "Go" being played. We even joined some dancing ourselves.



**REWI ALLEY**

One of the originators of the "Gung Ho" movement; the "Baillie Schools" and I believe a founder of the New Zealand China Friendship Society (NZCFS). He spent much of his life in Gansu - we were curious and wanted to know more...

Chris Lipscombe of NZCFS introduced us to Xiaoxia- the Director of International Exchanges at Lanzhou City University, and our visit turned out to be one of the most memorable days of our journey. Spending time with her and her university colleagues was truly special. The university is deeply rooted in the founding principles of Rewi Alley, who devoted his life to improving education and technical skills for underprivileged youth. It was an emotional experience to be welcomed and treated with such respect as New Zealanders - the connection to New Zealand means a great deal to them.



# LINXIA AND GANNAN

With Xiaoxia's help we went on an organised tour to Linxia and Gannan -relatively remote areas only accessible by road. We even got a partial refund from the tour company on the cost as we were both over 60!



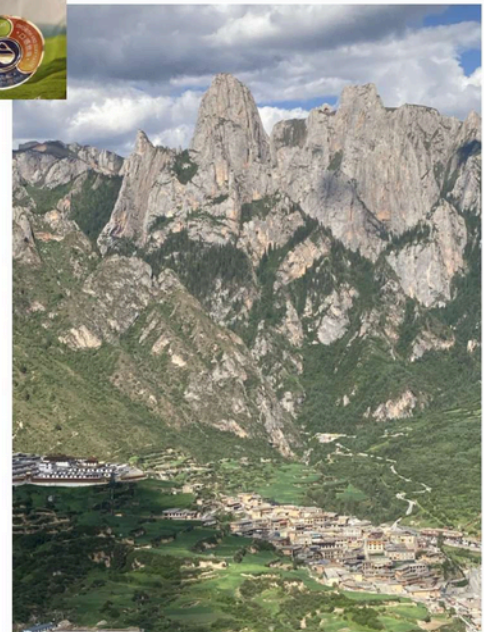
Photos - right (clockwise)

Langmusi Monastery- beautiful alpine setting - 3300m altitude.

Scenery was unexpected. Sort of like rural NZ but with yaks and temples

Monks - Labrang Monastery in Xiahe County. Home to largest number of monks outside of Tibet.

The dairy products are yak based.



Photos- left-right

Hui Muslim mother and children

Mosque- Linxia Hui Autonomous Prefecture

Zoige County- Qinghai / Tibetan Plateau- First bend of the Yellow River

Zhagana Tibetan Town



## ZHANGYE; JIAYUGUAN AND DUNHUANG

Our intended visit to Shandan and the Baillie School did not eventuate so we stayed in Zhangye for a few days for much needed rest and found it to be a very pleasant, relaxed town. Marco Polo must have thought so too as he stayed here for a year. Jiayuguan was next - a visit to Jiayuguan Fort - marking the extremity of Ming Imperial China. The end of the Great Wall is very close. Then onto Dunhuang and the Magao Caves



Photo - left

*Dafo Temple- Zhangye*

*Head of largest reclining buddha in China- 35m long. The temple is 1000 years old and still an active place of worship.*



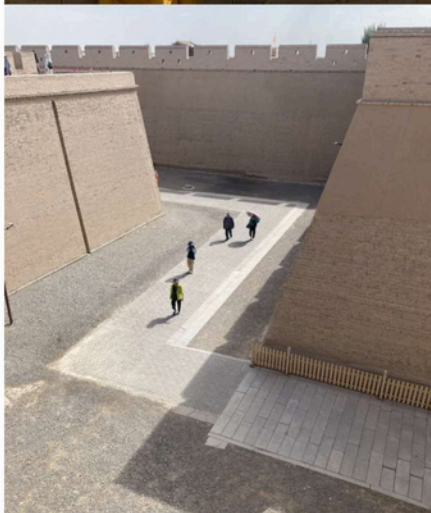
*Below- Jiayuguan Fort- to the left of the wall in photo of Nicola is civilisation (Ming Imperial China). Being banished meant life beyond this wall - a vast unknown where it was believed lived three headed monsters and ghouls that would eat a man alive. Winds so vicious they could tear a person's skin off.*



*Photo of Cave 16. Door into Cave 17 - "The Library Cave" is to the right of the photo. More than 50,000 cultural relics discovered when this cave was opened. The cave we saw was empty- its contents taken abroad by European and Japanese explorers in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The "Diamond Sutra" - the world's oldest printed book (now in British Museum!!!!) was found here.*



*Magao Caves - World Heritage Site. Nearly 500 caves tracing Buddhist art for over 1000 years. Forgotten for 500 years and rediscovered in 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Waited over 4 hours to get our tickets upgraded to see more caves and with an English language guide. It was well worth it.*



By now we realised that we were running out of time so we decided to fly to Kashgar. Our plan to stay in Turpan and take the overnight train to Kashgar will have to wait for another day.....

# Classifieds

## Dragons Celebrating the Year of the Horse:

Usher in the Year of the Horse with a feast meant to bring good fortune and flavour to your table! 🍊🌟

Our specially curated Lunar New Year Set Menu is here — a vibrant celebration of traditional tastes and modern twists, crafted to share with family and friends. From sizzling woks to delicate dim sum, every dish is prepared with auspicious intentions and heartwarming goodness.

📅 Available throughout the Lunar New Year period (16th February to 3rd March)

👨👩 Perfect for groups and family gatherings

Highlights include:

- 🔥 Prosperity Lo Hei and Cantonese Curdo
- 🥩 Crispy Skin Beef Brisket served in a Rich and Aromatic Hong Kong Curry Sauce
- 🍲 Double-Stuffed Tofu with Morel Mushrooms and Shrimp Paste, Finished with Black Truffle Sauce
- 🐟 Treasure of the Sea-Blue Cod Steamed Two Ways in Lotus Leaf (with Sauce & yellow pepper sauce)
- 🦀 Double Crab Delight-Steamed Mud Crab with Crab Roe & Pork Mince
- 🍰 Sweet Nian Gao, Malay Cake and Mango Fish Pudding.

🎉 Let's celebrate new beginnings together!

👉 Tap the link in our bio to reserve your table: <https://www.wellingtondragons.co.nz/>

☎ Or call us on: 04-384 3288



## Kombucha & Jun Fermentation Workshop – Expression of Interest

Interested in learning how to brew Kombucha and Jun at home?

This small-group workshop will cover:

- Demonstration of Kombucha first and second fermentation
- Demonstration of Jun fermentation
- Guided tasting of Kombucha and Jun
- Practical tips from 5 years of home brewing experience

This is a demo-based session (not hands-on brewing), designed for beginners and curious home brewers.

Afternoon session | Wellington

Cost: approx. \$65–75 per person

Register your interest to be notified when dates are confirmed.

Contact: Lucinda Chiu [[lucinda.chiu@tungjung.nz](mailto:lucinda.chiu@tungjung.nz)]

## Lanzhou City University: Full Time English Teacher Position

Lanzhou City University is currently looking for a full-time English teacher.

### About the University:

Situated in Lanzhou, a key city along the Silk Road and the city of the Yellow River; Lanzhou City University (LCU) was created through the merger of Lanzhou Normal College, founded in June 1958, with Bailie Oil School, established by Rewi Alley in May 1942.

The university devotes itself to the cultivation of applied talents. Currently, there are 16 colleges and 36 institutions, such as Gansu Urban Development Research Institute, Gansu Cultural Translation and Interpreting Center, Rewi Alley Research Center and Lanzhou Smart City Research Institute.

English teaching experience for at least one year or TEFL / TESOL certificate required.

If you are interested, please refer to link for complete details of position and contact details.

<https://bit.ly/4qi6cn3>



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## Thank you for reading

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Please note a full colour edition is available online  
<https://tungjung.nz/newsletters/>

Please contact the [secretary@tungjung.nz](mailto:secretary@tungjung.nz) if you wish to access photographs taken at community events.

## Bequests

If you've joined us for dinners or yum cha over the past year, you may have noticed something great—lower prices! No, it's not because food costs have dropped. Thanks to the TJA paying off its mortgage last year, we've reduced our fixed expenses. So, your committee decided to pass those savings on to you by subsidizing event prices.

While these gatherings now run at a loss, we're still maintaining a positive cash flow overall. But we'd love to do even more—like offering scholarships or expanding member benefits.

If you've ever considered leaving a legacy or making a tax-deductible donation, supporting the Association in your will would help us keep building a brighter future together. Every contribution makes a difference!

## With Thanks and Congratulations

With thanks to the following members and supporters for their generous donations over the past year:

Alison Phua; David & Bev Wong; Graeme Ting; Esther Fong; Phillip Yee; Susan Huen; Judy Cheng; Ken Wong; Terry Moon; Carolyn King; Stuart Wong; Willie Moon; Yee Foon Chan; Shirley Fok; Cedric Lowe; Jack Chan

Congratulations to Jean Lowe / Young Gum Har 楊錦霞 on reaching the wonderful milestone of their 100th birthday.

## Committee 2025-26

President	Graham Chiu 趙世榮	Property	Thomas Chong 吳永華
Vice President	Rayward Chung 鍾振威	English Secretary	Helen South 楊雪梅
Treasurer	Lucinda Chiu 趙潔蘭	Chinese Secretary	Kevin Zeng 曾凱文
Membership	Vacant	Social	Peter Moon 歐偉權

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To sign up as a Full or Associate member, fill in an online form here:  
<https://tungjung.nz/about/#full-membership>



新西蘭東增會館

Tung Jung Association of NZ inc.

435 Broadway, Miramar, Wellington, New Zealand  
<https://tungjung.nz>, [secretary@tungjung.nz](mailto:secretary@tungjung.nz)

**Membership form to 31 March 2027**

_____ Name家姓名	_____ Spouse/partner丈夫/妻子/朋友
_____ Family (seniors over 70) 長輩	_____ Family (younger generations) 家人
_____ Family (younger generations) 家人	_____ Family (younger generations) 家人
_____ Village ancestry paternal男鄉下	_____ Village ancestry maternal鄉下
_____ Email	_____ Phone電話
_____ Address地址	

**Membership registration**

Please send your membership form and fee, if applicable, to:

- Tung Jung Assoc, 435 Broadway, Miramar, Wellington 6022
- or email the form to [secretary@tungjung.nz](mailto:secretary@tungjung.nz) and pay via internet banking: 01-0505-0178453-00 with your name as a reference

\$20 single     \$30 household     Free for seniors 70+     Donation \$\_\_\_\_

*All donations are tax deductible*

Members only: please send me my newsletter in paper form.  
If your postal address is different to the one you've given above, please write it below

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***Thank you for your support!***



Tung Jung Association of NZ Inc, P.O. Box 9058 Wellington, N.Z  
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SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2025

Tung Jung Association of NZ, incorporated 1926

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If undelivered, please return to PO BOX 9058 Wellington